



DIERENARTSEN | VETERINAIRES
ZONDER GRENZEN | SANS FRONTIERES

BELGIUM

VACANCY

Director of Operations (M/F)

Contract: Full time - Long-term contract
Based in: Brussels
Start date: April 2020

ORGANISATION

In Africa, millions of people survive by their livestock. Yet veterinary care is often insufficiently available. When farmers lose their herds to disease, drought or conflict, they lose everything: their pride, their culture, their savings and their livelihood. By helping to care for livestock and improve animal production techniques, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium (VSF-B) supports local populations in their struggle against hunger and poverty. In times of crisis nature born or man-made disaster, VSF-B goes even one step further and makes sure immediate humanitarian assistance is provided to livestock holding families.

VSF-B is a Belgian NGO, with headquarters in Brussels and regional offices in West Africa and the region of the Eastern African Great Lakes.

Our mission is to empower disadvantaged livestock dependent communities in the South to improve their well-being. We have development programs in 8 African countries: Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania. In Europe, our activities focus on sensitization and lobbying of consumers, livestock professionals and related decision makers.

CONTEXT & CHALLENGES

Internally VSF-B is in a process of change, where we are aiming to reach a certain operational volume and as well as a status where the organization is regarded as indispensable in its' specific niche as an international NGO in the domain of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance. Over the last years, a lot has been achieved, but VSF-B remains at present in a state of permanent, controlled transformation.

The organization is currently undergoing a growth spurt. This is linked to the wish we have to meet the pre-conditions that will enable us to cover what we think should be our operational scope.

For VSF-B, the position of **Director of Operations** is completely new. The DO will be the first staff member in this particular position: challenges are therefore exciting and will demand all the attention **and** creativity of the DO.

ROLE

- ✦ As the Director of Operations, you will manage the entirety of the programs carried out in the South.
- ✦ Under your responsibility, the VSF-B Operations Strategy will be thought out, formulated, maintained and timely adapted whenever circumstances so demand
- ✦ You will be accountable to the Direction Committee headed by General Director

RESPONSIBILITIES

As Director of Operations, you will be expected to :

- ✦ Develop, regularly revise and implement a Multi-annual Strategic Operational Plan as well as Tactical Annual Actions Plans (make sure that the objectives of both the Development and Humanitarian activities are well defined and broken down into the relevant activities and projects) ;
- ✦ Ensure correct spending of the Operations annual budget is guaranteed, the accompanying activities regularly monitored and where needed adapted ;
- ✦ Set out objectives and job descriptions for a multidisciplinary team of both Operational and Technical Managers and/of experts ;
- ✦ Encourage the permanent spirit to renew ourselves in innovating our approach with state-of-the art activities to serve our target public (livestock holders, their communities, vets, “relevant” local, regional and national administration role ;
- ✦ Guarantee the optimal cooperation and collaboration between all sections of the Operations Department.

PROFILE

Education

- ✦ Relevant experience will play a major role in the selection.
- ✦ However, graduate education in either Veterinary Sciences, Tropical Agriculture, preferably Animal Production, and/or International Cooperation/Community Development will certainly be considered as a significant asset.

Knowledge and experience

- ✦ At least some experience in a comparable position is required.
- ✦ Thorough knowledge of Operational Security Management.
- ✦ More than 7 years’ experience in managing development and humanitarian programs, preferably relating to livestock and in Africa

Skills

- ✦ Proven capacity to develop a VSF-B Operational Vision and consequent Operational Strategy
- ✦ Proven leadership qualities
- ✦ Excellent management skills
- ✦ Experience in budget management at department level
- ✦ Excellent relational & networking skills
- ✦ Good reporting skills (main operations' languages: English and French, 50%-50%)
- ✦ Languages : knowledge of French, English and Dutch is an asset
- ✦ Knowledge of Windows Office programmes

Attitudes

- ✦ Results-oriented
- ✦ Open-minded
- ✦ Team builder
- ✦ Creates an encouraging environment
- ✦ Responds to objectives and deadlines

WHAT WE OFFER

- ✦ Full-time, long-term contract in an internationally and highly-recognised NGO in its field of expertise. Starting date as of April 2020
- ✦ Salary package based on your experience and educational background
- ✦ A dynamic team, dedicated to ensure the best living conditions to the target communities and their livestock.

HOW TO APPLY?

Please send your motivation letter, curriculum vitae and the contact details of three reference persons by e-mail to hr@vsf-belgium.org with the ref. **Direct.Oper.HQ before 12/02/2020**.

Candidates should be eligible to work within the European Union. Candidates need to have, at the time of application, the legal right to work in Belgium. We regret that we are not able to apply for work-permits on their behalf.

More information: www.veterinaressansfrontieres.be - www.dierenartsenzondergrenzen.be – www.vsf-belgium.org