

Expression of Interest

Management Information Systems (MIS) Development Partner for a Food Systems Programme in Nigeria

Issued by

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

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GAIN's procurement is conducted based on our procurement principles, including "a focus on ethical and sustainable procurement which requires us to take note of our legal and ethical commitments... in our procurement and supplier management."

We require all our partners, suppliers and service providers to familiarise themselves with our [Code of Conduct](#) (Code) and to adhere to either our Code or to their own equivalent code or set of behaviours.

This is addition to any relevant clauses and provisions in our contractual terms.

We also expect our partners, suppliers, and service providers to proactively inform GAIN, via the mechanisms detailed in the Code, of any breaches, potential or perceived breaches of its provisions.

Any supplier or service provider found to be in violation of these principles will be excluded from this process and may be barred from responding to future opportunities.

I. INTRODUCTION

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 The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. We currently have a presence and conduct programming activities in Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

About the Programme

The programme led by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and delivered by a five-partner consortium, aims to transform Nigeria’s agrifood system into an inclusive engine for dignified and fulfilling work for young people age 18-35, particularly young women, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and internally displaced persons (IDPs). The programme focuses on building the entrepreneurial capacity of youth and expanding employment opportunities that lead to dignified and fulfilling work.

By aligning with the donor’s purpose of poverty relief and youth empowerment, the programme provides the structural bridge that connects training and financial inclusion investments to tangible employment and enterprise opportunities within agriculture, manufacturing, and the digital economy.

Over a three-year period (2026–2028), the programme will catalyse a system-level transformation of Nigeria’s agrifood economy to enable 380,000 financially disadvantaged youth, particularly young women, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and internally displaced persons (IDPs), to secure dignified and fulfilling work and entrepreneurship opportunities across ten states: Kano, Kaduna, Niger, Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau, Jigawa, Oyo, Ogun, and Lagos.

Rather than addressing constraints in isolation, the programme intentionally rethinks how value chains function, from input access and production to logistics, processing, and market delivery, so that groups most affected by exclusion participate on fairer and more predictable terms. Focusing on the soybean, sesame, tomato, and ginger value chains, the programme integrates seven interlinked objectives that collectively strengthen the agrifood system: (1) enhance agricultural productivity, (2) more efficient agricultural supply chains, (3) improve processing and manufacturing,

(4) improve access to markets, (5) more inclusive agricultural supply chain, (6) expand access to affordable and inclusive finance mechanisms, and (7) strengthen institutional and systemic frameworks.

Ultimately, the programme aims to reach approximately 450,000 youth. Based on an ambitious effectiveness assumption of 85%, this is expected to translate into 380,000 youth securing dignified and fulfilling work and enterprise outcomes. See figure 1 for the Theory of Change of the programme.

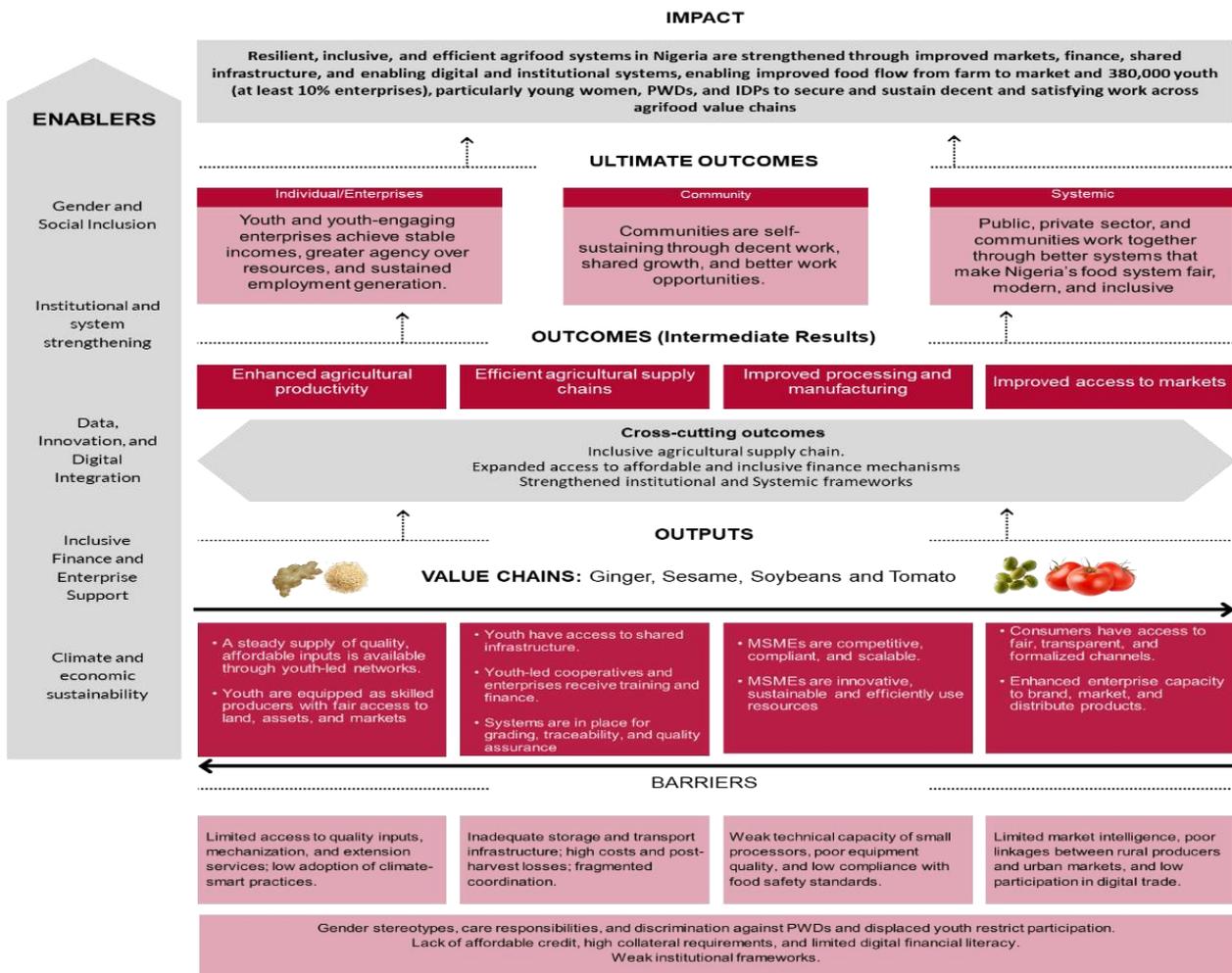


Figure 1: Theory of Change

II. BACKGROUND & TIMESCALES

The purpose of this Expression of Interest is to identify and shortlist qualified information systems development partner to design, develop, and deploy a robust Management Information System (MIS) for the programme. The integrated MIS is expected to support automated data integration, centralized programme data management, robust data processing, and advanced analytics and visualization to strengthen programme monitoring, learning, and evidence-based decision making.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to participate in a subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

The selected partner will be expected to design, develop, and deploy the MIS for full operational rollout by September 2026. The partner will also be required to provide ongoing technical support and system maintenance throughout the duration of the programme to ensure system reliability, performance, and scalability.

Set out below is the proposed timescale for this procurement process. This timetable is provided as a guide only. While GAIN does not intend to depart from it, GAIN reserves the right to amend the timetable at any stage if necessary.

1.	EOI issue date	16 March 2026
2.	EOI closes - deadline for submission	30 March 2026 5:00 pm CET
3.	GAIN to invite shortlisted Bidders to develop a full proposal, including a detailed workflow outlining how the MIS will be developed and made operational by September 2026.	6 April 2026
4.	Deadline for shortlisted Bidders to submit questions	10 April 2026 5:00 pm CET
5.	GAIN's responds to Bidder's questions	17 April 2026
6.	Deadline for submission of a full proposal	20 April 2026, 5:00 pm CET
7.	GAIN clarifications, evaluation & interviews with shortlisted bidders	4 – 8 May 2026
8.	Contract award - subject to negotiation & due diligence checks	15 May 2026
9.	Planned contract signature date	28 May 2026
10.	MIS piloting and pretesting	30 August 2026
11.	MIS operational rollout	30 September 2026
12.	Technical support and system maintenance	30 March 2029

Governance and Accountability

Governance arrangements, including the establishment of an Information Systems Working Group or equivalent oversight mechanism, will be confirmed prior to contract signature. Key deliverables and system milestones will be subject to review and approval by the designated oversight body to ensure alignment with programme requirements and technical standards.

III. THE OPPORTUNITY

The partner is expected to lead on the following elements:

System Architecture Design: Design the overall architecture of the MIS, including database structure, data pipelines, application layers, and integration frameworks.

Database Development and Management: Develop a centralized relational database capable of storing and managing large programme datasets efficiently, including participant level records expected to exceed one million entries.

Integration with Data Collection Platforms: Develop automated integration pipelines to connect the MIS with digital data collection platforms, including secure API-based integration with SurveyCTO and CommCare. It should also support the integration of additional data sources in the future where necessary.

The system should include data validation mechanisms to ensure data quality during data transfer, error handling and logging mechanisms for failed synchronization attempts.

Data Processing and Quality Management: Establish automated workflows for data cleaning, validation, and transformation to enable efficient data preparation, validation rules, and quality assurance procedures.

Data Visualization and Reporting: Develop interactive dashboards and reporting interfaces to enable visualization of programme indicators and operational data.

System Security and Data Governance: Implement appropriate security protocols including role-based access controls, authentication systems, data encryption, and audit trails to ensure secure management of data and compliance with data governance standards.

Deployment and System Hosting: Deploy the MIS within a reliable and scalable cloud infrastructure environment capable of supporting large scale datasets and multiple user access, including backup and disaster recovery mechanisms.

Documentation and Capacity Building: Provide comprehensive system documentation covering system architecture, data pipelines, database structures, and operational procedures. Additionally, provide training for staff to ensure effective use, management, and maintenance of the MIS.

Functional System Modules (not limited to and inexhaustive): The system should be capable of supporting the following functional areas

- Participant registration and management.
- Partner activity tracking, including training and capacity building activities.
- Monitoring, reporting, and dashboard generation of key results, including (but not limited to) areas related to agricultural production, aggregation, logistics, supply chains, access to finance, and market linkages.

Bidders may propose additional modules where relevant.

IV. ARCHITECTURE AND TECHNOLOGY CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed MIS should take into consideration the following:

Data Architecture: The MIS should use a robust relational database capable of managing large scale datasets including participant level records that may exceed one million entries, with efficient indexing, fast queries, and the ability to scale as data volumes grow. The system should include two data layers, Operational layer and Analytics layer.

The **operational layer** is expected to store and manage raw and transactional programme data captured from field monitoring systems and programme operations, while the **analytics layer** is

expected to host cleaned and structured datasets optimized for reporting, dashboards, and analytical queries to support programme monitoring and decision making.

Data Integration: The system should automatically synchronize data through secure API connections with various programme data collection platforms such as SurveyCTO and CommCare across the consortium partners.

Unique Participant Identification: The system should support deduplication mechanisms and enable longitudinal tracking of participants across programme activities and monitoring rounds, with system-generated unique participants IDs, deduplication algorithms, and phone number verifications.

Data Processing: The MIS should support automated data cleaning, transformation, and validation, with integration to tools such as Python and Power Query and the ability to export datasets for analysis and reporting.

Analytics and Visualization: The system should generate interactive dashboards and graphical reports through integration with robust business intelligence platforms to support programme monitoring and decision making.

Cloud Infrastructure: The MIS should be deployed in a secure and scalable cloud environment with reliable user access, automated backup procedures, and disaster recovery capabilities.

Security and Data Governance: The system should implement strong security measures including role-based access control, secure authentication, data encryption, and audit logs.

Scalability: The MIS should be designed as a modular platform capable of supporting future expansion, additional programme modules, and increased system demand.

Usability: Platform design should include features that promotes usability such as, intuitive web-based interface, mobile compatibility, user testing with programme teams as feasible.

V. INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

The selection of an MIS development partner for the programme will be managed through a 2-stage process. This **initial expression of interest** must be based on the information available in this request for Expression of Interest (EOI) only and does not represent a commitment to submit a full proposal should the additional details modify the interest. GAIN anticipates inviting 2-4 bidders to submit a **full proposal** under a Request for Proposal process.

In order to be considered for this work, please submit a response of no more than **4 pages** (including 1 page for the financial justification) containing at least the following information:

- Clear explanation of the bidder's understanding of the role of the proposed partner
- Brief overview of proposed approach
- Capacity statement outlining key proposed team members and overview of relevant experience
- One page overview and justification of anticipated costs in USD (excluding field data collection and costs to be borne by local partners). Budget figures submitted at EOI stage are indicative and non-binding and will be refined at RFP stage.

Preparing your response

- Bidders must obtain, at their own responsibility and expense, all information necessary for the preparation of response.
- Bidders should notify GAIN promptly of any perceived inconsistency, or omission in this EOI, or any of its associated documents.

Submitting your response

The EOI and any accompanying documents must be in English. Bidders must submit their EOI in the following way:

Email to both rfp@gainhealth.org and nquotation@gainhealth.org. The subject heading of the email should be '**EOI: Management Information Systems (MIS) Development Partner for a Food Systems Programme in Nigeria**'. All submitted documents must be viewable using the Microsoft Office or Adobe suite of applications. Your submission should not exceed 30MB.

Deadline

Completed EOIs should be submitted electronically to GAIN on **30 March 2026 before 5:00 p.m. Central European Time**.

Notes on submissions

- Bidders should not include in their submission any extra information which has not been specifically requested in the EOI for example, any sales literature etc.
- No response may be modified after the deadline for receipt.
- GAIN may request additional information from Bidders to assist further evaluation of responses.

Evaluation criteria

The following indicates a list of the significant criteria against which the EOI will be assessed (evaluation criteria for the subsequent RFP stage will be communicated to shortlisted bidders). This list is not exhaustive and is provided to enhance the applicants' ability to respond to this opportunity.

Technical quality of proposal

- Clear articulation of the respondents understanding of the scope of work and objectives
- Proposed approach for meeting the stated objectives

Team profiles and experience

- Demonstrated expertise and prior experience in the design, development, and deployment of Management Information Systems and large-scale data platforms.
- Clear description of the proposed team composition, including the roles, qualifications, and relevant experience of key technical personnel.
- Demonstrated experience implementing similar digital systems or data platforms within Nigeria or comparable operational contexts.

Commercial offer

- Total budget
- Value for money

VI. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This section constitutes the full conditions of this EOI and any subsequent procurement process, and participation in the process automatically signals that the Bidder accepts the conditions.

Jurisdiction

Any Contract resulting from this EOI and any subsequent procurement process, shall be governed by Swiss law.

Late Proposals

Any bid received after the deadline may be rejected at GAIN's absolute discretion.

Disclaimers

Bidders will not be compensated for costs incurred in preparing responses or proposals, submitting revised proposals or in participation in any meeting or presentation.

This EOI and any subsequent procurement process, does not commit GAIN to any course of action, it is not an offer or a contract and does not commit GAIN to contract for any of the services detailed within the RFP.

GAIN reserves the absolute right to:

- accept or reject any or all proposals with or without notice or reason
- accept or reject any proposal in whole or in part
- accept a proposal other than the lowest priced
- negotiate with any, all or none of the Bidders
- modify or cancel this EOI and any subsequent procurement process

Acceptance of Proposals

GAIN is under no obligation to accept the lowest priced response or proposal, or any response or proposal and reserves the right to reject any response or proposal which is incomplete, conditional, or not complying with the procurement documents.

A response or proposal may be for all or part of the Opportunity and may be accepted by GAIN either wholly or in part.

A response or proposal will not be accepted, in whole or in part, unless and until GAIN has signed a Contract in writing to the successful Bidder. GAIN reserves the right to:

- amend the terms and conditions of the procurement process
- cancel the evaluation and award process at any stage
- require the Bidder to clarify its Proposal in writing and/or provide additional information.

Failure to respond adequately may result in the Bidder not being selected.

Amendments

Prior to the final date for submission of response or proposal GAIN may issue amendments to clarify, modify or add to the procurement documents. A copy of each amendment will be issued to each Bidder and shall become part of the EOI.

Validity of Proposals

Proposals submitted in response to this EOI and any subsequent procurement process are to remain valid for a period of not less than 90 days from the RFP closing date.

Withdrawals

Proposals may be withdrawn at any time prior to the EOI closing date and time by written notice to the Company.

Interpretation of Requirements

Bidders are responsible for ensuring that they have all the information required for the preparation of their responses and proposals, that they satisfy themselves about the information and correct interpretation of terminology used in the tender documentation.

Bidders must also ensure that they are fully conversant with the nature and extent of the obligations to be accepted by them if their tender is accepted.

Assumptions

Any assumptions that have been made in responding to this EOI should be outlined in the Bidders response documents.

Confidentiality

Except as required for the preparation of this response, Bidders must not, without GAIN's prior written consent, disclose to any third party any of the contents of the EOI documents. Bidders must ensure that their employees, consultants, and agents also are bound and comply with this condition of confidentiality.

Feedback to unsuccessful Bidders

GAIN appreciates that significant time and resource go into preparing a tender response and tries to ensure that feedback is provided to unsuccessful Bidders. However, while we would like to provide individual feedback on the status of each EOI, the volume of submissions received sometimes makes this impractical. Therefore, if you do not receive feedback within two (2) weeks after the EOI submission deadline, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Please note that GAIN does not share detailed scoring information with unsuccessful Bidders.

Inconsistencies and omissions

Bidders must promptly advise the Company in writing of any inconsistencies and omissions they discover in the EOI.

EOI documents

Bidders must destroy all copies of the EOI document if unsuccessful within 30 days of being notified they have not been successful (either issued by GAIN or created by the Bidder).

Disclaimers

Whilst the material in this EOI and the Information has been prepared in good faith, it does not purport to be comprehensive, nor has it been independently verified.

Neither GAIN nor their advisors, their respective directors, officers, members, partners, employees, other staff or agents makes any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the Information; or accepts any responsibility for the information contained in the Information or for their fairness, accuracy or completeness of that Information nor shall any of them be liable for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation) arising as a result of reliance on such Information or any subsequent communication.

Collusive behaviour

Any Bidder who:

- fixes or adjusts the amount of their response or proposal by or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other party; or
- communicates to any party other than GAIN the amount or approximate amount of its responses or information which would enable the amount or approximate amount to be calculated (except where such disclosure is made in confidence to obtain quotations necessary for the preparation of the response or insurance or any necessary security); or
- enters into any agreement or arrangement with any other party that such other party shall refrain from submitting a response or proposal; or
- enters into any agreement or arrangement with any other party as to the amount of any response or proposal submitted; or
- offers or agrees to pay or give or does pay or give any sum or sums of money, inducement, or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any party for doing or having done or causing or having caused to be done in relation to any response or proposal any act or omission;

shall (without prejudice to any other civil remedies available to GAIN and without prejudice to any criminal liability which such conduct by a Bidder may attract) be disqualified.