

**Farmer to Farmer East Africa**

**Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work**

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| **Summary Information** | |
| Assignment Code | UG80 |
| Country | Uganda |
| Country Project | Oil Seeds |
| Host Organization | Apac-Sub County Agricultural Development Association (ASCADA) |
| Type of Volunteer Assistance: | **Technology Transfer (T)** |
| Type of Value Chain Activity: | **Information and Input Support Services (S)** |
| Assignment Title | Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Agriculture |
| Assignment preferred dates | July – August, 2016 |
| Assignment objective | Build the capacity of ASCADA in improved IPM practices in Sunflower and groundnut production |
| Desired volunteer skills/ expertise | Knowledge and hands-on experience in IPM practices |

1. **BACKGROUND**

Apac Sub County Agricultural Development Association (ASCADA) is made up of 38 rural producer groups of about 15 members each, and has 503 members out of whom 304 are women. ASCADA members can register as individuals or through the rural producer groups. There are thus two forms of membership: The farmer groups pay subscription fee of Ushs. 25,000 as share capital annually, they also pay 10,000 per season which amounts to Ushs.20, 000 for two seasons. Members also pay Ushs.7, 000 for registration. ASCADA further generates additional revenue from maize milling from non-members. The revenue collected from the members and from the maize milling business is used to run the day to day operations of the association.

ASCADA is comprised of members who form the general assembly which is the supreme body governing the association. The Annual General Meeting, AGM, is held once per year, and during this meeting the members discuss the achievements, challenges and plans for moving forward. During this time an executive board is elected through a democratic process. The board is comprised of 9 members, these supervise the secretariat that keeps an up to date register of members, takes record of meetings minutes and a signatory to the association’s bank account. The association does not have hired management staff. The second organ of the association is the board of directors which comprises 9 members. The third organ is the secretariat that keeps an up to date register of members, takes and keeps minutes of meetings and a signatory to the association’s bank account.

ASCADA is involved in the production and marketing mainly of sunflower, sesame, ground nuts, sorghum & maize. ASCADA assists in the mobilization of farmers into farmer groups and helps in the marketing of farmers’ produce. ASCADA also helps mobilize farmers to bulk their produce for collective marketing, an arrangement that gives farmers control over price negotiations while enjoying economies of scale such as reduced transportation costs.

1. **ISSUE DESCRIPTION**

The oil seed crops sub-sector is dominated by small scale farmer producers and small scale processing. One of the major challenges facing farmers is poor crop protection practices against diseases and pests. Farmers generally lack adequate knowledge on IPM practices. On top of this, a very low extension staff to farmer ratio contributes to generally poor access by farmers to extension services. This low level of extension contact with farmers has been reported to be worse in the remote districts of the country such as Apac district. These farmers also have no adequate access (both physical and economic) to agricultural inputs.

The favorable climate that favors plant growth and other desirable microflora also favors undesirable disease causing pathogens and pests. Because of this, crops are affected by numerous pests and diseases while also facing stiff competition from the weeds species. As a result, the smallholder farmers have various production challenges among them weeds annual and perennial, pest and disease infestations. ASCADA members’ major challenges are that sunflower starts rotting before ripening, leaves turn yellow and ground nuts (peanut) leaves dry out and the roots dry out as well, there is no nodulation on the roots. The farmers do not understand what the causes are.

With their limited knowledge, farmers widely apply both pesticides and herbicides on annual and perennial crops. These are not only dangerous to life and environment, the application may not be well timed, application rates observed, or target the correct pests. In addition to this, farmers also have their own traditional pest control practices such as cultural and mechanical methods. However the farmers’ pest and disease control/management systems are not as efficient as expected due to presence of skill and knowledge gaps on both chemical and traditional methods. For resource-poor subsistence farmers, there are also economic barriers to purchase and use chemicals. Therefore, IPM approach which uses comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment would be the best alternative for pest and disease control.

In addition, the high price of chemicals (pesticides and herbicides) coupled with their unfriendly nature with the environment; human health etc., smallholder farmers frequently look for alternative means of pest and disease management techniques that take actions to keep pests from becoming a problem. However, even if some farmers are capable of buying chemicals, the knowledge and application of chemicals remain a challenge as well.

It is because of the limited knowledge that ASCADA on behalf of its members has expressed the need for a volunteer assignment on IPM. The methodology of providing training and/or technical assistances will be directly to farmers and through training of trainers (ToTs) of the host to reach the wider membership and surrounding communities.

1. **OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The objective of this volunteer assignment is to train and directly assist farmers, host staffs on integrated pest management (IPM) techniques and practices. This assignment is intended to provide a road map for ASCADA to address IPM challenges and improve farmers’ knowledge in handling pests, diseases and weeds sustainably. The volunteer will provide technical support in the areas of:

1. IPM principles and strategies
2. Importance of IPM
3. Principal pest control measures suitable for the agro-ecosystem and for the relevant crop species
4. When and how to use pesticides integrated with IPM Program, the difference between fumigation and spraying and when are these practices conducted?
5. Pest identification, management and monitoring and techniques
6. Plant disease/pests signs and symptoms and nutrient deficiencies
7. Pesticide and herbicides identification and application

The volunteer will use his/her expertise to further assess the missing knowledge gaps and refine her/his training and technical assistances for fruitful delivery of knowledge/skill and practices.

The volunteer will provide training on the above mentioned topics to farmer trainers personnel of each of the 6 Farmer Groups (FG); these will act as ToTs to carry on with the training after volunteer assignment. The training will also include representative farmers from each of the FG, a total of 20-30 farmers per training day. It is anticipated that this activity will take about 2 days at each FG. The volunteer is expected to train at least 180 people. The ToT selection criteria will be based on their ability to train others.

The majority of training participants are illiterate or semi-literate, the volunteer is advised prepare training materials with this in mind. Focus will be on practical demonstrations, pictorials, and illustrations. Training venues are usually in a local church or under the tree/shade or in the garden.

**Host contribution** - ASCADA has committed to mobilize the farmer group leaders to attend the trainings to be conducted by the volunteer. ASCADA personnel will work closely with the volunteer, during the preparations and actual trainings, to ensure that key staff are trained and will continue training other farmers even after the assignment is completed.

1. **ANTICIPATED RESULTS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT**

The anticipated deliverables include:

* Trainings conducted and people trained
* IPM training guidelines developed
* Debriefing with USAID and in country group presentations after assignment
* Field trip report and expense report
* Outreach activity, press release or a media event back in US

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

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| Day | Activity |
| Day 1 | Travel from home to US international airport |
| Day 2 | Arrival at Uganda Entebbe Airport, picked by Airport shuttle to Kampala and check in at 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. Hand-outs will be prepared at CRS offices. |
| Day 4 | Travel to Apac district to commence the assignment. |
| Day 5 | In the morning CRS introduces the volunteer to the ASCADA management team. 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. |
| Day 6-8 | Farmer group 1 training on topics 1-7 |
| Day 9-11 | Farmer group 2 training on topics 1-7 |
| Days 12-14 | Farmer group 3 training on topics 1-7 |
| Days 15-17 | Farmer group 4 training on topics 1-7 |
| Days 18-20 | Farmer group 5 training on topics 1-7 |
| Day 21-23 | Farmer group 6 training on topics 1-7 |
| Day 24-25 | Hold training with ASCADA executive and representative leaders from each of the farmer groups on constitution review. |
| Day 26 | Wrap up trainings and emphasize key concepts of assignment. Participants evaluate the training and together with the volunteer discuss final report recommendations. Conduct the outreach activity organised by ASCADA management |
| Day 27 | Volunteer travels back to Kampala |
| Day 28 | 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 29 | Depart for USA |
| TBD | Outreach event in the US |

1. **DESIRABLE VOLUNTEER SKILLS**

The volunteer will have the following qualifications and competencies:

1. IPM, plant pathology and related discipline with rich experience in technological innovation among small scale farmers (integrated pest management in agriculture);
2. Demonstrated skills and experience in different IPM techniques and practices focusing on sunflower, groundnut (Peanut);
3. Experience and interest in training of smallholder farmers, extension workers, development agents, farmers, etc.;
4. Proven skills in IPM, small scale pesticide and herbicide application and management at smallholder farmers’ level;
5. Experience working with diverse teams in multicultural communities;
6. Willingness to travel in rural areas and on-farm fields
7. **ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER IN-COUNTRY LOGISTICS**

In Kampala, the volunteer will stay at Fairway hotel, www.fairwayhotel.co.ug. While with the host, the volunteer will stay at Mayov Hotel Ltd with minimal basic facilities such as running water and electricity, but has no internet services. The volunteer will be provided with a modem from the CRS field office for internet access. No credit cards are accepted at the hotel, the form of payment is on cash basis in the local currency.

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

1. **RECOMMENDED ASSIGNMENT PREPARATIONS**

CRS-F2F designs assignments with the assumption of some pre-departure preparation by the volunteer. Actual preparation time will vary based on the experience of the volunteer, as well as informational or training resources the volunteer has readily available. CRS relies on the volunteer to assess the tasks outlined in this SOW and to make his or her own judgment about how much and what kind of preparation is needed prior to arriving in Uganda

* The volunteer should prepare materials for hand out which can be printed at CRS office in Kampala before commencement of the assignment. Flip charts, markers, masking tapes can be obtained at CRS offices.
* CRS strongly recommends that the volunteer become familiar with CRS programs in Uganda, especially the oil seed crops country project description and other information in the briefing pack before arrival to Uganda

1. **KEY CONTACTS**

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