Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Nutrition - Sensitive Social Protection Intern

Classification:	Intern	Direct reports:	0
Work location	Washington DC, USA	Travel required:	15%

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.

Social protection schemes help to mitigate vulnerability, reduce poverty, and provide affordable healthcare and insurance to low-income families. GAIN's social protection approach emphasizes community-based approaches, human-centred design, and social and behaviour change as tools for enhancing the nutrition impact of social protection. As part of GAIN's global social protection programme, we are establishing a co-innovation platform for nutrition-sensitive social protection, which will enable national and sub-national social protection administrators from various country contexts to engage in South-South knowledge exchange, and to form co-innovation partnerships to tackle issues of shared interest toward improving the nutrition impacts of social protection.

DESCRIPTION
Overall purpose The internship will support operationalization of the first cohort of co-innovation partnerships in the Co-Innovation platform. Through engagements with GAIN country teams and key stakeholders, capacity-building needs will be assessed, and a set of key topics will be identified as the focal point for the first wave of co-innovation partnerships. Building from the initial assessments, the internship will involve securing stakeholders' interest in participating and then producing specific action plans/capacity-building curriculum for the co-innovation partnerships. This may involve 'matching' countries in suitable partnerships or identifying 'host' countries/contexts that are exemplary of best practices in nutrition-sensitive social protection. The intern may be requested to travel to one or more participating countries for scoping visits and to make arrangements for operationalizing the co-innovation partnerships. The practicum experience would be based in GAIN's Washington DC office, and, ideally, would entail in person work in the GAIN office regularly at critical points. **The internship will be on a 3 months' fixed term contract basis. It will be on 32 working hours / 4 working days per week basis.**
Tasks and responsibilities **With the guidance of the Social Protection Programme Lead:**

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- Conduct a needs/opportunities assessment to better understand the ways co-innovation partnerships can be used to advance nutrition-sensitive social protection agendas/priorities.
- Support securing commitments from national and sub-national stakeholders (primarily government actors) to participate in the co-innovation platform.
- Contribute to drafting of specific action plans and capacity-building curricula for the co-innovation platform partnerships

Key organisational relationships

- Reports to GAIN's Global Social Protection programme lead
- Works closely with GAIN's country-level social protection focal points
- Engages regularly with external country-level stakeholders, under guidance from GAIN's global and country-based social protection teams

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- Excellent communications skills (both oral and written), and an ability to convey technical concepts in a clear way.
- An excellent command of English, knowledge of another language is an asset but not essential.
- Team player, flexible and goal-oriented, a real "can do" attitude.
- Excellent ability to engage with external stakeholders.
- Ability to use initiative, prioritize, multi-task, and work well under pressure to meet deadlines.
- Computer literacy with excellent Excel, MS word, Outlook, and Power Point skills.
- Familiarity with public policy concepts, capacity-building approaches, and principles of innovation and policy change.
- Ability to work collaboratively with a team and within a fast-paced, multicultural organization.

Experience

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in public policy, governance, administration, or a related field

Education

- Be enrolled in or have completed a university degree in a topic relating to Public Health, Policy/Governance, or International Development

WHAT GAIN OFFERS

- Flexible working hours through hybrid working opportunities
- Friendly working environment
- The chance to make a lasting contribution to reducing global malnutrition