

OVERSEAS PLACEMENT: Veterinary Researcher - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

THE VOLUNTEER'S ROLE

You'll work at the State Central Veterinary Laboratory (SVCL), Mongolia's national research and diagnostic centre for veterinary science, medicine and animal disease control. Your skills and experience are in high demand to train staff in the diagnosis of chemical residue in animal origin products. By building on the diagnostic capacity of staff, you'll help to establish food safety standards to be met by herders and growers. Once produce can be tested and certified, Mongolian meat and agricultural products become more appealing to local and export markets. This role is therefore crucial to improving the livelihoods of local herders farmers by increasing demand for their products.

What does the role involve?

- Training staff on the use of chromatography and mass spectrometer diagnostic methodology to allow them to inspect chemical residue in animal and agricultural products.
- Exploring ways of coordinating veterinary research with organisations from developed countries.
- Providing basic English language training for colleagues.
- Commit to 12-24 months to make a sustainable contribution to our development goals

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Educated to degree level or equivalent in the veterinary field, you'll need experience in the area of chemical residue in animal and agricultural products.
- Ideally you'll have good networking skills within this field and are experienced in training others in technical skills.
- Patience, flexibility and a good sense of humour are important qualities in all VSO volunteers, as you'll need to get used to living and working in a new culture with limited resources and facilities.

PLACEMENT COUNTRY

You'll be based in the capital of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar. You'll find lots of markets and shops providing you with a range of local and imported goods. The tower blocks of the industrial capital city of Ulaanbaatar sit surrounded by pristine steppe and extensive forests that stretch for thousands of kilometres and represent one of the world's last unspoiled landscapes. If you decide to come to Mongolia, you will almost certainly be asked to take your turn at singing a song at almost any gathering – being tone deaf will not be accepted as an excuse, so come prepared with a song you can sing and that you know all the words to. If you play an instrument, think about bringing it with you, as there will be plenty of opportunities to entertain groups of Mongolians and it is a good way to break the ice and make friends.

TRAINING AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our training and support package covers the costs of being an overseas volunteer, allowing you to enjoy a modest but healthy lifestyle while you volunteer abroad. This includes:

- Attendance at a CUSO-VSO assessment day (candidates must cover the first \$150 of the most cost-effective travel expenses and accommodation costs).
- Travel and accommodation costs associated with pre-departure training.
- Return airfare and visa/permit (this includes a return flight in the case of a family emergency).
- Coverage for required vaccinations, medications and comprehensive health insurance.
- Accommodation while overseas.
- A modest living allowance, which varies depending on the country where you are placed
- Quarterly payments to support you in your placement

KEY INFORMATION AND DATES

APPLICATION DEADLINE:	April 1 2010 (as soon as possible)
ASSESSMENT DAYS (GROUP INTERVIEW IN OTTAWA):	April/May 2010
TRAINING DATES (IN OTTAWA):	April/May 2010
APPLY ONLINE:	http://www.cuso-vso.org/volunteer/apply-online/
FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL:	questions@cuso-vso.org

PLACEMENT REFERENCE CODE: 2010-WINTER31