



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**Volunteer Name: David C. Slusser**

**Country: Kenya**

**Country project: Dairy Country Project**

**Host: Lelchego Dairy Company Ltd.**

**Venue: 4500 Members and Employees**

**Audience: Farmer Members and Staff**

**Number of people : 174 at trainings & 14  
farm Visits**

**Date: January 8 to January 30, 2016**





# 1. Assignment Objectives

- Review Lelchego staff and Farmer's knowledge and skills on dairy nutrition and feed formulation
- Conduct dairy nutritional training to Lelchego staff and farmers
- Provide hands-on training on all aspects of feed formulation practices to Lelchego staff

## **Cont. Objectives**

- Conduct dairy nutritional training to Lelchego staff and farmers
- Provide hands-on training on all aspects of feed formulation practices to Lelchego staff



## **2. Achievement of the assignment objectives**

- Met with planning committee to plan farmer and staff training meetings.
- Set the Goal of doubling milk production in Five Years through better feeds, feeding, and herd management.
- Conducted 14 farmer training meetings involving 174 farmer members.
- Made 14 on farm visits





## **Cont. Achievements**

- Had intense training session for the eight member Extension Staff on nutritional value of quality forages, formulated concentrates, and Feed Ration balancing on a computer.
- Gave Extension staff training on the economics of buy forage and concentrates to get maximum profits.
- Prepared educational handouts with Staff to be distributed to all cooperative farmers.







### **3. Recommendations to the host with regards to the assignment**

- Insist that the Extension Staff spend time in the field with members teaching their knowledge of forages and feed amounts.
- Distribution of educational material prepared by the volunteer and Extension staff via staff, milk haulers & collection centers.
- Provide opportunities for demonstrations of proper feeding trials.

# **Recommendations Cont.**

- In your plans for building a Feed Meal to service members, work with CRS to provide specialist in feed formulation, and equipment needed.
- Provide intense training for the feed mill manager to balance feeds and dairy meal. That person will need a computer and ration balancing software.
- Prepare facilities for a doubling of milk production over the next five years.



## **4. Anticipated Impact**

- Member farmers will feed their cows early cut grass and legume hay and silage with higher nutrients content.
- Members will use return over feed cost (ROFC) work sheets to economically, grow and purchase forages and dairy meal to improve their farm profit.





# **Anticipated Impact Cont.**

- Extension Agents will be very knowledgeable and continue to learn new techniques to teach farmers
- Milk being marketed by members will slowly increase until it doubles in five years.
- The community as a whole will greatly benefit.



## **5. Recommended future volunteer Assistance**

- I recommend that a future expert in feed mill set up and operations be gotten to advise the management and Board.
- Assistance should also be requested for an expert to help develop least cost dairy meals and calf and heifer meals that meet the nutritional needs of local cattle.

## **6. Recommendations to other non-host stakeholders**

- The community will benefit from more prosperous dairy farmers. Community leaders should support the efforts of the milk cooperative and encourage farmers and local business to support their efforts.

# Action plan for host recommendations

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Distribute educational material prepared by volunteer and extension staff	Distributed by milk haulers, at collection centers, extension staff & community facilitators	Management and extension staff community facilitators	As soon as you get it printed for distribution
2. Conduct on farm visit to individuals	Personally advise members to help them improve their feeds & Feeding	Extension staff and community facilitators	Starting in the next few weeks
3. Demonstration farms	At Farms who feed and manage correctly have meetings	Extension staff with support from the facilitators	There are and will be more farms doing it right. ASAP
4. Provide continual training for extension agents	Dairy science is constantly changing and improving and the agents must be up-to-date	Management and Board	ASAP
5. Future Feed Mill Manager, must be well trained in feed formulation	Have CRS provide a specialist and provide manager with computer and software	Management and Board	As plans develop to build the feed mill
6. Pasture Management needs improvement	Fertilize and limit number of cattle per acre. 1 acre can support 1&1/2 cows	Extension agents and facilitator	ASAP



## **7. Volunteer experience**

- I appreciate the support given me as a volunteer. I just wish I could have done more to help these very wonderful Members, Staff, and Board

***Thank You!***





















