

Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit: Overall Takeaways of the 2025 Summit

Background:

The Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit is an international conference dedicated to global nutrition, galvanizing global and national actions to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With five years left to achieve the goal of ending malnutrition in all its forms by 2030, the 2025 N4G Summit offered stakeholders—governments, donors, philanthropic organizations, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector, and research institutions—several opportunities to engage in this effort, one of them being the formulation of commitments for the N4G Paris Summit.

With the aim of going further than previous summits, the 2025 N4G Summit strengthened its focus on three core areas and three cross-cutting themes¹, aligning nutrition with broader issues such as:

- Nutrition, health, and social protection
- Nutrition and the transition toward sustainable, climate-smart, and resilient food systems
- Nutrition and resilience to crisis
- Nutrition and gender equality
- Data, research, innovation, and artificial intelligence
- Finance and accountability for nutrition

Working groups and a dedicated governance structure were established to promote open and meaningful dialogue among actors from all continents, with the goal of moving the nutrition agenda forward and maintaining high-level political and financial engagement. The objective was to tackle malnutrition through a wider lens and to engage a broad range of stakeholders in formulating recommendations and examples

¹ More info on the N4G GAIN webpage - <https://www.gainhealth.org/nutrition-growth-n4g-summit>

of political and financial commitments across the six areas. These commitments² were expected to be bold, innovative, and SMART³.

As stakeholders can still register their commitments until June 30, 2025, the [Summit pre-compact](#) offers a preview of those submitted ahead of the event.

GAIN has been actively involved in the N4G Summit, from its engagement in the preparation phase and role in the Summit's governance, to its work with the private sector and participation in events it hosted, co-hosted, or sponsored during the Summit. In this article, we will explore the key takeaways from the N4G Summit.

More information on GAIN's involvement can be found on the [GAIN N4G webpage](#).

GAIN at the N4G Summit

While the official N4G Summit took place from March 27 to 28, 2025, N4G-branded and external side events were held throughout the week in Paris, showcasing the work and expertise of various organizations. Fourteen GAIN team members⁴ traveled to Paris to attend these events, with several participating as speakers.

Although attendance at the official Summit was by invitation only, we were pleased that both Lawrence Haddad and Aimé Kwizera were invited to take part in the main event as speakers. Their participation provided valuable opportunities to strengthen relationships and explore future collaborations with other high-level representatives present at the Summit.

GAIN N4G Major events

High-Level event: "Private Sector and Nutrition: Everyone's Business"

On March 26, 2025, continuing its long-standing work with the private sector, GAIN organized a high-level event titled "Private Sector and Nutrition: Everyone's Business." This event was co-hosted with the Paris Peace Forum (PPF) and the Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNI), both of whom have collaborated closely with GAIN over the past several months through an official mandate granted by the French government.

² https://nutritionforgrowth.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/EN-N4G-PARIS-Web_Guide_engagements.pdf

³ Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

⁴ Appendix: annex 1

The event brought together more than 170 representatives from both the public and private sectors. Building on the outcomes of the pre-summit open dialogues held in Paris in November and December, it served as a platform to celebrate the public and private sector commitments made under the N4G Summit. It also provided an opportunity to reflect on progress since the 2021 Tokyo N4G Summit, the challenges encountered, and the collective efforts required to achieve meaningful impact by 2030 through coordinated action, supportive regulatory environments, enhanced accountability and monitoring, and aligned strategies.

The morning session featured two panel discussions focused on the role of the private sector in addressing malnutrition. Speakers highlighted effective strategies, best practices, and the critical importance of collaboration with governments. Panel discussions clearly demonstrated that public-private partnerships and targeted nutrition investments are essential tools for tackling malnutrition. Success stories underscored this point, while panelists also stressed the vital role played by SMEs and MSMEs in improving food systems, and the financial barriers that continue to limit their scale and reach.

A key highlight of the morning was the launch of the [*Paris Declaration on Business and Nutrition 2030*](#), marking a significant milestone in advancing collective action. The declaration sets a solid foundation for a more pragmatic, investment-linked approach to improving nutrition and connects efforts to larger funding mechanisms. The meeting was met with strong attendance, positive energy, and notable speeches, without any significant opposition. It concluded with the announcement of N4G 2025 commitments from six organizations, followed by a closing address by French Minister Thani Mohamed Soilihi.

In the afternoon, six breakout panel sessions provided participants with the opportunity to dive deeper into specific topics. These sessions encouraged targeted discussions, insight exchange, and learning from key stakeholders. Attendees had pre-registered for the sessions most relevant to their interests, creating space for meaningful dialogue, knowledge sharing, and the development of potential partnerships.

GAIN side-event: “Healthy Diets, Healthy Planet: Shaping Food Systems for Change”

On March 28, 2025, GAIN hosted an N4G branding side-event in collaboration with BMZ and Irish Aid (IA) at the OECD office.

The event convened global leaders, government representatives, donors, development banks, and food systems experts to accelerate action toward resilient, equitable, and sustainable food systems that promote both healthy diets and planetary health. The session responded to sobering findings from the 2024 Food Systems Countdown Report

and the 2023 CAADP Biennial Review, which show food systems transformation is lagging globally, with particularly slow progress in Africa. It also showcased the Nourishing Foods Pathways initiative, a multi-donor platform strengthening national food system strategies, and explored practical innovations for repurposing agricultural policies, improving value chains, and advancing climate-smart agriculture. Government officials from countries such as Bangladesh and Ireland shared concrete experiences and challenges in navigating complex food systems reform.

The session was introduced by Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, setting the tone for an urgent and action-oriented discussion. This was followed by a dynamic panel discussion that brought together voices from international financial institutions (IFIs), research bodies, and the private sector to explore innovative financing approaches, enabling policy environments, and cross-sector partnerships. Discussions focused on mobilizing investments toward sustainable nutrition solutions, especially for the most vulnerable populations. Evidence and success stories were shared on leveraging sustainable food systems to prevent malnutrition and participants identified concrete, actionable solutions to support governments in promoting healthier diets, with links to key global processes like UNFSS+4 and COP29.

Kindly find the video recording of the session [here](#).

Villages of Solutions

On the sidelines of the N4G Summit, the Villages of Solutions for Nutrition took place from March 26 to 28. This unique exhibition brought together experts, innovators and engaged citizens from diverse sectors to explore and share concrete solutions to the challenges of global nutrition, with a particular focus on food systems innovations.

GAIN supported the participation of two SMEs: Galaxy Foods, a Tanzanian company offering a diverse range of affordable and nutritious off-market dairy products such as UHT milk, yogurt, and cheese; and Hunza Foods, a Pakistani MSME that transforms unsold smallholder fruit produce into fortified fruit bars. In addition, GAIN hosted its own stand, showcasing key initiatives including [I-CAN](#), [the Food Culture Alliance](#), and the [Food Systems Countdown Initiative \(FSCI\)](#).

More than 100 visitors sampled the SMEs' products during the event. The experience was a clear success, and both SMEs expressed strong interest in continuing to collaborate with GAIN in the future.

GAIN's takeaways from other engagements

GAIN team members attended a variety of sessions throughout the Summit. Notably, several of GAIN's programs and initiatives were highlighted during key events, including "*Local Investment for Global Good: Building Dairy Value Chains*" hosted by the Dairy Foundation, and the Scientific Conference held on March 26.

Sessions involving youth, such as “*Nutrition for Growth: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Food Systems Transitions*” hosted by Sciences Po Paris, stood out for the quality of discussions and the high level of engagement from the audience.

The Ethiopian government’s event, “*The Seqota Declaration Progress – from N4G Summit in Tokyo to Paris*,” continued the conversation on the vital role governments play in advancing nutrition. It showcased how strong national leadership, backed by evidence, can amplify the impact of development partners’ investments and scale up nutrition efforts. This message resonated with many of the discussions held during the Summit, particularly those emphasizing the success of public-private partnerships as a key mechanism for helping vulnerable countries achieve their N4G commitments.

Media engagement

Our communication team successfully coordinated high-profile media interviews with outlets including **BBC**, **Forbes**, **Reuters**, and others, tied to [an article in Nature magazine](#). Additionally, Lawrence Haddad joined Dan Saladino for a special segment focused on food systems on the BBC Talk show. These interviews helped elevate GAIN’s visibility and reinforce key messages around food systems and nutrition.

Furthermore, the N4G Summit provided an opportunity to enhance GAIN’s online presence. A series of interviews with high-level representatives were conducted during GAIN’s major events and will be shared across social media platforms in the coming weeks.

Takeaways on N4G Commitments

Hosted with strong support from the French government and key international partners, the Summit featured a rich agenda of high-level panels, side events, and networking opportunities. Over the course of the event, countries, development partners, foundations, and institutions came forward with significant policy and financial commitments, [totaling \\$28 billion](#), surpassing the 2021 total despite the absence of a U.S. financial pledge this year⁵. This increase was driven by renewed pledges from the EU, Ireland, France, Denmark, Spain, and development banks, among others. The event also saw new momentum among philanthropic actors, with the Bezos Family Foundation committing \$500 million.

In addition to financial pledges, the Summit underscored the importance of political leadership. Governments from countries such as Bangladesh, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Ethiopia shared compelling national experiences and

⁵ Please note that the 2025 N4G commitments announced in press releases may be revised or reduced following registration and evaluation through the GNR review process. Additionally, stakeholders have until June 30, 2025 to register commitments, meaning that this number is subject to changes.

reaffirmed their commitment to tackling malnutrition. Discussions highlighted the need for stronger alignment between climate, food, and nutrition agendas, as well as the critical role of data, accountability, and partnerships.

However, despite these promising developments, concerns remain regarding the allocation and transparency of the committed funds. There is still uncertainty as to whether these pledges represent new funding or draw from previously unspent resources, and a lack of clarity around how funds will be specifically attributed to nutrition programming.

Additionally, the Summit highlighted ongoing challenges in engaging more Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) to channel greater investment into nutrition. A key concern is that, due to their more advanced financial capacity and experience, large companies may benefit disproportionately from these funds—potentially sidelining SMEs, which are crucial for long-term, inclusive growth in food systems.

You can find the pre-summit compact [here](#).

GAIN N4G commitments

In alignment with its mission to enhance nutrition outcomes by improving the consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, GAIN registered two new commitments under the Nutrition Accountability Framework (NAF) to ensure accountability in achieving its objectives. These commitments build upon those that GAIN initially registered at the 2021 Tokyo N4G Summit. Please find them in this article [here](#).

GAIN engagement over countries

In preparation for the N4G Summit, GAIN team members across countries worked tirelessly to support governments in developing and submitting their 2025 N4G commitments. This support included numerous meetings and consultations aimed at guiding countries in formulating SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) pledges. Building on their previous commitments, several countries used this opportunity to reinforce their efforts and continue progressing toward the 2030 nutrition goals.

The following governments officially submitted commitments: Nigeria registered 4 commitments; Ethiopia submitted 13; Benin, 11; Bangladesh, 9; and Indonesia, 4. In the coming months, we expect additional commitments from other GAIN-supported countries, including Mozambique, Rwanda, Kenya, and Tanzania.

In the next few days, policy briefs will be published for each GAIN country that has submitted commitments. These briefs will provide a comparison between the 2021 and 2025 pledges, offering insights into progress and areas of renewed focus.

In addition, a series of insight articles are available [here](#) highlighting the efforts made by GAIN-supported countries during the N4G mobilization phase ahead of the Summit.

Appendix:

Annex 1: List of GAIN Team Members Present at the N4G Summit

- Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director
- Steve Godfrey, Director of Policy
- Bärbel Weiligmann, Global Lead Workforce Nutrition
- Royce Wiryohandjojo, Workforce Nutrition Program Manager
- Aimé Kwizera, Programme Lead, Nutrition Enterprise Development
- Eva Monterrosa, Programme Lead, Consumer Demand Generation
- Stella Nordhagen, Senior Technical Specialist
- Sarah LaHaye, Lead, Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN)
- Ninon Alaniou, Senior Associate, Innovative Finance
- Sadia Kaenzig, Head of Communications
- Sophie Healy-Thow, Partnerships and Engagement Officer
- Md. Abul Bashar Chowdhury, Project Manager, Food Fortification
- Genet Gebremedhin, Head of Policy and Advocacy, GAIN Ethiopia
- Wubet Girma, Ethiopia Country Director

Annex 2: Overview of GAIN Engagements During the Summit

| Date | Host | Title of the session | GAIN's role | GAIN team member(s) at the session |
|----------|---|---|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 24 March | Standing Together for Nutrition; Micronutrient Forum; GAIN ; I-CAN ; IFPRI | Investing in Integrated Climate and Nutrition Actions | Speaker | Stella, Md. Abul, Genet, Wubet |

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|----------|---|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <p>Micronutrient Data Innovation Alliance (DInA) ; Micronutrient Forum ; Food Fortification Initiative (FFI) ; GAIN ; Helen Keller International ; Iodine Global Network ; Nutrition International ; TechnoServe ; World Food Programme (WFP)</p> | <p>Accelerating action on large-scale food fortification (LSFF) as an essential component of sustainable, healthy food systems</p> | <p>Co-sponsor and Speaker</p> | <p>Sarah, Genet, Wubet</p> |
| 25 March | <p>University Mc Gill</p> | <p>Harmonizing Africa Data to Curb Malnutrition: A Food Convergence Innovation (FCI) to Support the Kampala Declaration and Improve Nutrition</p> | <p>Speaker</p> | <p>Lawrence</p> |
| | <p>Science-Po (Christopher HEGADORN)</p> | <p>Nutrition for Growth: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Food Systems Transitions</p> | <p>Speaker</p> | <p>Lawrence</p> |
| 26 March | <p>International Dairy Federation</p> | <p>Local investment for Global Good:</p> | <p>Speaker</p> | <p>Stella</p> |

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|----------|--|--|--|---|
| | | Building Dairy Value Chains | | |
| | Global Citizen, GAIN , Act4Food | The Traditional Roots of Resilience: Promoting Indigenous Food Systems for Climate Action | Co-organizer, Speaker | Sophie/ Act4Food Youth Leaders |
| | GAIN , Paris Peace Forum (PPF), Access to Nutrition (ATNi) | EXTERNAL: High-level event Private Sector and Nutrition: Everyone's Business | Co-organizer, moderator | Lawrence, Steve, Ninon. Barbel, Sarah, Aimé |
| | Ethiopia Govt | The Seqota Declaration Progress - from N4G Summit in Tokyo to Paris: Impact of Evidence informed government and development partners' investment and geographic scale up in the Expansion Phase (2021 – 2025). | Speaker | Wubet |
| 27 March | Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) - Bangladesh | Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation + Maternal supplementation | Supporting the preparations pre-Summit | Md. Abul |
| | Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, BMZ, Swiss Agency for Development | Healthy Diets: How to measure Dietary Quality? | Speaker | Steve, Ninon |

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|----------|--|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| | and Cooperation (SDC), FIDA, FCDO, Norad | | | |
| | Nutriset, DSM, GAIN | WITHIN SUMMIT AGENDA: Make (mal)nutrition everyone's business: how to catalyze private sector resources for impact? | Moderators | Aimé & Lawrence |
| 28 March | GAIN , BMZ, IA | Healthy Diets, Healthy Planet: Shaping Food Systems for Change - GAIN SIDE EVENT | Organiser & moderator | Lawrence, Steve, Ninon, |
| | Finance in Common, with the support of AFD | WITHIN SUMMIT AGENDA: Side Event Mobilising Public Development Banks for Nutrition | Participant & Speaker | Aimé & Lawrence |