



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Mercy Corps is a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible. In disaster, in hardship, in more than 40 countries around the world, we partner to put bold solutions into action—helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within. Now, and for the future.

We are seeking an experienced **Animal Health and Husbandry Specialist - Resilient Communities Program** to work in UB office.

PROGRAM/ DEPARTMENT SUMMARY:

In Mongolia, a country where livestock outnumber people by a factor of 18:1, the livestock sector should be a significant driver of economic development. However, current economic indicators suggest that the sector is far from reaching its growth potential. Livestock productivity is in decline and livestock exports have followed suit—even though global demand for organic meat products is on the rise.

In 2017, MCM launched the Resilient Communities Program (RCP), a rural economic development / livestock value chain program that utilizes a market systems development (MSD) approach to support resilience by creating market incentives to improve system performance, productivity, and economic returns for herders, while considering the currently overgrazed pastureland. The RCP implements activities in six areas of intervention within the livestock value chain - feed and forage production, animal breeding/ husbandry, veterinary services, financial inclusion, youth employment, and meat markets - in pursuit of inclusive economic growth within the livestock sector.

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY:

Working primarily in the Ulaanbaatar office under the direction of Director of Programs, the Animal Health and Husbandry Specialist plays a critical technical role within the Resilient Communities Program. S/he will take the lead in the planning and implementation of RCP's projects in the technical intervention areas of breeding, animal husbandry and animal health with a primary focus on beef cattle in Khentii, Selenge, and Bulgan provinces.

Employing a hybrid of direct delivery and partnership/ contracting models, activities in these intervention areas focus on improving the quality and effectiveness of veterinary services, increasing the quality of specialized breeding services, and supporting herders to adopt improved animal husbandry practices within the livestock value chain. In close collaboration with the Senior RCP Officer and other team members, the Animal Health and Husbandry Specialist is responsible for ensuring that relevant project activities are delivered on time, on scope, and on budget.

The Animal Health and Husbandry Specialist will frequently be expected to represent Mercy Corps Mongolia in relevant coordination fora, participate in key animal-health oriented events, and help identify potential opportunities for collaboration and coordination with other actors committed to improved animal health in Mongolia. The Animal Health and Husbandry Specialist will also spend a large amount of time visiting relevant project sites (such as cooperatives, breeding units, PVUs, etc.) to monitor and ensure quality program delivery. It is expected that s/he will spend an estimated 30-50% of their time in the field.

Note: *This is neither a research nor a practicing veterinary position; instead, it focuses on technical assistance to partners and technical oversight of the animal health, husbandry, and breeding elements of the RCP.*

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

Program Strategy and Implementation

- Provide strategic and technical leadership on and oversight of animal health, animal husbandry, and breeding activities
- In collaboration with the Senior RCP Officer, lead the planning, implementation and management of animal health, animal husbandry, and breeding activities
- Ensure that all animal health activities are in line with RCP strategy and that they align with and complement policy and development strategy of Government of Mongolia and relevant law and regulations
- Build and nurture strategic partnerships with key government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector companies and market chain actors in livestock sector
- Apply Market Systems Development approach in the all component activities
- Help 'project manage' relevant animal health partners to ensure that contracts or sub-grants are delivered on time, on scope, and on budget
- Help ensure that work across the different areas of interventions are aligned and that effective workflows and coordination are established and utilized
- Contribute to monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) efforts for the animal health and animal husbandry/ breeding intervention areas; work closely with the MEL team to contribute to a culture of data-driven programming and adaptive management
- Contribute to the accuracy and timeliness of finance and contractual documentation (Memos, Activity Checklists, Purchase Requests and payment requests) related to animal health, breeding and animal husbandry activities
- Contribute to quality and technical excellence in the design and delivery of activities in other intervention areas through the lens of animal health and livestock management
- Adhere to key Mercy Corps rules and regulations related to program management, procurement, sub-granting and contracting for all activities in the relevant intervention areas
- Any other task as advised by Mercy Corps Mongolia's Director of Programs

Program Support and Coordination

- Contribute to high quality program reports demonstrating programmatic impact
- Lead or participate in a variety of external forums/workshops/conference/sector coordination meetings to share best practices and findings of the project with the government and development community
- Work closely with the Program Coordination and Communication Unit to ensure MCM's communication products capture programmatic success and impacts
- Communicate clearly and proactively with Aimag Facilitators and other staff to ensure effective work planning and smooth project delivery
- Actively participate in and proactively contribute to RCP Coordination meetings, MCM Program Team meetings, etc.
- Help develop program reports, one-pagers and other materials for relevant intervention areas

Strategy and Vision

- Provide leadership within the overall RCP program, working with key team members to ensure integration and synergy of RCP activities
- Proactively enhance the quality of Mercy Corps Mongolia programs, outputs, workplace environment and relationships with special attention paid to gender
- Contribute to Mercy Corps Mongolia's overall strategic planning, fundraising, or communications efforts

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- BA/BS or equivalent in animal science, agricultural economics, veterinary medicine, or other relevant field; Master's Degree preferred
- At least four years of experience in livestock development- including animal health, husbandry, and/ or breeding

- Excellent understanding of current challenges and opportunities in the livestock sector in Mongolia
- Experience with the design and delivery of animal health related projects
- Experience working with local governments, national and/ or international NGOs on animal health projects
- Ability to travel and work effectively with herders and vets in the field
- Excellent oral and written English and Mongolian language skills
- Demonstrated flexibility and creativity in planning and problem solving
- Proven ability to learn quickly, reflect, and adapt

Applications for the above position must be done as follows:

A curriculum vitae and a cover letter in English, explaining specifically why you are interested in the position and how you meet the necessary qualifications to be sent to

mn-jobs@mercycorps.org

The deadline of applications is **5:00 pm 22th April 2019**

More information about Mercy Corps Mongolia can be obtained from:

<https://www.mercycorps.org.mn>

<https://www.facebook.com/MercyCorpsMongolia/>