











3rd Seminar on Innovation, Science and Technology for Energy-Efficient Development: Green Buildings

Profile of Participants

COUNTRY: ARGENTINA

Name: Baltazar Ojea

Current position: Director of the Social Responsibility Program and University

Volunteering

Institution: Universidad Tecnológica Nacional Address: Sarmiento 440 6° piso. Buenos Aires



Small biography

He studied at the Faculty of Economics at the Universidad de Buenos Aires, where he served as Technical Coordinator of the National Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Capital. Since 2010 he is Director of the Social Responsibility Program of College and University Volunteering of the Rector of the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional.

He collaborates with the Housing, Sustainability and Energy Forum Foundation (FOVISEE) since its inception. Currently working on the implementation of the Weatherization Assistance Program (U.S. public policy of sustainability in housing) in Argentina, in collaboration with the Weatherizers Without Borders (WWB) initiative.

He has participated in the creation of the GAPHSEE-FRD-UTN (Application Group of Habitat, Sustainability and Energy Projects at the Delta Regional Faculty of the UTN), linking engineering to public policy, university curricula to the community needs, research with application, study with service; focused on housing, sustainability and energy.

From the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional has directed the Management Course of the University Volunteering that has already achieved two national editions (involving 180 people from 43 universities) and a Latin American edition (with 204 participants from 85 universities in 14 countries of the Region). For the realization of these courses has created partnerships with United Nations Volunteers (UNV), the United Nations Association of the Republic of Uruguay (UNAUR), the UNESCO Regional Direction for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC / UNESCO Santiago) and the Engineering Deans Federal Council of Argentina (CONFEDI).

The 5th of December, on the celebration of the International Volunteer Day, the United Nations Association of the Republic of Uruguay (UNAUR) notified of the decision to grant him the Award for Leadership and Social Innovation.

Impact of their work of teaching and / or research

From the Application Group of Habitat, Sustainability and Energy Projects at the Delta Regional Faculty of the UTN, created in partnership with the FOVISEE Foundation, is being implemented in the city of Campana the Sustaining Homes Program in partnership with various national and worldwide actors. This program is an adaptation of the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), the U.S official program of the Energy Department, which is developed successfully since 1976, and for the first time in its 38 years of life is exported to another country.

The program provides training for worker cooperatives, beneficiaries of a government plan that assists people who are unemployed, to be formed in the new green office of sustaining homes. Cooperatives will be responsible to perform diagnostics on the houses and propose superficial improvements to solve the identified problems (loss of carbon monoxide, moisture, excess or shortage of air flow, etc.), for then, using the diagnostic report, take charge of superficial remodeling in the houses of the program.

The implementation of this pilot test on a sample of 200 diagnosed homes and 100 sustained homes is the second step of the FOVISEE Foundation in promoting a new public policy of residential energy efficiency in Argentina. As background, between 2012 and 2013 the Foundation developed a first small pilot in the city of Rosario.

As an anticipated and emergent result, this first experience of exporting WAP opened the way for FOVISEE to create, together with U.S. partners, the Weatherizers Without Borders organization in order to "seed" sustaining programs in houses in different parts of the world.

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