



To express interest in this assignment please email [priyanka.subba@crs.org](mailto:priyanka.subba@crs.org)

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

Notice for potential volunteers: Some assignment details are subject to change.

**DRAFT**

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	TL209
Country	Timor-Leste
Country Project	Modernizing Agriculture
Host Organization	Dom Bosco Fuluro
Assignment Title	Good Agronomy Practices for Vegetables Production and needs assessment for Livestock
Assignment preferred dates	Augustus 2019
Objectives of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase productivity of the vegetables, dietary diversity and increase income</li> <li>- Increase knowledge of Teacher, students and workers on Agronomy practice of vegetable production for whole year (dry and wet season)</li> <li>- Needs assessment for Poultry, Pigs, Cattle Beef and Cows for write the SOW</li> </ul>
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	Specialist in vegetable crop production preferably graduate level, and <b>practical</b> education experiences in learning institutions and experience on need assessment
Type of Volunteer Assistance	Technology Transfer (T)
Type of Value Chain Activity	Information and support service (S)
PERSUAP Classification	Type III

## A. BACKGROUND

CRS Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program is a USAID funded 5-year program (July 2018 – June 2023) that will provide technical assistance from United States (U.S) volunteers to farmers, farmer groups (cooperatives and associations), agribusinesses and other agriculture sector institutions. The program objectives are to facilitate economic growth within targeted agriculture sub-sectors, enhance sub-sector inclusiveness to expand participation to a broader range of individuals and communities and to increase the American public's understanding of international development issues and US international development programs. Volunteers, recruited from all States and the District of Columbia, are individuals who have domestic careers, farms and agribusinesses, or are retirees who want to participate in development efforts.

F2F program will assist in agriculture development, commodity value chain competitiveness and firm upgrading by providing technical assistance to introduce new technologies, innovations and development of local capacity for more productive, profitable, sustainable and equitable agriculture systems.

The Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Strategic Plan<sup>1</sup> recognizes the fundamental importance of agriculture to Timor-Leste's economy and the impact of agriculture on poverty reduction, food and nutrition security, economic growth, and income and employment generation through its linkages to other sectors of the economy. The agriculture sector in Timor-Leste accounted for 19% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), or over \$253 million in 2013. However, there is a considerable net deficit in agricultural trade as imports in 2014 were valued at approximately \$60 million. Major imports include rice, sugar, meat (chicken, beef, pork), vegetable oil, fish, milk, and vegetables (potato, onion)<sup>2</sup>. In rural communities 57% of women and 60% of men are actively involved in agriculture<sup>3</sup>. Agriculture consists primarily of subsistence farming with limited access to inputs, technical knowledge, and market linkages. There is a heavy reliance on traditional agricultural practices such as slash-and-burn cultivation. Most smallholdings are mixed rainfed farms growing maize, cassava, red kidney beans, sweet potato, rice, groundnut, and vegetables. Coffee, coconut and candlenut are the most common tree crops. Livestock, such as poultry, pigs, cattle, buffalo, goats and sheep are raised on a small-scale and extensive

Dom Bosco Foiluro - the largest agricultural compound in the EAO region that is located within 145 hectares of agricultural land in the Far East of Timor-Leste as the first Salesian Boarding school after the second missionary expedition landed in 1946. Due to the bad road situation, it takes not less than 6-7 hours from the capital Dili to reach this remotest presence in Timor-Leste.

Now is 71 years of history, thousands of former boarding students, this Dom Bosco ETA (Escuela Agricola Tecnica) school was going through many challenges, discontinued twice: first due to the turbulent social and political situation (1975-1988) and then recently (2015-2017) due to many external reasons. Dom Bosco Foiluro Alumni can be found in any part of Timor, serving their country in many important roles.

Six SDB strong community (Rector Fr. Transfiguração Antonio Pinto) with 3 priests, one Salesian Brother and two practical trainees is the core animating nucleus of the large EPC looking for the Agricultural School (200+ students, boys and girls), High school (1000+ students), services to the Salesian Family (Foiluro FMA community is 1 km distance, Dom Bosco Alumni and ADMA), involved in pastoral ministry to many chapels of the nearby Los Palos (SDB) parish.

The large agricultural compound serves partly as the training ground for the ETA students and for subsistence agriculture. There is also a huge challenge of sustainability of our mission in Foiluro. At present time there is large scale poultry farm and small Horticulture, pigs, cow & buffalos farm. They want to improve the quantity and quality of farm, but it is lack of knowledge for increase the production, and budget for renovate the facilities, so the community is praying for any possible help from oversea agencies.

## **B. ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/tim149148.pdf>

Dom Bosco endowed with agricultural potential given its favorable soil, water, and climatic conditions. It is estimated that 100 percent of total land area is suitable for producing a wide range of; annual and sessional crops such as grains, vegetables, tree crops and various forest products. Despite this great potential, only a small portion of this land has been converted to crop land for vegetables production. Effort Dom Bosco is to maximize the utilization of land through increasing the knowledge on technical side for Teacher student and workers.

Dom Bosco Agriculture Collage is receiving around 75 new students every year. Around 200 students stay in dormitory if they are still studying in the Dom Bosco Fuluro. Like most agricultural technical education schools, students in the morning are learn the theory in classroom and in the afternoon is time for practicing. The purpose of this practicing is in addition to implementing the theory was learned as well as to get additional revenue to meet the operational needs of Dom Bosco itself. One of the cultivate form the labor and the students during practice section is vegetables production to fulfill needs in dormitory and the rest is sold to buy other needs.

The obstacles facing by Dom Bosco was the low production of vegetables due to the lack of knowledge in the agronomy side from the Teachers, students and workers regarding to the Agronomy side like how to prepare the soil, seedling, planting and maintenance plants. At a certain season they must buy from outside around 40% to meet consumption need in the dormitory. Especially during the rainy season which is from December to July each year.

### **C. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The main objective of this volunteer assignment is to train and/or technically assist the targeted teachers' students and workers on improved vegetable production. Train and advice on minimal use of off-farm inputs and on management practices that restore, maintain and enhance ecological harmony. This assistance is expected to contribute to improve agronomic practices which will also directly contribute to better quality of produce and increase productivity per unit area of land. By applying this training and recommended practices, Dom Bosco will sustainably produce vegetable for feed the students in dormitory and increases income generated from the sale of the product.

The volunteer expert will spend significant time with the Dom Bosco, directly assist and train them with skills on the following;

1. Share the science and skill of modern vegetable production systems
2. Train worker and student on: land preparation, seedling, planting, irrigation, crop rotation, use of green manures and compost, mulching, crop diversity, integrated pest management, and weed management.
3. Advise on organic soil fertility management
4. Advise on feasible techniques of pest and disease control
5. Need assessment for the livestock for write the Scope of Work (SOW)

The beneficiaries of this assignment will be 260 (60 employees and 200 students). The host will be selected training the participants during the assignment period.

### **D. HOST CONTRIBUTION**

Dom Bosco will select, determine and mobilize the attendance for the training participants. Dom Bosco will also ensure that the necessary class rooms and local training aids and other teaching materials are

in place. The host will also provide the volunteer with and facilitate meal services for the volunteer on training days. Dom Bosco will also assign a focal person who can guide and facilitate the volunteer specialist during the assignment period. The host will also provide office space and office furniture. Sometimes Dom Bosco will provide a vehicle if any vehicle is available now when it is needed

#### **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

This assignment volunteer will contribute to the following:

1. Improved vegetable production system
2. Increased productivity per unit area of land
3. Student and worker aware of the importance of growing vegetable
4. Increased in vegetable production to meet dormitory need and additional income

#### **E. DELIVERABLES**

1. Training Manuals in Agronomy practices
2. Appropriate and relevant technologies transferred to the target beneficiaries,
3. Trainings and technical assistances delivered,
4. Field report with recommendation produced at the end of the assignment.
5. Group presentation with local stakeholders at the end of the assignment in country
6. Group presentation for CRS staff

#### **F. SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN TIMOR-LESTE**

<i><b>Please note that this is a tentative schedule and will be finalized post volunteer selection with consultation with volunteer</b></i>	
<b>Day</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Day 1	Arrival in Timor-Leste. The volunteer will meet a hotel pick CRS's client hotel with a placard bearing " <b>CRS logo and volunteer name</b> ".
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing meeting at CRS office with CRS F2F staff, security briefing, logistics and itinerary of the trip and discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan;</li> <li>• Meeting with ambassador and USAID mission</li> </ul>
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel to Lospalos in 184,1 km from Dili</li> <li>• Setup with Hotel/ guesthouse and other logistics</li> <li>• Briefing meeting with staff Dom Bosco Foiluro and Local Leader</li> <li>• First hand briefing on outlines of topics of the training, plan, approach, and adjust the topics as required.</li> <li>• Work plan discussion with the staff of the Dom Bosco Foiluro</li> <li>• Prepare course/training and plan with the Dom Bosco Foiluro to proceed with the assignment (lecturing and practicing)</li> </ul>
Day 4-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct the assignment according to an agreed schedule of Dom Bosco Foiluro</li> </ul>
Days 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap up sessions that emphasize key concepts of the assignment: The Dom Bosco Foiluro evaluates the assignment and discusses final report recommendations with the volunteer.</li> <li>• Group presentation to the host in the presence of CRS F2F staff and local leader</li> </ul>
Day 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel back to Dili and Debriefing at CRS office</li> <li>• Submit all reports, return logistic items and complete all required activities</li> </ul>
Day 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel back to USA</li> </ul>
TBD	Conduct outreach activity when back in the US

#### **G. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**

1. Experience working with Vegetable Production and able to do assessment for livestock

2. writing and analytical skills, interpersonal communication and presentation skills (adult education skills).
3. Ability and preparedness to use relevant teaching aids and audiovisuals,

#### **H. ACCOMMODATION AND ANOTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

1. Before travelling to the assignment place, the volunteer will stay in Plaza Hotel at one of the CRS's client hotels that will be booked and confirmed before the arrival date.  
[https://www.agoda.com/plaza-hotel\\_2/hotel/all/dili-tl.html?checkin=2019-04-10&los=1&adults=1&rooms=1&cid=1646622&tag=974ceae6-7504-ae4c-1f07-a9e79faff10b&searchrequestid=e8bd6065-3418-43b5-a0fa-86fa9bee4e6e&travellerType=-1&tabbed=true](https://www.agoda.com/plaza-hotel_2/hotel/all/dili-tl.html?checkin=2019-04-10&los=1&adults=1&rooms=1&cid=1646622&tag=974ceae6-7504-ae4c-1f07-a9e79faff10b&searchrequestid=e8bd6065-3418-43b5-a0fa-86fa9bee4e6e&travellerType=-1&tabbed=true)
2. In Dili, the hotel usually has rooms that include services such as airport pickup and drop-off, breakfast, wireless internet, etc.
3. The hotel or CRS will arrange a vehicle for short travel from the hotel to CRS or using Blue Taxi
4. CRS Timor-Leste 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 Timor-Leste.
5. CRS will provide a vehicle and accompany the volunteer to the place of assignment on the first day
6. During her/his assignment period on the field, the volunteer will be staying at closest Hotel/guest house from Dom Bosco Foiluro and will come to the compound s/he will ride one of the vehicles belongs to a teacher from Dom Bosco (around 10 minutes)
7. Dom Bosco Foiluro will provide material for the training needs
8. CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with a per-diem advance to cater meals and incidences.
9. Before departing for the US, the volunteer will also liquidate advances (if any) at CRS Timor-Leste
10. For more information, please refer to country information that will be provided

#### **I. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

1. Prior to travel, the volunteer will be advised to prepare necessary training and demonstrating aids and written handouts. Softcopies of the handouts and any other paper materials can be printed for immediate use at either office of CRS on request by the volunteer.
2. If the volunteer requires use of simple training aids like flip charts, markers, masking tapes, etc, s/he should make the request and collect from either office at Dili office prior to travel to the assignment place.
3. Translation of handouts to local languages can be Done in the locality of the assignment, if shortly required. Depending on the meeting places, the volunteer may use a laptop and projector for power point presentations
4. The target training is for teacher, students and staff
5. Recommend reading are <http://www.dbtimorleste.org/about-us/#more-48> and Lautem <http://www.timorleste.tl/destinations/municipalities/lautem/>
6. Related to the weather condition in August is dry season

## J. KEY CONTACTS

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