

Apply today and you could be...

A Lecturer in Animal Husbandry at the Catholic University of Mozambique

What's the context and purpose of the role?

As in many African countries, poverty in Mozambique is greatest in rural areas where 95% of the population live. Inefficient farming practices and an unequal landownership system mean that 75% of arable land is currently not in use. The Catholic University of Mozambique was established in 1996 with the objective to develop and provide tertiary education to the central and northern regions of the country that previously had been geographically excluded from university level education. As a Lecturer in Animal Husbandry you'll work with the Faculty of Agriculture, which aims to equip young people with the skills to promote equitable and sustainable rural and agricultural development in the region. You'll support the faculty in its efforts to establish itself as a centre of excellence in agricultural training in Mozambique, an industry that is of prime importance to the country's economy. The university is catholic, but is open to students from all faiths.

What does the role involve?

- Teaching modules in animal production, husbandry systems (theory and practical on-farm) to undergraduate students
- Supporting the short-term and long-term development of the Faculty of Agriculture
- Supporting the development of the agricultural curriculum, student evaluation and assessment
- Establishing and maintaining links with district and provincial livestock extension services
- Developing relevant teaching and training materials
- Participation in extra-curricular activities to develop skills of students and lecturers as necessary

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

You'll need a masters degree or PHD in animal production/husbandry or related subject as well as practical experience in animal husbandry systems. You should also have experience in lecturing and/or training with good knowledge of curriculum development and rural development projects. Knowledge of research methodologies would also be useful. You'll need to be patient, adaptable and independent as you'll be living in a remote area where contact with other volunteers will be limited.

And the rest...

Mozambique lies on the eastern coast of southern Africa bordering Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Its stunning coastline stretches over 2470km along the Indian Ocean. The country was colonised by Portugal until 1975 and the official language today is still Portuguese. You'll be based in Cuamba with a population of about 75,000 in the northwestern province of Niassa. The province is sparsely populated and is home to magnificent Lake Niassa, the 3rd largest lake in Africa, a biodiversity hotspot with an estimated 1000 species of fish! You'll most likely live in a one or two-bedroom house in the centre of town with electricity and running water. We'll ask you to commit to 24 months to make a sustainable contribution to our development goals. In return, we'll give you comprehensive financial, personal and professional support. We'll provide you with extensive training before your placement, and our financial package includes a local salary, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more. When you return to your home country, we'll help you to resettle and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends. www.vso.org.uk/volunteering

