

POWERSKILLS INTERNATIONAL

The power of good in action.



POWERSKILLS
INTERNATIONAL

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Doing Good Each Day



In 1997, at the inception of PowerSkills Training & Development, a simple yet profound decision was made.

Do GOOD each day.

The Founder and President of PowerSkills, Rob Schout, was inspired by a simple question asked of him by one of his teachers. One evening, in a class, the teacher asked, “*Have you done good today?*” Rob raised his hand affirmatively, assuming that the teacher meant that ‘doing good’ meant that Rob and the other students performed well as leaders, accomplished their task lists, and were efficient and effective. That is not what the teacher meant by his question. The teacher followed up with another question, “*How many of you, because of how you showed up and what you focused upon, brought about more good in the world today?*” That was a completely different question, one that took hold in Rob’s heart, expanded in meaning, and became the PowerSkills purpose. He never stopped asking himself that question.

When PowerSkills began in 1997, Rob committed its purpose to **Doing Good** in the world.

This is the story of our ongoing **commitment to doing good around the world.**



What we focus upon

PowerSkills, through its Corporate Social Responsibility program and its partnerships with U.S. Government agencies, foreign government entities, and NGOs around the world



- Empowers women's leadership
- Develops youth entrepreneurialism
- Strengthens social justice and equal rights initiatives
- Builds community capacity to overcome poverty factors
- Supports regional environmental and marine partnerships

Committed to these priorities, PowerSkills directly and indirectly supports

Equal Rights for All

Specifically supporting

- LGBTQ rights and Women's rights initiatives

Environmental Protection and Sustainability

Specifically supporting

- Marine, coastal, environmental, and coral conservation

Professional Growth, Unencumbered Development, and Achievement

Specifically supporting

- Women's leadership development

Access to Health, Economic and Education Opportunities for All

Specifically supporting

- Youth entrepreneur and youth leadership development programs

Globally Supporting Communities, Growth & Development

**Would you like to partner with PowerSkills, co-sponsor a project, apply for PowerSkills support, or help fund one of our initiatives?
You can do massive amounts of good. Contact us today!*

Our most recent work

Year: 2022

Organization Capacity Building Training . Leadership Capacity Building Consultation
Women's Leadership Program Groundwork

Bagamoyo and Morogoro, Tanzania

Focus: Organization Capacity Building and Professional Development
Training

Priority Impact: Coastal and Marine Conservation, Organization Capacity
Building and Sustainability, Women's Leadership



Leadership professionals from the Tanzania MPRU – Marine Protection and Reserve Unit participated in a year-long multi-faceted program, sponsored by DOI-ITAP (DOI-International Technical Assistance Program) and USAID, designed to evaluate and support MPRU's needs, vision, and ability to build leadership and organization capacity during the next 5-years to address the exponentially expansive conservation, personnel, and resource management needs of Tanzania's Marine Protection and Reserves Unit. PowerSkills provided (2) rounds of in-country training on various aspects of organization and leadership capacity building. PowerSkills met with women leaders within MPRU to delineate their visions, needs, dreams, and goals for women's leadership, empowerment, and equity so that tangible programs and support could be provided in 2023-2025. PowerSkills provided webinars while not in-country. Topics included *Leadership and Management Styles*, and the *Four Dimensions of Leadership*. PowerSkills met with regional collaborators (e.g., WIOMSA, Empower, Chemonics) providing organization assessment perspectives and advice on capacity-building needs and options.



Between 2017-2020 PowerSkills Faculty & Consultants trained their attention on Southeast Asia and the South Pacific regions. Working in cooperation with USAID, DOI-ITAP, CTI-CFF, and the Coral Triangle Center headquartered in Bali, Indonesia, PowerSkills provided comprehensive services to experienced and emerging women leaders, regional leaders, and local government networks supporting marine and coastal conservation, and the staff of the Coral Triangle Center.

Leadership Training . Mentor Program Development . Professional Coaching . Project Advice

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Focus: Women’s Leadership & Professional Development



Priority Impact: Women’s Leadership & Environmental Protection and Sustainability

Twenty-five women, representing environmental and marine conservation departments and agencies (PNG governmental ministries and NGOs), immersed themselves in three days of intensive training on leadership skills, management skills, mapping a women’s leadership network, and power persuasion skills. On days 4 & 5, on-the-spot coaching was offered to 15 women leaders to address targeted goals, challenges, and specific skill needs.



Honiara, Solomon Islands

Focus: Women's Leadership & Professional Development

Priority Impact: Women's Leadership & Environmental Protection and Sustainability



Twenty-nine women, representing environmental and marine conservation departments and agencies (Solomon Island governmental ministries, universities, and NGOs), immersed themselves in three days of intensive training on leadership skills, and management skills, discussing marine and coastal conservation efforts in local villages and communities, and mapping a women's leadership network. On day 4, a select group coaching session was offered to women leaders from a nature protection NGO.



Arturo Island, Timor-Leste

Focus: Women's Leadership & Project Consultation

Priority Impact: Women's Leadership & Environmental Protection and Sustainability



Two women leaders, who designed, championed, and managed the first recycling project on Arturo Island received in-country coaching and individualized leadership development advisory services. PowerSkills representatives visited and met with village members and Chiefs on Arturo Island to discuss the island's recycling project and share perspectives. The women leaders received project consultation support enabling them to bring more of their ideas to fruition.



Manila, Philippines & Palau Island, Philippines

Focus: Women's Leadership & Project Consultation

Priority Impact: Women's Leadership, Environmental Protection, and Sustainability & Economic Sustainability

PowerSkills, working in cooperation with AGOS, the Philippines DENR (Dept of Environment and Natural Resources), and DOI-ITAP, provided leadership seminars to 25 young professional emerging women leaders. PowerSkills representatives traveled to Palau Island to provide consultation to local women in a village who were beginning a weaving business and provided coaching for AGOS program leaders.



Jakarta, Indonesia

Focus: Women's Leadership Training

Priority Impact: Women's Leadership & Environmental Protection and Sustainability

Eighteen emerging women leaders participated in a multi-day seminar sponsored by the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia. The workshops focused on enhancing communication skills and styles, persuasion skills, and management skills. Coaching sessions were also provided to leaders of a Banda Island women's fisheries project.



Bali, Indonesia

Focus: Women's Leadership, Local Government Network Support, Sustainable Business Network Support, CTI Team Support, CTC Staff, and Management Training.



Priority Impact: Women's Leadership, Marine and Environmental Protection, Economic Sustainability, Community-Local Government Collaboration, South Pacific Regional Collaboration, Business-NGO Partnerships, Staff Development.

For three years, PowerSkills returned to Bali again and again, fulfilling a commitment to fundamentally support CTC's work (Coral Triangle Center) and the CTI-CFF (Coral Triangle Initiative in the South Pacific Region).

PowerSkills' representatives

- Provided comprehensive training in leadership and management practices to the staff and managers of CTC.
- Facilitated strategic planning workshops for representatives from 6 countries within the CTI to support regional goals' long-term attainment.
- Designed and facilitated the development and training of leadership competencies for the WLF (Women's Leadership Forum of the Coral Triangle Initiative).
- Provided tailored workshops to the CTI coordinating team.
- Designed and facilitated six webinars for the WLF on the topics of inter-generational mentoring skills and practices.
- Facilitated strategic planning meetings to revive Sustainable Business Networks (partnerships between tourism businesses, local governments, and Marine/Environmental NGOs)



Proposed Programs in 2023-2024

Luang Prabang, Laos

Focus: Youth Entrepreneurialism and Leadership

Priority Impact: Economic Sustainability



In the Spring of 2023, PowerSkills representatives will work cooperatively with student groups and in-country partners in Luang Prabang, Laos. The Youth Entrepreneur and Leadership Program model will encourage and support entrepreneurship and leadership in young adults in Luang Prabang.

Our 2023 objective: 7-10 young adults, between the ages of 17-25, will participate in multi-day classes and receive small group coaching to learn skills and design entrepreneurial and leadership projects. Each participant will be asked to develop a written plan. Once completed, the participant can receive a Challenge Grant (a \$200.00 stipend to launch some components of the plan). They will receive ½ of the monetary assistance in 2023 and ½ of the stipend in 2025. Throughout 2024 participants will receive bi-monthly coaching via FB Messenger/Skype and view quarterly pre-recorded webinar simulcasts with topics focused on Entrepreneur Skills and Leadership Skills. Links with audio/video recordings will be sent to all students so that they can download them and listen to them or watch them when they have internet access or devices that enable additional learning opportunities. PowerSkills representatives will return to Luang Prabang in 2025 to offer more seminars and provide the second half of the Challenge Grant monetary stipend. The PowerSkills program commitment will be for two years.

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Focus: Leadership Seminars for Emerging & Experienced Women Leaders



Priority Impact: Women's Leadership & Environmental Protection and Sustainability

PowerSkills representatives will travel to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Borneo, in the Fall of 2023 and Spring of 2024. Working cooperatively with the Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences of the University of Malaysia, PowerSkills will offer 30-50 emerging and experienced women leaders multi-day seminars on various leadership skills and competencies. Small-group professional issue coaching will also be provided concurrently.

For more than five years we have been honored to partner with these organizations



CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERIOR
INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



CORAL
TRIANGLE
CENTER

Inspiring People Saving Oceans

In the beginning

PowerSkills began its international service by volunteering to support three initiatives that were just starting in the late 1990s.

- NASW – Illinois International Exchange Network in cooperation with the Chicago Sister Cities Program. Rob was a founding member of the International Exchange Network, organizing the first professional development Social Work exchange programs between Chicago – Hamburg DE, Chicago – Birmingham UK, Chicago – Durban SA. Rob was soon invited by a German government ministry to speak at various universities and deliver a presentation on the topic of Corporate-Community Volunteerism at the Bundestag in Berlin.
- Sighisoara, Romania – Social Work Volunteerism in cooperation with Olivet-Nazarene University. Rob escorted a group of Social Work student interns to Sighisoara Romania. While there, he provided training to teachers on *Addressing Behavior Disruptions Instead of Labeling Children as Mentally Ill*, *Understanding the Power of Mentoring Programs*, and *Supporting Student Leadership Programs*.
- Cuernavaca, Mexico – AIDS Volunteerism in cooperation with the Spanish Language School in Cuernavaca, Mexico. While beginning his early Spanish language studies in Mexico, Rob was introduced to an all-volunteer AIDS service group that distributed free food to all people waiting for hospital services throughout the night, on the streets surrounding hospitals. He helped distribute food and consult with the group to enhance their AIDS education brochures that they were developing with donated supplies.

These experiences were followed soon by the message of Joe Foley, the teacher who asked Rob, “*Did you do good today?*” Together, they seeded Rob’s consciousness with a commitment to do good and a firm belief that it was possible to do good in big and small ways in the U.S. and around the world each day. Service to others has been the foundational principle of PowerSkills ever since that time and spurred our motto’s creation.



Rob Schout, President

Purpose before profits and mission before money.

Today we have developed transformative methods, models, and practices.

We have two models of service

1. Provision of in-country seminars, project consultation, and coaching services, as well as virtual training webinars from the U.S.

We provide free-of-charge, 3-4 days of seminars and coaching services in-country to selected organizations each year. If selected, an organization must guarantee that 20 or more people will attend all of the seminars in-country. The organization gets to choose the seminar topics. The organization must locate a suitable location for the classes and coaching services and obtain all necessary permissions from local or national authorities. The organization must also advise PowerSkills about local culture, lodging, and laws, and help organize the students attending the seminars. PowerSkills pays for our team's travel and transportation expenses, reproducing all student materials and all supplies used in-country.

2. Coordination of multi-year leadership and entrepreneurial development projects with challenge grant components.

We work with a country sponsor in a multi-phase partnership. We provide free-of-charge, in-country seminars, classes, project planning advice, monthly webinars, and virtual coaching support using WhatsApp, Skype or Fb Messenger, and Zoom for 2 years. If participants fully complete their 2-year commitment (e.g., attending all events and completing all Leadership or Entrepreneurial assignments), they receive a Challenge Grant for several hundred \$USD. The sponsor organization(s) in-country assist with all in-country logistics (e.g., participant recruitment, selection, check-ins during the year, seminar logistics, advice for PowerSkills travel in-country, etc.). The sponsor organization's benefit is that the PowerSkills program can be marketed and leveraged as a valuable incentive to its members. The PowerSkills program can also be highlighted in reports to funders and supporters of the organization.

Partner with PowerSkills

In-Country Sponsors and Partner Organizations	Business CSR Partnerships	Government Agencies/Ministries	Foundations and Private Donors
<p>What's in it for you?</p>	<p>What's in it for you?</p>	<p>What's in it for you?</p>	<p>What's in it for you?</p>
<p>Free, extraordinary services for the students and members of your organization; training, coaching, and technical support that they may not have access to at any other time.</p>	<p>Multiply the effect of your own corporate social responsibility mission and goals. Link your CSR to on-the-ground, in-country projects. Promote the <i>good</i> your business does.</p>	<p>Fulfill the mission mandates and goals of your agency or a government ministry. Enlist the services of a world-class training and coaching services business and enhance your agency's credibility and reputation.</p>	<p>Know that your support translates into tangible services to people in communities worldwide, enabling them to fulfill real dreams, achieve actual goals, and make a dramatic change.</p>
<p>Let your support take shape.</p>	<p>Let your support take shape.</p>	<p>Let your support take shape.</p>	<p>Let your support take shape.</p>
<p>Help us design and administer a project that uniquely suits your organization's members' needs and dreams. Assist with project development and implementation in-country (e.g., logistics, identification of permissions, recruitment, and selection of members, securing of translators, etc.)</p>	<p>Establish an official partnership with PowerSkills CSR programs. Delineate goals, roles, resource contributions, responsibilities, permissions, projects, and time frames. Financially underwrite portions of an in-country project (e.g., Challenge Grants, travel, supplies, etc.) Commit to being coaches and mentors for in-country students, leaders, and entrepreneurs.</p>	<p>Contract with PowerSkills as an official vendor or contractor to deliver critical elements of in-country training, coaching, conference presentations, or virtual webinars from the U.S.</p> <p>Act as unofficial supporting agencies for our projects and open doors for us in-country. Link us to local or regional partners and government officials.</p>	<p>Financially commit to your values and visions of support for people around the world. As a Foundation, provide the PowerSkills programs with seed grants to launch and sustain projects or provide technical support to organize, administer, and evaluate projects. As an individual donor, contribute what you can to offset the cost of program supplies, in-country equipment, and the reproduction of materials.</p>

We don't serve with movements in mind.

We don't follow the latest social giving fads.

We keep people in mind; our fellow world citizens, our sisters, and our brothers.

We use whatever *PowerSkills* we possess to improve and empower the lives of others.



**Would you like to partner with PowerSkills, co-sponsor a project, apply for PowerSkills support, or help fund one of our initiatives? You can do massive amounts of good.*

- If you are a foundation and would like to sponsor programs financially...contact us!
- If you are a business and would like to partner on CSR projects...contact us!
- If you are a U.S. or foreign government agency that would like to contract with PowerSkills to provide in-country and virtual leadership services...contact us!
- If you would like to donate (not tax-deductible funds) to support projects...contact us!
- If you are an NGO with a project that could benefit from our support in-country in 2024 and beyond and would like to apply for pro bono support...contact us!

Contact us and do good today!

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Join us and do good today!

PowerSkills through its Corporate Social Responsibility Program and its partnership with U.S. Government agencies, foreign government entities, and NGOs around the world empowers women's leadership, develops youth entrepreneurialism, strengthens social justice and equal rights initiatives, builds community capacity to overcome poverty factors, and supports regional environmental and marine partnerships.



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