

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF GAIN'S ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES

Issued by
The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

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I. PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF WORK

1. 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.

At GAIN, we believe that everyone in the world should have access to nutritious and safe food. We work to understand and deliver specific solutions to the daily challenge of food insecurity faced by poor people. By understanding that there is no “one-size-fits-all” model, we develop alliances and build tailored programmes, using a variety of flexible models and approaches.

We build alliances between governments, local and global businesses, and civil society to deliver sustainable improvements at scale. We are part of a global network of partners working together to create sustainable solutions to malnutrition. Through alliances, we provide technical, financial and policy support to key participants in the food system. We use specific learning, evidence of impact, and results of projects and programmes to shape and influence the actions of others.

Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, GAIN has representative offices in Denmark, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In addition, we have country offices in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Tanzania. Programmes and projects are carried out in a variety of other countries, particularly in Africa and Asia.

2. BACKGROUND

GAIN’s programmes focus on transforming food systems, so that they deliver better diets for everyone - particularly for the most vulnerable to malnutrition. Recognizing that food systems contribute to and are vulnerable to ongoing climate and environmental changes, GAIN is refreshing its environmental strategy to ensure a greater integration of environmental sustainability into its food systems actions to ensure that environmental implications and potential trade-offs are duly considered in decision making.

GAIN is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) and will be the administrative lead organisation for this RFP. The purpose of this RFP is to engage services of a Service Provider to support the development of standard procedures to evaluate the potential impact of GAIN’s programmes and projects on the environment and manage their environmental risks.

3. SCOPE OF WORK AND DELIVERABLES

GAIN seeks a service provider with demonstrated experience in supporting organisations to develop tailored and integrated approaches for evaluating the potential environmental impacts of their project and programmes, including tools and guidelines that can be used by non-technical audiences.

The purpose of this RFP is to engage services of a Service Provider to support the development of guidelines to facilitate the early and systematic identification and assessment of environmental impact and the integration and management of environmental risks into GAIN’s project design and implementation.

3.1. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this work is:

- To develop GAIN's environmental guidelines for the early and systematic identification and assessment of environmental impact and the integration of the management of environmental risks into project design and implementation.

The guidelines should be aligned with GAIN's project cycle. The consistent application of these guidelines is intended to generate knowledge on a continuing basis to enhance the quality of GAIN's projects and programmes. There are intended to be used by programmatic staff with limited expertise on environmental assessments. The guidelines should cover at least:

- i) procedures for identification, assessment and management of environmental impact during project design. These procedures should include a screening process for identifying and classifying environmental risks associated with a project. During project design, GAIN should be able to screen for the risks and impacts of the proposed project based on the available information using a checklist.
- ii) procedures for integrating the management of environmental risks into the project cycle. This might involve developing a mitigation hierarchy in which i) avoidance of adverse environmental impacts is the priority; ii) where avoidance is not feasible, minimize or mitigate risks to acceptable levels; and iii) where residual impacts remain, compensate for/offset them whenever technically and financially feasible.

The service provider is expected to work collaboratively with GAIN to propose procedures tailored to GAIN's project cycle.

The Service Provider will be expected to carry out tasks such as:

1. Review relevant literature related to GAIN's programmes (existing and planned);
2. Interview GAIN staff to better understand how programmes are adapted to each specific in-country context and the implications of this for the environment review (guidelines);
3. Present early drafts of the proposed environmental guidelines for feedback;
4. Ensure proposed guidelines meet environment-related requirements of key GAIN donors;
5. Prepare final environmental guidelines and any additional supporting documents

3.2. DELIVERABLES

Deliverable	Due Date
1. Brief inception report (max 5 pages/slides) that captures <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. understanding of the objectives of this project, roles and responsibilities, and project outcomes b. methodology c. GANTT chart 	April 20, 2020
2. Draft of environmental guidelines for GAIN's feedback	May 15, 2021
3. Final environmental guidelines and supporting documents	June 15, 2021

II. INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING

This section addresses the process for responding to this solicitation. Applicants are encouraged to review this prior to completing their responses.

1. CONTACT

Please direct all inquiries and other communications to the contact below. Responses will not be confidential except in cases where proprietary information is involved.

- rfp@gainhealth.org with Subject line: Environmental Review process - query

2. BUDGET

Applicants are required to provide GAIN with a detailed fee percentage proposal. The final budget amount will have to be approved by the organisation prior to starting the project.

3. FORMAT FOR PROPOSAL

The proposal needs to be formatted as follows:

- Objectives as understood by the consultant
- Description of the proposed methodology to reach objective
- Examples of previous work
- Budget

4. SUBMISSION

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- Brief technical and financial proposal (maximum 4 pages) including all the information requested in section 3
- Offer of services
- All of these should be included in the application email and sent to rfp@gainhealth.org with subject line: Environmental review process - proposal

5. DEADLINE

- Completed proposals should be submitted by email at rfp@gainhealth.org on 21 April 2021 with subject line: Environmental review process - proposal

6. UNACCEPTABLE

The following proposals will automatically not be considered or accepted:

- Proposals that are received after the RFP deadline at the specified receiving office.
- Proposals received by fax.
- Incomplete proposals.
- Proposals that are not signed.

7. REVISIONS

Proposals may be revised by electronic mail and confirmed by hard copy provided such revision(s) are received before the deadline.

8. ACCEPTANCE

GAIN will not necessarily accept the lowest cost or any of the Proposals submitted. Accordingly, eligibility requirements, evaluation criteria and mandatory requirements shall govern.

9. COMPLETION

- Proposals must be submitted on official letterhead of the lead organisation or firm and must be signed by a principal or authorising signatory of the lead firm or organisation.
- In case of errors in calculating overall costs, the unit costs will govern.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to understand the requirements and instructions specified by GAIN. In the event that clarification is necessary, applicants are advised to contact the responsible person at GAIN under section II. point 1., prior to making their submission.
- While GAIN has used considerable efforts to ensure an accurate representation in this Request for Proposal (RFP), the information contained in this RFP is supplied solely as a guideline. The information is not warranted to be accurate by GAIN. Nothing in this RFP is intended to relieve applicants from forming their own opinions and conclusions with respect to the matters addressed in this RFP.
- By responding to this RFP, the applicant confirms its understanding that failing to comply with any of the RFP conditions may result in the disqualification of their submission.

10. RIGHTS OF REJECTION

GAIN reserves the right to reject any or all submissions or to cancel or withdraw this RFP for any reason and at its sole discretion without incurring any cost or liability for costs or damages incurred by any applicant, including, without limitation, any expenses incurred in the preparation of the submission. The applicant acknowledges and agrees that GAIN will not indemnify the applicant for any costs, expenses, payments or damages directly or indirectly linked to the preparation of the submission.

11. REFERENCES

GAIN reserves the right, before awarding the Proposal, to require the applicant to submit such evidence of qualifications as it may deem necessary, and will consider evidence concerning the financial, technical and other qualifications and abilities of the applicant.

12. RELEASE OF INFORMATION

After awarding the Proposal and upon written request to GAIN, only the following information will be released:

- Name of the successful applicant.
- The applicant's own individual ranking.

III. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS SOLICITATION

1. NOTICE OF NON-BINDING SOLICITATION

GAIN reserves the right to reject any and all bids received in response to this solicitation and is in no way bound to accept any proposal. GAIN additionally reserves the right to negotiate the substance of the successful applicants' proposals, as well as the option of accepting partial components of a proposal if deemed appropriate.

2. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information provided as part of this solicitation is considered confidential. In the event that any information is inappropriately released, GAIN will seek appropriate remedies as allowed. Proposals, discussions, and all information received in response to this solicitation will be held as strictly confidential.

3. RIGHT TO FINAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PROPOSAL

GAIN reserves the right to negotiate on the final costs, and the final scope of work of the proposal. GAIN reserves the right to limit or include third parties at GAIN's sole and full discretion in such negotiations.

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be reviewed by the Selection Team. The following indicate a list of the significant criteria against which proposals will be assessed. This list is not exhaustive or 100% inclusive and is provided to enhance the applicants' ability to respond with substance.

Applicants are required to submit the following information, conforming to the guidelines given in this section:

- Understanding of the scope of work:
 - o Proposal shall demonstrate a clear understanding of the assignment's objective and deliverables as outlined in Section I.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the technical requirements of this RFP:
- Comprehensiveness of work plan and reasonableness of proposed time frame:
 - o Proposal shall include a feasible work plan to ensure successful completion of deliverables.
 - o The work plan details how activities will be coordinated.
- Detailed budget and cost-effectiveness of proposed approach:
- Management and personnel plan:
 - o The team members working on this project shall have the relevant qualifications and overall experience required to successfully conduct this assignment.
- A duly completed offer of services.

GAIN reserves the right to contact the individuals and contractor(s) in order to verify the information provided as part of the Proposal.

5. REVIEW PROCESS

The review process will involve a Review Panel with participants selected by GAIN.

6. LIMITATIONS WITH REGARD TO THIRD PARTIES

GAIN does not represent, warrant, or act as agent for any third party as a result of this solicitation. This solicitation does not authorise any third party to bind or commit GAIN in any way without GAIN's express written consent.

7. COMMUNICATION

All communication regarding this solicitation shall be directed to appropriate parties at GAIN. Contacting third parties involved in the RFP, the review panel, or any other party may be considered a conflict of interest and could result in disqualification of the proposal.

8. FINAL ACCEPTANCE

Award of a Proposal does not imply acceptance of its terms and conditions. GAIN reserves the right to negotiate on the final terms and conditions including the costs and the scope of work when negotiating the final contract to be agreed between GAIN and the applicant.

9. VALIDITY PERIOD

The offer of services will remain valid for a period of 60 days after the Proposal closing date. In the event of award, the successful applicant will be expected to enter into a contract subject to GAIN's terms and conditions.

10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Subject to the terms of the contract to be concluded between GAIN and the applicant, the ownership of the intellectual property related to the scope of work of the contract, including technical information, know-how, processes, copyrights, models, drawings, source code and specifications developed by the applicant in performance of the contract shall vest entirely with GAIN.

11. SCOPE OF CHANGE

Once the contract is signed, no increase in the liability of GAIN or in the fees to be paid by GAIN for the services resulting from any change, modification or interpretation of the documents will be authorised or paid to the applicant unless such change, modification or interpretation has received the express prior written approval of GAIN.

IV. OFFER OF SERVICES

1. Offer submitted by:

(Print or type business, corporate name and address)

2. I (We) the undersigned hereby offer to GAIN, to furnish all necessary expertise, supervision, materials, and other things necessary to complete to the entire satisfaction of the Executive Director or authorised representative, the work as described in the Request for Proposal according to the terms and conditions of GAIN for the following prices:
- a. Click or tap here to enter text.
 - b. Click or tap here to enter text.
 - c. Click or tap here to enter text.
 - d. Click or tap here to enter text.
3. I (We) agree that the Offer of Services will remain valid for a period of sixty days (60) calendar days after the date of its receipt by GAIN.
4. I (We) herewith submit the following:
- (a) A Proposal to undertake the work, in accordance with GAIN's requirements specified.
 - (b) A duly completed offer of services, subject to the terms herein.

OFFERS WHICH DO NOT CONTAIN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DOCUMENTATION OR DEVIATE FROM THE PRESCRIBED COSTING FORMAT MAY BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE AND NON-RESPONSIVE.

Date this day of Click or tap here to enter text. in Click or tap here to enter text.

_____ Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature (applicant)

_____ Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature (applicant)