

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Job title:	Senior Associate, Social Protection
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Classification:	Grade 4	Direct reports:	0
Work location	Bangladesh	Travel required:	15-20%

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. GAIN's vision is 'Healthier diets for all, especially the most vulnerable, from more sustainable food systems'. Working with both governments and businesses, we aim to transform food systems so that they deliver more nutritious food for all people. GAIN's mission is to improve the availability, affordability, desirability and sustainability of nutritious and safe foods and reduce consumption of unhealthy and unsafe foods.

GAIN is expanding its efforts to improve the diets of low-income, high-need consumers in the countries we work in. Social protection programmes are critically important for improving the livelihoods and purchasing power of vulnerable consumers, and nearly all such mechanisms have the potential to improve nutrition and diet quality.

Social protection mitigates vulnerability of low-income families through a range of initiatives and mechanisms, many of which have direct or indirect links to nutrition. 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. In Bangladesh, GAIN will support the Government of Bangladesh's efforts that aim to enhance resilience of vulnerable groups confronted with economic shocks, reduce poverty and inequality, create opportunities for upward social and economic mobility and enhance social cohesion by mainstreaming the marginalized individuals. Our approach will complement existing government efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1.3 through creating an environment of more inclusive social protection system.

As GAIN works to develop and implement an organizational strategy for social protection, partnerships with governments and policy advocacy will be a central focus. GAIN Bangladesh intends to hire a Senior Associate, Social Protection, under the leadership of policy & portfolio leads and in close collaboration with the Social Protection Programme Lead, to carry out our social protection policy advocacy & operational work.

DESCRIPTION
<p>Overall purpose</p> <p>The Senior Associate, Social Protection has overall responsibility for the day-to-day operational delivery, implementation, and monitoring of Bangladesh's Social Protection (SP) projects, specifically focusing on tracking the progress and status of project activities. They play a coordination role in GAIN's cross-functional project teams and supporting the maintenance of relationships with partners and stakeholders. They are responsible for managing engagement with key in-country government & non-government stakeholders including academia and other partners on matters related to the Social Protection programme. This position will also support coordination of Bangladesh's social protection projects with</p>

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GAIN's global social protection vision and strategy. The successful candidate will be tasked with leading and managing social protection project activities at the country level, contributing to key project deliverables, and effectively communicating findings to diverse and cross-cultural audiences.

Tasks and responsibilities

Project Coordination, Planning, and Implementation

Under the guidance of Portfolio lead,

- Managing the project schedule, activity plan and planning milestones, supporting the tracking of progress and deliverables from project partners in the country.
- Collaborate with the global Social Protection programme lead on the design and planning of project activities and objectives.
- Lead content development for Bangladesh's social protection contribution to donor reports and other deliverables, such as case studies, academic articles, and media/social media materials.
- Leverage technical expertise to inform and advise Bangladesh's work in social protection policy areas and implementation of related activities.
- Liaise with GAIN's global Social Protection programme by supporting strategy development and planning, to ensure coherence with the organization's social protection vision and aims.
- Any additional responsibilities related to project implementation.

Policy analysis

Under the guidance of Senior Policy Advisor,

- Aggregate and synthesize evidence on the social protection policy landscape in Bangladesh and provide policy insights to gap analysis activities in line with the national priorities and prepare reports on the gathered evidence.
- Create and manage a repository of policy documents that are relevant to social protection in Bangladesh.
- Spearhead social protection policy and advocacy agenda-setting under the guidance of the Senior Policy Advisor for nutrition-sensitive social protection programme, including development and/or review of policy guidance and recommendations (e.g. policy briefs, factsheets, presentations, etc.) for use at global- and country-level.
- Any additional responsibilities related to Social Protection Policy and Influencing as mutually agreed with line manager.

Stakeholder engagement and influencing

Under the guidance of Portfolio lead,

- Conduct stakeholder analysis and needs mapping in Bangladesh.
- Engage/consult relevant stakeholders to develop novel messaging tactics and outreach channels to reach to the most vulnerable/in needs.
- Build and maintain strategic engagement with stakeholders in the policy space, particularly federal government agencies, UN Agencies, I/NGOs, and social protection/safety net schemes.
- Organize and support influencing activities, including in-person events and webinars, convening and consultation meetings etc.
- Conduct advocacy activities to make SP more nutrition sensitive by policy makers.
- Develop PowerPoint presentations and relevant briefing documents to support stakeholder engagement and influencing.

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Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

- Assess possible impacts of enhancements to SP mechanisms, including nutrition outcomes and cost-benefit analysis.
- Manage monitoring and evaluation of social protection projects in Bangladesh in order to share learnings and results across GAIN's Social Protection programme teams and other relevant stakeholders.
- Contribute as part of a multi-country team to global research and indicator development projects.

Key organisational relationships

- Reports directly to Portfolio Lead with a dotted line reporting to the Senior Policy Advisor
- Works closely with GAIN's Global Social Protection Programme Lead
- Associate, Policy and Advocacy
- Senior Policy Advisor, GAIN Communications Team

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Competencies

- Confidence in leading and managing the implementation of programme activities, including working directly with low-income communities and in low-resource settings.
- Ability to synthesize evidence and policy documentation and contribute to deliverables and policy guidance.
- Familiarity with human-centred design approaches/consumer research.
- Comprehensive understanding of social protection policies, systems, and decision-making, ideally in LMIC contexts.
- Good Knowledge of food and nutrition security, food systems, and wider issues such as livelihoods, gender, poverty.
- Ability to influence, negotiate and network, and an aptitude for external representation.
- Strong interpersonal skills with ability to engage with diverse audiences and cross culturally.
- Ability to use initiative, prioritize, multi-task, and work well under pressure to meet deadlines.
- Clear and systematic thinking that demonstrates good judgment.
- Communication skills in multicultural, multi-lingual environments.
- Strong IT skills (Outlook, Word, Excel and PowerPoint).
- Willing and able to work collaboratively with a team and to exchange ideas freely.
- Demonstrated excellence writing, and analytic ability.
- Proven ability to work in a fast paced, results-oriented environment.
- Proven ability to work effectively in a team environment and matrix structure is critical.

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Experience

- Demonstrable experience in the field of development with specialization in social protection and/or humanitarian assistance programme.
- Strong experience in I/NGO or government context in policy strategy formulation, and policy implementation, and communication.
- Experience using and applying policy tools (such as stakeholder mapping, needs assessments, etc.) for influencing policy and advocacy.
- Demonstrable experience in project management, M&E and data management.
- Proven track record in developing policy reports (either as contributor or author).
- Demonstrated stakeholder management experience working with government and other relevant stakeholders.
- Desirable: significant experience with policy research.
- Desirable: experience mainstreaming cross-cutting issues, particularly gender, governance, environment and/or Social Protection.

Education

- Bachelor degree (or higher) in policy, applied economics, development studies, sociology/social welfare, or related fields.

Other requirements

- Fluency in English and Bengali is required
- Other relevant local language(s) is an additional advantage
- Working knowledge of other languages, especially French, is an asset
- Experience in the countries in which GAIN focuses is an asset
- Flexible, with the ability to work effectively within and across global and in-country teams

WHAT GAIN OFFERS

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