

Apply today and you could be...

An HIV and AIDS Counselling Adviser for the DOST Foundation in Peshawar, Pakistan

What is the context and purpose of this role?

HIV and AIDS infection rates and related illnesses in Pakistan are rising, with the 20–49 age group most affected. This has the potential to have a devastating impact on the working population of Pakistan over the coming years, and undermine the country's ability to tackle poverty. DOST Foundation, based in Peshawar, is a non-governmental organisation that works with some of Pakistan's most vulnerable people and those at high risk from HIV, providing treatment, counselling and education services for intravenous drug users, homeless children and adults, and prisoners. They are looking for an experienced counsellor to help DOST review, develop and implement its strategy for counselling services.

What does the role involve?

- Reviewing and analysing the existing counselling services and their strengths and weaknesses, gaining input from DOST staff and client groups
- Developing a counselling strategy for DOST to use across its work in drug abuse treatment, HIV prevention and care, crisis intervention for women and children, and prisoners' rehabilitation, based on current international and national guidelines
- Supporting DOST staff to adopt the counselling strategy, by facilitating training and continuing professional development
- Developing resources and materials for reference, such as counselling guidelines and manuals, procedure and strategy documents
- Creating a training needs assessment process for training new staff and refreshing the training of existing staff



What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll need to have an advanced counselling or social work qualification, and 5 years' relevant post-qualification experience. Previous management, supervisory or training experience is a must for this position. Experience of providing counselling services in substance misuse and for people living with HIV and AIDS would be an advantage. Patience, flexibility and tolerance are important traits, as you'll need to adapt your expertise to a different cultural context and new ways of working.

And the rest....

The name "Pakistan" means "Land of the Pure" in Sindhi, Urdu and Persian, and the country has the world's sixth largest population, estimated to be around 166 million. Pakistani trucks are commonly adorned with colourful designs and paintings, as the photo shows! You'll be based in Peshawar, on the edge of the Khyber Pass. A city with a rich history, Peshawar was a main trading centre on the ancient Silk Road. This legacy survives today in its many bazaars, offering everything from gold- and silversmiths, traditional carpets, pottery and clothing, to artwork in wood, brass or semi-precious stones.