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F2F Paired Remote Volunteer Model

GENERAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The [Farmer-to-Farmer](#) program fosters global economic growth, food security, and agricultural development. Our volunteer experts collaborate with farmers, businesses, and nonprofits, enhancing productivity, expanding market access, and promoting resource conservation. Through people-to-people exchanges, we empower individuals, improve technical skills, and contribute to better livelihoods for families. Technical support is delivered through two models:

- **In-person:** A US volunteer travels to a F2F country and works directly with a host organization.
- **Paired remote volunteer (PRV):** A US volunteer engages in a **remote** collaboration with a local volunteer expert in the country, who works directly with a host organization.

Discover the PRV experience through this [video](#), featuring insights from both U.S. and local volunteers. [video](#).

VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PRV MODEL

- **Local Volunteer:** Responsible for assignment design, collaborating and engaging with the U.S. volunteer, training, conducting action planning with hosts, in-country outreach, and achieving assignment objectives.
- **Specific responsibilities:** submit onboarding documentation, receive per diem, submit assignment report, attend post assignment debrief & conduct outreach.
- **US Remote Volunteer:** Provide supplementary training resources, fill in the gaps for technical areas, and share creative ideas and solutions.
- **Specific responsibilities:** complete the outreach component of the assignment & support the local volunteer *as needed*.

LEVEL OF EFFORT

- **Local Volunteers:** Assignments usually last up to 2 weeks; Sometimes extending beyond two weeks due to pending follow up visits, emails etc. Local Volunteers are asked to track assignment hours per day, to stay under 112 hours (14 days x 8 hrs.)
- **US paired remote volunteers** typically put in 4-6 hours per week, depending on the nature of the assignment and collaboration.

PRV COLLABORATION PROCESS

- The collaboration and level of support between the volunteers is unique to each assignment. Some volunteers require minimal support from their US counterpart, while some are more collaborative.
- Both volunteers participate in a call to discuss objectives and collaboration approach at the start of the assignment. Collaboration platforms vary depending on the assignment and connectivity. The most frequently used platforms are MS Teams and WhatsApp.
- Volunteers collaborate as needed to complete the assignment, with the local volunteer reaching out to the US volunteer for support.

ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR A PRV ASSIGNMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEER TARGETS.

1. Connection Call w/recruiter and F2F CP staff present
2. Local volunteer sends initial pre assignment documentation and plans to US volunteer
3. Mid assignment check-in with both volunteers and F2F staff present
4. US volunteer provides training design input and/or additional resources
5. Local volunteer shares final report with US volunteer for input prior to submission
6. Each volunteer completes one outreach activity

COLLABORATION IDEAS

- Utilize messaging and video platforms such as WhatsApp, Zoom, Google Hangouts etc. to increase frequency of communication.
- Design training documents together using share tools like Google Docs
- Explore joint facilitation. US volunteer pre-records a short training module and/or virtually trains attendees if possible.
- Hold end of day Q&A sessions. U.S volunteer can respond to questions via email and/or recorded videos.
- Virtual Office hours. Volunteers schedule time for participants to contact them to discuss subject specific issues. Tools: WhatsApp, Zoom, Google Hangouts.