



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

<b>Volunteer Position Title</b>	Livestock Specialist		
<b>Country</b>	Lao PDR		
<b>Partner Organization</b>	CARE International in Lao PDR		
<b>Placement location</b>	Capital city		Comments: The position is based in Phongsaly Province with extensively travel to all CARE Program field offices as necessary and work closely with CARE project partners.
	Mid-sized town		
	Rural town/village	x	
	Various		
<b>Duration (Months)</b>	3 months – flexible		
<b>Start date</b>	March 2024		
<b>Pre-departure Training Date/s</b>	VWB/VSF will provide orientation training		
<b>Eligibility requirements</b>	Open to Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada only.		
<b>Language Requirements</b>	<u>Essential:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluent oral and written communication skills in English</li> <li>• Willingness to study Lao as additional languages and maximize the opportunities to communicate effectively to increased learning objective</li> </ul> <p>CARE staff will provide some translation support when possible and will secure translation services when necessary.</p>		
<b>Academic Qualifications</b>	<u>Essential:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master's in agriculture or international development with a strong focus on agriculture and food security.</li> </ul>		
<b>Professional Background / Skills</b>	<u>Essential:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 - 8 years of working experience in livestock cultivation (especially large animals and vaccination systems) and livelihood security in the development sector.</li> <li>• Strong background in community development and income generation.</li> <li>• Excellent experience and knowledge of value chain in agriculture production.</li> <li>• Background in designing high quality, participatory training courses to different level of participants.</li> <li>• Demonstrated ability to plan and manage workflows independently and balance competing priorities to meet deadlines.</li> </ul>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated good interpersonal skills, sound judgment, planning, problem solving and team building skills.</li> <li>• Ability to work as a team member and contribute to group objectives and works effectively in a group setting.</li> <li>• Experience of working with different stakeholders/partners including the donors, government, and international development partners.</li> <li>• Effective cross-cultural communication skills;</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of the community context in Lao PDR. Previous international work/volunteer experience in Laos or other developing countries.</li> <li>• Good understanding of climate change adaptation and resilience in the livelihood context.</li> <li>• Experience in participating/supporting assessment and using the analysis to better inform and improve interventions, key messages, M&amp;E frameworks, communications and advocacy strategies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Placement goal and objectives (preliminary)</b></p>	<p><b>Overall Goal:</b> The primary purpose of the Livestock Specialist volunteer is to facilitate the increase in income for ethnic indigenous women and strengthen their technical capacity through improved livestock and value chain practices.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support livestock activities including technical capacity building and improving/setting up the community vaccination system.</li> <li>• Support with the income generation activities and promote the green techniques.</li> <li>• Organise and lead the technical training to project staff, government partners, and farmers to improve livestock practices.</li> <li>• Provide guidance to the farmers with the marketing plan and market access.</li> <li>• Review and assess the project activities implemented together with the project staff and provide the relevant advice accordingly.</li> <li>• Support the rollout of climate change strategy and relevant policies.</li> </ul> <p>All volunteers are expected to promote gender equality, environmental sustainability and good governance within their placement responsibilities.</p>
<p><b>Volunteer Terms and Conditions</b></p>	
<p>VWB/VSF covers most of the costs of being an overseas volunteer, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel and accommodation for the pre-departure training course in Ottawa</li> </ul>	



- Return airfare to placement country
- 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.

### **Fundraising**

VWB/VSF encourages each volunteer to raise funds towards the organization's operations.

### **About Veterinarians Without Borders**

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.

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.

### **About the Project: Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS)**

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.