

Q&A – Quantitative Impact Evaluation:

“Combating Malnutrition in Rwanda Through Sustainable Food Systems Programme (CMRFS)”

This document provides answers to the queries addressed to GAIN concerning the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Quantitative Impact Evaluation for CMRFS. Similar or related queries have been grouped together for simplicity.

As stated in the RFP document, responses are not confidential unless the applicant explicitly indicates that proprietary information is involved.

Questions & Answers:

1. Can the deadline be extended to the 13th of October 2025?
 - a. Yes, we can extend the deadline until Monday, October 13th, 2025.
2. Can GAIN provide more detailed guidance on the specific impact indicators and outcomes they prioritize for the impact evaluation, especially regarding dietary diversity and anthropometric measures?
 - a. For the impact evaluation, we have proposed the use of Minimum Diet Diversity for Women (MDD-W) and the IYCF indicators Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD) score or Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) indicator.
 - b. The evaluation will not include collection of anthropometric data, or inclusion in main statistical analysis. However, the evaluator will present a descriptive synthesis of anthropometric data from DHS 2025 and DHS 2030 as part of the situation analysis in baseline and endline reports.
3. What support or guidance will GAIN provide in obtaining ethical approval from the Rwanda National Ethics Committee and other relevant authorities, and are there specific requirements or procedures we should anticipate?
 - a. It is the responsibility of the contractor to compile the necessary IRB submission materials. Please follow the guidance given by the Rwanda National Ethics Committee and other relevant authorities. GAIN can provide a letter of introduction and introduction to relevant authorities if that is helpful.
4. How involved will GAIN be in community entry and engagement processes during data collection, and are there existing partnerships or protocols we should align with?
 - a. GAIN has relationships with local community stakeholders/leaders and can provide assistance with introductions. We will also assist in the protocol for introductions in alignment with local expectations. We can also assist with giving the contractor and enumerators a letter explaining the programme and its purpose.
5. Are there any specific expectations or formats for the detailed budget proposal, and can GAIN clarify the process for staged contracting and deliverables management to ensure alignment with the project timeline?
 - a. There is not a specific format for the detailed budget proposal.
 - b. There will be separate contracts for each deliverable phase with payments being made upon completion of that section of work. GAIN will work with the selected contractor on the details of these contracts.

Please see the table below for the proposed sections:

Contract Phase	Description of Items Included
Phase 1: Inception/Baseline	Inception: Presentation, Report, and Evaluation Design Baseline: Dataset, Presentation, Report, Policy Brief, and Dissemination Materials
Phase 2: Midline	Dataset, Presentation, Report, Policy Brief, and Dissemination Materials
Phase 3: Endline	Dataset, Presentation, Report, Policy Brief, and Dissemination Materials

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6. Upon a detailed review of the RFP, we believe that the scale and complexity of the requested services—particularly the requirement for three rounds of data collection and the inclusion of a control group—may not be fully supported by the currently indicated budget. In our assessment, the proposed ceiling may limit the ability to implement a robust study design and ensure adequate quality control measures. We would greatly appreciate your guidance on whether there is any flexibility in the budget ceiling, or if proposals exceeding the stated limit will still be considered.
 - a. We understand that the budget ceiling is somewhat restrictive. We would be happy to receive proposals with two budget scenarios, in line with the current budget and a slightly higher budget ceiling. Please also provide a sense of the respective limitations or benefits of the two scenarios.