

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

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| Job title: | Project Manager – Nutrition Impact at Scale | | |
| Classification: | G5 | Direct reports: | 1 - 5 |
| Work location | Abuja or Lagos, Nigeria | Travel required: | 30% |

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (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. In particular, we aim to make healthier food choices more desirable, more available, and more affordable. GAIN’s mission is to advance nutritional outcomes by improving consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, especially the most vulnerable to malnutrition.

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.

Background

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are a critical engine of transformation: in Africa, for example, they produce over half of calories and over 80% of animal-source foods, fruits, and vegetables, while processing or handling about 65% of food in later stages of the value chain. For low-income consumers in particular, SMEs are essential for ensuring access to nutritious, safe foods. Even though SMEs play such an essential role in food systems, they struggle to access the financing, knowledge, skills necessary to scale up their offerings to increase the availability and accessibility of safe and nutritious foods.

Nutrition Impact at Scale (NIS) Project

Through the Nutrition Impact at Scale (NIS) Project, GAIN partners with Enterprise Support Organizations (ESOs) to scale the impact of its work to increase access to safe and nutritious foods, especially for low-income consumers. The project uses a Market Systems Development approach to improve food systems, increase inclusivity, and ultimately, nutrition outcomes. In supporting partnering with ESOs, we believe the sustainability and scalability of our interventions will be increased outside of GAIN. Besides, NIS project has the requisite capacity to attach a ‘nutrition lens’ to the work of ESOs to enable a large-scale and accelerated nutrition impact through their support to Agrifood SMEs. The project is implemented in 6 African countries (Nigeria, Benin, Uganda, Ethiopia, Mozambique, and Tanzania).

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| DESCRIPTION |
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| <p>Overall purpose</p> <p>The Project Manager provides functional, technical, and managerial leadership to projects and teams in the thematic area. They lead a high performing cross-functional project team, and establish, manage, and maintain relationships with relevant partners and stakeholders. They are responsible for the overall project management leadership and ensure the project team implements project activities within approved plans, budget, and quality standards.</p> <p>The Project Manager will be responsible for implementing the Nutrition Impact at Scale (NIS) Project while working with partners supporting SMEs to scale their businesses with a nutrition lens. The role holder will also provide technical assistance to agrifood companies/SMEs in the Nutritious Foods Financing (N3F) Programme. Throughout the project life cycle, he/she will ensure accurate planning, management and reporting of activities, budgets (resources), monitoring, external services and any other key areas required to deliver successful projects.</p> |
| <p>Tasks and responsibilities</p> <p>Project Design, Planning, and Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide strategic and technical leadership in the design, planning and implementation of the project as per the GAIN Project Management Guidelines (PMG). • Define project scope, activities, and objectives in line with the GAIN business plans, programme frameworks, and organizational strategic priorities. • Identify suitable technical partners and propose roles that add value to the project. • Support the implementation of Technical Assistance activities within the N3F. • Monitor the field and adapt the project activities and implementation modalities accordingly. • Enable and support team members to conduct assessments and take part in proposal developments. • Facilitate project review meetings at regular cycles and ensure (track) documentation of findings and recommendations in PRISM. <p>Project Management and Oversight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for consulting and/or communicating on any change requests or course corrections. • Identify, track, and resolve project issues on an ongoing basis, and proactively seek support where issues require wider attention and resolution. • Monitor risks and develop contingency plans to respond to emergencies. Escalate issues when appropriate. • Work with relevant environment, gender, and safeguarding specialists to ensure that they are integrated in project designs and implementation plans. • Ensure that implementation of project activities is in line with the policies and best practice standards of GAIN. <p>People and Team Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead a high-performance project team consisting of people across the organisation; bringing together the skills, experience and competencies required for successful project delivery. • Build a positive and inclusive culture and working environment for the staff to carry out their activities. |

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- Recruit and manage staff in line with GAIN policies, including performance management, ensuring that they have the necessary induction, training, and support as required.
- Coach and/ or mentor the project team members and support the development of their capacity.
- Understanding of and commitment to adhere to equity, diversity, gender, child safety and staff health and wellbeing principles.
- Support the uptake and ensure staff accountability on the GAIN code of conduct.

Relationship Management

- Engage key external partners in project design, implementation, and review.
- Represent the project and organisation in external forum as agreed with the supervisor.
- Build and maintain strong partnerships with civil society, INGOs, government entities, private sector, and other organizations.
- Build and maintain a culture of mutual accountable partnership with other teams within GAIN that supports programmes and projects.
- Work closely with Project Sponsors, QUADs and the POC to manage and deliver effective projects.
- Work closely with GAINs technical teams and monitoring network to ensure projects are implemented in line with the relevant quality standards.

Resource Management

- Write donors' reports in collaboration with project teams, technical teams, funding team and support teams.
- Ensure narrative reporting and financial accounting meet GAIN and donor's requirements.
- Work with international finance to ensure that accurate budgets and forecasting are drawn up for all activities, and that activities costs are kept within budgets.
- Lead the procurement process by identifying, selecting, and managing suppliers within ethical and procurement standards and guidelines.
- Ensure monthly project reporting (in line with GAINs Project Management Standards) to update management on program progress achieved, program plans, changes in direction and challenges encountered.

Key organisational relationships

- Reports to the Programme Lead, Nutrition Enterprise Development.
- Line management and mentoring of project support staff.
- Close collaboration with the other projects and operational staff.
- Liaises regularly with GAIN Country Offices and Knowledge Leadership teams.
- Government, Donors, NGOs, Private Sector, Academia, and others

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JOB REQUIREMENTS

Job-Specific Competencies

- Excellent project management and leadership skills
- Strong skills in business model specification and monitoring at the business and sector level
- Excellent Teamwork/Collaboration Excellent relationship management experience, and familiar with managing a wide platform of stakeholders, including consultants and service providers.
- Comfort with multi-tasking and operating in a fast paced, multi-faceted, and multi-cultural environment.
- High level of professionalism and integrity
- High level of innovative thinking approaches
- Clear and systematic thinking demonstrates analytic skills, good judgment, expert problem solving, and creativity.
- Flexible and goal oriented

General Competencies

- Strong team leadership abilities with the ability to motivate and mobilise individuals within or outside their reporting line.
- Good interpersonal, influencing and communication skills.
- Diplomacy, tact, and negotiation skills.
- Demonstrable understanding of the gender and protection dynamics of humanitarian and development work, and ability to capture this in the analysis and design of interventions.
- Strong ability to be flexible and adaptable in times of unexpected challenges and provide creative solutions, whilst always maintaining the ethos and objectives of the work.
- Strong ability to work with diverse groups/individuals, ranging from local partners, local authorities, local community groups, the civil society, and the private sector.
- Computer literacy with good Excel, MS Word, Outlook, and Power Point skills.

Experience

- Proven experience in project management in complex and diverse environments.
- Proven track record in providing business development services, including technical assistance to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Lower and Lower-Middle Income Countries.
- Broad understanding of agrifood systems and nutrition.
- Demonstrated success in working in multi-sectoral programmes and multi-cultural settings.
- Proven experience of technical leadership in a similar field.
- Experience of delivering donor-funded programs highly desirable
- Experience in a global, multicultural organization is highly desirable.
- Proven experience in delivering projects on time / on budget, using project management processes and tools including risk management, benefits management, financial management and quality assurance.
- Proven ability in staff management, including coaching, motivation, performance assessment, conflict prevention and management.
- Proven ability to use group facilitation to ensure effective stakeholder participation and consensus building.
- Proven ability in donor contracting & budget management.

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Education

- Postgraduate university degree in relevant technical field (business administration, project management, agriculture, agribusiness)
- Degree or recognized international accreditation in project management.

Other requirements

- Must be willing and able to travel.
- Fluent written and verbal English
- Knowledge of French will be an added value

WHAT GAIN OFFERS

- Flexible working hours
- Friendly working environment
- Professional development opportunities