

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Project Manager, Value Chain Development (Egg Vale Chain)		
Classification:	Grade 5	Direct reports:	1 - 5
Work location	Kigali Rwanda	Travel required:	30% (National)

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. Working with governments, businesses and civil society, we aim to transform food systems so that they deliver healthier diets for all people, especially the most vulnerable.

Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, GAIN has offices in countries with high levels of malnutrition: Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. To support work in those countries, we have representative offices in the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

At GAIN, we believe that everyone in the world should have access to nutritious, safe, and affordable food. Today, one in three people - drawn from nearly every country on the planet - are unable to consume enough nutritious food. We work to develop and deliver solutions to this daily challenge.

GAIN Rwanda is a newly opened office and their new programme, combating Malnutrition in Rwanda through Sustainable Food Systems 2025-2030, aims to support the Government of Rwanda and market actors to transform the food system to support healthier diets and deliver better nutritional outcomes for women and children, as well as the broader Rwandan population. In regard to the food system, the programme has prioritized three value chains, eggs, high-iron beans (HIB), and fruit, and aims to work throughout the supply chain, from production to retail, to deliver greater availability and affordability of these foods.

This programme will be implemented in the Western Province in the districts of Rusizi, Nyamasheke, Karongi, Rutsiro, and Nyabihu. The programme will work closely with government agencies e.g. MINAGRI, Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB), Rwanda FDA, Ministry of Commerce, UN agencies, MOH, NCDA.

DESCRIPTION
<p>Overall purpose</p> <p>The Project Manager, Value Chain Development is a key member of Rwanda’s technical team that will provide essential support to this programme and to the country office. This role serves a functional (value chain development) and managerial role.</p> <p>The position holder will oversee operational delivery, and monitoring of the project’s value chain development activities with the goal of transforming supply chains (from input/production to retail) of key commodities (eggs, high-iron beans (HIB), fruit and fortified foods) making them sustainable and resulting in the availability and accessibility of safe, nutritious foods. Value chain activities will be implemented in the Western Province in the districts of Rusizi, Nyamasheke, Karongi, Rutsiro, and Nyabihu.</p> <p>The Project Manager will ensure accurate planning, management and reporting of activities, budgets (resources), monitoring, and any other key areas required to deliver successful implementation of the programme’s value chain development components.</p> <p>The post holder will work closely with the Policy Advisor and other project managers. The post holder will be expected to perform within this cross-functional project team, and establish, manage and maintain relationships with relevant partners and stakeholders.</p>

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Tasks and responsibilities

Value Chain Development Leadership

- Lead the strategic planning and implementation of innovative value chain interventions to increase production, market access, and consumption of target commodities (eggs, high-iron beans (HIB), fruit and fortified foods) in alignment with project goals.
- Advocate for policy reforms and engage with government and private stakeholders to promote sustainable production of target commodities.
- Strengthen partnerships with SMEs, cooperatives, and input suppliers and build capacity through targeted training to scale up production and distribution.
- Conduct value chain analyses to identify and address challenges within the target value chain while integrating nutrition-sensitive strategies to increase the availability of nutritious foods in the community.
- Leverage digital tools for efficient project management, data tracking, and stakeholder communication.
- Actively engage with government bodies like Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB), Rwanda Poultry Industry Association, and private sector stakeholders to promote sustainable production practices.
- Build capacity of SMEs, farmers, producers and cooperatives by delivering training on best practices in production, food safety, agribusiness management and marketing.
- In collaboration with Demand Generation Manager, support the development of marketing strategies for target commodities that will live in the retail environment, including retailer engagement and supplier linkages.

Project Design, Planning and Implementation

- Provide strategic leadership in the design, planning and implementation of the value chain development activities and other new projects as per the GAIN Management Guidelines (PMG).
- Define project scope, activities and objectives in line with the GAIN business plans, programme frameworks, and organizational strategic priorities.
- Monitor the context dynamics and adapt the value chain project activities and implementation modalities accordingly.
- Facilitate project review meetings at regular cycles and ensure (track) documentation of findings and recommendations in PRISM.
- Enable and support team members to conduct assessments and take part in proposal developments.

Project Management and Oversight

- Responsible for consulting and/or communicating on any change requests or course corrections for the value chain project.
- Identify, track and resolve value chain 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 other GAIN value chain experts, and other program components to ensure that they are involved in program implementation plans to foster synergies.
- Ensure that implementation of the Value Chain activities are in line with the policies and best practice standards of GAIN.

People and Team Management

- Lead a high performing 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.
- Manage staff in line with GAIN policies, including performance management, ensuring that they have the necessary induction, training and support as required.

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- 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 like MINAGRI, and NCDA, in project implementation, and review.
- Represent the project and organisation in external forums as agreed with the Head of Programmes.
- Build and maintain strong partnerships with civil society, INGOs, government entities, private sector and other organisations.
- 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 the project is implemented in line with the relevant quality standards.

Resource Management

- Write donors' reports in collaboration with other GAIN Rwanda's program technical teams, and support teams.
- Ensure narrative reporting and financial accounting meet GAIN and donor's requirements.
- Work with GAIN Rwanda finance team and international finance to ensure that accurate budgets and forecasting are drawn up for all activities, and that activities costs are kept within budgets.
- Leading on 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 Head of Programmes.
- Close collaboration with the other projects and operational staff.
- Liaises regularly with GAIN Programme Services Team and Knowledge Leadership teams.
- Government, Donors, NGOs, Private Sector, Academia and others

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- Understands and has in-depth technical knowledge of value chain development, food systems, and nutrition trends in Rwanda.
- Excellent project management capabilities.
- Clear and systematic thinking that demonstrates expert problem solving, creativity, and good judgement.
- Goal-oriented, results-driven, ability to take initiative and comfortable with ambiguity.
- Excellent organizational skills, efficient use of management tools, e.g., GANTT charts, SPRINT process.
- 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 market systems development, for nutrition and food systems, development work, and ability to capture this in the analysis and design and implementation of interventions.

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- Strong ability to work with diverse groups/individuals, ranging from GAIN Rwanda's line ministries, line agencies, local partners, district authorities, local community groups, the civil society and the private sector.
- Computer literacy with good Excel, MS Word, Outlook, and Power Point skills.

Experience

- Significant experience in managing value chain development activities, working with small and medium sizes businesses, and food systems work in Rwanda
- 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.
- Experience 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.
- Good experience in budget administration.
- Experience working in a public/private partnership environment, and engagement with government, desirable.
- Proficiency in English (written and spoken).

Education

- Bachelor's degree in agriculture, Agribusiness, Food Systems, Agricultural Economics, or a related field.
- Master's degree in a related field is an asset.

Other requirements

- Must be willing and able to travel
- Must be fluent in written and verbal English

WHAT GAIN OFFERS

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