



VETERINARIANS
WITHOUT BORDERS



VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES



VOLUNTEER POSITION

POSITION: Dairy Health Advisor

PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT: Rupandehi District, Nepal

LANGUAGE: English

PARTNER ORGANIZATION(S): Uniterra (www.uniterra.org), District Milk Producers Cooperative Union (DMPCU)

DURATION OF PLACEMENT: 3 to 4 months

TIMEFRAME: Flexible on start date

OBJECTIVE OF PLACEMENT: To build animal health capacity of staff and members of the District Milk Producers Cooperative Union

BACKGROUND:

The District Milk Producers' Cooperative Union (DMPCU) in Makawanpur District has 53 cooperative societies as members and through them serve thousands of households. DMPCU's purpose is to assist dairy cooperatives to better deliver services to their members. Apart from milk transactions, it provides related value-added services to its members in production, marketing and policy advocacy. They are seeking a volunteer to help them build the capacity of key member cooperatives to raise awareness about common health problems caused by livestock which gravely affect the quality and quantity of milk produced. The DMPCU has identified some of the issues that are impeding milk production amongst their beneficiaries including: parasitic disease, mastitis, milk fever, reproductive disorders, and nutrition. Even though these problems are identified, it has been a challenge for the DMPCU and other development stakeholders to raise awareness and bring about behavioural changes among the farmers whom are mostly illiterate, living on subsistence agriculture and relying on traditional farming practices. If leading cooperatives and the DMPCU can be equipped with tools and methods for grassroots education in animal health, the cumulative efforts will enhance production and the quality of milk leading to higher income and better health for member families.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

- Work with the DMPCU to assess their animal health capacity and training needs;
- Train DMPCU staff and its members in sound dairy husbandry practices including disease control and treatment measures (e.g. reproduction, dairy feeding, pregnancy diagnosis, breeding problems, disease diagnoses (ie. foot and mouth disease, milk fever, parasitic diseases), milk hygiene and mastitis, calf rearing, etc).
- Ensure that DMPCU staff and its members have access to a simple and locally-relevant manual on the prevention, detection, and control of common diseases in dairy animals.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Build capacity of farmers and staff in dairy animal husbandry
- Build capacity of farmers and staff in pest and disease control



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- Facilitate the participation of women in all activities of the project

QUALIFICATIONS

- Degree in veterinary medicine
- Two years of experience working in large animal medicine
- Expertise/background in the dairy sector
- Experience in teaching
- 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 “Nepal: dairy health advisor” 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

OTHER INFORMATION

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