

## **Resolution 72: Funding the Global Action and Impact Association (GAIA)**

**Abstract:** This resolution funds the entry of several students into the GAIA competition. This competition was created last year by Cornell alumni, and tasks teams of five engineers to create a piece of technology that will help solve an environmental problem. This year the issue is renewable energy in rural Peru.

**Sponsored by:** Adam Vinson '25, Erick Muriungi '27, Flora Meng '27, Lydia Blum '27, Allison Dew '27, Daniel Shi '25

**Reviewed by:** *Student Assembly Environmental Policy and Planning Commission*

**Type of Action:** *Special Funding Project*

**Originally Presented:** 3/28/24

**Current Status:** *Passed Committee 5-0-0*

---

**Whereas,** approximately 15% of rural Peruvians do not have access to electricity.

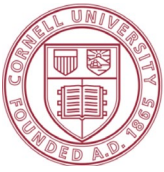
**Whereas,** the Cornell chapter of the Global Action and Impact Association (GAIA) aims at promoting individual and group exploration into sustainable technologies to maximize positive impact for communities in need.

**Whereas,** GAIA empowers college teams to conceive, design, prototype, and execute high-impact solutions for global sustainability through practical experience, such as the Engineering Leadership Certification Program at Cornell University.

**Whereas,** WindAid is an Peruvian educational institute that was founded in 2006 and provides sustainable engineering solutions for communities without access to electricity.

**Whereas,** WindAid has three ongoing projects that are affecting 75 households in Peru and 5 ambassadors across 5 countries.

**Whereas,** GAIA hopes to collaborate with WindAid for its expertise. The collaboration would send a team of Cornell students to rural Peru to install a turbine generator prototype for the local village.



Cornell University  
Student Assembly

**Whereas**, GAIA's own funding is not sufficient to cover the expense of the wind turbine project.

**Be it therefore resolved that**, the Student Assembly shall provide GAIA with \$10,000, or a stipend of \$2000 per student. The money shall be used solely for the purchase of travel expenses.

**Be it further resolved**, that GAIA would be returning any unused funds to the assembly after the trip.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Adam Vinson '25,

*College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Representative*, Student Assembly

Chair, Student Assembly Environmental Policy and Planning Commission