Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Research Associate, Drivers of Food Systems Transformation

Classification:	D3 - Associate	Direct reports:	0
Work location	Nairobi, Kenya or Delhi, India	Travel required:	Up to 20%

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

DESCRIPTION

Overall purpose

The Knowledge Leadership (KL) team provides support across all programmatic areas within GAIN, working with programme teams to bring nutrition and related expertise into programme design and delivery and leading on the development and use of learning agendas to inform programme progress and impact. The KL team supports the implementation and dissemination of research, evaluation and learning activities in support of the country and global programme teams that part of the Drivers of Food Systems Transformation cluster. This cluster includes a variety of programmes related to innovations for health and the planet, food system governance, targeted programmes for children and young people, workforce nutrition, demand generation, and social protection.

The overall purpose of this position is to support the knowledge management, knowledge mobilization, research, and learning activities of the Drivers of Food Systems Transformation portfolio.

Tasks and responsibilities

Research and programme support

- Conduct reviews of the literature relevant to various programmes' learning agenda and in response to emerging research questions.
- Provide technical and process management support to the design of research, evaluation and learning activities in support of the cluster.
- Work closely with colleagues to implement the programmes' research activities (e.g., support training for data collection; supervise data collection activities; verify data quality)
- Work closely with research partners to ensure all research activities are completed as planned, on time, and with high quality.

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- Quality assure research outputs shared by partners to ensure accurate and timely reporting on project deliverables.

Knowledge mobilisation and dissemination

- Coordinate knowledge mobilisation activities to consolidate and share programmes learnings across countries and teams within GAIN and externally.
- Carry out analysis on qualitative and quantitative data, including statistical analyses and format / design results for oral and written dissemination
- Support in the preparation of reports, briefs, presentations, and other knowledge products for the dissemination of research and programme findings and learnings.

Key organisational relationships

- Reports to Senior Technical Specialist, KL
- The position is part of the KL Team
- Works closely with the country and global programme teams at GAIN

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- In-depth knowledge of nutrition, with social and behavior change communication experience highly desirable
- Knowledge of research techniques, including both qualitative and quantitative methods
- Data analysis and reporting skills
- Strong inter-personal skills, including facilitation skills
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to conduct literature reviews, and systematically synthesize information
- High level of professionalism and integrity
- Clear and systematic thinking that demonstrates good judgment, expert problem solving, and creativity.
- Ability to work alone and in a team setting
- Ability to use initiative, prioritize, multi-task, and work well under pressure to meet deadlines
- IT literate, with excellent MS Office skills, experience with data analysis software such as Stata is a plus
- Understanding of field data collection in low- or middle-income countries, and associated challenges

Experience

- Demonstrate related experience in food systems research
- Excellent communication (written and verbal), writing and presentation skills in multicultural and multilingual environments
- Knowledge of nutrition and food systems relevant to GAIN's programming areas and quantitative and qualitative research methods

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- Skills in knowledge management and research translation
- Organised and detail oriented
- Demonstrated ability to work in multi-cultural environment, under pressure, and to meet deadlines
- Able to demonstrate good judgment, problem solving, and creativity
- Experience leading and developing GAIN's knowledge products (Working Papers, Briefing Papers)
- Understanding of GAIN's learning agenda and programmatic experience highly desired

Education

- Minimum Master's level training in nutrition, public health, agriculture or other relevant field

Other requirements

- Fluency in written and spoken English required

WHAT GAIN OFFERS

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