



To express interest in this assignment please email mireille.ngokion@crs.org

**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program
Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	NEP201
Country	Nepal
Country Project	Crops Country Project
Host Organization	Kohalpur Agricultural Produce Wholesale market
Assignment Title	Post-harvest management and storage handling on vegetables for wholesale market
Assignment preferred dates	April-May 2019
Objectives of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce feasible techniques to reduce post-harvest loss in small wholesale vegetable market
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	Hands on experience in horticulture produce handling and storage
Type of Volunteer Assistance ¹	Business/Enterprise Development (E)
Type of Value Chain Activity ²	Information and Input Support Services (S) on post-harvest loss management
PERSUAP Classification ³	PERSUAP Type II

A. BACKGROUND

Sandwiched between two large markets India and China, Nepal with different ecological zones have capacity to grow year-round vegetables. The scope of productions are reflected in agriculture development strategies and plans developed in different time periods. Nepal is leaning towards commercialization with adoption and adaptation of new technologies by small holder's farmers. Vegetables production has been one of the attraction for Nepalese farmers. Further, various market places are developed for the smooth transactions of the vegetables. This market places are either operating without smart skills to manage market or is in rudimentary forms.

¹ USAID precisely classifies Types of volunteer assistance as; Technology Transfer = **T**; Organizational Development = **O**; Business/Enterprise Development = **E**; Financial Services = **F**; Environmental Conservation = **C**; or Administrative = **A**

² **Precise** classification as: Information and Input Support Services (areas as extension services, input supplies, veterinary services—most Administrative assignments are expected to fall into this classification) = **S**; On Farm Production = **F**; Processing (including primary and final product transformation, storage, transportation) = **P**; or Marketing (including branding, advertising, promotion, distribution, sales) = **M**

³ 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.



Kolhapur Agricultural Produce Market is one them. It is located in the plain area of Nepal and is a market serving Province 4, 5 and 6. It established under Agriculture Product Market Management and Conduction Guideline (2053) on 2060 B.S with support of District Agriculture Development Office (DADO) Banke. It is under Kohalpur Municipality. Kohalpur Agricultural Produce Wholesale market have nine executive members comprise of farmers, traders, and government. Market have total 19 stalls including one cooperative and one farmer groups stall with in one 72,900 sq. ft.

B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION

Nepalese vegetables markets in the local, regional and national market are facing post-harvest handling challenges to trade vegetables and other crops. The limited knowledge in post-harvest management, from collection, transporting, packaging and storing are resulting into almost 30 percent post-harvest loss. With the significant loss, the traders are either facing loss in their business or the consumer price of vegetables are increased. Kolhapur Vegetable Wholesale Market with necessary infrastructure is facing knowledge gap on minimizing the loss and supplying vegetables with fair price and quality.

The traders have started vegetable trading without any prior knowledge on dealing with consumable consumer goods. They severely lack information on handling perishable commodities. They are running business since many years without considering quality management aspect. Improper handling and storage are resulting into spoilage of perishable commodities. On the other side, farmers are often paid by reducing post-harvest loss which is directly affecting livelihoods of small producers. The market is vying for technical services to address post harvest loss to benefit farmers, traders as well as consumers.

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The specific objective of this volunteer assignment is to reduce the post-harvest losses while trading vegetables. This assistance is also anticipated to increase knowledge of targeted beneficiaries contributing to increase in shelf-life of the vegetables through training.

The volunteer expert will spend significant time with the Vegetable trader directly assisting and equipping them with skills on the following;

- Introduce feasible technique to reduce post-harvest loss in wholesale vegetable market

D. HOST CONTRIBUTION

Kolhapur Agricultural Produce Wholesale market facilitate the volunteers to reach the targeted trader to ensure successful assignment completion. The host will also arrange training and facilitate the training in post-harvest handling of vegetable to Vegetable trader. Host will also provide the volunteer with office space, training hall and daily tea/snacks for participants.

E. ANTICIPATED RESULTS (Outcome/impact) FROM THE ASSIGNMENT

It is anticipated that this volunteer assignment will contribute to improved post-harvest handling of fruits and vegetable, which will directly contribute to the following;

- Increased incomes by reducing losses
- Whole market will adapt new knowledge provided to improve business practices

F. DELIVERABLES

The anticipated deliverables accomplished by the volunteer also include:

- Post-harvest handling and storage training materials shared
- Appropriate and relevant technologies on post-harvest transferred
- Host recommendations action plan developed

G. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY (DRAFT)

Day	Activity
Days 1	Arrival Nepal, Tribhuvan international Airport. The volunteer will be picked by Greenwich 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 – 14	Complete assignment related activities at the host location
Day 15-16	Activity close out, host action plan preparation for implementing recommendations
Day 17	Debriefing including CRS country Office and Local mission
Day 18	Submit report and Departure to US

H. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

- Specialist in post-harvest handling and storage of vegetable/perishable commodities.
- Experience in Vegetable market development and management
- Communication and training skills for traders and adult audience

I. ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS

- Before travelling to the assignment place, the volunteer will stay in Kathmandu at one of the CRS’s client hotels, **Greenwich village Resort (<http://www.greenwichnepal.com>)** or another hotel that will be booked and confirmed before the arrival date. In Kathmandu, 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 Kathmandu.

- All required materials will be prepared ahead of time and will be provided to the volunteer. CRS Nepal 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 Kathmandu. 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 Nepal 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.
- Security information will be provided by CRS Nepal Security focal person at Kathmandu CRS Country office.

J. 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 Kathmandu 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 Kathmandu 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.
- Weather Appropriate Clothing: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/np/nepal-weather> (will provide later)

K. KEY CONTACTS

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Reference:

Central Bureau of Statistics (2009-10).

Gautam DM and Bhattarai DR (2006). Post-Harvest Horticulture. Public Printing Press. Newplaza, Putalisadak Kathmandu, Nepal.

Turan (2008). Post-harvest Practices on Fruits. 12: 3, July- August.