

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: Patrick Horton
- b) State of Origin: MD, USA
- c) Host Organization: Kitui Development Centre
- d) Assignment: KE-105: Women social and economic empowerment project's impact assessment
- e) Dates of Assignment: June 4-23, 2017
- f) Number of days worked: 19

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW:

- o Perform an impact assessment of the Fumbua Uwezo, women's social, economic and political empowerment project
- a) Progress with the objective:
 - o An executive summary has been provided to KDC and a full report is in progress. This report will be delivered to KDC in the next few weeks.
- b) Expected impacts/results:
 - o Increased indirect beneficiary buy-in.
 - o Increased SHG member retention on project scale-down.
 - o Improved food and economic security.
 - o Improved project performance assessments.
 - o Improved beneficiary health.
- c) Recommendations¹
 - o Promote trainings on the advantages of household financial cooperation at CLA level.
 - o CLA and Federation trainings to improve retention and growth initiatives after project scale-down.
 - o Expanding livestock programs and animal husbandry trainings to diversify reliance on crops for IGAs and sustenance.
 - o Capturing fixed asset data to inform assessments of groups.
 - o Promote rocket stoves or other energy efficient cooking implements for positive impact on household health and deforestation/environmental degradation.
 - o Promote continued trainings to strengthen CLA advocacy related to infrastructure development.

1.3 Recommended future volunteer assignment

- o Trainings in animal husbandry.
- o Identification of favorable animal breeding stocks.
- o Introduction of accessible drought mitigation techniques.

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.

- Strategies to combat land degradation and deforestation.

1.4 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Promote trainings on the advantages of household financial cooperation upon SHG formation.	Provision of trainings	KDC or CF	At creation of SHG groups and throughout project period.
2. CLA and Federation trainings to improve retention and growth initiatives during project scale-down	Provision of trainings to CLA and Federations	KDC	Prior to project scale-down
3. Expanding livestock programs and trainings to diversify reliance on crops on crops for both IGAs and sustenance.	Acquisition of livestock and provision of animal husbandry trainings	KDC for potential livestock acquisition. Agricultural officers or volunteer with specialties for trainings	During proposal through scale down.
4. Capturing fixed asset acquisition data to inform assessments of groups.	Measuring fixed asset acquisitions	SHGs and CLAs	In monthly reports.
5. Promote more rocket stoves or other energy efficient cooking implements to minimize impact health and environmental deforestation/ degradation	Provision of trainings and assistance in acquisition of stoves.	Federation or CLAs for trainings. KDC for acquisitions.	During project cycle.
6. Promote continued trainings to strengthen CLA advocacy related to infrastructure development.	Provision of trainings and establishing connections to relevant officials.	KDC and CFs or CLAs	Early in project cycle

1.5 Number of people Assisted

- Through formal training (Classroom setup)

- None – Focus groups and interviews held with over 70 direct and indirect beneficiaries and project staff. 43 participants names collected.
- b) Through direct hands on practical assistance (Do not double count)
 - None – see above
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs:
 - 3
- d) Training/assistance by field:

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners			72
Employees		2	1
Clients/ Suppliers		2	
Family Members		1	
Total		5	73

1.6 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How?
 - Generally the communities I visited have patriarchal tendencies. However the SHG groups are run by women and their meetings represent an exclusively women centered space. The groups have greatly enhanced the social capital and economic independence of women in the community. Many women have taken leadership role in their communities since joining the groups and have positively influenced opinions in their communities in regards to women's issues, including FGM and opportunities for schooling after child birth.

I was not able to identify gender dynamics affecting my assignment. The groups were very forward in sharing information.
- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community?
 - Evidence collected during the assignment shows that the existing program design effectively empowers women and improves opportunities to claim social, political and economic rights. Because this project is focused on creating opportunities for poor women, additional funding for expansion into other sub-locations would yield positive results. There are over 2,000 project participants and 10,000 children in participant households. The reach of the program model is very large and likely a good investment for improving opportunities for women.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment:
 - 24 hours x 470 day = \$1,410
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment:
 - \$0

- c. Value of hosts' contribution in \$ (Please consult the host as well)
- a) Meals: 0
- b) Transportation: \$97 (already reimbursed by CRS)
- c) Lodging: 0
- d) Translation: 0
- e) Other (Specify) None

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.

- o No. the SOW was very informative and complete.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

- o Encourage early direct contact with host orgs to promote most informed pre-arrival research/prep.
- o I received two contact lists. I think CRS Baltimore needs to update the list they are sending.

1.10 Press Release

- o I will release on social media, specifically targeting an audience with the relevant skill sets.

1.10 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[US City] Farmer [Researcher, etc] Works with Counterparts in [Country]

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

[DATELINE: City, State, Month, Day, 2016]--- **[Name]**, a **[title]** from **[city, state]** who is a **[add your title, or area of expertise]** travelled to **[country]** for **[x]** weeks to share **his/her** technical skills and expertise with local farmers. **[Name]**'s assignment is part of Catholic Relief Services' Farmer-to-Farmer program that promotes economic growth, enhanced nutrition through access to healthy food, and agricultural development in East Africa.

"[Volunteer quote]," said **[name]**. *[Quote should tell why you were there and how you spent your time, what you were trying to accomplish and how your visit made a difference. Quotes that are short (2 sentences) and paint a picture are strongest.]*

Farmer-to-Farmer matches the technical expertise of U.S. farmers and professionals in agribusinesses, farming cooperatives, and universities with farmers in developing countries to assist them in improving agricultural productivity, accessing new markets, and increasing their incomes. Farmer-to-Farmer is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

In a world where 80% of food is produced by farmers working on small farms or fisheries, the movement to share proven farming and business skills can improve the quality and quantity of the world's food supply. For communities in the developing world who often struggle to produce enough food, this can improve access to a reliable source of food and better nutrition. For the farmers, it can strengthen their path to prosperity.

The goal of **[name's]** assignment was to **[__describe goal__]**. He/she worked with **[# of and type of beneficiaries]** who **[describe situation/challenge/opportunity]**. Most of **[name's]** time was spent in the **[describe the location/part of the country]** working with **[name the partner]**. **[Optional Statement: What impact do you think your work will have?]**

This is **[name's]** (first, second, third, etc.) volunteer assignment with Farmer-to-Farmer and is one of nearly 500 assignments that focus on improving approaches to local agriculture practices, expanding production of quality food crops and nutrition in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya



and Uganda. The program, funded by the U.S. government has been running for nearly 30 years.

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 volunteers travel to East Africa for anywhere from one to six weeks.

"We are certain 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 and a whole lot better 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 more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. CRS' relief and development work is accomplished through programs of emergency response, HIV, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peacebuilding. For more information, visit www.crs.org or www.crsespanol.org and follow Catholic Relief Services on social media: [Facebook](#), Twitter at [@CatholicRelief](#), [@CRSnews](#) and [@CRSnoticias](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [YouTube](#).*