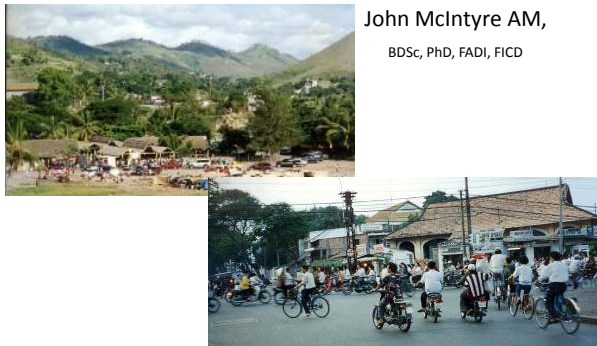


OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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Starting a career with a life changing experience



Baiyer River Valley, PNG (near Mt Hagen)



Range of HUMANITARIAN projects currently available- paid and voluntary

Overseas

- i. At the village/district level
- ii. Working with/for a Dept of Health
- iii. Assisting in training programmes

In Australia

- i. In Aboriginal communities
- ii. With disadvantaged groups, e.g. homeless, refugees

Ways to access volunteer or paid involvement in humanitarian projects

- ADA Web site- www.ada.org- dental volunteers (mainly volunteer work)
- ASPENmedical- www.aspenmedical.com.au (do contract medical and dental work for government special projects, e.g., Solomon Isl)
- AusAID- commonwealth Govt Web site
- Many religious groups provide both opportunities

Types of humanitarian projects overseas

- Volunteer projects working at the village level(Examples- Rotary in Vietnam, India, Tonga, etc.Equal Health – India &S Africa; Laos-Tooth Aid;)
- Working with Depts of Health in the planning and delivery of dental services (Timor, Vietnam, Cambodia, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Eritrea, etc)
- Working with University Dental staff to assist in upgrading knowledge base, facilities, communication

Most common dental problems in developing countries

Generally-increasing caries, periodontal disease, developmental abnormalities, e.g., cleft lips, palates), advanced pathology, AIDS related oral pathology; India, Bangladesh, PNG, Solomon Islands-Oral cancer



Types of dental treatment needed

- Toothache –very common. Extraction, ART (be prepared to work in all conditions)



Effective projects require sustainability, training of locals, continuing communication and assistance, AND

Prevention – OH promotion must accompany clinical treatment. Need intense planning, consider feasibility



Kaikam bilnat olowe save kosim kansa long maut !



KIPIM FO SPESAL TAEM NOMOA

Salomon Islands Dental Service

The experience will remain with you for life!

You need to be a lateral thinker, and work around lack of resources
You need to be very fit and healthy
BUT-consider safety, and susceptibility to serious medical diseases

