

Apply today and you could be...

An Management and Administration Programme Adviser, Awassa, Ethiopia

What's the context and purpose of the role?

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world with 44% of the population living below the national poverty line. VSO has been working in Ethiopia since 1996 and it is currently one of the largest country programmes with over 100 volunteers, the majority working in education. Only 47% of primary school-age children in Ethiopia regularly go to school. For those who do attend classes, their education is often affected by badly resourced classrooms, poorly trained teachers and the ongoing challenges posed by the HIV & AIDS pandemic. The Ethiopian Ministry for Education has identified a need to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of general education management and administration at all levels. The Management and Administration Programme (MAP) is designed to address this need. You will be supporting colleagues in the Regional Education Bureau (REB) to help make the programme as robust and relevant as possible.

What does the role involve?

- Work with REB officials to improve systems and procedures, including organisational learning and information management, with a particular emphasis on gender equity and environmental efficiency.
- Build the capacity of officials to offer a professional and supportive service to schools.
- To work with directors, supervisors and communities in developing and implementing School Improvement Plans.
- Work as a team with the two other VSO volunteers at the REB to, with local colleagues, undertake training needs analyses, design and deliver appropriate training, either at the REB or at local level, and monitor and evaluate the training.

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

Strong, senior management experience desirable, with a strong preference for education management and leadership experience. A demonstrated record of success in leading organisational development and facilitating change using participatory methodologies. Ability to create a supportive atmosphere in working groups. You'll be a self-starter, flexible with a patient and self-reliant approach, and a great sense of humour for when things don't go to plan!

And the rest...

Landlocked Ethiopia is situated in North Eastern Africa, bordering Eritrea, Sudan, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti. The Simien mountains are arguably the most spectacular mountain range in Africa, and Lalibela, with its 13th century rock-hewn churches, the medieval castle of Gondar, and the multitude of different tribes of the Omo valley make for a very different experience from most other African countries. You'll be based in Awassa a large town, situated by a lake about 275 km south of Addis Ababa. It is a pleasant environment, well equipped with shops, cafés and restaurants, and a large and lively market selling a good range of produce.

