Act2Aid, EU Aid Volunteers for East Africa

Junior EU Aid Volunteer - Community and Visibility in Kenya

Junior
— 1 positions

**Deployment dates:**
01/06/2020 - 31/05/2021

Africa
Eastern Africa
Kenya

**Lead organisation:**

ICCO

**Closing date:**
24/03/2020

The EU Aid Volunteers is an initiative of the European Union. It brings together volunteers and organisations from different countries, providing practical support to humanitarian aid projects and contributing to strengthening the local capacity and resilience of disaster-affected communities. Participants in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative must be over 18 years of age and be a citizen of an EU Member State or a long-term resident in the EU.

**DESCRIPTION**

This junior Community and Visibility role is a 12-month volunteering position at ICCO Kenya. ICCO Kenya office is based in Nairobi. The volunteer will support the development and implementation of the communication strategy of ICCO Kenya. The volunteer will mainly support the Civic Engagement Programme (CEA).

ICCO is an independent non-governmental organization with business features. Our aim is to secure the livelihoods and rights of farmers and small businesses in low and middle-income countries. ICCO consists of a cooperative (2012) and a foundation (1964), all established under Dutch law. ICCO has a decentralized organizational structure in 5 regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America with (sub)regional offices. We are present in 25 countries and run programs in 76 countries.

The Civic Engagement programme is a 5 year lobby and advocacy programme that is being implemented in 5 rural counties in Western Kenya. The programme aims at strengthening civil society organisations and smallholder farmers to be able to effectively engage policy makers and influencers policy formulation and implementation. As well as promote the
realization of the right to adequate and nutritious food and ensuring smallholder farmers have access to inclusive markets, skills, inputs and improved agricultural extension services. The programme targets youth, women and people living with disability, with a specific interest in maize, poultry, sorghum and soya value chains. The programme is implemented with 5 national partner organisations and their networks.

In addition, ICCO Kenya is implementing a Shared Futures programme in 2 counties of Mombasa and Kwale the coastal areas of Kenya. Shared Futures programme focuses on strengthening the resilience of the youth and their community against violent extremism through economic empowerment and interfaith dialogues and cooperation. In addition, the programme also seeks to build knowledge by working with local learning institutions. The programme is implemented with 4 national partners.

Operational details & security context:
The country has two official languages, English and Swahili. It has 43 ethnic groups with many sub tribes which each speak their local languages. The largest ethnic group in Kenya is Kikuyu, which comprises approximately 22 percent of the country's population. Other major groups include the Luhya (14 percent), the Luo (13 percent), the Kalenjin (12 percent) and the Kamba (11 percent).

Neighbouring countries relationships:
Kenya considers members of the East African Community her neighbours, though some countries do not border Kenya. These neighboring countries are Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. Currently, relations with Uganda have improved slightly following the establishment of the East African Community (EAC). Kenya shares with neighbouring countries a high threat from terrorism. There is a continuing risk of terrorist attacks in Kenya, given the country's porous borders, the lack of capacity faced by its security forces and suspicions that Islamist militants operate within its borders.

Threats and Vulnerability Analysis
Terrorism:
Terrorism is a serious threat in Kenya, primarily stemming from the Somali extremist group al-Shabaab. Al-shabaab first targeted Kenya in 2008 but has continued its attacks in retaliation to the Kenya Defence Force's incursion in Somalia. In the past, al-Shabaab had major attacks killing many innocent civilians. In 2015, they attacked Garissa University killing 147 people. In 2013 Westgate Mall in Nairobi was attacked leaving 67 people dead and close to 200 injured. Other smaller-scale attacks targeted specific locations with the intent of harming civilians, particularly Christians. The group has threatened additional attacks on Kenya and continues to demand that the country withdraw troops from Somalia.
Terrorists target places with high population areas where foreigners are found.
The most recent terror attack was in Dusit Hotel, 14 Riverside Drive, Westlands, Nairobi on 15 Jan 2019, 21 people were killed.

Kidnapping:
Kidnapping cases have increased over the years mostly directed towards Kenyans with the objective of financial gain. Kidnapping is mostly done by criminal and militia groups. In a few cases, international visitors have become victims. In recent years this has not occured with the exception of an Italian volunteer worker who was kidnapped in the Chakama area of Kilifi county, in November 2018. This prompted a large security response and manhunt. The victim is still missing, and there is no known ransom demand. Kidnappings has mainly been reported in areas bordering Somalia.

Petty and violent Crimes
Petty and violent crimes mostly occur in large cities particularly in Nairobi, Kisumu Mombasa. Violent crimes vary from home invasion, burglary, armed robbery, vehicular theft and carjacking. Street crime frequently involves groups of assailants who may track and target a victim based on their appearance, level of awareness and location. Criminals are often armed and will harm victims if they resist. Pickpocketing takes place in public areas, including clubs, resorts, shopping centers, restaurants, transportation hubs and tourist attractions. Thieves attempt to steal bags from cars idling in traffic or may pose as police officers or security guards. Travelers should request identification from security personnel, if appropriate. Armed robbers have also been known to target individuals who have just withdraw cash from ATMs. Crime levels are also high in Kenya’s coastal regions as these locations are frequented by wealthy expatriates and foreign travelers.
In rural areas crime mainly includes banditry, cattle rustling and ethnically-motivated and is usually not in organized gangs. Cattle rustling, tribal rivalry, ethnic conflict and armed banditry pose significant risks in rural areas, especially the northern region. While outsiders are not the targets of local conflicts in northern Kenya, they must however exercise particular caution in the region, seek up-to-date security advice from local contacts (e.g. local partners) before travel, and travel in convoy to ensure proper back-up.

Other Threats:
Travelling at night and in isolated areas such as empty beaches is strongly discouraged. Travellers are also advised to visit Lamu island by air because of bad road conditions and the occasional presence of armed robbers. For the same reason, overland travel from Lamu to Malindi is not allowed by this policy.

Road accidents
There are many Kenyans who lose their lives in road traffic crashes, about 13,000 annually according to a report by WHO. Road death rate stands at over 30 per 100,000 people. The majority of these people are vulnerable road users – pedestrians, motorcyclists, and cyclists. In addition, nearly one-third of deaths are among passengers – many of whom are killed in unsafe forms of public transportation.
Drugging:
There have been cases of drugging and robbing in night clubs reported severally but common in major towns. Also in some areas, especially informal settlement illegal or homemade alcohol is sold. This alcohol has led to loss of lives in the past. It is also important to note that smoking of/or possessing marijuana and using other drugs is illegal in Kenya.

TASKS

Communication and visibility support

Description of tasks to be performed by the EU Aid Volunteer:
1. Support funding and consequentially programme teams in ensuring compliant, timely and high-quality donor reporting, materials and knowledge management.
2. Organize and compile organizational information and communication materials and ensuring all ICCO Kenya staff are informed of key developments in the office.
3. S/He is also responsible for gathering content from the field on project activities and achievements and creating compelling stories out of them in the form of case stories, short videos, project briefers, manuals, tools, templates and other communications materials.
4. Ensure that cross cutting themes like participation, gender, disability are mainstreamed in all communications work
5. Maintain a highly updated library of stories, videos, photographs and database for future learning and quick reference
6. Working with programmes team to oversee the development and tracking of metrics and success criteria for communications programs with the key objective being an amplification of ICCO Kenya’s program work. In addition, offer support in packaging and presentation of reports and success stories.
7. Support development of all communications materials, including press releases, talking points, reports, speeches, social media and web materials, and videos. Ensuring all communications materials are in line with the institution’s messaging, strategy and policy positions.
8. Spearheading activities that build the brand by ensuring consistent use of messages across the organization and anticipating possible controversies with a proactive approach to issues management.
9. Developing and reviewing of internal communication protocols, program communications and staff media protocols to ensure transparency and a strongly aligned institution.
10. Overseeing social media platforms and taking overall responsibility for content sharing.

Apprenticeship:
N/A
Required competences:

- A degree in Communications, Journalism, Arts, Social Sciences, agriculture, Development Studies, International Affairs or a related field.
- Creative, innovative and passionate about development and social justice.
- Excellent writing, editing and proofreading skills in development and humanitarian context.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills; ability to communicate effectively with donors, partners and community members and manage working relationships diplomatically.
- Expertise in managing information digitally with demonstrated fluency in social media strategy and content development.
- Strong experience in outreach and visibility efforts, particularly related to development and humanitarian context.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications are made directly within the sending organisation, please check out the how to apply section.

Eligibility and exception criteria:
The candidate for EU Aid Volunteers must be a citizen of the EU or a third country national who is a long-term resident in an EU Member State, and must have a minimum age of 18 years.

Availability on dates listed below.

Minimum Requirements:
ICCO Cooperation applies a policy of equal opportunities and accepts applications without distinction on the grounds of sex, race, color, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.

CONDITION OF SERVICE

Learning Opportunities:
- Opportunity to acquire experience of working at an international NGO in a developing country.
- Security /pre-deployment training of ICCO.
- Quarterly review and learning meetings for both the CEA and Shared Futures project.
- Participation in staff meetings and close cooperation with project staff will result in knowledge sharing and learning.
- Youth Media advocacy campaign capacity building trainings and mentorship.

Working and Living Conditions:
- The volunteer will be based in the ICCO Kenya offices in Nairobi with at least monthly visits and field work in the implementing areas of western Kenya and the coastal areas.
- Regular working hours shall not exceed 40 hours per week on average, calculated over a four-month period.
- The volunteer shall have access to a dedicated working space in accordance with their task assignment and with agreed-upon safe, secure and healthy working conditions.
- All costs will be covered for the volunteer during deployment, and this includes accommodation in-country for the entire period of deployment, travel, and monthly subsistence payments per month (515.95 Euros per month).

Travel:
- A roundtrip flight from/to the home country will be provided.
- The cost of pre-departure preparations, including medical checks, vaccinations, visas, etc., will be provided.
- The volunteer will be covered by a travel insurance plan provided by the sending organization.

Post-deployment:
- A resettlement package will be provided to the volunteer in which a standard of 100 Euros will be provided for every single month spent in-country upon return to Europe, as well as a group debriefing.

Living conditions
- Accommodation will be provided.
- The EU Volunteer shall have a clean lockable room with access to clean water and sanitation facilities. The room shall be located at a reasonable distance from the EU Aid Volunteers main working location.
- To the extent possible, the host organization shall facilitate integration of the EU Aid Volunteer into the community and it will enable the volunteer to interact with the expatriate community.
- The EU Aid Volunteers shall have access to means of communication enabling contact to the hosting and sending organisations as well as the volunteer’s relatives.
- When travelling in-country in other (rural) areas for work, accommodation in local hotels or guest house will be provided for.

SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisting and Interviews:
15/03/2020 - 20/03/2020

Interview Process:
The interviews will be held face-to-face or by an online interviewing process.

Expected date decision on outcome:
Date of training:  
April/May 2020

Apprenticeship Placement:  
N/A

Pre-deployment preparation and induction:  
25/05/2020 - 27/05/2020

Deployment:  
01/06/2020 - 31/05/2021

Post-deployment activities:  
Briefing and follow-up

Sectors:  
- Conflict  
- Disaster Risk Reduction  
- Food And Nutrition  
- Livelihoods  
- Resilience