 

**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** | |
| Country | Ethiopia |
| Assignment number | ET67 |
| Country Project | Horticulture |
| Host Organization | Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara/ORDA) |
| Assignment Title | Home based and small-scale fruit and vegetable processing |
| Preferred dates | January – April, 2016 |
| Objectives | * Enhanced skills in small-scale/household processing of fruits and vegetables to increase off-season availability of fruits and vegetables thereby reducing malnutrition and improve food security * Increased rural incomes through reduction in post-harvest losses |
| Desired volunteer skills/expertise | Fruit and vegetable preservation expert, with homebased and small-scale food processing expertise |

1. **Background**

Agriculture is the mainstay of Ethiopia's economy and it provides all the necessary dietary foods, raw materials for food industries and quality products for export market. The country's agricultural potential for food production is known to be immense and over 90 percent of its export earnings come from this sector. Coffee, oilseeds, spices, fresh fruit and vegetables contribute the largest portion of the export earnings. At the national level, agriculture is important as a vehicle for addressing food security problems. Stimulating agricultural growth will therefore be the major instrument for increasing the income of the country and households in particular with which food can be bought domestically and imported from abroad. The largest groups of people in Ethiopia who suffer from food insecurity are the rural poor who have insufficient land and other resources to provide sufficient income or food.

Post-harvest losses are a major source of food loss. Farmers growing horticultural crops are facing high economic losses, because there have been no methods of increasing the shelf life of these crops. Besides the country is not getting foreign exchange from horticultural crops due to the low levels of postharvest technology, which makes the product of inferior quality, with no chance of competing in the world market. There are not enough processing plants and the country is losing foreign currency by importing processed products. The post-harvest losses of perishable (vegetable and fruits) food crops in Ethiopia is estimated at about 30 percent due to high moisture content, insect infestation and damage during handling (packaging, storage and transportation). Efficient production, reduction in post-harvest losses, processing and utilization of fruits and vegetables are needed to contribute to increased food self-sufficiency and increased incomes.

Modern food processing techniques and post-harvest handling are the main tools to reduce losses and maintain/raise the quality of products. They are the only means to develop processed, semi- processed and new products with added value, at lower cost, and with reduced energy and labor. Moreover, establishing food processing cottage industries creates local employment opportunities, increase income and increases foreign exchange revenue.

1. **Issue Description**

Fruit and vegetables are living products that need to be handled carefully and properly to ensure that they stay in the best condition and are good to eat. Some fruit and vegetables can be stored for a long time after they have been harvested, but others are more delicate and susceptible to spoilage and cannot be stored for long. Fruit and vegetables usually have a short growing season and a short shelf life. Several factors cause fruit and vegetables to spoil. The key among them are enzymes within fruits and vegetables, micro-organisms (including bacteria and molds) and environmental factors, including temperature, moisture and sunlight. In Ethiopia as in many parts of the tropics, spoilage occurs faster especially because of high temperatures.

1. **Objectives of the Assignment**

The main objective of this volunteer assignment is to build the capacity of the organized youth groups with appropriate technologies and techniques on processing and preservation of fruits and vegetables for home consumption and retail marketing. As such, it will concentrate on techniques and processes that can be carried out at the small-scale, using a very limited range of equipment. The equipment has already been donated by the host organization. This will be completed through simple and practical demonstrations on simple processes used to preserve fruit and vegetables for later use. These processes do not require expensive and complicated equipment and can be used at home or for small-scale enterprises.

This assignment is expected to be completed alongside a vegetable post-harvest handling and storage, and will therefore concentrate on two major aspects;

At the end of the assignment, the target youth and other participants will fully understand principles of food preservation through understanding and application of simple pre-processing and processing activities that deactivate the enzymes that are naturally present in fruit and vegetables and that cause ripening and spoilage. They will also be able to understand food hygiene during and after processing, and will also be equipped with skills that enable them to develop high quality new value added products that are appealing, marketable and can be readily incorporated in the local diets, thereby adding dietary diversity. The target beneficiaries shall also receive practical training of post-process packaging, as well as storage.

**Host contribution:** ORDA will mobilize the project staffs to facilitate the volunteers to reach the targeted beneficiaries in various ways. The host will also arrange training and facilitate the trainings to the intended project beneficiaries. The host will also provide the volunteer with working space in the project office compound, which is stationed in Debre Tabor town, 100 Kms from the regional capital, Bahir-Dar city. ORDA will arrange safe vehicle for round trip travelling from Bahir-Dar to project site (Debre Tabor) both at initial and final period of the assignment.

1. **Anticipated Results from the Assignment**

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will results in improve the capacity of organized youth in processing post-harvest handling of fruits and vegetable. During this particular volunteer intervention, some resultant impacts of the following will be expected:

* + Reduced post-harvest losses as a result of food preservation
  + Increased availability of off-season fruits and vegetables
  + Increased incomes for the small-holder farmers engaged in production and small scale processing
  + Employment creation for the youth engaged in production and processing as well as other actors along the fruit and vegetable value chain

The deliverables to be accomplished by the volunteers also include:

* + Initial presentation done (outlines/list of activities, plan, approach, etc.),
  + Appropriate and relevant technologies transferred,
  + Trainings and technical assistances delivered,
  + Field report with recommendation produced at the end of the assignment.

1. **Schedule Of Volunteer Activities In Ethiopia**

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| **Day** | **Activity** |
| Days 1 | Arrival to Ethiopia, Bole international Airport. The volunteer will be picked by Sor-Amba Hotel with a placard bearing “**CRS logo and volunteer name”**. |
| Day 2 | Introduction and meeting with CRS management, and briefing meeting (security, general orientation, logistic, reporting formats, etc) at CRS office. Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan. |
| Day 3 | Travel to assignment site. Introduction and assignment briefing with host representatives |
| Days 4 - 18 | Complete assignment related activities at the host location |
| Day 19 | Exit meeting, outreach activity conducted and discuss the report and final recommendations, draw an action plan for implementing recommendations |
| Day 20 | Travel back to Addis Ababa |
| Day 21 | Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staff.  Volunteer will finalize his/her reporting at CRS office and fill out all necessary M&E forms as well finalize advances and expenditures with finance. Depart for the US |
| TBD | Outreach event in the US |

1. **Desirable Volunteers Skills**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

* Specialist in small-scale processing of fruits and vegetable
* Experience in training and support local extension staff and members of community based organizations (CBOs) in fruit and vegetable processing in tropical country.
* Ability and enthusiasm to work with unskilled organized youth;
* Availability during the assignment timing

1. **Accommodation And Other In-Country Logistics**

Before travelling to the assignment place, 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 and confirmed before the arrival date. 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 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 provide a vehicle and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment.

During the assignment period, the volunteer will be booked in a hotel at the project site, to be confirmed prior to volunteer arrival. 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 from Ethiopia, the volunteer will also liquidate if s/he received any advances in Ethiopia. For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided

1. **Recommended Assignment Preparations**

* Prior to travel, the volunteer is advised to prepare necessary training and demonstration aids and written handouts. Electronic copies of these handouts and any other printed 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.
* Translation of handouts to the local language can be done at the assignment location 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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