**Farmer-to-Farmer Malawi**

**Jesus Is Lord Farm: Irrigation and Water 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**

Jesus Is Lord (JIL) Farm is a family owned business which started in 2003. The farm grows various high value horticultural crops such as tomatoes, green papers, eggplants, chilies onions and bananas. The farm also has small greenhouse structure which they use to produce these crops. The host’s vision is to fully venture into automated greenhouse crop production. The host uses surface irrigation system for the growth of their crops.

Jesus Is Lord Farm intends to fully venture into automated greenhouse crop production, but first need to address how to efficiently use the scarce water available for their production practices. The farm has requested assistance from a Farmer-to-Farmer volunteer to help them design and set up a drip irrigation system on the farm, and provide training on water management to improve the use of available water.

**Desired Outcomes**

* Design and install drip irrigation system on the farm
* Identify and implement suitable water management techniques

**Desired Qualifications of Volunteer**

* Experience in designing and installation of drip irrigation system
* Knowledge of water management techniques
* Experience working cross culturally in developing countries
* Willingness to work for a week or more in a rural Malawian town
* Previous experience working with rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa is preferred
* Must be citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.