



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: Janet Buresh
- b) Host Organization: Caritas Mbeya – Integrated Rural Development Plan (IRDP) – Mbalizi Parish
- c) US State of origin: Washington DC, farms in Michigan
- d) Assignment: Farming as a family business
- e) Dates of Assignment: 23 April-11 May, 2017
- f) Number of days worked: in-country 14; Travel: 3 days; Preparation: 4 days
- g) Objective 1 in your SOW: Equip small holder farmers' agribusiness management, knowledge and skills in record keeping, planning, risk management and market analysis, so as to conduct farming as profitable business
 - a) Progress with the objective:

Farmers calculated cost, yields, prices and profits. This is a start on records and plans. The training work showed “how to use” records for decision making. Farmers practiced profit analysis and choices

Farmers made Cash In/Cash Out calendars to show how much cash is needed or is available by month. The calendar helps farmers to have enough cash for farm activities. Farmers gave ideas to improve profits. They reduced costs or increased yields and prices. We listed farmer ideas. Farmers voted on their priority ideas.
 - b) Expected impacts/results as the way forward:

Farmers may decide to add to the records they started in their training booklets. Farmers want to try selling crops as a group. They will make bylaws for group sales. They will learn crop prices and buyer choices.

They will compare and analyze village prices compared to town and city prices. They plan to negotiate with larger buyers to get better prices for crop.

Farmers will not sell too cheaply to the first buyer who comes to their village. They have a similar plan to buy inputs together.
 - c) Recommendations¹ Ask agriculture extension agents if they have held meeting with village farmer groups to plan the way forward. Specifically ask about meetings for bylaws for groups to buy inputs and sell grain/beans together.

¹ **Note:** Only make not more than 6 recommendations. The most useful recommendations for hosts are ones that they can implement themselves with minimal expense. For example, a cooperative might change its financial reporting procedures or hold more regular meetings of its board. Broad recommendations on tax or credit reform, changes in government policy, or investment in large-scale equipment, are usually not within the host organization's reach.

- h) Objective 2 in your SOW: Build the capacity of farm families to work together in managing the farming businesses for greater productivity and prosperity through inclusion of women in the decision-making process.
- Progress with the objective: Farmers made groups. Groups plan: 1) to follow better farm practices, 2) to learn crop market prices, and 3) make individual Cash Calendars for their land and crops. Farmers identified ideas which need a group effort.
 - Expected impacts/results: Farmers will sell some beans and maize in groups. Groups will find new buyers. They will agree on a fair price to sell. They will compare the price to their costs. Then they will negotiate.
 - Recommendations: Ag Extension agents should link farmers with crop buyers and farm input sellers. Farmers will use phones to learn current prices and what magazines, market boards, and radio stations provide prices. Ag Extension agents will take farmers to buyers for the purpose of negotiating prices and terms.
Agriculture extension agents will guide farmers write bylaws for groups to buy and sell together.

1.3 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Ask Ag Ext. Agents, Loti Mwakyoma and Luckson Mwakalindile about meetings	Make a Cash Calendar for each farmer	All willing farmers	23 May Itimba 24 May Mshewe 25 May, Muvwa
2. Ag Ext. Agents, Loti Mwakyoma and Luckson Mwakalindile, about bylaws and plans	Farmers write bylaws to buy and sell together	Itimba: Elson Mpashila 0759-125202 Flora Halembwe 0763-826540 Emasi Sanyumo 0752-427621 Gilvas Nkembo 0766-4266000 Mshewe: Paul Mwangove -- Selina Mwambazu 0766-862284 Mary Seidi 0757-627077 Muvwa: Blandina Kassim 0743-972031 Willmon Katisha -- Grace Mwanyonga -- Sala Polela --	23, 24, 25 May, 2017 as above
3. Ag Ext Agents, Loti Mwakyoma and Luckson Mwakalindile,	Farmers make network plans to buy and sell together	Itimba: Emson Mtorambah 0765-933334 Elestina TUYate 0768-898683 Mshewe: Ministeri Mastoni -- Samwel Paul 0765-329981 Muvwa: Petro Mwamita 0765-792693 Neema Asamisye 0764-926730 Omari Namba 0756-498512 Daines Mwakalbo 0752-768238 Hadija Hamisi 0759-318595 Msia Msafiri -- Ruth Stephano --	23, 24, 25 May, 2017 as above

4. Ask Ag Ext Agents, Loti Mwakyoma and Luckson Mwakalindile , about progress	Muvwa (only) farmers make progress to certify and standardize measurements for sales containers & buying inputs	Petro Mwamita 0765-792693 Neema Asamisye 0764-926730 Omari Namba 0756-498512 Daines Mwakalbo 0752-768238 Hadija Hamisi 0759-318595 Msia Msafiri – Ruth Stephano –	25 May, 2017
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1.4 Number of people Assisted

- Through formal training
- Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count)
- Out of these above, number of host staffs was 5: Training/assistance by field

a) formal training	Total Itimba 25-28 May	Males	Females
Members/ owners Day 1	21	8	13
Day 2	31	18	13
Day 3	16	7	9
Day 4	13	4	9
Total Members	81; average 20	9	11
Employees	Itimba 1 CRS translator	Itimba 1	
Clients/ Suppliers	Ag Extension agents Itimba 2	Itimba 2	
Total	81 total; 20 average	9 average	11 average

a) formal training	Total Mshewe 29 April- 3 May	Males	Females
Members/ owners	29 on 29 April	15	14
	18; 1 May	11	7
	19; 2 May	10	9
	17: 3 May	11	6
Total Members	83 total; 21 average	12 average	9 average
Employees	1 CRS translator		
Clients/ Suppliers	Ag Extension workers Mshewe 2		
Total	83 total; 24 average	15 average	9 average

a) formal training	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners	Muvwa 4 May-6 May		

	34; 4 May	12	22
	31; 5 May	14	17
	27; 6 May	17	10
Total Members	92; 31 average	14 average	16 average
Employees	Muvwa 1 CRS translator		
Clients/ Suppliers	Ag Extension agents 2		
Total	Total 92; 34 average	17	16

Out of these above, number of host staffs	5	Edgar Mangasila, Director of Caritas-Mbeya; Anthony Kisengo, Coordinator Luckson Mwakalindile, Agri Extensionist Loti Mwakyoma, Agri Extensionist Mathias Mgoni Driver	
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Additionally, volunteer met with Peace Corp volunteers for Mshewe and one other village.

1.5 Gender

- What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? There appeared to be respect between men and women. They felt strongly about family budgets and the need to reduce community demands for donations. They also felt strongly about husbands helping with farm work in the critical times and making joint selling decisions.
- Women were active participants in group work. They often held the markers to record results of group work. Women appeared to be active in becoming farm businesses. Women participated in the training for 98 person, training days.
- How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women?

Continue to train women with men and use group work in trainings.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$35 for bananas and biscuits for group breaks

- Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment—32 home plus 11 in field
- Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment -0

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



- a) Meals--no
- b) Transportation--no
- c) Lodging--no
- d) Translation—no
- e) Training Venues \$250

1.8 Host Profile Data:

Value of contributions: Training supplies: poster sheets, work books, markers, pens, masking tape: Sebastian will have told Ufoo.

Caritas arranged logistics and planning for training. This includes preparation for training, including visits to villages for trainings schedules by motorcycle, reminder phone calls to villagers, lunch for staff, and fuel.

Did you obtain any data that supplements or corrects the data in the existing host information as detailed in the SOW? Please list it. No.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

Encourage other volunteers to make full use of the talents and knowledge of Caritas employees. Their talents and ability to speak the local language makes trainings go smoothly and faster for the benefit of farmers.

Caritas agri extensionists followed my training outline and procedures for group work. They helped build farmer confidence by asking questions and emphasizing the best farmer answers. They will build farmer confidence by encouraging farmers to call input suppliers and grain buyers to find reliable market information. They will encourage farmer groups to use prior trainings including contract farming.

Caritas could benefit from asking the agri extensionists to become trainers of trainers.

1.10 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOLUNTEER CONTACT: [Name]

[Title]

[Phone]

[E-mail]

[US City] Area Volunteer Travels to [Country] to Share Skills with Local Farmers

Farmer to Farmer program promotes economic growth and agricultural development in East Africa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: [Name]

[Title]

[Phone]



[E-mail]

[City] Area Volunteer Travels to [Country] to Share Skills with Local Farmers

Farmer to Farmer program promotes economic growth and Agricultural development in East Africa

[Name], a [title] from [city, state] travelled to [country] for [x] weeks to share his/her technical skills and expertise with local farmers. [Name]'s assignment is part of Catholic Relief Services' Farmer-to-Farmer (FTF) program that promotes economic growth, food security, and agricultural development in East Africa.

“[Volunteer quote],” said [name].

Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the five-year program matches the technical assistance of U.S. farmers, agribusinesses, cooperatives, and universities to help farmers in developing countries improve agricultural productivity, access new markets, and increase their incomes.

In [country], [name] worked with [Host] in [value chain] training and giving technical assistance to [type of beneficiaries] to enable them to [Goal of the assignment]. Up to [Number of beneficiaries] beneficiaries were reached. [Other details are optional]

[Name]'s volunteer assignment is one of nearly 500 assignments that focus on agriculture, food security and nutrition in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. This is the first time that CRS has been involved in the 28-year-old Farmer-to-Farmer Program funded by the U.S. government.

CRS is partnering with five U.S. institutions to tap into the rich diversity of the U.S. agriculture community: National Catholic Rural Life Conference, Foods Resource Bank, National Association of Agricultural Educators, American Agri-Women, and the University of Illinois' College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

The U.S. volunteers will travel to East Africa for anywhere from one to six weeks, their expenses covered by USAID.

“One thing we are certain of is that this program will be beneficial not just to the farmers in East Africa, but also to the volunteers from America,” said Bruce White, CRS' director for the program. “It's going to make the world a little bit smaller for everyone involved.”

For more information, visit farmertofarmer.crs.org

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Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. The agency alleviates suffering and provides assistance to people in need in nearly 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. For more information, please visit crs.org or crsespanol.org.







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