Guatemala: an overview
Guatemala: confluence of natural disasters

- Active subduction zone drives volcanism and earthquakes
  - 1902 Santa Maria eruption
  - 1976 M 7.5 earthquake

- Four persistently active volcanoes

- Pacific and Caribbean hurricanes
  - Mitch 1998
  - Stan 2005

- Heavy seasonal rainfall
  - Flooding
  - Landslides
Guatemala: an overview
Peace Corps Work

- Adjusting to radically different work environment
Peace Corps Work

- Field work, idea exchange, information and technology exchange with local volcano observers
Peace Corps Work

• Sharing of technology
Peace Corps Work

- Participating in local holidays and school functions
- Building trust and personal relationships
Peace Corps Work

- Expanding students’ experience through extracurricular activities
Peace Corps Work

- Sharing knowledge about volcanoes with students and teachers
Peace Corps Work

- Workshops for local community educators
Peace Corps Work

- Sharing interests and ideologies with local counterparts
Peace Corps Work

- “Traditional” development, Peace Corps-style
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

• Collaborate with local scientists
• Exchange of knowledge and methods
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

- Visits from international research community
- Fostering free exchange of ideas and technology
Project Development

• Field trips from foreign groups and students in and around my communities
Project Development

- Field work around the communities and the volcano
Project Development

- Participate in international research campaigns on Guatemalan volcanoes
Project Development

• Improving volcano monitoring via international assistance
Project Development

- Expanding foreign experience through cultural enrichment
Project Development

- Assessment of volcanic risk due to increased eruptive activity
Peace Corps Work

- Interacting with other PC volunteers and sharing experiences and knowledge
- Developing a sense of community through shared experience
Future work...
Future work...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TC8-W0aNWq0