

Conservation Imaging, Inc. / Cloud Forest Conservation Initiative

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To all interested:

I extend my welcome to the public, to biologists and anthropologists, to conservationists and environmentalists, and to those interested in sustainable development with indigenous communities, to become involved with the **Cloud Forest Conservation Initiative (CFCI)**.

CFCI is a collaborative, international endeavor that welcomes all kinds of involvement from outside individuals and organizations. We have unique access to a natural cloud forest wilderness—an expansive classroom and living laboratory for those with an adventurous spirit. With active support from local communities, local government, and Guatemala's National Protected Area Commission, we provide an exciting cultural setting that can enable numerous activities.

For example, we are interested in:

- Anthropological and sociological studies.
- Biological field research into cloud forest ecology and wildlife.
- Individual directed studies for college credit.
- New sustainability projects with indigenous Mayan communities in our area.
- Establishment/enhancement of new university ties.

Our cloud forest work is based in Uspantán, Guatemala, 70 miles north of Guatemala City. Uspantán is a modest-sized town of approximately 20,000, mostly indigenous Maya, most of whom speak Spanish along with their native languages. The U.S. Peace Corp maintains 3-5 volunteers in Uspantán to develop projects and social infrastructure here and in nearby villages. Our previous volunteers have included a forest hydrologist, an entomologist, an ornithologist, and a herpetologist.

Unfortunately, we cannot offer funding support, so individuals must cover all of their own costs. However I am happy to provide letters of support, agreement, or authorization. If you are looking for an extraordinary project in an extraordinary location, please contact me, Dr. Philip Tanimoto, at conservationimaging@yahoo.com.

All the best /saludos!

Philip D. Tanimoto
Executive Director