



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Volunteer Name: Kathlee Freeman

Country: Uganda

Country project: UG 59

Host: Amugo Agro-Technical Institute

Venue: CRS Conference Room

Audience: F2F staff & USAID - AOR

Number of people : 3

Date: October 16, 2015



1. Assignment Objectives as in SOW

- Different computer packages ; MS word, Excel, Data Analysis, Database Management and Web design, Internet Access
- Application of some of these packages for information access, communication and information/Data management, and data analysis for experimental plots
- Use of IT applications in agricultural activities such as market access, knowledge sharing on different agricultural enterprises and sharing information in commercial agriculture.
- Develop a manual on computer use for training future staff and students

2. Achievement of the assignment objectives

- Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power point were covered. Due to internet connectivity issues, students were only able to see a presentation on email and search engines
- The use of ICTs for agriculture was covered. Several staff members brought projects they were working on to the staff training session to see how ICTs could be applicable.
- I will send a guide to Microsoft programs book to the institute.

3. Recommendations to the host with regards to the assignment

1. Increase proficiency of Microsoft programs until.
2. Gain reliable access to the internet.
3. Empower students to teach and learn from each other.
4. Students should gain more comfort using the computer and finding answers to their questions on their own.
5. Staff must have a better understanding of how ICTs can benefit their own work and the futures of agriculture students.
6. Students and staff should be aware of opportunities to connect with others to share information and learn from each other.

4. Anticipated Impact

- Students will see the benefits of using ICTs for agricultural purposes and understand how to appropriately use technical tools for their agricultural needs
- Staff members will realize the benefits of technology and use it in both their own work and as a teaching tool for future students

5. Recommended future volunteer Assistance

- Some computer training may still be needed
- Once a reliable internet connection is secured, training on web tools will be needed
- Assistance with developing systems

6. Recommendations to other non-host stakeholders

- Importance of networking and sharing resources
- ICTs as a source of community development

Action plan for host recommendations

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Develop a comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft programs	Class on specific topics that meet regularly (i.e. an excel class that meets twice a week, etc.) or have units. It would also be helpful to have a beginning/intermediate/advanced class	Grace	Ongoing
2. Access to reliable internet	Research methods for reliable internet usage	Principal/staff	ASAP
3. Empower students to teach and learn from each other	Identify students that are adept and allow them to assist (perhaps more advanced students could assist with beginning classes.	Grace	Ongoing
4. Students need to gain more comfort using the computer and finding answers to their questions on their own.	1) Have a time period where students can practice on the computer that is not during class time (i.e. open hours). 2) Have students practice something every time they arrive to class and before the lesson starts	Grace	Ongoing
5. Staff must have a better understanding of how ICTs can benefit their own work and the futures of agriculture students.	1) Convert school records to digital format 2) Have teachers type their assignments 3) Continue to hold computer practice time for just staff members	All Staff	Ongoing
6. Students and staff should be aware of opportunities to connect with others to share information and learn from each other.	1) Gain access to the internet 2) Research opportunities and understand the resources available for farmers in Uganda.	Staff/students	Ongoing

7. How can CRS improve future volunteer experience

- Language was a barrier
- More explanations of cultural differences
- Teaching for test, not necessarily application of ICTs for agriculture
- Overall, the volunteer experience was very enjoyable and ran smoothly

Thank You!