



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: Joseph Alfonso
- b) Host Organization: Ethiopian Catholic Church – Social and Development Commission
Coordinating Office of Sodo (ECC-SDCO/S) – Wolayta Zone
- c) Assignment: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in grain value chain
- d) Dates of Assignment: October 24rd to November 14th 2015
- e) Number of days worked: 15

1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW – Training and direct assistance on IPM techniques and practices for smallholder grain farmers and staffs as training of trainer (TOT)

- a) Progress with the objective: I assessed major crops, crop pests, and current control methods by visiting farmers at 14 Kebeles and 3 markets. After assessing previous and current problems, I trained farmers and government development agents on the basics of an integrated pest management program. The main points of training involved preventing pests, the importance of routine monitoring for pests and damage, and different control methods. I focused on the importance of combining control methods and early detection of pests with good monitoring practices.
- b) Expected impacts/results: Properly using IPM methods can help farmers control pest damage in their crops and better understand the nature of pest migration. Multiple control methods should provide crops with greater resistance to economically damaging pest outbreaks. Proper routine monitoring will give better information on when pests move into a crop how quickly they can become a problem. With long term monitoring, better predictions can be made for following growing seasons.
- c) Recommendations¹: Further trainings developing monitoring schedules, record keeping, and pest damage identification are necessary for farmers to successfully create the best integrated pest management programs for their crops. Assistance identifying pests could come from government development agents or possibly university professors knowledgeable in the local insect species and their life cycles. Understanding the pests present in each crop is incredibly important to understand what control methods should be used and improved on.

1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW – Develop training guidelines on IPM for TOT

- a) Progress with the objective: To prepare for this assignment, I developed a set of training materials for smallholder farmers. The trainings I gave to farmers were not as in depth as the materials I prepared because I wanted to give a general introduction of IPM methods to the farmers. These materials will be left for TOT and staffs to use in the future. With the general outline on IPM

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.



methods and additional information I provide, they can provide more detailed trainings on IPM methods to farmers.

- b) Expected impacts/results: By using more detailed information on IPM methods and giving more specific information to farmers, the TOTs will be able to provide better information for farmers. With more TOTs informed on IPM methods, smallholder farmers can be routinely trained and improve their use of IPM on their farms.
- c) Recommendations: It would be beneficial for trainers to meet and discuss crop pests, problems, and solutions across the region. Keeping good records of pests and how farmers successfully deal with them can help trainers pass information along to other farmers that have difficulty with the same issue. It will also be beneficial to communicate with government officials and university professors to access new information on IPM that will benefit the farmers.

1.3 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training – 393
- b) Through direct technical assistance (Do not double count) – 21
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs – 0
- d) Training/assistance by field – 0

Category	Total	Males	Females
Farmers	357	248	109
Government Agents	57	49	8
Clients/ Suppliers	0	0	0
Family Members	0	0	0
Total	414	297	117

1.5 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? At most trainings, most farmers present were men, but in some Kebeles most farmers were women. The men, culturally, hold more responsibility with the physical aspect of farming while the women, primarily, hold responsibility for children and the home as well as some farming duties. Some training sessions had greater gender equality thanks to the efforts of community partners prioritizing participation from the women, but there were more men present in general. The orientation session for government agents showed greater discrepancy with only 16% women participants. This shows a potential gap in educational and career opportunities between men and women. Hopefully the male farmers share information from the training sessions with women in their household to compensate for the lack of women at trainings. Future assignments should make an effort to include more women by extending an invitation to training sessions earlier or at a better time for women.
- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? I believe there could be even greater gender equality at trainings by simply making the effort to include women. The Kebeles that prioritized women’s participation showed in attendance at the trainings.



1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment: 30
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment

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

- a) Meals – 0
- b) Transportation - \$785
- c) Lodging – \$0
- d) Translation - \$0
- e) Other (Specify) – community mobilization, communication with kebele leaders, facilitation of training – covered by host

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: I did not find anything to add to the SOW.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

Integrated pest management programs should be regularly monitored before and after each growing season to assess what methods were beneficial for farmers and what crops need additional support. Developing pest monitoring schedules with farmers should be prioritized as well. Pest control requires routine crop scouting to determine when pests migrate into a field and when pest control measures, such as repellants or chemicals, should be applied. Additionally, correctly identifying pests in crops should be a priority for control measures. Many farmers said they had maize diseases that spread to other crops and it will be crucial to identify how this disease is spread. Determining whether a pathogen is insect transmitted, soil borne, or transmitted through contact will tell staffs how to approach controlling the spread of disease in a crop. Collaboration with government agents and university researchers could provide the information needed to correctly identify pests and diseases.