

Jaqueline Hemery, from Chile joined the Borneo 2007 expedition before starting university.

Before starting university, I wanted to experience different cultures and outviews on life that I wouldn't have seen back home. Travelling was a must and Raleigh gave me the opportunity to go off the beaten track. Family and friends recommended Raleigh and I had seen the work that they did back home and the positive impact it had, not only for the participants but also for the country.

On the community project, in spending time with people that live their lives so far away from the common western rules was a true eye-opener. They were so willing to give you everything they had, and it was rewarding to be able to give something equally as important back to them as the gravity water feed we built. Malaysian people are the most hospitable group of people I have ever met. Learning the local traditions has been a highlight from expedition.

The environmental project in Imbak Canyon was a testing phase that pushed every single one of us to the limit. Not necessarily physically but definitely mentally. What doesn't break you makes you stronger. Being outside of your normal lifestyle and comfort zone is a challenge.