 

**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Assignment Summary:**  |
| **Assignment Code** | **TZ55 SOW** |
| Country | Tanzania |
| Country Project | Tanzania F2F Grains Project |
| Host Organization | Catholic Arch -Diocese of Arusha  |
| Assignment Title | Support the Catholic Archdiocese of Arusha with land use planning and conservation agriculture best practices for its’ Canaan Farmland |
| Assignment objective | To effectively and efficiently utilize the land resource for various agricultural production in order to finance the Archdiocese development and evangelical work |
| Desired skills | Land use planning with farming experience  |
| Assignment preferred dates | From August 2015 onwards  |

1. **Background**

The Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) East Africa program is a program that uses short-term US Volunteer expertise to assist small holder farmers and small scale processors in East Africa to improve their business practices conducted with host organizations. The goal of the F2F Cereals project is to increase incomes, improve access to and utilization of markets, credit and preservation, and enhance natural resources upon which target communities depend.

In Tanzania, one of Catholic Relief Services’ (CRS) F2F project objectives is to support cereals production along the entire value chain. F2F works on the entire spectrum: at the origin, with small scale producers, and higher up, with processors, millers, exporters, trainers and the like.

Channeling technical assistance toward the grains value chain is a main target for the CRS F2F project because grains are key food staples for the majority of Tanzanians. Strategic interventions in these value chains also have great potential to contribute to USAID goals; in this case, the goal of sustainably reducing poverty and food insecurity by increasing productivity and profitability of thd grain crops that form the staple food for most Tanzanians.

The host for this particular assignment is the Catholic Arch-Diocese of Arusha, located in the northern part of Tanzania. It was established in 1963 and it is one of the largest dioceses in Tanzania. The Archdiocese covers the districts of Arumeru (2,896 Km2), Arusha Municipality (82.5 Km2), Ngorongoro (14,030 Km2), Monduli and Longido (14,451 Km2), Kiteto (16,305 Km2) and Simanjiro(18,851Km2). The population of Arusha is 2, 364,000.

Catholics are more than 500,000. There are 50 parishes and more than 198 missions. Furthermore, there are 57 diocesan clergy, 76 religious clergy, 639 religious women (sisters), 26 major seminarians (Philosophy and Theology students), 167 minor seminarians and 394 catechists (Pastoral ministers).

Most of the parishes and missions are situated in very remote areas where communication/infrastructure is very poor, in areas like Ngorongoro, Serengeti, Lake Manyara and Arusha are mostly national reserved land with wildlife (national parks).

In recognition of the needs of people of God within her area of operation, the Arch-Diocese of Arusha established the development office in 1984 after the severe food crisis in Tanzania, the main purpose being to distribute food relief for the affected communities and other emergency interventions. Arusha Archdiocesan Integrated Development and Relief Office (AAIDRO) were there after established in 2000 following the Synod resolution to strengthen the development activities in the Archdiocese. Her vision is; “Human beings who are developed spiritually, mentally, physically and accessible to basic needs; while the mission is; “To facilitate a development process for the people to enable them to meet or address their needs in a sustainable way”.

The office is entrusted to empower the marginalized and promote sustainable development among the communities through several interventions as need arises in its area of operation. The development interventions being carried out include; Livelihood and Food security; Savings and Internal Lending Communities Initiatives(SILC), Gender and Development (GAD) program, Integrated Water Management Resources (IWRM) program; Emergency and relief responses; Pre-school program; Rehabilitation for people (children) with disabilities and Most Vulnerable Children (MVC). The office has now expanded to other parts of the country.

Apart from its’ outreach activities, the Archdiocese has a number of farms which when fully operational will support various area of operation within the Archdiocese through efficient production of food crops, vegetables, fruits and animal products (meat, milk and eggs).The farms also serve as income generation arm of the Archdiocese to support evangelization among other needs.

**B: ISSUE DESCRIPTION-**

As mentioned above, the Archdiocese of Arusha owns land that is un-developed in some farms within its area of operation in some parishes. However even for the developed farms most agriculture practiced is rain-fed with unreliable productivity. In good years some good harvests of food crops is realized while in bad years poor /or no harvest is realized. For this year the Arch-diocese planted 10 acres of beans that did very well.

The key challenges observed are lack of skills for proper land use planning, lack of water for irrigation to supplement rainfall (mostly unreliable) and proper farm implements for specific activities such as Chisel plow, harrow, and planter (for planting various crops).

In order to address those challenges, some effort has been made to make some farms productive by contour making for farms on hillsides, use of conservation tillage and land grading. In Canaan farm, a charco/earth dam for harvesting flood water during rainfall was constructed and production of short term crops such as beans and wheat to cope with the available rains introduced. However, the charco dam did not function properly because the soils were too porous at the bottom making it difficult to hold the water.

The Archdiocese plans to expand crop and livestock production area in the 128 acres land (Canaan farm) currently also used for religious purposes of retreat due to it’s’ location up a hill overlooking the Arusha city, about 1500m above sea level. It offers a unique, quiet, peaceful kind of environment suitable for religious retreat and meditation. The church bought this land from some foreign owner in 2000 and has not yet developed it fully due to various limitations to include technical and financial resources. Its delicate landscape calls for expert planning so that embedded in the farmland is also space for religious meditation, some forest area for environmental conservation and protecting the land from soil erosion. There is also need for road infrastructure and buildings plan all embedded into the land use plan. The Archdiocese would like to have this land use plan master plan before serious investment to develop it. Since the Archdiocese has no expertise, neither funds to contract a consultant it has requested CRS F2F volunteer expert to help with the land use planning and infrastructure design map for the long term land/farm utilization.

**C: OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

* To support the archdiocese develop land use planning for the Canaan farm in order to properly utilize the 128 acres land resources to ensure higher productivity that also takes care of the environment
* Advise and/or design conservation agricultural practices that ensures preservation and /or enhancement of the natural resources of the area to include soil and water
* To enable this Archdiocese farm serve as a model farm for the surrounding community of small holder farmers surrounding the farm, the congregations and visitors visiting the Canaan Spiritual Centre.

**D. Host contribution:**

* The Archdiocese will contribute in the development of the scope of work
* Will provide transport, accommodation and translation service as may be required by the volunteer as he/she conducts the assignment.
* Will mobilize relevant staff to work with the volunteer and learn according to the scope of work.
* Will implement volunteer recommendations to the best of it’s ability.

**D: ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

* Land use plan with maps for the Archdiocese of Arusha at Canaan farm ready for implementation/use.
* Areas for crop production, forest, livestock keeping, gardening and farm infrastructure well earmarked and relevant staff competent to read and understand.
* Staff trained by volunteer competent in applying conservation farming best practices

**E: SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY IN TANZANIA**

It is estimated that the volunteer will use the first week to study the farm area, followed by another week of doing the land use planning and design and a third week for the actual drawings and training relevant staff on use of the plans and conservation agriculture best practices.

**F. DESIRABLE VOLUNTEER SKILLS.**

* Skills and experience in land use planning especially in tropical highland areas.
* A farmer well versed in hilly farming and has used various strategies to address challenges with such farms.
* A good adult trainer who can impart skills using appropriate adult learning methodologies.
* Agriculture /land use planning trainer with hands on experience.

**G: ACCOMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

* The Archdiocese will provide a house at Burka Epiphany Centre with two bed room’s self- contained (toilet& bath room) with chairs and a table.
* Food will be provided by the Archdiocese depending on the volunteer’s preference.

**H: RECOMMENDED ASSIGNEMENT PREPARATION**

Would be volunteers for this assignment are recommended to familiarize with the Archdiocese of Arusha [www.arushaarchdiocese.or.tz](http://www.arushaarchdiocese.or.tz) and contact the Archbishop RT. Rev. Prosper Lyimo; email;prosperlyimo@yahoo.com The volunteer should also familiarize with the CRS F2F program, the F2F Tanzania program and Tanzania as a country general. It is recommended that the volunteer either bring or prepare a list of required equipment for the smooth implementation of this assignment

**]: KEY CONTACTS**

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