



WHAT DOES THE FARMER-TO-FARMER PROGRAM DO?

The Farmer to Farmer Program promotes sustainable economic growth, food security and agricultural development worldwide. Volunteer technical assistance from US farmers, agribusinesses, cooperatives and universities helps developing countries improve productivity, access new markets and conserve environmental and natural resources. This people-to-people exchange promotes international goodwill, understanding of US foreign assistance programs and private involvement in development activities. Our volunteers work with farmers, producer groups, rural businesses and service providers to develop local capacity necessary to increase food production and rural incomes, expand economic growth and address environmental and natural resource management challenges.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS MUST I HAVE?

Farmer to Farmer is looking for individuals who are enthusiastic about traveling overseas to share agricultural or other technical skills with farmers in East Africa. Volunteers need not hold a college degree, speak a second language, have overseas experience or ascribe to a particular belief system. Volunteers should recognize that their assignments will benefit their personal and professional development and they should be willing to share highlights of their experience upon their return.



farmer to farmer

BUILDING COMPETITIVENESS
IN EAST AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



WHO ARE CRS VOLUNTEERS?

Our program draws from agricultural and related disciplines from across the US. CRS volunteers range from the master gardener to large-scale crop farmers and ranchers. We are also interested in niche production as well as processors, input suppliers, marketers, financial experts and cooperative experts. Basically, our projects draw from the full diversity of American agriculture.

OUR APPROACH

CRS has been working in East Africa for over 60 years on a wide variety of community-based initiatives that directly impact the lives of poor communities. Volunteers assigned by CRS will be surrounded by a long-standing network staffed with well-trained professionals working in a variety of program areas. Volunteer efforts will be well supported so that individual and follow-up assignments can have maximum impact.

WHAT WILL CRS VOLUNTEERS BE DOING?

CRS will be carrying out 500 projects in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, mostly in rural areas. Host organizations and assignments will be chosen to support the goals of Feed the Future in the region and reflect CRS' historical focus on helping vulnerable communities become more food secure and find pathways toward success within the formal agriculture sector. CRS Farmer to Farmer assignments will span a broad range of technical assistance interventions to support crop production, marketing, business skills development, finance, nutrition and household food security, involved in agriculture.



WHERE WILL WE WORK?

CRS hosts include farmer organizations, small to medium scale agribusinesses, marketing associations, financial institutions, local NGOs, local governments, research and educational institutions. CRS will work to maximize impact through clustering assignments to build geographic capacity or through multiple assignments addressing different disciplines to provide comprehensive technical assistance as needed.

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Joyce Wambua harvests a papaya from a tree on her farm in Kenya's drought-affected Kathonzwani District. Though she had previously terraced her plot and planted some fruit trees, the lessons she learned through a CRS-supported project helped her improve her terracing and plant 25 new fruit trees. David Snyder for CRS