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To express interest in this assignment for virtual support, please email [emily.keast@crs.org](mailto:emily.keast@crs.org)  
 To express interest in this assignment for Liberian volunteers, please email [geraldine.tabi@crs.org](mailto:geraldine.tabi@crs.org)  
**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program**  
**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

<b>Summary Information</b>	
Assignment Code	<b>LR230</b>
Country	Liberia
Country Project	Cassava
Host Organization	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association</li> <li>2. Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association</li> <li>3. Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association</li> <li>4. Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association</li> </ol>
Assignment Title	Training of Trainer (TOT) on Cassava Good Agricultural practice (GAP)
Assignment preferred dates	January 2021
Objectives of the assignment	The objective of this assignment is to build the capacity of the mentioned farmer cooperatives on the application of good agricultural practices to guide the production systems towards sustainable and ecologically safe agriculture, obtain harmless products of higher quality, contribute to food security by generating income through market access, and improve the working conditions of producers and their families.
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	The candidate should have a degree in general agriculture or crop sciences and have strong experience in cassava production. Knowledge of soil fertility is advantageous. Must have at least five years of working experience in rural communities with rural institutions most especially farmer cooperatives and agro-businesses. The candidate must be knowledgeable on adult training approaches, be prepared to work in a remote area and be passionate about working with the developing communities.
Type of Volunteer Assistance	Technology Transfer = T
Type of Value Chain Activity	On Farm Production = F
PERSUAP Classification <sup>1</sup>	PERSUAP Type II

<sup>1</sup> 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.



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## A. BACKGROUND

**Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative (APROFIN)** is involved in the production of cassava-based products including fufu, deepah, and super gari. The company purchases cassava tubers from cassava producer organizations and individual farmers from towns and villages within Voinjama District, Lofa County and its surroundings. Since its establishment, the Company made significant investments in its processing activities. The need for additional investments is needed to allow the company meets its goals and objectives. The below listed cassava producers are major suppliers of raw materials to the company.

### 1. Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association

**Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association** was founded in November 2013 by the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAPP) in Kpakamai town, Voinjama District, Lofa County. It has an active membership base of 44 local cassava farmers/producers whereby 25 are male and 19 are female farmers. Each farmer currently operates between 3.8 and 4.2 hectares of cassava farmland. The approximate cassava farmland that the Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association has is 176 hectares.

This farmers association contributes to 21% of the Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative's (APROFIN) raw material supplies.

**The Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association** enhances farmers' knowledge and skills, boosts the transformation of agriculture, increases cassava yields, improves farmers' livelihood, and develops the rural economy.

### 2. Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association

**The Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association** was founded in November 2013 by the Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAPP) in Zemolomai town, Voinjama District, Lofa County. It has an active membership base of 48 local cassava farmers/producers whereby 31 are male and 17 are female farmers. Each farmer currently operates between 4 and 4.2 hectares of cassava farmland. Thereby, the Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association has an approximate total of 196.8 hectares of cassava farmland. This farmers association contributes to 24% of the Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative's (APROFIN) raw material supplies.

**The Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association's** mission is to improve the income and quality of life for smallholder farmers through access to quality inputs and services.



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### **3. Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association**

**The Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association** was founded in December 2013 by the Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAPP) in Zozomai town, Voinjama District, Lofa County. It has an active membership base of 51 local cassava farmers/producers whereby 33 are male and 18 are female farmers. Each farmer currently operates between 3.1 and 4.2 hectares of cassava farmland. Thereby Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association's approximate total hectares of cassava farmland is 186.15 hectares. This farmers association contributes to 22% of the Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative's (APROFIN) raw material supplies.

**The Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association's** mission is to ensure access, availability, and stability of local agricultural products on markets.

### **4. Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association**

**The Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association** was founded in December 2013 by the Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAPP) in Golawoloiwa town, Voinjama District, Lofa County. It has an active membership base of 57 local cassava farmers/producers whereby 36 are male and 21 are female farmers. Each farmer currently operates between 2.7 and 4.2 hectares of cassava farmland. The Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association has approximately 196.15 hectares of cassava farmland. This farmers association contributes to 22% of the Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative's (APROFIN) raw material supplies.

**The Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association's** mission is to get local authorities to help promote the idea of consuming locally and help the town of Golawoloiwa build its capacities on sustainable development.

## **B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

Below is our observation that is leading to the producer organizations experiencing low yields in recent time:

1. The lack of adequate knowledge in selecting high yield cassava stem or cuttings.
2. Producer organizations have inadequate knowledge in land preparation.
3. Producer organizations have inadequate knowledge in planting methods.
4. Producer organizations have inadequate knowledge in pest and disease management on cassava farming, the process of harvesting and the storage of cassava cuttings/seedlings.

Considering the above facts, the CRS-ASA Project wants to build the capacity of cassava producer organizations through a volunteer assignment conducting a Training of Trainer (ToT) in good agronomy



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practices. The assignment anticipates increasing cassava yields and providing improved seedlings (cuttings multiplication) to producer organizations.

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

The main objective of this training is to enhance the capacity of the farmer cooperatives' members on good agricultural practices for increased productivity through adoption of cassava farming management practices.

Specifically, the objectives of this assignment are:

- Develop training guide for the trainer and trainees.
- Develop the training methodology/approach.
- Train cassava producers using the best agronomy practices to increase their yields.
- Enhance farmers with knowledge on the cassava varieties suitable for their environment, for industrial use, and tolerant to brown streak.
- Provide farmer trainers with knowledge and skills on community based clean seed production for cassava.
- Enhance farmers knowledge in climate smart agronomic management (fertilizer use, intercropping, conservation agriculture, spacing) practices for cassava.
- Enhance farmers knowledge in climate smart integrated pest management (IPM).
- Conduct the training for the leaders and members heavily emphasizing improved cassava crop production practices.
- Prepare a training report detailing how the trainings were conducted, achievements, challenges, lessons, opportunities for future engagements and recommendations on how to reduce postharvest losses.
- Organize a half-day presentation to members, other stakeholders like local government, buyers, any other partner to share the training report and recommendations.

### **D. HOST CONTRIBUTION**

To conduct this assignment, Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative (APROFIN) management has committed:

- To mobilize the producer organizations Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association, Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association, Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association, Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association.
- The host will also avail key persons to work closely with the volunteers, during the preparations and actual trainings, to ensure that key leaders and staff are trained and will continue training other farmers long after the assignment is completed.
- The host will also provide translation and where possible

### **E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

At the completion of this assignment, the anticipated results below are expected:

- ✓ Trainees (cassava producers) will be empowered with the knowledge in best agronomy practices to increase their yields.



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- ✓ Trainees will be equipped to maintain high yielding resistant cassava varieties which meet requirements of consumers (sweet taste).
- ✓ Trainees will practice the knowledge gained and train other producers in the improved crop management practices which are within the means of resource poor farmers.
- ✓ Trainees will accelerate the transfer of improved cassava production and utilization of cassava through closer linkage and training of farmers association staff and farmers.

**F. DELIVERABLES**

1. Volunteer final report due before departure and people trained
2. Group presentation with local stakeholders at the end of the assignment in country
3. Volunteer outreach activities in the US and in country
4. Training manuals

**G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY**

Days	Activity
Day 1	Orientation session.  Meet with ASA Team to review the scope of work and develop detailed work plan covering all activities required to effectively implement this scope of work.
Day 2	Meet with the host organization Association of Progressive Farmers Initiative (APROFIN) and its Associate producer Organizations (Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association, Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association, Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association, Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers Association) for introduction and review of the scope of work. A meeting for the volunteer to meet the entire core staff to discuss the objectives of the assignment and sketch out a work/action plan.
Day 3-11	Start the rollout of agreed work plan and start with the training session.
Day 12	Organize the workshop to share achievements, expected results and recommendations.
Day 13	Conduct debrief session with CRS Country team and perhaps USAID mission on the completed assignment  Fill out all necessary M&E forms and submit to ASA staff

**H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**

A volunteer also has the following skills:

- Must be results-oriented and service-oriented.
- Must be proactive and willing to work in remote communities.
- Must have good interpersonal skills and must be flexible.

**I. ACCOMMODATION AND ANOTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

The volunteer’s transportation and accommodation will be taken care of by the ASA Project.



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**J. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

The targeted trainees are mostly local farmer who live in remote communities. Most of them have low levels of formal education. Targeted trainees are from the four cassava producer organizations and each will send 15 farmers (8 female and 7 male).

- **Training Materials:**

In the event the volunteer prepares materials for hand out, they can be printed at the CRS office in Voinjama, Lofa County. Flip charts, markers, and a projector, if needed, can be obtained at the CRS Liberia, Voinjama, Lofa County office.

**K. REMOTE/LOCAL VOLUNTEER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Both volunteers participate in a call to discuss objectives and collaboration approach at the start of the assignment. Collaboration platforms vary depending on the assignment and connectivity. The most frequently used platforms are MS Teams and WhatsApp. The volunteers are highly encouraged to visit [CRS' F2F Digital Resource Library](#), and search for resources that they could use or customize for training. Upon completion of your assignment, volunteers are requested to send any resources they would like to contribute to the library (whether created or found) to [farmertofarmer@crs.org](mailto:farmertofarmer@crs.org).

The local volunteer is responsible for assignment design, preparation, training, developing assignment reports, conducting action planning with hosts and outreach in country, and achieving the assignment objectives. The local volunteer works directly with the host with assistance/input from the US volunteer. Assignments usually last up to 2 weeks; Sometimes extending beyond two weeks due to pending follow up visits, emails etc. Local Volunteers are asked to track assignment hours per day, to stay under 112 hours (14 days x 8 hrs).

Virtual support from a paired US volunteer helps provide supplementary training resources, fill in the gaps for technical areas, and share creative ideas and solutions. Two specific responsibilities are to: (i) complete the outreach component of the assignment and (ii) support the in-country volunteer as needed. US Volunteers typically put in 4-8 hours per week, depending on the nature of the assignment and collaboration.

**L. 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	CRS Liberia
Emily Keast Volunteer Coordinator Farmer to Farmer Program 228 W. Lexington Street Baltimore, MD 21201 920-265-0491	TABI, GERALDINE Volunteer recruiter Agriculture Sustainability Activity (ASA) 16 <sup>th</sup> Street, Gardner Ave C-140 Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia Tel:0776448755



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<b>Host Organizations:</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Kpakamai Cassava Farmers Association</b> Name: Sonnie Zaima Cell #: 0770480993</li><li><b>2. Zemolomai Cassava Farmers Association</b> Name: Mohammed Kromah Cell #:0777-114-787</li><li><b>3. Zozomai Cassava Farmers Association</b> Name: David Jallieh Cell #: 0776-446-481</li><li><b>4. Golawoloiwa Cassava Farmers</b> Name: Abraham Kortee Cell #:0777-771-644</li></ol>	