



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

FARMER-TO-FARMER
The USAID John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program

**FARMER-TO-FARMER
VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENT FORM**

Summary Information	
Assignment Code	TT84
Country	Trinidad & Tobago
Assignment Title	Vermiculture and Composting
Best dates for volunteer visit	After January 2023
Host Organization(s)	<p>Vision On Mission (VOM) is a dynamic non-government organization (NGO) which provides rehabilitation services, empowerment, life skills, and employment skillstraining and development in agriculture and other areas to clients (ex-prisoners) in need of re-integration into society after serving time in prison.</p> <p>The organization, which manages a live-in center in East Trinidad, hopes to establish and grow produce, raw materials, and value-added products to sell commercially.</p>
Assignment Information	
Objectives and Anticipated Results	<p>In response to climate change and moments of extreme weather (very dry and wet seasons), the NGO would like to improve the soil fertility of its fields as high temperatures and excessive rainfall deplete and impede on the nutrients of the soil. Soil improvement techniques such as vermiculture and composting (creation of organic fertilizer) are methods VOM would like to implement. To do this however, they require training as the VOM staff and client’s knowledge and experience in these areas are low. Therefore, a volunteer is requested to provide training in;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundamentals of Vermiculture 2. Fundamentals of Composting 3. Development of a composting system <p>Once this training is provided, the members of VOM will be better able to cope with climate change and sustain the fertility of their soil.</p>
Expected Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands-on experience – vermiculture and develop a small composting system • Provide materials to members for all subjects • Debriefing with country staff and Purdue after assignment • F2F Assignment Report and F2F Recommendations Form to be completed at the end of the assignment (completed for debriefing with staff) • Sign-in sheets for training sessions (work with Field Coordinator) • One outreach activity (news article, interview, presentation, etc.) about



	<p>your F2F activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If applicable, “like” the Purdue F2F Facebook and Twitter pages and share your experience.
Desired volunteer skill/expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of experience in vermiculture and composting • Experience training adults in low-income communities • Experience working in a developing country preferred • Flexibility • Language: Proficient in English
Training Participants	About 15 participants members of Vision On Mission NGO
Resources to be Contributed by Hosts and Local Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide in-country transportation, office space for meetings, and facilities for training and/or workshops; and • Provide supplies, equipment, and other resources for training activities. • Access to computer, projector, and screen
<i>Farmer to Farmer Objective(s)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase agricultural sector productivity and profitability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve conservation and sustainable use of environmental and natural resources <input type="checkbox"/> Expand agricultural sector access to financial services <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthen agricultural sector institutions
<i>Type of Volunteer Assistance</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technology Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Development <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Enterprise Development <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Services <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<i>Type of Value Chain Activity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Information and Input Support Services (extension services, input supplies, veterinary services, etc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Farm Production <input type="checkbox"/> Processing (primary and final product transformation, storage, transportation, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing (branding, advertising, promotion, distribution, sales, etc.)
<i>PERSUAP – Volunteer Assignment Type</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Type 1 Volunteers provide direct assistance for the use or procurement of pesticides and are likely to recommend and/or provide advice on specific pesticide active ingredients or products. <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2 Volunteers provide indirect assistance for the use or procurement of pesticides; they are not expected to recommend or provide advice on specific pesticide active ingredients or products. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Type 3 Volunteers are not expected to be involved in pesticide issues. <input type="checkbox"/> Type 4 Volunteers work on a separately-funded USAID project/activity which may have a PERSUAP governing



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

FARMER TO FARMER
The USAID John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program

	its operations related to the use and procurement of pesticides.
Volunteer Information	
Recommended Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please thoroughly read and follow the instructions provided in the volunteer orientation packet. • Let field staff know if you need assistance or accommodations.

Project Overview	
<p>Trinidad and Tobago is a two-island country of a diverse population with rich history and culture. As an island nation, it is under the constant mercy of changing climate that is affecting natural resources and agriculture. At present, it is a net food importing country forcing the government to refocus its attention on sustainable agriculture as a part of its 2030 country development strategy. The tropical climate and available natural resources, if used properly, can make the country self-sufficient in vegetables, root crops and some fruits with a provision to export value added products. It is an opportune time for F2F volunteers to engage with agriculture extension officers and farmers to impart knowledge and learn about the culture and endurance of Trinbagonians. The objective of the F2F Trinidad and Tobago Country Program is to improve food and nutrition security through productivity, safety, and profitability as well as strengthening the extension service through capacity building.</p>	