Team: Farmer-to-Farmer Commitment: Volunteer Location: Angola

**Citrus Nursery Management**

The John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program is authorized by the U.S. Farm Bill and managed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). F2F works to generate rapid, sustained economic growth in the agricultural sector through short-term technical assistance provided by U.S. volunteers and supported by highly trained local staff. A secondary goal of F2F is to increase the American public’s understanding of international development issues and programs, and international understanding of the United States and U.S. development programs.

CNFA is implementing F2F in the Southern Africa region, working in Malawi, Mozambique, and Angola. We rely on the expertise of U.S. volunteers from diverse backgrounds to respond to the needs of hosts. These hosts can be farms, processors, cooperatives, farmer associations, or other agricultural enterprises; they vary in size and commodity focus. Each volunteer assignment has distinct objective that are determined by the needs of the host organization.

**Issue Description:**

TOPGEL was founded and owned by Agostinho Pedro Gurgelo to conduct agro-livestock and agriculture, transportation, filling stations and warehousing activities in M’Banza Kongo. TOPGEL has 49 permanent workers and approximately 140 part-time workers who are hired during growing season. The farm currently grows a variety of fruits and vegetables on 9200 hectares of land. Besides, it also raises pigs, cows and poultry. To increase profit, Mr. Gurgelo plans to expand his business by producing quality fruits in large quantities for sales and providing citrus plants to smallholder farmers around Zaire province. TOPGEL has requested a Farmer-to-Farmer volunteer to help train them on modern grating methods and general citrus operation management.

**Desired Impacts:**

* Improve necessary production skills
* Evaluate and propose suitable varieties for the farm
* Increase production volume, sales and profit

**Desired qualifications:**

* Agronomist or expert on grafting of plants (especially citrus trees)
* Experience working with cooperatives of all sizes
* Able to develop a list of necessary equipment and materials to be used for grafting of plants
* US citizenship or permanent citizen of the US