

Challenging Internship for trainee/volunteer:

“Design a Fashionable Handcrafted Collection for a Maya-Women Cooperative in Guatemala”

Dutch foundation *En Mi Salsa* has set up the handicraft cooperative and fair trade store Ut'z Bat'z in Chichicastenango, Guatemala, with Maya-women from the most vulnerable groups. Self-support and empowerment are central aspects of this cooperative. All products are handmade, authentic and of high quality. We want to develop an innovative collection (for example clothing, home interior products, accessories) which blends our traditional woven, embroidered and crochet products into international fashion, with the idea to sell on the (inter)national market.



We are looking for a volunteer who takes the challenge of developing a collection of fashionable handcrafted products

Duration: minimum 2 months

Your most important activities are:

- ❖ Evaluating the existing demand.
- ❖ Investigating the available materials, working techniques and designs within Guatemala.
- ❖ Designing an innovative trendy collection of products, suitable for the international market.
- ❖ Transfer of knowledge to our producers in Guatemala about Western taste and the technical aspect of production.

Your profile:

- ❖ You are a professional designer (or studying to become one) or experienced in designing.
- ❖ You have knowledge of developments within the fashion industry.
- ❖ You are flexible, social and you have a balanced personality.
- ❖ You have affinity with fair trade and quality handcrafted products.
- ❖ You have an intercultural mentality and you want to immerse yourself in the Guatemalan society and the Maya culture.
- ❖ You have a sufficient level of Spanish or you are willing to do a one-month Spanish language course in Guatemala (which we can organize for you, costs around 1000 US dollar).

We offer:

- ❖ An adventurous internship in which you will get to know Maya culture and contribute to development.
- ❖ Practical assistance and personal support.
- ❖ Room for your own initiatives and wishes.
- ❖ Opportunities to become a sales representative for the cooperative.