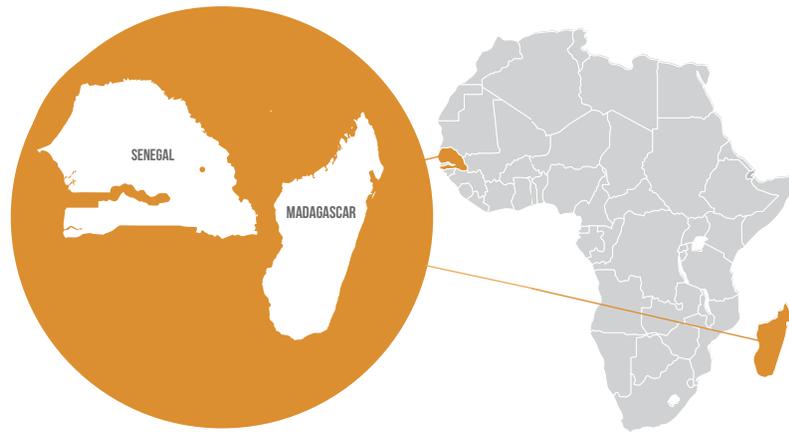


# USAID FARMER TO FARMER



HOURS DONATED  
IN 2016:

**645**

CLIENTS TRAINED  
IN 2016:

**2,900+**

## HOW DOES THIS WORK?

NCBA CLUSA identifies host organizations, plans assignments, provides logistics, translation services when needed, and covers all travel and trip expenses. Volunteers work on a wide range of activities, and often assistance is related to a larger on-going development program. A good volunteer has a technical background in the assignment area, as well as a background in training.



**Mollie Moisan of NCBA CLUSA member Pachamama Coffee, leads a business development training in Senegal with the Fedde Balal Allah women's group.**

## WHAT IS FARMER TO FARMER?

NCBA CLUSA's USAID-sponsored Farmer-to-Farmer program sends American farmers and agribusiness professionals on 2-3 week agricultural development assignments, promoting sustainable economic growth and agricultural development worldwide.

**The knowledge that Farmer-to-Farmer volunteers provide never runs out, never breaks down, is never misspent and is infinitely transferrable to others.**

Volunteer technical assistance from U.S. farmers, agribusinesses, cooperatives, and universities helps smallholder farmers in developing countries improve productivity, access new markets, and conserve environmental and natural resources.

NCBA CLUSA's Farmer-to-Farmer volunteers work in Senegal and Madagascar with farmers, producer groups, rural businesses, and service providers to develop the local capacity necessary to enhance food security, increase incomes and economic growth, and address environmental and natural resource management challenges.

As people who earn their livelihoods from agriculture, Farmer-to-Farmer volunteers are skilled at providing recommendations that local farmers can carry out using the resources that they have available.



## IMPACT: COMPOSTING THROUGH METAPHORS

Agriculture development professional and soil scientist Chris D'Aiuto spent two weeks in the remote Matam region of northeast Senegal volunteering as a composting and conservation farming expert.

"What I love about the program is its ground-up approach," D'Aiuto said. "This isn't an old, outdated model of development. It equips farmers with the knowledge and skills they want, ask for and need to become better producers, and I find that to be the most transformational type of development work."

To help smallholder farmers understand the concept of protecting and enriching their soil, D'Aiuto found himself relying on analogies. One in particular resonated with the women of Fonds de Solidarite, he said: "The soil is like a bank. You can't take out what you don't put in." That concept "just clicked" with the smallholders, he said. "They immediately understood that we can't just keep taking from the land. If we give it something, it will give back to us."

**"The soil is like a bank. You can't take out what you don't put in."**

D'Aiuto taught in-depth composting techniques to some 20 Community-Based Service Providers (CBSPs) to augment the USAID-funded Yaajeende project, which NCBA CLUSA is currently implementing in four regions of Senegal.

One of the CBSPs, a young man named Soulamon, had never undergone formal training—everything he knew about composting came from a Yaajeende brochure he had found. Still, he had already made and sold 25 tons of compost, earning 2 million francs (US\$4,000) in just a few months—more money than what most Senegalese make in a year.



**Chris D'Aiuto in Senegal leading a training on composting and soil fertility.**

## HOW CAN I VOLUNTEER?

Specific Volunteer assignments are available at:  
**[www.ncba.coop/ncba-careers/volunteer](http://www.ncba.coop/ncba-careers/volunteer)**

Or, contact our volunteer coordinator at:  
**[volunteer@ncba.coop](mailto:volunteer@ncba.coop)**

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and is the primary voice in the United States for people who use cooperatives to build a better world. We currently work in Africa, Asia and Latin America building resilient communities, promoting economic opportunities, and strengthening cooperatives and producer groups.



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