



Sharing skills • Changing lives

“Volunteering opportunities for the Rwandan Diaspora”





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Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Rwanda

National Volunteering Programme

Diaspora Volunteering Initiative

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VSO BACKGROUND

Globally:

- **International development organisation working through volunteers → 50 years of experience**
- **Working in 44 countries, partnering with local organisations and governments**
- **Aim: Sustainable development by fighting poverty and disadvantage**
- **Approach: Sharing skills through volunteers with partner organisations and government agencies**



VSO BACKGROUND

In Rwanda:

- **Since 1999: Education, Disability, Secure livelihoods and National Volunteering**
- **Now: Over 50 experts volunteering from UK, Canada, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain, Uganda, Germany, US, Australia and the Philippines**



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VSO BACKGROUND

Education Programme

- Working with 17 District education offices, 2 colleges of education, 5 dioceses and MINEDUC
- Our support:
 - Education management,
 - Development of child-friendly methodology at primary and secondary school levels,
 - Teacher education,
 - Supporting the development of low-cost, locally available teaching resources.



VSO BACKGROUND

Disability Programme:

- Working with all national Disabled Peoples' Organisations in Rwanda
- Our support:
 - Raise awareness of the rights and abilities of people with disability
 - Provision of quality professional services and care within centres for people with disability
 - Ensure people with disabilities are included in Rwanda's mainstream development processes



VSO BACKGROUND

Livelihoods Programme:

- Currently exploring new partnerships with organisations working on secure livelihoods / income generation for rural poor
- Programme likely to expand in 2010/11



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VSO BACKGROUND

National Volunteering programme:

- Supports local volunteering organisations in institutional development and nurtures their volunteering programmes
- Works with the government and other stakeholders to promote and foster the volunteerism value among Rwandans
- Exploring potential of Diaspora to contribute to the development of the country



DIASPORA VOLUNTEERING

Why do we want to work with Diaspora?

- **Many skilled people overseas who want to contribute to the development of their homeland**
- **Helps to promote and foster volunteerism within Rwandan society**
- **Diaspora volunteers know the language, the culture, and the people**

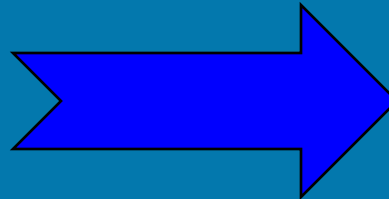


Potential work with Rwandan Diaspora

OPPORTUNITY 1:

Apply to volunteer through VSO to work on current VSO Rwanda programmes

(Education, Disability, Livelihoods, National Volunteering)



8 Recruitment bases:

1. VSO UK
2. VSO Ireland
3. VSO India
4. VSO Netherlands
5. VSO Bahaginan (Philippines)
6. VSO Jitolee (Kenya)
7. CUSO–VSO (Canada)
8. AVI–VSO (Australia)



Potential work with Rwandan Diaspora

Skills needed in VSO programmes:

- School management
- Primary or secondary teaching methodology
- Teacher training
- Project management
- Organizational development
- Management and Administration (Planning, Fundraising, financial management, publicity, communications etc.)
- Business, entrepreneurship, marketing, production, processing
- Volunteering programme development
- Special needs, e.g.:
 - - Teachers and teacher trainers for the blind
 - - Sign language specialists
 - - Audiology trainers
 - - Special Education specialists



Potential work with Rwandan Diaspora

Facilities for VSO international volunteers:

- **Pre-departure training,**
- **Return flight tickets to Rwanda,**
- **Basic accommodation,**
- **Health insurance**
- **Basic living allowance of approximately \$300 per month**



Potential work with Rwandan Diaspora

OPPORTUNITY 2:



Volunteering through new Diaspora Volunteering Initiative being developed by VSO with the Diaspora Directorate, the Rwandan Diaspora Global Network and the WDA.

This initiative will focus on work outside of VSO Rwanda's current focal areas but in line with the government priorities

Diaspora Volunteering Initiative

AIM

1. To support & promote the mobilization of Diaspora communities to actively contribute, through volunteering, to fighting poverty and disadvantage in Rwanda



Diaspora Volunteering Initiative

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Work with the government of Rwanda to facilitate the engagement of Diaspora organisations and individuals to contribute to their country development through volunteering programmes**
- 2. Promote and build understanding & awareness about volunteering opportunities within Diaspora community**
- 3. Provide opportunities for learning, networking and sharing of resources related to this initiative among main stakeholders in particular and the Diaspora community in general.**



Diaspora Volunteering Initiative

Progress up to date:

- Meetings between main stakeholders
- Identification of Canada recruitment base as pilot
- Discussion between CUSO-VSO and Rwandan Embassy in Canada
- Development of a placement outline for a Diaspora volunteer who would design a clear proposal and project plan for the joint Diaspora Volunteering initiative.



Diaspora Volunteering Initiative

OPPORTUNITY 1:

Diaspora members interested should start applying now to their nearest recruitment base

OPPORTUNITY 2:

- Diaspora short-term volunteer (April - July)
- Implementation process from August 2010
- If any Diaspora Group is interested in contributing to the project design, please contact VSO Rwanda



As a country in hurry,
Rwanda needs its
Diaspora volunteers.

THANK YOU SO
MUCH!!



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