

Apply today and you could be... A Nursing Adviser at Kratie Provincial Health Department in Cambodia

What's the context and purpose of the role?

Although Cambodia today is enjoying peace and stability, the country is still recovering from war, displacement and the massive depletion of its human resource base during the Khmer Rouge period. Of the 1000 doctors trained prior to 1975, less than 50 survived the regime. Health indicators in Cambodia are poor compared to the rest of Southeast Asia. Often, illness and death occur from conditions that are preventable or treatable. The government lacks the professional skills needed to develop public health services and staff are poorly trained. As a volunteer at Kratie Provincial Health Department you'll strengthen the knowledge and skills of nursing staff in hospitals and community health centres and make a direct contribution to strengthening public health services in the province.

What does the role involve?

- Coaching and training nurses in the implementation of effective nursing processes
- Training health care staff in the delivery of health education messages and nutrition education
- Supporting quality improvement projects for improved hygiene and infection control procedures
- Assessing training needs of nurses and health centre staff and delivering training sessions and workshops

What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll need to be a registered nurse with at least 3 years' post-qualification experience, ideally in a hospital setting. You'll have excellent communication and interpersonal skills with experience in training and teaching others and basic knowledge of nutrition would be an asset. You should also have good organisational skills and the ability to work on your own initiative. Patience, flexibility and a good sense of humour are important traits in all VSO volunteers as is a sense of adventure, as you'll travel between health centres by motorbike! (VSO will provide training)



And the rest...

Cambodia is a small country in Southeast Asia, bordered in the west by Thailand, in the east by Vietnam and in the north by Laos. Most of the country's area is flat and only 10-30 meters above sea level. The climate is tropical monsoon with 2 distinct seasons, the rainy season from June to October and the dry season from November to May. You'll be based in the small and idyllic town of Kratie on the Mekong, one of the world's major rivers, running from Tibet through China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Cambodia. The friendly town is dominated by a busy market place surrounded by charming French colonial houses. Kratie is also home to the rare Irrawaddy river dolphins that can be spotted early mornings or late afternoons from a viewing platform nearby. The local market offers an extensive variety of fresh fruit, vegetables and fish and Cambodia produces some excellent coffee! Cambodian cuisine is quite similar to that of Thailand with lots of curries and coconut milk, but not as spicy...