 

**Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F)**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work (SOW)**

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| **Summary Information** | |
| Country | Laos - South East Asia |
| Country Project | Flexible assignment (LA01) |
| Assignment Title | Support to USDA FFE School Garden/Animal Husbandry |
| Potential dates | August - November 2015 |
| Objectives | Assess current school garden component of school feeding activity under USDA Food for Education project |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | School based gardens and animal husbandry |

1. **Background**

* CRS Laos began implementing a USDA Food for Education award in 2013 focusing on literacy, school feeding and inclusive education. One aspect of the school feeding component is support to school gardens and efforts with animal husbandry. These activities can be both income generation for schools as well as complimentary ingredients to improve the school meals.

1. **Justification**

* While Food for Education projects are focused on education results (improving literacy is the main Strategic Objective) this is partly accomplished by providing a nutritious and delicious school meal with USDA commodities. A large part of the sustainability model though is the inclusion of community and school supported gardens and small animal husbandry projects (either used in the school meal or sold to offset costs of procuring some foods/items locally).
* The project plans to roll out a school garden and nutrition training for government partners that support the program at the start of next school year. The assignment could support the development of those materials and assess some of the current gardens to give advice on simple techniques to improve production and value to the students.

1. **Objectives of the Assignment**

* Analyze current school garden efforts and provide suggestions for improvements
* Analyze current animal husbandry project and provide suggestions for improvements
* Provide training to current CRS field staff on simple techniques to support schools in the area of school gardens and animal husbandry

1. **Anticipated Results from the Assignment**

* Training for current CRS field staff on school gardens and animal husbandry
* Assessment of current school garden/animal husbandry efforts and suggested improvement
* Draft simple guide for CRS field staff to support school gardens/animal husbandry projects

1. **Volunteers’ Schedule**

* 2-3 weeks with visits to schools and work in Savannakhet

1. **Desirable Volunteer Skills**

* Agriculture schools related to small plots with focus on schools
* Animal husbandry related experience (fish raising, chickens, frogs, crickets or other school focused efforts)
* Ability to train small groups of CRS field staff

1. **Accommodation and other In-Country Logistics**

Flights should be arranged directly into Savannakhet from Bangkok to minimize in country travel. Accommodations can be arranged in Savannakhet at one of the hotels CRS currently contracts for visitors or TDY’s.

1. **Recommended Assignment Preparation**

* Preparation of training materials which would be sent in advance for translations

1. **Key Contacts**

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| **CRS Headquarters - Baltimore** | |
| Bruce White  Project Director  EA Farmer to Farmer Program  228 W. Lexington Street  Baltimore, MD 21201, 410-951-7249  Email: [bruce.white@crs.org](mailto:bruce.white@crs.org) | **Maria Figueroa,**  Volunteer Coordinator  EA Farmer to Farmer Program  228 W. Lexington Street  Baltimore, MD 21201, 410-951-7366  Email: [maria.figueroa@crs.org](mailto:maria.figueroa@crs.org) |
| **CRS East Africa Regional Offices** | |
| **Nyambura Theuri**  Deputy Project Director  EA Farmer-to-Farmer Program  P.O. Box 49675 – 00100  Nairobi, Kenya  St. Augustine Court Karuna Close Road  Email: [nyambura.theuri@crs.org](mailto:nyambura.theuri@crs.org) | |
| **CRS South East Asia** | |
| **Jessica Garrels**  Project Director (USDA FFE)  Savannakhet, Laos  [Jessica.garrels@crs.org](mailto:Jessica.garrels@crs.org) | **Joshua Poole**  Head of Programs  Vientiane, Laos  Joshua.poole@crs.org |