



Sustainable Development through Humanitarian Aid Volunteers 2

Junior EU Aid Volunteer - Medical and paramedical services (Midwife) in Ghana

Junior

— 1 positions

Deployment dates:

01/09/2019 - 01/03/2020

Africa

Western Africa

Ghana

Lead organisation:



MTÜ Mondo

Closing date:

22/04/2019

DESCRIPTION

This volunteering position will take place in a small grassroots organization developing mainly local development aid projects in rural isolated area. It is expected from the volunteer to be autonomous and able to take initiatives to support the hosting organization and local community in the development of their projects and activities.

Kongo Community Development Association (KoCDA) is a community based organization in West Africa, Ghana, precisely in Kongo of the Upper East region.

The Organization seeks a dedicated midwife to assist at one of the local clinics, Ayamfooya Memorial Clinic, in Kongo village, northern Ghana, as well as in other clinics (Nangodi clinic).

It is a rural setting with a very hot and dry climate. Ayamfooya has been serving the community for 28 years and is one of 5 clinics serving Nabdram district catering to the district's population of approx. 60 000, also offering pro-bono services to the most vulnerable groups of the population. The majority of the population does not have the means to pay for health insurance or minor medical services. Basic ailments reported include malaria, typhoid, skin infections and respiratory tract infections. HIV prevalence is high.

The clinic facilities are very basic with a first surgery room being constructed at the end of 2018. There is no adequate advanced medical technological equipment available. The clinic has 3 consultation rooms, one laboratory with malaria, typhoid and other disease testing possibilities, one maternity ward, a dispensary and an ambulance. The entire district has no medical

doctor. The clinic is staffed by 2 physician assistants 4 permanent and 3 temporary senior nurses, and 2 midwives, but is in need of long-term medical staff. In Nabdam district, Ayamfooya gets at least 50% of patient attendance. That makes it a preferred destination for many patients. There is an average of 2500 monthly OPD attendance.

The clinic are seeking a committed individual to consult patients where needed and provide trainings for staff members. This is a highly demanding position for a motivated individual with leadership ability, preferably with previous experience working in rural settings, who is able to independently find the needs of the clinic and set a work plan to achieve the goals.

This position provides a fulfilling opportunity for a mission-driven person who would like to save lives and make an invaluable contribution to a rural community in West Africa, who is not afraid of challenges and very basic living and working conditions.

Expected results/objectives:

- Provide primary healthcare to the local community particularly women reproductive/ maternal health issues
- To increase the quality of reproductive/maternal health services in Kongo village so as to reduce the mortality of children under 5 years

Operational details & security context:

Kongo community is located in the Upper East region of Ghana, close to the border of

Burkina Faso. The region is hilly and rural, majority of the population are subsistence

farmers living in traditional mud-clay households. Kongo community has around 7000

inhabitants on quite a large area with a more densely populated market center.

Kongo lies in tropical savanna climate of rainy season from May to October and dry season from November to April when temperatures can reach up to 43C.

Malaria risk is high, especially during rainy season.

Volunteers will find the majority of people in the community practising the Catholic faith, but the community is very open to people of different faiths.

Ghana as a country is a secular. Three main religions are practiced: African Traditional Religion (5.2%),

Christianity (71.2%), and Islam (17.6%). There is good inter-ethnic/racial relationship.

Community members are very open to visitors and Kongo village has a good reputation of hosting Europeans in the last two decades without any single incident of security threat.

There are local police officers volunteers can reach out to should they be in an insecure situation. There are a number of local health facilities that can handle well minor health issues and common illnesses. In 30-45 min drive there is a

regional referral hospital in Bolgatanga, reasonably resourced with well trained medical staff and equipment. If needed, there is an opportunity to be evacuated within 3 to 4 hours to the National Capital, Accra for serious health or any other related matter of emergency. There is a national ambulance system that works up to rural areas.

The hosting organisation has developed security management plan, health and safety policy and a security briefing that are updated regularly. These documents and briefing will be shared with the EU Aid Volunteer at the beginning of the project.

TASKS

Main Duties

A competent midwife capable of conducting skillful deliveries. Should be self-motivated, confident and able to work under minimal and comparative lack of resources in a rural setting.

Specific Tasks Include:

1. Provide antenatal services
2. Conduct deliveries with minimum assistance
3. Help provide postnatal care services
4. Involved in health talks/pregnancy school
5. Join in home visits to clients
6. Offer ideas and help to deliver health talks at community durbars

Apprenticeship:

n/a

Required competences:

1. Should be able to work with minimum supervision in the maternity department
2. Should possess good customer service skills
3. Be proactive in educating community women on maternal health issues
4. Should be able to impart knowledge and skills to colleague health workers
5. Should possess a strong sense of duty in less endowed rural settings
6. Good spoken English
7. Strong autonomy and adaptability
8. Capacity to live in a rural isolated area.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications are made directly within the sending organisation, please check out the how to apply section.

Eligibility and exception criteria:

The candidate for EU Aid Volunteers must be a citizen of the EU or a third country national who is a long-term resident in an EU Member State, and must have a minimum age of 18 years.

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KOCDA organisation has a charter of values that has indicated the procedure of selection, recruitment and placement of volunteers, which is highly observed. It also states that no candidate should be discriminated according to his or her race, religion or financial status during the selection.

Minimum Requirements:

- Degree in Midwifery or General Nursing.
- Has certification as a professional midwife.
- Work experience practicing as a Midwife in in the applicant's home country.

CONDITION OF SERVICE

Learning Opportunities:

Volunteer will attend workshops to share experiences to other health workers. The

volunteer will also have the opportunity to actively learn about the healthcare system in Africa and Ghana and to be engaged in direct community healthcare delivery at Ayamfooya Memorial Clinic. Learn how health governance system operates and a possibility to make a contribution.

As the host NGO is small and cannot provide daily mentoring to each of the volunteers, the volunteer would have to practice independence and sense of initiative in finding solutions to daily work related challenges as well as be able to follow up on the goals and work plan established with the host NGO and the local clinic / health office. The work offers an opportunity to immerse oneself in the local context, get to know the community members very well and learn the local language (Nabt and Gurunsi).

The volunteer has an opportunity to experience the daily life in a traditional rural Ghanaian village, which is proud of its history and culture. Volunteer can be part of the festivals that the locals celebrate, learn the local crafts and ways of farming and experience the life untouched by tourism.

Working and Living Conditions:

The volunteers will have to adapt and to be flexible regarding the local working and living environment that is very different from the European one. The volunteer must be autonomous and be able to take initiatives. He/she also must feel able to live in isolated rural area.

The volunteers work in Northern Ghana, where the climate conditions can be difficult, as it is very hot and windy. Mobile phone service is reliable, there is good mobile internet access and Kongo market even has an internet café with

high-speed internet. Regular local buses travel to Bolgatanga (30 to 45 min drive), the region's capital where more services are available.

Village has a market square where mostly food items and other necessities can be bought every third day. There are small kiosks also open daily. Bolgatanga has bigger food shops and a large outdoor market, where more variety of food, especially fruits are available.

The volunteers will be hosted at the guesthouse of the Catholic Mission; the volunteers have their own lockable room, toilet and shower in the room. There is no AC in the room, but each room has ceiling fans. A communal kitchen to share with the other volunteers is available, but food can also be pre-ordered (breakfast, lunch, dinner) for an additional cost, as there is a chef working in the guest house. Guest house is surrounded by a park and is a few minute walk from the village center.

Power cuts can be a daily issue in the community.

The programme covers the following costs:

- Pre-departure training with the European Commission: transport, food and accommodation covered by the programme
- Pre-departure training with the sending organisation: transport, food and accommodation covered by the programme
- International travel, visa, vaccinations and malaria pills covered
- Insurance during the duration of the project
- Accommodation
- Monthly allowance: 640.94 euros will be paid to the volunteer to cover subsistence (food, any other personal items) in addition to a local transportation reimbursement (up to 40€ per month).
- In addition, after the return, 100€ of post deployment resettlement allowance per month of deployment done, will be foreseen.

The volunteer will work full time (max 40h per week). The working calendar will be corresponding to the agenda and system established in the field. Some flexibility may be asked to implement some activities during the evening or the weekend if it is necessary.

Days off

According to the Ghanaian and European Regulations the volunteer has days off on Saturday, Sunday, National Holidays and 2 days of holidays per month.

SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisting and Interviews:

The candidate has to send the following documents to info@adice.asso.fr

- his/her application form SuD HAV 2
- his/her self assessment questionnaire
- his/her CV in Europass format

Between 15/04 and 01/05/2019: the pre-selected candidates will have a Skype interview with ADICE and KOCDA.

At the end of April: the candidates interviewed will know if they are selected to participate to the pre-departure training.

In May 2019: The pre-selected candidates will participate at an online training (around 25 hours)

In June 2019: The pre-selected candidates will participate to a face-to-face pre-departure trainings (12 days).

The final selection will be done after the pre-departure trainings at the end of June 2019.

Interview Process:

Skype interviews with the sending and hosting organizations in April 2019

Expected date decision on outcome:

25/06/2019

TIMETABLE

Date of training:

Compulsory online training in May and face-to-face training with EC training provider in June 2019

Apprenticeship Placement:

n/a

Pre-deployment preparation and induction:

Pre-departure training with sending organization: from the 8th to 12th of July 2019

Deployment:

September 2019 to March 2020

Post-deployment activities:

2020

Sectors:

- Health

Source URL:

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