



## Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS) VOLUNTEER PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION 2020 - 2027

<b>Job Title</b>	Communication and Media Specialist		
<b>Country</b>	Lao PDR		
<b>Partner Organization</b>	CARE International in Lao PDR		
<b>Placement location</b>	Capital city	X	Comments: The position is based in the Vientiane capital with extensive travel to all CARE program field offices as necessary.
	Mid-sized town		
	Rural town/village	X	
	Various		
<b>Duration (Months)</b>	<b>6 months</b>		
<b>Start date</b>	<b>As soon as possible</b>		
<b>Pre-departure Training Date/s</b>	VWB/VSF will provide orientation training		
<b>Eligibility requirements</b>	Open to Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada only.		
<b>Language Requirements</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluent oral and written communication skills in English</li> <li>• Willingness to study Lao as additional language and maximize the opportunities to communicate effectively to increased learning objectives.</li> </ul> <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluent oral and written communication skills in Lao;</li> </ul> <p>Please mention if the volunteer will need to work with a local translator for some of their duties:</p> <p>CARE staff will provide some translation support when possible and will secure translation services when necessary.</p>		
<b>Academic Qualifications</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor's degree in communications, media relations, or another related field</li> </ul>		
<b>Professional Background / Skills</b>	<p><u>Essential:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 2 years of experience working in the development sector</li> <li>• Experience in engaging with community development through communications activities</li> <li>• Experience with different stakeholders/partners including donors, government, and international development partners</li> <li>• Representational skills including developing networks and relationships with key stakeholders</li> <li>• Demonstrated understanding of gender equality and a commitment to CARE's approach and values including ethnic diversity and cultural sensitivity</li> <li>• Demonstrated high level organizational and time management skills, including the ability to plan and manage workflows and balance competing priorities to ensure timely processing to meet deadlines in a complex environment</li> </ul>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated characteristics in honesty, reliability, trustworthiness with the ability to maintain confidentiality</li> <li>• Effective cross-cultural communication skills</li> <li>• Willingness to study Lao as additional language and maximize the opportunities to communicate effectively to increased learning objectives</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> </ul> <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous international work/volunteer experience in Laos or other developing countries</li> <li>• Willingness to work in remote and difficult to access areas</li> <li>• Oversee the implementation as well as increasing understanding of project staff on communication strategies and plans and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) framework</li> <li>• Support reviewing, proofreading, and formatting consistency of documents and key contents utilised for reports, social media, and marketing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Placement goal and objectives (preliminary)</b></p>	<p><b>Overall Goal:</b> The Communication and Media Specialist leads the internal and external communication and media initiatives, working collaboratively with the program department.</p> <p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <p>The volunteer will ensure that the project results and impact are clearly communicated, distributed, and promoted to a variety of audiences. Strong focus will be placed on developing content in innovative formats, including working to facilitate credible and authentic voices from various communities from ethnic women and girls to donor, staff, and partners.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To support various activities related to the Green Action through Media and Civil Society in Laos (GAMCIL) project activities</li> <li>2. To support the communication and media relations activities through the organization, including education and advocacy</li> <li>3. Work closely with the program team to support the design of key messages, IEC materials, or media productions including for advocacy purpose</li> </ol> <p>All volunteers are expected to promote gender equality, environmental sustainability, and good governance within their placement responsibilities.</p>
<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>• Travel and accommodation for the pre-departure training course in Ottawa</li> <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> </ul>	



- 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.

**Fundraising**

VWB/VSF encourages each volunteer to raise funds towards the organization's operations.

**About Veterinarians Without Borders**

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 Frontières 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 “[Position Title] – [Your Name]” in the subject line.