

Apply today and you could be...

A Nurse and Midwife Trainer in the Belu District Nursing Academy, West Timor, Indonesia

What's the context and purpose of the role?

The Asian Economic Crisis of 1997/8 has had an enduring impact on Indonesia, with almost a quarter of Indonesia's expanding population living below the poverty line. Declining incomes have reduced families' access to health services, with women in remote rural districts particularly disadvantaged. Maternal and child mortality rates in West Timor are over 50% higher than the national average: mothers and babies are suffering from the lack of trained birth attendants and basic obstetric care. The Belu District Nursing Academy is training West Timor's future community nurses and midwives. As a Nurse and Midwife trainer working in the Academy, you'll be strengthening the quality of training and building the practical confidence of newly qualified staff. You'll make sure motherhood is safer for vulnerable women and children in West Timor.

What does the role involve?

- Supporting the teaching team to deliver the three-year nursing diploma for high school graduates.
- Developing the confidence, knowledge and skills of student nurses and midwives by delivering practical training sessions in the community
- Sharing best practice for clinical supervision and practical skills training, to improve student learning
- Mentoring students to develop a focus on patient-centred care, and building their professional self-confidence

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

You'll be a registered nurse or midwife with at least 5 years' experience in a hospital or community health centre. Experience of clinical instruction and mentoring, formally or informally, is essential. Ideally you'll have a teaching qualification, or knowledge of teaching and training methodologies. An awareness of community health issues, especially in maternal and child health, in developing countries, is desirable. A positive attitude and good communication skills will help you to build strong relationships with your local colleagues and the community. You'll be travelling around from community to community by motorbike (VSO will provide training), so a sense of adventure is also desirable!

And the rest...

Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago and the fifth most populous country, with 17,700 islands stretching 5,120 kilometres (3,200 miles) between Australia and the Asian mainland. It's a tropical country with high humidity, a dry season from May to October and a wet season from November to April. You'll be based in the Belu District in West Timor. The area consists of rocky hills and high plateau cut by deep valleys and loose-soiled grassy terrain. The island is rural and verdant with stunning beaches nearby. You'll be provided with simple and secure accommodation with running water, electricity and cooking facilities.

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

