

## 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: Steve Hallett, Marcia Croft
- b) State of Origin: Indiana
- c) Host Organization: Debre Berhan University
- d) Assignment: Horticulture Short Course
- e) Dates of Assignment: 14-17 Aug, 2017
- f) Number of days worked: 4

### 1.2.1 Objective 1 in your SOW (Teach the short course)

- a) Progress with the objective: Completed
- b) Expected impacts/results: although short, the training at DBU was quite effective. I hope it gave the participants; mostly staff of the college and Masters students, insights into ways they can teach sustainability and improve productivity in Ethiopian horticulture. A project aimed at developing a horticulture farm and the campus were included, and I have some hopes that the group may consider following through on that. They seemed keen to use this as a chance to increase their capacity for active and experiential learning.
- c) Recommendations<sup>1</sup> I recommend further investment in DBU. This is a new university, only 10 years old, lacking severely in facilities, but with some excellent, motivated and thoughtful staff, as well as, in the Ag College, excellent leadership from a young, female Dean, Tsigemariam Bashe, with whom I was very impressed. There is foundation on which to build. I recommend further development of opportunities in active and experiential learning in the hopes that the Ag College at DBU can become a genuine center of excellence for agriculture in the highlands of Ethiopia. As a personal hope, I hope the faculty will follow through on the idea of a horticulture farm. The key to this, as we discussed will not be technology and capital investments (although those would certainly be welcomed), but in process and organization. Cooperation among the different departments and the food service people could bear significant fruit.

### 1.2.2 Objective 2 in your SOW

- a) Progress with the objective
- b) Expected impacts/results
- c) Recommendations

### 1.2.3 Objective 3 in your SOW

- a) Progress with the objective
- b) Expected impacts/results
- c) Recommendations

### 1.3 Recommended future volunteer assignment

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<sup>1</sup> **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.

#### 1.4 Action Plan

Recommendation	Specific Action	Responsible person	By when
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

#### 1.5 Number of people Assisted

- a) Through formal training (Classroom setup) 20
- b) Through direct hands on practical assistance (Do not double count) a short visit to a space on the campus where a farm might be developed followed by a discussion of the development of a farm. same participants as in classroom.
- c) Out of these above, number of host staffs
- d) Training/assistance by field

Category	Total	Males	Females
Members/ owners			
Employees			
Clients/ Suppliers			
Family Members			
Total			

e)

Staff/students: approx 12 men, 8 women.

#### 1.6 Gender

- a) What gender roles did you recognize in your host community? Did these roles play a part in your assignment? How? ---- There were no particular gender role differences that played out during the training. The gender balance was majority of male, but not by the margin common, I elect in peer institutions. Women and men were equal participants.

- b) How might CRS or the host organization improve opportunities for the women in this host or host community? No specific recommendation.

1.6 Value of volunteer contribution in \$

- a. Hours volunteer spent preparing for assignment. 100 h
- b. Estimated value of all material contributions volunteer contributed to host during assignment. All lectures and digital copies of posters were donated. They are used in other venues so I cannot calculate their monetary value.

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

- a) Meals 0
- b) Transportation 0
- c) Lodging 0
- d) Translation. 0
- 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.

1.9 Recommendations for CRS:

Practical training is extremely difficult to deliver, particularly in agriculture where most hands-on activities take a number of days to observe (if we sow seeds at the start of a four days training, we will likely not see them above ground before the class finishes). It requires materials and facilities. In the absence of facilities on campus, visits to local farms are necessary so that different practices can be observed. In a previous training in Meru, Kenya, these visits were made, which became a very beneficial opportunity to everybody's analysis and understanding of needs on-the-ground. One way around the lack of farm visits is to consider, as a project, the development of a college farm, as we did here, which was rewarding.

Classroom training is extremely important and valuable (although less so than practical, in my opinion), but requires an audience that wants to learn. It also puts significant pressure on the teacher if they do not have first-hand knowledge of the locale. Nonetheless, I think this training can be successful, and, with more experience, improves.

I recommend the training at DBU continue, if desired by the college and CRS.

1.10 Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## [US City] Farmer [Researcher, etc] Works with Counterparts in [Country]

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

[DATELINE: City, State, Month, Day, 2016]--- Steve Hallett and Marcia Croft from West Lafayette, Indiana who is a **professor of horticulture at Purdue University with a special interest in small farm entrepreneurship and smallholder farm development and sustainability** travelled to **Ethiopia** for **two** weeks to share **his/her** technical skills and expertise with local farmers. Steve and Marcia's assignment is part of Catholic Relief Services' Farmer-to-Farmer program that promotes economic growth, enhanced nutrition through access to healthy food, and agricultural development in East Africa.

Steve said, "Ethiopia is a richly diverse country with a relative abundance of natural resources and agricultural potential, but is hampered by land degradation, low smallholder farm yields, poor organization, and poor infrastructure. With this training session, I hope I have been able to highlight some of the development needs for a more sustainable and productive agriculture."

Farmer-to-Farmer matches the technical expertise of U.S. farmers and professionals in agribusinesses, farming cooperatives, and universities with farmers in developing countries to assist them in improving agricultural productivity, accessing new markets, and increasing their incomes. Farmer-to-Farmer is funded by the U.S Agency for International Development (USAID).

In a world where 80% of food is produced by farmers working on small farms or fisheries, the movement to share proven farming and business skills can improve the quality and quantity of the world's food supply. For communities in the developing world who often struggle to produce enough food, this can improve access to a reliable source of food and better nutrition. For the farmers, it can strengthen their path to prosperity.

The goal of Steve and Marcia's assignment was to teach a horticulture short course at Debre Berhan University. They worked with **20 students and staff of The university** who have the potential to be Ethiopia's next generation of leaders in this area. Most of his time was spent in the town of Debre Berhan.

This is Steve and Marcia's **second** volunteer assignment with Farmer-to-Farmer and is one of nearly 500 assignments that focus on improving approaches to local agriculture practices,



expanding production of quality food crops and nutrition in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. The program, funded by the U.S. government has been running for nearly 30 years.

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 volunteers travel to East Africa for anywhere from one to six weeks.

“We are certain 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 and a whole lot better for everyone involved.”

For more information, visit [farmertofarmer.crs.org](http://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 more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality. CRS’ relief and development work is accomplished through programs of emergency response, HIV, health, agriculture, education, microfinance and peacebuilding. For more information, visit [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) or [www.crsespanol.org](http://www.crsespanol.org) and follow Catholic Relief Services on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) at [@CatholicRelief](#), [@CRSnews](#) and [@CRSnoticias](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#) and [YouTube](#).*