

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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CONSULTANT SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL ANALYSIS OF INTEGRATION OF POLICY, FINANCE AND ACTION FOR THE INITIATIVE ON CLIMATE ACTION AND NUTRITION

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 the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In addition, we have country offices in Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Programmes and projects are carried out in a variety of countries, particularly in Africa and Asia.

2. Background

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP) and will be the administrative lead organisation for this RFP.

GAIN, alongside our partners WHO (World Health Organization), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization), UNEP (UN Environment Programme) and SUN (Scaling Up Nutrition) movement are co-leading on the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN). I-CAN is a multistakeholder, multisectoral global flagship initiative that will help foster collaboration and integrative action to accelerate transformative action to address the critical nexus of climate change and nutrition. I-CAN was launched during COP27 under the Presidency of the Government of Egypt.

In 2023, I-CAN published a report, [Accelerating Action and Opening Opportunities, A Closer Integration of Climate and Nutrition](#), also termed the ‘I-CAN Baseline Assessment’, which aimed to provide a snapshot into the current state of integration between climate and nutrition across 13 indicators in policy, research and financing. Uptake of the report has been substantial with thousands of webpage views and downloads. Many of the results have been used in remarks and speeches by senior figures including Qu Dongyu, Director-General of FAO and Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of WHO (recorded [here](#) with more than 15,000 views).

I-CAN plans to renew this analysis in 2025, providing an update on progress made in the last two years and continuing to advance I-CAN’s goals to advocate for greater integration between climate and nutrition action. We plan to conduct this analysis and overall preparation of the report from August 2025 prior to its launch at COP30 in November.

The I-CAN progress report aims to:

- Provide a **mirror** to reflect where the global community currently stands, tracking progress since the original report was conducted in 2023
- Act as a **spotlight** to uncover missed opportunities for synergy between climate and nutrition
- Serve as a **beacon** to guide future actions through highlighting examples of best practice

The purpose of this RFP is to engage a Service Provider to conduct analysis on climate-nutrition integration and develop an updated I-CAN progress report, including analysis of:

- Policy documents including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Climate National and Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Nutrition Plans (NNPs), food-based dietary guidelines (FBDGs), and public procurement policies.
- Development and climate financing portfolios including assessing project portfolios of the World Bank, the Green Climate Fund, on Official Development Assistance (ODA), other multilateral climate funds, and regional development banks.
- Other policies, documents, reports, databases, portals tools or other knowledge outputs as outlined in the scope of work below.

A methodology document will be provided to the Service Provider outlining how to conduct the analysis, including on the levels and classification system, the development rationale behind the methodology, and outlining changes since the first version of the baseline report. The methodology will closely (but not exactly) align to that used for the analysis in the previous baseline report in 2023, outlined in Annex 2 of the report.

The GAIN team and I-CAN partners will provide some support the Service Provider in sourcing the relevant policy documents, including providing copies of these where available in datasets that I-CAN partners have access to, but the final responsibility for obtaining documents will lie with the Service Provider.

3. Scope of Work and Deliverables

3.1. Objectives

- Repeat and update the analysis conducted in the 2023 baseline report to demonstrate changes in the level of integration between climate and nutrition since its publication
- Expand the indicator set in the original report, incorporating additional relevant metrics, to be decided upon by GAIN, that address gaps and broaden the thematic scope of the original report
- Generate deeper insights from the updated analysis including:
 - Regional variations
 - Differences by country income levels or development status
 - Representation of other cross-cutting themes (e.g. gender, use of food security framing vs nutrition)
- Develop targeted recommendations for policymakers, funders and key stakeholders to strengthen the integration of climate and nutrition action
- Identify and document best practices by selecting illustrative case studies which showcase effective integration fo climate and nutrition policies or programmes
- Synthesize key findings and contribute to the drafting of a flagship report for publication and dissemination ahead of COP30

3.2. Indicators for analysis

The following indicators will be included in the updated report. Those in italics are additions to the 2023 report.

Policy Indicators
Number of NDCs that include nutrition-related actions
Number of climate NAPs that include nutrition-related actions
Number of National Nutrition Plans (NNPs) that refer to climate
Number of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that recognize interlinkages between biodiversity, climate resilience, and nutrition outcomes
<i>One additional indicator based on analysis of high-level national strategies, to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners e.g. national climate plans,</i>
Global Nutrition Report tracks nutrition-promoting climate adaptation actions
Number of country food-based dietary guidelines that include climate considerations
<i>One additional indicator based on policy related to food systems to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners e.g. food loss and waste strategies, food systems pathways</i>
Number of countries that have conducted a climate change and health vulnerability assessment (V&A) which included nutrition
<i>One additional indicator based on policy related to health and climate to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners e.g. Health National Adaptation Plans (HNAPs)</i>
Number of countries that factor climate into food procurement decisions for food in public settings (e.g., school meals and school feeding, health and care facilities), as well as safety nets and emergency programmes
<i>One additional indicator based on policy related to social protection and climate to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners e.g. climate shock-responsive social protection mechanisms</i>
<i>One additional indicator based on policy related to water systems and climate to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners e.g. national water plans</i>
Finance Indicators
Value of Green Climate Fund initiatives that include nutrition considerations
Value of Global Environment Fund initiatives that include nutrition considerations
Value of World Bank loans that are nutrition and climate supporting
<i>Two additional assessments of the value of investments of regional development banks to be confirmed by GAIN and I-CAN partners</i>
Value of ODA to climate that is linked to nutrition
Number of companies in World Benchmark Alliance that score well on nutrition and sustainability

3.3. Deliverables

Deliverables	Ideally On or Before
Excel template and analysis of 1-2 policy indicators including detailed notes on sources, justification for the final findings, and other relevant information for review and feedback from the GAIN team to ensure alignment to the I-CAN methodology	August 15 th 2025
Analysis of 13 policy indicators as outlined above for all countries, shared in an Excel file in the agreed template with the full list of countries analysed including detailed notes on sources, justification for the final findings, and other relevant information	September 5 th 2025
Analysis of 7 finance portfolios as outlined above using the I-CAN methodology, shared in an Excel file with the full list of grants analysed including calculation of total portfolio value, detailing notes, sources, justification for the final findings, and other relevant information	September 5 th 2025
Draft report showing findings and recommendations, including charts, graphs, other data visualisation, an appendix on the methodology, and full citations and bibliography list	September 19 th 2025
Final version of report, incorporating feedback received from GAIN and I-CAN partners	October 24 th 2025
Slide deck presenting key findings in a concise and visually appealing format, using I-CAN branding (branding guide will be provided)	October 24 th 2025
Folder containing all data files and policy documents used for the analysis, clearly labelled	October 31 st 2025

All deliverables will be reviewed by GAIN, with feedback provided to the Service Provider needing to be addressed before the final deliverable is accepted.

3.4. Timing:

The work is expected to begin in early August 2025 and be completed by 31 October 2025, to enable publication of the report before UNFCCC COP30.

4. Expected Expertise

The applicant must:

- Have demonstrable knowledge in climate adaptation and mitigation, nutrition, food systems, and other key thematic areas e.g. agriculture, water, social protection, and health
- Have prior experience conducting policy and development finance analysis, ideally on projects related to the international NGO / UN system / multilateral space related to policy or advocacy with experience in producing high-level knowledge products
- Have a good attitude towards working in the international development space and awareness on how to interact with UN and other partners
- Experience working on government processes or with policymakers, in academia (familiar with peer-reviewed journals and publication), or prior knowledge on I-CAN would be an asset
- French and / or Spanish language skills would be an asset

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.

5. 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.

Jessica Colston, Lead, Environment and Nutrition, GAIN London

Email: jcolston@gainhealth.org

Catherine Lok, Technical Specialist, Knowledge Leadership, GAIN London

Email: xllok@gainhealth.org

6. Budget

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

7. Format for Proposal

The proposal needs to be formatted as follows:

- One PDF or Word document (maximum 10 pages) outlining how the Service Provider intends to deliver on the work, relevant previous experience, and showing understanding of the work required.
- PDF or Word document (single page) outlining the detailed fee proposal and breakdown
- Applicant's CV(s) (optional)

8. Submission

8.1. All proposals should be submitted by email only to the contact(s) noted above.

9. Deadline

Completed proposals should be submitted by email on or before **July 27th, 2025** Central European Time at 11:59 pm.

10. Unacceptable

The following proposals will automatically not be considered or accepted:

- Proposals that are received after the RFP deadline.
- Proposals received in formats other than by email.
- Incomplete proposals.
- Proposals that are not signed.

11. 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.

12. Completion

- For proposals from firms, 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 4, 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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. Release of Information

After awarding the Proposal and upon written request, GAIN may or may not choose to release information on the successful applicant and feedback for unsuccessful applicants, at the discretion of the reviewing team and depending upon the volume of proposals received.

III. Terms and Conditions of this Solicitation

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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:
 - Proposal shall demonstrate a clear understanding of the project objective and deliverables.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the technical requirements of this RFP:
 - Providing detailed technical documentation of the proposed strategy.
 - Evidence of experience delivering solutions relevant to the request.
- Creative and methodological approaches required to implement each of the parts of the scope of work.
- Comprehensiveness of work plan and reasonableness of proposed time frame:
 - Proposal shall include a feasible work plan to ensure successful completion of deliverables.
 - The work plan details how activities will be coordinated.
- Detailed budget and cost-effectiveness of proposed approach:
 - Evidence of cost-effective approaches to undertaking the scope of work within the proposed budget.
 - Proposal shall identify possible challenges and include creative approaches to addressing them.
- Management and personnel plan:
 - The team members working on this project shall have the relevant qualifications and overall experience required to successfully implement the project.
 - Roles and responsibilities of each team member shall be clearly defined. GAIN shall have one main contact person clearly identified in the proposal.
- 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.

20. Review Process

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

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. 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 may be expected to enter into a contract subject to GAIN's terms and conditions.

25. 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.

26. 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)