

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Individual Consultant to develop a policy brief for nutrition situation in Uganda.

To be conducted between (February 2025 – March 2025).

I. BACKGROUND

I.1. About the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss-based foundation launched at the United Nations in 2002 to tackle the human suffering caused by malnutrition. Working with both governments and businesses, we aim to transform food systems so that they deliver more nutritious food for all people. We aim to make healthier food choices more desirable, more available, and more affordable. GAIN's mission is to advance nutrition outcomes by improving the consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, especially the most vulnerable to malnutrition.

GAIN believes the challenge is to transform food systems so that they do much more to improve the consumption of safe nutritious food by the people who need it most. Indeed, transforming our food systems to make them work better for people's nutrition and health is one of the biggest challenges facing humanity in the 21st century. This challenge has framed our three interlinked strategic objectives:

- 1) To improve the demand for safe and nutritious foods,
- 2) To increase the availability and affordability of safe and nutritious foods, and
- 3) To strengthen the enabling environment to improve the consumption of safe and nutritious foods.

I.2. Background on GAIN in Uganda

GAIN has a strong track record in Uganda, mainly through the fortification programme in Uganda since 2007 and has supported the country through multiple initiatives:

- 2007- 2014 – Strengthening the National Food Fortification Program in Uganda. contributed \$2.4m grant to the Government of Uganda with Ministry of Health as executing agency to establish and roll out a national food fortification. This project resulted in the scaling up of fortification and passing of mandatory legislation for food fortification in Uganda.
- 2014-2015 - Expanding Nutrition Access by Building capability, linking initiatives, and Enhancing policy (USAID/PEPFAR). Building laboratory and regulatory systems for fortified therapeutic, supplementary, and complementary foods in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda (2014-15).
- 2015 – Fortification Assessment Coverage Toolkit (FACT) survey – in partnership with United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Makerere University, Department of Food Technology and Nutrition, School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bioengineering (SFNB)
- 2015-2017 – Human Capacity Building Initiative for the East, Central and Southern Africa (ECSA) in collaboration with ECSA-Health Community (ECSA-HC) with funding from USAID.
- 2017-2019 – ENABLE Project to build regulatory and industry capacity, improve coordination through the National Working Group on Food Fortification (NWGFF) and enhancing the enabling environment through third party or social audits e.g. by the spina bifida association. This project was implemented in collaboration with Private Sector Foundation of Uganda

- Working on Health Diets project and Part of CASCADE project, both funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2023-2024: Support to Ministry of Health to Undertake Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) and consumption survey in Kampala metropolitan schools.

Since 2011, Uganda has made progress in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, with the concerted effort of multiple stakeholders. However, chronic food insecurity and poor nutrition persist, with Uganda facing the triple burden of malnutrition: undernutrition, micronutrient deficiency, overweight and obesity. The country also increasingly faces the emergence of diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) which are compounding the issues. It is for this reason that GAIN plans to continue working closely with GoU and partners to advance scalable solutions to address these challenges.

Strategy: Contribute to implementation of Government Priority Nutrition Actions through support to Implementation of UNAP, NDP, PDM, MSME Policy, BUBU and import substitution strategy (Policies, Strategies, Regulations, Guidelines etc)

Priority Areas- Workforce Nutrition, Demand Creation for Nutritious and Safe Foods, Nutritious food Pathways, Multisectoral Food System transformation, Private Sector strengthening and mainstreaming into Nutrition Planning, etc.

Delivery Methods: Technical Assistance, Local Capacity Strengthening, Financial Support, Global and Local Advocacy for Nutrition, Nutrition Private Sector Financing, Public-Convening and Support of Private Nutrition Platforms (SBN) etc...

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY

The primary objective of the consultation is to support GAIN Uganda come up with an evidence-based policy brief, comprising a literature review of major policy documents to the subject that aligns with the GAIN global strategy and national priorities, stakeholders which appraises the gaps and opportunities of either a single specific or multistakeholder approach of GAIN entry. This will inform policy change, basis for awareness creation and call to action by both government and private sector.

The task will include a review of the status of the suggestive priority areas as indicated above. This analysis would ultimately inform and reinforce the strategic direction of GAIN Uganda's programmatic activities in this area. This will inform main activities for intervention in line with the benefits of implementing workforce nutrition program going forward.

1. Scope of Work

The individual consultant will be supervised by the GAIN Uganda Team (senior associate workforce nutrition, and project coordinator vegetables for all) or their representative, and where necessary, may work closely with GAIN's global Workforce nutrition team and Country Program Team in completing the tasks. The landscape analysis shall broadly consist of three synergistic components:

- 1) A desk review of existing evidence, literature, and documentation.
- 2) A mapping of key policy gaps in line with workforce nutrition and vegetables consumption
- 3) A field-based assessment and consultation of stakeholders and staff.

1.1 Specific Tasks

To support the delivery of the objective of this consultancy work, the consultant will:

- Review the current GAIN Uganda nutrition policy, UNAP, Uganda food and nutrition policy, and national development plan (NDP), Parish development model (PDM) and other relevant documents to align programming with.
- Facilitate brainstorming sessions with GAIN Uganda staff and selected partners to share key learnings
- Produce a fairer copy of the policy brief based on the work above aligned to GAIN global strategy and national priorities in the Uganda food and nutrition policy, Nutrition action plan, NDP and PDM
- Present the policy brief to the country team for final comments before finalisation
- Produce a compact, concise policy brief that lays out strategic direction and priority areas for intervention.

1.2 Final Reporting

The final report of the landscape analysis should include the following:

- Detailed but practical documentation of the primary methodologies used to collect and analyse data from various sources reviewed
- Concise, practical documentation of key findings from each of the three complementary activities
- Robust grounding of findings within the context of existing evidence and the socio-political context of Uganda, citing relevant sources as necessary
- Clear, evidence-based recommendations for GAIN interventions with the greatest potential impact or greatest fundable needs in the Country to strengthen the existing program in consideration of the interaction with other existing programs (if any) derived from identified gaps and opportunities and linked to specific evidence of funding or fundable opportunities from the donor mapping. This concise and focussed document will form the key deliverable, here known as the GAIN Uganda business plan. We will provide an example of a similar document from GAIN office in the region to aid compilation and focus.

2. Estimated Duration of Contract

The consultancy assignment will be conducted for around 45 days, spread between February and March 2025 and with **the submission of the report in End of March 2025 for maximum of 45 working days**

3. Key Deliverables

As outlined in the table below, the consultant is expected to complete and submit the following deliverables against the indicative schedule. A detailed time and payment schedule will be agreed upon with the consultant before signing the contract and grant agreement.

No.	Deliverables/Outputs	Level of Effort	Review & Approvals	Timeline
1.	Inception/work plan and methodology for the assessment and/or gap analysis with clearly defined timelines and outputs presented to GAIN	5	GAIN	February 2025
2.	Kick-off Meeting, Presentation of the work and discussion with GAIN, and revision of the work plan	half working day		February 2025
3.	Desk review of literature	10 working days	GAIN	February 2025
4.	Conduct consultations (Interview and FGD)	8 working days	GAIN	February 2025
5.	Drafting and submission of the first draft of assessment	6 working days	GAIN	February 2025
7.	Presentation and discussion with GAIN on 1 st draft report (workshop)	1 working day	GAIN	March 2025
8.	Revision and submission of Final Document (policy brief)	10 working day		End of March 2025
Total number of days (max)		45		

4. Key Roles and Responsibilities

4.1. GAIN Responsibilities

- Provide background information and contact details of internal and external key stakeholders, where necessary.
- Provide list of key documents to be reviewed, and links to those documents where possible.
- Provide detailed feedback on all the deliverables sent by the consultant
- Transfer payments as per the agreed contract and based on approval of deliverables

4.2. Consultant Responsibilities

The consultant will conduct the assignment by fulfilling the contractual arrangements in line with the ToRs

5. Budget

The consultant should provide the finance proposal which will be assessed by GAIN

6. Required Qualifications

The consultant will be selected based on the following set of skills and competencies:

- Strong experience in conducting assessments, particularly in the health/nutrition space
- Familiarity with the food and nutrition context of Uganda, including knowledge of existing programs and policies, and stakeholder networks.
- Significant professional experience in policy development and planning work within a government setting that involves public-private engagement
- Key understanding of food systems transformation approaches.

- Excellent written, and analytical skills
- Proven ability to work collaboratively as well as independently, manage multiple priorities, be oriented, and demonstrate initiatives
- Able to travel within Uganda

7. Submission Process and Evaluation Criteria

Proposals for this engagement must be sent by email to ugandainfo@gainhealth.org with the subject line 'Consultant for GAIN Uganda Business Plan' not later than midnight (27th January 2025)

The following requirements are requested in the proposal.

- One-page quotation including:
 - Suggested allocation of days for each specific task listed for this consultancy
 - Comments or suggestions on the TOR
- Cover Letter highlighting suitability and confirming availability for a given timeframe
- Two references

8. Confidentiality

All information provided as part of the proposal evaluation process is considered confidential. If any information is inappropriately released, GAIN will seek appropriate remedies as allowed. Proposals, discussions, and all information received in response to this TOR will be held as strictly confidential.