The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Project Associate, Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN)

Classification:	Grade 3 - Associate	Direct reports:	0
Work location	Islamabad, Pakistan	Travel required:	Up to 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

Overall purpose

Our food systems — including consumer behaviors, food environments, natural resources and institutions as well as the production, processing, marketing and purchase of food— are struggling to deliver nutritious diets to a growing global population in an environmentally sustainable manner. Food systems, our health and the environment are inextricably linked. For example, climate change adversely affects yields and the nutritional quality of major staple crops. Such staple foods are especially important in the diets of people in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC), increasing the risk of food insecurity, socio-economic instability, and malnutrition among vulnerable populations. Extreme weather events are affecting populations, impacting livelihoods, food security and access to healthy diets. Women and children are often the most affected.

And not only does the environment impact nutrition, but food systems adversely impact the environment through various ways, including increasing pressure on land-use for food production for human and animal consumption, and contributing a third of greenhouse gas emissions.

Since the approval of GAIN's Environment Strategy in November 2020, the organization has been advancing work on the environment across its programmes, advocacy, and operational work. The GAIN strategy refresh 2022 – 2027 puts environment at the core of GAIN's work and reiterates the commitment to make GAIN the 'greenest nutrition organization both organizationally and programmatically'.

The Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN) is a multistakeholder, multisectoral global flagship initiative developed by Egypt as COP27 Presidency in partnership with GAIN, WHO, FAO, and SUN, with the goal of fostering collaboration to accelerate transformative action at the critical nexus of climate change and nutrition. I-CAN's first year saw the delivery of two key reports that lay out the conceptual foundation to the work and set a baseline for the current state of integration. Now, I-CAN is scaling its work at both international and national levels.

GAIN is seeking a Project Associate I-CAN in the Pakistan Country Office for this exciting opportunity. This role will work under the supervision and guidance of the Head of Policy & Advocacy (HoP&A) to support the implementation of the I-CAN model in Pakistan. The Project Associate will collaborate closely with the GAIN Environment Team and our I-CAN partners (including FAO, WHO, SUN, UN Nutrition, and climate organizations) to drive forward initiatives that embed climate action into food systems. The position holder will support the execution of specific project activities such

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as conducting research, preparing policy briefs and discussion papers, facilitating capacity-building efforts, managing partnerships, and ensuring effective reporting. Through these activities, the Associate will play a vital role in furthering I-CAN's integration into the food system transformation process in Pakistan.

Tasks and Responsibilities

This role covers the key areas of support events and communications, develop deep-dive reports and support administration of I-CAN, through providing:

- Support to the implementation and management of activities under I-CAN, including tracking, monitoring, and reporting on KPIs for I-CAN to ensure that the initiative is on-time, on-budget, and well-coordinated.
- Assist the HoP&A on internal and external reporting processes by collating the necessary information and assembling it in required formats for different reporting purposes.
- Support the I-CAN lead and I-CAN partners the development of annual budgets and detailed work plans for country I-CAN activities at national level.
- Assist the HoP&A in project implementation and provide technical know-how to design and deliver national level work including deep-diving analysis of nutrition and climate integration and technical advice on policy priorities.
- Support for knowledge management and learning sharing in support of I-CAN, alongside I-CAN partners and GAIN's Knowledge Leadership, Communications and Country Programmes teams, by supporting data collection, draft report writing, and other opportunities.
- Preparing briefs, discussion papers, memos, high profile slide decks, and engage in other content development support (inputs/notes requested by government partners/stakeholders, developing first drafts of Opinion Editorials, writing country memos and country briefs, publication drafts etc.)
- Compiling data, conducting data analysis & synthesizing findings for reports, briefs, and for engagement with government and other stakeholders
- Meet urgent data requests that require searching several databases/data sources and reports
- Conduct desk research, literature reviews, and other research analysis
- Support the planning and preparation for high level meetings, events, and trips; prepare reports and follow-up
- Participate and summarize output from partner meetings, sharing information with the broader I-CAN team and contributing to maintaining up to date information on the website, in coordination with the Communications and I-CAN teams.
- Maintain ongoing awareness of relevant global initiatives that could have important links to I-CAN
- Support the Head of Policy & Advocacy on stakeholder engagement.
- Any other tasks assigned by the line manager.

Key Organizational Relationships

- Report directly to the Head of Policy & Advocacy (GAIN Pakistan)
- Close Collaboration with
  - Lead, Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition
  - Project Associate, Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition
  - GAIN's Environment Team.
  - core I-CAN partners including FAO, WHO, SUN and UN Nutrition and climate organizations.
- Liaise regularly with GAIN Programme Services Team, Policy Engagement and Advocacy Support (PEAS), Knowledge Leadership, and Communications
- Government, project partners, and other key external stakeholders

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JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- Ability to conduct desk research, literature reviews, and other research analysis and synthesize findings
- Ability to conduct landscape analysis
- Strong analytical and technical skills
- Strong data analysis skills and ability to review data, generate, and present meaningful reports from them
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Ability to present complex information to non-technical audiences
- Computer literate, with strong PowerPoint presentation skills
- Ability to work within tight time schedules

Experience

- Experience of working with government departments
- Understanding/Experience in food systems, nutrition, climate change or other related environmental issues
- Strong technical knowledge of public health and nutrition including climate change,
- Proven experience working in an environment requiring collaboration and liaising with government stakeholders, relevant industries, and international organizations.
- Understanding/Experience supporting social safety nets and focused programme
- Experience developing advocacy briefs

Education

- A University level (Bachelors/Masters) degree in a relevant field such as environment, agriculture, economics, nutrition, public health, business management and a progressive experience in similar role.
- A master's degree in the above field of studies will be an added advantage.

Other Requirements

- Experience in an international NGO
- Experience in stimulating, managing or influencing public and private sector stakeholders
- Fluent written and verbal English
- Must be willing and able to travel in challenging environments

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- Competitive salary.
- Generous annual holiday entitlement.
- Flexible working hours, including hybrid working policy.
- Friendly working environment.
- Professional development opportunities.