



# CGI U

A PROJECT OF THE CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE

## COMMITMENTS GUIDE

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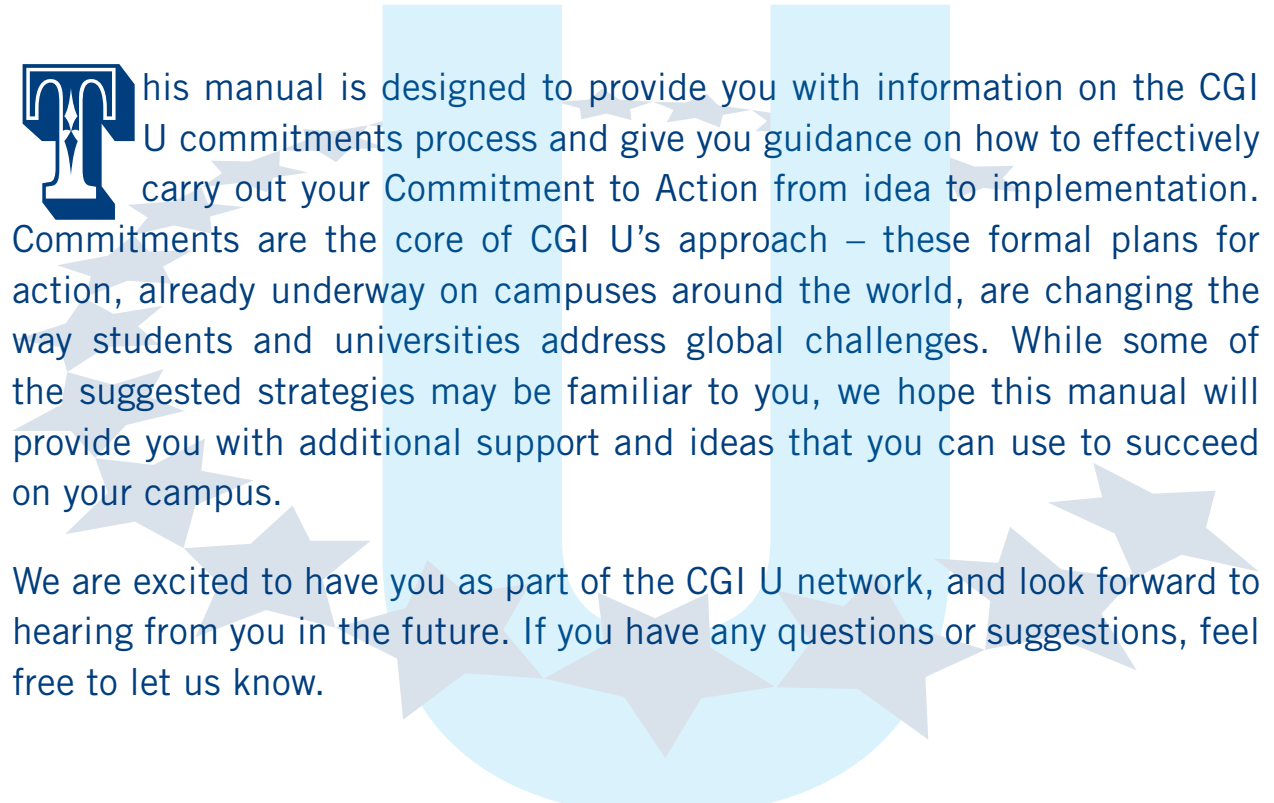
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## DEAR STUDENT,



**T**his manual is designed to provide you with information on the CGI U commitments process and give you guidance on how to effectively carry out your Commitment to Action from idea to implementation. Commitments are the core of CGI U's approach – these formal plans for action, already underway on campuses around the world, are changing the way students and universities address global challenges. While some of the suggested strategies may be familiar to you, we hope this manual will provide you with additional support and ideas that you can use to succeed on your campus.

We are excited to have you as part of the CGI U network, and look forward to hearing from you in the future. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to let us know.

Sincerely,

**THE CGI U TEAM**

# CGI U COMMITMENTS GUIDE

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Below are suggestions on how to implement a successful CGI U commitment.

## { Get started }

Brainstorm different ideas for action. What are you passionate about? What unique resources can you bring to the table? How could you or your university get involved? Check out our ideas for action on [www.cgiu.org](http://www.cgiu.org). Bear in mind these are only ideas. You and your local campus community know best what kind of strategic action you could take, whether you're cutting your campus's carbon emissions by 50% or building a school in Malawi. Most importantly, think creatively about how to apply the knowledge you have learned in and outside of the classroom.

CGI U has three criteria for all commitments: new, specific, and measurable.

### New

Each commitment must be a new project for the individual, group, or university making the commitment. If the commitment is an expansion of an existing effort, consider focusing on a different geographical area, working with new partners, or fundraising for a cause new to the club or individual's interest.

### Specific

Each commitment must address a specific challenge with a defined course of action and objectives. Define your commitment's goal, outline your planned activities, and identify how long it will realistically take you to complete your project.

### Measurable

Each commitment should achieve results that are measurable and that can be reported back to the CGI U team. Identify specific results that you want to report back on. The impact of your commitment can be determined in many ways, whether you're measuring funds raised, houses built, or children tutored.

CGI U commitments fall within three categories: individual, student group, and university commitments. Individual commitments are initiated by a single person, and student group commitments begin with a group of young people who decide to take action on a global issue. University commitments are made by the official leadership of the university.

## { Get feedback }

Once you've come up with an informal plan, start soliciting feedback from classmates, professors, administrators, student groups, and community members. Do they think your plan is realistic? Would they be willing to join or support you? What student organizations might be interested in helping or providing expertise? What type of resources will you need to get this project off the ground? Identify other people and groups engaging on this issue and ask for their feedback on your plan. Where could your plan be tweaked or improved? Getting honest and meaningful feedback from the start is crucial to the long-term success of your commitment, and it's a great way to find allies early on in the process. Community input can also steer your efforts towards what type of commitment will have the greatest impact.



## { Create a formal plan }

Once you've decided on your commitment, log onto [www.cgiu.org](http://www.cgiu.org) and formally submit your Commitment to Action. Set up a month-by-month timeline of what you want to accomplish and when. Keep track of all key contacts who might be crucial in making your commitment a reality. Create a formal budget. Flesh out the metrics you will use to measure your commitment and devise a method for measuring your progress.



# CGI U COMMITMENTS GUIDE

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## { Get to work }

Don't just invent - implement! Now it's time to put your commitment to action. Stay organized and stay energized – always be on the lookout for new partners, sponsors, feedback, or volunteers along the way.



## { Work with your Campus Rep }

Be sure to touch base with your CGI U campus rep, students who serve as CGI U representatives on their respective campuses. Campus reps act as the CGI U point of contact at the university, and will be able to provide you assistance with outreach, working with local press, and setting up potential meetings with university administrators. If you are putting together a specific event related to your commitment, they can also assist you with that. You're in charge of your commitment, but campus reps are there to help you make it happen. The campus rep network is brand new, so there might not be a campus rep at your college yet. If your school does not already have a campus rep, you can apply to be one.

## { Explore partnership opportunities }

Once you've made tangible progress on your commitment, think about other potential partners who can help take your commitment to the next level. Reach out to professors, administrators, local community members, and other campus leaders that you don't already have contact with. Think about how your university could take a more formal, institutional role in this commitment. Explore new partnerships with universities overseas. Could a university in a developing country benefit from a relationship with your institution, or vice versa? The possibilities for partnerships are endless, so think creatively and aim to bring together a diverse range of voices that can add unique perspectives and tap into new resources.

## { Measure your results and report back }

Throughout the duration of your commitment, be sure to keep detailed reports of the results. The CGI U commitments team will ask you for regular updates. How you measure your progress will depend on the kind of commitment you make, but some metrics could include: How many students have attended an after-school program as a result of your commitment? How many acres of forest have been saved as a result of your campus's commitment to paper recycling? What is the percentage increase of healthy births since your medical school opened its maternity clinic in a rural village in Bangladesh? Even if there isn't always "hard data" to go with your commitment, it's crucial that you can show CGI U and your campus community exactly what your commitment has accomplished. If you have stories, photos, or updates to share with us along the way, feel free to email [cgiu.commitments@clintonglobalinitiative.org](mailto:cgiu.commitments@clintonglobalinitiative.org).



## { Make it sustainable }

Finally, be sure to keep the long-term vision and mission of your commitment in mind. What will happen to your commitment once you graduate? You could pass it on to others at your school, merge resources and contacts with a similar local commitment, or even turn your efforts into your own non-profit. Be sure to involve professors, underclassmen, and students from a wide range of majors on your campus to ensure your commitment's sustainability. Devise a strategic plan and think about how your commitment could scale up in the future to expand its reach and impact.



# HOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR CGI U COMMITMENT

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Once you've come up with a concrete plan for your commitment, the next step is deciding how you're going to fund it. Below are a few suggestions on how to raise the funds necessary to make your commitment a reality.

## { Make a plan and budget }

No matter how you try to raise funds for your commitment, you'll need a detailed fundraising plan and budget. The more professional your fundraising strategy is, the more likely you'll be taken seriously by potential donors. Start by making a budget for the first year of your commitment: what are the total proposed costs, and how do they break down? Try to keep your expenses as low as possible: could you find a free meeting space on campus, an organization that might let you borrow their copy machine, or a local corporation that could make in-kind donations to support your commitment? Create several different financial scenarios for your commitment. Detail exactly where the money would be allocated under each scenario, and what the potential results would be. Come up with promotional materials and brief reports that detail your plan and budget in an accessible, easy-to-read layout to present to interested donors. Now you're ready to fundraise!

## Raising Funds from your University

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### { Faculty and administrators }

From professors to the president's office, from dining services to your dean of students, university staff can be great resources in getting your commitment fundraising efforts off the ground. Start by identifying key faculty and administrators who might be interested in your commitment. Schedule a meeting to discuss your plans and ask if they know of any fundraising opportunities you could pursue. Professors, deans, and department heads could be particularly interested in funding your commitment if there is a research component to it. Additionally, endowed chairs and other key administrators often have discretionary funds available for innovative student projects and research.

### { Alumni networks }

Many alumni are happy to help worthwhile causes initiated by students from their alma mater. Contact your university's alumni affairs office and find out how to send a letter, make a phone call, or tap into this vibrant network of potential supporters. They may be able to direct you to specific alumni or alumni networks who are active in the issues your commitment is addressing.

### { University scholarships and grants }

There is a wide range of university organizations that may have small scholarships or grants that could support your commitment. Explore opportunities through student government, the student activities office, relevant departments, your school's center for community service, or any other like-minded organizations that might have money dedicated to funding new student initiatives with even a small amount of seed money. Also focus in on specific university resources that may apply to your commitment. If your commitment addresses global health issues, explore funding opportunities with your school of public health. If your commitment addresses poverty alleviation or human rights and peace, explore funding opportunities with your school of international affairs.



# HOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR CGI U COMMITMENT

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## Raising Funds from your Community

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### { Write a letter to family and friends }

Start by making a list of 50 people in your personal networks who could be potential donors. Be sure to include family, friends, co-workers, and neighborhood acquaintances. Draft a letter that explains what your commitment is, why it is important to you and your community, and how that person can help you achieve it. Keep the letter short, but speak from the heart. Ask for a specific amount that is realistic for that recipient, and include a return envelope to make it as easy as possible to donate. If you send the letter out via e-mail, be sure to have a link or Paypal account that makes it easy for your contacts to donate online.

### { Hold a community event }

One of the best ways to raise funds and awareness for your commitment is to hold a community event. Whether you choose to host a benefit concert featuring local bands, sell t-shirts at a central location in town, or hold an information session at the public library, a public event will not only raise money for your commitment, it will also raise awareness of your project among your peers and community.

### { Apply for grants }

Research various foundations and other grant opportunities that could potentially provide funding for your commitment. Many larger foundations will not be interested in unsolicited proposals, but many smaller community foundations might support your work assuming it fits within their funding guidelines. Look online for companies and corporate gift programs that might be interested in your commitment. Many large corporations will match their employees' contributions one-to-one. Check with your existing donors to see if their company has such a policy and you could double the donation. Also explore the possibility of strategic in-kind donations from businesses or corporations in the local community.

### { Create a website }

Even the most basic website or blog can become an invaluable fundraising tool. A secure donation form or Paypal account can enable users to donate to your commitment in a matter of seconds. Your university may have resources to help you build your own website. In addition, be sure to spread the word about your commitment on popular social networking sites. A web presence with information and photos about your commitment can also generate increased buzz and interest in your work.

### { Contact the local media }

No matter how small your school's newspaper or radio station, press can help raise awareness and funds for your commitment. Be sure to let any members of your college's media know about what you're up to. Also get in touch with the local media in your community: you could write a letter to the editor on an issue related to your work, or contact a local reporter on a higher education beat and let them know about your commitment.

### { Work with local community groups }

Reach out to local community groups that address similar issues as your commitment. Attend a meeting or get on the phone with a key representative of the organization to let them know what you're up to. A local non-profit with a shoestring budget might not give you a seed grant, but they might know of other individuals or organizations who could provide significant support to your commitment.

These are just a few suggestions about how to utilize the resources at your university and in your community to raise funds for your commitment. This is by no means a comprehensive list, but is meant to get you thinking about the possibilities that are out there. Be creative, think outside the traditional realm of fundraising, and be resourceful with the funds you have.

If you have any questions or ideas, feel free to get in touch with us at: [cgiu@clintonglobalinitiative.org](mailto:cgiu@clintonglobalinitiative.org).



# HOW TO WORK WITH PROFESSORS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND THE COMMUNITY

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Professors, administrators, and the community at large can be invaluable assets in making your commitment a reality. Below are several ideas on how to effectively engage them with your CGI U commitment.

## { Professors }

Start by reaching out to professors with whom you already have a relationship. Go to their office hours, or talk to them after class. Also contact other professors who teach or do research in similar fields as your commitment. Tell them what you're up to and invite them to get involved. At the very least, professors could spread the word about your commitment to their other students, or give you brief feedback on your plans. Professors could also act as informal advisors, providing research expertise and professional contacts to help you move your project along. Additionally, they may be able to put you in touch with others in the field who are doing similar work, or give you the names of relevant books, articles, or organizations on the subject. If a professor seems genuinely interested, he or she could explore a formal university partnership with your project and create a study abroad program or for-credit seminar that's related to your commitment. Professors can also act as effective liaisons to the administration and larger campus community when you're looking to bring them to the table.



## { Administrators }

Sit down with your campus rep, leverage your own knowledge of university operations, and decide which administrator would be a strategic person to contact first for potential support of your commitment. Is it the dean of students? The university president? Don't automatically try to contact the president or chancellor's office just because he or she might be the highest ranking official at the school – they are often the most preoccupied with other urgent day-to-day issues. Once you've chosen a school official to contact, write a letter explaining what you're doing and ask for a meeting. Stay in touch with your campus rep throughout this process. She or he will be an invaluable resource in building momentum and a wide range of supporters as you go. If you do decide to contact your university's president, try to make initial inroads with one of their staff or advisors, rather than just sending an unsolicited letter to them personally. If you don't hear within two weeks, be sure to follow up. If you can't get a meeting right away, send your formal proposal hard copy and over e-mail, and be patient. You probably

won't be immediately offered a meeting with your school's president, but he or she might refer you to speak to someone else at their office who can handle your proposal.



Once you get a meeting with any administrator, be professional, on time, and ready to honestly discuss the details of your potential partnership. Have concrete proposals on hand – could the university underwrite 50% of the costs of your proposed solar roof on the math library? Expand its research programs on infectious diseases in partnership with the work of your commitment? Create a formal partnership with a university overseas? Provide seed funding or fellowships for action-oriented student research and projects such as your own? Include a budget with several



# HOW TO WORK WITH PROFESSORS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND THE COMMUNITY

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different financial scenarios. Once there's proven support from the administrator and a solid plan, aim to hold another larger meeting to flesh out the details. If an administrator is concerned with the financial ramifications of your proposal (which they very well might be), come up with creative fundraising ideas that could help partially finance the project. Show them that you're resourceful.

Finally, once there is formal buy-in from the administration, make it official and make an announcement. Spread the good news to the local and campus media. Be prepared to be contacted by other students who will hear about what you're doing and want to get involved. Down the road, be sure to follow up with administrators and provide detailed updates and progress reports. Track your success with specific numeric metrics. If possible, hold regular meetings with a representative of the administration to discuss what is (and isn't) working with your project. If your commitment is a smashing success, get ready to explore potential opportunities for expansion.

## { Community }

Whether you're trying to reduce your campus's carbon emissions or track disease outbreaks 12,000 miles away, local residents, businesses, and politicians can be great partners in making CGI U commitments happen. Start with Google, the yellow pages, or word of mouth to find useful local contacts: are there relevant green design firms, public health agencies, anti-poverty programs, or internationally-focused non-profits in your town or neighborhood? Is there a high-tech firm that could help you get your malaria-tracking map off the ground? Local community foundations that might support your commitment financially? Volunteering organizations in the community that could provide support for your work? A wide network of local allies can help ensure that CGI U commitments have broad support and lasting reach. Get out in the community as much as possible: attend city council hearings, regional conferences, or events at the public library. When looking for local support, you could also take the more direct approach: simply put a card table out on your community's Main Street and let others in the neighborhood know what you're up to. There's nothing like a little face-to-face contact to spread the word about an innovative CGI U project.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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Below are some ideas to get you started on your Commitment to Action. These are only ideas. It is entirely up to you what your commitment will be and how you will execute it.

## { Education }

- ★ Sponsor a village or district overseas to help eliminate or reduce their school fees in a region where basic education is not available to most children.
- ★ Partner with NGO's or relief organizations to help offer access to education in disaster or conflict zones.
- ★ Create a campaign to collect books or school supplies and send them to communities in need.
- ★ Combat illiteracy by expanding access to eye care in developing nations.
- ★ Establish night schools for child laborers who have no option but to work during the day.
- ★ Start a program that brings low-income high school students to campus for college preparatory classes, one-on-one tutoring, or career counseling.
- ★ Create mobile and digital libraries for regions with scarce access to educational materials and technologies.
- ★ Work with your school's social work department to create a summer program for low-income youth from the surrounding community.
- ★ Develop a "sister school" relationship with a school or university in a developing region, where students and teachers from each school can communicate through letters, email, video conferences, or service learning trips and learn from each other's experiences.
- ★ Create a scholarship and support program to facilitate girls' schooling in areas of the world where there are gender-based barriers to education.
- ★ Create a community-university partnership board, a group of students and administrators who will award money to innovative community development projects that benefit the youth of the local community in unique ways.
- ★ Donate educational technology to schools that could use it the most.
- ★ Create a workforce retraining program that matches the unemployed in your region with training in rapidly growing sustainability sectors, such as green building and alternative energy.
- ★ Partner with overseas development organizations to create a summer service project where students from your school help build or repair a school in a region where it is desperately needed.
- ★ Start a student-run global debate club on campus.
- ★ Establish a lifelong learning center in your community, which could serve as an intergenerational venue for members of the community at large to share skills and resources.
- ★ Institute an exchange program within your school's education department where future teachers can do a semester-long apprenticeship in an international school to gain a hands-on understanding of global education.
- ★ Provide free public tutoring at a local library, school, or mall.
- ★ Sponsor free school lunches at a school in a developing country that does not provide them.
- ★ Work with your school's administration to institute a mandatory volunteering or community engagement component to your school's graduation requirements.
- ★ Help start a center for global education within your school's existing education school or department, which could offer classes and research opportunities on the role of education in sustainable global development.
- ★ Expand access to public libraries, particularly in rapidly developing urban centers around the world.
- ★ Create a hands-on problem-solving seminar at your school which works across disciplines to address pressing international challenges.
- ★ Sponsor a community or school in the developing world with low-cost laptops (as the non-profit One Laptop per Child does) or access to satellite internet.
- ★ Work with local NGOs to open an adult literacy center in a region with scarce access to literacy resources.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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## { Energy and Climate Change }

- ★ Turn college building thermostats two degrees up in the summer and two degrees down in the winter.
- ★ Hold a green design expo where campus engineers, architects, and other interested student teams can present their ecological inventions and designs that could be used on campus.
- ★ Organize a competition between two dorms or departments to see who can reduce their carbon emissions the most.
- ★ Complete an intensive energy audit for your campus. Review the energy consumption patterns of your school, meet with your school's facilities department, and find the most practical methods for emissions reduction.
- ★ Install energy metering devices in all campus buildings.
- ★ Create a green computing center on campus that relies exclusively on renewable energy and maximum computer efficiency.
- ★ Create an electronic waste center which provides safe and responsible recycling or disposal of defunct or broken computers.
- ★ Start a green initiative fund, which could pay for the "start-up" costs of green innovation on campus. You could also join an alternative energy purchasing consortium in an effort to decrease initial costs.
- ★ Create a partnership between your university and the local city planning office to implement sustainable infrastructure and design throughout the community.
- ★ Establish or expand a hybrid Zipcar or bicycle rental facility for students and faculty on campus.
- ★ Establish a network of bicycle and pedestrian greenways on campus and in the nearby community.
- ★ Create a bicycle-powered laundromat in your dorm.
- ★ Design and build a solar-powered car.
- ★ Create a rapid-response disaster or flood surveillance and monitoring system with a partner region or village overseas.
- ★ Work with the Clinton Climate Initiative or EPA's Green Power Partnership to decrease the start-up costs of renewable energy systems for your school.
- ★ Build a system which can create real-time energy audits of your campus buildings and provide ongoing digital monitoring of your campus's energy use.
- ★ Enact mandatory student fees (such as \$1 per credit) which could underwrite green start-up costs on campus.
- ★ Sponsor micro-renewable energy for rural populations that are currently not on the electric grid.
- ★ Ensure that plastic water bottles are not sold in campus stores.
- ★ Start or expand a local farmers market on campus.
- ★ Create "single stream" recycling on campus where paper, plastic, and glass can all go into the same can.
- ★ Create an airport carpooling program that students can use during university holidays and other periods of high-volume travel.
- ★ Calculate your campus's carbon footprint and assess your school's renewable energy capacity. Draw up a 30-year plan.
- ★ Make whiteboards available in all study facilities on campus to eliminate use of scratch paper for notes.
- ★ Recycle graduating seniors' furniture and other items by donating them to a local non-profit.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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## { Energy and Climate Change continued }

- ★ Create a university-community alliance that works with local industry and government to lead the way in carbon emissions reductions in the region.
- ★ Install compact fluorescent bulbs or LEDs in all university facilities.
- ★ Create a carbon-neutral dorm on campus.
- ★ Initiate a tree planting campaign on campus or in the nearby community.
- ★ Support and install renewable energy in a rural region or village which has no or limited access to electricity.
- ★ Purchase university energy from clean energy sources through renewable energy credits (RECs).
- ★ Design and market reusable containers for your campus's cafeteria and dining halls. Your campus bookstore could donate free reusable bottles to all students during orientation.
- ★ Work with the nearby community to establish a green land trust.
- ★ Invest a portion of the university's endowment in a clean energy fund.
- ★ Retrofit a building or dorm at your school to be carbon-neutral.
- ★ Work with your local transit authority to increase mass transit stops and other public transportation options in and around the campus community.
- ★ Lobby for university-wide principles of sustainability that are integrated into all decision-making on your campus.
- ★ Create a revolving loan fund to finance campus sustainability initiatives.
- ★ Start a campus-wide recycling program if it does not already exist.
- ★ Start a hands-on outreach and education program in local primary and secondary schools where young people can learn about energy, climate change, and practical steps towards sustainability in the community.
- ★ Start a campaign to ensure that your university purchases only EnergyStar appliances for dormitories, classroom buildings, and laboratories.
- ★ Work with other universities and businesses to form a statewide consortium which petitions your state government to mandate an 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels by 2050.
- ★ If your university's president is not already a signatory, work with your college to become a member of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.
- ★ Work with university administrators to start or expand an Office of Sustainability which will enact practical sustainability measures and devise long-term strategic plans for the campus.

## { Global Health }

- ★ Provide basic water sanitation through the distribution of low-cost oral re-hydration packets and/or mobile water filtration units.
- ★ Raise funds to support the international campaigns against malaria, AIDS, tuberculosis, or other diseases.
- ★ Work with your school's health center and an outside international development organization to facilitate the donation of used medical equipment.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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- ★ Build a community garden on campus which provides fresh food to the campus cafeteria or other local community venues such as homeless shelters or public schools.
- ★ Raise funds to supply mosquito bed nets, free of cost, to vulnerable populations worldwide.
- ★ Work with your university's administration, faculty, and student body to create a global health program at your school.
- ★ Create a partnership between architecture and medical students on your campus and a host community to work together in designing and building sustainable health facilities.
- ★ Work with faculty, graduate students and members of your school's administration to pursue the research, prevention, and treatment of neglected infectious diseases.
- ★ Work with governments, NGOs, and local partners to eliminate user fees for basic health care in developing countries.
- ★ Start a campus anti-smoking initiative.
- ★ Create a program to send medical graduates at your university to provide medical services in communities with underdeveloped medical infrastructure and/or a shortage of physicians.
- ★ Increase global access to medical innovation. Advocate for your campus's adoption of licensing policies that respect a university's intellectual property but also ensure that low-income countries have access to basic medical services in an "open borders" format.
- ★ Work to expand the use of iodized salt as a means to prevent widespread iodine deficiency.
- ★ Provide scholarship funding for low-income women seeking to become trained birth attendants.
- ★ Promote maternal health in underserved communities with an outreach and education campaign.
- ★ Work with governments, NGOs, engineers, public health experts, and computer scientists to create accurate and reliable disease surveillance systems.
- ★ Hold community seminars on preventive medicine.
- ★ Work with your local farmers market to enable them to accept food stamps.
- ★ Start a peer health education program for local public schools.



- ★ Create a volunteer program at your school to help staff underserved local clinics, hospitals, and other health care centers.
- ★ Create a campus-wide (or even cross-campus) student investment fund for research, prevention and treatment of health conditions primarily affecting marginalized communities.
- ★ Start a visitation program with a local retirement home where students from your university spend a few hours every week with the residents.
- ★ Establish a partnership with local farmers and agricultural companies to educate their workers on safe growing techniques and safe ways to handle the pesticides they use.
- ★ Raise funds to provide feminine hygiene products to girls in under-developed communities.
- ★ Create a sexual health education campaign at your school. Hold workshops, distribute informational pamphlets, or make presentations to classes, clubs, fraternities/sororities, and other community partners. You could target your work in communities that are susceptible to abuse.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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## { Global Health continued }

- ★ Advocate for your school to create an exercise-friendly campus, full of bike paths and walking paths which provide convenient access to public transit.
- ★ Create a job shadowing program between the health department on your campus and local health care facilities.
- ★ Start a group which travels to local healthcare facilities to assist patients with chronic diseases.
- ★ Create a partnership with a local soup kitchen to increase the number of visitors served and increase the nutrition of the meals served.
- ★ Partner with the local American Red Cross to start a CPR and first-aid certification course at your university.
- ★ Partner with local NGOs to bring free STI/STD testing and counseling to local public high schools.
- ★ Hold a street fair to educate local community members about the dangers of high blood pressure, obesity, cholesterol, diabetes, and other common preventable health issues.
- ★ Start a lecture series on your campus dedicated to bringing in experts in different fields of the global health arena. Speakers could address issues ranging from global food shortages to affordable malaria treatment, from maternity care to HIV/AIDS prevention.
- ★ Raise funds to supply vaccines to underserved communities.
- ★ Organize engineering students to install basic water and sanitation systems in communities where they are most needed.



## { Human Rights & Peace }

- ★ Create a permanent scholarship fund for students from areas affected by conflict.
- ★ Partner with a school overseas to initiate a landmine removal program and develop landmine risk reduction seminars in the surrounding region.
- ★ Sponsor basic supplies for refugee camps and emergency shelters.
- ★ Create a partnership between architecture, urban planning and engineering students on your campus to work together in designing and building temporary housing for refugees and internally displaced persons.
- ★ Organize a group of students to serve as election monitors and travel to countries with a need for neutral observers in support of free and fair elections.
- ★ Partner with law school students to draft legal briefs for those in your community seeking political asylum.
- ★ Hold a campus dialogue between veterans and peace activists.
- ★ Go beyond study abroad: create a global literacy program where students travel on a for-credit program for at least a semester with an international group of students from partner schools around the world.
- ★ Create an online database which can track and monitor the sale of illicit arms.
- ★ Research and promote increased representation of indigenous peoples in the formal political decision-making process.
- ★ Initiate a cross-cultural, interfaith, or interracial dialogue or service program on your campus.
- ★ Create a speaker series on your campus allowing survivors of war and refugees to tell their stories.
- ★ Utilize the cultural expertise of professors and international students on your campus to create translational materials for international organizations.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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- ★ Create a fellowship program which funds student work with human rights organizations during summer break.
- ★ Start a peer mediation program at a local public high school.
- ★ Work with your school's engineering department to develop innovative de-mining and minesweeping devices.
- ★ Create or volunteer at a summer camp where youth from areas of conflict can interact peacefully.
- ★ Work with the study abroad center at your university to create a resource center for students who wish to volunteer abroad. Explore partnership opportunities with humanitarian organizations in need of materials and/or volunteer staff.
- ★ Support microfinance in areas of conflict lacking stable revenue sources.
- ★ Volunteer or create a local volunteering network that works with a local prison to provide tutoring, job training or recreational classes.
- ★ Donate materials and funds to provide access to education and communications technology in conflict zones and refugee camps.
- ★ Hold a dialogue between local rival political parties to find common ground on potentially divisive community issues.
- ★ Create a tutoring program at a local resource center for internationally displaced people.
- ★ Start an oral history project which documents the lives of those in your community afflicted by war.
- ★ Create a peace building study abroad program.
- ★ Create a student group to provide emergency translation services for populations in need of urgent assistance.
- ★ Work with law and business students to offer pro bono legal and financial services to the community surrounding your campus.
- ★ Start a campus investment fund that support grassroots entrepreneurs or microfinance initiatives overseas.
- ★ Promote increased debt cancellation for the world's most impoverished nations.
- ★ Donate usable technology (particularly agricultural and educational technology) to communities that need it the most.
- ★ Sponsor bicycles and bicycle equipment for a village in a developing nation that has scarce access to transportation.
- ★ Work with your campus's agriculture and biology programs to research and support increased crop productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa.



## { Poverty Alleviation }

- ★ Work with your university to create a satellite campus in a resource-scarce community. Partner with local NGOs, social enterprises, and businesses to create a viable model for sustainable development in that satellite community.
- ★ Partner with professors and local anti-poverty organizations for a research project on poverty alleviation in your community.
- ★ Create a partnership between the business and international politics programs at your school to design an overseas social venture that involves the local community and will help grow the local economy.
- ★ Work with international NGOs and governments to expand women's land and property rights.
- ★ Work with your university to create a program where students get credit to implement innovative poverty alleviation strategies in partnership with local community organizations.



# CGI U COMMITMENT IDEAS

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## { Poverty Alleviation continued }

- ★ Start an education and public outreach campaign that details the effects of water and electricity privatization in low-income nations around the world.
- ★ Sponsor satellite internet for a rural community.
- ★ Promote fair trade products at school facilities.
- ★ Increase access to safe drinking water in developing nations through the marketing and distribution of inexpensive water purification tablets, pumps, or filters.
- ★ Start a microfinance program at your campus which provides small loans to low-income residents in the nearby community.
- ★ Hold a clothing drive on campus to provide low-income job applicants with appropriate clothing for job interviews.
- ★ Work with business students to develop a campus social entrepreneurship program which enables students to turn innovative social enterprise ideas into legitimate community organizations or businesses. Give annual seed capital prizes to the best proposals.
- ★ Start a multidisciplinary program between the journalism and international politics programs at your school to investigate the effectiveness of foreign aid.
- ★ Work with your administration to institute courses in global resource management and sustainable development.
- ★ Offer technical assistance for income-generating agriculture projects in the developing world.
- ★ Partner with international NGOs to expand training for women entrepreneurs in developing nations.
- ★ Create a rapid response food security monitoring and surveillance system with a partner region or village overseas.
- ★ Work with local community organizations to create an innovative, hands-on, anti-poverty summer program for both students and community members.
- ★ Establish a series of community gardens in a nearby neighborhood.
- ★ Create a socially-responsible MBA curriculum that works hands-on with start-up ventures.



- ★ Create a socially responsible investment (SRI) committee to petition your university to create a SRI policy for its endowment.

{ **Your commitment here:** \_\_\_\_\_ }

