

REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS – SERVICE CONTRACT

CONSULTANCY ON NUTRITION INFORMTION SYSTEM SUPPORT TO DRC

Closing Date: Sunday 13th July 2025, at 23:59, EST/Toronto time.

BACKGROUND

The Global Nutrition Cluster is an initiative for the mutual benefit of the nutrition community, and affected populations, to improve the quality of nutrition in emergency preparedness, response and recovery. The technical arm of the GNC Operations Team, called the GNC Programme Team, is co-led by Action Against Hunger Canada and UNICEF. The GNC Programme Team exists to provide on-demand technical expertise to improve nutrition outcomes in emergencies, both remotely and in-country. GNC Programme Team services are available to any nutrition actor including governments, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, Red Cross/Crescent Societies and others.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a country marked by recurring conflicts, particularly in the east of the country, where armed groups, including the M23, are stepping up their actions, leading to massive displacement and an alarming deterioration of the humanitarian situation. On the nutritional front, the last national nutrition survey conducted in September 2023, shows a persistent nutrition crisis, with an estimated prevalence of overall acute malnutrition (GAM) at the national level of 8.2% [7.5-9.0], with 2.6% [2.2-3.1] of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM), a rate exceeding the threshold for humanitarian emergency. In the DRC, one in ten children under the age of five is acutely malnourished, and one in two is stunted. The nutritional situation in the provinces affected by armed conflict in the east of the country for several years, including in Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu, remains extremely precarious, due to multidimensional factors.

Since late January 2025, there has been an escalation of armed conflict in North and South Kivu provinces that has led successively to M23 control of the main cities of Goma and Bukavu and led to further mass displacement, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities, particularly in relation to nutritional security. This has led to increased humanitarian needs and pressure on the response capacities of partners on the ground. In the DRC, the nutrition information system (NIS) is structured around three main components: (1) routine data collection through health and community structures, (2) nutritional surveillance and early warning systems (SNSAP), and (3) periodic national nutrition surveys. The system is based on the DHIS2 platform, enabling centralised management and real-time analysis of nutritional data. It is an essential tool for the monitoring, evaluation and planning of nutrition interventions at the national level. However, several challenges exist, including:

- Data availability in areas affected by armed conflict and insecurity (North Kivu, Ituri, and Tanganyika provinces), hampering regular nutritional data collection, compromising ongoing nutritional monitoring.
- The limitation of qualified human resources trained in the use of data collection and management tools, such as DHIS2 or Community monitoring instruments, leads to data entry errors
- Multiple sources of data, namely through health facilities, NGOs and humanitarian agencies, without methodological harmonisation, resulting in duplication, gaps or inconsistencies of certain information.
- Data from certain sectors such as health, food security, water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH), the structural determinants of malnutrition, are not analysed very much to prioritise the problem of malnutrition, in order to better guide stakeholders.

This support will help address some of the issues mentioned above and provide the country and nutrition actors with innovative tools and approaches to help strengthen the nutrition information system in the DRC.

OBJECTIVE

The GNC advisor will work closely with ProNaNut, the nutrition cluster coordination team and nutrition cluster partners, in particular national and local NGOs, to strengthen sentinel site integration, develop a decision tree for nutrition surveillance, update the nutrition cluster prioritisation methodology and train nutrition partners on the SMART/CDC rapid screening tool.

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for this support are currently being finalised. They will likely include the following activities:

	Activities	Deliverable	Number of days	Modality
1	To conduct a literature review of existing nutrition information systems relevant to this consultation (data, sentinel sites, nutritional surveillance activities), and their use in the nutrition response in the east of the country	List of Reviewed Documents	5 days over three weeks	Remote
2	In collaboration with ProNaNut, the nutrition cluster coordination team and nutrition cluster partners, in particular national and local NGOs, develop an integration strategy (based on the in-activity review 1) of sentinel site data at different levels (community level, health center level, district level, central level). Development of a Community reporting format, a data analysis table canvas and a user guide to better exploit this data.	Validated Integration Strategy Technical Note Standardised Community reporting format, linked to existing tools Data Analysis Table Canvas (Excel format) Simplified User Guide for Field Partners (Word format)	15 days	In the country
3	Based on the review of activity 1, develop a decision tree for nutrition monitoring, including the different methodologies currently available at global level and adapted to the DRC, in collaboration with partners ¹	Decision Tree Available	3 days	In the country
4	 In collaboration with ProNaNut, the nutrition cluster and local/national partners, develop a one-day training package for implementing partners on: Use of the decision tree (activity 3) Comprehensive vs. Targeted Screening IPC Special Protocols SMART/CDC Rapid Screening Tool 	Training package available with SMART/CDC collection tool in Excel format	5 days	

¹ And based on Nutrition data collection and Analysis with limited humanitarian access and resources - GNC NIS GTWG

5	Prepare and co-facilitate the one-day training for nutrition partners in eastern DRC, in particular national and local NGOs	Training Report	1 day	In the country
6	Updating the methodology for prioritising the nutrition cluster in alignment with the AMN and JIAF 2.0 IPC phases (5 phases)	The methodology and calibration of indicator scores are updated and in line with international standards The prioritisation matrix is set up and digitised	12 days	In the country
7	Finalise the various tools with feedback from partners Prepare the end-of-mission report with recommendations for the continuation of NIS activities in the DRC	Finalised versions of the sentinel site data integration strategy, decision tree, training package and nutrition cluster prioritisation methodology. Mission Completion Report	5 days	Remote

Time and scheduling permitting, the Technical Advisor may also be requested to perform other relevant tasks. If these present a significant deviation from the ToR, these should be discussed with and agreed upon by all parties and documented (at least by email if not an official amendment to ToR document).

Terms of reference and expected results will be refined when the technical advisor starts support and the supervisor in the country meets with the technical advisor (within 48 hours of the launch of support), as the situation remains dynamic and requires a degree of flexibility.

TIMELINE

The duration of this support is 8 weeks (46 days) over 3 months. Looking to start in mid-July, 2025.

PROFILE

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Required:

- 1. Master's degree in nutrition, public health, international development, social sciences or other relevant field OR first university degree with additional years of work experience and/or related training/courses.
- 2. At least 10 years of professional experience in nutrition and public health in emergency situations with NGOs and/or UN agencies
- 3. Proven experience in nutrition information systems and assessments (including SMART methodology)

- 4. Demonstrated experience in capacity building, including learning needs assessment and development of training materials and tools.
- 5. Experience in engaging and building the capacity of local actors

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND OTHER ATTRIBUTES

Required:

- 1. Strong coordination skills and ability to work effectively with a range of stakeholders, including nutrition clusters/clusters, partners and the Ministry of Health.
- 2. Motivated and able to work with a high degree of autonomy and strong time management skills.
- 3. Ability to manage and coordinate multi-stakeholder efforts towards a common goal and goal.
- 4. Highly developed communication skills, both written and oral.
- 5. Excellent knowledge of global guidance and best practices on nutrition information systems and nutrition assessments
- 6. Good understanding of the cluster approach and the humanitarian programme cycle.
- 7. Ability to work in French at a high level

Desired:

- 1. Professional experience in the DRC
- 2. Practical knowledge of local languages in eastern DRC

Candidates with previous work experience in the country, or knowledge of the context, will be preferred.

DUTY STATION/LOCATION

The consultant will provide remote support (home-based assignment) and in-country support. The consultant may be required to apply flexible working hours.

SUPERVISORS

The consultant will be supervised by both the GNC Operations Team Coordination Unit and the in-country requestor (DRC Nutrition Cluster Coordinator).

CONTRACT MODALITY

Fixed-term deliverable-based contract.

Applications are open to individuals.

HOW TO APPLY

Proposals responding to this RFQ should include:

- Updated CV
- Cover letter detailing experience in conducting similar work
- Three references for which you have conducted similar work

Quotation – dated and signed. Please provide your daily rate in Canadian Dollars (CAD). Quotation template is provided with this RFQ, however, please feel free to use your own template if you prefer. Quotation must be dated and signed.
 Please note that all travel and in-country costs will be covered by Action Against Hunger Canada and it is not necessary to include these costs in your quotation.

Signed Action Against Hunger Canada Good Business Regulations Form will be required prior to completion of contracting.

Please submit the proposal before Sunday 13th July 2025, at 23:59, EST/Toronto time to: procurement@actionagainsthunger.ca

Please highlight "Consultancy on NIS support to DRC" in the subject heading.

QUOTATION

Name of the Applicant:

Address: Phone: <u>Email:</u>

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	DAILY RATE	AMOUNT
	(Number of days)	(CAD)	(Total Quotation CAD)
CONSULTANCY ON NUTRITION INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT IN DRC	46		

Signature: _____

Date: _____