



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



To express interest in this assignment please email priyanka.subba@crs.org
CRS Farmer to Farmer Program
Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	NE227
Country	Nepal
Country Project	Crops
Host Organization	Ares Mushroom
Host address	Balambu-6, Kathmandu, Phone: +977-1-4315678
Assignment Title	Mushroom production and production facility enhancement
Assignment preferred dates	November 2019 (preferred 11/9/2019 to 11/23/2019) onwards
Objectives of the assignment	-Support to setting up mushroom production facility for its operation -Enhance owner and staff capacity particularly on cold chain maintenance for year around mushroom production inside controlled condition
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	The volunteer should have working experiences to setting up mushroom production facility for its well-functioning, hands on experience on mushroom production inside controlled condition with focus on room temperature maintenance and exposed to growing different varieties of mushroom production and their temperature requirement inside the controlled room.
Type of Volunteer Assistance	Business/Enterprise Development=E
Type of Value Chain Activity	Information and Input Support Services (areas as extension services, input supplies, veterinary services—most Administrative assignments are expected to fall into this classification) = S
PERSUAP Classification ¹	PERSUAP II

A. BACKGROUND

CRS F2F Nepal program collaborates with many local host organizations to enhance their capacity and troubleshoot bottlenecks they are facing through its two country projects Crops and Livestock by facilitating technical expertise from the US. It collects needs from local private companies, government institutions, USAID supported projects and programs, community cooperatives, associations and local NGOs foster vegetable, Maize, Lentil, Coffee and Apple sub-sector within Crops and Dairy, small ruminant and fisheries in Livestock value chains. Those sub-sectors have prioritized in country's

¹ USAID precisely classifies PERSUAP in four categories; **PERSUAP Type I** assignments directly related to pesticides recommendations, **Type II** as assignments with indirectly related with pesticides, **Type III** assignments related to curriculum review and designing, business plan development and strategies development and **Type IV** as assignments associated with other USAID projects and collaborators.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Agricultural Development Strategy (ADS). To meet goals and objectives of ADS, collaboration and private sector strengthening is prime interest of donor community as well as government.

Ares Mushroom is one of the pioneer company to promote production of mushroom seed which had established 30 years ago in Balambu, Kathmandu. It was formally registered as small cottage industry 15 years ago. It has been regularly producing and supplying Oyster mushroom seeds in the country for 28 years. At initial stage of its establishment, it used to get mushroom seed from Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC). The joint project of Directorate of Industrial Entomology Development under department of agriculture and Japan Internal Cooperation Agency (JICA) carried a research in the company to produce quality Oyster seed with modern technology and mother culture almost 10 years back. Since then it has become one of the larger Oyster seed produces which produces nearly 60 percent of the Oyster seed consumed in the country. Since last three years, it has started to extend its facility for raw materials production and mixing, packaging, sterilizing, cooling, inoculation and incubation inside controlled condition. All the infrastructure for this facility has been almost completed but still required some short of setting like autoclave and air condition fixing.

The new production facility holds capacity of producing 8,000 packets of mushroom per day and has separate cooling chamber to produce King Oyster Mushroom which can keep 13600 packets of mushroom each having 1.2 kg.

B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION

Humidity and temperature management inside cooling chamber for year around production of King Oyster mushroom inside cooling room is the biggest issue the company has right now as the mushroom is very sensitive perishable vegetable highly affected by external environment and temperature. Similarly, there is minor issues with designing and setting up of facility as none of company have already been established like Ares in the country. Further, it requires knowledge of different temperature and humidity required by different varieties of mushroom at different climatic condition mostly at summer and at Monsoon inside cooling chambers. Also, there is issue of fixing air condition and its designing for proper cooling inside the room.

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

- Support to setting up mushroom production facility for its operation
- Enhance owner and staff capacity particularly on cold chain maintenance for year around mushroom production inside controlled condition

D. HOST CONTRIBUTION

The host will provide training hall and space for volunteer work station during assignment period.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

- Well-functioning of the production facility
- Year-round production of King Oyster mushroom
- Mushroom production and productivity increased

F. DELIVERABLES

- Owner of the and staff trained on cooling chamber management for year around mushroom production
- Designing and setting up of air conditioning reviewed
- A standard operating procedure (SOP) of Mushroom production facility developed

G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN NEPAL

Days (not dates)	Activity
Days 1	Arrival Nepal, Tribhuvan International Airport. The volunteer will be picked by Greenwich Hotel with a placard bearing “CRS logo and volunteer name”.
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 and facility observation
Days 4 – 9	Complete assignment related activities at the host location, host debriefing
Day 10	Debriefing and host and CRS
Day 11	Fly back to USA

H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

The volunteer should have working experiences to setting up mushroom production facility for its well-functioning, hands on experience on mushroom production inside controlled condition with particular focus on room temperature maintenance and exposed to growing different varieties of mushroom production and their temperature requirement inside the controlled room. Additionally, it will be highly appreciable if she/he will have expertise in writing standard operating procedure of mushroom production facility.

I. ACCOMMODATION AND ANOTHER 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 <https://www.orbitz.com/Lalitpur-Hotels-Hotel-Kutumba.h33780567.Hotel-Information> or another hotel that will be booked and confirmed before the arrival date. In Kathmandu, the hotel usually has rooms that include services such as airport



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



pickup and drop-off, breakfast, wireless internet, etc. The hotel or CRS will arrange a vehicle for short travel from the hotel to CRS and vice versa while in Kathmandu.

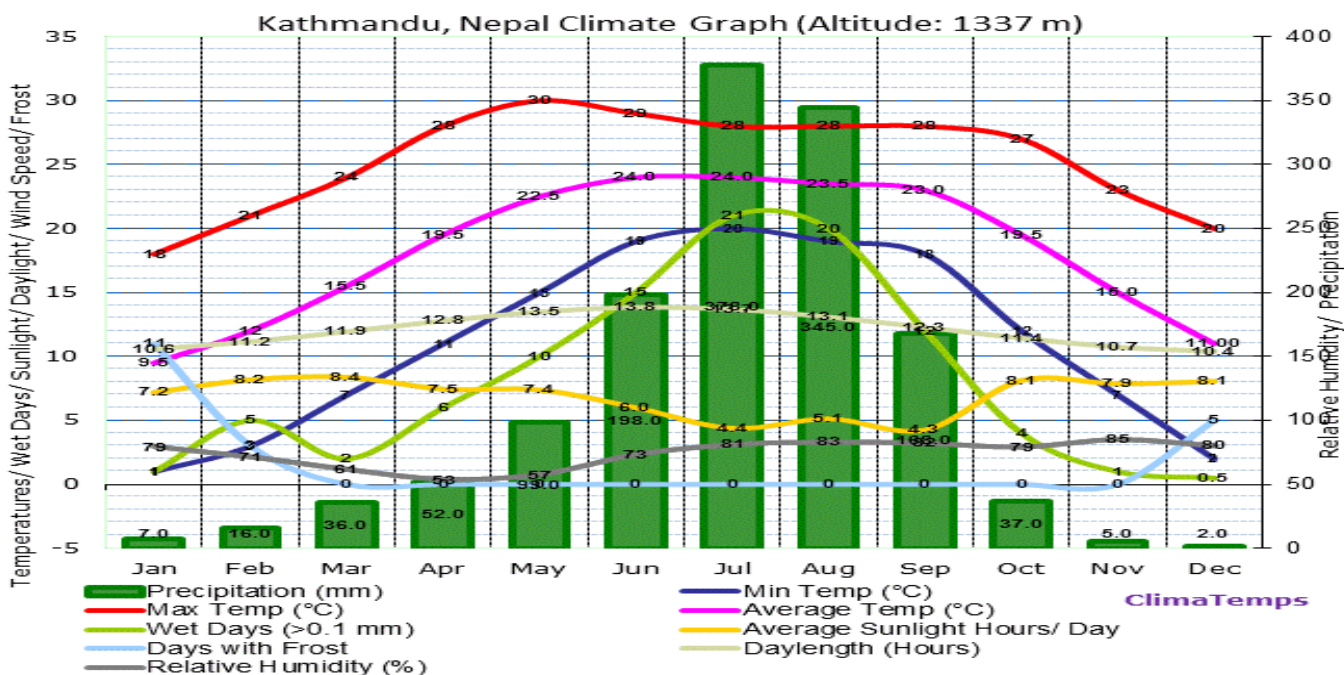
- All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer. CRS Nepal will provide the volunteer with a laptop computer (if s/he needs), and mobile phone with charged local SIM-card. Any other required logistics and facilities can also be requested by the volunteer during her/his stay in Kathmandu. CRS will provide a vehicle and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment.
- 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>



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



K. KEY CONTACTS

<p>CRS Baltimore, US Priyanka Subba Volunteer Recruiter Farmer to Farmer Program 228 W. Lexington Street Baltimore, MD 21201 410-955-7194 Email: priyanka.subba@crs.org</p>	<p>CRS Nepal Country Program Phaindra Raj Pandey Project Director, CRS F2F Nepal Country Office Maitri Marg - Bakhundole, Lalitpur Metropolitan City Ward No.1, Province 3, Nepal Cell: +977-98141205763, 9808028903 Email: phaindra.pandey@crs.org</p>
<p>CRS Nepal Country Program Prachanda Kattel Project Coordinator, CRS F2F Nepal Country Office Maitri Marg - Bakhundole, Lalitpur Metropolitan City Ward No.1, Province 3, Nepal Cell: +977-98141205763, 9808028903 Email: prachanda.kattel@crs.org</p>	<p>Chhan Bahadur Bhattachan MEAL Coordinator CRS F2F Nepal Country Office Maitri Marg - Bakhundole, Lalitpur Metropolitan City Ward No.1, Province 3, Nepal Cell: +977-9841390786 Email: chhan.bhattachan@crs.org</p>



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Host Organization:	
Om Krishna Shrestha Ares Mushroom, Founder Balambu, Chandragiri Municipality #4 Kathmandu District, Province #3 Cell: 977-9851155818 Email: om.krishnag@yahoo.com	