



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: Bill Horan
- b) Host Organization: Mtwango Village
- c) Assignment: Horticulture Best Management Practices / IPM
- d) Dates of Assignment: March 7-27, 2015
- e) Number of days worked: 22

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW: Address best agronomic practices for tomatoes

a) Progress with the objective:

Five field visits and six classroom sessions were held in Mtwango village with representatives of three different farmer groups and MUVI farmers. Information presented included soil and plant nutrient / fertility, plant variety selection, and good production practices.

- b) Expected impacts/results: Farmers will implement better fertility and plant health programs, resulting in higher yields.

- c) Recommendations¹: Try one new cultural practice each year to see how it helps yield or saves money.

1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW: Address integrated pest management (IPM) strategies.

a) Progress with the objective:

- a. Presentations in classroom (five sessions) emphasized preventative strategies used when dealing with pests – both insects and diseases.

- b) Expected impacts/results: Farmers will focus on preventative strategies regarding insect and disease management and rely less on only chemical use.

- c) Recommendations: Begin field scouting to monitor presence of pest problems and use one preventative practice each year.

1.2.3 Objective 3 in your SOW: Utilize Farm record keeping for future reference.

a) Progress with the objective:

A presentation on record keeping was given in the classroom and examples were shown how it can be used to compare practices and measure effectiveness of changes. Farmers were encouraged to keep records so they can verify the effectiveness of new practices and document improvements.

- b) Expected impacts/results: Farmers will begin keeping field records for comparison of practices and for future reference.

- c) Recommendations: Farmers should record all field activities to help them learn and improve.

1.3 Action Plan

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.

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Try one new practice every year.			
2. Scout crops two times each week.			
3. Read and follow pesticide labels.			
4. Keep records of field activities.			
5. Involve women in all aspects of production.			
6. Encourage communication amongst participants.			

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
- Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners			
Employees			
Clients/ Suppliers			
Family Members			
Total			

1.5 Gender

- What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? In the class sessions, the farmer groups were well represented by both males and females. On the field visits, the groups were mostly males (80%).
- How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? It seems like women were well represented in this project.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment = 20 hours.
- Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment = \$25.

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

- Meals
- Transportation
- Lodging



- d) Translation
- e) 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. No.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

- Secure realistic commitment from hosts regarding availability of participants and expectations of volunteers.
- Consider using volunteer teams or groups – even couples – to provide a broader range of expertise and resources.
- Remind volunteers that flexibility is paramount and that changes are likely.

1.10 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOLUNTEER CONTACT: Bill Horan
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**Bluffton Area Volunteer Travels to Tanzania to Share Skills with
Local Farmers**

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

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Bill Horan, a **Purdue Extension Educator** from Wells County (Bluffton, Indiana) travelled to **Tanzania** for **3** weeks to share his technical skills and expertise with local farmers. Bill'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 was a very rewarding experience for me personally, and I hope the farmers I worked with have gained some new skills as a result of this project,” said **Horan**.

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**, **Horan** worked with **farmers in Mtwango village** to help with tomato **production and integrated pest management strategies** in order to improve yields and promote safe pesticide use. Up to 90 beneficiaries were reached.

Horan'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

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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.