This assignment has been negotiated in good faith with the Partner Organisation, and the information contained was correct at the time of acceptance of the request.

However, while we take responsibility for matters under our direct control, all assignments and arrangements are subject to change. This assignment may be amended or withdrawn to reflect changes in circumstances.

**GENERAL DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Title</th>
<th>Communication and Advocacy Support Officer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Organisation</td>
<td>National Tuberculosis Program, Ministry of Health and Medical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website of Partner Organisation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of Assignment</td>
<td>12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposed Start Date</td>
<td>18 February 2020</td>
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</table>

This assignment forms part of the Australian Government’s Health Security Initiative for the Indo-Pacific region. The volunteer selected to undertake this assignment will support the Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security and join the Health Security Corps. This corps is made up of volunteers working across our region to address the spread of communicable diseases.

1. **PARTNER ORGANISATION OVERVIEW**

   The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) has a goal: “to improve population health and health equity through continuous improvement in quality and responsiveness of health services, and by making the most effective and efficient use of available resources”

   One of MHMS five objectives is to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and strengthen existing control programs that ensure that Kiribati is prepared for any future outbreaks.

   For Tuberculosis (TB) the strategic action of the Ministry is to strengthen the ongoing delivery and sustainability of the TB Control Program.

   Since 2003, Kiribati has reported the highest rate of TB in the Pacific and in 2005 the Government declared that TB had reached crisis point. In response the MHMS requested financial assistance from the Australian Government resulting in the first Australian-funded TB project (the National Tuberculosis Program – NTP) that assists in improving infrastructure, staff recruitment and training, transport, diagnostics and Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) supervision.
There was a subsequent decline in TB (with the peak seeming to have been in 2006) when the quality TB epidemic control towards the elimination of TB in Kiribati started. While the rate still remains high, it must be stressed that TB control is a long term process.

2. ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW

There is an immediate need to have a support volunteer to assist with their advocacy communication as a way to control the epidemic of Tuberculosis within the community and country.

It requires consistent application of public health interventions, one of which is in the area of Advocacy Communication and Social Mobilisation (ACSM). ACSM is two-way communication between the health care providers and people with TB, as well as communities to improve knowledge of TB control policies, programs and services.

This role is suitable for a volunteer who has worked in public health advocacy in communities.

3. ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES

- To assist with the improvement TB services and provision of the public health clinic staff and health centres.
- To strengthen the processes of early detections of TB and case referral through cross organisational collaboration.
- To ensure the inclusion of all people directly affected by the volunteer assignment in the course of your work with the partner organisation and host community, including implementing strategies that relate to:
  a. promoting gender equality and empowering women,
  b. disability inclusion, and
  c. child safeguarding.

4. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER

In consultation with their line manager and relevant stakeholders, Australian volunteers complete a work plan in the first three (3) months of their assignment. The duties below are an indication of the type of work that may be involved in meeting the Assignment Objectives:

- Provide training to Public Health Clinic volunteers on case detection and patient referral pathways
- Collaborate with KIT Nursing School on TB training for students and explore nurse rotation opportunities
- Provide ongoing training and mentoring to National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) staff, and establish a training course for MHMS staff in clinics and hospital on case detection, stigma and referral
• Collaborate with the Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) program, Public Health team and other health units to raise community awareness on risk factors of TB
• Assist staff to engage with other government agencies on environmental influencers compounding TB, and advocating for whole of government change
• Work with staff to develop a TB Partners Charter for employers to fight stigma and build referral mechanisms
• Working collaboratively with NGOs, church and community groups to promote early detection of cases
• Develop and/or maintain partnerships with local, regional and international organisations, local and national government, professional and peer networks.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications, Essential Skills & Experience

• Bachelor degree in Public Health, Communication, Health Sciences, Community Development.
• Two years’ work experience working on community based projects preferably in a public health capacity which includes working with patients and community advocacy groups.
• Experience working on communication projects within a health context
• Experience developing and conducting training for health staff.
• “this will require a Working with Children (WWCC), or equivalent, in addition to other criminal record background checks,

Desirable Skills & Experience

• A background in graphic design skills would be an asset for advocacy material development
• Experience establishing or working with patient or community advocacy groups
• Understanding of change management, particularly focusing on community behaviour change

6. ASSIGNMENT INFORMATION

Line Manager

Head of the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP)

Staff Supervision

N/A

Working Relationships

The volunteer will be working with nurses at the ward, clinic and Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) workers with the Community

Hours & Days at the Partner Organisation

From 8 am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

The expectation is that the volunteer will work the equivalent of a 5 day week to a maximum of 40 hours per week.
Leave Entitlements

All volunteers are entitled to 20 days leave per 12 months, unless otherwise advised.
Same conditions and terms as local colleagues apply, including national holidays.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

Professional indemnity insurance is required for all volunteers who are acting as a medical, allied health or legal professional whilst on assignment. On these assignments professional indemnity insurance must be provided by the partner organisation, Australian organisation (if applicable) or self-arranged by the volunteer as part of ongoing professional obligations.

For all other assignments, professional indemnity insurance is not automatically provided for Australian volunteers. You should consult your partner organisation about the need for professional indemnity insurance for your role prior to your departure. Where required and/or you consider it essential for you to hold this insurance, please discuss this with the Volunteer Services Manager in Melbourne prior to your departure.

This assignment is not deemed to require professional indemnity insurance.

Other Conditions

If required to work after hours, volunteer is entitled to time off in lieu because there is no overtime pay provisions.

Language Skills and Level Required

Ability to converse basically in local language and a willingness to learn the local language is important.

Language Support

Language support is provided during the in-country orientation period. Most often, additional resources for further development later in the assignment will be available if required.

7. LIVING AS A VOLUNTEER

The Republic of Kiribati (pronounced “kee-ree-bus”) became independent in 1979. It has the largest sea-to-land ratio in the world with only 810km², spread over a staggering 3.5-million km² of the Pacific. Hence, population density is extremely high, with 137 people per square kilometre compared to a worldwide average of around 45 people per square kilometre.

The AVP volunteer network on Tarawa is very strong, and as such any new volunteer will quickly be part of the local family of Australian volunteers and other expats. There are many opportunities to socialise with expats but it is also easy to become included in local I-Kiribati families and culture as well.

Bikenibeu is the second biggest town in urban South Tarawa (National Capital) with an estimated population of 5,000. Main government ministries located in this town include Ministry of Health and Medical Services; Education; and Environmental, Lands and Agricultural development. The
Central Referral Hospital is also in this area. Other national institutions include the Kiribati Teachers College, the Kiribati Nursing School and the Fisheries Training Centre.

There are many great opportunities for weekend excursions with friends and colleagues to outer islands, providing a chance to experience the real Pacific. There is great fishing all over the area, snorkelling and swimming, especially at a few points on Tarawa and the outer islands.

Shopping is limited to Tarawa, with quite a few local shops and a few grocery stores. Fresh fruit, vegetables and fish can be bought from roadside vendors, some coming from the outer islands or North Tarawa. The supply ship comes in every month with new items and every month is a “new’ discovery as the cargo is different every time. It’s part of the local folklore!

Security issues are minimal in Kiribati; however Kiribati is plagued by ongoing environmental issues. As it is situated in an area of the Pacific where tsunamis and other major storm surges do not hit, it is relatively safe from these natural disasters. However, given the effects of global warming, many of Kiribati’s low-lying islands face an uncertain future. The rise in sea level eats away at fragile ecosystems on land and the increased salination of the fresh water table is a growing concern.

While life on Tarawa is relatively safe, like all places with dense population, there can be break-ins, although they are rare. Medical care is basic and thus self-care health management is necessary. For any major intervention, volunteers will be medi-vaced under AVI’s insurance policy.

8. ALLOWANCES & SUPPORT

These allowance levels are based on the Cost of Living in the host country location. Allowances will be reviewed periodically and may increase or decrease. Volunteers will be given notice of any change to the allowance level.

Living Allowance

$1200 AUD

Accommodation Allowance

$1000 AUD

Housing

Assistance with the identification of suitable, secure and affordable accommodation will be provided by the In-Country Management Team.

Other Allowances & Support

All Australian Volunteers program volunteers receive the following:

- Pre-departure Briefing in Melbourne
- In-country Orientation on arrival
- Pre-departure vaccination expenses
• Visa expenses
• Pastoral care, assignment monitoring and security guidance
• Return airfare to country of assignment
• Psychological and medical advice and support services
• Re-entry support services
• Settling in allowance (assignments longer than 6 months)
• Re-settlement allowance (assignments longer than 6 months)

9. PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

As a part of your online application you will be required to answer the following questions through a video recording (if you are unable to submit through the online video due to accessibility please contact the Recruitment Coordinator).

Response to Selection Criteria

a) Why do I feel that volunteering internationally is the right thing for me to be doing at this time in my life?

b) What are the biggest personal adjustments I’m likely to have to make to be accepted as a useful colleague and engaged community member in this assignment?

c) The Australian Volunteers Program is committed to ensuring the inclusion of all people directly affected by the volunteer assignment, such as the partner organisation and host community. What is your personal experience and/or understanding of social inclusion.

d) How do I match the Qualifications, Essential Skills & Experience? Include your most relevant experiences, results and achievements responding to each of the selection criteria in Section 5.

Personal Circumstances Constraints

The Australian Volunteers Program recognises and values the enhanced skills and expertise of returned volunteers as a result of their volunteering experience. The program is also designed to maximise international volunteering opportunities for all Australians. With this in mind, if a returned volunteer and a candidate who has not volunteered previously apply for the same role, preference will be given to the latter, providing they meet the personal and professional selection criteria for the role.

We are NOT able to accept applications from people with the following personal circumstances due to security, cultural, legal or visa restrictions in this location:

• Applicants with accompanying children

• Same sex partners who wish to accompany applicants as part of the program may face issues in applying for and being issued with a visa

• Applicants with partners to whom they are not legally married and who wish to accompany applicants as part of the program may face issues in applying for and being issued with a visa

www.australianvolunteers.com
The Australian Volunteers Program is an Australian Government initiative.
• Applicants with a criminal record where a criminal conviction may be relevant to the inherent requirements of the assignment.

10. HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be submitted online through the Australian Volunteers Program website. If you haven’t already done so, you will need to register on our website prior to applying.

The Australian Volunteers Program is committed to increasing Indigenous participation, and we actively encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. If you would like more information or support with your application, you can contact our Indigenous Programs Coordinator on indigenous.programs@australianvolunteers.com.