Act2Aid, EU Aid Volunteers for East Africa

Senior EU Aid Volunteer - Rural Development (Private sector ecosystem) in Uganda

Senior
— 1 positions

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

Uganda

Lead organisation: ICCO

Closing date: 13/03/2020

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 Agribusiness and Private Sector Development Role is a one-year volunteer deployment by ICCO to the Regional Office of ICCO in Kampala, Uganda.

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 High Flyers programme of ICCO Cooperation is a three-year programme implemented in Nebbi district and Lango sub region of rural Northern Uganda. The project aims to support 1,000 young entrepreneurs in agribusiness to sustain and grow their business through different business development services (training, coaching, mentoring, market linkage and access to finance support).
The volunteer will among others support the High Flyers programme and will design modalities for embedding the target SMEs with the wider private sector ecosystem in Uganda and the East Africa region.

Operational details & security context:
Uganda has a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic population of 42.9 million people according to the 2017 census. With a population growth rate of 3.3%, Uganda has one of the highest fertility rates in the world. More than half this population is below 15 years. The rapid population growth puts a significant stress on access to basic services and natural resources in the near and further future. Various reports indicate persistent degradation of the country’s natural resources. This degradation impacts heavily on livelihoods of the poor by constraining their ability to increase incomes, and making them more vulnerable.

Across the country, natural disasters continued to pose serious threats to life and livelihood, tragically demonstrated by regular prolonged droughts, landslides and floods in different parts of the country.

By February 2019, Uganda hosted 801,555 refugees from South Sudan, in addition to some 420,000 refugees from DRC and Burundi, as well as Rwanda and Somalia. The majority of the South Sudanese refugees arrived after July 2016 and are hosted in a series of new settlements in North western Uganda.

Society and Culture:
Uganda is a conservative and deeply religious country. Although modern and progressive attitudes also prevail, respect must be shown for traditional values and morals. Beachwear should be confined to the beach, and wearing immodest clothing in public is likely to cause offence or attract unwanted attention. It is less common for women to wear trousers especially in rural areas, although this is more accepted from non-Ugandans.

Security Conditions:
Although Uganda is relatively safe, there are a number of general threats to travellers. It is important that visitors and staff do not become complacent to the security risks. Crime rates in Uganda are not high, but you should take sensible precautions particularly in Kampala. Risks include pick pocketing, and sometimes violent street crime. Visitors should avoid carrying valuables in public and restrict the amount of money that needs to be carried. Credit cards are increasingly accepted in shops and restaurants, limiting the amount of cash necessary. Avoid travelling/walking alone early in the morning and after dark. Visitors should be vigilant when withdrawing cash from ATMs. Due to high inflation and large scale unemployment many people are experiencing economic problems. There are indications that crime is on the rise.
TASKS

Design and provide agribusiness and agri-marketing training and coaching sessions to young entrepreneurs in agribusiness of the High Flyers programme.

- Support to development/adjustment of training and coaching materials for the High Flyers programme, and eventually other ICCO programmes. The volunteer is expected to provide input for the materials in the field of agribusiness development, value chain development and marketing.
- Provision of training (agribusiness development training, agri-marketing training) to young agripreneurs of the High Flyers programme.
- Provision of coaching & business advisory sessions to young entrepreneurs of the programme, in most cases conducted from the garden of one of the entrepreneurs.

Contribute to programme and proposal development

- Support to programme & proposal development by provision of input in the field of agriculture, agri-business, marketing and value chain development.

Apprenticeship:
An apprenticeship is not part of this deployment.

Required competences:
- A degree in a relevant subject matter with an orientation towards agricultural (private sector) development (e.g. agribusiness, rural development);
- Entrepreneurial abilities; experience in agri-enterprise development and / or running an agribusiness enterprise is a plus;
- Experience in working with rural communities and/or youth, or motivated to do this;
- Excellent planning, organizational, interpersonal and communication skills; experience as a trainer or coach is a plus;
- Experience in programme development and proposal writing;
- Excellent English speaking and writing skills;
- Self-motivated, pro-active and result driven;
- Being an open and reliable person with high integrity;
- Ability to work independently but at the same time being a team player;
- Ability to connect with people of different backgrounds;
-Ability to transfer skills and advise in an appropriate manner;

-Flexibility; Ability and willingness to travel regularly to rural settings;

-Good communication and reporting skills;

-Affinity with the protestant character of ICCO and ICCO’s values and operating principles.

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.

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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.

Availability on the deployment dates set below is required.

CONDITION OF SERVICE

Learning Opportunities:
- Central Training of ECHO
- Security training/ pre-deployment training of ICCO at the Global Office in Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Participation in staff meetings and close cooperation with project staff will result in knowledge sharing and learning
- Opportunity to acquire experience of working at an international NGO in a developing country.
- Access to different e-learning modules

Working and Living Conditions:
All costs associated with the deployment are fully covered providing a subsistence allowance, medical, travel and accommodation as well as insurance
coverage. The volunteer will be based at ICCO office in Uganda, in a safe area in Kampala. The volunteer will work from there, and travel approx. 1-2 times per month to the project area. In the project area (Nebbi district and Lango sub region) the volunteer will use a safe designated hotel for accommodation.

-Accommodation in the cities where deployed 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 communication 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.

Working conditions:

-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 (317,93 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.

Post-deployment:
-A resettlement package will be provided to the volunteer, as well as a (group) debriefing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisting and Interviews:
13/03/2020 - 20/03/2020

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

Expected date decision on outcome:
23/03/2020

TIMETABLE

Date of training:
May/April 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:
Debriefing and follow-up at ICCO´s Global Office NL

Sectors:
- Food And Nutrition
- Gender
- Livelihoods
- Resilience

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