



To express interest in this assignment please email [priyanka.subba@crs.org](mailto:priyanka.subba@crs.org)

**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	NE218
Country	Nepal
Country Project	Livestock Country Project
Host Organization	Small Farmer Agriculture Cooperative (SFACL) Semlar, Rupendhehi
Assignment Title	Dairy herd health and animal husbandry management practices
Assignment preferred dates	December 2019- June 2020
Objectives of the assignment	Improved capacity of dairy farmers on dairy animals' health and husbandry management practices Improved dairy herd productivity
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	Animal health expert in disease control and management for dairy cattle. Dairy herd husbandry and general health management is highly desired. Mastitis control and dairy reproductive health is highly desirable
Type of Volunteer Assistance	Technology Transfer = T
Type of Value Chain Activity	Information and Input Support Services (Extension services) (S)
PERSUAP Classification	PERSUAP Type I

**Commented [TN1]:** Since Mastitis and reproductive health issues are diseases, the volunteer may discuss and/or recommend veterinarian drugs, and this triggers PERSUAP type 1

**A. BACKGROUND**

Nepal is predominantly an agricultural economy. Livestock keeping contributes significantly to rural livelihoods in Nepal. Water buffaloes, cows and goats are part and parcel of their daily livelihoods of smallholders. The contribution of livestock in Nepal's AGDP is 31% with dairy contributing half the share. The economic promises of livestock, focusing dairy, has united farmers in groups/cooperatives to become reliable dairy products suppliers. Smallholders are transforming from subsistence farming commercialized farming. The collective farming culture has significantly improved. In this socio-economic model, farmers are using similar dairy breeds, feed, disease and herd management. This practice has significantly boosted the volume of production and increased their bargaining power for better prices.

Nepal Government has also come forward to support farmers initiatives by developing extension services to strengthen these groups and cooperatives. However, the extension services are limited in due to limited skills and reliability. Very few extension workers provide services on veterinary care.

Cooperatives like Small Farmer Agriculture Cooperative (SFACL) need to improve their livestock management practices.

Small Farmer Agriculture Cooperative (SFACL), is union of 450 farmer groups with a combined 2558 members. It was established in 2002. SFACL is pioneer in agriculture marketing and livestock trading. The members own at least one cow, a buffalo or a few goats and chicken in their backyards. SFACL members daily milk collection is estimated at over 3800 liters from approximately 800 members. The income generated from milk sales contributes significantly to the annual incomes for the cooperative. In some cases, its share is around 40%. The cooperative has established a dairy plant for milk processing.

#### **B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

The Semlar farmers have 2 to 50 cows/buffaloes per households (HHS). Due to traditional herd management practices and associated low milk yields of 8-10 liters/cow, farmers, cooperatives and the private sector lack adequate resources to invest in dairy business. The low productivity per cow/buffalo is attributed also to sub clinical and clinical mastitis coupled with reproductive disorders. Besides the low yields, other losses are due to increase in unconsumable milk and high treatment costs.

Through the cooperative and with support from government extension support, farmers are utilizing various options to maintain the health of their dairy animals. These efforts have not adequately addressed the challenges, with increasing sterility reported and the productivity of the water buffaloes and cows on a steady decline. Farmers have adopted improved husbandry management practices to curtail disease incidences, among them artificial insemination (AI) to avoid reproductive disorders and improve cattle sheds to maintain sanitation. Even these efforts have low rates of success. The reproductive disorders are incurring heavily losses to farmers.

Farmers are inclining towards cattle farm expansion and are falling short to find feasible techniques and knowledges to protect their investment. They are looking for some holistic methods to increasing production and productivity from water buffaloes and cows. The traditional methods are not adequately addressing their needs.

#### **C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The specific objective of this volunteer assignment is to improve the farmers with knowledge and skills on integrated animal health disease management practices. This will improve the farmers understanding and subsequent adopt dairy herd husbandry practices that reduce, control and manage dairy herd challenges such as reproductive health related disease such as mastitis and repeat breeding through understanding disease transmission methods, preventive measures and other epidemiological aspects.

- The volunteer expert will spend significant time with the Small holder's dairy farmers conducting on farm trainings demonstration on animal health disease management practices (focusing reproductive diseases- mastitis and repeat breeding)
- The volunteer will also develop practical guidelines to support in further dissemination of this assignment to farmers that cannot be reached during this assignment.

- The volunteer will co-developed good animal husbandry guidelines suitable for livestock farm improvement.

**D. HOST CONTRIBUTION**

Small Farmer Agriculture Cooperative (SFACL), will facilitate the volunteers to reach the targeted dairy farmers and ensure successful assignment completion. The host will also arrange training.

**E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS (Outcome/impact) FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will equip farmers with new knowledge and skills on prevention, control and management practices for animal disease in dairy which will directly contribute to the following;

- Increased incomes by reducing disease incidences and decreasing reproductive disorders in dairy animals
- Increased knowledge on artificial insemination in water buffaloes and cows by increasing reproduction
- Increased awareness on good husbandry practices

**F. DELIVERABLES**

The anticipated deliverables accomplished by the volunteer also include:

- Prevention and control methods for mastitis and repeat breeding will be shared
- Handbook on mastitis and repeat breeding prevention and control will be shared
- Simple guideline on animal husbandry management.
- Outreach Activity
- Host recommendations action plan developed
- Trip Report should be submitted before exit meeting

**G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY (DRAFT)**

Day	Activity
Days 1	Arrival Nepal, Trivubhan international Airport. The volunteer will be picked by Greenwich Hotel with a placard bearing “ <b>CRS logo and volunteer name</b> ”.
Day 2	Introduction and meeting with CRS management, and briefing meeting (security, general orientation, logistic, reporting formats, etc) at CRS office. Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan.
Day 3	Travel to assignment site. Introduction and assignment briefing with host representatives
Days 4 – 11	Complete assignment related activities at the host location
Day 12-13	Activity close out, host action plan preparation for implementing recommendations
Day 14	Travel back to Kathmandu
Day 15-16	Report revision, submission
Day 17	Debriefing including CRS country Office and Local mission

Day 18	Departure to the US
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#### H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

- Dairy animals' health expert with experience on reproductive disease management in cows and buffaloes
- Experience in overall dairy herd husbandry practices is highly desired
- Communication and training skills for adult audience

#### I. ACCOMMODATION AND IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

- Before travelling to the assignment place, the volunteer will stay in Kathmandu at one of the CRS's client hotels, Hotel Kutumba ([http:// https://www.hotels.com/ho1081978144/hotel-kutumba-lalitpur-nepal](http://https://www.hotels.com/ho1081978144/hotel-kutumba-lalitpur-nepal)) in Kathmandu. The hotel 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 offices and vice versa while in Kathmandu. The volunteer may also wish to and back from the office since it is a 10-minute walk.
- All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer. CRS Nepal will provide the volunteer with a laptop computer (if s/he needs), 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 Kathmandu. CRS will provide a vehicle and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment. Wherever the hosts cannot contribute vehicle, CRS will provide transport services to volunteer.
- During the assignment period, the volunteer will be booked in a hotel at the project site, to be confirmed prior to volunteer arrival. CRS Nepal will arrange hotel accommodation and cover the lodging bills against receipts. CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with a per-diem advance to cater meals and incidences.
- Security information will be provided by CRS Nepal Security focal person at Kathmandu CRS Country office.

#### J. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS

- Prior to travel, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training and demonstration aids and written handouts. Electronic copies of these handouts and any other printed materials can be printed for immediate use at the CRS office in Kathmandu on request by the volunteer.
- If the volunteer requires use of simple training aids like flip charts, markers or tape s/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office in Kathmandu prior to travel to the assignment place.
- Translation of handouts to the local language can be done at the assignment location 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.
- Weather Appropriate Clothing: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/np/nepal-weather>.
- Table: 1 Weather by month

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Avg. Temperature (°C)	15.2	17.4	22.3	27.8	29.6	29.3	28.5	28.4	27.2	25.9	20.8	15.7
Min. Temperature (°C)	8	9.8	13.8	19.7	23	24.3	24.9	24.7	23.1	21.1	13.9	8.3
Max. Temperature (°C)	22.4	25	30.8	35.9	36.2	34.4	32.1	32.1	31.4	30.7	27.7	23.2
Avg. Temperature (°F)	59.4	63.3	72.1	82.0	85.3	84.7	83.3	83.1	81.0	78.6	69.4	60.3
Min. Temperature (°F)	46.4	49.6	56.8	67.5	73.4	75.7	76.8	76.5	73.6	70.0	57.0	46.9
Max. Temperature (°F)	72.3	77.0	87.4	96.6	97.2	93.9	89.8	89.8	88.5	87.3	81.9	73.8
Precipitation / Rainfall (mm)	23	6	17	21	68	366	647	620	336	93	3	3

The difference in precipitation between the driest month and the wettest month is 644 mm. The variation in annual temperature is around 14.4 °C.

#### K. KEY CONTACTS

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