



## **Media and Communication Volunteer, Azafady NGO – Job Description**

### **Position Overview:**

Both the international development and media-communications sectors are highly competitive and it is becoming more common for employers to require their employees to have had experience working abroad. This volunteer position represents an excellent opportunity to gain on-the-ground experience for anyone wishing to pursue a career in media and communications especially within the NGO sector. This volunteer position represents an excellent opportunity for a new or recent graduate to enhance their portfolio while living and working in an stunning part of the world and being integrated into interesting and worthwhile projects.

The Media and Communication Volunteer will spend at least 6 months working with Azafady in and around Fort Dauphin, Madagascar. They will be expected to work independently to meet the organisation's international media and communications needs. Example tasks include, production of video clips to enhance project proposals, providing stills to accompany reports to donors and producing website and blog content. For specific responsibilities, see the section below.

The volunteer will be fully integrated into the team giving them full access to projects, which currently include- school building, hygiene training, HIV education and establishment of sustainable livelihoods. For further details of the projects run by Azafady see [www.madagascar.co.uk](http://www.madagascar.co.uk).

### **Duties and responsibilities:**

The Media and Communications Volunteer will work across all departments on the following areas :

- Production of video and stills as needed by the Project Development department
- Production of video and stills as needed by individual projects
- Production of video and stills associated with the promotion of Azafady and its work
- Creation and maintenance of video and stills library
- Regular updating of Azafady's profile on selected social media sites
- Creation of content for Azafady's website and publications

**Contract type:** Volunteer

**Contract duration:** a minimum of 6 months

**Location:** Azafady, Fort Dauphin, Madagascar

**Reporting to:** Assistant to the Director of Operations

**Requirements:**

The successful applicant will:

- Hold an undergraduate degree in or relating to Media and Communications, or have equivalent experience
- Demonstrate sound technical knowledge in areas of video and stills production
- Demonstrate interest in conservation and community development
- Have previous experience working to deadlines and criteria
- Ideally have previous experience living, working or travelling in a developing country, though is not essential
- Be fluent in English . A working knowledge of French is desirable but not essential
- Be capable and comfortable adapting to life in a least developed country with sometimes basic living conditions
- Be able to adjust to life in another culture and a foreign language, and be able to work at all times with cultural sensitivity
- Be able to financially support themselves for a minimum period of 6 months
- Have all necessary equipment to carry out the responsibilities outlined above

**Country and organisation background:**

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world. It has an ethnically diverse population of some 19 million people, and the number of inhabitants is increasing at a rate of about 3% per year. It is one of the world's poorest countries, ranking 143/177 in the 2008-9 Human Development Report, with more than 70% of the population living below the poverty line.

Isolation of communities and lack of state capacity mean service delivery is extremely poor. Government educational services, extremely limited as they are across the island, rarely reach rural communities. State provided health facilities are seriously under-funded. Island-wide, among rural populations only 35% of people have improved water sources, and just 26% have adequate sanitation facilities (UNICEF, 2008).

Tolagnaro (or Fort Dauphin), where ONG Azafady is based, is an isolated town in the southeast of the island, in Anosy Region. The people of Anosy are one of the poorest ethnic groups in the country. Whilst the government has adopted a detailed strategy paper for poverty reduction, Anosy's isolation means that little has changed. The region's population suffers one of the lowest per capita incomes and highest rates of disease, infant mortality (34% in some communities) and illiteracy (over 80%). Diarrhoeal disease, malaria, respiratory and sexually transmitted

infections are rife: as many as 3 in 10 children under 5 years old die from easily preventable diseases and illnesses. Average life expectancy is just 59 years, (UNICEF, 2006) and the mortality rate for those under five years is over one in ten (115/1000 live births, UNICEF, 2008 estimate).

Azafady has over 10 years experience of grassroots community development work. The organisation intervenes in Fort Dauphin and surrounding rural communities aiming to alleviate extreme poverty and protect a unique but greatly endangered environment by empowering the poorest people of the region to improve health and wellbeing and establish more sustainable livelihoods. At the heart of Azafady's work is an integrated approach to community development sensitively built around what are directly expressed to be the most pressing needs of local populations and which maximises their participation. Project activities are focused on the fields of health and sanitation, livelihood diversification and natural resource management. All projects align with and contribute to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and of the Madagascar Action Plan commitments in these sectors.

### **Application procedure**

Send CV and cover letter to [nicola@azafady.org](mailto:nicola@azafady.org). Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by email. Interviews will take place with Madagascar team by phone and with the London team in person.

Deadline for application- 25/06/10