 

**Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F)**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work (SOW)**

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| **Summary Information** | |
| Country | Kenya |
| Assignment Code | KE76 |
| Country Project | Flexible assignment, existing homegarden project proposed |
| Host | PIQA Agriculture/EARO |
| Assignment Title | Homestead Gardens Guide, Preliminary Assessment Tool |
| Potential dates | October – December 2016 |
| Objectives | Draft and field test the Preliminary Assessment Tool, Appendix A of the CRS Holistic Homestead Gardens Guide |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | Horticulture/gardening education expert  Highly desirable: Pre-implementation Assessment expertise |

1. **Background**

The East Africa Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) program leverages US volunteer expertise to assist people across the agriculture sector in the core countries of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia to improve the livelihoods and nutritional status of low income households. CRS’ Farmer to Farmer initiative also includes occasional flexible assignments in core countries or elsewhere to address the needs of people we serve either directly or indirectly through our programming. The specific objectives of CRS F2F Program are to i) broaden the participation of low income households in established commodity value chains as producers and service providers; ii) strengthen community resilience to shocks such as droughts, that adversely affect livelihoods; and iii) preserve/enhance natural resources upon which most rural communities depend. The CRS F2F program also works to increase the American public’s understanding of international development programs and foster increased cross-cultural understanding between host countries and US volunteers. To achieve this, CRS focuses its methodology around three mutual reinforcing pillars:

* Local capacity building;
* Ongoing innovation and learning; and
* Complementarily with other USG and CRS programs.

The CRS Holistic Homestead Gardens Guide for Field Practitioners is a tool to be used by program and field staff in decision making, assessment, planning and implementation of homestead gardens as a project component, with the purpose of achieving project objectives, including:

* Improving nutrition of target beneficiaries
* Income generation for target beneficiaries

1. *Kayatta Irrigation Sacco*

Kayatta Irrigation Sacco has a membership of 250 (with 75 percent women) who are further organized in smaller groups of 30 to 40 members. “Wendano wa Aka” women group is one of such small groups. The irrigation Sacco is based in Machakos Couty, Kangundo Sub-county and is located within Kayatta irrigation scheme along river Athi. The groups under Kayatta irrigation Sacco were initially formed to produce and market Orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) (which is a vitamin A fortified variety) to a private horticulture Export Company. They have since diversified their activities and now also produce other horticultural produce including OFSP, red hot chili peppers, sweet pepper, mangoes and leafy amaranths vegetables. The members have close to 150 hectares under cultivation with the produce mentioned above. The group can do year round cultivation because of availability of water for irrigation.

1. *Kimira Oluch Farmers’ Development Group (KOFDEG)*

Kimira Oluch Farmers’ Development Group (KOFDEG) is currently implementing the Kimira Oluch irrigation scheme food security project in partnership with Lutheran world relief (LWR). This project involves provision of agricultural extension services to targeted farmers to increase productivity and incomes from irrigated horticultural crops and access financial services through formation of village saving and lending associations (VSLAs). The major horticultural crops produced are tomatoes, onions, bananas, traditional vegetables, and water melon. Some farmers are involved in rice production as well

Kimira irrigation water users association draws its members from central, north and north east Karachuonyo, Kogueno Oriang and Kamser- Nyakongo locations in North Rachuonyo district with a catchment of 1616 households with an estimated population of 8080 members. Oluch water irrigation users association draws its members from West, East and Central Kochia and East kagan locations in Homabay District and Kowili, Kanyitir, Wadhgono Nyongo and Koyugi locations in North Karachuonyo area with a total catchment of 1334 households with an estimated population of 6670 people.

1. **Assignment Objective**

The CRS Holistic Homestead Gardens Guide will provide key guidance to country program and field staff for the planning and implementation of homestead gardens that is anticipated in contributing to improved nutrition and income of targeted beneficiaries, especially in the East Africa Region.

The purpose of the guide in general is to provide guidance for appropriate context assessment for the successful and impactful implementation of homestead gardens. The Preliminary Assessment Tool is an essential part of context assessment and appropriateness of implementing a homestead garden component in a project.

1. **Deliverables**
2. Complete draft of the Preliminary Assessment Tool, part of the CRS Holistic Homestead Gardens, before field test.
3. Report of field test exercise.
4. Revised tool, after field test.
5. **Volunteers’ Schedule**
6. Draft Preliminary Assessment Tool: 1 week
7. Field test tool: 2 week (including weekend travel)
8. Revise tool and report of work: 1 week
9. **Accommodation and other In-Country Logistics**

The drafting and review of assessment tool will be done state-side, in the United States, while field testing will be done in Kenya. Two full weeks of work have been allocated for drafting and revisions, while two full weeks (including travel) has been allocated for field testing.

In Kenya, the volunteer will be picked up at the airport. At least, one staff member will always accompany him/her in the field. A hotel room with running water and private sanitary facilities will be booked for the duration of his/her stay. A car will take him/her to the airport at his/her departure. A SIM card will be provided but the consultant will use his/her own mobile phone and pay for the units (to be reimbursed by CRS’ F2F Program). If needed during field work at remote sites, a 3G modem will be supplied; internet connection is available at the office.

The details/places of the field testing will be coordinated with country staff once the checklist document is in progress. The assignment does not have to be continuous. Depending on the volunteer expertise and availability, there can be some time (but limited) in between the drafting and field testing tasks.

Any translation/interpretation needed will be provided by F2F program or CRS staff, according to the need.

1. **Recommended Assignment Preparation**

After the field visit, the assignment will involve completing the deliverables listed in section C above and a document review process with CRS PIQA staff in Baltimore.

Key project documents will be made available to the volunteer before his/her arrival.

A report should be submitted before departure. CRS will give feedback during the final debriefing.

1. **Key Contacts**

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| **CRS Kenya** | | |

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