

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: Corinne Coe
- b) State of Origin: North Carolina
- c) Host Organization: CRS
- d) Assignment: Soil Fertility Management
- e) Dates of Assignment: January 6 – January 20, 2018
- f) Number of days worked: 8

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW: **Increase their understanding of soil fertility management.**

- a) Progress with the objective: Each group was given a ½ day lesson on soil science and soil health and another ½ day lesson on soil biology
- b) Expected impacts/results: Both groups seem eager to learn the science of soil health and were still more interested in learning the names and behaviors of soil microorganisms. I believe this will lead them to care for the soil rather than look at it as an inanimate object.
- c) Recommendations: These villages need water.

1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW: **Learn the importance of using organic manures in boosting soil fertility in crop production; Learn diverse ways of composting.**

- a) Progress with the objective: 2 days were dedicated to compost science.
- b) Expected impacts/results: These villages are already drying manure and I believe they will start to collect food and agricultural residuals and combine with the manure for composting.
- c) Recommendations: These villages need water.

i. 1.2.3 Objective 3 in your SOW: **Learn practically prepared at least one compost per site. Have a reference training material on soil fertility management.**

- a) Progress with the objective: Compost bin, pile, and compost tea all accomplished at both sites. Text specific to on-farm composting and compost tea production given to beneficiaries.
- b) Expected impacts/results: I expect these folks to continue to compost. Making compost tea with electricity is difficult except in small batches more suited to a home garden than field crops. I think CRS has unrealistic expectations of their beneficiaries.
- c) Recommendations: These villages need water.

1.3 Recommended future volunteer assignment: The project is ending early. What is there to say?

1.4 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1.			
2.			

3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

1.5 Number of people Assisted

- Through formal training (Classroom setup)
- Through direct hands on practical assistance (Do not double count)
- Out of these above, number of host staffs
- Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Gbampaneh ABC	195	75	120
Tawopaneh ABC	142	66	76
Total	337	141	196

1.6 Gender

- What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? N/A
- How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? Educate women; install wells.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment: Years of teaching and composting
- Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment: Loss of salary, \$1750.

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

- Meals
- Transportation
- Lodging
- Translation
- Other (Specify)

1.8 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.

Rarely do large NGOs and their leaders have any idea what it is like to work in the field. The trip to Sierra Leone is by far the most wonderful USAID experience I've had and yet CRS seems to have a lot



of issues there. I think part of that is a palpable lack of respect for the beneficiaries and the people of Sierra Leone in general. I was shocked at the behavior of some of the foreign staff.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS: Don't start a project you can't finish. This is one of the worst things a development organization can do. It's wholly disappointing that this project is ending early. As well, hire people committed to the work, not the salary and the lifestyle.