

A Broader View Volunteer – Attitudes and Activities

This outline details the rules of behavior that is expected of save the herbs volunteers, especially, the projects that we work with. This guideline is divided into two sections:

- General conduct
- During the program

The guideline was created to help volunteers accomplish the most out of their volunteer programs in a responsible and safe manner. We aim to create a harmonious experience for all those involved. Volunteers must agree to follow and learn the social structure, behavior and the policies of the community in which they volunteer.

General Volunteers are required to:

- Follow the rules, advice and policies set by the organization and program executor.
- Recognize they are representatives of Save the Herbs and should act accordingly.
- Acknowledge that possession of illegal substances is a grave violation of save the herbs policy; Participants are cautioned that the possession of drugs is prohibited.
- Travel with an open mind; be respectful to the culture and customs of the community you are volunteering in. This means practicing patience and understanding.
- Understand that alcohol consumption is not permitted at the project site or at the offices. Responsible consumption is expected, gross misbehavior will result in the termination of your program.
- Be aware of the potential hazards of becoming involved in a sexual relationship with which you are volunteering. (ie: HIV, STDs)
- Treat all people with respect and dignity, especially the elders of the community.
- Dress properly with regard to the local culture, as well as weather conditions. Realize what is socially acceptable in, can be considered offensive in others.
- Avoid all political demonstrations and activities. Remember you are guests in the communities and subject to local laws and punishment.
- Acknowledge the program and accommodations provided are not changeable in event place without approval and consent of Save the herbs and our program Executor

During the program:

You should be:

- **PROACTIVE** - Jump in and maintain a positive attitude.
- **PATIENT** - Life may be different whether it may be slow or fast than one might be used to. Remember, not everything is as organized and predictable as life in other places.
- **FLEXIBLE** - Plans change, roads get flooded, and electricity goes out. Realize that not everything goes as planned, but good intention is always there.
- **CONSIDERATE** – Respect those around you and be a reliable Volunteer at the program site. Advise the Project Coordinator if you are sick and can not work.
- **RESPECTFUL** - Remember that the local people you are working with, side by side, do so with respect with dignity. There are times when you may not agree with or understand the organizations decisions or direction. Although your suggestions are always welcome, your faith, respect and consideration for their long term work and commitment is appreciated.
- **FRIENDLY** - In order to truly help someone you must get to know them. Do not be afraid to make friends with the local people. Smile, wave and see how fast you are welcomed into the community.
- **TOLERANT** - The food, the culture, the smells and the sounds will be unfamiliar to you at first. We recommend that you dive in and experience life head-on.