



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

<b>Job Title</b>	Dairy Veterinary Advisor		
<b>Country</b>	Kenya		
<b>Partner Organization</b>	Meru Dairy Co-operative Union		
<b>Placement location</b>	Capital city	<input type="checkbox"/>	Comments: Meru Dairy Cooperative Union is located in Meru in the central highlands of Kenya.
	Mid-sized town	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Rural town/village	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Various	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Duration (Months)</b>	<b>3 – 12 months</b>		
<b>Start date</b>	<b>As soon as possible</b>		
<b>Pre-departure Training Date/s</b>	VWB/VSF will provide training orientation.		
<b>Eligibility requirements</b>	Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada only		
<b>Language Requirements</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u> English</p> <p><u>Desirable:</u> Swahili</p> <p>Please mention if the volunteer will need to work with a local translator for some of their duties:</p> <p>Volunteer will not need to work with local language translator when working with project staff and partners. However, working knowledge of local languages is helpful.</p>		
<b>Academic Qualifications</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) from a recognized institution at minimum.</li> </ul>		
<b>Professional Background / Skills</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated knowledge of and experience in dairy cattle management and dairy science</li> <li>• Experience in treatment of animals and other veterinary duties including animal welfare management</li> <li>• Experience with data collection and preparing reports on animal health, products, and markets</li> </ul>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to advise on animal breeding and welfare, and support postmortem examinations and other diagnostic tests</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> <li>• Effective cross-cultural communication and teambuilding skills</li> </ul> <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-3 years of relevant experience in the development of feed resources and improved animal nutrition</li> <li>• Previous international work/volunteer experience in Kenya an asset</li> </ul>
<p><b>Placement goal and objectives (preliminary)</b></p>	<p><b>Overall Goal:</b> The primary purpose of the Dairy Veterinary Advisor is to support dairy groups in increasing daily production and reduce losses due to disease and low-quality milk. The Dairy Veterinary Advisor will support through technical assistance and knowledge-sharing—both for animals and human beings in line with our One Health approach.</p> <p>The role will involve working directly with the community members and Meru Dairy Limited extension staff, together with the local coordinator and Africa Program Manager.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide training to local farmers, partner organizations, and extension officers</li> <li>• Assist in the development of champion farmers and demo farms</li> <li>• Assist to collect baseline information on farmer challenges, development, and needs</li> </ul>
<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>• Return airfare to placement country</li> <li>• Visa/permit costs</li> <li>• The cost of required vaccinations, anti-malarial medication, and overseas emergency travel health insurance</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Fundraising</b></p>	
<p>VWB/VSF encourages each volunteer to raise funds towards the organization's operations.</p>	
<p><b>About Veterinarians Without Borders</b></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.

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 Frontière 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](mailto:volunteer@vetswithoutborders.ca) with "Dairy Veterinary Advisor (Meru) – Your Name" in the subject line.