

Ghana Coalition of Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition
Baseline Rapid Appraisal of CSO Involvement in Nutrition Actions and Advocacy

Terms of Reference

I Context

The *Ghana Coalition of Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACCSUN)* is a platform and a network of CSOs that subscribe to the international clarion call to scale up nutrition and to draw attention to nutrition as a developmental issue.

Recent developments in the economy have identified Ghana as a lower middle income country and one of the fastest growing countries in Africa. The country is also a signatory to a number of international declarations asserting the right of its citizen's to adequate food and nutrition security and to fight malnutrition. Despite this international zeal in making commitments to address her food security and nutrition problems, malnutrition remains a development challenge low in priority on the national policy agenda. In addition, there is inadequate Civil Society participation in nutrition advocacy, policy formulation, and implementation. This creates a situation where there is no body to play a 'watchdog' role in holding relevant public and private institutions accountable for their role in addressing malnutrition in Ghana.

The *Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition (GHACCSUN)* was established as an independent multi-sectoral coalition of civil society organisations involved in/with interest in agriculture, nutrition, health, media etc to advocate for making nutrition a high priority development issue in Ghana. This Project, in addition to building a credible CSOs network with capacity to address the above listed challenges, will also support the implementation of the nutrition policy in Ghana. Ultimately, it is envisioned that a strong and active CSO coalition will be established with a more engaging capacity in the process of demanding accountability in public and private investment in nutrition.

II. Objectives of the Baseline Study

The baseline study will be conducted in order to:

- Establish the level of each project indicator at the beginning of the project, with particular attention to Specific Objective and Expected Result level indicators
- Assess the relevance and accuracy of the indicators selected to measure progress towards achieving project objectives
- Review project log frame to assure use of SMART indicators that will facilitate the evaluation of the project results at the end of the life span of the project

This assignment will therefore be conducted in order to assess:

- The capacity of CSOs to reflect on strategies for reduction of malnutrition and their knowledge about the nutrition of vulnerable people.
- The capacity of CSOs in developing nutrition relevant strategies and positions on nutrition advocacy
- The capacity of CSOs in collecting and analyzing nutrition relevant data.
- The level of involvement of CSOs in nutrition policy development and implementation and their current status of dialogue with government and donors
- The willingness of decision-makers to involve CSO in policy-making.

III. Expected results of the research

The product of the baseline survey is a clear and concise report.

The report will have the following main features:

GHACSUN Baseline Survey

1. Executive Summary (max. 3 pages)
2. Main Text (max 20 pages)
3. Conclusions and Recommendations (fully cross-referenced)
4. Annexes: i.e. TOR, Methodology applied, Logical Framework (original and improved/updated) List of persons/organizations consulted, Literature and documentation consulted, other technical annexes where relevant.

Expected deliverables from the baseline include:

- A detailed methodology of the study, discussed and approved by GHASUN and the local UN focal Organisation WFP
- Detailed information per indicator (as outlined in the log frame)
- A reviewed log frame with recommendations for revised indicators
- Recommendations for the M&E plan (strategy, tools and systems) proposed timeline, roles and responsibilities of GHASCSUN and partners;
- An inventory and description of existing CSOs and networks engaged in nutrition in Ghana.
- A data base of information permitting to map problems, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses of CSOs, in general, and especially in governance and organizational aspects (e.g. relationship with farmer networks, project development skills, fundraising capacity), as well as nutrition advocacy and nutrition data collection and analysis. A data set outlining strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.
- A study report describing main constraints and opportunities for CSO networks support and improved nutrition in their areas, including analysis of potential partners and blockers.
- A database of information permitting to map currently ongoing nutrition policy development and implementation processes at national level and recommendations for entry points of CSO engagement.

VI. The Study duration and areas of Study:

The total duration of the study will be 30 calendar days whose breakdown will be decided by the consultant in collaboration with the Consultancy Supervisory Team. The areas of study will be the ten (10) regions of Ghana.

VII. Profile of the consultant:

The Consultant shall be selected based on the following criteria:

- University degree education with vast and relevant experience in social research will be needed. Relevant qualification in facilitation skills and ability to use participatory tools, social data collection and analysis and experience with similar research studies

- Relevant continuous professional experience in the design, monitoring and review of activities related to Nutrition, CSO strengthening and advocacy.
- Relevant experience in nutrition policy analysis, design and development of CSOs
- Familiarity with the Ghanaian development context
- Demonstrated research and report writing skills

The consultant will have overall responsibility for ensuring all parts of the TOR are addressed satisfactorily in the baseline report. Upon completion of the draft report and the feedback from key program and partner staff, the consultant will be responsible for incorporating the comments and suggestions in the final substantive editing of the report.

VIII. Dates limit of the study

The completion of the study would be planned within the period from 15/06/2013 to 30/07/2013. The candidate's offer will include separate budget offer, technical offer and the methodology to be developed. It will be submitted to the physical address of GHASCSUN at: Ghana Industrial Estates Limited, GICEL (Opposite Driver Vehicle & Licensing Authority) Weija, Accra at the latest on July 30, 2013.