A young world

There are nearly 7.5 billion people in the world and more than half are under 30.

That makes us the biggest youth generation ever.

We’re tired of being ignored and underestimated. We want people to recognise that we are one of the most important resources the world has. We have ideas that can change our world.

Young people like us, from all over the world, deliver Raleigh’s work. We volunteer our time and use our enthusiasm to create change in our own countries and globally. We know that our innovation, energy and determination creates real impact.

When we take action, we bring people with us and make sure that no one is left behind. We are part of a global community working to build a sustainable future.

By volunteering we also get the knowledge, networks and skills we need to play an effective role in developing our world. This puts us in the best position to influence our peers, promote causes we believe in and empower communities to change behaviours.

This report shows that when we are accepted as partners in all parts of society, from rural communities to businesses and governments, we are powerful catalysts for change.
How young people are working with Raleigh

Expedition
Expedition offers us the chance to work in international teams to build skills, lead community projects and get out of our comfort zone. Expedition consists of three phases: water and sanitation, natural resource management and a youth leadership challenge trek.

International Citizen Service (ICS)
ICS brings together diverse young people from the UK and developing countries so we can volunteer in some of the poorest communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It is funded by the UK government.

National Youth Programmes
National Youth Programmes work with and target young people in their own communities. They empower local young people with the skills and confidence to deliver projects that contribute to the Global Goals.

Raleigh’s 2020 goals
Youth in civil society: 20,000 young people will be leaders and partners inspiring 100,000 actions on sustainable development

Water, sanitation & hygiene: 75,000 people will have long-lasting access to and use of safe WASH facilities

Livelihoods: 10,000 young people will have sustained, safe, dignified and fair work

Natural resource management: Increased resilience in more than 200 communities through the sustainable management of resources. 25 million reached with Global Goals awareness campaigns

The Global Goals
Raleigh’s work contributes to eight of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development

The Global Goals

[Logos of the Global Goals]
Leading global change

Young people as partners and leaders in development

We want to play our part in tackling the world’s problems, but we often get ignored and our opinions are not taken seriously.

Working with other young people around the world, we are taking a lead on the issues affecting our world and communities.

3,795 young people from 34 countries took part in Raleigh’s programmes in 2017. Together, across five countries, we helped change the lives of more than 50,000 people.

We also saw personal benefits. We boosted our skills and confidence and improved our knowledge of global issues. Volunteering has had a positive effect on our lives in many areas.

Percentage of volunteers who agree/strongly agree that volunteering with Raleigh had a positive impact on their:

- Creativity: 84%
- Confidence & agency: 84%
- Relationships & leadership: 81%
- Managing feelings: 81%
- Planning & problem solving: 79%
- Resilience & determination: 79%
- Communication: 78%
Action at Home

864 Raleigh ICS volunteers in Nepal, Nicaragua, Tanzania and the UK completed a project in their home communities in 2017. This shows how we remain active citizens and demonstrates that volunteering has a positive impact on our communities at home.

After his ICS placement, Santosh found that litter and plastic pollution was an issue in Koudi community. So, he decided to return to set up Koudi Kids Club. This young group of litter picking environmental enthusiasts are now keeping their community clean and championing the environment.

The best thing about Koudi Kids Club is one word – sustainability. To avoid a lack of environmental awareness and responsibility among future generations, I realised that engaging with younger children in the village early is key.

Santosh (volunteer, Nepal)

Jasmine is campaigning with the charity Ambitious About Autism for a greater awareness of the condition in the UK. She has been raising the voice of autistic people by participating in youth council meetings and appearing on TV and radio.

Jasmine (volunteer, UK)

After ICS I was even more inspired to continue working with Ambitious About Autism. As someone who is on the spectrum, I have learnt so much from being a youth patron and being able to set an example to other young people.

864 Raleigh ICS volunteers completed a project in their home communities.
Alumni action

We are part of a global community made up of more than 45,000 people, in over 100 countries, who have volunteered with Raleigh.

In more than 15 countries, former volunteers have created national societies who support Raleigh’s work and develop their own activities. In 2017, Raleigh Hong Kong hosted the Raleigh Asia Regional Conference, in partnership with WWF Hong Kong. Raleigh societies from China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Bermuda and Mongolia attended. The conference gave young people the opportunity to connect and develop ideas.

Some of our fellow alumni joined the new Youth Advisory Group. It is made up of young people from each of the countries Raleigh works in. This group is helping shape future Raleigh projects by advising on how to put young people at the heart of them.

"We are all responsible for one another. Every child, regardless of their gender or disability, has a right to access quality education. We intend to continue supporting this right and promoting the welfare of children with disabilities."

Pius
(National Society member, Tanzania)

Pius is a member of the Raleigh Tanzania Society. After volunteering he started his own charity, Tengeneza Generation. He is helping to improve the lives of young people with disabilities in Tanzania.
Creating healthy communities

Better water and toilets in rural areas

Millions of people still die every year because of unsafe water and poor hygiene. Young people and children are particularly affected. It stops us from attending school or work and leading healthy, successful lives. This needs to end.

We made a real change in four countries. We worked in teams, side by side with young people in communities, and built water tanks, tap stands and toilet blocks. Living with local families meant we could change attitudes to health and hygiene issues, from handwashing to menstruation.

We worked in 64 communities in 4 countries, impacting 44,000 people

Before, we used to have to walk a kilometre downhill to get water, which was difficult. But the Raleigh project really helped us. It provided us with better water access which was a pathway for us to be able to do other things, like washing clothes and hands, building, growing crops and other every day activities.

Amrita (community member, Nepal)
In Nepal, 700 homes got access to safe drinking water, toilets and hand washing stations. This reduced illnesses and the amount of time spent collecting water. We broke down taboos by talking openly to women and girls about periods and how to manage them. Local young people were inspired to set up youth clubs and groups to manage the water facilities so that our work is sustainable in the future.

In Malaysian Borneo, we worked with communities to provide safe, reliable water sources and toilets for 1,000 people. We also helped communities map where people did not have clean water or toilets. Village leaders and young people will use this knowledge to continue creating change in the future.

In Nicaragua, young entrepreneurs developed the skills needed to set up new businesses, providing toilets to rural communities and work for young people. More than 250 families have bought new toilets from the entrepreneurs. Local young people helped set up water management groups. 76% of community members said these will help the future development of the community.

In Nepal: 700 homes with safe drinking water

In Nicaragua: 1,000 people with safe, reliable water sources and toilets
The project is really needed because of the current situation at the school. There are so many students, almost 2,000, and only eight toilets. Having more toilets will increase the number of students attending class. Disabled children will have access to school because they will have their own toilet. Moreover, the girls at the school now won’t drop out when they are menstruating.

Renatha
(volunteer, Tanzania)
We worked with youth groups, women’s groups, farmers groups, and our project partner. Before training sessions, we identified the problems the community face and the opportunities for businesses. We focused on what they wanted and what is sustainable for them. We motivated the young entrepreneurs and encouraged them to do something positive in their community.

Namrata (volunteer, Nepal)

Turning ideas into sustainable businesses

Increasing jobs and income in rural areas

Young people globally are facing huge barriers to finding decent work and fair pay. Almost 600 million of us are unemployed or missing out on education and training. This global problem is growing every day.

We worked with Raleigh in three countries to boost jobs and incomes in 2017. More than 1,500 young entrepreneurs built the determination, skills and resilience needed to succeed. They went on to create over 900 micro-enterprises.

Raleigh focuses on rural areas because job opportunities there are low paid and unstable. Through volunteering, we are supporting other young people to get the skills they need to succeed.

More than 1,500 young entrepreneurs built the skills they need to succeed
We had plenty of help from Raleigh volunteers with our pitches and regular progress reviews. They trained us to be confident and not afraid in front of the panel. When we were told that our idea was selected, I screamed with delight. I never thought we could succeed. We are so thankful to Raleigh for helping us make our dream come true.

Agnes & Dorothy (entrepreneurs, Tanzania)

In Nepal, we helped 931 people to adapt their farming to cope with climate change. 683 community members trained in seed plantation and irrigation. 748 people began producing high value vegetables to increase their income. 250 micro-enterprises were set up, providing work and more regular income for community members.

In Tanzania, 1,200 young people trained in business skills. 600 entrepreneurs pitched their ideas to a panel to get grants of up to US$100 to start their businesses. An independent review of Raleigh’s work showed our training is accessible for community members. We give young entrepreneurs a strong sense of ownership over their ideas and work.

In Tanzania: 600 entrepreneurs pitched their ideas to a panel

In Nepal: 748 people began producing high value vegetables to increase their income
In Nicaragua, 118 young entrepreneurs attended training sessions to gain the skills needed to start their own businesses. 97 of the entrepreneurs developed a business plan; over 70% of them were women. 73 entrepreneurs received a grant of around US$100 to help them get their business off the ground. We helped 35 entrepreneurs with existing businesses access other sources of finance.

Our work is sustainable because we help young entrepreneurs build networks with other business owners who can act as mentors. This approach has helped create huge impact in the communities. 74% of businesses young entrepreneurs set up since 2014 are still running and 60% of these are run by women.

The volunteers have helped me with tools and information about creativity and financing. I can now use these in my business. In five years I hope to have more sales areas within and outside the community. I also believe my business will serve my community by generating more employment opportunities.

Sixto
(entrepreneur, Nicaragua)
Protecting local environments

Combatting climate change and sustaining rural resources

Young people want an active role in ensuring our natural environments are cared for. We are the ones who are going to have to live with the effects of climate change and plastic pollution. Our ideas should matter in finding the solutions.

In 2017, we worked with Raleigh to help protect the environment in three countries. We worked with local young people to plant 300,000 new trees. Rural communities connected with officials to manage the impact of local climate change. We also empowered people to use their skills to better protect the resources they rely on.

We cleared the land and built the tree nursery with the help of the villagers. It was great to work with the children as the project is long term. They need to have a good understanding of why the project is being done and the long term benefits it will have. They will grow up and then be able to pass this knowledge on to the next generation.

Maria (volunteer, Tanzania)
Our main goal is to make sure the national parks last for decades to come. We restored areas damaged during natural storms. By caring for these ecosystems, we help the environment and local economy. Tourists and scientists who come can bring income to the area.

Leonela
(volunteer, Nicaragua & Costa Rica)

In Costa Rica: 21 communities improved their knowledge about climate change

In Costa Rica, we helped promote eco-tourism by improving trails in national parks. We planted new trees in conservation areas and supported local environmental education. 21 communities improved their knowledge about climate change and what they can do about it.

In Tanzania: three rural communities established new tree nurseries

In Tanzania, we worked with three rural communities to establish new tree nurseries. Together, we planted 300,000 seedlings to help local reforestation. We also taught at village primary schools to encourage the children to look after their environment. This will make our work sustainable.
In Malaysian Borneo, over 100 young people from rainforest communities developed their existing skills to manage local natural resources. They set up committees to ensure sustainable use of their environment. Local young people also became honorary wildlife wardens, working with officials to reduce wildlife trafficking. Their important role helps build bonds between communities and the government.

20 young people attended our nine-week course on creating eco-enterprises. Seven pitched their business plans and received grants help them set up their businesses. Local mentors connected with the young environmental entrepreneurs to help grow their eco-enterprises in the future.

“I joined because I want to get more experience and knowledge about the environment and nature. I want to learn about sustainable agriculture because I only know about farming using chemicals. I want to show people how to farm organically so we take care of our environment, nature and health. I’m learning how to sustain a business and generate income.”

Badrul
(entrepreneur, Malaysian Borneo)
Thank you to everyone who supported our work in 2017

| Asian Forestry Company Sabah | Kilombero District Council |
| Agua Para La Vida (APLV) | Land, Empowerment, Animals, People (LEAP) |
| Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Settlement | Legacy of alumna Sarah Young |
| Athenaeum Initiative led by Abel Hadden | Lonely Planet |
| BNP Paribas (Suisse) SA | Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía (MINAET) |
| Centre of Education and Social Promotion (CEPS) | Myomero District Council |
| CJFPBS | Nationwide Platforms |
| Danum Valley Conservation Area | Newcastle University |
| El Foro Miraflor | Nomad Travel |
| Employees of Google EMEA | Oak Foundation |
| Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust | Organization for Economic and Social Development for the Urban and Rural Areas (ODESAR) |
| Family and friends in memory of alumnus Kit Mallinson | Outdoor & Cycle Concepts |
| Fondation Les Pâquerettes | PACOS Trust |
| G M Morrison Charitable Trust | Reckitt Benckiser Group Plc |
| GLIDE Ltd | Reuben Foundation |
| Goreto Gorkha | Rural Awareness and Development Organisation (RADO) |
| Grafton Merchanting GB Ltd (Buildbase and Hirebase) | Sanitation and Water Action |
| Heifer International (EADD) | Save The Children |
| Instituto de Promoción Humana Somoto (INPRHU) | Shree Swanna Integrated Development Centre (SSICDC) |
| James Cochrane | Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservacion (SINAC) |
| Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc | Sir John Cass’s Foundation |
| Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) | Stadia Solutions |
| STA Travel | Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) |
| Texel Foundation | The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust |
| The Alchemy Foundation | The Asian Forestry Company Sabah (AFCS) |
| The Brunton Family | The Coca Cola Foundation |
| The Gannochy Trust | The Garfield Weston Foundation |
| The Hedley Foundation | The Hugh Fraser Foundation |
| The Jessica Spencer Trust | The Myles Trust |
| The Peacock Charitable Trust | The Ronald Miller Foundation |
| The W A Cargill Charitable Trust | Tropical Rainforest Conservation and Research Centre (TRCRC) |
| UK Department for International Development | US Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs |
| VolkerFitzpatrick | Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) |
| Water to Go | Women, Children & Environment Development Centre (WOCHEND) |