Technical Assistance for Nutrition (TAN)

UGA-01 – SHORT TERM TA TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECOND UGANDA NUTRITION ACTION PLAN (2018-2022)

Terms of Reference (ToRs)

Background

Technical Assistance for Nutrition (TAN) is a project led by the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) which seeks to improve the capacity of countries that have joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement to design, deliver, and track the progress of nutrition programs and to generate, learn from and adopt knowledge of what works. Nutrition International is contributing to TAN by coordinating the provision of technical assistance to help national SUN Focal Points in select countries to overcome gaps in capacity for the design and delivery of multi-sectoral national nutrition plans, tapping into its global hub to source and deploy the expertise needed.

Uganda like other countries in the East and Sub-Saharan African region, continues to grapple with undernutrition. Malnutrition continues to be a major development concern in Uganda, affecting all regions of the country and most segments of the population. Although the country has made tremendous progress in economic growth and poverty reduction over the past 20 years, its progress in reducing malnutrition remains slow. According to Uganda Demographic Health Survey (UDHS) 2016, 10% of infants had a low birth weight of less than 2.5 kilograms, 29% of children aged 6-59 months are stunted; 4% are acutely malnourished and 11% are underweight. In addition, 53% of children and 32% of women (15-49 years) have iron deficiency anemia.

Uganda joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in 2011. Since that time, a number of significant developments have happened at the global and regional level (i.e the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), the second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) in 2014, the World Health Assembly (WHA) targets for 2025 and Malabo Declaration in 2015 to end hunger and reduce stunting on the continent to 10% by 2025 through Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, among others. The above developments, sets an opportunity for the Government and partners to work together to accelerate efforts towards the elimination of hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition.

The Office of the Prime Minister has played a significant role in the coordination of Multi-Sectoral Nutrition programming through among others building strong institutional structures at all levels during the Implementation of the UNAP. The Assistant Commissioner of Policy Implementation and Coordination Office of the Prime Minister and SUN Government Focal Point, convenes the Multi-

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1 Uganda Demographic Health Survey 2016
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Sectoral Nutrition Technical Committee (MSNTC) which is the country’s main national coordination platform. It comprises eight implementing line ministries (Prime Minister, Public Service, Health, Education and Sports, Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Trade and Cooperatives, Gender, Labour and Social Development, Local Government and Finance, Planning and Economic Development) plus the National Planning Authority, Development Partners, UN Agencies, Civil Society, academia and the private sector.

The 1995 Constitution of Uganda, expresses government commitment to food security and nutrition under National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy (XXII). Nutrition is well positioned in Uganda’s Development framework through the Uganda Vision 2040 and more specifically in the Second National Development Plan (NDP II) as a key driver for socio-economic transformation to deliver Uganda into a middle income economy. The Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP) 2011-2016 was approved as the Government’s strategic framework for Scaling Up Nutrition.

The UNAP I was developed and implemented in the absence of National Nutrition Policy. The government and stakeholders are currently in the process of finalizing the Uganda Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Policy (MSNP) 2017. The MSNP recognizes commitments made at global, regional and national level to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition. The UNAP implementation period came to end in 2016 but was extended to December 2017 to enable finalization of MSNP.

To implement the National Nutrition Policy, Office of the Prime Minister needs to develop an attendant UNAP II which will serve as an Implementation strategy reflecting the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition priorities as outlined the Policy. The UNAP II will be an elaborate means to implement the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Policy with alignment to the national development frameworks.

The UNAP II development process should consider the following to develop a robust, relevant and aligned document:

i. Strategic and programmatic review of UNAP 1 (2011-2016) with the aim of documenting successes and challenges faced during its implementation. This will be used to inform UNAP II.

ii. Alignment to the national MNSP Policy 2017, strategic review of SDG goal 2 in Uganda and other global and regional commitments and plans.

iii. The SUN Movement checklist on the criteria and characteristics of ‘good’ national nutrition plans (http://www.securenutrition.org/resource/checklist-criteria-and-characteristics-%E2%80%98good%E2%80%99-national-nutrition-plans)

It is in this framework that the SUN Focal Point has requested Nutrition International TAN project to provide Short Term TA to support the MSNTC, UNAP secretariat and stakeholders to review UNAP I and develop UNAP II.
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Objectives

Overall objective
The overall objective of this TA is to support the nutrition sector in Uganda to review Uganda UNAP I (2011-2016) and facilitate consultations to formulate UNAP II (2018-2022).

Specific Objectives

2. Facilitate formulation of UNAP II roadmap.
3. Facilitate and guide MSNTC and other nutrition stakeholders to develop and validate UNAP II.

Expectations
This TA support is expected to contribute significantly to successful scale up of multisectoral nutrition actions in Uganda. The main outcome will be coordinated planning and implementation, multisectoral nutrition actions at the national and sub-national level.

Specifically, the TA support will:

1. Critically review UNAP I implementation, documenting strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges in the implementation of UNAP I that will inform development of UNAP II.
2. Undertake comprehensive global, regional and national literature/documents review.
3. Hold consultations with government sectors, Development Partner’s and other stakeholders to review the implementation of UNAP I and develop UNAP II.
4. Facilitate UNAP II validation meetings

Scope of Work
Taking a facilitative, consultative and participatory approach under the overall guidance of the SUN Focal point and UNAP Secretariat at Office of the Prime Minister, the consultant will undertake relevant tasks to produce the following specific deliverables:

1. Inception report that should include, but not limited to, methodology and work plan of the assignment
2. UNAP I implementation review report.
3. Data collection tools to be used for national and district consultations.
4. Stakeholders’ consultation and field visit summaries.
5. Draft outline of the UNAP II which should include:
   a) Situation analysis and policy and programming review
   b) UNAP I implementation review
   c) Stakeholders’ engagement and political commitment review
   d) Results chain (objectives, strategies and actions)
   e) Costs and budgetary framework
   f) Implementation and management arrangements
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g) Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

6. First draft of UNAP II.
7. Final draft of UNAP II.

NB: Applicants are requested to present specific deliverable-based activities along with proposed level of effort required, in terms of number of days, as part of their technical proposal.

Duty Station/Location
The Consultant(s) will be based at the OPM (Policy Implementation and Coordination Unit) for key activities and meetings. The Consultant(s) can work remotely when not travelling to the districts or presence at OPM is not required.

The Consultant(s) will be expected to travel to selected districts for stakeholder consultations. The number of districts to be visited will be determined during the inception phase.

All travels required under this consultancy will be provided for by Nutrition International according to project Standard Operating Procedures.

Timeline
The expected Level of effort (LoE) of the assignment is 80-90 days, starting October 2017 to December 2018 (specific dates will be determined in consultation with the SUN Focal Point, UNAP Secretariat and Nutrition International).

Management and Reporting
1. The Consultant(s) will work under the direct supervision of the SUN Focal Point and/or their designate.
2. The consultant will be guided by the MSNTC which is tasked with providing technical support and guidance to the UNAP II development process.
3. The SUN Focal Point, UNAP Secretariat and MSNTC will facilitate necessary operational linkages with line ministries, sectoral technical working groups and other stakeholders under this TA.
4. Nutrition International will provide funding for the assignment, and payment will be subject to performance and reaching deliverables as agreed upon and outlined in the contract.
5. Nutrition International will provide technical input into the assignment and will ensure the quality of the work being delivered by the consultant.
6. Nutrition International, in consultation with the SUN Focal Point will review deliverables prepared by the Consultant(s) as needed prior to sharing externally.
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Profile/qualifications of consultants

It is expected a team of consultants with assorted areas of expertise in Policy and Planning, Economics/Finance, M&E and Nutrition will be required to complete all aspects of this consultancy, with the Lead Consultant responsible for work completed by all team members.

The lead consultant is expected to have the following qualifications:

- Post-graduate or doctoral-level qualifications the following fields; Public Health, Food Security, Nutrition, Social Sciences, Planning, Economics, Applied Sciences or related areas.
- A minimum of 15 years’ experience in the field of development sector including consultancy work with the Government and development partners in nutrition, food security, health and related fields.
- Specific experience in developing national strategies or plan and experience in multi-sectoral engagement and partnerships in the area of nutrition, food security and economics
- Experience in providing strategic policy advice to national governments, and social planning and/or national/sub-national level policy and programmes development.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Excellent knowledge of Uganda nutrition landscape and programmes.
- Experience in coordinating and managing a team of subject matter experts.
- Proficiency in English (written and spoken, with capacity to write documents and reports).
- Demonstrated ability to deliver quality results within strict deadlines.
- Experience with working in team-based environments which requires a grasp of cross-functional subject matters.
- Experience in coordinating and managing a team of subject matter experts.

Other Consultants

- At least 8-10 years of experience in planning, program design, M&E, costing and tracking of nutrition, food security, health and other related programs.
- Excellent knowledge of Uganda nutrition landscape and programmes.
- Experience in developing national strategies or plan and experience in multi-sectoral engagement and partnerships in the area of nutrition, food security, health and other related areas.
- Experience in working with multistakeholder platforms and processes, or other complex collaboration platforms across sectors, including health and agriculture.
- Excellent communication, analytical and writing skills.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver quality results within strict deadlines.
- Experience developing capacity building materials and processes, and delivering associated events.
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Language Skills
- Fluency in written and spoken English is mandatory.

Nutrition International is committed to gender equality. Consultants are requested to indicate how they will ensure that gender equality considerations are included in the TA outputs.

Application Process
Interested consultants are invited to submit the following by email to TechnicalAssistance@nutritionintl.org before 28th September 2017:
- Up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV) of all proposed consultants
- Technical proposal: not exceeding ten pages, describing the consultant’s understanding of the task, proposed methodology, responsibilities of key stakeholders and detailed work plan that breaks down activities and outputs.
- Financial proposal: including daily fee rate, suggested number of trips/days in-country and any other expenses required to fulfill the terms of the consultancy (field trips, meetings, materials, etc.).

Submissions without Technical and financial proposals will not be processed

Nutrition International is committed to the fundamental principles of equal employment opportunity. Women are encouraged to apply.