

Job title:	Chief of Party / Program Director (AFFORD Project)		
Classification:	B7 – Senior Manager	Direct reports:	6 - 10
Work location	Washington, DC	Travel required:	30%

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 to 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 nutrition outcomes by improving nutritious and safe food consumption for all people, especially the most vulnerable to malnutrition.

Food fortification is critical to help achieve GAIN's vision. GAIN supports national and regional nutrition strategies to integrate this intervention where existing food supplies and limited access fail to provide adequate levels of nutrients in the diet. The consumption of fortified staples and condiments can play a major role in underpinning the prevention of micronutrient deficiencies across entire populations -- particularly in women of reproductive age and adolescent girls -- thus helping to address adequate nutrition during the critical periods of preconception and the 1,000-day window. Globally, GAIN, in partnership with other organizations, is active in advocacy for fortification, development of tools such as the Fortification Assessment Coverage Toolkit (FACT), research and evaluation related to the impact and potential for impact of fortification, hosts the Global Fortification Technical Advisory Group (GF-TAG) and is a key partner in various platforms such as the Global Fortification Data Exchange (GFDx). GAIN primarily supports mandatory fortification of commonly consumed food vehicles at the country level, including salt, edible oils, wheat flour, maize flour, and rice. This includes supporting the rollout or expansion of food fortification programmes where there is a need and an appropriate food vehicle, providing technical assistance for improving compliance of existing national programmes, and supporting the monitoring and measurement of programmes.

DESCRIPTION

Overall Purpose

The Chief of Party (COP) / Program Director will provide strategic, technical leadership, and management oversight of an anticipated tUSAID-funded Advancing Food Fortification Opportunities to Reinforce Diets (AFFORD) project. S/he will oversee all aspects of project implementation, including program quality, personnel, and financial management. S/he will serve as the primary point of contact with the donor, consortium partners, and other key stakeholders, ensuring that all project interventions are of high quality and lead to measurable impact

The goal of the project is to safely reduce micronutrient inadequacies and improve diets particularly for women and children, through LSFF of staple foods and condiments. USAID AFFORD will achieve this goal by 1) strengthening and extending the enabling environment and regulatory monitoring and enforcement of LSFF through the public sector; 2) expanding and sustaining LSFF, in compliance with national fortification standards, by the private sector; 3) strengthening the design, monitoring and evaluation of fortification programs, and holding the public and private sectors accountable through civil society; and 4) garnering and mobilizing global commitment, leadership and resources to scale LSFF.



The Project is expected to start in the fourth quarter of 2022 for a 5 year period with an anticipated budget ceiling of \$75m.

The COP is a full-time position advertised for a potential proposal role and is contingent on project award, funding, and USAID approval.

Tasks and responsibilities

Strategic Management and Leadership

- Provide overall project strategic leadership, management, and technical direction while ensuring compliance with USAID requirements, U.S. government regulations, and GAIN policies and procedures.
- Provide overall technical leadership, ensuring coordination and complementarity with other food fortification activities and actions, in alignment with USAID and GAIN priorities and global best practices.
- Collaborate closely with the GAIN Food Fortification Cluster Lead and Senior Management Team
 to continually review and improve the project's strategic direction, to develop and implement
 workplans.
- Liaise with USAID/Washington and USAID/Missions, local government institutions, civil society
 organizations, and other partners to coordinate activities and facilitate monitoring and reporting of
 project objectives and achievements.
- Responsible for high-quality project delivery in time and budget, working closely with global and country teams.

Project Team Management

- Lead an inclusive cross-partner project coordination/management team.
- Recruit, manage and build the capacity of technical, operations, finance and compliance project staff, ensuring clear roles and responsibilities and lines of communication are maintained among the team members.
- Ensure a harmonious working relationship among project staff, consortium partners, and/or subcontractors and other implementers.

Representation

- Represent the consortium at nutrition, food systems, and other related events.
- In existing global/local/regional fora, contribute to GAIN's influencing objectives by providing strategic direction and good practice to build evidence-based innovations leading to fortification programs that address challenges and fill gaps in food systems.
- Convene and coordinate events that shape the strategic direction for food fortification and create an environment for technical discussions among relevant partners for collective impact.

Finance and Compliance Management

- Provide overall financial oversight of the budget over the life of the project
- Ensure effective and robust internal control systems are in place working with the Director of Finance and Compliance.



Key Organisational Relationships

- Director, Programme Services
- Cluster Lead, Food Fortification
- Head of GAIN US
- Knowledge Leadership, Policy and External Relations, and Finance Teams.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Skills and Competencies

- Excellent representational, strategic, and diplomatic abilities to represent consortium partners
- Recognized expertise in international development, preferably in public health, nutrition, or private sector development projects covering multiple countries across continents.
- Proven ability to use initiative, prioritize, multi-task, and work well under pressure to meet deadlines.
- Explicit and systematic thinking that demonstrates good judgment, problem-solving, and creativity.
- Excellent project coordination, management of complex multi-million-dollar projects, negotiation, and advocacy skills.
- Strong communication and negotiation skills, and ability to develop relations with a wide range of stakeholders at local, regional, and global levels.
- Flexible, with a willingness and ability to travel in challenging environments.
- Ability to operate within the private and public sectors to effectively liaise with food enterprises, development agencies, and governments at the senior level.

Experience

- Minimum 12 years of experience in relevant management, supervisory, technical experience working with programs of similar scope and scale to this project with at least 5 years in a strategic leadership position.
- Demonstrated experience with and understanding of USAID programmatic requirements and compliance regulations. Previous experience as Chief of Party, Deputy Chief of Party, or senior management experience on USAID programs strongly preferred. Experience with regional organizations, including regional economic communities, will be an added advantage.
- Proven agri-food private sector expertise including market analysis, product development, quality control/quality assurance, regulatory affairs, and marketing
- Demonstrated experience in relevant technical fields such as agriculture, agribusiness, food fortification or private sector development to advance nutrition outcomes..
- Demonstrated experience and expertise in relevant policy work and building government capacity, particularly with regard to the regulatory control system for food quality, nutrition requirements, and safety standards
- Demonstrated ability to build, negotiate and maintain relationships with senior-level government and private sector counterparts, USG donors, and other key stakeholders and partners
- Ability to successfully recruit, train, build capacity, motivate, and manage staff, consortium partners, and/or sub-contractors.
- Experience working on development programs particularly in Africa and Asia. Experience from Latin America will be an added advantage.

Preferred skills/experience include:



- Experience mobilizing capital for companies including working both with financial institutions (local and/or international) and supporting businesses to access financing (equity and/or debt)
- Experience integrating gender equality and women's empowerment issues within agriculture, nutrition, and food system activities.
- Familiarility with USAID's Feed the Future portfolio

Education

 Master's degree in any of the following or related fields: social science, international development, public health, nutrition, business, food technology.

Other Requirements

• Fluency in spoken and written English is required; fluency in a second language is an asset.

March 2022.