



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**Volunteer Name: Michael Colegrove**

**Country: Uganda**

**Country project: UG73 – Maize Agronomy**

**Host: KADFA**

**Venue: Kapchorwa offices and 3 villages**

**Audience: Extension officers and farmers**

**Number of people : 6 extension officers  
and 115 farmers**

**Date: 5-19 May 2016**



# 1. Assignment Objectives as in SOW

1. The volunteer is to equip the staff and farmers of KADFA with knowledge and skills of how to address agronomic constraints in maize production.
2. Propose technologies or practices that are labour saving at minimal costs
3. Proper preparation for planting to maximize the rainfall patterns, plant spacing, weeding schedules,
4. Proper soil fertility management and cost effective fertilizer use
5. Disease control in growing season and at harvest
6. Dietary issues

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

- 1. The KADFA extension staff were given technical information in 4 (four) direct one-on-one sessions for a total of about 11 (eleven hours). Electronic copies of: a textbook, making of simple but effective tools; designing village level trials.**
- 2. The use of a 'planting' stick and a 'fertilizer' stick were introduced to eliminate the traditional and labourious use of the hoe (or Jembe). [There is no cost to the sticks] Also introduced a simple wood grain sheller to end the use of hand shell the grain from the cob after harvest. [The sheller will probably cost less than \$2.00 each to make.]**
- 3. These topics were introduced through the discussions evolving from the "flip charts" used in the farmer and TOT discussions.**

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

- 4. Extensive time was spent in all levels of presentations on the effective and cost saving techniques for fertilizer use. The physiology of plants and growth patterns were showed to induce farmers to place the fertilizer exactly to make it more efficient and cost effective.**
  
- 5. An intensive discussion was held (with the aid of full coloured photos) on the range of diseases that attack plants in the field and grain in storage. The women recognised several of the diseases but did not have any idea as to their danger in making animals and humans sick.**
  
- 6. This presentation was made to introduce the danger of AFLATOXIN causing diseases. Aflatoxins can be deadly and do cause stillborns in animals and women, as well as spontaneous abortions of the fetus.**

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

- 1. The KADFA staff are to contact me (Mike Colegrove) by email if there is a need for more information or if any clarification needed.**
- 2. CRS should see if there are other NGOs who would support the introduction of these techniques and finance the making/selling the grain sheller.**
- 3. None**
- 4. None**
- 5. See if there is some NGO that would take up a campaign to make posters of hand-outs in all languages in Uganda alerting women to the diseases that cause illness in animals and humans.**
- 6. Same as Objective 5.**

## **4. Anticipated Impact**

- 1. The staff will be able to study the information provided and further develop their knowledge and presentations to villagers.**
  - 2. These three tools will eliminate 100s of hours of labour and make every job less strenuous.**
  - 3. The KADFA extension staff will translate the flip charts into local languages so future audiences (some 30 more villages) will have hand-out information.**
  - 4. Farmers who adopt these simple techniques will see healthier plants. They will save money by eliminating "broadcast" applications and use of inappropriate fertilizer formulas.**
- 5/6. ALL OF WOMEN agreed to discard and burn all plants in the field with disease, and same for the whole cob at harvest if there was ANY diseased grain. (Currently portions of a cob will be saved if there is no apparent disease on the grain.)**

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

- 1. The best FTF volunteer will be one with previous F2F and or African development experience – this would have made a perfect Peace Corps assignment.**
- 2. Kapchorwa town has no redeeming features and does not provide any diversions for a volunteer.**
- 3. Advise future volunteers to TOTALLY disregard all of the internet descriptions of the Noah's Ark facilities, services, and food.**
- 4. CRS may advise potential volunteers to contact me and I will be glad to describe the actual situation and how make it easier/comfortable for their stay at Noah's Ark “Resort”.**

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

- NONE at this time



# Action plan for host recommendations

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1. Better flip charts	(1) Translate charts = one in English and one in local languages (2) (2) One set of flip charts for each extension staff	KADFA extension staff	(1) July 1 (2) July 15
2. Wooden Maize shellers	Provide a sample to each village (1) Have 30+ shellers made (2) Translate construction details	(1) Phelix and local carpenter (2) KADFA extension staff	July 1st
3. Planting and fertilizer sticks	Make one set for each KADFA extension staff to use in village talks	KADFA extension staff	June 10
4. Better seed information	(1) Write at least two new flipcharts (2) List of all "official" seed stockists in Kapchorwa District (3) Buy a 2 kg bag of seed or get empty bag with certificate on it	(1) Mike Colegrove (2) Phelix and Simlaw office in Kapchorwa town (3) Phelix and Simlaw office in Kapchorwa town	June 21 July 1 July 1
5. Improved questionnaires for each village	(1) Send new questionnaire to Manhas Harrison in USA (2) Evaluate questionnaire responses and make list of possible F2F assignments	(1) Titus Kiprop (2) KADFA Extension staff	June 15 July 15
6. Farming trials at village level	Write up simple research plans for 2017 planting	Mike Colegrove	June 21

## **7. How can CRS improve future volunteer experience**

- 1. Any future volunteers must have had previous experience with F2F and preferably in Africa**
- 2. Kapchorwa town has to redeeming features and does not provide any entertainment diversions**
- 3. Advise future volunteers to TOTALLY disregard all of the internet descriptions of the Noah's Ark facilities, services, and food.**
- 4. CRS may advise potential volunteers to contact me and I will be glad to describe the actual situation and how make it easier/comfortable for their stay at Noah's Ark "Resort".**

***Thank You!***

## Kamogoyon village group photo



## Chemenyi Village Group Photo



## Swengya Village Group Photo



## TOT Training Group Photo

