

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: Jeff Semler
- b) Host Organization: Joyful Women Organization – JOYWO, Kisii County
- c) Assignment: KE78
- d) Dates of Assignment: June 17th – July 3rd 2016
- e) Number of days worked - 16

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW – Improved Poultry Production

Before beginning the training, we spent part of the first day visiting farms and looking at how the growers managed their flocks. I also made farm visits at nearly every stop prior to or following my presentation. It was noticed that;

- 1. Many growers do not vaccinate their birds
- 2. Feed quality seems poor.
- 3. Housing for birds was non existing or poor on most farms
- 4. Not allowing birds access to feed and water all the time is a big problem
- 5. Growers did not keep records on bird productivity

- a) Progress with the objective – Taught 511 growers and management staff of JOYWO, the basics of poultry production and introduced them to the need for adequate space, light and ventilation in their housing.
- b) Expected impacts/results – more vaccinations taking place, improved production, improved biosecurity on farms, records being kept to identify productive birds,
- c) Recommendations – Vaccinate birds, Improve/provide housing for birds, Secure quality feed, Improve biosecurity, contact KALRO about acquiring improved breeding stock, growers need to keep records and consider using incubators to hatch eggs so that farms can specialize in either breeders or growers
- d) Make sure there is a plan to market birds, if production increases and are not marketed then growers will stop producing birds

1.3 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Provide good housing for birds	Work with growers to provide housing that protects birds and allows for ventilation and easy cleaning	Project Officers	October 2016
2. Analyze feed stocks for nutritional value	Determine where analysis can be performed	Francis	November 2016
3. Vaccinate birds	Work with growers to vaccinate birds Get more growers trained on how to vaccinate birds	Francis & Project Officers	October 2016

4. Contact KALRO (KARI) about getting better breeding stock	See if improved breeders can be acquired	Francis	October 2016
5. Work with growers on record keeping	Work with growers to keep records on bird production	Francis	September 2016
6. Improve biosecurity	Work with growers to implement improved practices	Francis & Project Officers	February 2017

1.4 Number of people Assisted

- Through formal training: 511
- Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count)
- Out of these above, number of host staffs 2
- Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners	511	408	103
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?

The majority of the farmers were women, and the staff that accompanied me during the visits and trainings were a mix of men and women. This is important as it appeared that raising chickens is traditionally the woman's responsibility.

- How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community?

Women appeared to be very well represented in the organization and were taking advantage of the opportunities provided. The majority of the farmers at meetings and visited were women.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$900 in preparation and supplies

- Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment 20
- Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment \$200

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

- Meals (volunteer & participants during training) & 800
- Transportation \$650
- 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.

Farm visits showed that the host was not ready for intensive breeding or production programs yet. The farmers' lack of basic housing and feeding management along with no records makes these types of systems undoable at this time. However, with some practice some may be ready in the next six months.

They did mention that they had incubators, these are an important assist in trying to hatch a lot of eggs so that selection pressure can be applied. Additionally, incubators allow producers to specialize as either growers or breeders, this will help improve production performance and help with the disease challenges (all in all out).

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

A follow-up assignment in 6 months to a year would be good to help move them improve their production. Poor nutrition and poor health are a big problem, I would suggest that you consider helping them find a poultry veterinary specialist that can direct them in how to improve these situations, may need to be done with local government and universities.

I also would suggest bringing a national to the U.S. for training. If they worked with a partner in the U.S., the partner could then travel to the country after six months to a year and assess the national's methods and success. Sort of a train the trainer program.

1.10 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOLUNTEER CONTACT: Jeff Semler

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University of Maryland Extension Educator Volunteer Travels to Kenya to Share Skills with Local Farmers

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

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University of Maryland Extension Volunteer Travels to Kenya to Share Skills with Local Farmers

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

Jeff Semler, Extension Educator from **University of Maryland Extension, Washington County Office** travelled to **Kenya** for **two** weeks to share his technical skills and expertise with local farmers. Jeff'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.

“[Volunteer quote],” said Semler.

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 **Kenya**, Semler worked with **Joyful Women (JOYWO)** in **small flock poultry** training and giving technical assistance to **poultry producers** to enable them to **improve overall management**. Up to **[Number of beneficiaries]** beneficiaries were reached.

Semler'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.