

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Veterinarian BRUCE- TL, Local Position, Dili, Timor-Leste		
Division/Unit:	Global and Tropical Health Division		
Report to (Role):	<i>Animal Health Epidemiology Officer</i>		
Classification Level:	Negotiable		
Status (FTE):	1.0FTE	Location:	Dili, Timor-Leste
Number of positions supervised:	Directly: 0		
	Indirectly: 0		
Special Provisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to obtain a clear Police Check Willing to comply with Menzies Vaccination policy 		

ABOUT MENZIES:

As one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses, Menzies School of Health Research continues to translate its research into effective partnerships and programs in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

The BRUCE-TL (Brucellosis Reduction Using Co-Design Elements in Timor-Leste) project aims to provide evidence and recommendations for improving brucellosis control and One Health collaboration in Timor-Leste. This is achieved through a village-level implementation science project which identifies practices that place individuals and cattle at greater risk of brucellosis transmission, followed by implementation of trial brucellosis control measures. There will be four research activities:

- Activity 1: Cross sectional survey to identify seroprevalence and risk factors for brucellosis.
- Activity 2: Interviews, focus groups and meetings to identify brucellosis control strategies.
- Activity 3: Implementation of trial brucellosis control measures together with communities, with regular monitoring and review visits to support iterative change.
- Activity 4: Case study approach to explore barriers and enablers for One Health collaboration.

BRUCE-TL also aims to strengthen serology capacity in laboratories, improve stakeholder knowledge on brucellosis control, and improve partnership between government and community for disease control. The BRUCE-TL project is part of a larger group of capacity-building and research projects implemented by Menzies in Timor-Leste.

The Veterinarian will be responsible for collecting venous blood samples from cattle in Timor-Leste and interviewing cattle farmers. The Veterinarian will also be involved in the design of the study, field centrifugation of collected blood samples, and management of collected data. The Veterinarian will be responsible for building and strengthening relationships with the local veterinary services and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to ensure a collaborative partnership in implementing control measures for brucellosis. The Veterinarian will also be involved in facilitating meetings, workshops and focus group discussions on reducing zoonotic transmission of brucellosis and be exposed to qualitative research methodologies. The Veterinarian is expected to travel to project implementation sites outside of Dili regularly for up to 5 days at a time.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Work with the project leads and other team members on study design and preparation of equipment/consumables for field work.
2. Engage with local leaders and local veterinary/livestock services at village, suco, administrative post and municipal levels before and during field activities.
3. To conduct all aspects of the study in line with approved study protocols.
4. Provide study information to potential participants and obtain informed consent.
5. Perform blood collection from cattle, accurately label blood samples with required details, perform field centrifugation and transport of samples to the laboratory team.
6. Perform interviews and facilitate meetings, workshops or focus group discussion at selected project sites with other project team members.
7. Enter and manage collected data into an electronic database and keep accurate and complete records of other required documentation.
8. Ensure the highest standards of participant confidentiality and privacy are maintained throughout the project.
9. Assist in creating One Health linkages between human and animal health fields and provide human health perspective to dialogue around potential impacts of brucellosis infection.
10. Assist in facilitation of stakeholder meetings as previous.
11. Assist in the development and use of protocols, data collection instruments and guidelines.
12. Contribute to the delivery of training and capacity building activities.
13. Attend and participate in regular project meetings as required.
14. Maintain regular contact with project leads, members and Project Coordinator to provide feedback on any issues or challenges encountered.
15. Assist with other project activities as required and in consultation with supervisor.
16. Any other tasks as required by the supervisor, country manager or project leads.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Essential:

1. A tertiary qualification relevant to primary responsibilities.
2. Proficient in performing jugular venepuncture in cattle, including skills and experience in restraining cattle and engaging with cattle farmers.
3. Strong verbal and written communication skills.
4. High level of competence with use of computers.
5. Attention to detail, initiative, good judgement, and strong problem-solving skills.
6. Flexibility and ability to work well in a team and motivate other team members.
7. Good time management skills, with ability to work efficiently while maintaining accuracy and quality.
8. An understanding and awareness of relevant Workplace Health and Safety as well as Equal Opportunity principles and legislation along with a commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe workplace for all Menzies staff, students, volunteers, and visitors.

Desirable:

1. Previous research experience.
2. Good conversational English.
3. Experience in the use of electronic data collection systems such as REDcap.

COVID-19 Safety Requirements:

1. Menzies encourages all staff to be fully vaccinated in accordance with the latest guidance and recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination as issued by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).
2. Menzies requires all staff to implement, as directed, risk control strategies that provide them with protection from COVID-19 in the workplace such as good hygiene practices, mask wearing, physical distancing and any other reasonable direction.

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Approved by:	Country Manager
Reviewed and approved by:	Menzies Human Resources
Date Approved:	06/03/2023