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Semi-Annual Report FY15
VEGA
Farmer-to-Farmer Special Program Support Project

Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development
Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-13-00053

Report on Activities During FY2015
(October 1, 2014-March 31, 2015)

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I. Introduction

This report marks the midpoint of VEGA's second year as a Farmer-to-Farmer program implementer and covers the period from October 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015. Over the past six months we have:

- Launched three F2F PDPs;
- Awarded six new F2F small grants;
- Managed and conducted exit interviews for four existing F2F small grants;
- Launched the new program-wide website at farmer-to-farmer.org;
- Conducted site visits to the PDPs in Colombia and Jamaica;
- Organized and participated in Farmer-to-Farmer's annual Implementer's Meeting;
- Collaborated with USAID on making training recordings to train new program staff on the F2F standard indicators.

II. Summary of Major Impacts and Accomplishments

Over the first six months of FY2015, the small grants and PDPs have deployed 35 volunteer assignments to Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Jamaica, Morocco and Uganda. These volunteers completed 523 volunteer days, donating an estimated \$245,810 worth of professional time. Please see Annex One for a breakdown of the small grant volunteer assignments.

Sub-Award Management

Farmer-to-Farmer Small Grants RFA 2014-2

VEGA released RFA 2014-2 for Farmer-to-Farmer small grants on September 25, 2014. VEGA announced the RFA using its F2F mailing list, Facebook, Twitter¹ and on the vegaalliance.org website. Two of the six small grant awards were set aside for Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). Questions on the RFA were due October 16, 2014, and answers to these questions were released on October 20, 2014. Concept Papers for this RFA were due by October 27, 2014. Concept Papers were selected for advancement to the Full Applications stage on November 17, 2014. Full Applications for this RFA were due on December 22, 2014.

On or before December 22, 2014, VEGA received 27 eligible Concept Papers for the F2F small grants.

During the months of December 2014 and January 2015, VEGA assembled a proposal evaluation committee (PEC) to evaluate the applications. The six members of the PEC were briefed via e-mail regarding the review process and expectations. In January 2014, the PEC received the RFA, the scoring sheets, and the final list of Q&A prior to reviewing the applications.

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/Farmer2Farmer> and farmertofarmer, respectively.

The PEC received the Concept Papers on October 27, 2014, and was given until November 14, 2014, to review the Concept Papers and submit preliminary scores. On November 14, 2014, the PEC met and decided to advance the following 15 finalist organizations to the proposal stage: Africare, AgriCorps, Borlaug Institute at TAMU, Browse and Grass Growers Cooperative, the Western North Carolina Center for Honeybee Research, FAMU, Heart Song Farm, IESC, NCBA CLUSA, SAVE Travel Alliance, Tennessee State University, University of Arizona, Wisconsin Honey Producers Association, World Cocoa Foundation, World Link. During the proposal writing period, the Borlaug Institute withdrew their concept paper from consideration because they could not get a positive concurrence to their proposed project from the USAID mission in Indonesia. During the proposal writing period, World Link withdrew their concept paper from consideration because they could not get a positive concurrence to their proposed project from ACDI/VOCA, the incumbent core F2F implementer in Georgia.

On February 4, 2015, the VEGA SPSP PEC discussed the 13 finalist proposals for the VEGA F2F small grants, and recommended the proposals from Africare in Zambia, Browse and Grass Growers Cooperative in Mali, FAMU in Haiti, NCBA CLUSA in Zambia, Tennessee State University in Bangladesh, and University of Arizona in Tanzania and Kenya for funding based on their finding that the proposed projects had carefully thought through objectives and strong potential for impact. Both FAMU and Tennessee State University are MSIs. These Awards will be issued as Fixed Amount Awards (FAA). Each award is \$150,000 with duration of one year. USAID concurred with this recommendation on February 6, 2015. VEGA proceeded to perform due diligence on the grantees at that time. During the reporting period, VEGA signed grant awards with Africare, Browse and Grass Growers Cooperative, FAMU, NCBA CLUSA and Tennessee State University.

Small Grant Impacts and Lessons Learned

Now that VEGA's first group of F2F small grants are closing out, VEGA can reflect on lessons learned and make plans for future improvements to its small grant and PDP operations

- 1. Clear expectations and requirements of grantees are very important.** Many of VEGA's sub-awardees are unfamiliar with the demands of administering a U.S. government grant. VEGA F2F program staff spends far more time assisting sub-awardees with administrative matters than with programmatic matters. It might be helpful to have a grantee's manual that explains VEGA's administrative, programmatic and financial requirements and expectations. Over the remainder of FY2015, VEGA plans to consult with USAID and with its F2F PEC members to develop RFA and grant award text that explains VEGA's expectations and requirements more clearly.
- 2. VEGA needs greater clarity on what constitutes a high quality grant application.** This issue came up in the evaluation process for RFA 2014-2. To date, VEGA's F2F RFAs have contained little guidance for PEC members on how to differentiate good F2F small grant concept notes and proposals from poor ones. VEGA's F2F RFAs hint at, but do not cover in sufficient detail, how much evaluators should weigh innovative

approaches, past track records of success or failure, previous performance on VEGA small grants, MSI status and other important factors. Over the remainder of FY2015, VEGA plans to consult with its F2F PEC members to develop more thorough guidance on evaluating small grant concept notes and proposals. VEGA will modify its next RFA for small grants based on these consultations.

- 3. USAID and VEGA need to think more about how to introduce new implementers and new approaches to F2F.** VEGA encountered a number of paradoxes in its efforts to introduce new implementers and fresh approaches to F2F through its sub-award program. First, VEGA grantees have tended to propose F2F programs featuring tried-and-true approaches. Second, in our experience some of the most innovative proposals and concept papers are also some of the most problematic, especially in response to RFA 2014-2. During the reporting period, we received concept papers that were innovative in the context of F2F, but were also unfeasible, cost inefficient or far removed from F2F goals and activities. Based on experience from the past three RFAs, when it comes to introducing new implementers and new approaches to F2F, USAID and VEGA must choose between two options: On one hand are grant applicants with extensive experience in the international development industry offering conservative approaches; and on the other hand are grant applicants without extensive experience in the international development industry, offering approaches that may be new to F2F, but that are also cause for concern about their feasibility and appropriateness. It would be beneficial for USAID and VEGA to think through this issue further.
- 4. USAID and VEGA need to decide how to proceed with efforts to better integrate Minority Serving Institutions/Organizations into the F2F program.** VEGA, the Proposal Evaluation Committee and USAID recognize the added challenges surrounding working with MSI/MSO. After much discussion surrounding this topic, VEGA proposes to convene an advisory panel that can provide a deeper understanding of challenges and advise on conducting outreach to MSIs and how to adapt the F2F program to include these institutions and organizations as implementers. VEGA feels that if the program wishes to continue outreach and awarding grants to MSI/MSOs, then we will want a more intensive capacity building effort coupled with a grants competition that is limited to MSIs and MSOs.

Farmer-to-Farmer Program Development Projects (PDPs)

During the reporting period, VEGA made the following PDP awards:

Colombia: Orinoquia Region Food Hub Development activity implemented by Purdue University to support small farmer market development in partnership with Universidad de los Llanos. The award is for \$699,998 and ends on September 30, 2017.

Ethiopia and Uganda: Syndromic Surveillance for Livestock Health activity implemented by Veterinarians Without Borders to improve transboundary surveillance of livestock diseases. The award is for \$1,399,484 and ends on September 1, 2018.

Jamaica: Sustainable Farm Enterprise Program activity implemented by FAVACA, in partnership with Source Farm Foundation, to improve organic production of horticultural crops.

The award is for \$699,999 and ends on April 30, 2018.

The PDP programs have started. Over the first six months of FY2015, they have deployed 17 volunteers to Colombia, Ethiopia, Jamaica and Uganda. These volunteers completed 368 volunteer days, donating an estimated \$172,690 worth of professional time. For more information on PDP activities during the reporting period, please see their narrative reports in Annexes Two through Four and the PDP indicator tables attached to this report.

Knowledge Management

F2F Implementers Meeting

Program Director Eric Wallace and Program Associate Leia D'Amboise participated in the FY2015 F2F Implementers meeting, held in Washington, D.C., in December 2014. Mr. Wallace presented information about VEGA's Farmer-to-Farmer program and helped lead an extensive series of trainings on the F2F standard indicators.

Special Study- Standard Indicator Training Recording

Working closely with USAID Program Analyst Erin Baize, KDAD and the other members of the F2F Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, VEGA Program Director Eric Wallace played a lead role in creating a series of computer-based trainings on the F2F Standard Indicators. The trainings have four goals: for F2F staff to know what we are measuring; to ensure that all programs are measuring indicators similarly and consistently; to test program staff knowledge of the indicators; and to help program staff know what resources they have available to help them as they monitor and evaluate their programs. The trainings can be saved to writable media and do not require internet access to use. The trainings are available in the resources section of farmer-to-farmer.org, and VEGA has strongly encouraged its small grantees and PDP implementers to use them.

F2F Web Portal

With extensive help from VEGA, F2F sub-awardee QED and former VEGA Director of Communications Karen Yacos, VEGA completed the program wide F2F web portal at farmer-to-farmer.org. VEGA anticipates that the portal will be a key resource for F2F program implementers, the Monitoring/Evaluation and Outreach Committees, potential grantees, volunteers and other stakeholders. VEGA is confident in Farmer-to-Farmer.org's potential to be a valuable resource in the areas of special studies, outreach to MSIs, and other knowledge management priorities.

Outreach to USAID Missions

In January 2015, VEGA F2F Program Director Eric Wallace and F2F Program Associate Leia D'Amboise traveled to Colombia and Jamaica and informed USAID mission staff in both countries about buy-in opportunities available through the VEGA F2F program. VEGA staff also conducted support site visits of host organizations and beneficiaries. Mr. Wallace conducted training on the standard indicators and addressed questions and concerns regarding the program.

Additionally, VEGA's non F2F staff have conducted several visits to USAID missions around the world during which they have explained the buy in opportunities available under VEGA's F2F program and encouraged missions to buy in. VEGA did not spend any F2F program funds on any of this outreach activity. In their outreach to countries that already have an incumbent F2F program, such as Georgia, VEGA staff have explained the difference between VEGA's F2F program and the core implementers' F2F programs.

F2F Brown Bag

On March 12, 2015, VEGA held a brown bag event to give a presentation about the January 2015 site visit to the PDPs in Colombia and Jamaica. The presentation was followed by a discussion about best practices in headquarters visits to the field. Approximately fifteen people from the Farmer-to-Farmer community attended the Brown Bag event.

III. Summary of Major Implementation Problems

During the reporting period, USAID and VEGA discussed the impact of the anticipated reduction in funding to SPSP. Due to the reduction in funding, VEGA will be unable to implement the learning activities originally envisioned in the RFA and award. VEGA and USAID discussed this issue several times and developed a plan of action for the remainder of the program. VEGA requested written clarification from USAID concerning which of the elements of the original program description VEGA will be expected to carry out during the remainder of the program.

IV. Planned Activities for the Next Six Months

1. Continue management, training and capacity building for small grants and PDPs.
2. Develop Scope of Work and recruit members for F2F MSI Advisory Committee in order to better incorporate MSIs into F2F through understanding their unique challenges.
3. Conduct a special study to determine a revised value for the daily value of volunteer time.
4. Revise RFA requirements to provide clearer instructions to PEC members on differentiating between good F2F small grant proposals and poor ones.
5. Conduct another small grant RFA, along with a webinar to inform potential grantees of opportunities available with F2F.
6. Continue outreach to USAID missions, especially those in countries that are hosting small grant and PDP activities, to encourage them to buy in to the program.
7. Continue to populate Farmer-to-Farmer.org with resources and monitor usage in order to strengthen the reach and capabilities of the site.
8. Continue to plan Farmer-to-Farmer 30th Anniversary Event and 2015 Implementers meeting, scheduled for December 3, 2015.

V. M & E Certification:

VEGA confirms that it has: a) used established indicators and definitions; b) participated in regular (annual) workshops reviewing indicators and M&E systems; and c) trained field staff on indicators and data collection systems. The above mentioned training sessions include extensive instruction in the collection and reporting of indicators.

VI. Environmental Compliance

VEGA and its sub-awardees have conducted no volunteer assignments that have involved pesticides during the reporting period. We have no key findings or recommendations during the reporting period regarding limitations and successes of the PERSUAP and have no recommendations for technical assistance and training needed to improve pest and pesticide management practice. VEGA has taken no action to assess and disseminate lessons learned and best practices in F2F pesticide use and management during the reporting period, nor have we assessed priority pesticide management needs in the program at large. VEGA has identified no knowledge gaps in pesticide safe use, IPM or other pesticide related issues at this time and has no recommendations regarding needed capacity strengthening.

Annex One: Small Grants Volunteers Fielded Summary: Oct 1st 2014-March 31st 2015

Implementer	Country	Assignment	Assignment Objectives	Name of Volunteer	Assignment Start Date	Assignment End Date	Volunteer Days Completed	Estimated Value of Volunteer Services Leveraged (U.S.\$)	Host Organization(s)
FAMU	Haiti	Developing Sustainable Agriculture Practices	To provide technical assistance to the youth and women in Developing Sustainable Agriculture Practices of farming ecologically using resources effectively, growing nutritious foods and enhancing the quality of life of the farmers.	Dr. Oghenekome Onokpise	10/14/2014	10/25/2014	12	5,640	Université Caraïbe (UC)
FAMU	Haiti	Group Formation-Achieving Economies of Scale	Provide technical assistance to the youth and women to (a) beneficiaries understand the concept of Group Formation – Achieving Economies of Scale. (b) Beneficiaries understand the importance of Group formation and how it helps to lower the cost per unit in farming. (c) Beneficiaries understand the importance of selecting technologies & methods that are appropriate for their production environment and which are sustainable without the need for outside interventions. (d) Beneficiaries understand how they can use a Group status to access additional resources in the community, e.g., machinery, inputs, credit for farming. (e) Volunteer develop a document on how to form a Farmers Group (Farmer’s cooperative) and utilize it for progress of	Nicole Fowler	10/15/2014	10/25/2014	11	5,170	Université Caraïbe (UC)

			beneficiaries. (f) Volunteer assist beneficiaries take initial steps to form a group (Cooperative). (g) Assist student mentors with classroom training and hands on demonstration to farmers and school youth group.						
FAMU	Haiti	Market Assessment, Market Plan Development, Entrepreneurship	Assist UC Ag Mentors and small farmers identify new marketing channels for their group enterprise vegetable and staple crop products; (b) Develop a marketing plan for the sale of these products. (c) UC Ag Mentors and small farmers understand the benefit of marketing their agricultural products in a group. (d) Support the UC Ag Mentors deliver a mini workshop for primary school youth on the marketing of safe food products.	Christopher Laughton	11/30/2014	12/11/2014	12	5,640	Université Caraïbe (UC)
FAMU	Haiti	Financial Management	1. The first objective of this assignment is to improve beneficiaries understanding and knowledge of the fundamental aspects and procedures of managing financial resources and leveraging community/group assets in the agricultural small-holder group environment. 2. The second objective is to help the small-holder groups understand options for creating a savings and or micro lending fund for the small-holder farmer group. 3. The third objective is to improve beneficiaries' ability to effectively plan for the financial needs of their production cycles including: access to land, preparation of soil for planting, purchase of inputs as a group member, planting the seeds,	Chester Bunker	11/17/2014	11/30/2014	14	6,580	Université Caraïbe (UC)

			managing the garden in good health throughout the production cycle, application of any other inputs, harvesting and sale of the produce. Beneficiaries should also understand how to estimate projected gross income and net income and purchase inputs and acquire land based on the projected financial net income they feel is an appropriate and realistic goal. 4. Assist student and farmer groups develop a production financial plan for the current planting season.						
FAMU	Haiti	Formatting a Group Enterprise	1. Develop a framework (plan of work or labor plan) to operationalize the UC students in the development and maintenance of their Vegetable garden plot as a Group Enterprise project. 2. Assist UC Students prepare the land and plant the Group Enterprise Vegetable garden. 3. Supervise the UC Student Mentors as they assist the farmers' group develop a group enterprise vegetable production plan. 4. Visit select small farms to review planting methods and condition of staple crops. 5. Assist UC Students strengthen primary and secondary youth groups by training and advising in "Successful Group Vegetable Projects."	Roman Bunker	11/17/2014	11/30/2014	14	6,580	Université Caraïbe (UC)
FAMU	Haiti	Food Safety and Post-Harvest Management for Vegetable crops	1. Review of key sustainable agriculture principles introduced through the past volunteer assignments. 2. Introduce basic principles of food safety and Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP) at production, post-harvest, and	Kamal	11/30/2014	12/11/2014	12	5,640	Université Caraïbe (UC)

			value addition levels for vegetables. 3. Assess select production sites to recommend relevant post-harvest technologies and methods effective for maintaining quality of product from harvest to sale.	Hyder					
FAMU TOTAL							75	\$ 35,250	
Haiti Coffee	Haiti	certified Q Graders	Successfully complete two days of cupping competitions and 2 days of demonstrations in PaP Haiti for the PNPCH national coffee cupping competition and conference. Awards will be given to six categories. Throughout the course of the event, find opportunities to: (a) Increase knowledge and confidence of Haitian coffee producers, cooperatives and participants in the value and use of coffee analysis. (b) Increase knowledge and confidence of Haitian coffee producers, cooperatives and participants in the importance of quality (c) Increase knowledge in evaluating coffee beans, coffee flavors and the complexity of coffee as a product and development of a common language between buyers and sellers when discussing coffee and coffee quality (d) Assist in a brief cupping exercise at the kickoff meeting for the IWCA using coffees produced by women. During this process help identify potential women for leadership roles in IWCA chapter.	David Pierre Louis	3/1/2015	3/8/2015	8	3,760	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops

Haiti Coffee	Haiti	certified Q Graders	<p>Successfully complete two days of cupping competitions and 2 days of demonstrations in PaP Haiti for the PNPCH national coffee cupping competition and conference. Awards will be given to six categories. Throughout the course of the event, find opportunities to: (a) Increase knowledge and confidence of Haitian coffee producers, cooperatives and participants in the value and use of coffee analysis. (b) Increase knowledge and confidence of Haitian coffee producers, cooperatives and participants in the importance of quality (c) Increase knowledge in evaluating coffee beans, coffee flavors and the complexity of coffee as a product and development of a common language between buyers and sellers when discussing coffee and coffee quality (d) Assist in a brief cupping exercise at the kickoff meeting for the IWCA using coffees produced by women. During this process help identify potential women for leadership roles in IWCA chapter.</p>	David Pierre Louis	3/3/2015	3/8/2015	6	2,820	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops

Haiti Coffee	Haiti	Post-harvest Management-Harvesting protocols, quality control	(a) The purpose of this assignment is to assess and find solutions to problems affecting the post-harvest management of coffee. (b) Develop a training curriculum and aids for teaching farmers and cooperatives about problems occurring during harvest, processing, and marketing of their coffee (c) Help build relationships between the producers/cooperatives, Makouti Agro Enterprise, Haiti Coffee and other members of the coffee value chain	Beth Dominick	3/2/2015	3/18/2015	17	7,990	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops
Haiti Coffee	Haiti	Development of IWCA chapter for Haiti	(a) The purpose of this assignment is to begin the first steps (socialization) of setting up a chapter of IWCA in Haiti as outlined in the Chapter Formation Protocol of April 2011 (b) Develop a training curriculum and aids for teaching women in the coffee industry about the benefits of creating a Haitian chapter of IWCA (c) Help build relationships between the producers/cooperatives, Makouti Agro Enterprise, Haiti Coffee, international buyers and others to revitalize and strengthen the Haitian coffee value chain (increase transfer of knowledge, increase quality and quantity of coffee, increase opportunities for business development)	Christa Michaud	3/8/2015	3/18/2015	11	5,170	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops

Haiti Coffee	Haiti	Coffee Production-Nursery to Harvest Tree Care	(a) The purpose of this assignment is to assess and find solutions to problems affecting the farming of coffee trees from seeds through production and harvest. (b) Develop a training curriculum and aids for teaching farmers about problems occurring during the farming of coffee trees. (c) Help build relationships between the producers/cooperatives, Makouti Agro Enterprise, Haiti Coffee and other members of the coffee value chain	Shawn Steiman	3/8/2015	3/17/2015	10	4,700	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops
Haiti Coffee	Haiti	Business Management, Financial Management, Contracts & Negotiations	(a) The purpose of this assignment is to assess and find solutions to problems affecting the business management of coffee as experienced by cooperatives and some producers in Haiti. (b) Develop a training curriculum and aids for teaching farmers and cooperatives about business management, financing, contracts, and market negotiations (c) Help build relationships between the producers/cooperatives, Makouti Agro Enterprise, Haiti Coffee and other members of the coffee value chain	Myriam Kaplan-Pasternak	3/2/2015	3/20/2015	19	8,930	Makouti Agro Enterprise + 11 Co-ops
HAITI COFFEE TOTAL							71	\$33,370	
NCBA CLUSA	El Salvador	Coffee Exporting	Provide expertise and knowledge to individuals from El Jabali and Las Lajas on the management and marketing of national and international organic coffee. Provide support with: a. Investigating buyers and	Allen Tackett	1/15/2015	1/25/2015	11	5,170	Cooperative El Jabalí, Cooperative Las Lajas

			establishing business relationships with global clients. b. Analyzing competitors in the organic coffee industry. c. Creating a program or follow up plan for increasing buyer engagement and optimizing the client communication strategy and business channels. d. Improving roasting and marketing business to retailers and distributors (sales points, product packaging, signs in stores, etc.) e. Train the Factory manager on coffee toasting. f. Developing a strategic mentality for the coffee business						
NCBA CLUSA	El Salvador	Cooperative Governance	Provide trainings to cooperative members who sit on the board of directors, on cooperative governance and cooperative business management. The training is expected to cover pertinent topics such as: developing good governance, conducting board meetings, the role of the board of directors, conflict resolution within the cooperative and cooperative principles and values.	Eric Bowman	11/24/20 14	12/5/20 14	12	5,640	Cooperative El Jabalí
NCBA CLUSA	El Salvador	Agricultural Best Practices	Provide trainings to individuals to build their capacity to improve the handling and packaging of organic vegetables and fruits for export to meet standards of international markets better serve retail partners and get high-demand product to end consumers. Potential improvements may include conducting an environmental profiling of packaging materials, assessing control measures, and ensuring label compliance of organic vegetables.	Pradeep Patnaik	9/28/201 4	10/10/2 014	13	6,110	Cooperative ACOPO

NCBA CLUSA	El Salvador	Post Harvest Handling	Provide trainings to cooperative members on harvest and post-harvest handling techniques and processes for vegetables to ensure that products meet basic standards of sizing, color, shape, maturity, packaging, labeling, etc. which will allow for an increase in revenue. Topics may include: physiological maturity, processing, cleaning and washing, pre-sorting, cooling, drying, packaging, labeling, and sanitation and food safety.	Ramana Govin	2/8/2015	2/22/20 15	15	7,050	ACOPO and APRAINORE S
NCBA CLUSA	El Salvador	Business Plan Development	Work with cooperatives to strengthen their ability to create solid business plans tailored to their needs, which will provide guidance for their goals and objectives.	Tom Decker	3/8/2015	3/22/20 15	15	7,050	APRAINORE S, Las Lajas, ACOPO
NCBA CLUSA TOTAL							66	\$ 31,020	
UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Catherine Rasmussen	10/9/201 4	10/20/2 014	12	5,640	National School of Agriculture (ENA)
UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Tobias Spanier	10/9/201 4	10/20/2 014	12	5,640	National School of Agriculture (ENA)

UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Rich Mishka	10/9/2014	10/20/2014	12	5,640	National School of Agriculture (ENA)
UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Michael Liepold	2/1/2015	2/9/2015	9	4,230	National School of Agriculture (ENA)
UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Loti Rothstein	2/1/2015	2/9/2015	9	4,230	National School of Agriculture (ENA)
UMN	Morocco	Train the Trainer in Rural Leadership	To provide leadership training workshops to target the human and social capital development of a cohort of leaders to enhance the development of local leadership in associations in rain-fed areas.	Jay Fultz	2/1/2015	2/9/2015	9	4,230	National School of Agriculture (ENA)
UMN TOTAL							63	\$ 29,610	
FY14 SMALL GRANT TOTAL							275	\$129,250	

Annex Two: FAVACA FY2015 Semi Annual Report

Over the first six months of FY2015, FAVACA has deployed five volunteers to Jamaica. These volunteers completed 78 volunteer days, donating an estimated \$36,660 worth of professional time.

Jennifer Turney was recruited to research how to define each component of the Source system, build a new accounting system for the produce brokerage in Jamaica, and train farmers in tracking their finances. She was able to define a cash flow for the organization and set up a Quick Books accounting system on the computers at the Source offices to track income and expenditures. She also created an income and expense sheet for farmers so that local implementers could get a more accurate report on the financial assets of their clients. Before leaving, she separated the cash flows of the Source Farm into three categories: the Foundation, the Ecovillage, and the Produce Brokerage. Their accounting systems are built and ready for use. Finally, Turney created a series of financial documents that would allow the Source Farm to record all necessary transaction information.

On February 13, 2015, the One One Coco Organic Farm School graduated its first class under the JSFE Program. 14 farmers (3 women and 11 men) participated and the program, eight graduated with the remaining students eligible upon completion of their course work. The classes were taught by volunteers Jeremiah Kidd and Sydney Klein. Through visits to farms and other food processing facilities, classroom instruction, and practical application, students learned strategies for effective farm design and were able to demonstrate methods of effective permaculture. This was the inaugural class under the Jamaica Sustainable Farm Enterprise Program (JSFEP) program and graduates included current and aspiring local farmers.

A key component of the JSFEP ecosystem is the Ujima Farmers' Market. In its fully developed form, it will allow members of farmers affiliated with Source Farm Foundation (SFF) to use the Ujima brand to efficiently sell their produce. Volunteers Alex Hitt and Sydney Kronick were recruited in part to evaluate the market and make recommendations for its future growth. They identified a major strength to be the team involved, an observation mirrored in all volunteer reports. Both Hitt and Kronick were able to make valuable recommendations about brand development and entry into diverse markets for produce. An example of this is local chefs. Jamaican Cuisine is moving towards a focus on sustainable, locally grown foods, so there is a steadily growing market for the produce that Source Farm Foundation (SFF) is selling. The volunteers were able to facilitate productive meetings with local cooks to lay the groundwork for potential future distribution networks and markets.

BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION

The largest barrier that we have had to implementing the JSFE program is onboarding qualified farmer and organizations. Defining a clear partnership and expectations with local partners is paramount and some shifting in target participants has occurred. Specifically, members of the Rowlandsfield farm community were proposed beneficiaries in the first year. However, based on interviews and meetings with local leaders a mutual decision was made engage at a later time over the life of the project. Expectations on the level of engagement and financial support for organizing participants did not align with the Jamaica Sustainable Farm Enterprise Program model. Conducting a comprehensive evaluation of individual farmers and organizations in Jamaica who would be able to participate in regional trainings and the One One Coco new Farmer Program using the indicator tables has yielded some gaps in data, specifically in reported numbers for farm owners, clients, and employees. This will be resolved through greater explanation of indicator definitions for participants and through the use of an improved narrative survey instrument being developed in-country to better capture the data. An example of narrative survey question for clients and supplies would include a definition of those indicators allowing the participant to better quantify what was being asked. In addition, understanding where these individual farmers are located, and how much time, capital, and training support is needed to ensure they are successful members of the organic farming community. A number of volunteers who have travelled under the project have recommended additional survey strategies that would capture more accurate financial data, whether it is for the farmers in the region or for the potential buyers for the Ujima Farmers' Market.

Furthermore, the local economy is largely cash-based. Volunteer Jennifer Turney reported that most of the farmers working with the program do not have bank accounts. This makes designing financial training and support in the form of crop budgeting or small agricultural loans through grant funds difficult, as it cannot be known for certain the value of their assets. This also hinders the development of financial and organizational policies and procedures, as Source Farm Foundation staff are unable to collect payment of micro loans made available by Singing for Change grant funds from farmers in convenient ways traditionally facilitated by banks (ex. cheques, debit cards, etc...). The lack of financial literacy is also a barrier. Taking this into account, local team members will need to supervise or collect through interviews the baseline and impact data to ensure that financial statistics are reported accurately. Appropriate documentation of the methodology and process for this would be included in future reporting.

The general infrastructure of the area hinders normal operations. Volunteer Alex Hitt observed that the farms that he visited lacked basic tools and equipment due to lack of capital. For example, many farmers lack access to proper irrigation pumps and other water distribution technology. This, linked with further capital barriers to seeds and other farming inputs, limits the potential productivity of the land affected by JSFEP. To solve this problem, we are exploring the feasibility of a tool lending cooperative and complementary loan program to lower and eliminate barriers to seed and tool resources. These plans are still being designed.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1. Strengthening Organic Certification Systems

In late April, volunteers Jim Riddle and Joyce Ford will be travelling to Jamaica to develop local organic certification systems. They will be working with SFF and the Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM), an existing network for organic farmers in the country. Once these certification programs are developed and implemented, the brand of the organic farmers will be much stronger. Furthermore, if the One One Coco School can be certified as an official organic farming training center, the Source Farm will be able to more successfully market its farmers' crops. The Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM) operates an existing certification program, and the One One Coco School would provide significant support and legitimacy to the current system. Being able to include an organic label would increase brand recognition and make entry into grocery stores and wholesale markets much more feasible.

2. Strengthening and Developing the Ujima Farmers' Market

In conjunction to this, there are planned volunteer assignments that will be focused on developing the marketing around the Ujima Farmers' Market in Kingston. Many of the volunteers have suggested more investment into the market, and there will be movement on this by early summer. We will be developing advertisement and marketing strategies, evaluating and improving market design, and surveying customers to accurately identify market demand. Additionally, there are plans to implement a produce collection and transportation system using a refrigerated truck that we intend to source locally. This would allow for a larger capacity of produce at the market and a more efficient delivery system. As farmers and merchants see improved production and profits at the Ujima market it will help provide a strong economic incentive for new farmers to begin using methods of sustainable organic agriculture.

3. Building Partnerships with Local Schools

In the next few months we will be strengthening our partnership with local schools, incorporating permaculture and other organic farming methods into curriculums built around sustainability. We have been working with Jamaica-based College of Agriculture Science and Education (CASE) and St. Thomas Technical High School to organize organic campus gardens and design lesson plans in order to introduce sustainable agricultural methods to future farmers from the community. To strengthen this relationship, volunteers Jim Riddle and Joyce Ford will be giving a lecture on organic certification systems at CASE during their time in country, and a schedule of volunteer lectures is being compiled so that the school can incorporate the new material in their curriculum. These partnerships will ensure that the community retains information after the end of JSFEP.

M & E Certification:

FAVACA confirms that it has: a) used established indicators and definitions; b) participated in regular (annual) workshops reviewing indicators and M&E systems; and c) trained field staff on indicators and data collection systems. The above mentioned training sessions include extensive instruction in the collection and reporting of indicators.

Environmental Compliance

FAVACA and its sub-awardees have conducted no volunteer assignments that have involved pesticides during the reporting period. We have no key findings or recommendations during the reporting period regarding limitations and successes of the PERSUAP and have no recommendations for technical assistance and training needed to improve pest and pesticide management practice. FAVACA has taken no action to assess and disseminate lessons learned and best practices in F2F pesticide use and management during the reporting period, nor have we assessed priority pesticide management needs in the program at large. FAVACA has identified no knowledge gaps in pesticide safe use, IPM or other pesticide related issues at this time and has no recommendations regarding needed capacity strengthening.

Annex Three: Purdue University FY2015 Semi Annual Report

Narrative

1. Summary of major impacts and accomplishments

The Purdue-Unillanos Farmer to Farmer Project in Meta, Colombia was slow to start up because contracts were delayed at the holiday period, and following this, there was a need to translate our proposal into Spanish. Nevertheless, the project is well underway now, fielding volunteers and with many volunteers lined up for next six months of the project. Please see the Volunteer Plan through September 2015, below, for a list of assignments and volunteers scheduled. Host organizations in Meta are small associations, and in most cases very weak organizationally. However, they are very eager for technical and market-linkage assistance.

Volunteers

Tallal Hassan Khan, a citizen of Pakistan who is currently a Humphrey Fellow at Cornell University, filled our first assignment. Tallal worked as an agricultural engineer in Pakistan, specializing in water management and conservation. Gary Alex met with the group of Humphrey Fellows this year and recommended them as possible volunteers. Purdue sought and received from USAID and VEGA the exception that permitted us to field a non-US volunteer.

Water conservation is one of the most pressing issues of the Meta Region, where the rainy season lasts half the year but smallholders do not store water for the dry season which lasts the other half of the year. Moreover, smallholders do not build structures to help runoff water flow to crops instead of washing away soil. Tallal gave presentations at an organization hall and at a farm for a total of 41 participants from 7 different organizations. These comprised mainly Cacao-producers' organizations in Ari Ari and Smallholder farmers' associations in Altillanura. He also gave a presentation on the issues he addressed and his recommendations at Unillanos, addressing 52 people – 44 students and 8 faculty members.

Promotion

- Internet Media
 - <https://ag.purdue.edu/ipia/Pages/USAID-Farmer-to-Farmer.aspx>
 - Colombia Farmer to Farmer Facebook Page
 - Farmer to Farmer Project in Colombia Blog\
 - <http://www.unillanos.edu.co/index.php/inicio/informativo/slide/3517-inician-dialogos-con-productores-para-establecer-tematicas-a-tratar-con-expertos-internacionales-de-purdue>
 - Tallal Hassan Khan posted photos from his assignment to Meta. Link pending
- Press
 - F2F in Unillanos:
<http://www.unillanos.edu.co/index.php/inicio/informativo/3621-edicion-diecinueve;>
 - <http://noticierodelllano.com/article/dos-norteamericanos-en-el-programa-de-productores-para-productores-de-unillanos#sthash.e4nhP59f.dpbs>

- Television: The Unillanos TV station interviewed Andrea Burniske about the F2F project
-
- Presentations: Andrea Burniske and Alvaro Ocampo exhibited a poster at the Indiana Small Farms Conference in March. This poster, along with their general participation, enabled them to promote the project and generate a lot of interest in Colombia assignments.

Indiana Small Farms Conference

(<https://ag.purdue.edu/Extension/smallfarms/Pages/default.aspx>)

Andrea Burniske and Colombia F2F Country Director Alvaro Ocampo participated in the Indiana Small Farms Conference 2015. This was a very good opportunity to show Alvaro exactly what has been meant by support for small farms and a regional food system, as well as how food hubs operate. The first day of the conference we took a tour of small farms and learned much about their operational challenges and evolving access to markets. We also met with the person involved in helping to design the software platform that enables customers to place orders directly with local farmers through Hoosier Harvest Market (<http://hoosierharvestmarket.com/>). We saw the aggregation center, where farmers drop off the orders and customers pick them up, and learned exactly how this works. All of this is important because it responds exactly to the needs of small producers in Meta. At the conference sessions we learned about many technical solutions and approaches to agricultural issues – such as soil improvement, access to markets, permaculture, etc. And we had an opportunity to exhibit our large poster on the project, and recruit volunteers for future assignments. Local farmers and extension educators are very interested to undertake F2F assignments, and at least one of the assignments will address the feasibility of adapting the Hoosier Harvest Market platform for cell or SmartPhone use in Meta.

2. Summary of major implementation problems

There have been no implementation problems, only lags with contracts. This was because 1) there are two universities involved, and our processes are always slower – especially with needs to translate contracts and the proposal, and other documents; and 2) Holidays slowed things down considerably. I do not foresee additional issues. It has not been difficult to interest volunteers in assignments to Colombia. Especially because Purdue has broader activity there and so there is much interest in using assignments as a starting point for research and other academic and extension activities.

3. Planned activities for the next six months. (Demian and Andrea, please discuss your pesticide country assessment in this section.)

- Purdue did not undertake a pesticide country assessment, and do not plan to undertake one, having learned from the Colombia USAID Mission that such an assessment was carried out by Chemonics in 2007, and updated in 2008, for activities of the MIDAS

project. The original report (in Spanish) and the Addendum, in English, comprising more pesticides, were sent to VEGA in December of 2014. Purdue plans to follow guidelines related to PERSUAP for all assignments that discuss pest control of any kind.

- During the next six months Purdue and Unillanos will field two volunteers per month according to assignments identified in our plan See **Annex A**.
- In June, Andrea Burniske will travel to Meta to plan for **project year 2**. A Small Farms Conference will be held next year, and we will begin to develop plans for Small Farms certificate courses. The Small Farms Conference we have in mind will look much like the one in Indiana (see the link above). Smallholder Farmers who have more experience and have had success in markets and technical areas will submit proposals to have a session. Likewise, volunteers will be recruited for sessions as part of their assignments. This conference is to promote best practices in farming and in market linkages, as well as to promote the concept of a local food system.
- A new initiative was launched between the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA), the Agricultural and Rural Development Ministry, and Mayor of Villavicencio, to promote certification in good agricultural practices. Through this partnership, the municipal government aims to promote far-reaching projects promoting rural development and entrepreneurship for small scale producers of fruit, plantain, cassava and tomato, training over three hundred producers in outlying towns. This initiative is an opportunity to the project to provide volunteers.

Purdue University Volunteer Plan through September 2015.

Management of Waste water	This assignment will train farmer organizations in the management of wastewater, such as biodigesters, bioremediation, reuse in irrigation, seeking to reduce the impact of production processes on the resource and increase efficiency in their use	Anne Dare, April 2015
Agricultural producer organizational capacity and planning	With this assignment, applicant organizations must motivate new organizational and planning process from the perspective of local capacities and intergenerational inclusion to ensure that organizations develop basic planning schemes	Carmen Derusha, August, 2015
Improving horticulture for smallholders	Need to develop the detail for the scope of work	Mathilde Durzo June 2015
IPM and organic fertilizers	The assignment will work on perfecting techniques, standards and resources for the preparation of organic fertilizers and pest management through IPM. (Will need approval from USAID for PERSUAP)	July 2015
Farm finance management	This assignment will help participating organizations and producers to develop projections of income and expenditures; to keep good records; and to manage on-farm cash flow. (This should be basic, such as the information for Annie's Project)	July 2015
Integrated Agricultural Production Systems	For this topic, volunteers will train beneficiaries on the various techniques of integrated agricultural production systems such as intercropping, forestry, agroforestry, integrated production systems and farm animals	Dave Roberts, April 2015
Harvesting, storage, and efficiency of water use	The assignment will focus on training in rainwater harvesting systems, water storage, distribution and efficient use in production systems.	Tallal Hassan, March 2015
Soils and the Nutrient Cycle	This assignment will focus on cycles of decay and transformation of soil nutrients, biomass production and its use for different purposes within the farm	Anna Morrow, May 2015
Youth Agriculture Clubs and Opportunities	This assignment will develop local youth leadership potential for agriculture and food production.	Cris Derusha, June 2015

Healthy Agro-Ecosystems	This assignment will help participating organizations and producers understand and monitor biomarkers of productive systems (populations of insects, beneficial insects, allelopathy, etc.) allowing identification of imbalances in their production systems	Steve Hallet, Sept. 2015
Marketing	This assignment will show successful experiences from marketing possibilities for agricultural products, helping producers and their organizations to develop ideas or market planning, with a special focus on local markets and examples of success from these.	Linda Chapman July 2015 2015
Seed Storage and Seed Banks	Need to develop the detail for the scope of work	Maud Powell, Sept. 2015
Use of ICT for Marketing	Based on the results of the previous assignment of marketing, this assignment should show the possibilities of integration of ICT into marketing and production processes. Participants should be able to think of ideas and alternatives to the use of ICTs, elements that will be translated into a second assignment related to the topic	Michael Morrow, May 2015
Food Hub and Food Systems Development	Along with the support of institutions previously contacted, this assignment will work in showing successful experiences and market mechanisms for regional food and agricultural products	Tamara Benjamin, August 2015

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Environmental Compliance

Purdue University and its sub-awardees have conducted no volunteer assignments that have involved pesticides during the reporting period. We have no key findings or recommendations during the reporting period regarding limitations and successes of the PERSUAP and have no recommendations for technical assistance and training needed to improve pest and pesticide management practice. Purdue University has taken no action to assess and disseminate lessons learned and best practices in F2F pesticide use and management during the reporting period, nor have we assessed priority pesticide management needs in the program at large. Purdue University has identified no knowledge

gaps in pesticide safe use, IPM or other pesticide related issues at this time and has no recommendations regarding needed capacity strengthening.

Annex Four: Veterinarians Without Borders FY2015 Semi Annual Report

Veterinarians without Borders Leads Livestock Disease Surveillance Training in Uganda and Ethiopia:

Summary of major impacts and accomplishments

Drs. Andrew Clark, Corrie Brown and Thomas Graham spent 3 weeks in Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia in October 2014 to coordinate the implementation of Veterinarians Without Borders programs in East Africa. We successfully tied our work with existing programs in Ethiopia and Uganda; with Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps, CNFA, Heifer International, and African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AUIBAR), as well as introducing our work to the missions in Nairobi, Addis Ababa and Kampala. There is good synergy between VWB and multiple current projects. 400 copies of the Syndromic Surveillance Manual have been sent to each of the countries in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). We have been able to develop MOU's with Makerere University, Debre Zeit and are working with Mekelle University to create one with them, as well as other organizations that will support and directly benefit from this work.

In Ethiopia and Uganda, livestock production has vibrant cultural ties for both food production and wealth. Livestock are critical to economic livelihoods in rural areas. One goat can provide much needed income and even determine a farmer's ability to pay school fees for his children. Yet, transboundary animal diseases (TADs) such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Newcastle Disease, and Brucellosis are endemic to the countries. These diseases hurt farmers by interrupting the livestock value chain through production losses and stunted trade. Over time, TADs have had a negative impact on local economies and these effects have rippled through national economies, as well as throughout the East African region.

In November, Veterinarians Without Borders (VWB), a non-profit organization based out of Davis, California, sent a team of four volunteer veterinarians to southeastern Uganda to implement a course meant to increase surveillance and reporting of TADs. The course entitled *Syndromic Surveillance for Livestock Health* brought together the people on the ground- producers, livestock traders and marketers, animal health workers, and even butchers- with their sub-county veterinary officer and District Veterinary Officer (DVO) in order to build relationships and enhance communication between them. Each DVO is responsible for coordinating surveillance in their district and reporting TADs to the Ministry of Agriculture. However, due to poor communication between farmers and veterinary officers, limited resources and limited surveillance training, outbreaks often go unreported until it is too late. Increased, rapid disease detection and reporting from the field to the DVO could reduce or prevent major outbreaks, improve animal health and livestock trade.

The USAID Farmer-to-Farmer grant awarded to VWB is to implement training in transboundary disease control through both education capacity building and training in disease recognition, methods for diagnosis and disease reporting to respond to these diseases. The content of each workshop was developed in partnership with the African Union-Interafrican Bureau for Animal

Resources (AU-IBAR) Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (SMP-AH) initiative which was based directly on successful US models of livestock disease control. The SMP-AH is a framework for uniform surveillance, epidemiology, disease prevention and control of TADs throughout Africa. The framework was released by AU-IBAR in early 2014 in order to reduce disease and enhance trade in the region. VWB is collaborating on this project with the Ethiopian and Ugandan Ministries of Agriculture and Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF), and had the support of the Ugandan Veterinary Association. For community outreach and coordination, VWB partnered with a Ugandan NGO, the Multi-purpose Training and Community Empowerment Association (MTCEA).

They traveled to the southeastern region of the country and were based for the first two weeks in the city of Iganga to lead workshops in Jinja, Mayuge, Bugiri and Iganga Districts. From there, they traveled to Kamuli, Pallisa, and Namutumba for a total of seven two-and-a-half day workshops over four weeks. Prior to each course, the MTCEA program coordinator met with each DVO to get their approval for the course and to assist in selecting participants and community leaders who would take part in the seminar.

The text for the course was produced by USDA and AU-IBAR, "*A Field Manual of Animal Diseases by Syndromes, with Emphasis on Transboundary Animal Diseases.*" It was authored by Dr. Brown and 27 contributing authors from several countries in the East African region. The manual is meant to be used in the field as the pages are made from highly durable waterproof plastic that does not tear easily. Included are the most common TADs in Africa organized by species affected and symptoms. Photographs are used to show the clinical signs and pathologies associated with each disease, and drawings describe the number of animals affected, route of transmission, morbidity and mortality. Graphics were emphasized in place of text so it would be accessible to non-native English speakers and people of varying educational levels.

On average, each course had 25 participants comprised of 20 producers, traders and marketers, and 5 veterinarians including the DVO, subcounty veterinary officers and private vets. The course was taught using a variety of methods that encouraged active participation including sharing experiences, group work and teach-back exercises, rather than didactic lectures. By the end of the course, participants were expected to be able to use the field manual to help them recognize symptoms of TADs and feel confident in their ability to share their new knowledge with their community.

For each course, baselines were established for each district- cattle, chicken and goats were most commonly raised in the southeastern region, followed by swine. Participants reported outbreaks of TADs - at the time over 30 districts were under quarantine in the region due to an ongoing Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak. Without fail, producers faced outbreaks of Newcastle Disease in their flocks every year and some veterinarians reported treating Trypanosomiasis cases every week. Most stakeholders worked in a small geographic area- raising and trading their livestock within their community and occasionally to larger cities.

Each workshop was extremely rewarding, but not without challenges. While most people in Uganda speak English, it was important that each class was translated to the local language for those who did not. Participant discussions emphasized that this training is a small piece of the

puzzle to eliminate TADs in Uganda. Improved infrastructure such as reliable roads, consistent electricity and refrigeration capabilities are needed to transport samples and store vaccines. Additional diagnostic laboratories are also needed to improve the overall surveillance system as currently there are only two publicly funded laboratories that serve the entire country.

Having completed our second month-long training in Uganda, VWB's Farmer-to-Farmer grant provides funding for the next four years to make at least four more trips to Uganda during that time, with the hope of reaching 40 more districts and over 2500 people. The second training in December 2014-January 2015 covered the same subjects as the first training in November-December 2014, but worked with different host organizations. We intend to do much more than that and the next training program runs in August and September in the districts along the western shores of Lake Victoria. Working in the Ruwenzori region of Western Uganda was more challenging because the roads are less well developed. That said 7 districts were served with 250 people receiving our training.

As in Uganda, the grant provides funding for six surveillance workshops in Ethiopia which VWB will begin in June 2015 in the districts of the Oromia Region surrounding Addis Ababa. In Uganda there will be continued follow up with MTCEA, the District Veterinary Offices and the Ministry of Agriculture's Chief Veterinary Officer to measure the impact the program has on reporting of TADs. The success of our program can best be measured in long term improvement in livestock health, increased trade and economic growth in East Africa. Our target outcome is to work with the governments of Ethiopia and Uganda to capture reported transboundary diseases that are required by OIE and WTO for compliance in livestock and livestock product trade. This reporting is a part of the requirement of community level reporting to central authorities to recognize and respond to diseases of concern. The purpose of improving reporting for transboundary livestock diseases is to eliminate or at least contain these diseases to prevent outbreaks in nations receiving animal products from the exporting nations. This is a specific target and Dr. Michael Apamaku and Thomas Graham are working on a review of reporting systems in the East African Community.

We have begun to compile the baseline reporting data for disease surveillance that is already at the Ugandan Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries for required disease surveillance. Dr. Apamaku, VWB's COP for Uganda, has secured this information from the Ministry's Director for Animal Resources, Dr. Nicolas Kauta's office and we will extend this information both before this year and project this into the future. Dr. Apamaku and Dr. Graham are planning a review paper on disease reporting in Uganda and why the districts do and do not report these diseases.

We have partnered with Merck and their DVMDX (<http://www.dvmdx.com/>). DVMDX was initially capitalized by Merck and now a commercial reporting platform for veterinary producer interface. It is hoped this venue may help in disease diagnostics and reporting as it interfaces producers directly with veterinarians in a virtual framework for facilitated remote diagnostic support.

We will be interfacing with the International Livestock Disease Institute and Heifer International for some of our training programs that will encompass dairy specific needs requested by

President Museveni to support the highest value animals as well as the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to train slaughter personnel in proper hygiene and disease recognition and reporting.

Summary of major implementation problems:

The largest problems faced are language based. There are some limitations on transportation, equipment and communication capacity at the district level because of lack of funds for the DVO offices and their personnel to go to, examine and report back to the CVO. This will continue to be a challenge as long as funding limitations persist. Producers lack sufficient funds to support much of this infrastructure, but it may be appropriate to institute a “Check Off” program of assessing the slaughter facilities or perhaps the cattle marketers of a dollar or some equivalent low sum per head of cattle, \$0.25 for sheep goat and pigs, and perhaps \$1.00 per hundred head of poultry.

We have had excellent compliance on the part of the districts and their veterinarians as well as producers, marketers and others we have trained.

Planned activities for the next six months.

June

Fielding Ethiopia: Debre Zeit/Addis Ababa SSLH training

Corrie Brown (UGA and self-funded)

Linda Logan (TAMU)

Andrea Torres (Private Practitioner)

Jessica Kania (Washington State University)

Fielding Debre Zeit

Marek Mrzyglocki (Virginia Maryland) June- August

Alexandra Confer (Western University) June- August

Sharon Kim (Ohio State) July

Abebe Habtamu (PhD student working in Debre Zeit and will help coordinate activities with the milk cooperatives)

Gondar Gebreyes, Wondwossen (Faculty OSU) Coordinating

Fielding Uganda

Arua, West Nile region and Dokolo, Northern Kyoga region

Kellie Curtis (UCD) June - August

Alex Baker (UCD) June - August

Amanda Jara (UGA) June - August

Ellen Lapuck (Penn) June - August

Tyrell Kahan (Emory University) July-August

Stephanie Paultre (Virginia Maryland) July-August

Jessie Ingvalson (Minnesota)

Jennifer Jelinski (Minnesota)

Specific sites TBA

Partners: Coordinating Office for the Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda (COCTU),
National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO),
Makerere University,
Heifer International,
International Livestock Research Institute

**June-July Fielding Uganda: Central and District labs (Kampala
TBD**

Jessica Corner (Lead)
Nicole Gaither (TAMU)
Laura Hurst (TAMU)
Branden Nettles (TAMU)

August

Julianne Meisner (New York Practitioner who will work with Peter Rabinowitz at UW)
Jim Kincheloe (UCD) August
Scott Kramer (Michigan State University)
Brina Bunt

Future/Possible training and personnel

Slaughter Training with ILRI

Amanda Craig amcraig297@gmail.com (Michigan State University)
Chelsea Van Assche cvan.dvm@gmail.com (Michigan State University)

Radford Davis (faculty Iowa)
Kelsie Speiser (Colorado)
Malika Kachani (faculty Western)
Pat Conrad (faculty UCD)
Heather Berst (Hills Animal Nutrition)

Fielding Ethiopia: Afar Mekelle

November

Lori Maness (Wyoming, Afar/Mekelle in the fall)
Angela Dowler (Alaska, Afar/Mekelle in the fall)

TB, Brucella and Disease Reporting

Michael Gilsdorf mgilsdorf@nafv.org
Miladin Kostovic miladin@ellielab.com
Tyson Hartshorn tyson.hartshorn@newplanetek.com
Scott Nordstrom scott.nordstrom@merck.com

M & E Certification:

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