**Remote Paired Volunteer Assignment: Ethiopian or East African volunteer to be paired with remote supporting American volunteer**

**To express interest in this assignment, Ethiopian and East African volunteers please email** [**haile.deressa@crs.org**](mailto:haile.deressa@crs.org) **or** [**lidia.retta@crs.org**](mailto:lidia.retta@crs.org)**. Interested American volunteers for remote support please email** [**chi.olisemeka@crs.org**](mailto:chi.olisemeka@crs.org)**.**

**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Summary Information** | | | | | |
| **Assignment Code** | ET2109 | | | | |
| Country: | Ethiopia | | | | |
| Country Project: | Crops | | | | |
| Host Organization: | Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare Organization (EGCDWO) | | | | |
| Partner: | N/A | | | | |
| Date of baseline data collection: | 09/11/2020 | | | | |
| Date of host agreement signing: | 28/01/2020 | | | | |
| Number of previous volunteer assignments: | | | 5 | | |
| Volunteer recommendations given (Total): | 21 | Volunteer recommendations applied (Total): | | | 10 |
| Assignment Title: | Nutrition Training, Food Processing and Recipe Demonstrations | | | | |
| Objectives of the assignment: | * To provide nutrition training to pregnant and lactating women beneficiaries of the Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare Organization. Main targeting * To demonstrate food processing, fortification, and recipe preparations. | | | | |
| Assignment preferred dates: | February, 2022 | | | | |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | * Formal qualifications in Food Science and Nutrition, extensive knowledge and practical experience in Food Science and Nutrition and extensive experience in food preparation and recipe demonstration. | | | | |
| Type of Volunteer Assistance | T | | | | |
| Type of Value Chain Activity | S | | | | |
| PERSUAP Classification[[1]](#footnote-1)[1] | II | | | | |
| Number of people to be trained | Men | | Women | Youths | |
| 25 | | 20 | - | |
| Will the assignment address gender gaps? (Yes/No)  If yes, please include these in the issues description | | | | Yes | |
| Will the assignment address climate change? (Yes/No)  If yes, please include this in the issues description | | | | Yes | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **BACKGROUND**

CRS Farmer-to-Farmer program (F2F) is a five-year (2019-2023) USAID funded program implemented with a primary goal of reducing hunger, malnutrition, and poverty across six countries: Benin, East Timor, Ethiopia, Nepal, Rwanda, and Uganda. The program aims at achieving this goal through advancing inclusive and sustainable agriculture led growth aimed at generating sustainable and broad-based economic growth in the agricultural sector. The program’s secondary goal is to increase US public understanding of international development issues and programs and share the knowledge back in the US. To achieve these goals, F2F program provides volunteer technical assistances to farmers and farmer groups (associations and cooperatives), private agribusinesses and agricultural education institutions to address key technical and institutional problems identified by the hosts in selected agricultural value chains.

F2F volunteers are pooled from a broad range of US agricultural expertise including private farmers, University professors, bankers/certified accountants, animal health and nutrition specialists, soil scientists and agronomists who can provide technical assistances to the local host organizations. The program introduces new innovations and skills to develop local organizations’ capacity for more productive, profitable, sustainable, and equitable agricultural systems while providing an opportunity for people-to-people exchange within the agricultural sector.

The country nutrition profile of Ethiopia indicates that 37% of children under age 5 are stunted (short for their age), 7% are wasted (thin for their height), 21% are underweight (thin for their age), and 2% are overweight (heavy for their height). Only 11% of children aged 6-23 months are fed a minimum acceptable diet in the 24 hours (Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey, 2019). Over the last two decades, the trend for malnutrition has been improving; however, the prevalence remains among the highest across sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank, 2019; [Global Nutrition Report](https://globalnutritionreport.org/reports/2021-global-nutrition-report/), 2021). Women are also found to be highly affected by nutrient deficiencies, and hence, nutritional diseases. Almost a fourth of pregnant women (22%) suffer from anemia (ibid), and more than a third (36%) of the women population is iodine deficient. As a result, investment in nutrition is highly warranted to ensure healthy growth and development the population (Abuye and Berhane 2007).

Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare organization (EGCDWO) is a local, faith-based, non-profit, and legally registered organization working in Ethiopia since 1999. EGCDWO serves to ensure that the holistic need of the poor, orphans and vulnerable and marginalized community members of Ethiopia are met through integrated development activities. Major services include Child Development Program (CDP), Community Empowerment Program (CEP), HVC, 6 Program, Youth Development, Education, Environment, Elderly People Care and Support (EPCS), Prison Health, Wash and Relief. To realize its vision, EGCDWO facilitates enabling environment for its staff and development partners, enhances their development effectiveness and meaningful contribution to the national development endeavor. EGCDWO operates in, Oromia, Amhara, South Nations Nationalities and Peoples Regions, and Addis Ababa City Administration. Child development program is serving more than eight thousand vulnerable children in their holistic needs through education, life skill, physical, social, health and IGA supports.

During 2018-2022, EGCDWO focus was on strategic priorities including holistic child development, WASH, and health program, strengthening organizational focus, environmental protection, responding to emergencies and community empowerment.

Major donors of the organization include Fida-International, Compassion International, Dorcas Aid International (DAI), Tearfund-UK, CEDAR World Christian Ministries (WCM), One Child Matter, Children’s HopeChest, Good Samaritan, Nehemiah-Czech, World of Worth (WoW) and Tear Ireland – Tf-IA and facilitators for change.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

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has been widely applied and been recognized as effective and

powerful tool in detecting land cover and land use change [1].

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health of crop, extent of infestation, potential yield and soil

conditions. It applied to explore agricultural applications such as

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soil moisture estimation, yield estimation, agriculture water

management, agro meteorological etc

Communities around working areas of Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare organization (EGCDWO) are prone to malnutrition and nutritional diseases due to lack of awareness in nutrition and limited diversity in food production. In terms of food production, the area is characterized by cereals (teff, wheat, and maize) monocropping. In some irrigated areas, vegetables and fruits are grown by small holder farmers mostly for income generation. Similarly, other nutritious animal foods such as milk and eggs are often produced for markets. As a result of these factors, the households are not fulfilling their nutrient requirements.

Protein malnutrition, Vitamin A, and micronutrient (iodine, zinc, and iron) deficiencies are common problems affecting the health of children and women. Malnourished pregnant and lactating women suffer from anemia. As a result, their babies are underweight. In some cases, severely malnourished mothers with reduced lactation increase the risk of child mortality. Hence, adequate, and proper dietary habits are required specially for pregnant and lactating women.

The existing problems of malnutrition and nutritional diseases are multifaceted and require awareness on the community-level (nutrition education), increased production of nutritious food (nutrient-dense crops, animal products), proper food processing techniques, physical/biological fortifications, and recipe preparations. Through its program, the EGCDWO is making efforts to address these challenges, focusing on pregnant and lactating women. This assignment will help to enhance the impact of its initiative by providing targeted training on nutrition, nutritional values of crop and animal products, proper food processing to maintain and enhance bioavailability of nutrients, methods of food fortifications and recipe demonstrations as the TOT for program managers and field level workers of the organization.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The main objective of this volunteer assignment is to provide nutrition training, and demonstrate food processing, fortification, and recipe preparations for women.

The specific objectives are:

* To identify knowledge and skill gaps in nutrition, food processing and recipe preparations, especially for feeding pregnant and lactating women, and children under 5.
* To identify nutrient-dense crop and animal products produced in the area and create awareness on their nutritional values.
* To practically demonstrate food processing, fortification, and recipe preparations.
* To provide advice on production and diet diversity for improved nutritional security.

1. **HOST CONTRIBUTION**

The host also is committed to mobilizing its staff and communities to attend the trainings conducted by the volunteer. The host will avail key personnel to always work closely with the volunteer to ensure translation to the local language and to assist the volunteer during trainings and practical demonstration sessions. CRS will cover lodging and other related costs of the volunteer against receipts. In coordination with the host and the volunteer, CRS will also arrange and pay for transport services for daily use to and from the office.

1. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

It is anticipated that the training will lead to:

* Improved awareness and knowledge on nutrition, nutritional values of nutrient-dense crops and animal products.
* Improved skills on food processing, fortifications, and recipe preparations for women (pregnant and lactating) and children.
* Improved diet diversity and feeding habits
* Reduced nutrient deficiency and nutritional diseases, and improved health of women and children.

1. **DELIVERABLES**

The major deliverables of this assignment include, but not limited to:

* Volunteer end of assignment report with recommendations to the host organization, action plan, and recommendations to CRS
* Final debriefing (PowerPoint presentation) with the host organization (plus key stakeholders) and CRS/USAID
* Training lists with people trained and photo captured
* Conduct a final debriefing (PowerPoint presentation) with the host organization (plus key stakeholders) and CRS/USAID
* Conduct in-country outreach events in Ethiopia using social media (for local volunteers)
* Conduct outreach activities about the assignment in USA (US volunteer) using appropriate medias (print, radio, TV, group presentation, social etc.)

1. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA**

| **Day** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- |
| Day 1 | * Receive security and general orientation * Travel to the host, Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare Organization (EGCDWO), with CRS staff and meet the host staffs |
| Day 2 | * Discuss and clarify SOW, anticipated outcomes, and work plan * General orientation with the host, first-hand briefing on the main objectives and modality of the assignment and adjustment of the agenda for the coming days (work planning session) |
| Day 3 | * Conduct further assessment on the assignment |
| Day 4-14 | * Carry out the assignment and provide orientation to the host staff |
| Day 15 | * Briefing / exit meeting with the host in the presence of CRS staff |
| Day 16 | * Facilitate in country/virtual debriefing with CRS staff and/or USAID Mission * Finalize reimbursement of expenditures and liquidations (if any) with finance as required * Submit volunteer reports, training attendance sheet, assignment report, PPT presentation and any reference materials to CRS F2F team * Depart for his/her place |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**

The volunteer needs to have the following skills, qualifications, and competencies:

* Formal qualifications in Food Science and Nutrition
* Knowledge and practical experience in nutrition and food preparation
* Experience and skills in adult training methodologies
* Strong communication and interpersonal skills
* Willingness and flexibility to train and technically assist the staff whenever required
* Respect for the cultural and religious norms of the rural people

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

* The volunteer will stay in a hotel that is close to the assignment site. The hotel will be booked and confirmed before the volunteer the assignment start date. The hotel will have rooms that include services such as breakfast and wireless internet etc.
* CRS will provide transportation and accompany the volunteer to the assignment site.
* CRS Ethiopia will arrange hotel accommodations and cover the lodging bills against receipts.
* Prior to leaving the U.S., CRS Headquarters will provide the volunteer with a per diem advance to cover meals and incidentals.
* Any other logistic concerns can be addressed with CRS and/EGCDWO using the contact information below

1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

* CRS-F2F designs assignments with the assumption that some pre-field departure preparation will be done by the US (and/or local) volunteers. CRS relies on the volunteers to assess the tasks outlined in this SOW and to make their own judgment about how much and what kind of preparation is needed prior to field travel.
* Prior to the assignment, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training and demonstration aids and written handouts. Soft copies of the handouts and any other paper materials can be printed for immediate use at the CRS office in Addis Ababa on request by the volunteer.
* The volunteer should prepare hand-out materials which can be printed at the CRS office in Addis Ababa before commencement of the assignment. Flip charts, markers, masking tape can be obtained at CRS offices.
* Translation of handouts to the local language can be done in the locality of the assignment, 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

1. **KEY CONTACTS**

**1. CRS Baltimore**

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**2. CRS/Ethiopia**

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**3. Host Organization**

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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

1. [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.  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)