



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 Shandonay](#)
- b) Host Organization: [Caritas Mbeya – Integrated Rural Development Plan \(IRDP\) Igurusi Parish](#)
- c) State of origin: [California](#)
- d) Assignment: [Organizational Development and Association Strengthening \(TZ44\)](#)
- e) Dates of Assignment: [14-August-2015 through 28-August-2015](#)
- f) Number of days worked: [8](#)

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW – [Show benefits of associations and groups](#)

- a) Progress with the objective - [Completed](#)
- b) Expected impacts/results – [See the creation of a group that will begin to sell their rice product at the local Igurusi Rice Market.](#)
- c) Recommendations¹ - [NA - Completed](#)

1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW – [Help groups organize around core objectives, develop mission and vision statement, by-laws, contracts and relevant documentation.](#)

- a) Progress with the objective – [In progress](#)
- b) Expected impacts/results - [The revised constitution and by-laws will help the groups to be more effective and active groups.](#)
- c) Recommendations – [The groups need to revise or if necessary develop a constitution and by-laws for the individual groups.](#)

1.2.3 Objective 3 in your SOW – [Explain how turnover is a problem and what a strong leader can do](#)

- a) Progress with the objective - [Completed](#)
- b) Expected impacts/results – [It was mentioned many times that the group’s leaders are chosen to serve the group as a whole. They now have a better understanding of who and what a leader does to make the entire group stronger.](#)
- c) Recommendations – [NA - Completed](#)

1.2.4 Objective 4 in your SOW – [Provide the group member’s with identified roles and responsibilities](#)

- a) Progress with the objective – [In-progress](#)
- b) Expected impacts/results – [Since it was emphasized that as members of the group, they are both leaders and users, with better defined roles and responsibilities the group members will be able to better identify passive members and poor leaders.](#)
- c) Recommendations – [The groups need to revise or if necessary develop a constitution and by-laws for the individual groups.](#)

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.



1.2.5 Objective 5 in your SOW – Set-up procedures and regulations

- a) Progress with the objective – In progress
- b) Expected impacts/results – Especially as the groups begin to take their products to market to leverage the advantages that a group provides, the group will be able to have better precedent to manage the workings of the group.
- c) Recommendations - The groups need to revise or if necessary develop a constitution and by-laws for the individual groups.

1.2.6 Objective 6 in your SOW – Explain benefits of sharing and being a part of the group

- a) Progress with the objective - Completed
- b) Expected impacts/results – By taking their products in a collective group to the market, the individual groups shall begin to experience the power and benefits of economy of scale and scope.
- c) Recommendations – NA - Completed

1.2.7 Objective 7 in your SOW – Help villagers make the connection between the group and access to credit, collaboration, income generation, economics of scale for outputs and inputs, negotiation power, etc

- a) Progress with the objective - Completed
- b) Expected impacts/results - By taking their products in a collective group to the market, the individual groups shall begin to experience the power and benefits of economy of scale and scope.
- c) Recommendations – NA - Completed

1.2.8 Objective 8 in your SOW – Talk about basic record keeping

- a) Progress with the objective – In Progress
- b) Expected impacts/results – Having quality and reliable records, the group shall be able to operate more fairly with better profitability.
- c) Recommendations – Begin to collect all pertinent data on the group's market and individual activities.

1.3 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Constitution and by-laws (Mahangro and Simike)	Create or modify current group constitution to include roles and responsibilities to reduce issues with the performance of group leaders	Upendo Bange Sufiandi Mwadasi	30-September-2015
2. Record Keeping (Mahangro and Simike)	Start collecting individual and group cost data for accurate cost accounting and pricing	Lusayo Mkisi Ramadhani Mwinyi	On-going from 21-August-2015
3. Market Pilot Run (Mahangro and Simike)	To understand the process of taking paddy to the market for sale, collect a small amount of paddy from the group to bring to the Igurusi Rice Market to be sold – Repeat to create a process going forward	Shaban Mohamed Mlinzi Mlagha Hamis Zuberi Msiba Mikidadi	20-September-2015
1. Constitution and by-laws (Mpolo)	Create or modify current group constitution to include roles and responsibilities to reduce issues with the performance of group leaders	Daudi Shedrock Filda Mlongosi	30-September-2015
2. Record Keeping (Mpolo)	Start collecting individual and group cost data for accurate cost accounting and pricing	Petro Bakari Tumaini Samson	On-going from 26-August-2015
3. Market Pilot Run (Mpolo)	To understand the process of taking paddy to the market for sale, collect a	Eva Luwera Evaristo Makengoro	15-September-2015

	small amount of paddy from the group to bring to the Igurusi Rice Market to be sold – Repeat to create a process going forward		
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1.4 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training – 24 (MSS) / 28 (MP)
- b) Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count) - 0
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs - 0
- d) Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners	48	19 (MSS) / 16 (MP)	2 (MSS) / 11 (MP)
Employees	4	3 (MSS) / 1 (MP)	0 (MSS) / 0 (MP)
Clients/ Suppliers	0	0 (MSS) / 0 (MP)	0 (MSS) / 0 (MP)
Family Members	0	0 (MSS) / 0 (MP)	0 (MSS) / 0 (MP)
Total	52	39	13

1.5 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? – *There are obviously strong gender roles in each of the villages worked. The first day in the Mhangro Swiswi village was market day and while the men participated in the sessions, the women worked at or in the market. Although each day we requested and reminded the men to ask the women to join, there was little or no participation until the final day.*

In the Mpolo village, from the first day, there was much more participation from the women in the village. In fact, the core of the women's group was on-time, present and active in all of the sessions. While market day did not interfere with any of the sessions in Mpolo, there were many other things happening (i.e. a wedding send-off dinner to prepare for). Nonetheless, the women's group in Mpolo was a very strong participant of all the sessions.

- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? – *Although it might be more difficult for the facilitating team, having a joint male / female session as well as a possible female only session that better matches the timing and schedule of the women in the village would be good (i.e. hold a joint male / female session in the morning and another one for the women in the afternoon or evening).*

Also, each day there were a number of topics covered. Having shorter daily sessions that only cover a single topic might help the women better arrange the timing of the session around the tasks of the day. The downside is that the length of the assignment may need to be extended to make-up for the fewer number of issues being addressed each day.



1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment – 80 hours
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment – USD 70

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

- a) Meals – NA TSh
- b) Transportation – XXX TSh (CRS to provide)
- c) Lodging - NA
- d) Translation – XXX TSh (CRS to provide)
- e) Other (Specify) – 216,000 TSh Villagers provided lunch on the last day in Mhangro Swiswi and numerous times during the sessions in Mpolo. In both villages the villagers also provided the facilities for the sessions.

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. NA

1.9 Recommendations for CRS: Specifically for this project, the 4 days that were allotted per village was too short. Based on the current Scope of Work, I would recommend at least 1 week per village (but potentially more based on the suggestion in 1.5b above).

One of the action items was to do a small pilot run of paddy to the local Igurusi Rice Market. Since everything becomes easier over time, I would suggest that one of the actions of the next or future SOWs would be to develop the process of taking things to market and then actually doing it a few times (small pilot and demo runs). Also, because many of the people do not see farming as an enterprise, until they actually go through the complete process of taking their products to market, they will not see the benefits of an enterprise and will continue to be at the mercy of unscrupulous buyers and middle men.

In terms of the actual training, so that the material shared with the villagers is more consistent, and efficient, I would recommend a more train the trainer model be used. In the current model, the translator has to work very hard and not all people who are bilingual are good translators. By having either an extension representative, the Bona Shamba or another person trained by the CRS or Caritas team act as the main facilitator and then have the trainer be there as more of a back-up facilitator and assistant to the trainer, the message might be more accurate and there would be less chance of the message in visuals and the material "being lost in the translation."

And finally as another potential project, to get the best practices that are being shared by the extension services, create demonstration plots in local schools so that the school children can be taught the latest and greatest farming processes and for the local farmers to see that there is a need for further change and improvement to the way things are being done. While this is already being done to some degree in both the villages and the schools, having a demonstration plot where best practices are shared early, where everyone benefits from the technology and the school and students benefit from the harvests is a win-win for everyone.



1.10 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Ramon, California Area 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

CONTACT: Patrick Shandonay
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From California to Rural Tanzania – One San Ramon Area Volunteer Travels to Tanzania to Share Skills with Local Farmers

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

Patrick Shandonay the founder and executive director of Lighting For Learning from San Ramon, California travelled to Tanzania for 2 weeks to share his technical business skills and expertise with local farmers. Patrick'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.

“Since I normally work with tech companies in the Silicon Valley, it was fantastic to be able to take and utilize my business, technical and entrepreneurial skills in a completely different business sector. While many of the participants were subsistence farmers, they were eager to acquire the business skills necessary to access new markets and to increase the amount of income they are able to generate from selling their crops,” said Patrick Shandonay.

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 the rural parts of Tanzania, many rice and corn farmers do not plan the planting, harvesting and selling of their products based on such market forces as supply and demand. Farmers purchase their inputs and sell their produce individually and this allows middle men to exploit them by offering low prices. These problems are further exacerbated by the lack of a clear platform for farmers to communicate and share information on pricing, markets and good agricultural practices.

In Tanzania, Patrick worked with Caritas International's local partners in the Mbeya region's Southern Agricultural Corridor to build capacity with rice and corn farmers by providing leadership and management training and assistance. Patrick held classes and workshops on such varied topics as cost accounting, leadership development and understanding contracts to enable the farmers to grow and expand their reach into new and larger commodity markets.

Nearly 50 families were reached and their lives transformed.

Patrick'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.