



Terms of Reference

Consultant to Review Decree and Terms of Reference for the National Food Fortification Alliance in Madagascar

July 22, 2024

Deadline for receipt of submissions:
On or before August 2, 2023 at 5:00 PM EAT





Scope of work for a consultant to review the Decree and Terms of Reference for the National Food Fortification Alliance in Madagascar

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Nutrition International is recruiting an individual consultant to perform the duties specified in this Scope of Work (Sow) or Terms of Reference (ToR). Nutrition International is committed to the fundamental principles of equal employment opportunity. Women are encouraged to apply.

INTRODUCTION

In August 2023, the Madagascar USAID Mission requested USAID Advancing Food Fortification Opportunities to Reinforce Diets (USAID AFFORD) to support the Government of Madagascar in the roll-out of the national strategy, and to lay a strong foundation for the scale-up of high quality food fortification through new and existing vehicles. The support is focused on four core areas:

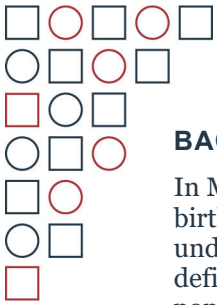
- i. Support stakeholders to operationalize the national food fortification strategy
- ii. Gather data on consumption of fortifiable foods, dietary inadequacies, and LSFF contributions to reducing inadequacies to support evidence-based LSFF decisions
- iii. Support strengthened production and scaleup of iodized salt
- iv. Strengthen Madagascar's ongoing efforts to lead and coordinate LSFF stakeholders

USAID AFFORD, is the USAID's flagship program on large scale food fortification. The program seeks to reduce micronutrient inadequacies and improve diets, particularly for women and children, through large scale food fortification (LSFF). The program, which is part of the U.S. government's Feed the Future initiative, takes a holistic approach to promoting large-scale food fortification that puts businesses at the core of the solution while strategically engaging with the public, private, and civil society sectors. The program partners include TechnoServe, which leads program implementation, Nutrition International, the Food Fortification Initiative, and ISF Advisors.

Its activities are centered on four intermediate results (IRs):

- IR 1: Strengthened LSFF enabling environment through the public sector.
- IR 2: Expanded and sustained LSFF interventions through private sector engagement
- IR 3: Strengthened effectiveness of LSFF interventions and increased public and private sector accountability through civil society engagement.
- IR 4: Mobilized global commitment, leadership, and investment in support of LSFF.

The Policy Analyst is being commissioned through NI; the lead agency responsible for Intermediate Result 1 (IR1) within the USAID AFFORD project.



BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ANFA

In Madagascar, child mortality and infant mortality rates are high, at 75 deaths per 1,000 live births, and 47 deaths per 1,000 live births, respectively (DHS, 2021). 40% of the children under five years are stunted, 23% underweight and 8% wasted (DHS, 2021). Micronutrient deficiencies are a significant public health problem in Madagascar affecting most of the population especially the Malagasy women and children, with anemia found in 43% of children aged 6-59 months, and 26.4% of women of reproductive age (MICS 6, 2018). According to a national survey on iodine and salt conducted in the country in 2016, the Malagasy population is moderately deficient in iodine as the consumption of adequately iodized salt is very low. 21.3% of households use salt with adequate amounts of iodine (above 15ppm iodine), translating to a national median urinary iodine concentration (MUIC) of 46µg/liter.

Based on the available data and information related to micronutrient deficiencies in the country, the government of Madagascar developed a Stratégie Nationale pour la Fortification Alimentaire (national food fortification strategy) in 2020 to provide technical guidance in prioritization of actions, and in the implementation of areas of focus for the food fortification program.

In May 2024, USAID AFFORD supported a national stakeholder workshop in Antananariva, Madagascar to share information on the current food fortification context and landscape in the country, and to develop and cost an action plan that will operationalize the strategy. One of the main strategic areas identified within the action (operational) plan is the need to revitalize the Alliance Nationale de la Fortification Alimentaire (National Food Fortification Alliance) (ANFA) whose main role is to lead and coordinate implementation of the strategy and the developed operational plan.

ANFA was established under Order No. 17414/2008 to supervise, coordinate and monitor implementation of the food fortification program and the strategy thereof. The structure has limited functionality with infrequent meetings partly due to lack of an action plan and legal inadequacy of the Order to fully support the Alliance.

Since its revitalization in 2021, several general assemblies and workshops have been organized to discuss its operations and the steps required for its effective implementation. During these meetings, a major concern emerged: the importance of giving ANFA its own legal status, and the need to revise the regulatory texts governing its operations. This request stems from the need to clarify ANFA's legal and institutional framework in order to guarantee its legitimacy, autonomy, and effectiveness in coordinating food fortification efforts on a national scale.

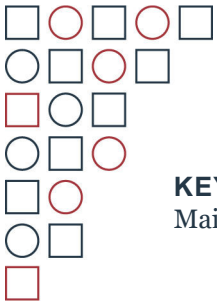
At present, existing regulatory texts do not fully meet ANFA's requirements and operational realities. A well-defined legal status will not only strengthen ANFA's authority, but also facilitate partnerships with key players in the public and private sectors, as well as with technical and financial partners. In addition, a clear regulatory framework is essential for the implementation of robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, which are vital to the success of the operational plan.

The Office National de Nutrition (ONN) requested USAID AFFORD for support in the revision of the application and regulatory text that govern ANFA's operations, and in enhancing clarity on its legal and institutional framework. The support will also include updating of the terms of reference for the alliance, and development of an annual action plan.

NI is therefore seeking to recruit a consultant to support ANFA in the above technical areas in order for the Alliance to achieve its strategic objectives.

OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY:

The main aim of the consultancy is to strengthen ANFA's legal and operational framework by revising existing regulatory texts and drafting new ones to ensure effective implementation of the SNFOA (national FF strategy). The consultant will be expected to work closely with the ONN/ANFA Lead, the USAID AFFORD technical lead in Madagascar, the Technical Lead and Advisor for IR1, and with regular communication with other IR leads and personnel within the AFFORD project.



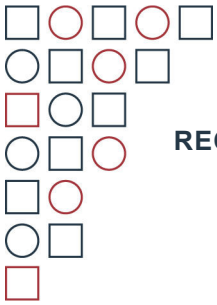
KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Main responsibilities will include:

- Review existing regulatory texts related to ANFA and identify gaps, inconsistencies or needs for updating.
- Benchmark similar regulatory frameworks in other contexts to identify applicable best practices.
- Draft new regulatory texts for ANFA, including statutes, operating procedures and directives.
- Revise and improve existing texts, taking into account feedback from stakeholders and Madagascar's legal and institutional requirements.
- Update the draft terms of reference for ANFA and ensure they are in line with the regulatory texts for ANFA.
- Facilitate discussions, encourage the active participation of committee members and other participants, and ensure a common understanding of objectives and expected results.
- Prepare and present revised and new documents at the plenary sessions of the workshop to be held at the end of August 2024 explaining the changes and rationales behind them.
- Coordinate validation sessions, ensuring that all stakeholders have the opportunity to provide constructive feedback.
- Provide practical recommendations for the implementation of regulatory texts and the next steps to be taken to ensure their official adoption.
- Other tasks and responsibilities may be required.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

None



REQUIRED EDUCATION LEVEL AND EXPERIENCE

- Master's degree or doctorate in law, public administration, political science or a related field.
- Minimum 10 years' professional experience in regulatory affairs, legislative drafting or strategic planning.
- Proven experience in legal consulting, particularly in Madagascar or similar contexts.
- Experience in supporting governmental and non-governmental organizations in the revision and drafting of regulatory texts.
- Mastery of the processes involved in drafting and revising regulatory texts.
- Solid skills in legal analysis and public policy development.
- Good knowledge of Madagascar's legal and institutional framework.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in French, with the ability to draft clear, precise and well-structured documents.
- Ability to facilitate workshops, lead group discussions, and present reports and recommendations.
- Experience working across and within sectors as a means of optimizing program performance.
- Experience working with large multi-stakeholder teams and ability to participate in and coordinate across them.
- Knowledge of international development and/or public health issues.
- Strong organizational, communication, and writing skills with ability to stick to tight deadlines and produce high quality deliverables.
- Ability to work proactively and independently under fast-paced, complex, and dynamic working conditions.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

The applicant must be fluent in written and spoken French.

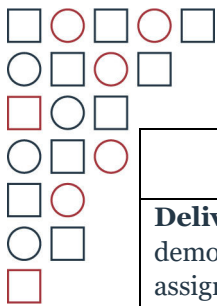
TRAVEL, LOCATION, AND DURATION

Ideally, the candidate will be based in Madagascar hence no international travel is envisaged. However, domestic travel maybe needed from time to time. If the candidate is based outside of Madagascar, travel to the country will be required.

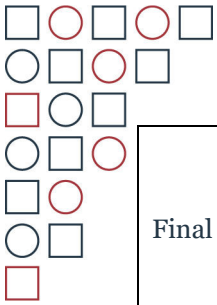
The consultancy will be undertaken between August 12 and September 30th, 2024. It will take 20 days of LoE.

DELIVERABLES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

All payments will be attached to timely submission of deliverables. This deliverables and payment schedule is subject to change before the contract is signed.

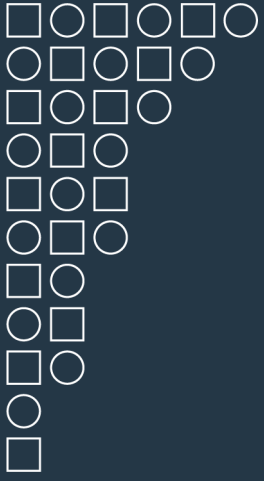


Deliverables	Expected Due Date	Submitted By
Deliverable 1: An inception report to demonstrate a clear understanding of the assignment. The report should include objectives of the assignment, methodology and a succinct work plan with timelines and deliverables	August 14, 2024	Lead Consultant
Deliverable 2: A summary preliminary analysis report on the existing regulatory texts related to ANFA and the identified gaps, inconsistencies or needs for updating. The report should also provide a comparison of similar regulatory frameworks in other contexts to identify best practices.	August 21, 2024	Lead Consultant
Payment 1: Deliverable 1 and 2	Within 30 days of NI review and acceptance of deliverables 1 and 2 with submission of invoice	NI
Deliverable 3: A draft on proposals for revised and new texts for ANFA , including revised versions of existing regulatory texts, including bylaws, operating procedures and directives; the new regulatory texts necessary for ANFA, and ToRs drafted in compliance with legal and institutional requirements.	August 28, 2024	Lead Consultant
Deliverable 4: Feedback from USAID AFFORD and ANFA incorporated into the proposals for revised and new texts.	August 30, 2024	Lead Consultant
Deliverable 5: Present the draft regulatory texts to ANFA meeting	September 2-5, 2024	Lead Consultant
Payment 2: Deliverable 3, 4 and 5	Within 30 days of NI review and acceptance of deliverables 3,4 and 5 with submission of invoice	NI
Deliverable 6: Final version of the regulatory statutes. Based on feedback from the ANFA meeting revise the regulatory texts and all the necessary application texts and prepare final version of the regulatory statutes. Submission of these statutes should be accompanied with practical recommendations for the implementation of regulatory texts and a detailed action plan on the next steps to be taken to ensure their official adoption	September 20, 2024	Lead Consultant



Final payment: Deliverable 6	Within 30 days of NI review and acceptance of deliverable 6 with submission of invoice	NI
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This posting can and will be amended as required from time to time.



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