



VOLUNTEER REPORT FORMAT

To be submitted to CRS at the end of volunteer assignment and shared with the Host

1.1 Assignment information

- a) Volunteer Name: Christine Blackledge
- b) Host Organization: Sebeta Getesemani Nunnery
- c) Assignment: ET14
- d) Dates of Assignment: August 22, 2014-Sept 11, 2014
- e) Number of days worked 14

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW Innovating modern vegetable crop production technologies through training/technical assistance and providing the beneficiaries with guideline/manual)

- a) Progress with the objective: We covered crop rotation and a five year plan was developed for one field. The necessity of composting along with crop rotation to build the soil up and limit pests and disease was taught. The soil is clay and must be amended to create a loamy soil for growth of crops such as carrots and to deal with water logging. Sawdust, manure and sand are being added in strip rows as compost is being created. Water reservoirs are standing in fields and a drip irrigation system is being implemented. In the past drip irrigation was started but it failed due to a lack of a filter for the water coming from the reservoir. Organic pest control was taught, with multiple concoctions being made from garlic, onion, pepper and orange oil. Plants were found and planted, lantana and marigolds, for future use. Soap was made with common products for pest control and everyday usage.
- b) Expected impacts/results: CRS has irrigation pipe available that will be delivered to Sebeta Nunnery. The sisters will follow the crop rotation plan that was created and implement composting.
- c) Recommendations: Follow up with help to implement the irrigation, crop rotation and composting within the fields. I am recommending volunteers from the organization, Buckets of Rain, which has done work in Letheso, Guatemala, USA and other places. They have donated some of the fittings for this current project. Also for the amount of land that is available, better ox farming practices should be implemented. At this time a plow is utilized and hand implements. With a disk, cultivator, root digger, hay cutter, etc the animals would be utilized year round and reduce labor that could be utilized better in other ways.

1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW

- a) Progress with the objective: In order to implement a crop rotation in which legumes are grown a need and usefulness for the product must be shown. Soy has not been grown in the past and is encouraged for use by the orphanage. Soy milk was made for the sisters to taste and was enjoyed by all along with the additional protein that can be added to the diet. Value added income was taught with the production of orange marmalade, soy milk and soap production.
- b) Expected impacts/results: Soy Beans will become part of the crop rotation for added protein in their diets. Added income can be produced by using the citrus and fruits produced within the nunnery.
- c) Recommendations: Follow up for questions and help that may be needed as this process unfolds.

1.2.3 Objective 3 in your SOW

- a) Progress with the objective

- b) Expected impacts/results
- c) Recommendations: Projects including a simple root cellar for storage of fruits and vegetables with the nunnery. A passive greenhouse for the starting of plants from seed and the beginning of knowledge in which to base continued inputs. This area is home to commercial greenhouse production and could be a great business for the nunnery to add to their profit margins.

Generally I recommend:

- Crop rotation
- Food preparation and preservation
- Drip irrigation
- Organic pest control
- Soil amendment practice using compost, sawdust,
- Greenhouse production

1.3 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training
- b) Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count): 20
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs
- d) Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners	20		20
Employees			
Clients/ Suppliers			
Family Members			
Total	20		20

1.4 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? This was a community of women with only a few men from the outside doing labor.
- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? Find farming practices and farming implements to increase the tillage and lower the manual labor so that their time can be spent added value to their products.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment 40
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment \$250.

Value of Volunteer Time Leveraged on Assignment (U.S. \$) = \$2,600

1.7 Value of hosts' contribution in \$ (Please consult the host as well)

- a) Meals daily lunch = \$60
- b) Transportation to buy materials
- c) Lodging



- d) Translation daily translation = 170
- e) Other (Specify)= \$79

Estimated Value of Host Contribution (U.S.\$) = \$309

1.9 Host Profile Data:

Did you obtain any data that supplements or corrects the data in the existing host information as detailed in the SOW? Please list it.

1.10 Recommendations for CRS:

The hotel internet was not adequate. Thank you for your modem! A little better understanding of the temperature where the assignment is to take place. Your support and understanding was wonderful. The support of CRS with the farmer to farmer program is very helpful and coordinated.

You have a potential showplace of what farmer-to-farmer can do with the Sebata nunnery. They have a beautiful dairy barn with less than half of it filled with milk cows. Dairy farming, improved genetics, milk processing, feed improvements and more could take place there. A nice chicken project has been started but is very limited and could be vastly improved upon. There is a slope with a reservoir available where viniculture could take place. With improved storage, enhanced farming techniques, food production, and animal husbandry things could be vastly improved for the community as well as the nunnery and orphanage.

Also the amount of irrigation kits that you have available is astounding. From large to small to fit all needs. During the dry season these are a gift to small farmers. Every woman could have a kitchen garden even in a small lot for her family and to sell produce when the prices are higher. I recommend that in about 6 weeks when the planting season is ready to begin you have a volunteer arrive that goes around to a few of your savings and loan groups and cooperative to teach a basic garden and business plan within an area.