

Why supporting an overseas expedition could be the logical next step for your career

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Raleigh International, the education charity, is looking for talented and enthusiastic logistics professionals to take part in the experience of a lifetime.

The charity - which offers young people from all backgrounds overseas expeditions to exciting and remote locations - relies on a network of volunteer managers over the age of 25 to ensure that each expedition runs smoothly and safely. Raleigh International expeditions focus on developing young people's skills and confidence, as well as putting something back into the communities in which the expedition participants live and work.

Currently, Raleigh International is looking for Logistics Managers and Assistant Logistics Managers to join support teams in Borneo, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and India. The logistics team is an integral part of a group of volunteers based at Raleigh's Field Base headquarters in each expedition country and the team (typically comprising of a Logs Manager and two assistants) is responsible for purchasing, managing and distributing food, equipment and supplies for the entire expedition. That could include up to 21,000 meals and 60 tons building of building materials.

Essential skills for the role include experience of logistical planning as well as organisational skills, excellent powers of negotiation and computer literacy. As with all volunteer managers the logistics team must also be willing to turn their hand to any practical task, pay for their flight and basic living expenses, and have a general interest in youth development and supporting young people. In return, Raleigh International offers some truly unique experiences in some of the world's most challenging and remote locations.

Chris Willett, a 41 year-old Police Officer from Shropshire, recently spent time working as a Logistics Manager on a Raleigh International expedition to Malaysia. He chose to work with Raleigh International while taking time out from his career, and says of his decision: "Raleigh had the right length of project time; I wanted to use the skills I've already got, as well as learn new ones. I wanted to spend my time doing something ethical and not like what I was doing at home. My skill set fitted Raleigh well and so I felt I could be successful at it."

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For more information about Raleigh International, visit www.raleighinternational.org or email volunteermanagers@raleigh.org.uk

For hi-res pics and further case study info, email anne.consedine@btinternet.com or call +44 (0)781 804 8438:

Useful information for interested logistics manager

- The Logistics Manager is responsible for the management of food and equipment, purchasing, budgetary control and planning, inventory, storage, equipment and transport maintenance, and the maintenance of Field Base and associated properties and buildings.
- A Raleigh International expedition commonly lasts for five or ten weeks; although as the Logistics Manager is crucial to each expedition they may be expected to arrive up to four weeks before the start of the expedition
- A full driving licence held for three years may also be necessary for some Logistics Managers. Land Rover driver training will be provided