**Farmer to Farmer – Malawi**

**General Factory Management –** **Phalombe Association**

**Farmer to Farmer description**

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**

Phalombe Association is a group of farmers who grow different crops, including: sunflower, soybeans, chilies and pigeon peas. Since forming in 2008, Phalombe association has 2000 registered members (1200 female, 800 male).

Phalombe Association recently received a grant from Farm Income Diversification Program and built a sunflower processing factory, to produce a high-quality sunflower oil that meets the specifications of the Malawi Bureau of Standards so that it can be accepted on the local and international markets. The members and leaders need to be trained on how to do the actual processing of the cooking oil and how to manage the factory in general. The group has requested a Farmer-to-Farmer volunteer to train them in basic factory management and sunflower cooking oil processing. Members of Phalombe are also requesting assistance with developing an efficient record keeping system.

**Desired Outcomes**

* The group is expected to acquire improved capacity to run their factory effectively and improve operational efficiency.
* Acquire skills in sunflower oil processing.
* High quality sunflower cooking oil produced.
* Efficient record keeping system developed and sustained.

**Desired Qualifications**

* + Experienced in factory management.
	+ Knowledge and experience of cooking oil processing.
	+ Previous experience working with rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa is preferred.
	+ Experience working cross culturally in developing countries.
	+ Willingness to work for a week or more in a rural Malawian town.
	+ Must be citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.