



Terms of Reference

Position:	Nutrition Consultant
Responsible To:	Assistant Country Director Programmes
Location:	Antakya, Turkey
Provisional Time Frame:	14 working days
Tentative Dates:	19 th – 05 th June 2014
Salary and Benefits:	Dependent on experience.

1) Introduction

GOAL's response to the Syria crisis began in November 2012 and has provided vital food and non-food aid to over 200,000 beneficiaries to date through both direct distributions and voucher programming in Idlib and Hama Governorates.

GOAL Syria currently receives funds from four donors. Under OFDA GOAL implements voucher-based and in-kind Non-Food Items (NFIs) and winterization support. FFP funding provides Family Food Rations (FFR) and support to bakeries with wheat flour alongside a voucher-based system for the most vulnerable households to access bread. The DFID grant focuses on improved access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation and improved food security through a mixed-resource transfer model combining dry food distributions with Fresh Food Vouchers (FFV), and finally Irish Aid entails both unrestricted vouchers in areas with good access to markets and in-kind assistance where markets are not adequately functional.

FSL programme design has been informed by various assessments in the past year, including an Emergency Market and Mapping Analysis of wheat flour and vegetables (January 2014), a Food Security Baseline (December 2013) and Needs Assessment (January 2014), a Fresh Food Assessment and a Food Basket Assessment (both September 2013). However, efforts to ensure that food baskets in particular provide adequate levels of both macro- and micronutrients have had implications in terms of both cost and lead times. GOAL Syria is therefore seeking additional technical support to ensure that nutrition is afforded due consideration in FSL programme design in a manner that more closely corresponds with timely and cost-effective delivery of aid to the most vulnerable.

2) Objective of the consultancy

To support GOAL Syria's efforts to mainstream nutrition across their emergency programmes (particularly food security and livelihoods).

Specifically:

- Review the nutrition component of GOAL Syria's FSL activities
- Input into a Cost Modification proposal to Food for Peace (FFP), including review of Food Basket Assessment results and technical design of food kit / food assistance proposed
- Support on writing an article on GOAL's food security programme for the Emergency Nutrition Network's (ENN) Special Edition on Syria

3) Task description

Review of current FSL activities:

To review GOAL's current FSL activities with a nutrition lens, comment on appropriateness and relevance of same with reference to nutrition and recommend improvements on the following core activities:

- Targeting processes and beneficiary selection criteria;
- Project design
- Food kit composition
- Distribution processes
- Frequency of assistance provided against nutritional needs / requirements of targeted groups
- Input to implementation design for pilot LLH activity
- Develop a 'Nutrition sensitivity' checklist for GOAL Syria FSL programme design and implementation

FFP Cost Modification proposals:

Provide technical input to the design of a Food Security cost modification proposal to FFP, see summary below -

FFP Food: Improve food security through increasing access to food for targeted beneficiaries (including both direct distributions of dry food rations and voucher-based assistance to increased access to food available in local markets and including fresh food, dry food, bread etc).

Tasks will include:

- Review of Food Basket Assessment (GOAL) results and support on the design of family dry food rations

- Advise on modality, for example vouchers, direct distributions or mixed resource transfer and most appropriate modality to ensure adequate nutritional intake for households with higher nutritional needs
- Review of existing need assessments (GOAL and other) and support in drafting needs assessment as this relates to nutrition and technical project design in terms of nutritional sensitivity.

ENN article:

The focus of the article will be the transition from food baskets/kits to a voucher-based programme. The article should describe the type of programming that has taken place and lesson learning along the way including:

- i) The context of programming including challenges due to access and security
- ii) Assessments which informed the food kit design and the targeting criteria used
- iii) Design of different food kits and resulting operational difficulties
- iv) Modified food kit design
- v) Difficulties around duplication of food basket programming
- vi) Change of GOAL direction to include voucher programming (rationale for this, setting up of cash working group)
- vii) Details of the voucher programme design (including issues of conditionality and the role of real time monitoring and evaluation using tablets and video monitoring)
- viii) Lessons learnt on voucher programming so far and vision for future.

4) Time allocation

Approx. n° of days required	Activity
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview of current programme and operational realities via meetings with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assistant Country Director of Programmes- Food Security & Livelihoods Coordinator (and Programme Managers if available)- Partnership Manager- Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator- Security Coordinator- Logistics Coordinator
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review of programme documents (proposals, assessment reports, distribution and post distribution monitoring reports and raw data where appropriate)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Draft summary analysis describing the current state of nutrition sensitivity of FSL activities with recommendations/action plan
0.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Feedback session with all relevant programmes and operations staff
0.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Finalize the summary analysis
2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Technical input into FFP proposals
3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Draft version of ENN article

5) Expected outputs

- A systematic summary analysis describing the current state of nutrition sensitivity of FSL activities
- Cost-effective and practically feasible recommendations to improve the nutrition component of the FSL programme
- An accompanying action plan with established buy-in from all departments and SMT
- A 3000 word article for ENN
- Technical input into two FFP proposals

6) Required Qualification and Experience

The consultant should have the following qualification and experience:

- Relevant academic and professional background in nutrition

- Extensive practical experience in nutrition-sensitive FSL programmes in emergency contexts (preferably with a background in cash-based responses)
- Strong writing skills with experience in proposal writing
- Experience/exposure to similar contexts
- Professional fluency in English

7) Responsibilities of GOAL

- Accommodation and food allowance
- Flights to and from Antakya, Turkey
- Any necessary travel in country
- Laptop
- Mobile phone

8) Submission

Applicants should submit the following in electronic form to tenders-syria@sy.goal.ie

Sunday 11th May 2014.

- Curriculum Vitae (2 pages)
- A recent writing sample
- Submission of costs in the following format:

Item	Euro rate	Total amount
Daily Consultancy Rate		
Other costs		
Total consultancy fees		

Note: GOAL will provide accommodation with the GOAL team, travel costs in country, accommodation and a daily per diem at GOAL's standard rates. These costs should not be included in the cost estimate above.

Selection criteria are based on:

- Relevant sector specific technical experience & qualifications
- Relevant field/country experience
- Proven reliability in delivery of timely and quality services
- Cost/budget