

**Farmer to Farmer**

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

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| **Summary Information** | |
| **Assignment Code** | **ET203** |
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Country Project | Livestock |
| Host Organization | Hawassa University, College of Agriculture |
| Type of Volunteer Assistance | Technology Transfer (T) |
| Type of Value Chain Activity | Information and Input support services (S) |
| Assignment Title | Human nutrition research and development |
| Assignment preferred dates | Before June 2019 |
| Objectives of the assignment | * Train university staff, and PhD and MSc students on human nutrition research, data analysis, and development. * Assist/advice university staff and students on how to use research results to solve practical problems for malnutrition |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | * Experience in teaching and advising students in human nutrition or public health (preferably background in Epidemiology/Human Nutrition or any related field) * Experience in conducting human nutrition research |
| PERSUAP Classification | Type 3 |

1. **BACKGROUND**

CRS Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program is a USAID funded 5-year program (July 2018 – June 2023) that will provide technical assistance from United States (U.S) volunteers to farmers, farmer groups (cooperatives and associations), agribusinesses and other agriculture sector institutions. The program objectives are to facilitate economic growth within targeted agriculture sub-sectors, enhance sub-sector inclusiveness to expand participation to a broader range of individuals and communities and to increase the American public’s understanding of international development issues and US international development programs. Volunteers, recruited from all States and the District of Columbia, are individuals who have domestic careers, farms and agribusinesses, or are retirees who want to participate in development efforts. F2F program will assist in agriculture development, commodity value chain competitiveness and firm upgrading by providing technical assistance to introduce new technologies, innovations and development of local capacity for more productive, profitable, sustainable and equitable agriculture systems.

Nutrition, of women and children in particular, is a major issue in Ethiopia. Institutions across the country are now starting to devote attention to this prominent issue. According to Ethiopia’s Demographic and Health Survey from 2016, 38% of children under 5 are stunted, and 18% are severely stunted. Exclusive breastfeeding for infants under six months is not widely practiced and complementary feeding is only practiced with 58% of children aged 6-9 months. Additionally, only 7% of children living with their mothers are fed in accordance with infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices. 57% of Ethiopian children are anemic and there is low micronutrient intake of children country-wide. Previously in 2011, 44% of Ethiopian children were anemic and this rise in children with anemia is a huge concern. In regard to adults, 22% of women and 33% of men are thin or undernourished and 24% of women aged 15-49 are anemic, leading to premature delivery and low birth weight. All of these statistics are higher in rural communities. Due to the high rate of malnutrition, currently some institutions and universities across Ethiopia are taking action to reduce the acceptable malnutrition rate.

The host institution Hawassa University is located in Hawassa town, the capital of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples’ Region (SNNPR). It is located 279km Southwest of Ethiopia’s capital, Addis Ababa. In total, Hawassa University has more than 50,000 students and more than 8,000 staff members. The College of Agriculture (<http://www.hu.edu.et/ca/>) is one of eight colleges at the University. Within the College of Agriculture is The Center of Excellence for Nutrition, which opened in 2005. The Center’s mission is to *“play a leading role through excellence in training and research towards the improvement of the nutritional status of individuals, households, communities and populations is supported by their main aim to provide scientific evidence for the solutions for nutritional problems through high quality research.”* The Center has two undergraduate programs, B.Sc, Human Nutrition (150 students) and B.Sc Food Sciences and Post-Harvest Technologies (190 students). There are two master programs in Applied Human Nutrition (72 students) and Food Sciences in Technology (26 students) and one Ph.D program in Human Nutrition (16 students). The Center plans on adding a Ph.D Food Sciences and Technologies program in the near future.

When it comes to nutrition in Ethiopia, The Center of Excellence for Nutrition is a forefront leader in this important field. They host many conferences, such as the National Nutrition Conference, which began in 2016, and in 2018 they hosted an international conference on human nutrition. Additionally, they also lead the USAID funded, SPRING implemented, online ag2nut-Ethipia forum.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

In Ethiopia the newly formed programs like The Center of Excellence for Nutrition face a difficult time finding scholars who can offer high level training to university staff and Ph.D. students. The Center of Excellence for Nutrition wants to grow and expand and continue being a leader in Ethiopia’s nutrition sector, but to do so, they need well-trained human nutrition professors and staff members to conduct research that can help shape national policy on nutrition. There is a shortage of nutrition scholars and professors in Ethiopia that can provide such assistance on nutritional research and development. The Center of Excellence for Nutrition wants to improve its research and development program so that it can further contribute to Ethiopia’s nutrition movement. They do not want to provide just degrees, but to be a center for change.

To continue being a leader in nutrition, The Center of Excellence for Nutrition at Hawassa University has requested CRS F2F for volunteer assistance in human nutrition research and development so that its Masters and Ph.D. students and staff members know how to conduct research, analyze data, and in turn, use the results to solve practical problems for malnutrition and influence national policy.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The general objective of this volunteer assignment is to improve research and development initiatives for the Human Nutrition PhD program; understanding how to use research results to solve practical problems for malnutrition in Ethiopia. The host wants this to be done in a trainer of trainees’ (TOT) style. These PhD students and staff members will take what they learn and utilize it in future lessons/trainings as future professors and researchers. The specific objective of the assignment is to provide training to 16 PhD students and 32 teaching staff. During the assignment the volunteer will:

* Train 16 PhD students and 32 teaching staff on human nutrition research and data analysis.
* 16 PhD students and 32 teaching staff will understand how to use research results to solve practical problems for malnutrition
* Provide a day or half day seminar to master students
* Develop a training module for future use
* Observe classroom, laboratories, and other facilities and provide feedback

1. **HOST CONTRIBUTION**

The host, Hawassa University, will select and mobilize staff to be trained. It will also avail key personnel to work closely with the volunteer at all times to ensure translation (if required) to the local language (Amharic) and to assist the volunteer during trainings. The host will arrange training venue and transportation as required. CRS F2F Ethiopia will organize the volunteer’s hotel arrangements (lodging) and ensure all required facilities are appropriate. CRS will cover lodging costs against receipts and provide per-diem advances for meals

1. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will result in improved knowledge/skill capacity of faculty and PhD students at Hawassa University’s nutrition program to further understand the concepts of nutritional research and development initiatives. The volunteer will contribute to the following:

* 16 PhD students in human nutrition and 32 teaching staff members will attend the training
* 16 PhD students in human nutrition and 32 teaching staff members will use research results to help solve malnutrition problems and influence national policy
* Training module for course is prepared
* Continues collaboration and partnership created

1. **DELIVERABLES**

* Initial presentation is completed (outlines, activities, plans, approach, etc.)
* Training module is prepared and discussed with the university fraternity for review and adoption
* Volunteer final report due BEFORE departure
* Group presentation with local stakeholders at the end of the assignment
* Presentation to CRS staff and/or USAID local Mission
* Outreach events (press release or a media event) conducted upon return to the US

1. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA (DRAFT)**

| **Days** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- |
| Day 1 | Upon arrival in Addis Ababa at Bole Airport, the F2F volunteer will be met by a CRS’s client hotel Saro Maria Hotel (mail: [reservation@saromariahotel.com](mailto:reservation@saromariahotel.com); Phone: +251 11 667 2167). The volunteer will locate the hotel kiosk and receive a pre-arranged shuttle transport |
| **Day 2** | **Rest Day (Sunday)** |
| Day 3 | * Take CRS client taxi or hotel shuttle to CRS office (CRS working days are Monday to Friday from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM EAT) * Welcoming by CRS, and briefing meeting on security, general orientation, logistic and reporting formats. * Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan * Travel (local flight) to the assignment site Hawassa (279km Southwest of Addis Ababa) and will be accommodated at CRS client hotel, Lewi hotel |
| Day 4 | * Introduction with the university staff and further identify skill and training gaps * Based on information gathered and gaps identified, enrich the prepared training materials incorporating hands-on practices. |
| Day 5-6 | Provide training for selected faculty members and PhD students |
| **Day 7** | **Rest Day (Sunday)** |
| Day 8-13 | Continue provision of trainings and technical assistances |
| Day 14 | **Rest Day (Sunday)** |
| Day 15-17 | Continue provision of trainings and technical assistances and provide seminar |
| Day 18 | * Wrap up trainings and emphasize key concepts of assignment. Participants evaluate the training together with the volunteer * Discuss on the final report including the recommendations. |
| Day 19 | * Group presentation to the University in the presence of CRS * Volunteer travels back to Addis Ababa |
| Day 20 | * Finalize reimbursement expenditures and liquidations (if any) with finance. * Finalizes his/her reporting and submit all M&E documents to CRS F2F staff (report, PPT presentation, attendance sheet) and training materials * Debriefing at with CRS staff and/or USAID Mission * Complete any unaccomplished activities and depart for USA |
| TBD | * Outreach event when back in the USA, * Post assignment follow-up and support |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

* Experience teaching students in human nutrition or public health
* Having background in Epidemiology/Human Nutrition/Public Health or any other related fields
* Demonstrated experience in course training through lecturing, advisory, research and laboratory work experiences on human nutrition
* Experience conducting human nutrition research
* Good communicator and interpersonal communication skills

1. **ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

* Before travelling to the assignment place, Hawassa the volunteer will stay in Addis Ababa at one of CRS’s client hotel, Saro Maria Hotel (mail: [reservation@saromariahotel.com](mailto:reservation@saromariahotel.com); [Phone](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1GGRV_enET751ET751&q=saro-maria+hotel+phone&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwie4JH0gNfWAhXFOBoKHS8rB1sQ6BMIwwEwEA): [+251 11 667 2167](javascript:void(0))). For any inconvenience, please call at 0911718450 or WhatsApp, Biruk - F2F program manager.
* In Addis Ababa, the hotel usually has rooms that include services such as airport pickup and drop-off, breakfast, wireless internet, etc.
* The hotel shuttle or CRS will arrange a vehicle for short travel from the hotel to CRS office and vice versa in Addis Ababa.
* During the assignment period, the volunteer will be booked at Lewi Hotel Piazza in Hawassa (website: <https://www.lewihotelandresort.com/hotels/lewi-hotel-piazza>). The accommodation details will be confirmed prior to the volunteer’s arrival in country.
* CRS Ethiopia will arrange hotel accommodations and cover the lodging bills against receipts.
* CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with a per-diem advance to cater meals and incidences.
* Before departing from Ethiopia, the volunteer will liquidate if any advances received in Ethiopia.
* For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided

1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

* The volunteer can fine-tune the Scope of Work based on her/his professional qualifications to successfully carry out this human nutrition assignment.
* Generally, Ethiopia is under the tropical zone, where malaria may be a problem. Therefore, the volunteer is advised to take pills or vaccination for malaria and (maybe also for cholera) as per medical recommendations by her/his doctors/health professionals in US before departing from US.
* Prior to travel, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training materials and demonstration aids and written handouts. Soft copies of the handouts and any other paper materials can be printed for at the CRS office in Addis Ababa on request by the volunteer
* If the volunteer requires use of training aids like flip charts, markers and tape, s/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office in Addis Ababa prior to travel to the assignment place.
* LCD projector will be available so that the volunteer can use a laptop and projector for Power Point presentations.
* CRS F2F strongly recommends that the volunteer familiarize himself/herself with the history of Academic Center of Excellence for Human Nutrition, Hawassa University. The information can be collected from <http://www.hu.edu.et/ca/index.php/schools/school-of-food-science-and-human-nutrition1/academic-of-center-excellence-ace-for-human-nutrition/background-ace.html>

1. **KEY CONTACTS**

To express interest in this assignment, please email the CRS Baltimore contact listed below. To find out additional information about the host, issue description or field conditions, please email the country contact provided below, copying the CRS Baltimore contact.

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| **CRS Baltimore** | CRS East Africa Regional Office |
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| **CRS Ethiopia** | |
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| **Host Organization** | |
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