


**PROFILE OF SOCIAL PROJECT
(HOST ORGANISATION / VOLUNTARY WORK PLACEMENT)**

<p>NAME OF SOCIAL PROJECT</p>	<p>Fundación Amigos de La Tigra – AMITIGRA</p>	
<p>SOCIAL PROJECT AVAILABLE FOR...</p>	<p>ICYE Long-term Programme (6-12 months): August & February Intakes ICYE STePs Programme (2-16 weeks): Any period, throughout the year</p>	
<p>LOCATION OF SOCIAL PROJECT</p>	<p>Parque Nacional La Tigra, Francisco Morazán (click the hyperlink to view a Google map)</p>	
<p>TYPE OF SOCIAL PROJECT / AREAS OF WORK</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development</p>	
<p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND MAIN AIMS OF THE SOCIAL PROJECT</p>	<p>Fundación Amigos de La Tigra – AMITIGRA is a non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to the conservation of the environment, and responsible for the management and protection of the Parque Nacional La Tigra, a national park located close to Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, the biggest forest of this area, home of a rich biodiversity, and source of freshwater. AMITIGRA's main objective is to sustainably manage the Parque Nacional La Tigra for the benefit of Honduran society, through the implementation of environment conservation and education, just as encouraging human development and the self-management abilities of inhabitants of local communities; this allows an ecological conservation and preservation of the hydrological potential of the park for the benefit of Tegucigalpa and nearby communities.</p>	
<p>MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIAL PROJECT</p>	<p>AMITIGRA was founded in 1993, and carries out several programmes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of Natural Resources: protection and surveillance, recovery of lands, scientific research, preserving the potential of the area as a source of freshwater supply for Tegucigalpa and nearby communities. • Land Use Planning: risk management and adaptation to climate change, conserving the forest's traits, maintaining the integrity of the flora and fauna, protecting the surrounding natural beauty. • Community Management: community participation, community development and environment education, training inhabitants on environment education and sustainable management of resources. • Public Use: conservationist ecotourism and environment interpretation. This programme gives the opportunity for people to visit the national park with the help of guides through the different trails maintained by the organisation, which also has and administers two eco-lodges where visitors can be accommodated, as well as a canopy to experience the majestic cloud forest. 	
<p>VOLUNTEER'S TASKS</p>	<p>The usual work schedule is Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m./16:00, and occasionally on Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m./16:00. The work is mainly carried out in the natural reserve Parque Nacional La Tigra located an approximate 30-40 minute car ride from downtown Tegucigalpa, and also in the organisation's office based nearby to downtown Tegucigalpa (Colonia Palmira). The volunteer can support in various activities depending on her/his abilities, interests, Spanish language knowledge and the organisation's needs during the voluntary service period, such as:</p> <p>(i) Community Management Programme: doing community work, helping inhabitants of communities located in La Tigra, such as the communities called Jutiapa, Limones and Chaparro, which have a population of approximately 2,000 inhabitants. The volunteer can support AMITIGRA's staff with the work done with small</p>	

	<p>entrepreneurs who produce and sell mainly flowers, strawberries and wooden artefacts. They sell their products in markets of Tegucigalpa, shopping stalls in the communities and through custom-made requests. AMITIGRA's role is to identify problems that these entrepreneurs are facing and seek solutions which are eco-friendly. Usually the staff plans field trips on Fridays, do a 3-day field trip and do admin work two days a week. During the field trips, they interview the inhabitants and record all findings, which are later tabulated and reported. Sometimes they stay in the communities camping or in one of the organisation's eco-lodges. The volunteer can help in this whole process with the interviews, surveys, tabulation and reporting, having the opportunity to interact with local people and establish together eco-friendly ways to develop their businesses.</p> <p>(ii) Public Use Programme: the volunteer can support the staff to: design environment educational murals, and installing these murals; maintaining the park's trails (paths, signs, etc.); building different infrastructure of the park such as small pedestrian bridges, benches, and handrails; keep a control of local volunteers; among other activities.</p> <p>(iii) Management of Natural Resources Programme: the volunteer can support the staff with: biological research tasks, such as installing camera traps in the park's mountains and hills, gathering tracks and samples of unknown species, in order to research about the park's fauna. This is usually done by camping far away from the park's trails.</p>
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VOLUNTEER'S REQUIREMENTS/SKILLS	<p><u>Age:</u> 18+. <u>Sex:</u> Male or Female. <u>Languages:</u> Basic Spanish and good English. <u>Studies or Experience:</u> High school or university degree. <u>Skills and Attitudes:</u> The volunteer must be very interested to work outdoors in the environment, be proactive with fresh ideas, be willing to walk a lot, be a good team player, flexible and patient.</p>
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HOSTING SITUATION (BOARD & LODGING)	Living with a Host Family in Tegucigalpa.
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HOST COMMUNITY OVERVIEW	<p>Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, got its tongue-twisting name from the ancient indigenous dialect <i>Nahuatl</i> that means "silver mountain". In effect, Tegucigalpa came to be during colonial times a mining centre. "Tegus," as its inhabitants affectionately call it, is a mixture of an old colonial city that has turned into the modern capital of Honduras. Its population is approximately 1,200,000 inhabitants.</p> <p>Getting around Tegucigalpa can be a confusing experience. Despite the colonial history of the city, it does not have the typical Spanish layout of square streets around the city. This is mostly that terrain around the city did not allow this. Nonetheless, Tegucigalpa is well connected to all parts of Honduras. Buses leave daily to all cities.</p> <p>La Tigra, with its immense tropical vegetation of cloud forest, makes the Parque Nacional La Tigra a natural factory of optimal-quality freshwater which supplies more than 30% of Tegucigalpa's needs and 100% of the neighbouring communities.</p>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website: www.latigra.hn • Facebook Page: @parquenacionallatigra <p>AMITIGRA suggests that volunteers should be prepared with suitable clothes for a rainy environment (including long-sleeved shirts), adequate shoes for trekking, backpack, canteen / bottle of water, hat, and a sleeping bag. AMITIGRA can provide a camping tent if the volunteer will camp together with the staff.</p>
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<p>PHOTOGRAPHS</p> <p>In the following pages you'll find some photographs of Fundación Amigos de La Tigra – AMITIGRA.</p> <p>If you have any questions about this profile and the information contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact the ICYE Honduras Staff Responsible in charge of coordinating international volunteers in Honduras at incoming@icye.hn.</p>
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FUNDACIÓN AMIGOS DE LA TIGRA – AMITIGRA



Parque Nacional La Tigra is an impressive geo-biological reserve nestled in one of the tropical cloud and rainforests close to Tegucigalpa



Bridges constructed and maintained by AMITIGRA



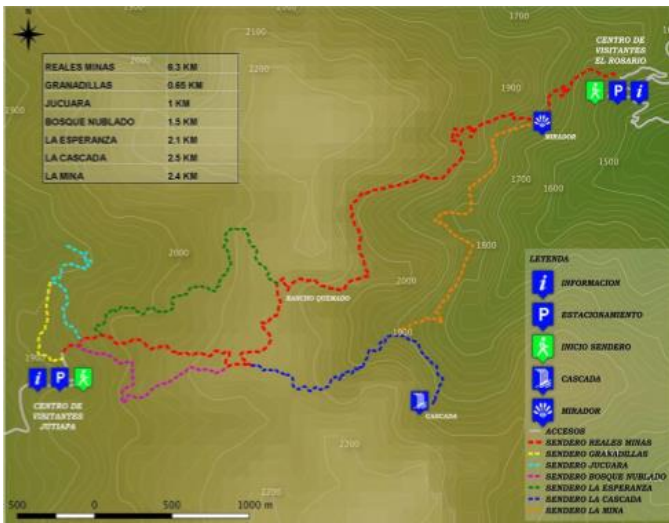
Centro de visitantes de Jutiapa



Visitors centre of AMITIGRA in La Tigra



Mockup /maquette of La Tigra with information of all the rich flora and fauna living in the mountains



Different trails maintained by AMITIGRA throughout the park



Besides trekking and camping, AMITIGRA offers other activities such as canopy in order to experience the whole park



Environment education with high school students



Tree nursery to reforest different areas surrounding Tegucigalpa