

**To express interest in this assignment please email** [**Chi.Olisemeka@crs.org**](mailto:Chi.Olisemeka@crs.org)

**CRS Farmer to Farmer Program**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** | | | | | |
| **Assignment Code** | **UG2102** | | | | |
| Country: | Uganda | | | | |
| Country Project: | Agribusiness | | | | |
| Host Organization: | Mahyolo Area Cooperative Enterprise (MACE) | | | | |
| Partner: | Sasakawa Africa 2000, | | | | |
| Date of baseline data collection: | March 6, 2019 | | | | |
| Date of host agreement signing: | May 13, 2019 | | | | |
| Number of previous volunteer assignments:  Note, if this is the first/new host, please discuss with Peter and Nyambura before you proceed | | | 7 | | |
| Volunteer recommendations given (Total): | 34 | Volunteer recommendations applied (Total): | | | 31 |
| Assignment Title: | Soyabean value addition | | | | |
| Objectives of the assignment: | 1. Train on Soybean processing to address malnutrition aspects and job creation (Focus products for development: Soy milk, Soya cake, composite flours, alternative use for the by-products etc.)  2. Offer entrepreneurial skills for IGAs (Income Generating Activities) that may be created because of this training.  3. Offer nutrition education regarding vulnerable children, pregnant mothers and those living with HIV. | | | | |
| Assignment preferred dates: | September-October, 2022 | | | | |
| Desired volunteer skill/expertise | Food Technologist with a nutrition background  Knowledgeable and practical experience in Food processing involving tropical food sources  Experience working with small scale/medium scale processors  Good adult learning and facilitation skills | | | | |
| Type of Volunteer Assistance | Technology transfer (T) | | | | |
| Type of Value Chain Activity | Processing (P) | | | | |
| PERSUAP Classification[[1]](#footnote-1)[1] | III | | | | |
| Number of people to be trained | Men | | Women | Youths | |
|  | |  |  | |
| Will the assignment address gender gaps? (Yes/No)  If yes, please include these in the issues description | | | | Yes | |
| Will the assignment address climate change? (Yes/No)  If yes, please include this in the issues description | | | | No | |
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1. **BACKGROUND**

The CRS Farmer-to-Farmer program (F2F) is a five-year (2019-2023) USAID funded program implemented with the primary goal of reducing hunger, malnutrition, and poverty across six countries: Benin, Timor-Leste, Ethiopia, Nepal, Rwanda, and Uganda. The program aims to achieve this goal through advancing inclusive and sustainable agriculture led growth aimed at generating sustainable and broad-based economic growth in the agricultural sector. The program’s secondary goal is to increase US public’s understanding of international development issues and programs and share the knowledge back in the US. To achieve these goals, F2F provides volunteer technical assistance to farmers and farmer groups (associations and cooperatives), private agribusinesses and agricultural education institutions to address key technical and institutional issues identified by the hosts in selected agricultural value chains. F2F volunteers are pooled from a broad range of US agricultural expertise including private farmers, university professors, bankers/certified accountants, animal health and nutrition specialists, soil scientists and agronomists who can provide technical assistance to the local host organizations. The program introduces new innovations and skills to develop local organizations’ capacity to participate in more productive, profitable, sustainable, and equitable agricultural systems while providing an opportunity for people-to-people exchange within the agricultural sector. In Uganda, the F2F program focuses its technical interventions on the livestock and agribusiness value chains.

Mahyolo ACE is a member owned farmer cooperative registered as a secondary cooperative with a membership of 1,296 farmers located within Mahyoro Town council, Kitagwenda district. ACE members are organized under three Rural Producer Organizations (RPOs) and 40 farmer groups. Kyendangara ACE promotes maize and rice as the core enterprises for collective bulking and marketing majorly and value addition to a small extent. The organization started four years ago with the registration process completed at national level.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

Despite Uganda being an agricultural country with over 70 % population depending on agriculture for a livelihood, most of the agricultural produce is consumed/sold in raw form. This reduces the benefits that accrue from value addition like income, mitigation against seasonality for agricultural products for a rain fed agriculture in Uganda.

Soybean has been described as a miracle crop with many uses – people can eat them, drink them in milk alternatives, and take them in the form of supplements. Soybeans are a rich unique plant protein (40 per cent), have 20 per cent fat, are rich in fibre that are vital in human and animal diet. Soya bean can be used for food in the household but also processed into many products. Adding value to soya bean has made it one of the most promising food crops available to improve the diets of many people. Soya based products are the healthy non-dairy alternative for people with lactose intolerance and diabetics as they are low in carbohydrates, cholesterol and have enough of all essential amino acids that support normal growth and development. Soya bean production in Uganda has been growing steadily with a high potential for expansion. Annually, Uganda produces 23,000tonnes of soyabeans from an area of 36,000 hectares (UBOS-Uganda Census of Agriculture 2008/2009). The capacity of soyabean to improve soil fertility has made it a common and important legume in the country.

Majority of farming households in Mahyoro sub county and Mahyoro town council produce soya bean for household and commercial consumption. However, despite the numerous potential soya bean has, it has been underutilized with in the community due to lack of knowledge on preparation of nutrient rich products. Further still, access to cow’s milk for children in Mahyoro community is still a challenge which pre-exposes them to malnutrition. In addition to producing soybean, MACE would like to take a step further to add value to soybean being produced so that farmers can gain more in terms of income, improve nutrition and employment opportunities through setting up cottage industries based on soybean products. IDFA doesn’t have the technical know-how to process soybean into various products such as soy milk, soy cake, composite flour to mention. These products will form a basis for setting up small cottages industries that can employ youth and women. The products will also be looked at as one of the measures in addressing malnutrition and food insecurity challenges, especially considering soy milk as an alternative to cow’s milk or infant formula and the composite flours to address nutrient deficiencies both for the vulnerable children and adults’ populations.

In addition, MACE is seeking to impart entrepreneurship skills to the youth and women that will be involved in these cottage industries so that they are able to carry out meaningful business. The technical training will help unlock farmers' entrepreneurial competencies by helping them assess and develop their personal enterprising behavior which is a critical factor in running the farm as an income generating enterprise. Farmers will also be helped to understand why a farm must be viewed as a business, learn how to identify, and take advantage of business opportunities (identify, screen, and select business opportunities/projects, that can augment farm income), carry out SWOT analysis of farm businesses, goal setting, farm business planning, and other entrepreneurship and business management skills that will help create a difference in the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

Mahyoro ACE needs technical capacity to train farmers on benefits of soya bean and how to add value to make nutritious products. Therefore, MACE request for technical support from CRS’s Farmer to Farmer program to assist in diversifying the use of soya bean through development of nutritious products for household consumption.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The overall aim of this volunteer technical assignment is to build capacity of members of MACE to diversify the use of soya bean in their diets through value addition technologies to prepare nutritious household products for improved nutrition. Also, help MACE impart entrepreneurship skills to soybean farmers through soybean value addition activities. The volunteer will focus his/her attention on assisting the ACE on the following:

1. Develop nutritious products from Soya bean.
2. Provide nutrition education on the use of soya bean and recipes for soya bean products
3. Develop guide on the preparation of nutritious products from soya bean.
4. Impart entrepreneurship skills to women and youth to run cottage.
5. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

Promoting soybean processing or value addition at household level will not address issues of malnutrition and food insecurity in farmer households but will also improve income, offer employment opportunities. For every 1,000 shillings invested in nutrition there is a result at least six times more in economic benefits. These gains mainly benefit the poor and most disadvantaged, as these groups spend less money on treating malnutrition-related diseases. There are also increases in productivity, thus reaping additional socioeconomic benefits.

The anticipated deliverables will include the following:

* Trainings conducted and people trained
* Simple training manual on soybean products
* Debriefing with USAID and in-country group presentations after assignment
* Field and expense report
* Outreach activities back in the US.

1. **SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES IN UGANDA**

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| Day | Activity |
| Day 1 | Travel from home to a US international airport |
| Day 2 | Arrival at Uganda Entebbe Airport, picked by Airport shuttle to Kampala and check in at Fairway Hotel. |
| Day 3 | At 9.00 am, the volunteer is greeted at the hotel by CRS staff and thereafter go to CRS office for introductions and briefings including host brief, logistics and expectations and anticipated outcomes. Any necessary hand-outs will be prepared at CRS offices. |
| Day 4 | Travel to Ibanda/ Kitagwenda district to commence the assignment. |
| Day 5 | In the morning CRS introduces the volunteer to the board and management team of MACE. Together with CRS and the management, the volunteer will review and finalise the work-plan. The action plan should include group presentations to be done after the assignment. In the afternoon, visit some of the MACE soybean farmers. |
| Days 6-7 | **Group 1 Farmer training**: Soybean product development, nutrition education, food hygiene and entrepreneurship skills |
| Day 8-9 | **Group 2 Farmer training**: Soybean product development, Nutrition education, food hygiene and entrepreneurship skills |
| Day 10-11 | **Group 3 Farmer training**: Soybean product development, nutrition education, food hygiene and entrepreneurship skills |
| Day 12 | **ToT training**: With emphasis on key points and detail on a few procedures to make the participants more articulate to share the skills to other farmer groups not reached by the volunteer. ToTs will be selected based on their capability to grasp procedure and be able to train other farmers. These will also include extension staff from the association. |
| Day 13 | Debriefing at CRS office with USAID Mission and CRS staff.  Volunteer will finalize his/her reporting at CRS office and fill out all necessary M&E forms as well finalize advances and expenditures with finance. |
| Day 14 | Depart for USA |
| TBD | Outreach activities back in the US including either press release, group presentation or media event  **Note: This is a draft schedule that will be finalized based on volunteer actual dates of availability, Sundays are typical rest days and working on Saturday is, per the host’s request** |

1. **ACCOMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

In Kampala, the volunteer may stay at Fairway Hotel & Spa ([www.fairwayhotel.co.ug](http://www.fairwayhotel.co.ug))

In Ibanda, the volunteer will stay at Golden hotel which is located within Ibanda town but travel on daily basis to neighboring Kitagwenda for work. The volunteer will work accompanied by MACE staff in rural areas where groups are located.

CRS will pay for hotel accommodation and provide the volunteer with per diems to cover meals and other incidentals. The volunteer may get an advance which has to be cleared before departing Uganda. For more information, please refer to the Uganda country information that will be provided.

**F. RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

* CRS-F2F designs assignments with the assumption of some pre-field departure preparation by both the US and local volunteers. CRS relies on the volunteers to assess the tasks outlined in this SOW and to make their own judgment about how much and what kind of preparation is needed prior to field travel.
* The volunteer should prepare materials which can be printed at the CRS office in Kampala before commencement of the assignment. Flip charts, markers, and masking tape can also be obtained at the CRS office.
* CRS strongly recommends that the volunteers become familiar with [CRS programs in Uganda](https://www.crs.org/our-work-overseas/where-we-work/uganda), especially the agribusiness country project description.

**REMOTE/LOCAL VOLUNTEER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (if the assignment is carried out by a remote pair)**

Both volunteers participate in a call to discuss the assignment’s objectives and their approach to collaboration at the start of the assignment. Collaboration platforms vary depending on the type of assignment and degree of connectivity. The most frequently used platforms are MS Teams and WhatsApp. The volunteers are highly encouraged to visit [CRS’s F2F Digital Resource Library](https://f2flibrary.crs.org/Presto/home/home.aspx?_ga=2.141716784.32617302.1616765386-2022794543.1567520784) and search for resources that they can use or customize for training. Upon completion of the assignment, volunteers are requested to send any resources they would like to contribute to the library (whether created or found) to [farmertofarmer@crs.org](mailto:farmertofarmer@crs.org).

The local volunteer is responsible for assignment design, preparation, training, developing assignment reports, conducting action planning with hosts and outreach in country, and achieving the assignment objectives. The local volunteer works directly with the host with assistance/input from the US volunteer. Assignments usually last up to 2 weeks, sometimes extending beyond two weeks due to pending follow up visits, emails etc. Local volunteers are asked to track assignment hours per day, to stay under 112 hours (14 days x 8 hrs).

Remote support from a paired US volunteer helps provide supplementary training resources, fill in the gaps for technical areas, and share creative ideas and solutions. Two specific responsibilities are to: (i) complete the outreach component of the assignment and (ii) support the in-country volunteer as needed. US volunteers typically dedicate 4-8 hours per week, depending on the nature of the assignment and degree of collaboration.

**G. KEY CONTACTS**

To express interest in this assignment, please email the CRS Baltimore contact listed below. To find out additional information about the host, issue description or field conditions, please email the country contact provided below, copying the CRS Baltimore contact**.**

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| **CRS Baltimore** | |
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| **CRS Country Program** | |
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| **Host Organization:** | |
| **Ntamusobora Emmanuel**  Chairperson ACE Board  Kyendangara Area Cooperative Enterprise  Kitagwenda, Western Uganda  Cell phone: +256 772949733/+256 756 192637  Email: [mahyorocooperative@gmail.com](mailto:mahyorocooperative@gmail.com) | |

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)