



## **AGROFORESTRY VOLUNTEER**

The Border Green Energy Team (BGET) provides hands-on appropriate technology training and financial support to village innovators in ethnic minority areas on both sides of the Thai/Burma border.

BGET volunteers are typically involved with assisting in all aspects of primary project areas including:

- Working with villagers to improve the sustainability of village micro-hydro projects.
- Continuing BGET's work in bringing biogas digesters to the Burma/Thai border area.
- Addressing sustainability issues of roughly 15,000 solar home systems installed in remote villages by the government through village trainings, awareness campaigns about warranty, rights, and technical solutions repair/replace failing parts.
- Expanding sustainable deployment of solar electric systems for remote medical clinics, schools, and other essential community services in ethnic minority areas inside Burma.
- Follow up sustainability training on hybrid diesel/solar electric systems BGET built to power computer training centers in seven refugee camps.
- Teaching and working with refugee camp Engineering Studies Program (ESP) students, and helping develop renewable energy technical skills and English language skills with staff from BGET and partner organizations.

**Agroforestry Volunteer:**

BGET is in the early stages of establishing a demonstration site for the various appropriate technologies that are suitable for life along the Thai/Burma border. One of the focus areas of this site will be renewable energy technologies currently utilized by BGET including solar electric, solar hot water, biogas, and solar cooking. Additional focus will be placed on sustainable building and agriculture. The agroforestry volunteer will work with BGET staff to establish a functioning food forest with emphasis on techniques applicable to migrant schools, refugee camps, and Thai/Karen villages. This volunteer may be asked to live part time or full time at the demonstration site. Time for this internship will begin in the fall of 2010.

The Agroforestry volunteer will:

- Assist with the development of a food forest to promote food crops, reforestation techniques, and marketable forest products.
- Research and experiment with multiple use plants suitable for this tropical environment.
- Additional duties may include: establishing a tree nursery, working in the vegetable garden, participating in earthen building, assisting with a wide variety of appropriate technology installations, and leading small groups of short term volunteers.

Desired qualifications:

- Educational/Work background with an emphasis in agriculture, forestry, horticulture, or permaculture.
- Hands-on experience working on farms or living in sustainable communities.
- Previous experience travelling or living in developing countries.
- Basic understanding of renewable energy systems and appropriate technologies is helpful but not required.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to [salinie@gmail.com](mailto:salinie@gmail.com) along with available dates for volunteering in Thailand. Preference will be given to applicants able to stay more than 6 months. In addition, BGET supports diversity and encourages women and men, as well as members of all races and religions to apply.

For more information on BGET and volunteering, please visit [www.bget.org](http://www.bget.org).