



Farmer to Farmer East Africa Volunteer Assignment Scope of Work

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	UG 20
Country	Uganda
Country Project	Flexible assignment- Coffee Value Chain
Host Organization	Various
Assignment Title	Establishing gaps and opportunities for scaling up for an improved coffee value chain
Assignment preferred dates	August- September, 2014
Assignment objective	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct analysis of challenges and opportunities for improving farmers’ access to improved coffee seedlings in Uganda. 2. Identify key partners involved in multiplication and distribution of improved coffee seedlings. 3. Identify key challenges in multiplication and distribution of improved coffee seedlings. 4. Identify challenges farmers face in accessing and handling improved coffee seedlings to the main garden.
Desired volunteer skills/ expertise	Coffee breeder/seed multiplication specialist and coffee value chain expert (this SOW is for a team of two volunteers)

A. Background and Issue Description

The Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) East Africa program is a program that leverages US volunteer’s expertise to assist small holder farmers, small scale processors, farmer cooperatives and micro finance institutions in East Africa to improve their business practices through volunteer assignments conducted with host organizations. Through F2F CRS will improve the livelihoods and nutritional status of significant numbers of low income households by: i) broadening their participation in established commodity value chains as producers and service providers; ii) strengthening community resilience to shocks such as droughts, that adversely affect livelihoods; and iii) preserving/enhancing natural resources upon which most rural communities depend. CRS will also increase the American public’s understanding of international development programs and foster increased cross-cultural understanding between host countries and US volunteers.

Coffee plays a leading role in the economy of Uganda contributing between 20 - 30% of the foreign exchange earnings and often accounting for over half of total agricultural exports¹. Despite losing global market share over the last 20 years, Uganda remains a major coffee producer, accounting for approximately 2.5% of global coffee production². Uganda produces and exports both Robusta and Arabica coffee. According to Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) statistics, in 2011 Uganda exported 158,400MT of coffee worth US\$ 335.5 million.

National coffee production is almost entirely dependent on about 500,000 smallholder farmers whose average farm size ranges from less than 0.5 to 2.5 hectares³. Farmers grow coffee intercropped with bananas, beans, ground nuts, and shade trees. Intercropping of coffee with food crops enables households to meet their basic food requirements and generate cash income from their coffee. Apart from earning foreign exchange, coffee plays an important role in providing employment to the population. UCDA estimates total employment in the coffee sub-sector to be about 5 million people involved in coffee-related activities such as farm labor, processing, input supply, transport, and marketing.

To promote the coffee sub-sector, the government of Uganda established the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) in 1991 following the liberalization of the coffee industry. The authority has a statutory mandate to promote and oversee the development of the entire coffee industry through research, quality assurance, improved marketing, and providing for other matters connected therewith. Coffee processing and exporting are the responsibility of the private sector.

In spite of the shared responsibilities between the government and the private sector, the coffee sub sector in Uganda is still faced with a number of constraints which include:

- Most of the coffee trees in Uganda were planted over 50 years ago and hence have surpassed their biological optimum potential and therefore not economically productive.
- The low input system used by most farmers coupled with poorly managed and leached soils have led to very low productivity and poor quality beans.
- Diseases, especially Coffee Wilt Disease (CWD) which has been identified in all the Robusta coffee growing districts. It is estimated that 50 percent (slightly over 150 million trees) of the overall Robusta coffee tree population have been infected by the disease⁴. The capacity to contain the disease is still limited.
- Inadequate management capacity: Youth, women and farmers in new coffee areas have not been trained in coffee husbandry and coffee nursery work.
- Volatile world market coffee prices: Unstable coffee prices on the world market have discouraged coffee farmers from planting more coffee.

¹ UCDA Coffee monthly report – December 2011

² International Coffee Organization (ICO) World production data 2000 - 2009

³ UCDA website

⁴ UCDA Coffee monthly report; December 2011

UCDA in collaboration with various farmer organizations/private sector groups have spearheaded initiatives to address some of the above challenges.

Many small holder coffee farmers have low yields and poor quality due to a multitude of problems already mentioned above. Uganda farmers have 540 trees on average per hectare and produce approximately a half ton of coffee per hectare as compared to two tons and above from farmers using high quality planting material and good agricultural practices. The demand for coffee seedlings is well above the supply and therefore limiting production potential to be realized. Therefore, assessment of the needs, opportunities and constraints at different levels along the coffee value chain leads to improved coffee seedlings and access to these planting materials as a major constraint to the sector. Identification of potential partners for establishing seed multiplication and seedling distribution centers will enable CRS F2F to map out specific areas to improve coffee production in the country by developing a comprehensive strategy to address this major challenge facing coffee farmers.

B. Objectives of Assignment

The primary objective of the volunteer assignment is to assess the needs, opportunities and constraints faced in coffee seedling multiplication, distribution, and farmer access and determine a strategy that can be used to sustainably help address the challenge of farmers' inability to access improved coffee seedlings. Additionally, the volunteer assignment will involve identification of potential partners to assist with coffee seed multiplication and distribution and sites for establishment of mother gardens across the country. A key component of this task will be to outline strategies that CRS F2F could use in developing additional technical assistance.

The F2Fvolunteer assignment will entail the following:

- Conduct analysis of challenges and opportunities for improving access to improved coffee seedlings.
- Identify key partners involved in multiplication and distribution of improved coffee seedlings.
- Identify key challenges in multiplication and distribution system of coffee seedlings.
- Identify challenges farmers face in accessing improved coffee seedlings.
- Conduct analysis of coffee marketing including export markets
- Visit selected coffee agricultural research institutions
- Identify opportunities for scaling up production of improved coffee seedlings
- Analyze potential of coffee seedling multiplication and seedling distribution companies /organizations becoming business incubation centers
- Determine the interest of coffee seedling multiplication/distribution companies/organizations becoming business incubation centers

- Assess willingness of partners to participate in coffee multiplication/distribution business
- Identify potential areas for setting up mother gardens as business incubation centers/model centers
- Assess the feasibility of operating and managing coffee seedling multiplication/distribution as business model.

This assignment is structured as a team assignment. The team will be comprised of production, marketing and value chain experts and will start with a one day briefing in the CRS Kampala office for a strategy session. The team will meet with Uganda Coffee Development Authority, Kawanda and Kituza Coffee Research Institutes. The team will then travel to different key parts of the country meeting private partners.. The team will also visit selected coffee farmer organizations such as Bugisu Cooperative Union, Kapchorwa coffee processors, Western Buganda Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union and other farmer based coffee processors.

C. Anticipated Results from the Assignment

The anticipated results from this scope of work include:

- Recommendations on the improved coffee seedlings multiplication and distribution needs, opportunities and potential sites for establishing business centers
- Recommendations of coffee market analysis including needs, opportunities and constraints.
- Analysis of potential interest of partners, private sector actors and organized farmer groups with technical know-how in becoming business centers.
- A look forward to key constraints in establishing business centers and specific areas for potential donor intervention
- Brief business plan outlining strategies that CRS F2F could utilize in building capacities of coffee seedling multiplication and distributors towards commercializing their enterprises.

D. Schedule of Volunteer Activities in Uganda

Day	Activity
Day 1	Leave US
Day 2	Arrival into Uganda. The volunteer shall be met by Fairway Hotel driver, who will wait at the arrivals section with the placard displaying the volunteer name. The volunteer will be driven to Fairway Hotel for accommodation.
Day 3	Briefing meeting at CRS offices with CRS F2F staff and become fully briefed on logistics and itinerary of trip. Discuss anticipated outcomes and work plan
Day 4 -5	Meeting with Kawanda Agricultural Research Institute, Kituza Coffee,

	Uganda Coffee Development Authority, Uganda Coffee Federation and Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.
Day 6-7	Meet private sectors working in coffee such as processors and exporters in Kampala.
Day 8-10	Travel to Eastern Uganda and meet selected farmer associations such as Bugisu cooperative Union and Kapchorwa Coffee processors
Day 11	Day off
Day 12-14	Travel to Central part of Uganda, meet selected farmer associations as well as processors and exporters in the areas.
Day 15	Day off
Day 16-18	Travel to Western Uganda, meet selected farmer associations as well as processors and exporters in the areas.
Day 19	Travel back to Kampala
Day 20-24	Finalize trip report
Day 25	Day off
Day 26	Debriefing at CRS office with CRS staff. Complete Trip Report (TR), Complete out feedback from, Travel expense report
Day 27	Volunteer departs for USA

E. Desirable Volunteer Skills

This is a team assignment involving volunteers with the following expertise:

- Coffee Breeding, seedling multiplication expertise
- Agronomists
- Marketing /Business development expertise
- Value Chain analysis expertise

F. Accommodation and Other In-Country Logistics

While in Kampala, the volunteer will stay at Fairway Hotel & Spa (www.fairwayhotel.co.ug). During site visits, the volunteer will stay at hotels identified by CRS.

CRS will pay for hotel accommodation, and provide volunteer with per diems to cater for meals and other incidentals. The volunteer will get an advance which has to be liquidated before departing Uganda. For more information, please refer to country information that

will be provided.

G. Recommended Assignment Preparations

- CRS-F2F designs assignments with the assumption of some pre-departure preparation by the volunteer. Actual preparation time will vary based on the experience of the volunteer. CRS relies on the volunteer to assess the tasks outlined in this SOW and to make his or her own judgment about how much and what kind of preparation is needed prior to arriving in the country.
- The volunteer should prepare materials for data collection which can be printed at CRS office in Uganda before commencement of the assignment. CRS will provide all materials needed for the work. Flip charts, markers, masking tapes can be obtained at CRS offices.
- CRS strongly recommends that the volunteer become familiar with coffee industry in Uganda.

H. Key Contacts

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