



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: **Anne Marie del Castillo**
- b) Host Organization: Dokolo Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Enterprise
- c) Assignment: UG95
- d) Dates of Assignment: October 14, 2016 November 5, 2016
- e) Number of days worked 23

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW: Equip the board and management of Dokolo ACE with resource mobilisation and proposal writing skills

- a) Progress with the objective: Excellent. The volunteer achieved this through working with D-ACE board members, management staff and farmer members, these identified goals and challenges for the cooperative. In a brain storming session, the ACE identified strategies to overcome challenges and needed actions to achieve the goals. D-ACE concluded with:
Goal: To promote mutual economic interests of its members
Challenge: the activities and services of the ACE are unsustainable since it has been donor dependent for over ten years
Strategy: To become a sustainable and profitable commercial enterprise

D-ACE recognized that to become a sustainable commercial enterprise would require undertaking five steps;

1. Access to working capital
2. Consistent grain quality
3. Better book keeping
4. Buyers paying quality premiums
5. Engaging Rural youth

- b) Expected impacts/results: Cooperative is working to transition from donor dependent to competitive player in private sector

- c) Recommendations¹ Cooperative will need guidance and support as it makes this significant transition – this is clearer in the work plan

- a) Expected impacts/results Will generate greater income for the coop and its members

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.



1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW: Develop a resource mobilisation strategy that will be used as a framework by the organisation to generate funds for the smooth implementation of its activities

a) Progress with objective: 100% achieved. After identifying challenges and the steps to achieve the ACE goals. The volunteer worked with the ACE team to identify strategies that could much the steps mentioned above. These would include:

- Establishment of a revolving fund for working capital
- Assurance of delivery of quality inputs
- Improved book keeping practices
- Identify buyers like WFP who pay premium for quality grains
- Engagement of rural youth in rural enterprises

For each of the strategies mentioned above, the volunteers engaged with possible donors – from Feed the Future implementers (Chemonics) for the Youth Leadership in Agriculture program, Commodity Production and Marketing Activity, Opportunity Bank for possibilities of a revolving fund, World Food Program as a potential Buyer, Amarin- a private financial service provider to assist with the book keeping. These strategic solutions were discussed in detail with the management team and presented for discussion and final approval to the Board members of D-ACE.

b) Expected Impact/ results: Five expected results/impacts

1. Farmers will increase sales through the cooperative because the revolving fund will allow for cash payment on delivery.
2. Motivated by the cooperative's quality price incentive program, farmers will better quality grain
3. Proper book keeping practices will keep the ACE on track as a private sector actor
4. WFP will become a reliable buyer of the cooperative's quality grain
5. Rural youth will be actively engaged in profitable on and off farm rural enterprises

c) Recommendations: see detailed work plan below

1.3 Dokolo ACE work plan for November 2016

S/N	Items for accomplishment/ Recommendations	Steps	Responsible person	Completion date
1	Open Bank Account Establish record keeping	Ensure proper documentations (file all document) Financial cards for board members Use services of a surveyor	Monica (Accountant) Board members to resolve on 2 nd November	15 th November 2016
2	Introduce quality pricing incentive system	Decide on the quality incentive pricing rates in consultation with WFP	Board members to resolve on 2 nd November Dennis	15 th November 2016
3	Outreach campaign on delivery payment and incentive pricing	Outreach campaigns initiated	Extension workers, village agents and leaders of farmers groups	22 nd November 2016
4	Upgrade book keeping to a four-month contract	Initiation of Upgrade of book keeping with support from Jaclyn (Amarin services)	Board members to resolve on 2 nd November Accountant	21 st November 2016
5	Youth business	Plan for a youth involvement. Get support from USAID and Maria CRS	Identify a young woman to promote youth	15 th November 2016
6	Reconsider your professionals to operate a business		Board and management staff	4 th November 2016
7	Develop annual and quarterly work plans	Based on board decisions	Frederick and Chairman	4 th November 2016

8	Inventory of individual farmers by group	Data collection on production	Bosco and Moses	30 th November 2016
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1.4 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training (T): 20
- b) Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count) (DT)
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs: 5
- d) Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners	15	6	9
Employees	5	3	2
Clients/ Suppliers			
Family Members			
Total	20	9	11

1.5 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? Women and Men were quite. Gender roles did not have any effect on the assignment- both men and women were very active on management side.
- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community?

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$ **4,700**

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment: 80 Hours
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment: 0

1.7 Value of hosts' contribution in \$ **111.03**

- a) Meals
- b) Transportation for participants: \$ 27.76
- c) Lodging
- d) Translation: \$13.88
- e) Other (Specify): Training venue: \$ 55.511, Farmer mobilization: \$13.88
 1USD = Ushs 3,602.88

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.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS: Refer to power point presentation

1.10 Press Release: Volunteer did not provide this information