

**VOLUNTEER REPORT FORM**

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

**1.1 Assignment information**

- a) Volunteer Name: Velma D. Gwishiri
- b) Host Organization: Mamas income generation group Goma and Msindo
- c) State of origin: North Carolina
- d) Assignment: Farming as Business
- e) Dates of Assignment: 2/3-2/25, 2017
- f) Number of days worked: 18

**1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW: Improvement of farmers' skills on farming as business for planning and managing their farm enterprises**

- a) Progress with the objective: Participants were introduced to basic business principles, planning for various enterprises and the management model for businesses.
- b) Expected impacts/results: Farmers will begin to practice improved business skills and enhance their planning and management activities.
- c) Recommendations<sup>1</sup>:
  - Set goals and objectives for family business with family members
  - Prepare action plans for all enterprises that the farmers are engaged.

**1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW: Improvement of their decision making thereby maximizing their farm incomes**

- a) Progress with the objective: Participants were encouraged to keep adequate records to aid in better informed decision making
- b) Expected impacts/results: With improved business skills, record keeping and analysis of records farmers will make better decisions for their business which will ensure better management and profitability
- c) Recommendations:
  - Keep records of farm operations.
  - Analyze performance based on recorded information

**1.3 Action Plan \*developed by participants\***

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Plan actions for all enterprises	Write a plan for each enterprise, allowing input from family members	Each entrepreneur	March, 2017
2. Research and find markets for crops/services	Decide where products will be sold at a profit	Each entrepreneur	Now and continue
3. Keep records of farm operations	Start keeping records and gather information to make better business decisions	Each entrepreneur	Now and continue

<sup>1</sup>**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.

#### 1.4 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training 66
- b) Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count)
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs
- d) Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners			
Goma	39	8	31
Msindo	27	7	20
Employees			
Clients/ Suppliers			
Family Members			
Total	66	15	51

#### 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 participated in both agriculture and household duties. In both Goma and Msindo, the training was attended by a female majority.
- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? Continue to encourage female participation and leadership opportunities.

#### 1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$ 100

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment 40
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment \$100

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

- a) Meals
- b) Transportation
- c) Lodging
- d) Translation
- e) Other (Specify) Venue \$120

#### 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. NONE

#### 1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

Comment: I would like to thank CRS, the coordinators, interpreter, drivers, hosts and everyone who made my assignment experience an enjoyable and productive one.



1.10 Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**VOLUNTEER CONTACT:** Velma D. Gwishiri  
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**Dobbins Heights Volunteer Travels to Tanzania to Share Skills  
with Local Farmers**

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Dobbins Heights Volunteer Travels to Tanzania to Share Skills  
with Local Farmers**

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

**Velma Gwishiri, a resident of Dobbins Heights,** travelled to **Tanzania** for 3 weeks to share her technical skills and expertise with local farmers. Gwishiri'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.

**"This experience reminds me that we all have gifts or talents that are designed to be shared with others,"** said **Velma Gwishiri.**

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 Tanzania, Velma Gwishiri** worked with **Mamas Income Generation group of Goma and Msindo villages** in **Farming as Business** training and giving technical assistance to **Farmers** to enable them to **improve their decision making thereby maximizing their farm incomes.** Up to 60 beneficiaries were reached.



Velma Gwishiri'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 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: the 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](http://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](http://crs.org) or [crsespanol.org](http://crsespanol.org).*