



VACANCY FOR VOLUNTEERS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Title of the volunteers:

Architect or Civil Engineer, Sierra Leone.

Region:

District of Koinadugu, Sierra Leone.

Volunteer Profile**Deployment dates (approximate):**

Mid-January 2021 – Mid-May 2021 (4 to 6 months)

Sectors:

Health and Sanitation

Sending Organisation:

Médicos del Mundo Spain

Hosting Organisation:

Médicos del Mundo Sierra Leone

DESCRIPTION

Project description:

MdM started working in Sierra Leone in 2003 (in Koinadugu District since 2006). Since then, more than 40 projects were developed with over 10-million-euro financial support from various donors. Our projects in Sierra Leone are designed to initiate a reduction in Sexual and Reproductive Health and gender equality related problems in the district of Koinadugu by:

- 1) Strengthening the public health system to improve healthcare quality and access relation to SRH, with a gender approach, and a better response to Gender based Violence.
- 2) Raising community awareness on sexual and reproductive rights and involvement in the promotion of healthy SRH habits and gender equality.
- 3) Advocating and improving governance for a positive impact on SRR and reduce the main problems identified: maternal mortality, under-five mortality, teenage pregnancy, STIs and GbV.

Our interventions aim to have an integral impact, reinforcing the capacity of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation through strengthening available health structures and training health personnel to better manage main problems of SRH and to respond to gender-based violence; at community level, raising awareness and mobilising around the right to health; but also, advocating, networking and mobilisation for the promotion of health, the improvement of the conditions that affect



women's health and well-being, and their inclusion in government agendas and local development plans.

Quality of health services available for the population in the intervention area, is a key factor. In consequence, various activities are included in our projects, to improve and rehabilitate health structures and WASH.

Operational and security context:

MdM avails of sufficient resources to work safely and effectively:

1. **Logistic resources:** An office and a guest house in Kabala, capital of the district of Koinadugu. These spaces are fully equipped, including water and electricity supply, and internet connection. There are also vehicles available for the mission.
2. **Human resources:** A permanent MdM team is based in Kabala with national and expat personnel (1 expatriate country coordinator and 12 national staff). The mission works closely with headquarters in Madrid.
3. **Local partners:** MdM partners with: the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS), the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MBSSE), the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Child Affairs (MSWGCA); and, with local networks and civil organizations.
4. **Security context:** Koinadugu is a relatively safe district, but not without risks.
 - a. **Citizen security and criminality:** It is recommended to maintain vigilance and prudence during any trips, to avoid carrying out large amounts of money, to carry out day trips, to avoid public gatherings and high concentrations of people (especially places of worship and sports events) or to stay alone at isolated areas. It is also necessary to be particularly alert to scams, under the pretext of making friends, selling items, or working as a guide. It is recommended not to wear expensive jewellery or clothes, and to look after your passport, identity documents, money, credit cards and airline tickets. In Freetown, it is advised to be cautious when it comes to walking in Lumley Beach area and never do it at night. Due to the poor condition of some roads and some means of transport, public or private, extra care must be taken when traveling. Road accidents are relatively frequent. In the mining areas, security measures must be stepped up, due to the frequent acts of banditry that affect gold or diamond traders. Although the level of risk is low, in response to the security threats that affect other countries in Africa, prudence and caution are recommended. Internal instability, a fragile economy and the increase purchase of sophisticated weapons can be factors that contribute to increase this level of risk.
 - b. **Health:** It's recommended to take proper measures to minimize the exposure to epidemic diseases in the area (malaria, lassa fever, ébola, polio...). There is only one hospital in Kabala, and not all the services are available, so a trip to Freetown will be necessary in case of emergency.

In relation to COVID19, several measures are put in place to limit the risks:



1. Protocols for coordination of entry into Sierra Leone from abroad and to travel between areas and conduct field visits are in place.
2. Health insurance covers COVID19 related costs.
3. Medical evacuation procedures have been updated.
4. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for offices, personnel and travels are in place to reduce risk of transmission, including the use of EPPs, daily temperature checks, social distance, hand washing, coughing etiquette, teleworking, and monitoring, reporting and surveillance mechanisms.

Health risks other than COVID19 are mitigated through risk awareness and prophylactic measures. Preparedness includes periodic review of healthcare services availability and insurance coverage. Confidential psychosocial support services are available, and schedule flexibility is offered to avoid burnout.

c. **Natural disasters:** No notable risks during dry seasons. Problems increase during rainy season (from June to November): Blockage of roads due to the rains, electrical discharges, landslides, and high winds occurs often.

TASKS AND COMPETENCES

Tasks:

The volunteer will respond to the Regional Coordinator in HQ and the MdM Country Coordinator in Sierra Leone.

S/he must obey by the rules and regulations established in the organization, with priority to the security rules.

The functions of the position aim at the correct implementation of the processes linked to the rehabilitation of health centres. Main tasks:

- To support with the design, drawings, contracts and administrative documents for the various rehabilitation works in health centres and posts.
- Participate in the supervise on-going services of rehabilitation and report-writing.
- Support to ensure compliance with construction standards and regulations, according to national guidelines.
- To support with the preparation of final reports related to the construction works for the donors, including Sources of Verification (photos, documents, certificates, reports, etc.).
- To help develop and strengthen skills within the MdM team and local partners.

Required competences:

- Degree and experience as an Architect or Civil Engineer.
- Knowledge and adoption of the human rights and gender equality approaches.
- Fluent in English.
- Ability to work independently.
- Flexibility, dynamism, proactivity and adaptation.
- Teamwork capacity.
- Experience in the international development sector.
- Identification with Medicos del Mundo's mission, values and lines of work.
- Knowledge of the context, Sierra Leone, will be highly valuable.



SELECTION CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS

Minimum requirements:

- Degree and experience as an Architect or Civil Engineer.
- Fluent in English and Spanish
- Autonomy, flexibility and adaptation.

Conditions of service:

Deployment dates (approximate):

January 2021 – May 2021 (4 to 6 months)

Working and living conditions:

Medicos del Mundo will take care of the expenses derived from volunteering (ticket, insurance, accommodation, allowances, etc.)