

PIMS CODE: 10530821

## Water/Sanitation Engineer

Saida, Lebanon

*The information contained within this Assignment Description was correct at the time of submission. However, AVI reserves the right to amend it as necessary to reflect changes in our own or our partner employers circumstances.*

### PARTNER EMPLOYER DETAILS

ORGANISATION:	Popular Aid for Relief and Development (PARD)
WEB ADDRESS:	www.pard-lb.org

### ORGANISATION PURPOSE, HISTORY AND ACTIVITIES

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT:	<p>The Popular Aid for Relief and Development is a grassroots, non-profit, non governmental organization that seeks to improve the health and environmental conditions of marginalized and vulnerable groups especially in the Palestinian camps and gatherings through water and sanitation programs, mother and child care services and by raising awareness and empowering the local communities.</p> <p>PARD envisages environmentally clean and healthy Palestinian communities whose members are actively participating in the development of their own communities. All Palestinians enjoy all rights and have the opportunity of a good life wherever they choose to be. PARD's programs are participatory, need-responsive and sustainable.</p>
HISTORY:	<p>PARD was established in 1985 in response to a crisis created by the "war of camps" 1985-1987 whereby all Palestinian refugee camps and gatherings were besieged and heavily bombarded by a local Lebanese militia resulting in the internal displacement of thousands of refugee civilians into temporary shelters.</p> <p>At that time, a group of volunteers with different expertise joined hands and launched a relief program aiming at bettering the situation of those Palestinian refugees with focus on mother and child health in addition to the environment of the temporary shelters. Most shelters were in very bad conditions, life security being the first priority at that time. The group of volunteers, later becoming PARD, opened clinics, distributed relief materials and applied preventive measures on the environment of shelters.</p>
MAIN ACTIVITIES:	<p>Public Health of the Palestinian refugee population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental health program</li> <li>• Health education program</li> <li>• Maternal &amp; child health care program</li> </ul> <p>Community empowerment</p>

AusAID, the Australian Government's overseas aid program, is proud to provide significant support for Australian volunteers who work in a development capacity overseas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• empowerment of women &amp; youth</li> <li>• volunteers</li> </ul> <p>Organizational Development</p>
NUMBER OF STAFF:	68 (full timers, part timers & contractors)

## ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

CONTEXT AND PURPOSE OF ROLE:	<p><b>CONTEXT:</b></p> <p>Before 2002, Palestinian gatherings in the South of Lebanon were deprived of water and sewage networks. After 2002, within support from ECHO (European Community Humanitarian Office), PARD introduced the first water and sewage networks in the gatherings. After that several European NGOs were involved WATSAN projects in the targeted gatherings without proper coordination or monitoring. Some works did not fit original specifications; others remain unfinished &amp; so on. Consequently, most water tests in the gatherings show that the water is contaminated. PARD tried to apply many remedial actions to solve the problem. Yet, lack of specialized expertise and poor funds have not solved the problem radically. Local hydraulic (water) engineers are either emigrants in other countries, or if available working with UN agencies or government agencies. Since the Palestinian gatherings are not recognized neither by the Lebanese government nor the UNRWA (The UN agency created to service &amp; employ Palestinian refugees), so getting help in WATSAN is impossible, that is why we are applying to AVI.</p> <p>What is the background to this role? What is our history with the organisation? Have we had volunteers there before? What types of resources and networks does the organisation access?</p> <p><b>ALIGNMENT WITH COUNTRY STRATEGY:</b></p> <p>How does this role align with the country strategy?</p>
ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVE/S:	To improve population access to uncontaminated water in 10 Palestinian gatherings within eighteen months.
START DATE:	April 2010
DURATION:	18 months

**WORKING RELATIONSHIPS**

LINE MANAGER:	The person who the volunteer will directly report to the Director of PARD.
STAFF SUPERVISION:	The volunteer will be required to supervise the Health Inspector at PARD – South region.
OTHER STAFF:	Coordination with program coordinator, community health works, local popular committees in the gatherings.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER**

1) Assessment of the water and sanitation current situation in the 10 gatherings in the South
2) Preparation of study on remedial works needs
3) Assist in drafting one or more proposals to cover the costs of the remedial actions proposed
4) Supervision of current and proposed remedial actions
5) Local training of staff and volunteers working in WATSAN project in the targeted gatherings
6) Report writing or monthly progress

**WORKPLACE DETAILS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATION:	Saida, Lebanon. Volunteer will be based at the field office in Saida, and, preferably, will live there.
NEAREST MAJOR CITY:	Saida is a reasonably large town, and is approximately 30-45 minutes from Beirut.
LOCAL CONTEXT:	Local Palestinian communities are socially very friendly towards foreigners especially when they work with trusted NGOs such as PARD. Cultural differences can be overcome through mutual respect.
MAIN LANGUAGES:	<p><b>USED IN THE WORKPLACE:</b> English and Arabic</p> <p>LEVEL OF COMPETENCY REQUIRED IN LOCAL LANGUAGE:  <u>Low</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>USED IN THE COMMUNITY:</b> as per workplace.</p> <p>LANGUAGE SUPPORT: The volunteer will be enrolled in a one month intensive Arabic course at the beginning of their placement, and will receive limited follow up funding to continue this study through the assignment.</p>
HOURS/DAYS OF	5 days per week.

EMPLOYMENT:	
LEAVE:	SAME CONDITIONS AND TERMS AS LOCAL COLLEAGUES APPLY, INCLUDING NATIONAL HOLIDAYS. Sick leave: 15 days per year with doctor's certificate
OTHER CONDITIONS:	<p>OUT OF HOURS WORK MAY BE REQUIRED: <u>Yes</u> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>TRAVEL MAY BE REQUIRED AS PART OF THIS ROLE: <u>Yes</u> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Volunteer will have access to computers – Internet access – Photocopy machine – laptops – LCD projector – Personnel car- Public Transportation</p>

### SELECTION CRITERIA - Please address these in your application

QUALIFICATIONS:	Degree in water ( hydraulic) engineering
ESSENTIAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in works related to remedial actions for contaminated water is an asset</li> </ul>
ESSENTIAL PERSONAL QUALITIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Some knowledge of Arabic, or willingness to learn</li> <li>▪ A preparedness to work with limited resources within a challenging environment</li> <li>▪ Ability to cope with cultural isolation and a different standard of living</li> <li>• Awareness and sensitivity of cross-cultural settings,</li> <li>• Patience, tolerance and flexibility</li> <li>• Commitment to team work, coaching, and mentoring others.</li> </ul>
DESIRABLE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Willing to learn more about the targeted refugees' problem</li> </ul>

### PLACEMENT FUNDING

<b>LIVING ALLOWANCE*:</b>		<b>ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE*:</b> to be covered jointly by AVI and PARD.	
AVI:	AUD <b>3750</b> per quarter	AVI:	AUD <b>TBA</b> per quarter
EMPLOYER:	AUD <b>0.00</b> per <b>month/quarter</b>	EMPLOYER:	AUD <b>TBA</b> per <b>month/quarter</b>
OTHER INFORMATION:	<p>Accommodation details to be provided shortly.</p> <p>* This is a current estimate which may be subject to change.</p>		

## OTHER ALLOWANCES

SETTLING-IN:	AUD <b>1300</b> paid prior to departure *
RE-SETTLEMENT:	AUD \$75 per month paid at the conclusion of the placement
OTHER:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Airfares at the commencement and conclusion of the placement to and from the placement of recruitment in Australian only.</li><li>▪ Pre-departure vaccination expenses.</li><li>▪ Medical and emergency insurance evacuation coverage.</li></ul> <p><i>*payable on volunteer assignments greater than six months only.</i></p>

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Applications must:

- Be submitted via our website in Microsoft Word format only.
- Address all of the **essential selection criteria**. Applications that do not will not be accepted.

Final confirmation of the appointment is subject to:

- Formal approval from the employer.
- Procurement of visa and work permits.
- A satisfactory medical examination.
- A satisfactory criminal record check by the Australia Federal Police.
- Satisfactory completion of the pre-departure briefing.

Australian Volunteers International is strongly committed to protecting the rights of children. We adhere to laws in Australia and foreign countries regarding child exploitation and support Childwise and ECPAT International.