



Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS) VOLUNTEER PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION 2020 - 2027

Volunteer Position Title	Animal Health Specialist (Young Volunteer Program)		
Country	Kenya		
Partner Organization	Meru Dairy Co-operative Union Ltd		
Placement location	Capital city		Comments: Meru Dairy Co-operative Union is located in Meru in the central highlands of Kenya.
	Mid-sized town	X	
	Rural town/village		
	Various		
Duration	3 Months		
Start date	May 2024		
Pre-departure Training Date/s	Will be provided by VWB/VSF		
Eligibility requirements	Open to Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada only		
Language Requirements	<p><u>Essential:</u> English</p> <p><u>Desirable:</u> Kiswahili</p> <p>In some field work activities the volunteer may work with a translator for the local language</p>		
Academic qualifications and related skills	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 years work experience in treatment of animals and nutrition and related duties including animal welfare management. • Strong experience managing dairy herds and dairy cow health • Effective cross-cultural communication skills • In-depth understanding of the technical, institutional, and policy constraints affecting major livestock feeding systems in developing countries • Knowledge of and experience in the application of improved animal management. • Promotes a knowledge-sharing and learning culture in the office • Strong advanced knowledge of animal health • Has a degree/is working towards a degree in related faculty • Has previous experience leading training sessions <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth understanding of the technical, institutional, and policy constraints affecting major livestock feeding systems in developing countries 		



<p>Professional Background</p>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective cross-cultural communication skills • Commitment to the principles of volunteer cooperation and familiarity with participatory approaches to development, including the promotion of gender equality, good governance and environmental sustainability <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous international work / volunteer experience in COUNTRY or other developing country
<p>Placement goal and objectives (preliminary)</p>	<p><u>Overall Goal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the social economic well being of the farmers especially women and girls both in one health approach. <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To build capacity of farmers 2. To build technical capacity of Union staff 3. To build capacity of COHCs (Community One Health Champions) <p>All volunteers are expected to promote gender equality, environmental sustainability and good governance within their placement responsibilities.</p>
<p>Volunteer Terms and Conditions</p>	
<p>VWB/VSF covers the majority of the costs of being an overseas volunteer, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel and accommodation for the five-day pre-departure training course in Ottawa • Return airfare to placement country and visa/permit costs • The cost of required vaccinations, anti-malarial medication and overseas emergency travel health insurance • A monthly living allowance (MLA) that will be paid into the volunteer's bank account in Canada. The MLA is designed to be sufficient to cover simple housing, basic food requirements and other typical monthly living expenses. 	
<p>Fundraising</p>	
<p>VWB/VSF encourages each volunteer to raise funds towards the organization's operations.</p>	
<p>About Veterinarians Without Borders</p>	
<p>In the global south, more than 90 per cent of food animals are raised by subsistence farmers yet these small-scale livestock producers, the majority of whom are women, have very limited access to quality and affordable animal health services. Aside from the risks associated with the loss of valuable livestock who provide important protein and/or income for poor households, zoonotic diseases that can be passed from animals to humans offer a very real threat to human health on a wider scale.</p> <p>Veterinarians without Borders/Vétérinaires sans frontières (VWB/VSF) works for, and with, communities in need to foster the health of animals, people and the environments that sustain us. VWB/VSF works nationally and internationally to train animal health workers, increase food security, and improve animal & public health. VWB/VSF provides overseas volunteer placements for veterinarians and other animal & public health professionals.</p>	
<p>About the Project: Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS)</p>	



Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS), funded through the Volunteer-Cooperation Program at Global Affairs Canada, will engage 190 volunteers to work with local partner organizations in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Lao PDR, Cambodia, and Vietnam. Volunteers will help create integrated animal health systems to increase the livelihoods and household nutrition of small-scale farmers.

The VETS program utilizes the skills of volunteers to build local partner capacity to support community members, primarily women, to reduce poverty. Through improved production of livestock and crops, volunteers help improve family income and nutrition. The VETS program is built around the One Health concept, which recognizes that the health of people, animals, and the natural environment are interconnected. This project promotes the production of more and better food and increased incomes from livestock, all the while promoting land rehabilitation and conservation for sustainable development.

Veterinarians Without Borders/Vétérinaires sans Frontières is an equal opportunity employer and values the diversity of our team. We are committed to inclusive and equitable employment practices and strive to create a workplace that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion. VWB/VSF Canada welcomes applications from all qualified candidates, including members of racialized groups, Indigenous peoples, women, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity. Please let us know if you require an accommodation and we will work with you to ensure an equitable hiring process. Thank you for your interest in VWB/VSF Canada.

Apply now by sending your CV and cover letter to volunteer@vetswithoutborders.ca with "Animal Health Specialist YVP – Meru Dairy – Your Name" in the subject line.