

PHL-04 - Support to National Nutrition Council to accelerate implementation of PPAN and advance the national nutrition agenda in the Philippines

Terms of Reference (ToRs)

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

Background

Technical Assistance for Nutrition (TAN) is a project supported by UK aid from the UK government, which seeks to improve the capacity of SUN countries 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.

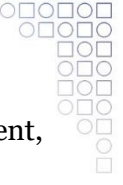
Under-nutrition in the Philippines remains a serious problem. As per the National Nutrition Survey results of 2018, 30.3% of children under five years of age are stunted (31.1% among boys and 29.4% among girls), 5.6% are wasted (6.3% among boys and 5% among girls) and 19% are underweight (19.1% among boys and 19.2% among girls).

The status of micronutrient malnutrition is likewise an important concern in the country. Prevalence of anemia among infants 6 months to 2 years of age is 39.4% (38.3% for boys and 40.5% among girls), the highest among the population groups in the country. In adolescents, the prevalence of anemia is at 8.6% with rates of 11% among females and 6.2% among males. Among pregnant and lactating women, anemia is at 25.2% and 16.6% respectively¹. Also, poverty incidence among Filipinos is estimated at 21.6 percent, with 3.8 million families considered resource poor².

The Presidential Decree No.491 or the Nutrition Act of the Philippines 1974 created the National Nutrition Council (NNC) as the highest policy making and coordinating body on nutrition. The NNC's mandate is to support the formulation of national food and nutrition policies and strategies for nutrition improvement, coordination of nutrition planning; and monitoring and evaluation of the national nutrition program. The NNC is committed to ending hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and

¹ National Nutrition Survey (NNS) 2018

² Poverty Statistics Authority: 2015 Poverty in the Philippines



ensuring that each Filipino enjoys his/her right to good food and good nutrition. With this commitment, the Philippines joined the SUN Movement in March 2014³.

The NNC formulates the Philippines Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) which is integral to the Philippine Development Plan (PDP). The PDP serves as a guide in formulating policies and implementing development programs for the next six years in the country. The current PPAN 2017-2022 was formulated with the support of Nutrition International's Technical Assistance for Nutrition project and UNICEF. Currently, support is also being provided through Nutrition International and UNICEF for operationalization of the PPAN.

The current ongoing support is focused on four key areas to operationalize the PPAN 2017-2022 at national and sub-national level. These include: (1) improved planning and delivery of nutrition actions at the national, regional and local government unit (LGU) level through review of sectoral work plans and coordination with sector representatives, support in the formulation of 17 Regional Plans of Action for Nutrition (RPANs), and mobilization of LGUs through convening of high-level meetings, planning and budgeting workshops, and follow-up visits; (2) documentation of success stories of performing LGUs to mobilize and capacitate other LGUs for improved nutrition program management and delivery of outcomes; (3) strengthening of mechanisms for monitoring and reporting of nutrition actions at national and sub-national levels; and (4) strengthening of the SUN multi-sectoral platforms and the NNC advocacy strategy.

Gains have been made during the current support, particularly in the mobilization of local governments for prioritizing nutrition. However, these need to be continued and reinforced in the remaining years of PPAN 2020-2022 to ensure sustainability of actions and delivery of improved nutritional outcomes by end 2022.

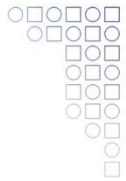
In this context, the NNC has sought TA from NI under the TAN project to consolidate advances made till date and support to operationalize PPAN during the remaining years 2020-2022 in the areas of local government mobilization, sectoral coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the PPAN including its mid-term review and updating of the plan, and in further strengthening multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platforms.

Objectives

Overall objective

To support the SUN Secretariat of the Philippines to further operationalize the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022, with specific consideration and planning for capacity building and sustainability.

³ Scalingupnutrition website; Philippines - <http://scalingupnutrition.org/sun-countries/philippines/>



Specific objectives

1. Provide technical support to further improve planning, budgeting and delivery of nutrition actions at the national, regional and Local Government Unit (LGU) level within the framework of the national development guidelines on the preparation of PDPFPs⁴, CDPs⁵, LDIPs⁶ and AIPs⁷ for the period 2020-2022.
2. Provide technical support for conceptualization & establishment of peer learning sites for nutrition to act as “peer mentors” to systematically share the experiences & good practices of best performing LGUs in the area of nutrition planning, implementation, monitoring & evaluation, financing, and governance with other LGUs of the country.
3. Consolidate gains in strengthening mechanisms for monitoring and reporting of PPAN at national and sub-national levels.
4. Further strengthen the SUN multi-sectoral platforms and provide technical support to NNC’s advocacy and coordination strategies.

Expected results

The TA is expected to build on the gains achieved in 2017-2019 in operationalizing the PPAN 2017-2022 at national and sub-national level, and further contribute to increasing the country’s capacity to scale up the nutrition program at different levels. It is expected that this consultancy will lead to the following results:

- Nutrition leadership and governance course for local chief executives (LCEs) formulated and nutrition champions are mobilized and capacitated to advocate with LGUs for investing in nutrition
- Capacity built and measured of LGU planners and nutrition teams on integrating local nutrition action plans in local development plans and budgets
- Successful models for planning and implementation of nutrition actions organized as peer learning sites/mentors of fellow LGUs to facilitate peer-to-peer learning of LGUs on effective management of nutrition programs
- Mechanism for periodic joint planning and review of nutrition program further strengthened at the national and sub-national levels
- Innovations developed for sharper and more effective advocacy and coordinated efforts for PPAN 2017-2022

⁴ Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan

⁵ Comprehensive Development Plan

⁶ Local Development Investment Program

⁷ Annual Investment Program



Gender

Nutrition International is committed to gender equality. Consultants are required to indicate how they will ensure that gender equality considerations are included in the provision of TA, including how they are incorporated into deliverables. Examples of integration of consideration for gender equality could include, but are not limited to: ensuring government departments responsible for women are included wherever possible, gender sensitive indicators are included, emerging data is sex disaggregated, and relevant documentation related to gender is reviewed. To this end, NI has developed the following tools which can be accessed using the links below:

- [NI integration of gender considerations checklist](#)
- [NI background document on gender and nutrition](#)
- [NI PowerPoint presentation \(Gender 101\)](#)

Scope of Work

The TA would be provided by a team of consultant with specific skill sets. The TA team would support the NNC for 16 months to operationalize the PPAN 2017-2022 in its remaining period.

Deliverables

The consultants should ensure the NI guidance on gender equality considerations is specifically built into the objectives as well as the deliverables required in this TA. The consultant team will develop a plan to integrate gender equality in its activities and deliverables.

The TA team (consultants) is expected to produce the following deliverables:

- i. Curriculum for the nutrition leadership and governance course for local chief executives
- ii. Revision and finalization of teaching and learning materials for the nutrition leadership and governance course, including slide presentations, videos and case studies completed.
- iii. Revision of existing guidelines for PDPFP and CDP thematic guide in integration of nutrition in LGU plans and budgets
- iv. Establish mechanism for monitoring of the implementation of the 2020-2022 CDP, PDPFP by NNC's Regional Nutrition Program Coordinators (RNPCs) and regional partners in PPAN focus provinces
- v. Program document/strategy on capacity building and mobilization of nutrition champions for peer LCEs developed
- vi. Orientation/trainings of nutrition champions completed to build their capacity to deliver their learning is referred to roles in mobilizing peer LCEs and LGUs for nutrition
- vii. Mechanism established for monitoring the effectiveness of services of the nutrition champions by NNC, and to identify areas for adjustments/corrections
- viii. Develop and test system for peer learning for nutrition in selected sites, at least four sites?
- ix. Guidelines on capacitating and mobilizing shepherding LGUs to mentor fellow LGUs on effective nutrition program management



- x. Training shepherding LGU teams on mentoring fellow LGUs on the effective management of nutrition program
- xi. Updating of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022
- xii. Program Implementation Review of PPAN for 2020 and technical review of sectoral work plans for 2021 completed
- xiii. Scorecard developed for national and subnational PPAN stakeholders including the inclusion of nutrition in the Seal of Good Local Governance
- xiv. Innovations developed and tested for full implementation to support more effective and better coordinated operationalization of PPAN at national and sub-national level

In addition, any other deliverables needed by the NNC to support the advancements of the stated objectives, as agreed to by NI may be incorporated in the due course of the assignment.

Duty Station/Location

This is a full-time consultancy for a period of 16 months provided by a team of consultants including Lead Consultant and Member Consultants. The Lead Consultant will share the list of Consulting Team members with NNC and NI for agreement on roles and responsibilities of each team member.

The team will work in close collaboration with the NNC, NI and UNICEF, and with other relevant in-country key stakeholders.

The Lead Consultant will be assigned the overall role of managing this assignment and be responsible for the work completed by other team members and all resulting deliverables.

All the consultants will be based out of Philippines for this assignment. The work station is to be decided by the NNC in consultation with the Senior Principal Consultant during the inception and work planning meeting. In addition, the NNC will provide official work space to the team to hold joint discussions, meetings and reviews.

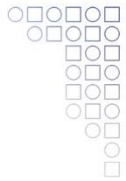
All travels required under this consultancy will be provided for by Nutrition International. Travel allowances maximums are based on standard rates of the organization

Timeline

This TA support would be for a period of up to 16 months, starting from December 2019.

Management and Reporting/Coordination mechanism

- The Consultants will report to the Executive Director, NNC. The Consultants will also work closely with other officials and specific divisions of NNC, Dept. of Health, NI and UNICEF team members. Periodic meeting of the team with the three agencies will be convened during the period of the consultancy.
- The NNC will facilitate the operational linkages with all the other relevant sectors and stakeholders under this TA.



- The Consultants are expected to work in close coordination and harmony with other Consultants working with the NNC.
- NI will provide the funding for the assignment, and payment will be subject to performance and reaching deliverables as agreed upon at the moment of contract signing.
- NI will provide technical input into the assignment and is responsible for assuring the quality of the work being delivered by the Consultants.

Profile/qualifications of consultant

The Lead Consultant will be selected following a recruitment process. The profile of the consultancy team has been presented below:

Education:

- i. Post-graduate level qualification in Nutrition/ Food and Nutrition/ Community Nutrition/ Public Health Nutrition/ Public Health/ Public Policy/ Public Administration/ any other related field(s).
- ii. Knowledge of Nutrition is mandatory.

Language Skills:

- Fluency in written and spoken English is mandatory.
- Fluency in written and spoken Tagalog is mandatory.

Experience:

- i. Relevant technical experience in the fields of nutrition and/or public health programme review, planning, designing and implementation/ monitoring.
- ii. Excellent working knowledge of Government of Philippines nutrition and health portfolios and programmes.
- iii. Experience in strengthening the capacity of ministries/ governments/ partners in being able to sustain interventions.
- iv. Proven experience in advocating for integrating nutrition in sectoral plans/ policies.
- v. Experience of working with sub-national level entities and supporting in development of nutrition action plans.
- vi. Proven experience in managing multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral working groups in national and/or sub-national settings.
- vii. Experience in establishing & strengthening reporting and monitoring mechanisms.
- viii. Experience in working with multi-donor organizations, civil society networks, UN agencies, government and academic/ research institutions.
- ix. Experience in planning and managing all types of national/ high level consultations and workshops.
- x. Experience of working in a multi-cultural environment is an asset.
- xi. Experience in managing teams of consultants and support staff.



Application Process

Proposals should be submitted by email to TechnicalAssistance@NutritionIntl.org before close of business, 25th September 2019, 5.30pm EST (Ottawa, Canada). Only complete applications will be reviewed.

- Up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV)
- Technical proposal: not exceeding five 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.).

Kindly mention '**PHL 04N- Accelerating PPAN**' in the subject line of the email.

Only shortlisted applicants would be contacted.