



International Volcano Monitoring Fund 2012 Annual Report

We are pleased to report that in 2012, the IVM-Fund raised sufficient funds to fully finance our second volcano monitoring support project in Guatemala. We raised \$4500 in 2012 and we will use all of these funds to purchase and deliver volcano monitoring equipment and supplies to the Fuego Volcano Observatory (OVFGO) in southwestern Guatemala. The delivery to Guatemala is scheduled for March 19, 2013.

In this annual report we summarize the activities, fundraising efforts, and expenditures of the IVM-Fund in 2012 as well as our plans for 2013. We would like to thank all of our donors who have been so generous in supporting our cause. We would especially like to thank Eric and Emily Strong for their generous support – without them our OVFGO project would not have been possible. The IVM-Fund looks forward to a productive 2013, which will include our volcano monitoring equipment delivery trip to Guatemala and further fundraising. The IVM-Fund is delighted to be pursuing a second project in Guatemala. We continue to strengthen our relationships with our Guatemalan colleagues and look forward to continuing our good work at the country's other active volcanoes.

We ask you to please spread the word about our efforts and invite others to support our cause.

Review of 2012 Program Activities

Guatemala Program

This year we raised all the necessary funds to pursue our second volcano monitoring support program. We had been planning a project to support the Fuego Volcano Observatory all along, however, the fickle volcano managed to blow its top before we were able to execute our program. Fuego volcano experienced a violent eruption in September 2012 forcing the evacuation of ~5000 people. Fuego continues to experience unrest which is an ongoing validation of the value of the IVM-Fund's work in Guatemala. At the end of 2012, we purchased all the equipment and supplies requested of us by OVFGO. Much of it is similar to the cache of equipment the IVM-Fund delivered to the Santiaguito Volcano Observatory in 2011. One difference is that we are helping to make OVFGO a regional volcano hazard education centre. OVFGO is located on the southern flank of Fuego volcano in the town of Panimache which has good road access with other communities around the volcano. To help establish OVFGO as an education centre, we have purchased a video camera and big screen TV so that the local observers can record video of volcanic activity (e.g. lahars, lava flows, destructive impacts, etc.) when they conduct fieldwork around the volcano. They will then be able to show these videos and make presentations to the residents of Panimache, visiting community leaders, government officials, and others concerned with public safety.



Other 2012 Activities

Our First Grant Proposal

Back in 2011, I worked with Aleeza Harburger, (at the time a geology major at the University of Pittsburgh) to prepare a grant proposal to finance a volunteer volcano observer training program at two of Guatemala's most hazardous volcanoes (Fuego and Pacaya). The proposal was developed in collaboration with our colleagues in Guatemala and we planned on submitting it to the aid agency Geoscientists Without Borders. Critical to the success of this proposed training program was the involvement of Guatemalan volcanology experts to provide training to a cadre of hand-picked local volunteers. A couple months before we planned to submit the proposal, however, I was notified that two of the three key personnel for our program had been laid off by the Guatemalan government as a consequence of budget cuts. Unfortunately, these two individuals were no longer available to participate in our program as they needed to find other jobs. Without them, our program would not have been successful and there were no available replacements. As a result, we didn't submit the proposal. We haven't given up hope on this project as it could provide a significant positive impact to volcano monitoring efforts in Guatemala. During our visit to Guatemala in March 2013, we plan on strategizing with our colleagues there to identify new key individuals and figure out how to reformulate the proposal for success.

Endorsement from Rüdiger Escobar-Wolf

In the fall of 2012, we received a written testimonial from Rüdiger Escobar-Wolf in support of the IVM-Fund's work in Guatemala. Rüdiger is originally from Guatemala and is also a Ph.D. candidate in volcanology at Michigan Technological University. Among other comments, he states "Through the IVM-Fund we have the opportunity of helping the observatories [in Guatemala] to increase their technical capacity by providing them with modern equipment that they can use for their volcano monitoring and field survey work... please consider making a donation."

T-shirt Drive

In 2012, we stocked up and purchased 60 additional T-shirts. We currently have them on sale at the University of British Columbia Museum bookstore as well as at Simon Fraser University.

Social Networking

The IVM-Fund continues to have a presence on Facebook to get the name of our organization into the global community. Special thanks go to Nathalie Vigouroux for taking charge of managing updates to our Facebook page. We will continue expanding our social networking activities in 2013.



Summary of Fundraising in 2012

- In 2012, the IVM-Fund raised a total of US\$4,526. Ten private donations raised US\$4,442 and profits from T-shirt sales raked in US\$84.

Summary of Expenditures in 2012

- US\$4,255 spent on the purchase of volcano monitoring equipment for OVFGO in Guatemala.
- US\$414 spent to purchase 60 more T-shirts.
- Unspent funds in the IVM-Fund bank account at the end of 2012 amount to US\$2,093.

Program Initiatives for 2013

The key initiative in 2013 will be the trip to Guatemala in March. This trip will have three aims: 1) delivery of equipment to OVFGO, 2) a due diligence evaluation of equipment donated by the IVM-Fund to the Santiaguito Volcano Observatory in 2011, and 3) assessment of a third volcano monitoring support project at Pacaya volcano through a site visit and discussions with our Guatemalan colleagues. The remainder of the year will be spent fundraising.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jeff Witter'.

Jeff Witter
President and CEO
International Volcano Monitoring Fund
An Extraprovincial Society of British Columbia and U.S. tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization