
1. OVERVIEW- THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION

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

Continuous built-in improvement strategies

Traditionally GAIN's nutrition programs roll out in stages: formative research, design development and testing, implementation roll out, evaluation. While a strong proponent of this approach and committed to evaluation, GAIN has learnt that there are several constraints to this model, in particular in the context of public-private partnerships where timeframes for learning and improvement are shorter. Often the cost and time commitment from business for the design and implementation of programs must be kept to a minimum or the engagement of business may waiver. Yet GAIN acknowledges that without continuous adaptability, the potential for impact of any program is minimized.

As a result, GAIN has started testing the use of continuous quality improvement (CQI) approach in its Workforce Nutrition programs, specifically the Model for Improvement framework.¹ GAIN and its CQI consultants are currently undergoing a self-reflection and assessment of the application of CQI in its programs.

¹ Langley GJ, Moen RD, Nolan KM et al. The improvement guide: a practical approach to enhancing organizational performance (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2009) 2nd edition.

In parallel, GAIN is interested in understanding the wider landscape of quality improvement methodologies and the advantages and disadvantages of them in various organizational or programmatic settings. We believe these two reviews will help to better assess the use of CQI in GAIN programmes in the future.

3. CONSULTANCY OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

GAIN is seeking to commission independent consultant(s) for a duration of approximately 15 days to conduct this review. The review will assess a wide range of quality measurement approaches (see Annex as an example but others should be also considered) and their application in various programmatic and organizational contexts, with a particular focus on the recommendations for their application on public-private sector programme partnerships like those in which GAIN is engaged.

It is anticipated that the scope of work would include:

- a literature review of a wide range of quality measurement approaches
- a critical review of their relative advantages and disadvantages
- a recommendation for their application in programs dependent on public private partnerships
- development of paper for open-source publication in an journal

4. DELIVERABLES

In completing these key tasks, the following deliverables will be generated as output:

- An outline of the manuscript for GAIN comment
- Brief for GAIN on recommendations including the advantages and disadvantages of various QI approaches
- Peer-review publication of the review into a journal of the author's suggestion.

5. ELIGIBILITY

Proposals will be accepted from experienced individuals that meet the following requirements.

1. Background and previous history in undertaking similar assignments.
2. Expertise in theoretical and applied continuous quality improvement approaches
3. Strong history of peer review publications in the content area

6. APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

If interested, please submit a **letter of interest** in electronic copy to rfp@gainhealth.org with a reference line "**Letter of Interest: QI Review Paper**" on or before **15th October** for consideration. In the letter of interest please include your qualifications, track record, proposed approach, timeline and cost.

Annex: The quality continuum (courtesy Nana Twum-Danso, powerpoint slide)

