



On 15 and 16 November 2019, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) will launch its second Student Challenge in collaboration with different Dutch universities. For two days, 50 students will work in interdisciplinary teams to develop sustainable and innovative solutions to one of GAIN's present-day projects.

There are many public discussions around food and nutrition issues in the Netherlands, but those have generally a strong national focus and revolve mainly around individual diets and sustainable consumption patterns. Less attention is given to food systems and nutrition in developing countries. Nevertheless, the Netherlands play a significant role in addressing international nutrition issues, for example through businesses, governments, knowledge institutes and non-profit organisations. To build the foundation for continued support from the Netherlands, it is essential to create awareness of international food systems and nutrition among young and future professionals.

With this Student Challenge, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition ([GAIN](#)) seeks to reach out to students from all study backgrounds to raise awareness about food and nutrition.

BETTER FOOD FOR ALL: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

Consuming nutritious and safe food is essential for all of us: it allows us to grow properly, live healthy lives, and raise healthy families. What we eat influences mortality and morbidity in all countries around the world. Eight out of the top 15 risk factors in the global burden of disease are related to poor quality diets.

Nutritious and safe food is often less available and more expensive than food with high levels of salt, sugar and trans-fats. The incentives for consumers to eat - and for businesses to supply - nutritious foods are weak. In addition, nutrition is usually not at the top of governments' agendas.

1 in 3 people worldwide are currently malnourished.

88% of the world's countries face a serious burden of either two or three forms of malnutrition (childhood stunting, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight/obesity).

Food systems play a critical role in addressing nutrition problems. In a food system, what is grown and what is eaten is influenced by a multitude of factors, such as laws and regulations, development policies, agriculture, food technology, logistics and consumer behaviour. Experts from all fields are needed to improve the food system, so that healthier food choices can become more desirable, available and affordable.

During the Student Challenge, students will work in small, mixed teams on one of GAIN's current projects. The aim is to develop sustainable and innovative solutions to improve the food system.

Through expert sessions, we will deepen students' understanding of the food system and the global nutrition situation. The students will get insights into the challenges faced when trying to improve nutrition and the international food system. They will also receive coaching sessions about how to work in interdisciplinary teams and how to pitch their solutions to a professional jury.

The winners will have the opportunity to present their solution to a broader audience: they will be invited to speak in front of the relevant GAIN project team, members of the GAIN management and other relevant stakeholders. Their solutions might even be implemented in the field!

ABOUT GAIN

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss-based foundation launched at the UN 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, especially the most vulnerable.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- Learn about (the challenges of improving) nutrition and the international food system.
- Learn about the activities of a global non-profit organisation by working on a real project.
- Receive expert advice to work in interdisciplinary teams.
- Learn to pitch a solution to a professional jury.
- Meet (international) students from all over the Netherlands and connect with food and nutrition professionals.
- Have the opportunity to develop innovative solutions that will be shared with GAIN's project team and may be implemented on the ground.

CURIOS ABOUT LAST YEAR'S STUDENT CHALLENGE?

[WATCH THE AFTERMOVIE!](#)

LOGISTICS AND REGISTRATION

The student challenge will take place on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 November 2019 in Arnhem (the Netherlands). The challenge is open to **max. 50 students** studying at a Dutch university (HBO and WO). Both Bachelor's (last year) and Master's students are welcome, and we encourage students from **all study backgrounds** to apply: we believe that diverse personal, cultural, and academic backgrounds provide a good environment for creative problem-solving. There are no participation fees and GAIN will provide food and accommodation for all participants.

INTERESTED?

Apply before 16 September 2019 by sending an email with your name, year and title of your current studies, and the name of your university to studentchallenge@gainhealth.org.

For more information on the *GAIN student challenge 2019: Better food. For all*, contact us at studentchallenge@gainhealth.org.

GAIN STUDENT CHALLENGE 2019: *Better food. For all.*

WHEN	15 and 16 November 2019 (incl. overnight stay)
WHERE	Hostel in Arnhem (the Netherlands)
COSTS	Free
LANGUAGE	English
ADMISSION	Max. 50 Bachelor's (last year) & Master's students enrolled in Dutch universities (HBO and WO). All study backgrounds are welcome.
REGISTRATION	Send an email to studentchallenge@gainhealth.org before 16 September 2019 . Please include your name, year and title of your current studies, and the name of your university.