To express interest in this assignment please email chi.olisemeka@crs.org

**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

Notice for potential volunteers:

Some assignment details are subject to change.

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| **Summary Information** |
| **Assignment Code** | **TL265** |
| Country: | Timor-Leste |
| Country Project: | Modernizing Agriculture |
| Host Organization: | Dos Santos Agropec |
| Partner: | Not applicable  |
| Date of baseline data collection: | April 12, 2022 |
| Date of host agreement signing: | April 1, 2022 |
| Number of previous volunteer assignments: Note, if this is the first/new host, please discuss with Peter and Nyambura before you proceed | A new host an agreement made on April 1,2022  |
| Volunteer recommendations given (Total): | 0 | Volunteer recommendations applied (Total): | 0 |
| Assignment Title: | Training on poultry feed formulation techniques for Dos Santos Agropec  |
| Objectives of the assignment: | * To enhance the capacity of Dos Santos Agropec’s owner in poultry feed formulation techniques
* To provide techniques on good poultry production practices
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| Assignment preferred dates: | October- November 2022 |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | * Hands-on experience of poultry feed formulation preferred using locally available ingredients
* Experienced in good poultry production practices
* Facilitation skills and adaptability to local, remote contexts
* Good interpersonal skills
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| Type of Volunteer Assistance | Technology transfer (T) |
| Type of Value Chain Activity | Information and Input Support Services (S) |
| PERSUAP Classification[[1]](#footnote-1)[1] | Type III |
| Number of people to be trained | Men | Women  | Youths |
| 45 | 35 | Approximately 50 |
| Will the assignment address gender gaps? (Yes/No)If yes, please include these in the issues description | No |
| Will the assignment address climate change? (Yes/No)If yes, please include this in the issues description | No |
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1. **BACKGROUND**

CRS Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program is a USAID funded 5-year program (October 2018 – September 2023) that has been providing 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. The 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[[2]](#footnote-2) 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 14.19% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), or over $293.6 million in 2020 (<https://www.statistics.gov.tl> . However, there is a considerable net deficit in agricultural trade as imports in 2019 were valued at approximately $141.4 Billion <https://www.statista.com> . Major imports include rice, sugar, meat (chicken, beef, pork), vegetable oil, fish, milk, and vegetables (potato, onion). In rural communities 57% of women and 60% of men are actively involved in agriculture. 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.

Dos Santos Agropec is private livestock business established in 2019, specializing in poultry. It imports day-old chicken (DOC) from Indonesia and supplies them to agricultural education training institutes like Don Bosco in the east, Escola Tecnica Agricola de Moleana-ETAM in the west, two farmers groups in Bacau and individual farmers closer to the community. The owner is one of a few people in the country who are authorized to import DOC from aboard and supply them to agricultural technical schools. The owner imports about 84,000 DOC chicks per year most of which go to agricultural schools etc. The company also sells approximately 24,000 DOC directly to other customers each year. It also produces and sells broiler chicken for meat. The company makes its own poultry feed for the broiler chickens using local resources such as rice bran, maize etc.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

Dos Santos Agropec imports DOC chicks from aboard because there is no facility to produce them in the country. It produces its own poultry feed by using local resources such as rice husk and maize without proper knowledge of poultry feed formulation. Further, the owner and temporarily hired staff lack technical knowledge on good poultry production practices to sustain the business in the long run. As a result, the company does not make a good profit from the poultry business. For these reasons, it has requested technical assistance from the CRS Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) program to enhance knowledge on poultry feed formulation and poultry production good practices.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The volunteer assignment objectives are:

* To enhance the capacity of Dos Santos Agropec’s owner and clients in poultry feed formulation techniques
* To provide training in good poultry production practices
1. **HOST CONTRIBUTION**

Dos Santos Agropec will identify and invite clients from its community and members of the local university to the training. It will encourage intern students to participate in the training depending on their availability. The company will provide the training venue on its own premises for the hands-on training.

1. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

This assignment volunteer will contribute to the following:

* Enhanced knowledge on poultry feed production
* Decreased cost of production for the poultry business
* Increased income
1. **DELIVERABLES**
2. Volunteer final report due **BEFORE** departure/before ending the assignment
3. Group presentation with local stakeholders at the end of the assignment in-country
4. Simple poultry feed formulation formula and good poultry production practices booklet
5. Volunteer outreach activities in the US and in-country
6. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN TIMOR-LESTE**

| ***Please note that this is a tentative schedule and will be finalized post volunteer selection with consultation with volunteer*** |
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| **Day** | **Activity** |
| Day 1-3  | * International travel
* Arrival in country and hotel check in
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| Day 4-5 | * Volunteer orientation in country on assignment SOW, safety, and security
* Travel to host location and introduction
* Assignment planning and preparation with host
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| Day 6-16 | * Conduct the assignment according to an agreed schedule and topics
* Share volunteer recommendations to host for future follow up
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| Day 17-18 | * Travel back from the field
* Prepare and submit report to CRS F2F Timor-Leste team.
* Debrief at USAID local mission
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| Day 15-16 | Travel back to the US |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEERS SKILLS**
* Hands-on experience of poultry feed formulation preferred using locally available ingredients
* Experienced in good poultry production practices
* Facilitation skills and adaptability to local, remote contexts
* Good interpersonal skills
1. **IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**
* Dos Santos will provide material for the trainings.
* CRS country staff will set up the meeting schedule and liaise between the host and the volunteer.
* CRS HQ will provide the volunteer with a per-diem advance to cover meals and incidentals.
* For more information, please refer to the country information that will be provided.
1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**
* Training materials, demonstration aids, any other documentation should be completed prior to arriving in Timor-Leste. Soft copies can be printed for immediate use at the CRS office in Dili.
* Please prepare a brief initial presentation outlining your skills/qualifications and an overview of your anticipated approach for accomplishing the assignment objectives.
* [the host] may request a call prior to your arrival to confirm details and discuss the approach in order to maximize the impact of your time in-country.
* Classroom supplies such as flip charts, tape, markers, etc. can be collected from the CRS office in Dili prior to traveling to the assignment site.
* Any documents/handouts that you would like translated into Tetun should be provided prior to your arrival so there is adequate time to accurately translate.
* [the host]’s conference room has a projector that can be used for presentations.
* Store any electronic files you need locally rather than online as the internet connection may be slower than you are accustomed to.
* Please bring any specialized tools/equipment with you as there may be limited options for acquiring them at the assignment site.
* Be mindful of the current season in Timor-Leste. Timor-Leste’s dry season is generally May to November with the wet season being December to April. Expect very dusty conditions during dry season and daily rain during wet season.
* Timor-Leste’s official currency is the US Dollar so there is no need to exchange money.
* You may want to familiarize yourself with the history and status of Timor-Leste. Irena Cristalis’ *A Nation’s Bitter Dawn* details Timor’s fight for independence and the aftermath. Timor-Leste’s Strategic Development Plan, previously referenced as a footnote, provides a more technical analysis of the current conditions and outlines a path to prosperity.
* You can subscribe to the [ETAN](https://etan.org/resource/etlist.htm) listserv which provides daily news and analysis on events occurring in Timor-Leste.
1. **KEY CONTACTS**

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| **CRS Baltimore** | **Country Manager** |
| **Chi Olisemeka**Volunteer RecruiterFarmer to Farmer Program228 W. Lexington StreetBaltimore, MD 21201Email: chi.olisemeka@crs.org  | **Jose Maria Alves Ornai** Farmer-to Farmer Project Manager, Catholic Relief ServicesTimor LesteRua Dom Boaventura No. 12, Motael Vera Cruz, Dili, Timor-LesteEmail: josemaria.alves@crs.org **Celestina Ramos Cristo**Farmer to Farmer Project Assistant Email: celestinaramos.cristo@crs.org Telephone: +670 77526421 |
| **Host Organization:** |
| **Joao Dos Santos** Owner, Dos Santos Agropec Telphone: +670-76750837/77429976  | **Santana Dos Santos**Owner, Dos Santos Agropec Telephone: +670-78331947/75799154 |

1. [1] 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.  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/tim149148.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)