

**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** | |
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Assignment number | ET97 |
| Country Project | Horticulture |
| Host Organization | Ethiopian Catholic Church-Social and Development Coordinating Office of Adigrat (ECC-SDCOA) |
| Assignment Title | Small scale irrigation technologies for vegetable production |
| Preferred dates | Dec 2017 to March, 2018 |
| Objectives | * Train and innovate modern irrigation technologies * Equip target beneficiaries in skills and techniques on improved irrigated vegetable production practices |
| Desired volunteer skills/expertise | * Irrigated vegetable production specialist and experience in small scale irrigation schemes and irrigated horticultural crops productions * Demonstrated experience and proven skills in drip-kit installation, training and overall guidance on maintenances (very important) |

1. **Background**

Agriculture is the mainstay of Ethiopia's economy and it provides all the necessary dietary foods, raw materials for food industries and quality products for export market. The country's agricultural potential for food production is known to be immense and over 90 percent of its export earnings come from this sector. Coffee, oilseeds, spices, fresh fruit and vegetables contribute the largest portion of the export earnings.

Vegetable production is an important economic activity in Ethiopia, ranging from smallholder farming to large scale commercial farms. While smallholders usually use the largest part of their vegetable produce for home consumption and sell the surplus, the commercial state and private farms produce solely for market. According to CSA (2012), about 2,710 million tons of vegetables, root and tubers were produced on 541,000 ha, creating means of livelihood for more than 1 million households in 2010/2011. The cultivated crop production area increased by 26%, while the production volume increased by 73% between 2011 and 2013 (CSA, 2013).

Despite the increasing importance of vegetables in Ethiopia, there is inadequate knowledge on improved production systems and technologies. With increasing population and declining land size, a better understanding of the production system and producing more in limited land become crucial. Planting time is one of the critical thing that farmers needs to consider for vegetables since in Ethiopia vegetable consumption often increases during the Christian fasting period. Rather than depending on rain, irrigated farming enables the farmers to align harvest time to meet off-season higher market demand, when prices are much higher (Bezabih et al, 2015). However, majority of vegetable productions are dependent with rain or not using better technologies for irrigation that are water efficient. Having this fact, ECC-SDCOA, F2F host would like to improve the situation in Adigrat area via volunteer technical assistance on irrigation system designing and development.

1. **Issue Description**

Farmers in the assignment area are currently using furrow/channel and flood irrigation systems. Beside the water stress conditions due to the prevalence of drought; lack of modern irrigation technologies and use of such conventional irrigation system accompanied by lack of water saving strategies are critical problems of irrigation farming in the area.

Many of the challenges relevant to fruit production are rooted from improper primary production practices including the use of low quality seeds and seedlings, use of poor plant propagation techniques, poor soil fertility management, low level of inputs, poor pest control and management aggravated by poor knowledge in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and overall lack of skills in improved fruit production practices. Post-harvest handling and management of the produce is also another factor that hinders productivity. These lead to the inability to consistently supply the food and nutrition demand of the community. Lack of appropriate quality horticultural produces for market were also observed to be a problem, which would have supported these smallholder farmers with premium pricing and income. The volunteer will address these issues through a variety of training interventions and technical assistances.

1. **Objectives of the Assignment**

The main objective of this volunteer assignment is to build the capacity of the household with appropriate technologies and techniques on irrigation system for vegetable production.

The volunteer is specifically expected to

* Train and advice modern irrigation technologies
* Equip target beneficiaries in skills and techniques on improved irrigated vegetable production practices.
* Practically demonstrate irrigation system on farmers’ land

**Host contribution:** ECC-SDCOA will mobilize the project staffs to facilitate the volunteers to reach the targeted beneficiaries in various ways. The host will also arrange training and facilitate the trainings to the intended project beneficiaries. The host will also provide the volunteer with working space in the project office compound, which is stationed in Adigrat town, 120Kms from the regional capital, Mekele city. ECC-SDCOA will arrange safe vehicle for round trip travelling from Adigrat to project site (Irob, Gulomekada and SaesieTsaeda-Emba) during the assignment.

1. **Anticipated Results from the Assignment and deliverables**

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will results in improve the capacity of households in better utilization of water by using modern irrigation techniques that will contribute to for improved vegetable production.

During the assignment period the volunteer will train at least 5 staff of ECC-SDCOA and 60 farmers in three districts. The anticipated deliverables include

* 1. Initial presentation (outlines/list of activities, plan, approach, etc),
  2. Training and direct assistance conducted,
  3. Simple manual/guidelines on warehouse management techniques prepared and submitted
  4. Field report with recommendation and simple guidelines submitted,
  5. Presentation to CRS staff and USAID,
  6. Outreach events conducted in the US.

1. **Schedule of Volunteer Activities In Ethiopia**

| **Day** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- |
| Day 1 | Arrival to Ethiopia. The volunteer will be met at Bole Airport by CRS’s client hotel Churchill (churchillhotel@ethionet.et / info@churchillhoteladdis; phone # 0111111212) or another client hotel with a placard bearing “CRS logo and volunteer name”. |
| Day 2 | Briefing meeting at CRS office with CRS F2F staff and become fully briefed on logistics and itinerary of trip. Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan, |
| Day 3 | * Flight to Mekelle 777 km * Travel to Adigrat 120 * Introduction with ECC-SDCOA tea members * First hand briefing on the main objectives and modality of the assignment and adjust the agenda for the coming days. |
| Day 4 | Reviewing and assessing the existing irrigation system at different locations |
| Days 5-7 | Conduct the assignment according to an agreed schedule, modality, and venues |
| **Day 8** | **Rest day** |
| Days 9-14 | Continue conducting the assignment …… |
| **Days 15** | **Rest day** |
| Day 16-17 | Continue conducting the assignment …… |
| Day 18 | * Wrap up sessions that emphasize key accomplishments and recommendations from the assignment * Group presentation to the host in the presence of CRS F2F staff |
| Day 19-20 | * Travel back to Mekelle then fly to Addis Ababa |
| Day 21 | * Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staffs. * Submit all reports, return logistic items and complete all required activities * Depart for USA (**evening hours**) |
| TBD | Conduct outreach activity when back in the US |

1. **Desirable Volunteers Skills**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

* Irrigation specialist with demonstrated experience vegetable production
* Demonstrated experience and proven skills in installation of various types of irrigation systems
* Experience in adult and youth training and technical assistance in small scale irrigation
* Willingness and interest to travel to rural areas, train and technically assist farmers
* Respect for the cultural and religious norms of the rural people.

1. **Accommodation And Other In-Country Logistics**

* Before travelling to the host at the assignment place (Adigrat), the volunteer will stay in Addis Ababa at one of the CRS’s client hotels Churchill (churchillhotel@ethionet.et / info@churchillhoteladdis; phone # 0111111212) or another client hotel that will be communicated prior to volunteer.
* In Addis Ababa, the hotel usually has rooms that include services such as airport pickup and drop-off, breakfast, wireless internet, etc.
* The hotel or CRS will arrange a vehicle for short travel from the hotel to CRS and vice versa while in Addis Ababa.
* All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer. CRS Ethiopia will provide the volunteer with a laptop computer, local internet dongle (modem/EVDO) and mobile phone with charged local SIM-card.
* Any other required logistics and facilities can also be requested by the volunteer during her/his stay in Addis Ababa.
* CRS will arrange transport service and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment.
* During her/his assignment period, the volunteer will be booked and stay in a hotel found in the locality of the host.
* CRS Ethiopia will cover the lodging bills against receipts.
* CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with a per-diem advance to cater meals.
* CRS Ethiopia will also reimburse the volunteer with laundry costs against receipts. Before departing from Ethiopia, the volunteer will also liquidate if s/he received any advances in Ethiopia.
* For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided.

1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

* Although CRS F2F has developed such hinting SOW, the volunteer can fine-tune through her/his professional qualifications to successfully carry out these skills transfer.
* Prior to travel, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training and demonstration aids and written handouts. Softcopies of the handouts and any other paper materials can be printed for immediate use at the CRS office in Addis Ababa on request by the volunteer;
* If the volunteer requires use of simple training aids like flip charts, markers or tapes/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office in Addis Ababa prior to travel to the assignment place.
* Translation of handouts to local languages can be done at CRS or in the locality of the assignment, if required.
* Depending on the meeting places and availability of electric power and LCD projector, the volunteer may use a laptop and projector for power point presentations.

1. **Key Contacts**

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