

Medical student to malaria project in Vanuatu, SW Pacific

The World Health Organization together with the National Malaria Control Programme of the Ministry of Health in Vanuatu is providing an opportunity for 1 or 2 medical students to come and work with the programme for a 6-9 months period from January 2011.

Your task will primarily be to assist the programme in conducting a clinical assessment of the efficacy of the national 1st-line treatment for malaria, using WHO standard protocols. The project is part of an intensive malaria control & elimination project implemented by the Ministry of Health with technical assistance from WHO and other partners, funded by The Global Fund and the Australian government.

You will be working closely with a small team of local health workers and programme staff at a health centre on Epi Island in Vanuatu, South-West Pacific. While taking part in the daily antimalarial study activities you will also be exposed to other prevalent health problems, including communicable diseases (e.g. yaws), non-communicable diseases (e.g. diabetes) as well as health systems issues (e.g. weak health information and drug supply systems). Depending on your personal interests, the posting thus offers several opportunities to undertake additional student projects, suitable for e.g. OSVAL 2 requirements, to be supervised jointly with the International Health Unit, University of Copenhagen.

Epi Island has only 3-4 flight connections per week, and your living conditions will be basic, e.g. without permanent electricity (nor internet access). The posting therefore requires a highly flexible, independent but collaborative personality. Only students in their final years of medical school will be considered. Some previous project and/or research

experience will be an advantage, preferably from another developing country.

The project offers financial support to cover domestic flights and basic accommodation in Vanuatu, while international travel will have to be covered from other sources, e.g. FFU travel grants under ENRECA Health. In return, the project offers a unique experience in an interesting part of the world, relevant to a career in international health.

Interested applicants should email their CV and a brief letter of motivation to the Project Coordinator named below, no later than **20 September 2010**. Two students may apply together.

For further details, please contact:

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