



VETERINARIANS
WITHOUT BORDERS



VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES



VOLUNTEER POSITION

POSITION: Division Veterinary Advisor

PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT: Mzuzu City, Malawi

LANGUAGE: English

PARTNER ORGANIZATION(S): Uniterra (www.uniterra.org), Farmers Union of Malawi, the Mzuzu Dairy Farmers' Association, and the Department of Health and Livestock Development

DURATION OF PLACEMENT: 12 months (some flexibility on duration)

START DATE: as soon as possible

OBJECTIVE OF PLACEMENT: To build animal health capacity of livestock technicians and farmers in Mzuzu's Agriculture Development Division.

BACKGROUND: The mission of the Farmer's Union of Malawi is to promote and coordinate work towards the advancement of farmers in Malawi through protecting their interests, lobbying for favourable policies, facilitating dissemination of market information, providing technical skills for improved production and quality produce and creating linkages and networking. One of the members of FUM is the Mzuzu Dairy Farmers Association (MDFA). FUM and MDFA work in close partnership with the Department of Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD) to promote dairy production. The volunteer, therefore, will work with DAHLD and MDFA in Mzuzu Agriculture Development Division (ADD).

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Train technicians and farmers in sound dairy husbandry practices including disease control and treatment measures (e.g. reproduction, dairy feeding, pregnancy diagnosis, breeding problems, disease diagnoses, milk hygiene and mastitis, calf rearing).
- Build capacity of staff in food safety practices (ie. meat inspection, disease detection, etc).
- Advise on value adding and marketing of dairy products at Lusangadzi Bulking Group.
- Build capacity of MDFA Veterinary services including managing drug revolving fund and reviving clinic services at the Mzuzu Veterinary Office.
- Ensure that that gender and HIV/AIDS issues are factored into all activities of the Milk Bulking Group (eg. workshops, farmer training, etc)
- Visit farmers on regular basis to solve problems and provide advice
- Conduct TB and brucellosis testing.
- Assist in organizing vaccination and prophylaxis programs eg. rabies, mange, ticks, fleas

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Build capacity of farmers and staff in dairy animal husbandry
- Build Capacity of farmers and staff in pest and disease control
- Advise on value adding on milk and milk products
- Facilitate the participation of women in all activities of the project



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QUALIFICATIONS

- Degree in veterinary medicine
- Two years of experience working in large animal medicine
- Expertise/background in the dairy sector
- Ability to work autonomously
- Ability to work in a rural setting with minimal resources
- Ability to understand cultural differences in social and professional settings
- Experience in international development considered an asset

APPLICATION:

To apply, submit a cover letter and CV with references electronically to erin.fraser@vwb-vsfc.ca (please put "Malawi: district veterinary officer" in the subject line). For more information, please contact Erin Fraser at the above email address or at 250-508-5718 or 250-590-3340

Application deadline: November 20, 2009

OTHER INFORMATION

- Travel expenses and living allowance will be provided by Uniterra and VWB/VSF