



To express interest in this assignment please email priyanka.subba@crs.org

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

Notice for potential volunteers:
Some assignment details are subject to change.

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	TL227
Country	Timor-Leste
Country Project	Modernizing Agriculture
Host Organization	General Directorate Livestock and Veterinary Services
Assignment Title	Ruminant feed formulation training for private companies and SOE
Assignment preferred dates	Flexible
Objectives of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToT training to private company staff and livestock and veterinary technician on Ruminant feed formulation using local ingredient • Train staff on scavenging ruminant management
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock feed formulation expert with a good understanding of Ruminant nutrition requirements
Type of Volunteer Assistance	Technology Transfer (T)
Type of Value Chain Activity	Processing (P)
PERSUAP Classification ¹	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

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.



assistance to introduce new technologies, innovations and development of local capacity for more productive, profitable, sustainable and equitable agriculture systems.

The Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Strategic Plan² recognizes the fundamental importance of agriculture to Timor-Leste's economy and the impact of agriculture on poverty reduction, food and nutrition security, economic growth, and income and employment generation through its linkages to other sectors of the economy. The agriculture sector in Timor-Leste accounted for 19% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), or over \$253 million in 2013. However, there is a considerable net deficit in agricultural trade as imports in 2014 were valued at approximately \$60 million. Major imports include rice, sugar, meat (chicken, beef, pork), vegetable oil, fish, milk, and vegetables (potato, onion)². In rural communities 57% of women and 60% of men are actively involved in agriculture³. Agriculture consists primarily of subsistence farming with limited access to inputs, technical knowledge, and market linkages. There is a heavy reliance on traditional agricultural practices such as slash-and-burn cultivation. Most smallholdings are mixed rainfed farms growing maize, cassava, red kidney beans, sweet potato, rice, groundnut, and vegetables. Coffee, coconut and candlenut are the most common tree crops. Livestock, such as poultry, pigs, cattle, buffalo, goats and sheep are raised on a small-scale and extensive

General Directorate Livestock and Veterinary is one of the general directorates under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery Timor-Leste which consisted of two national directorates such as national directorate of livestock and national directorate of veterinary.

In the development of the agriculture sector in Timor-Leste. Administratively, Timor-Leste is divided into Districts, Sub district, village and Aldeias (hamlets). There are 13 Districts, 65 Sub-districts and 442 Villages and 2,225 aldeias/sub villages. The size of Timor Leste is 15,007 KM², of this only 8% is cultivable land. The total population is 1,183,643 (Census 2015) population (>70%) are traditional farmers. Livestock in Timor-Leste composed of village chickens (928,806), pigs (419,169), cattle (221,767), goats (158,467), buffaloes (128,262), horses (50,751) and sheep (40,498) (Census 2015).³ The performances of these livestock are low. The low performance is due to several reasons. The first reason is livestock diseases. Endemic Animal diseases in Timor Leste are Newcastle Disease (ND), Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Septicemia Epizootic (SE), Brucellosis, Sura and parasite diseases. Other factors include very high calves' mortality (up to 50%) and low reproduction rate (30%) (de Almeida, 2012).⁴

To overcome low performances of our Livestock, government through Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) has routine vaccination program to control endemic animal diseases. The routine vaccinations conducted in the country include: vaccination for ND, CSF and SE. The other two main diseases (Brucellosis and Sura) have no vaccination yet. Another case low livestock performance is how to formulate for the ruminant and one strategy to overcome low livestock performances is by planting legume trees and variety of grasses to substitute the lack of nutrition particularly during dry season. Another strategy to overcome Animal Diseases, is to be part of World

² <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/tim149148.pdf>

³ <http://www.statistics.gov.tl/tl/category/publications/census-publications/>

⁴ <https://www.springer.com/journal/11250>



Animal Health Organization (OIE). Timor Leste has become 178th the member of OIE in 2010. And most of this is modernizing the agriculture sub-sector in particular, as is indicated in the CRS Timor-Leste Country Project document. CRS' engagement in the sector is for the period ending September 2023.

These activities are designed and developed to diversify the local economy in Timor-Leste. Timor-Leste as a new country which won the independence in 2002 is aiming to diversify the industry by moving away from a single economy dependent on natural resources in its 'Strategic National Development Plan 2011-2030'. However, the lack of the experiences and human resources become challenges in all sectors in this country.

B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION

Ruminant production sector in Timor-Leste is affected by many challenges. Some of the problems include is the ownership of the animals is raised on a small scale and extensive at the household level and only very few are raised as a group, furthermore the farmers also lack of knowledge on on how to use good techniques including lack of information to use local ingredients to formulate food and its nutrition content. The high cost of quality feeding, poor ruminant health care services, unsuitable ruminant houses and poor maintenance of houses, inadequate managerial and technical know-how and poor marketing, distribution and pricing of ruminant products.

Feeding for ruminants is the one of the most important challenge that private, groups and farmer facing. They are dependent on import feed ingredients and it will be hard to get it especially in the dry season and they will have to look for alternate sources. Basically, at the household level they raise their animals by releasing them in the wild and only occasionally provide local food such Sagu and Salt once or twice a week so that their cattle do not go wild and never return.

Even if the livestock-cattle beef farm is surplus for National consume, the body weight and ruminant management found to be low as compare to the standard which was caused by poor feeding and poor health management. Therefore, requested F2F program for volunteer assistance to assess the current practice and recommend/advise them improved techniques on feeding composition use local ingredient and livestock management to achieve the target as standard.

It is believed that if the technical capacity of the Extension workers, Livestock and veterinarian and private company staff is improved, the ruminant farm can hit the target and allows the farm to be more effective in meeting the demand of its customers.

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of this volunteer assignment is to train and practically demonstrate modern technical knowledge/skills on improved ruminant feed and livestock management practices. The beneficiaries for this assignment will be Extension workers, Livestock's and Veterinary staff, and private company staff.



The volunteer may touch upon some of the following techniques that can improve the Ruminant feed and Ruminant Management:

1. Selection and care of ruminant feed in local ingredient (practice and advice on feed processing)
2. Ruminant management focusing on practices how to fatten and rising for breeding

D. HOST CONTRIBUTION

General Directorate will select, determine the attendances regarding to training participant. The General Directorate will also ensure that the necessary class rooms and local training aids and other teaching materials are in place. The host will also provide the volunteer with and facilitate the volunteer for meal services. The General Directorate will also assign a focal person who can guide and facilitate the volunteer specialist during the assignment period. **The host will also provide accommodation**, office space and office furniture as well as vehicle if any travel is required during the assignment duration.

E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

This assignment volunteer will contribute to the following:

1. Produce Ruminant food formulation manual guidelines for the participant
2. Initial presentation (outlines/list of activities, plan, approach, etc.)
3. raining and direct assistance to minimum 60 participant

F. DELIVERABLES

1. Final report Field report with recommendation and simple guidelines submitted,
2. Produced manual for ruminant
3. Group presentation with local stakeholders at the end of the assignment in country
4. Training attendance list
5. Group presentation
6. Volunteer outreach activities in the US and in country
7. Debrief meeting with USAID and US Ambassador

G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN TIMOR-LESTE

Please note that this is a tentative schedule and will be finalized post volunteer selection with consultation with volunteer.

Day	Activity
Day 1	Arrival in Timor-Leste. The volunteer will be picked by a car provided through CRS's client hotel with a placard bearing "CRS logo and volunteer name" .
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing meeting at CRS office with CRS F2F staff, security briefing and logistics and itinerary of the trip and discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan; • Setup with guesthouse and other logistics
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing meeting with staff and Leader of General Directorate



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First hand briefing on outlines of topics of the training, plan, approach, etc, and adjust the topics as required. • Work planning discussion with the staff of the General Directorate • Prepare course/training and plan with the General Directorate to proceed with the assignment (lecturing, advising, and practicing)
Day 4-6	Conduct the assignment according to an agreed schedule on Ruminant feeding formulation and management
7-8	Saturday and Sunday -reporting and presentation preparation
Days 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap up sessions that emphasize key concepts of the assignment: the General Directorate evaluates the assignment and discusses final report recommendations with the volunteer. • Group presentation to the host in the presence of CRS F2F staff
Day 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to CRS and Debriefing for CRS staffs in CRS office • Submit all reports, return logistic items and complete all required activities • Debrief meeting with USAID and USA Ambassador
Day 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel back to USA

H. ACCOMMODATION AND ANOTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

- Before travelling to the assignment place, the volunteer will stay in Plaza Hotel at one of the CRS's client hotels that will be booked and confirmed before the arrival date. <https://www.google.com/search> n Dili, the hotel usually 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 or using Taxi
- CRS Timor Leste 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 Timor-Leste.
- CRS will provide a vehicle and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment.
- During her/his assignment period on the field, the volunteer will be stay at General guest house/hotel/homestay
- CRS Timor-Leste 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.
- Before departing to US, the volunteer will also liquidate advances (if any) at CRS Timor-Leste
- For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided

I. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS

- Prior to travel, the volunteer will be advised to prepare necessary training and demonstrating aids and written handouts. Softcopies of the handouts and any other paper materials can be printed for immediate use at either office of CRS on request by the volunteer.
- If the volunteer requires use of simple training aids like flip charts, markers, masking tapes, etc, s/he should make the request and collect from either office at Dili office prior to travel to the assignment place.
- Translation of handouts to local languages can be done in the locality of the assignment, if shortly required. Depending on the meeting places, the volunteer may use a laptop and projector for power point presentations



- Recommend reading are <http://www.scielo.br/scielo>. <http://www.fao.org>
- Related to the weather condition now it is rainy season

J. KEY CONTACTS

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