A message from an EDC alum:

As a 2016 M.S. graduate of the EDC Certificate program in Environmental Engineering, I now have the opportunity to put theory into practice working with a small environmental justice non-profit in Oruro, Bolivia—Center for Ecology and Andean Peoples (CEPA, cepaoruro.org)—on a two-year assignment with the humanitarian and development organization Mennonite Central Committee. Working primarily with marginalized indigenous communities, CEPA's mission is to "promote and strengthen united and capable social actors to recover and exercise their rights to achieve greater environmental justice." **I am reaching out to the EDC community for support to acquire water quality field equipment for CEPA, including suggestions of funding opportunities and/or donations of used equipment, to strengthen this work.** My role with CEPA will be to advise and consult on an investigation into the social and environmental impacts of a large gold mining operation in the Bolivian *Altiplano*, with particular respect to water quality. As a result, **heavy metals and cyanide are particular concerns**. Historically, CEPA has sent water samples to a local laboratory, severely limiting the availability of data due to unreliable laboratory results and prohibitive costs. The benefits of having their own field-based water quality laboratory would include **more robust reporting of mining impacts on water quality, potential for long-term monitoring, and improved understanding of health risks during processes of litigation, and, importantly, capacity building of the CEPA team for future investigations.**

A specific list of needs includes:

- Portable multiparameter probe—pH, temperature, EC, ORP, DO (logging capability preferred)
- Portable multiparameter photometer and reagents (ideally: alkalinity, aluminum, ammonia, boron, hardness, calcium, magnesium, chlorides, chlorine, chromium VI, copper, fluoride, iron, manganese, nickel, nitrates, nitrites, potassium, sulfates, zinc)

- Field microbiological test kit (e.g., DelAgua, Palintest)—dual incubator preferred for total and fecal coliforms.
- Portable turbidimeter or turbidity tubes
- Field cyanide test kit
- Field arsenic test kit
- GPS

Please contact me at rileymulhern@mcc.org with any suggestions, if you know of particular funding opportunities, or if you have equipment you could potentially donate. Thank you! *-Riley Mulhern*