

What's Unique About Sister Cities International?



Mission

We promote national and international peace and security

Sister Cities International (SCI) is an American nonprofit founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower 62 years ago to be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds among people around the world. People-to-people "citizen diplomacy" enhances the ability of people from different cultures to understand, appreciate, and celebrate their differences while building partnerships that advance the interests of all humankind.

Our vision is to enhance our stature as the largest, premier global network connecting people and communities from all backgrounds within the United States, and around the world. Now, more than ever we need to find common ground, and to promote values of peace, understanding, and democracy.

Opportunity

We seize the opportunity to make a difference

SCI programs engage leaders from the community to the national level, as well as youth, and business leaders. These connections form on an intimate level, with citizen diplomacy offering individuals of all ages extraordinary opportunities for personal growth. Every day, the lives of millions are touched directly and indirectly through SCI's economic, educational, environmental, and cultural programs.

Reach

We reach far and wide

Our geographical reach includes nearly every state, country, and continent in the world. Today, after more than 60 years, tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers in over 500 U.S. member communities enjoy more than 1,800 partnerships in 138 countries on 6 continents. Through our network, we emphasize both people-to-people, and community-to-community relationships, not just one-shot interactions but sustained connections.

Efficient Networks

We leverage and sustain networks and partnerships

Not only do the highly-leveraged financial and volunteer models appeal to the discerning philanthropist, but the high visibility and status of SCI in the public and private sectors attract individuals and companies pursuing economic and altruistic interests. The in-kind contributions of our volunteers multiply our impact, reach, and cost-effectiveness. We work directly with approximately 200 active volunteer leaders throughout the United States whose reach multiplies as we engage 100,000 citizens and 30,000 youth every year.

