Apply today and you could be... A Nutrition Adviser in Kratie Province, Cambodia

What's the context and purpose of the role?

Cambodia is still coping with the legacy of its civil war of the 1970s, which left the health system decimated: less than 20 doctors survived the Pol Pot regime. Generations of work to rebuild health services are making progress but there are many continuing challenges. VSO is working together with Cambodian partner organisations to improve the health and wellbeing of women and children in rural Cambodia. Malnutrition remains a persistent problem in the North Eastern province of Kratie, with pregnant women and children under five especially affected. The Provincial Health Department in Kratie has requested support to strengthen its work to prevent malnutrition. As a Nutrition Adviser, you will work from provincial to community level across the region. You'll build up activities to safeguard good nutrition, and reduce the impact of malnutrition upon families left vulnerable by poverty and food insecurity.

What does the role involve?

- > Mentoring the Provincial chief responsible for all activities to improve nutrition across the province
- > Supporting staff from strategic to grass-roots levels to plan, assess, and manage a programme of work in nutrition
- > Training staff and colleagues, expanding their nutritional knowledge and skills base
- > Coaching colleagues on effective out-reach work for health promotion and nutrition education in rural communities
- > Ensuring nutrition work is joined up with existing Department work on behaviour change communications
- > Working within a small team of VSO health professionals placed across the region
- > Evaluating activities and reporting on the outcomes of your support

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

You'll need a degree in nutrition, dietetics or a similar field and at least 2 years' post-qualifying experience, ideally within community dietetics or public health nutrition. Experience of training others, and helping to build their skills and capabilities, is essential. Previous experience of working with communities on nutrition or health promotion is important. Project management, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting experience would also be useful. The readiness to travel widely around the province by motorbike is vital for this role (we'll give you motorbike training). VSO provide comprehensive language training, but the commitment to learn the Khmer language is key. As with all VSO placements, you'll need to be flexible, patient and creative to work effectively with limited resources.

And the rest...

North east Cambodia is one of the most beautiful regions of the world. As you'll be travelling to work with rural health centres and remote communities across Kratie you'll get to know the province well. You'll be based in Kratie, a small, friendly town on the river Mekong, home to the rare Irrawaddy river dolphins. Kratie's market sells a wide variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, fish and excellent local coffee.

We'll ask you to commit to 26 months to make a sustainable contribution to tackling malnutrition in Cambodia. In return, we'll give you comprehensive financial, personal and professional support. We'll provide you with extensive training before your placement, living allowance, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more. When you return home, we'll help you to resettle and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends. <u>www.vso.org.uk/volunteering</u>

