



Please email Mireille.Ngokion@crs.org to express interested in this assignment.

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

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	BJ235
Country	Benin (but the assignment will be in Togo)
Country Project	Flexi
Host Organization	Afrik Excel
Type of Volunteer Assistance	T
Type of Value Chain Activity	P
Assignment Title	Training on fish floating feed Production techniques
Assignment preferred dates	February-March 2020
Objectives of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train the Afrik Excel staff on fish floating feeds techniques • Train the Afrik Excel staff on improved techniques of fish raising • Train the Afrik Excel on fish ponds management to increase their yield
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert in fish raising in ponds • Relevant experiences in floating feeds production, • Be used to adult people training • Be familiar to participatory approach

A. BACKGROUND

Begun in 2005 with the support and the accompaniment of producers in the installation of pineapple cultivation and its marketing, Afrik Excel has emerged from the observation of the low income of the producers earned from the various speculations practiced.

The project actually took shape in 2005 with the introduction of the pineapple crop. Agronomic trials are conducted on plots prepared for this purpose to assess the physiological behavior of the plant and especially the income that pineapple after a complete cycle of production. A second phase of the project consists of the acquisition of cultivable land in Kpévé locality in Zio prefecture. Afrik Excel has for this purpose, a processing unit and spaces for tests and practices on innovations to be transferred to farmers.

AFRIK EXCEL's mission is to:

- To develop different innovations and to make sure of their effectiveness for a transfer and an adoption in peasant environment;
- To provide support and technical and organizational assistance to farmers and their organizations to improve productivity and increase production while preserving the environment;
- To guarantee a remunerative market closer to producers.

AFRIK EXCEL's activities are structured in four parts:

- Animal production (Fish farming, pig breeding, poultry)
- Crop production (pineapple, corn, soybean, cowpea ...)
- Processing (transformation of pineapple into pineapple juice)
- Follow-up support, technical and organizational assistance of producers

The fish farming is practiced in the ponds. The main fish raised is tilapia. The objective is to develop this value chain. The technology will be disseminated in a peasant environment for true adoption by the latter. For this purpose, the fry is produced as well as the foods on site. The focus is mostly on floating feed technology that they don't master now.

B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION

As stated above, the Afrik Excel farm started in the last 02 years, fish raising in ponds in addition to the main activity of pineapple juice producing. They raise mostly Tilapia in the ponds and most of the feeds they use for the fish raising are made on site. But they realize that their feeds do not float and they lose most in the feeds and the production yield is very low. Then, they begun purchasing the floating feeds

from a private company to feed the fish in the ponds and realized that the result was impressive. But this is costly for them and they lack knowledge to make it on site themselves. This is the reason why they are looking for a technical assistance to master this technique of floating feeds production.

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The main objective of this assignment is to train the Afrik Excel staff on fish floating feeds production techniques. The assignment will intend specially to:

- Train the Afrik Excel staff on fish floating feeds production techniques
- Train the Afrik Excel staff on the improved techniques of fish raising
- Train the Afrik Excel on fish ponds management to increase their yield

D. HOST CONTRIBUTION

The contribution of Afrik Excel to this assignment will consist of mobilizing, supporting the commuting, the lodging and the feeding fees of the participants to the training sessions. In addition, they promise to take in charge the volunteer's accommodation as they own some facilities on the farm site. Finally, Afrik Excel promise to take in charge the interpreters' fees for the assignment.

E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

Through the volunteer technical assistance, Afrik Excel will improve their fish ponds yield and increase their production. In fact, they intend to expand their ponds from 03 to 10 as well as the ponds size and low their productivity costs and make their fish production more profitable. In term, they will recruit more staff and give opportunity to many students to be trained on fish raising and floating feeds producing.

F. DELIVERABLES

The deliverables expected from this assignment are the follows:

- The training of 10 staff of Afrik Excel on fish floating feeds is done
- The training of 10 staff of Afrik Excel on some improved fish raising techniques is done
- The training of the Afrik Excel staff on the fish ponds management to increase their yield is done
- Debriefing with USAID and country staff after assignment
- Provide assignment report

G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY (DRAFT)

Day	Activity
Day 1	Travel from home to US international airport
Day 2	Arrival at Benin International Airport, picked up and check in at Livingstone Hotel or Nobila Airport Hotel.
Day 3	At 9.00 am, the volunteer will come to CRS office for introductions and orientations (briefings including host brief), logistics and expectations and anticipated outcomes. Any necessary hand-outs will be prepared at CRS offices and Travel to Togo and Kpeve and check in Afrik Excel accommodation facilities. CRS Benin F2F team introduces the volunteer to the Afrik Excel Staff as well as to the chief of police and to Mayor of the district. The volunteer will review and finalize the work-plan and discuss with them on any other arrangement for the work
Day 4	Make a quick diagnosis to better understand the issues related to Afrik Excel fish raising activities
Days 5-6-7-8	Training the Afrik Excel staff on fish floating feeds production techniques
Day 9-10-11	Training the Afrik Excel staff on the improved techniques of fish raising and training the Afrik Excel staff on fish ponds management to increase their yield
Day 12	Wrap up meeting and debriefing with with Afrik Excel representatives, CRS Benin F2F staff, actions plan and recommendations review and travel back to Lomé
Day 13	Travel Back to Cotonou
Day 14	Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staff. Volunteer will finalize his/her reporting at CRS office and fill out all necessary M&E forms.
Day 15	Depart for USA

H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

As described above, the volunteer we are looking for this assignment must be expert in fish raising and fish floating feeds production. Especially, he or she must be:

- Expert in fish raising in ponds
- Relevant experiences in floating feeds production,
- Be used to adult people training
- Be familiar to participatory approach

I. ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

In Cotonou, the volunteer will stay at Livingstone Hotel or Nobilla Airport Hotel, whereas at Kpeve in Togo, the volunteer will stay in accommodation facilities on the Afrik Excel farm. In Benin, CRS will pay for hotel accommodation. In addition, a local network SIM card will be provided to the volunteer as well as a spare computer if needed at his or her arrival in Cotonou. In Togo, Afrik Excel will provide a local interpreter for the volunteer’s work and will contribute to the volunteer’s commuting as well as mobilizing and supporting its staff for the required sessions. Laté Lawson, the Director of Afrik Excel will work closely with the volunteer during the preparations and his/her work, to ensure that the assignment goals are being achieved.

J. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS

1. Training Materials

The volunteer should prepare materials for hand out before his arrival which can be printed at CRS office in Benin. Flip charts, markers, masking tapes and projector can be obtained at the CRS offices in case the volunteer wishes to make some illustrations during the sessions.

2. Working Environment

Kpeve is in the Togo Republic and located in the south at 30 km from Lomé, the Capital which is at about 150 km from Cotonou. People there are Christian (70%) and Muslim (30%), but all of them are well involved in endogenous religion. People there speak mostly Mina and Ewe. Also, in Kpeve as well as in Lomé, people are open to collaborate with foreigners.

3. Recommended Reading

The volunteer may read some documents fish raising and fish feeds producing and markets in Africa. Any other documents related to this assignment can be useful for the volunteer’s preparation.

4. Weather Appropriate Clothing

The weather appropriate clothing is light and not dark clothes. In the south of Togo, the weather is a bit hot and humid with some temperatures varying between 23 to 36 Celsius degree. It is also a sunny weather with some rains fall from June.

K. KEY CONTACTS

CRS Baltimore	Country Director
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