**Farmer-to-Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** |
| Assignment code | ET 37 |
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Country Project | Horticultural Crops Production and Sector Support |
| Host Organization  | Alage Agricultural, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) College |
| Host Partner | Ministry of Agriculture, Office of ETVET colleges  |
| Assignment Title | Educating/training/advising in “fruit production technologies” (refer the Annex for major list of vegetate crops in Ethiopia) |
| Assignment Preferred Dates | Late September – January 2016 |
| Assignment objectives | * Educate and advise on fruit production technologies to ccontribute to producing qualified agricultural personnel
* Share US fruit production technologies by teaching junior lecturers and crop science students - future county extension educators (Agricultural Development Agents-DAs)
 |
| Desired Volunteer’ Skill/Expertise (two) | Tropical fruit crop production instructor involved with agricultural education and/or extension |

1. **BACKGROUND**

The Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) East Africa program leverages US volunteer expertise to assist small holder farmers and small scale processors in East Africa to improve production and business practices through short-term assignments conducted with host organizations. Through interventions, CRS improves the livelihoods and nutritional status of significant numbers of low income households by: i) broadening participation in established commodity value chains as producers and service providers; ii) strengthening community resilience to shocks such as droughts that adversely affect livelihoods; and iii) preserving/enhancing natural resources upon which most rural communities depend. CRS also increases the American public’s understanding of international development programs and foster increased cross-cultural understanding between host countries and US volunteer.

Ethiopia faces challenges of population pressure and low levels of agricultural productivity leading to food insecurity and poor nutrition. Increasing production and diversification of fruits must be coupled with behavior change at the household level to increase productivity of producers to improve incomes and household nutrition. The lack of modern fruit crop production practices contribute to yields that are lower than would otherwise be expected. Despite ecological and socioeconomic potential, horticulture, and fruit production in particular, are grown on a small scale. Presently however, horticulture, including fruit crops is one of the priority sectors of the Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) of the Ethiopian government[[1]](#footnote-1).

Agricultural production constraints are linked to the low number and quality of education of development agents (DAs) who are assigned to support the large number (85%) of smallholders in Ethiopia. There is a limited flow of agricultural knowledge and practical skills to most farming communities. Therefore, creating well trained extension personnel through improving the quality of instruction in agricultural colleges and other educational institutions is paramount. Most ATVET colleges pursue a modular coursing system where subsequent courses are arranged one after the based on completion of the former course. One course lasts 20-30 days.

Alage ATVET College is one of the several ATVET colleges established in Ethiopia. The objective of the ATVET College system is teaching agricultural students, many of whom become agricultural Development Agents (DAs). At each county (kebele), 3-5 DAs are assigned with overall responsibilities of agriculture issues such as problem identification and analysis, on-farm research and extension linkage, technological demonstrations, innovations of modern agricultural techniques, training of smallholder farmers and their cooperatives and project implementation. DAs are also responsible to administer certain agricultural institutions in the kebeles such as Farmers Training Centers (FTCs) and farmer cooperatives.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

Many of the obstacles that prevent fruit crop producers from achieving higher yields of consistent quality are rooted in improper production practices. Ethiopian smallholder fruit farmers predominantly use few modern production practices, instead using local cultivars, poor plant propagation techniques, little or no soil fertility management, improper harvesting management and ineffective post-harvest techniques.

In-line with its mandate to produce well educated government extension personnel, the Alage ATVET College requires students to gain an advanced level of knowledge and experience in fruit production technologies. The college approached CRS with the need to integrate advanced fruit production instruction into the locally available instruction at the college. In addition to providing refresher classes for junior instructors, teaching crop science students (DA candidates) will contribute in improving the capacity of local extension. In this way, improved production technologies will be transferred to the large smallholding farmers.

In a country like Ethiopia where the climate, topography and geography make the production of virtually all tropical, sub-tropical and temperate horticultural crops viable[[2]](#footnote-2) and with proximity to potential importing regions[[3]](#footnote-3), educating local extension personnel is of paramount importance.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The objective of this assignment is to educate and transfer modern fruit production technologies to junior instructors and crop science students of Alage ATVET College through lecturing, advising, workshops and seminars at the college. In addition to these activities, the volunteer will use laboratory and fieldwork to demonstrate the lessons and technologies. The beneficiaries or attendees of this assignment will be expected to be more than 100 crop science students and about ten junior fruit lecturers of the college.

Although subject to revision based on the course outlines of the college, anticipated topics for education could include the following:

* Importance of fruit crops for food, nutrition and income;
* Basics of production and improved technologies for fruit crops;
* Farm planning for diversified fruit production considering nutrition, market, weather considerations, etc;
* Techniques and practices of modern fruit production for each fruit crop (see Annex) under small scale farming systems;
* Composting and soil fertility.

**Host contribution** – The department of Plant Sciences of the Alage ATVET College will select and determine the attendance of junior lecturers and crop science students. The college will assign a focal person who can guide and facilitate the volunteer specialist during the assignment period. Prior to lecturing hours, the College will provide the volunteer with the course topics and outlines where the volunteer will integrate into her/his prior prepared training and advising materials from overseas. The college will also assure that the necessary class rooms and local training aids and other teaching materials are in place. The host will also provide the volunteer with guesthouse (subsidized fee) and facilitate the volunteer for meal services. The host will also provide office space and office furniture as well as vehicle if any travel is required during the assignment duration.

1. **DELIVERABLES FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

It is anticipated that the volunteer transferred up-to-dated technologies and overseas’ experience to the junior fruit lecturers and crop science students (candidate DAs) in a forms of lecture, workshop, seminars, and/or practical means including lab and fieldworks.

The anticipated deliverables that can be accomplished by the volunteers can also include:

* Initial presentation done (outlines of topics of the course, plan, approach, etc),
* Reports with recommendation submitted;
* Presentation to CRS staff and USAID;
* Outreach events conducted in the US.
1. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA**

**SCHEDULE MUST BE NO MORE THAN 20 DAYS DUE TO CURRENT VISA ISSUES.**

| **Day** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- |
| Day 1  | Arrival into Ethiopia. The volunteer will be met by a hotel pick from Sor-Amba hotel ([www.sorambahoteladdis](http://www.sorambahoteladdis)) with a placard bearing “**CRS logo and volunteer name”**.  |
| Day 2 | * Briefing meeting at CRS office on logistics and itinerary of the trip and discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan;
* Meet with Ministry of Agriculture (General Manager Office of the ATVET colleges) for introduction and expectations
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| Day 3 | * Travel to Alage College (210 to the south of Addis Ababa)
* Setup with guesthouse and other logistics
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| Days 4 | * First hand briefing on outlines of topics of the course, plan, approach, etc, and adjust the topics as required.
* Work planning discussion with the staff of College
* Acquainted with the existing curriculum and course topics of the department and the instructing modalities of the College through integrating volunteer prepared courses and lesson plans.
* Prepare course/training and plan with the local associate of the college to proceed with the assignment (lecturing, seminar, workshops, advising, etc)
 |
| Day 5-7 | Conduct the assignment according to an agreed schedules and modality of lecturing, advising, seminar, etc  |
| **Day 8** | **Rest day** |
| Days 9-14 | Continue conducting the assignment (academic and practical) |
| **Days 15** | **Rest day** |
| Day 16-21 | Continue conducting the assignment (academic and practical) |
| **Day 22** | **Rest day** |
| Day 23-24 | Continue conducting the assignment (academic and practical) |
| Day 25 | * Wrap up sessions that emphasize key concepts of the assignment.
* The college evaluates the assignment and discusses final report recommendations with the volunteer.
* Group presentation to the host in the presence of CRS F2F staff
 |
| Day 26 | Travel back to Addis Ababa  |
| Day 27 | * Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staffs.
* Submit all reports, return logistic items and complete all required activities
 |
| Day 28 | Depart for USA |
| TBD | Conduct outreach activity when back in the US |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEER SKILLS**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

* Specialist in fruit crop production preferably graduate level, and education experiences in learning institutions.
* Hands-on practice, experience and knowledge on at least three of the list of fruit crops in Annex.
* Demonstrated instruction experience at the secondary, technical college or university level in the US.
* Ability to use relevant teaching aids and audiovisuals,
* Demonstrated experience in advisory, research and laboratory work, emphasizing fruit science and pre-harvest management issues.
* Good communicator and interpersonal skills.
1. **ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**
* Before travelling to the host (Alage ATVET College), the volunteer will stay in Addis Ababa at one of the CRS’s client hotels, Sor-Amba Hotel ([www.sorambahoteladdis](http://www.sorambahoteladdis)) or another hotel that will be booked before arrival dates. In Addis Ababa, 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 and vice versa in Addis Ababa.
* All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer.
* During the assignment period, the volunteer will be booked at the host’s guesthouse in Alaaage ATVET College. The accommodation details will be confirmed prior to the volunteer arrival in country.
* CRS Ethiopia will pay for guesthouse or hotel accommodations and CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with per diem advance for meals and incidentals. The volunteer will liquidate all advances received in Ethiopia before departure.
1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**
* Although CRS F2F has developed such hinting SOW, the volunteer can fine-tune it based on her/his professional qualifications to successfully carry out this assignment.
* Prior to travel, the volunteer will be advised to prepare necessary educating/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.
* If the volunteer requires use of simple teaching/training aids like flip charts, markers and tape, s/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office at Addis Ababa prior to travel to the assignment place.
* Translation of handouts to local languages 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 PowerPoint presentations.
1. **KEY CONTACTS**

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ANNEX: Major fruit crops of Ethiopia

| N | **Name of the fruit crops (English name0**  |  **Scientific names**  | **Local name in Amharic** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  Avocado  |  *Persea americana* |  Avokado |
|  |  Banana  |  *Musa domestica or M. acuminate* |  Muz |
|  |  Mango  |  *Mangifera indica L.* |  Mango |
|  |  Papaya  |  *Carica papaya* |  Papaya |
|  |  Orange  |  *Citrus sinensis* |  Birtukan |
|  |  Lemons  |  *Citrum lemon* |  Lomi |
|  |  Guava  | [*Psidium guajava*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psidium_guajava) *L.* |  Zeytuna |
|  |  Pineapple  |  *Ananas comosus* |  Ananas |
|  |  Bullock's heart  |  *Anona riticulata* |  Gishta |
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*Source: Extracted from Ethiopian Central Statistics Authority-CSA (2013), Crop Production Data of 2012/2013 by, and Survey Report on coffee, fruit and fruits led by Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ethiopia (2011).*

1. World Bank (2010): Ethiopian Agricultural Growth Project (AGP) Project Information Document (PID)-Appraisal Stage, Report No.: Ab5416 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Stephen Devereux (2000): Food Insecurity In Ethiopia - A discussion paper for DFID* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Ethiopian Horticultural Development Agency /EHDA/ and Ethiopian Horticultural Producers and Exporters Association /EHPEA/ (2011): *Assessment of development potentials and investment options in the export-oriented fruit and fruit sector in Ethiopia* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)