

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Senior Associate, Technical Assistance & Impact: Nutritious Foods Financing (N3F TA)
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Classification:	Grade 4	Direct reports:	0
Work location	Abuja, Nigeria, or Cotonou, Benin	Travel required:	30%

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss-based foundation launched at the United Nations in 2002 to tackle the human suffering caused by malnutrition. Due to COVID19, conflict in Ukraine and climate change, malnutrition and hunger have worsened significantly since 2019, reversing a decade of progress. There is growing recognition that our food systems need to change if we are to reverse these trends.

GAIN's Strategy aims to transform food systems to make healthier diets from sustainable food systems accessible to all people and especially those whose are most vulnerable to shocks. By 2027, we aim to improve the access of 1.5 billion people to nutritionally enhanced staple foods, improve the access of 25 million people to healthier diets, and support positive food system change in 10 countries. This is bold and complex, and the only way to achieve this is to work together with partners including governments, businesses, and civil society at the country and global level. These goals, and the ways of achieving them, build on our twenty-year legacy of transforming people's lives with improved nutrition through concerted action and effective policy change.

DESCRIPTION
<p>Overall purpose</p> <p>The Senior Associate, Nutritious Foods Financing (N3F) Technical Assistance & Impact will work on GAIN's N3F programme, focusing on two key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to the N3F SME investees operating across the food value chain in Sub-Saharan Africa. • Monitor the impact of the technical assistance to ensure the quality-of-service providers. The Senior Associate will gather feedback to ensure the continuous improvement of the TA Process and will assist our MEL expert in the monitoring of nutrition impact of SMEs.
<p>Tasks and responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify technical assessment needs of SMEs operating in food value chains that are potential investees for the N3F Fund, working together with the investment officers at our partner asset manager, Incofin Investment Management • Actively participate in the design of technical assistance support packages tailored to individual SMEs and group training according to common needs in the portfolio. • Perform matchmaking between TA requirements and service providers, coordinate engagements between GAIN, service providers, and our beneficiaries. • Coordinate the implementation of TA projects between the service provider and the SME. • Fine-tune documented procedures, monitoring mechanisms, and feedback forms for the provision of TA to SMEs. • Identify and perform due diligence on a roster of qualified service providers in N3F's scoping countries.

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- Work closely with GAIN's Knowledge Leadership and our partner' MEL groups to ensure monitoring, evaluation and learning take place using Kobo data collection forms.
- Coordinate collaborations with external impact consulting firms, with the support of our MEL specialist and the Senior Lead of Innovative Finance.

Key organisational relationships

- The Senior Associate will report directly to the Senior Lead of Innovative Finance, working closely with other members of the N3F team, other project colleagues within the Enterprise unit, and implementing partners as required for the agreed upon activities.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- Recognized skills in the provision of technical assistance (TA) to SMEs.
- A deep understanding of what makes an SME scale their operations, grow, and succeed.
- Good understanding of monitoring impact for technical assistance. Familiarity with Kobo for data collection preferred.
- Proven ability to use initiative, prioritize, multi-task, and work well under pressure to meet deadlines.
- Clear and systematic thinking that demonstrates good judgment, problem solving, and creativity.
- Strong project coordination, management, negotiation, and advocacy skills.
- Effective communication skills in multi-cultural, multi-lingual environments (written and verbal).
- Flexible, with a willingness and ability to travel in challenging environments.
- IT literate with excellent MS Office skills. Advanced excel skills.
- Ability to operate within the private and public sectors to effectively liaise with food enterprises and development agencies at senior level. Knowledge of food value chains.
- Report writing, proficient business communication and presentation skills.
- A strong commitment to GAIN's mission and to catalysing change through public-private collaboration.

Experience

- Significant experience in a technical assistance facility / accelerator / incubator.
- Professional experience directly or indirectly related to food supply chains, SMEs, technical assistance.
- Demonstrated excellence in written/verbal communications, research, writing, and analytical ability.
- Exposure to impact monitoring preferred.

Education

- Post graduate level degree in a relevant field such as business administration, food value chain, economics, or any other relevant field.

Other requirements

- Professional proficiency in English is required.
- Professional proficiency in French is desirable.
- Willingness to travel when required.

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WHAT GAIN OFFERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A competitive remuneration package.• Flexible working hours through hybrid working opportunities.• Friendly working environment.• Professional development opportunities.• The chance to make a lasting contribution to reducing global malnutrition.