**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** |
| **Assignment Code** | **TZ 128** |
| Country | Tanzania |
| Country Project | Horticulture Project |
| Host Organization | Promise |
| Assignment Title | Integrated pest management and pesticide safety training for smallholder farmer groups in Iringa |
| Assignment Preferred Dates | January to March 2018 |
| Objectives of the Assignment | 1. To train Promise farmers in IPM
2. To train farmers in safe and efficient use of pesticides
3. To draft a reference manual on those subjects
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| Desired Volunteer Skill/Expertise | Horticultural/vegetable production, IPM, pesticides safety |

# BACKGROUND

The Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) East Africa program is one that uses short-term US volunteer expertise to assist smallholder farmers and small-scale processors in East Africa to improve their business practices through volunteer assignments conducted with host organizations. In Tanzania, the objective of Catholic Relief Services’ (CRS) F2F project is to support smallholder farmers by improving access to and utilization of markets and credit so they can broaden their participation in the grain and horticulture value chains as producers and service providers. By extension, the program also aims to improve livelihoods and nutritional status, resilience to adverse events, and preservation of natural resources.

In Tanzania, horticulture makes a significant contribution to food security and economic growth. Horticulture is practiced in large part by female smallholder farmers as well as a limited number of large-scale operators. Commercial horticulture is endowed with local and foreign investors, particularly in floriculture and export vegetables, and has production and market growth potential. Tanzania’s favorable socio-political environment offers an opportunity for the horticulture sector to thrive. Thus, horticulture in Tanzania has the potential to increase incomes through meeting demand in domestic, regional, and international markets, while simultaneously improving household nutrition through improving dietary diversity.

The key challenges that the horticulture industry faces in Tanzania include low productivity of horticultural crops, limited processing of horticultural products, and poor access to markets. Some key opportunities that favor the growth of the industry and the success of the F2F project in Tanzania include the various participants along horticulture value chains, including the USAID programs, Feed the Future (FTF) and Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Program (TAPP), both in partnership with Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA). Through on-going programs and partnerships such as these, specific interventions allow volunteers to reach smallholder farmers, and production and processing companies.

This Scope of Work (SOW) is for providing volunteer technical assistance to three farmer groups in Iringa Region: (1) Nguvukazi Group and (2) Mkwawa Group, in the village of Tanangozi, and (3) Innovate Group, near the municipality of Iringa. Each group is comprised of 20-30 members. Common crops under cultivation include maize, beans, potatoes, sweet and hot peppers, onions, carrots, cabbage, and squashes, but tomatoes feature prominently as food-cum-cash crop.

These farmer groups are members of the Association of Iringa High Quality Tomato and Vegetable Growers Ltd., an apex organization for tomato growers, registered under the Ministry of Trade and Industries as a limited liability company. They were established with the help of Muunganisho Ujasiriamali Vijijini (MUVI). MUVI was a four-year government project run by the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), funded by International Financing for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and implemented in partnership between Business Care Services (BCS) and Center for Sustainable Development Initiatives (CSDI). Following project closure, MUVI’s activities have been adopted by Promise, which continues to monitor and implement those activities.

During collaboration with MUVI, farmers received training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), marketing, leadership, and entrepreneurial skills. Application of these trainings has helped farmers achieve various successes, including the increase of tomato yields by over 50% and the adoption of higher-yielding F1 hybrid seed varieties like Anna, ASSILA, and EDEN F1.

# ISSUE DESCRIPTION

The key challenge experienced by farmers during vegetable production, particularly tomato, the highest priority crop, is dealing with pests and diseases. Among the diseases presenting challenges are *Tuta absoluta* and bacterial/viral wilts, especially fusarium wilt. Farmers have also identified a new disease that begins by wilting the plant root, eventually drying the entire plant. Therefore, the Volunteer should have experience identifying and managing tropical crop diseases.

The loss incurred due to pests is enormous and they are at a loss on what to do, especially considering some pests have developed resistance to recommended pesticides. They have expressed interest in alternative and more holistic solutions such as integrated pest management (IPM), which can prove more effective than relying on chemicals alone, and can save on input costs. Additionally, farmers struggle with inappropriate and unsafe use of pesticides. They also expressed interest in proper and safe application of chemicals, information that is often lacking from suppliers and extension officers.

Farmers depend on insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides, many of which are toxic to humans and non-target organisms, including beneficial ones. Current use patterns carry an elevated risk of causing resistance in target pests. Several insecticides in use are banned in other countries and many are applied using improper and inefficient techniques. Some farmers have experienced exposure-related illnesses.

Nguvukazi farmers received training from F2F Volunteer, David J. Zaber, addressing those issues. Following his recommendations, some Nguvukazi members have adapted their techniques, mitigating health and safety issues. Unfortunately, training attendance during Zaber’s assignment was poor, and since then many group members have been replaced by new ones. In the interest of ensuring better attendance, F2F and the hosts propose more aggressive outreach and publicity, involving community members and village officials, to ensure group members are aware not only of the training itself, but of the unique opportunities it represents. Furthermore, this SOW is intended to culminate in a comprehensive document that can be used by the organization and beneficiaries in the absence of the volunteer for reference and for dissemination among other groups.

Farmers have expressed interest in receiving a broader, more holistic IPM training that would further help address safety issues with respect to pesticides, while also increasing produce yields and quality.

# OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The key objective of this assignment is to build the capacity of members of the three farmer groups, Nguvukazi, Mkwawa, and Innovate, to effectively manage horticultural pests and diseases, particularly those plaguing tomatoes and related crops.

Specifically, the Volunteer will provide farmers with *hands-on, practical* training in

1. integrated pest management
2. safe and efficient use of pesticides, and
3. will draft a reference manual in these subjects.

# HOST CONTRIBUTION

Promise will mobilize farmers to participate in trainings and provide a staff member to accompany the volunteer fulltime. They will also organize logistics, such as training venues, farmer field visits, etc.

A translator, well-versed in this SOW’s subject, will be provided by CRS. They will accompany the volunteer throughout the duration of the assignment and provide any further logistical support.

# ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

1. Farmers will increase their understanding of IPM and how to apply it to their farms
2. Farmers will increase their understanding of safe use of pesticides
3. Promise and key group members will continue training others using the reference manual

# DELIVERABLES

1. Trainings conducted and attendance registers
2. Action plan drafted by beneficiaries
3. Volunteer presentation
4. Volunteer report and press release
5. IPM manual, later translated for use by Promise and farmers
6. Outreach event in US

# SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN TANZANIA

The schedule below is tentative. A detailed schedule will be finalized upon volunteer arrival in country.

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| **Day** | **Activity** |
| 1 | Travel from home to US international airport |
| 2 | Arrive in Tanzania, at Julius Nyerere International Airport, pick-up by CRS and check in at hotel |
| 3 | Travel to Iringa, lodging at Zakinn for duration of the assignment |
| 4 | Meet with host; review and adapt training materials accordingly; finalize training schedule |
| 5-13 | Conduct trainings (3 days per group) |
| 14 | Return to Dar es Salaam, debriefing and presentation at CRS |
| 15 | Return home |

# DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

* Experience in training/mentoring subsistence farmers in Africa is an advantage
* Formal qualification in agriculture or a practicing farmer
* Competency in organic farming methods
* Understanding of safe and efficient use of pesticides
* Experience managing tropical crop diseases
* Facilitation, mobilization, and training skills within the context of adult learning; good interpersonal skills
* Ability to adapt to new working environments, e.g. work through an interpreter in a rural, foreign environment
* Flexibility to work with people of varying literacy levels

# ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

In Dar es Salaam, the Volunteer will be lodged at:

*Amariah Boutique Hotel*

Dr. Kariuki Road, Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam

+255 789 471 461

info@amariah.co.tz

[www.amariah.co.tz](http://www.amariah.co.tz)

In Iringa, the volunteer will be lodged at:

*Zakinn*

Old Dodoma Road, Gangilonga, Iringa

+255 763 454 525

reservations@zaki.o.tz

[www.zaki.co.tz](http://www.zaki.co.tz)

All logistics will be organized by CRS and the host organization. All proposed accommodations will have the basic amenities of running water, electricity, self-contained rooms, internet access and/or modem (provided by CRS), and reliable security. CRS will cover lodging costs and provide the Volunteer with per diem allowances to cover meals and other incidentals. CRS will also facilitate daily transport of the Volunteer between the hotel in Iringa and training venues.

# RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS

The Volunteer should familiarize themselves with the USAID Feed the Future program, the East Africa Regional Office (EARO) and Tanzania F2F Horticulture Project Description, this SOW, and David Zaber’s Volunteer Report on his assignment with Nguvukazi. It is also advisable that the volunteer read and familiarize themselves with Tanzania and its development history, challenges, and opportunities.

Any teaching aids/materials can be printed at the CRS office in Dar es Salaam prior to starting the assignment. CRS will provide flip charts, markers, and masking tape. Volunteers should not rely on LCD projections as a medium for training; training venues are likely to not have electricity.

# KEY CONTACTS

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