



**Farmer to Farmer
Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

To express interest in this assignment please email maria.figueroa@crs.org

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	ET204
Country	Ethiopia
Country Project	Crop (Grain and Horticulture)
Host Organization	Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Coordination Office of Meki (ECC-SDCOM)
Host Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRS- Development for Food Security Activity (DFSA) • CRS- Livelihoods for Resilience Activity-Oromia (LRO)
Type of Volunteer Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology Transfer (T)
Type of Value Chain Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Farm Production (F)
Assignment Title	Climate Smart Agriculture focusing on conservation agriculture practices and small-scale irrigation
Assignment preferred dates	May 2019
Objectives of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve water management through improved practices and awareness. • Train and technically assist farmers on climate smart agriculture, specifically small-scale irrigation.
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	Irrigable crops specialist with demonstrated experience in climate smart agriculture and small-scale irrigation
PERSUAP Classification	Type III

A. 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.

Meki Catholic Secretariat (MCS) (<http://mcsethio.org/>) is located in Meki, Oromia region in the Rift Valley. It is approximately 105 kilometers south of Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa. MCS is one of the 13 diocesan coordinating offices of the Ethiopian Catholic Church – Social and Development Commission. The host brings together different stakeholders to support local development in different areas including education, health, water supply, income generation, food security and emergency response. The host provides support to smallholders via provision of capacity building trainings, income generating activities, access to credit, market linkage and value chain, and nutrition.

MCS is implementing two USAID funded, CRS implemented activities. One is the Feed the Future Ethiopia – Livelihoods for Resilience Activity- Oromia which is a USAID-funded project that focuses on ensuring that Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) IV households have improved their sustainable economic well-being by: 1) Increased income and diversification through on-farm opportunities including crop and livestock market systems; 2) Increased income and diversification of off-farm livelihood options; 3) Increased income from gainful employment; and 4) Increased innovation, scaling and sustainability of livelihood pathways. This F2F assignment will focus on goal 1: increased income and diversification through on-farm opportunities including crop and livestock market systems, specifically using improved agricultural techniques and technologies. All clients are to be trained on climate smart agriculture (CSA) practices.

In addition to LRO, MCS is implementing a five-year USAID Office for Food for Peace (FFP) Title II Development Food Security Activity (DFSA). The CRS DFSA consortium is designed to build resilience to shocks, enhance livelihoods and improve food security and nutrition for rural households vulnerable to food insecurity. The F2F assignment will focus on the DFSA goal of improving sustainable economic well-being of PSNP Households. All clients are to be trained on CSA practices as well. CRS DFSA and LRO overlap in 4 woredas¹ with MCS. DFSA and LRO undertake multiple joint technical assessments spanning the same DFSA and LRO woredas. This F2F assignment will take place in two overlapping woerdas for joint technical training on the CSA practice of small-scale irrigation.

CSA transforms agricultural systems to effectively support livelihoods and food security through changing climates. CSA aims to sustainably increase agricultural production and incomes and build resilience to climate change. Water management is a key CSA practice. Water resources need to be used more efficiently to retain soil nutrients and increase water retention capacity. This can be done in a number of ways: rainfall capture, basins, gullies, terraces, dams and small-scale irrigation. In Ethiopia, most farmers rely on rainfall to water their crops. Small-scale irrigation can build the resilience of smallholder farmers by reducing their dependency on erratic rainfall.

B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION

Agriculture is the source of livelihood to the overwhelming majority of Ethiopia's population. The Ethiopian agriculture is characterized by extreme dependence on rainfall. And its GDP is heavily dependent on agriculture and is highly correlated with rainfall variability². So that climate and

¹ Woreda: an administrative area equivalent to district

² World Bank, 2006

agriculture are highly interlinked, and one affects the other in many ways. Through its strong negative effect on the economy in general and by reducing crop yields, increasing land degradation, and lowering water availability in particular, Climate change poses more pressure on the food security of millions of people in Ethiopia. The lack of food security has greatly impacted the local economy. Climate change affects duration of crop growth by slowing or hastening growth and development processes. Crop production is dependent on rainfall which is unreliable and farmers can only grow crops within a certain timeframe which limits their livelihood. Therefore, there is a high need for irrigation in Ethiopia, as only around 5% of Ethiopian's irrigable land is irrigated³. Use of small-scale irrigation can increase productivity and income and eliminate dependency on erratic rainfall.

The LRO and DFSA activity takes place in the Great Rift Valley of Ethiopia, an area that has experienced the effects of climate change; areas that once were lush and productive are now dry and dusty with limited water supply. DFSA/LRO clients face economic instability, especially when it comes to crop production. Farmers in the project area grow mostly maize, potato, sweet potato, cabbage, and red pepper. Improved agricultural practices, like small-scale irrigation, can increase crop yields, lift clients out of poverty and achieve DFSA's and LRO's goal of sustainable economic well-being. Due to its high need, DFSA, LRO and MCS have requested CRS F2F program for volunteer assistance on climate smart agriculture techniques and practices focusing on small-scale irrigation.

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The general objective of this volunteer assignment is to improve water management using climate smart agriculture, specifically small-scale irrigation. The specific objective of the assignment is to provide training to 200-250 beneficiaries, which would include DFSA/LRO farmers, irrigation users, water board members, community animators, livelihood community facilitators, and development agents. During the assignment period, the F2F volunteer will conduct:

- Gap analysis on existing irrigation and conservation agriculture practices (might need 2-3 days field visit)
- Train on small-scale irrigation techniques (flood and motor-based irrigation techniques and practices, operation, maintenance and sustainability issues)
- Train on the concept and practices of climate smart agriculture suitable for Ethiopian rift valley communities
- Demonstrate on how to integrate and promote conservation agriculture and agroforestry practices using available irrigation techniques in the rift valley context
- Develop an action plan with host organization for future cascading

The beneficiaries of this assignment will be farmers, community animators, livelihood community facilitators, development agents. The F2F volunteer will be based in Meki and/or Ziway towns, Oromia and travel to DFSA/LRO intervention woredas: Ziway Dugda, Arsi Negele and Heben Arsi.

D. HOST CONTRIBUTION

The host MCS will select targeted farmers, irrigation users, community animators, lead community facilitators, and development agents. It will also avail key personnel to work closely with the volunteer

³ Tesfaw M (2018): Small Scale Irrigation Development

at all times to ensure translation to the local language (Afaan Oromo) and to assist the volunteer during trainings. The host will arrange transportation and training venue 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.

E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will result in improved knowledge/skill capacity of LRO/DFSA farmers, community animators, and lead community facilitators workers to further understand the basic concepts and techniques of small-scale irrigation and climate smart agriculture. The volunteer will contribute to the following:

- 200-250 beneficiaries (farmers, irrigation users, community animators, livelihood community facilitators, development agents) will have improved knowledge and skills on climate smart agriculture and small-scale irrigation practices.
- 200-250 beneficiaries (farmers, community animators, livelihood community facilitators, development agents) will be trained on small-scale irrigation practices.
- Improved water management and increased crop yield
- Increased income from improved crop production

F. DELIVERABLES

- Initial presentation is completed (outlines, activities, plans, approach, etc.)
- Training module is prepared and discussed with the host 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

G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA (DRAFT)

Days	Activity
Day 1	Arrival in Addis. The volunteer will be met at Bole Airport by CRS’s client hotel Saro Maria Hotel (mail: reservation@saromariahhotel.com ; Phone: +251 11 667 2167).The volunteer will locate the Saro Maria hotel kiosk and receive their pre-arranged transport
Day 2	Rest Day
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take hotel shuttle to CRS office (CRS working days are Monday to Friday from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM East Africa Time) • Welcoming by CRS, and briefing meeting on security, general orientation, logistic and reporting formats. • Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan

Days	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel to the assignment site (Meki Town, 105km South East of Addis Ababa). S/he will be introduced with the host. If time permits, general orientation with the host will be pursued.
Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further identify skill and training gaps through visiting and discussing with clients. Based on information gathered and gaps identified, enrich/amend the prepared training materials incorporating hands-on practices.
Day 5-6	Provide training for selected farmers, community animators, and livelihood community facilitators
Day 7	Rest Day
Day 8-13	Continue provision of trainings and technical assistances to beneficiaries
Day 14	Rest Day
Day 15-17	Continue provision of trainings and technical assistances to beneficiaries
Day 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrap up trainings and emphasize key concepts of assignment. Participants evaluate the training and together with the volunteer discuss final report recommendations.
Day 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group presentation to the host in the presence of CRS Volunteer travels back to Addis Ababa
Day 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize reimbursement expenditures and liquidations (if any) with finance. Finalizes his/her reporting and submit training M&E forms to CRS F2F staff. Debriefing at with CRS staff and/or USAID Mission in Addis
Day 21	Complete any unaccomplished activities and depart for USA
TBD	Outreach event when back in the USA

H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

- Demonstrated experience in climate smart agriculture especially on conservation agriculture, efficient water management techniques, and small-scale irrigation.
- Experience training adults, community development workers or members of a community-based organization.
- Good communicator and interpersonal communication skills
- Willing to work under Ethiopian context

I. ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

- Before travelling to the assignment place Meki or Zeway town, the volunteer will stay in Addis Ababa at one of CRS's client hotel, Saro Maria Hotel (mail: reservation@saromariahotel.com; Phone: +251 11 667 2167). For any inconvenience, please call at [0911718450](tel:0911718450) or [WhatsApp](#), Biruk - F2F program manager.
- Saro Maria 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.
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- During the assignment period, the volunteer will be booked at the host organization's guesthouse in Meki town (+251 221180798; info@mcsethiopia.org) or at Haile Resort- at Ziway (+251464412828/02; mktziway@hailerresorts.com). 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 any advances received in Ethiopia.
- For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided

J. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS

- The volunteer can fine-tune the Scope of Work based on her/his professional qualifications to successfully carry out this small-scale irrigation and climate smart agriculture training program.
- 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 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 simple training aids like flip charts, markers and tape, s/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office at Addis Ababa prior to travel to the assignment place.
- Translation of handouts to the local language can be done in the locality of the assignment, if required. Handouts needing translation must be provided to CRS Ethiopia at least 2 weeks in advance before volunteer's arrival to allow for adequate time for translation.
- Depending on the meeting places and availability of electricity and LCD projector, the volunteer may use a laptop and projector for PowerPoint presentations. This can only be done in at Woerdas/town level and not at community level when training farmers.
- Trainings held in the field will usually take place at a Farmers' Training Center (FTC). There will be no power at FTCs so please plan presentations and training materials accordingly.
- The overall temperature of the assignment place is warm to hot, dry and windy.

K. 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.

CRS Baltimore	
<p>Maria Figueroa U.S. Operations Manager, Farmer-to-Farmer Program 228 West Lexington Street Baltimore, MD 21201-3443 P 410-951-7366 Email: maria.figueroa@crs.org</p>	
CRS Ethiopia	
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Host Organization	
MCS	CRS LRO/DFSA team
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