

UPDATES:

EI Progreso, Ecuador: Although the pandemic has closed out travel, the project team is working toward the next phase of implementation, when we can travel once it is safe and EWB-USA approved to do so. Reach out to Baxter (baxterm419@gmail.com) or Julianne (jpage@woodardcurran.com) if you want to get involved. Baxter Miatke reported that EIA is officially partnering with EWB-USA as of 10/1/2020 and will maintain an office in Quito. It is expected this partnership will improve project & partnership vetting as well as increase the efficiency of projects in Ecuador. Join the SLACK channel to keep informed!

EWB-US Short Courses and Chapter outreach: We continue to be contacted by EWB-US for geological and hydrogeological support. We are also actively supporting other EWB Chapters including UTC, Hartford Professionals, UMaine Student chapter, as well as several other student chapters that have ongoing water projects (Northeastern, Drexel, Harvard), and just picked up support of an EWB US project and UPenn. We're always hoping to travel again once it is safe to do so. Recently filmed short courses have been edited and will be avail for viewing in the next few weeks.

School STEM Outreach: There will be a virtual STEM Expo for the Portland Schools on Friday, November 6, 2020. We have indicated the PMP chapter will participate, which means we need to come up with a virtual activity - we're thinking maybe a trivia game of sorts. Anyone interested in this local challenge, please let Kathy Kern (Katherine.kern58@gmail.com) or Kathy Hillman Reed (khillmanreed@gmail.com) know.

Ixtupil, Guatemala: We have teamed up with the UMaine student chapter to begin a water distribution project in Ixtupil, Guatemala. UMaine student chapter has proposed to partner with the PMP chapter to enhance UMaine's fundraising capability and develop a mentor/mentee relationship to move ahead with the project. Braydon Norris (braydon.norris.15@gmail.com), a recent UMaine grad and new member to our chapter is leading the effort for PMP. An MOU has been drafted for the partnership between UMaine and the PMP chapters and is being reviewed. A remote project assessment was done 10/12/2020 in Ixtupil. The UMaine chapter is responsible for preparing and submitting the Assessment Report to EWB-USA. A Slack channel has been set up for this project.

Omo Tribe, Ethiopia: A Teams channel has been established and thanks to all the PMP folks that requested to be involved. There has not been much activity as of yet, but hopefully things will pick up. Although we are not leading this, there is support and hopefully will kick off soon. THANK YOU to all who offered to get involved. NOTE: Recent posts to the TEAMS channel have been added. Please feel free to respond and get involved.

EWB Volunteer Village Updates: Baxter Miatke reminded everyone that EWB USA has made several updates to Volunteer Village and sent s notice of such via email. It was noted that we need to locate EWB-USA's list of PMP chapter members. K. Kern has followed up and will share the info she obtained.

EWB USA State Rep Needed: Baxter stated he will step down as our state rep in 2021 for Regional calls. A replacement is needed. Maeve Carlson indicated she would check with the UMaine chapter or may be able to take on the role herself.

NEXT MEETING: UPDATE - The November meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, 11/19/2020 at 7:30PM. It will be a virtual event with EWB-USA. Please see the November meeting notice for details!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hillman Reed, Chapter Secretary