 

**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

**NOTE: THIS SCOPE OF WORK IS A DRAFT AWAITING EDITS**

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| **Summary Information** |
| Assignment Code | ET61 |
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Country Project | Grain Crops Production and Sector Support |
| Host Organization | ECC-Social and Development Coordination Office of Sodo (ECC-SDCOS)  |
| Assignment Title | Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in grain value chain (maize, wheat and other grains) |
| Assignment preferred dates | August 2015 |
| Objective of the assignment | * Training and direct assistance on IPM techniques and practices for smallholder grain farmers and staffs as a training of trainer (TOT)
* Develop training guidelines on IPM for TOT
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| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | Senior level knowledge and practical experience in IPM focusing on grain crops  |

1. **BACKGROUND**

Ethiopia is one of the largest grain producers in Africa but still faces food insecurity in some parts of the country. This can be attributed to low yields and loss of yields besides an increasing population rates. Limited use of modern crop production and protection technologies including integrated pest management (IPM) and managing post-harvest losses are also observed to be serious challenges. Uneven distribution of food grains, inappropriate cropping systems, poor mechanization and fragmented land cultivation system also contributed to low crop productivity and food insecurity. Most grain producers in Ethiopia are smallholder farmers whose average land holding is less than a hectare per household[[1]](#footnote-1). Increasing population density coupled with the lack of alternative employment opportunities has contributed to land pressure and subsequent shrinking of individual land holdings. Pressure on land would result in vast deforestation and cultivating sloppy lands. Both of these are sever causes of environmental degradation.

Compared to all crops produced in Ethiopia in the 2012/13, the grains had the greatest share both in area coverage (91%) and production share (79%)[[2]](#footnote-2). Teff is the most widely cultivated, followed by maize, sorghum and wheat in their order whereas maize contributes the highest yield followed by teff, sorghum and wheat. Pulses are also important in Ethiopian agriculture and food security, accounting for 15 percent of land coverage and 12 percent of production share (2). Grain farming in Ethiopia is predominately rain fed and cultivation is mainly subsistence.

The host organization, ECC-SDCOS, has long experience in food security and agricultural development projects. It mainly operates in the Wolayta Sodo zone of the South Nations Nationalities Peoples’ Region (SNNPR) of Ethiopia. It has several smallholders’ beneficiaries. In addition to manual hand tools, ploughing in Wolayta-Sodo zone is mainly carried out by oxen pulled traditional plough locally called ‘*maresha*.

Wolayta-Sodo zone is located in western part of the Ethiopia in the SNNPR. The SNNP region is one of the four USAID’s Feed-the-Future (FtF) and Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) regions of the country. The major modalities of IPM technology transfer are informal adult training and on-farm practical demonstrations with the aim of increasing grains’ productivity, income and livelihood.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

Crop production practices in Wolayta-Soda are dominated by relatively low levels of production and protection technologies. Among the several production/protection challenges of the smallholder farmers’ beneficiaries of the ECC-SDCOS in Wolayta Sodo zone, pest infestations appears to be significant and needs prompt intervention. There are various types of diseases, weeds and insect pests in the area. Among others, some of them may include, stalk borer, armyworm and sometimes locusts form insect group; and anthracnose, stem rust, head smut, leaf rust, late blight from plant pathogens’ group. Late blight on potato and coffee berry disease (CBD) on coffee are also common disease pests of Wolayta Sodo. In addition, pest and disease control/management systems of the smallholder farmers are not efficient and sometimes aren’t friendly to the environment. Resource poor subsistence farmers have also economic barriers to choose among the expensive control methods. To enable the target smallholders farmers’ beneficiaries provide a healthy crops through environmentally sustainable pest control methods, the host organization recognized the need for capacity strengthening in IPM approaches.

Among these of several crop production/protection and environmental degradation challenges, the host identified missing gaps on knowledge/skill/practices of IPM for F2F intervention. Therefore, the host requested volunteer technical assistance to build the capacity of smallholder famers’ beneficiaries and technical staffs on IPM techniques and practices. An F2F recruited IPM’s volunteer’s specialist will be fielded to Ethiopia/Woalyta-Sodo to fill such missing gaps. This is a subsequent assignment to the previous volunteer assignments of FY14 and FY15 on grain agronomy and post-harvest management.

This particular volunteer assignment is proposed to offer training and technical assistances on IPM for maize, wheat, grain legumes and other cereals. The F2F volunteer will innovates and transfer appropriate knowledge, skills and practices on proper IPM techniques and practices. The appropriate period for this assignment is during the cropping seasons of the grains under consideration.

1. **ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this volunteer assignment is to build the capacity of the host beneficiaries in IPM techniques/skills and practices through training and direct technical assistance to smallholder farmers and staffs as TOT. The TOT trainees include host staffs and government agricultural development agents (DAs).

By the end of this assignment, the target beneficiaries will be able to consider and utilize appropriate IPM techniques and practices which are effective and environmentally friendly. After once adopted by these farming beneficiaries, IPM is affordable and sustainable both from the farmers’ and environmental sides. Other forms of understanding to be made by these beneficiaries about IPM include:

* The overall advantages of IPM and its difference from conventional pest management methods;
* Understanding of pests and their interactions in the agro-ecosystem;
* Understanding of pests and their natural enemies;
* Field monitoring and scouting for pests;
* Production of a healthy crop through selecting and use of pest/disease tolerant varieties and good agronomic practices that enhance the production of a healthy crops;
* Decision making process for appropriate methods for control and management of pests.

Through this volunteer training and technical assistances, the beneficiaries will also get full answers/knowhow on the following questions and IPM components and strategies:

* What does IPM mean to farmers?
* Why is IPM important?
* What are the benefits of IPM?
* IPM components: Prevention methods, Monitoring, Appropriate interventions, etc.
* IPM strategies and tools:
* Establish the economic threshold
* Protecting natural enemies
* Selecting the right products (refer to USAID guidelines on PERSUAP)
* Safe use of pesticides

**Host Contribution**: The host will identify the beneficiaries and organize schedules for the training and technical assistances. It will also avail focal person to work closely with the volunteer at all times. In consultation with CRS, it will also facilitate lodging (cost covered by CRS) and also daily meals for the volunteer (CRS HQ will advances per diem to the volunteer). For field travel in the assignment areas, the host will provide the volunteer with transport vehicle. CRS might bear logistic costs of the volunteer against receipts.

1. **ANTICIPATED ASSIGNMENT RESULTS**

The overall understanding of the beneficiaries on IPM is anticipated to be improved. Use of IPM will be then efficient, effective, affordable and sustainable in keeping the pest populations below economically injurious levels. From this volunteer assignment, it is anticipated that (but not limited to):

* A total of 80 beneficiaries consisting about 70 smallholder farmers and 10 staffs will be benefited (52% women);
* Beneficiaries improved their crop productivity and quality resulting from reduction of loss and grain quality
* Volunteer develops training guidelines for the TOTs;
* Field trip reports (including press release) with recommendations are submitted to host and CRS;
* All advances are reconciled at CRS;
* Group presentation completed with host and CRS/USAID as part of the outreach activities;
* Debriefing completed with CRS and/or USAID;
* Outreach events conducted upon return to the US by the volunteer.
1. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA**

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

| **Day** | **Activity** |
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| Day 1:(Sunday) | Arrival to Ethiopia. The volunteer will be met at Bole Airport by CRS’s client hotel Sor-Amba ([www.sorambahoteladdis](http://www.sorambahoteladdis); phone # +2511565633/82 or 8140) or another hotel with a placard bearing “**CRS logo and volunteer name”**.  |
| Day 2 | * Welcoming by CRS, and briefing meeting on security, general orientation, logistic and reporting formats. Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan
* Travel to the assignment site (Sodo town, 330 km) accompanied by CRS F2F
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| Day 3 | * Briefing on the main objectives of the assignment and work planning session and adjust the agenda as appropriate with the staffs of the host/host partner and CRS F2F.
* Conduct first hand staff orientation for relevant host staff and key personnel of agriculture, and other key stakeholders as required
* The volunteer assess grain crops’ challenges focusing on seasonal activities
* Refine training materials based on information gathered and gaps identified.
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| Day 4 | Commence firsthand training and technical assistances and refine training topics  |
| Day 5-7 | **Training and technical assistances**: utilizing the variously prepared methods and approaches (training, on-farm & household visit, show-up, demonstrations, individual and group contact & discussion, etc.). Such activities will be complemented by information/data collection by volunteers as applicable.  |
| **Days 8** | **Rest day:** |
| Day 9-14 | Training and technical assistances continued |
| **Day 15** | **Rest day** |
| Day 16-21 | Training and technical assistances continue |
| **Day 22** | **Rest day** |
| Day 23-25 | Training and technical assistances continue |
| Day 26  | * Group debriefing presentation to the host in the presence of CRS.
* Volunteer travels back to Addis Ababa.
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| Day 27 | * Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staff
* Finalize reimbursement expenditures and liquidations (if any) with finance.
* Volunteer also finalizes his/her reporting and submit training M&E forms to CRS F2F staff.
* Depart for USA (**evening hours**)
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| TBD | Outreach event when back in the US could include: presentation with a local group/organization, press release, media event and/or speaking tour. |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

* Senior level knowledge and practical experience in IPM focusing on grain crops; preferably on IPM or crop/plant pathology or related discipline
* Rich experience in technological innovation and with small scale farmers on IPM;
* Demonstrated skills and experience in different IPM techniques and practices focusing on maize (corn), wheat and other grains under rain-fed farming system;
* Experience and interest in training of smallholder farmers, extension workers, development agents, farmers, etc.;
* Experience working with diverse teams in multicultural communities with strong gender mainstreaming concepts and interests;
* Willingness to travel in rural areas and on-farm fields.
1. **ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**
* Before flying/travelling to the assignment site, the volunteer will stay in Addis Ababa at one of the CRS’s client hotels (most probably Sor-Amba Hotel) that will be booked and confirmed before the arrival date.
* In Addis Ababa, client 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 while in Addis Ababa.
* All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer. CRS Ethiopia 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 Addis Ababa.
* CRS will arrange local flight and transport vehicle and as well as will accompany the volunteer to the assignment site.
* During her/his entire assignment duration, the volunteer will be booked in guesthouse of the host or at a hotel at Sodo town.
* CRS Ethiopia 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.
* CRS Ethiopia will also reimburse the volunteer with laundry costs against receipts.
* Before departing to US, the volunteer will also liquidate advances (if any) at CRS Ethiopia.
* For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided.
1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**
* Although CRS F2F has developed such hinting SOW, the volunteer can fine-tune through her/his professional qualifications to successfully carry out this assignment.
* Although the assignment site is in mid-highland areas and malaria may not be prevalence, having precautions in taking pills or vaccination for malaria and (maybe also for cholera) upon recommendations by her/his doctors/health professionals in US may be advisable.
* Prior to travel, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training and demonstration aids and written handouts. Softcopies 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 training aids like flip charts, markers or tape s/he should make the request and collect from the CRS office in Addis Ababa prior to travel to the assignment place.
* If required, 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**

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| **CRS Baltimore** | **CRS East Africa Regional Office** |
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| **CRS Ethiopia:** |
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| **Host organizations:** |
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1. *Paul Dorosh and Shahidur. 2012. “Food and Agriculture in Ethiopia.” Progress and policy challenge* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Report of the 2012/2013 by the Ethiopia Central Statistics Authority (CSA)*  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)