

Terms of Reference (ToR)

For

Individual Consultant to write features and develop audio-visual case studies on Nutrition Security for the Vulnerable Workers during COVID-19 to influence and social change

Organization Background:

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) began its journey in 2002 through the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Children with the vision of a world without malnutrition. GAIN's purpose is to advance nutrition outcomes by improving the consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, especially those most vulnerable to malnutrition. GAIN has been working with the food country government, businesses, development partners, civil society, research, and academia to increase their ability to improve consumers' access to nutritious foods. Instead of contributing to the nutrition problem, food systems need to become a bigger part of the nutrition solution. GAIN has adopted three interlinked strategic objectives: 1. to improve the demand for safe, nutritious foods, 2. to increase the availability and affordability of safe, nutritious foods, and 3. to strengthen the enabling environment to improve the consumption of safe, nutritious foods on all this strategic objective include food system and private sector engagement. For more inquiries, please visit: <https://www.gainhealth.org/>

Project background:

Ready-Made Garment (RMG) sector employs more than 3.5 million workers, contributing 82% of the total export income. Nutrition plays a vital role in improving the well-being and productivity of workers. This translates into economic growth as well as greater motivation for the workers. According to the study by the International Labour Office (ILO), inadequate nourishment can cut productivity by up to 20%. In Bangladesh, 43% of the female garment workers are chronically malnourished. It is explicit that inadequate, poor quality diet and hygiene practice can lead to malnutrition, diseases, and lower work performance. The COVID-19 has had an overwhelmingly negative impact on vulnerable workers in the food system and ready-made garment (RMG) sector. The wage-based workers and farmers are some of the most devastated by the covid-19 pandemic. Female workers are particularly at risk due to increased childcare and food provision responsibilities within the household. Food system workers are increasingly being considered part of society's essential services and should be protected as such. Producers, processors, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers play a critical role in keeping food available and accessible to vulnerable consumers. The RMG sector supply chain workers in low paid jobs are being laid off due to businesses unable to operate in government lockdowns for many months. In Bangladesh RMG industry alone over 1,000 factories got canceled orders from buyers in turn affecting 2.27 million workers and lost export revenue of \$3.17 billion. Due to COVID-19, all factories will face challenges to get back on track for their business and continue to provide standard wages and a nutritious diet at the workplace. The RMG workers' household's income of approximately 31% has reduced while increased 29% of their food cost. Along with that, the other wage-based labor is probably experiencing the same situation. This less income and increased food cost will fling them to consume a low-cost carbohydrate-based diet. The crisis has exposed and compounded the negative impact on accessing nutritious and safe foods by the workers in the workplace and at home. In this situation, the health and wellbeing of the workers are likely to be significantly affected. Failing to act to protect workers' health and nutrition may result in irreversible damage and long-term negative impacts on productivity as well as the supply chain. Investing in the short- and long-term nutrition security (and therefore resilience) of these workers brings benefits to individuals, businesses, and society. Many employers have limited financial and technical capacity to act on the pandemic response for the nutrition security of their workers. In some instances, short-term nutritious and safe food provision may help workers to reduce irreversible damage and long-term negative impacts on productivity that will contribute to keeping a sustainable product supply chain. GAIN is going to allocate short-term emergency grants to partner companies to maintain or provide the short-term provision of nutritious foods to workers for 2 months at a time and will cover more than 10,000 workers. The food item and worker selection will be based on the set criteria of GAIN.

Objectives of the Consultancy

To write features for the print and digital media and develop audio-visual case studies for the social media to influence business and donor community to influence investment for the workers' nutrition security

Scope of work, activities, and deliverables

Scope of work	Task/Activity	Deliverable
1. Review literature, project documents, field visit to develop promotion strategy including a detailed work plan 2. Randomly visit the project area and capture qualitative outcome promote the outcome through print media coverage with features and case study 3. Develop high definition audio-visual case study with different sectors workers 4. Assignment completion report	1. Develop an inception report 2. Write features on the qualitative outcome of the project including a minimum of 5 Bangla and 5 English print and electronic media coverage 3. Develop an Audio-visual case study from beneficiaries and stakeholders	1 inception report 5 features and a coverage report 5 Audio-visual case study 1 final report

Timeline:

The proposed timeframe for the activity will be from 15th December 2020 to 30th March 2021.

Budget and Mode of Payment:

The payments will be made based on the following percentages and milestones:

- 50% of the total consultancy fee will be paid upon the submission and acceptance of the inception report.
- The final installment of 50% of the total consultancy fee will be released after submission and acceptance of the deliverables accordingly.
- All payment of the activities will follow government latest VAT and TAX policy

Selection benchmark:

The consultant will be selected based on technical experience. Shortlisted candidates will have an offline/online meeting with respective persons of GAIN. The consultant will be selected based on technical experience and oral presentation and asking budget.

The Consultant will be selected based on the following criteria:

- The consultant should have at least a Master's degree in anthropology, media, journalism, and related subject.
- At least 10 years of continuous professional experience in development project evaluation preferably working with RMG workers.
- Familiarity with the nutritious and safe food, WASH, and livelihood of RMG workers will be an added advantage
- Have strong capacities of standard report writing in English

Instruction for responding

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

Contact person

Moniruzzaman Bipul, Portfolio Lead; Champa Costa, Finance and Admin Manager are part of the selection team of the organization and will review the proposals. They will be available via email to

respond to clarifications on this solicitation. Please direct all inquiries and other communications to the email address: tjahan@gainhealth.org

Submission

An electronic copy of CV preferably in PDF including application to the below email address: tjahan@gainhealth.org

Deadline

Completed proposals should be submitted to GAIN **before 5th December 2020**.

Key Organizational Relationships:

- Will report to Portfolio Lead, Targeted Dietary Improvement Program
- Will work and coordinate with the Country Workforce Nutrition team
- Will interact with the project's implementing part and RMG factory

General Terms & Conditions

1. **Notice of non-binding solicitation:** GAIN reserves the right to reject all bids received in response to this solicitation and is in no way bound to accept any proposal.
2. **Limitations about third parties:** GAIN does not represent, warrant, or act as an agent for any third party as a result of this solicitation. This solicitation does not authorize any third party to bind or commit GAIN in any way without GAIN's express written consent.
3. **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, and specifications developed by the applicant concerning the activities shall vest exclusively and entirely with GAIN.
4. **Scope of change:** Once the contract is signed, no increase in the liability of GAIN or the fees to be paid by GAIN for the services resulting from any change, modification, or interpretation of the documentation will be authorized or paid to the applicant, unless such change, modification or interpretation has received the express prior written approval of GAIN.
5. **Zero Tolerance Policy:** GAIN follows the zero-tolerance policy for any form of Bribery, Fraud, Corruption, Terrorism, or Money Laundering. All entities undertake to comply with all applicable laws to ensure that it does not engage in any kind of criminal activity including but not limited to bribery, fraud, corruption, terrorism, money laundering, and maintaining ethical business practices as well as not to commit any Prohibited Acts.
6. **Indemnity/Release of Liability:** All liabilities arising from or relating to the work associated with this project shall be the responsibility of the respective organization and no liability of any nature shall be passed to GAIN.
7. **Entitlement:** Respective organization shall safeguard the interest of GAIN on its confidential information under the laws of the Government of Bangladesh. The organization will not use any documents or output from this project for any other projects without written approval from GAIN. This clause shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the expiry or termination of the partnership agreement.
8. **Non-Transferability:** Respective organization should not assign sub-contract, delegate, or otherwise transfer or dispose of any of its rights or obligation under this agreement. However, the organization can buy or procure any service or goods to perform the project activities.