

## **Revised Terms of Reference (ToR)**

### **Development of the Somalia Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan**

#### **1. Background**

The Somalia Nutrition Cluster serves as a critical coordination mechanism aimed at ensuring strategic, timely, and effective emergency nutrition interventions. The cluster's primary objectives include needs assessment, capacity building, response coordination, emergency preparedness, and expanding the reach of emergency nutrition programs in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) at both national and subnational levels.

The Nutrition Cluster is coordinated by a national team, including a Cluster Coordinator, a Deputy Cluster Coordinator (WFP), an Information Management Officer (UNICEF), and a Nutrition Cluster Coordinator (IRC). Additionally, five state-level coordinators manage subnational coordination alongside UNICEF and WFP nutrition officers.

Currently, the Nutrition Cluster comprises 82 active members, including 49 national/local organizations, 25 international NGOs, three government agencies, and three observer organizations. These partners collectively operate over 1,500 nutrition facilities across Somalia, providing lifesaving services to vulnerable populations.

Despite significant progress in reducing acute malnutrition, Somalia continues to face 'critical' levels of acute malnutrition according to the latest IPC AMN projection, exacerbated by displacement, conflict, food insecurity, and limited access to healthcare. The evolving humanitarian context requires a strategic realignment of the Nutrition Cluster's priorities and response mechanisms.

#### **2. Rationale for the Strategy and Response Plan**

A new Somalia Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan is essential for addressing the country's evolving nutrition challenges, grounded in global best practices, emerging trends, and the 2023 WHO guideline on the prevention and treatment of wasting and nutritional oedema. It will provide a structured framework aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of nutrition interventions, ensuring a coordinated response to both immediate and long-term needs.

The strategy and response plan will be specifically designed to guide partners in key areas such as strengthening prevention strategies, integrating nutrition across sectors like Food Security and livelihoods, Health, and WASH, and mainstreaming cross-cutting issues such as gender and equality, AAP, Protection, Disability, PDAD, and climate change. Additionally, it will provide guidance and recommendations on best approaches for digitization, real-

time monitoring, reinforcing system linkages, securing sustainable funding, and enhancing accountability and resources. This comprehensive approach is vital to ensuring that nutrition interventions are impactful, sustainable, and well-coordinated across Somalia.

### **3. Purpose of the Assignment**

The purpose of this consultancy is to develop a comprehensive Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan that will guide partners in responding effectively and efficiently to Somalia's evolving nutrition challenges. This plan will provide a clear framework for emergency responses, protracted crisis interventions, and recovery efforts, based on existing strategies, best practices, and relevant evidence to ensure a coordinated, evidence-based approach.

The assignment will be remote-based, relying on virtual interviews, consultations, and other digital means of communication for data collection and stakeholder engagement.

### **4. Scope of Work**

The consultant will work under the guidance of the Nutrition Cluster Coordinator, collaborating closely with the FMOH, partners, and other key sectors. The assignment will include the following tasks:

- **Desk Review:** Conduct a review of relevant national and global documents, strategies, frameworks, guidelines, reports, and other materials to inform the development of the strategy and response plan. Due to the nature of the 'prevention' aspect of the new WHO strategy, and then multi-causal nature of nutrition, the review has to go beyond the nutrition and health sector related documents and take on a multi-sectoral view also.
- **Development of the Draft Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan**, which will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - Strategies and interventions relevant to the Somalia context, informed by evidence, best practices, and lessons learned
  - Emergency response strategies for acute crises, protracted crises, and early recovery contexts.
  - Operational strategies for urban, rural, IDP, and hard-to-reach areas.
  - Integration strategies for Health, gender, WASH, Food Security and livelihoods, and other relevant sectors.
  - Mainstreaming strategies for AAP, SBC, CP, PDAD, PSEA and Disability.

- Strategies for nutrition programming in the context of climate change.
- Defining priority indicators for monitoring and measuring progress.
- Identified gaps, challenges, and key recommendations for program improvement.
- Cluster Advocacy Strategy to enhance visibility, engagement, and policy influence.
- Resource Mobilization Strategy to secure sustainable funding for nutrition interventions.
- Cluster Rationalization Strategy to optimize resource allocation and minimize service duplication.
- Role of Technical Working Groups (TWGs) within the Cluster.
- Recommendations for digitization and real-time monitoring approaches
- Compiling relevant protocols, guidelines, and supporting documents.
- **Stakeholder Feedback:** Organize and conduct a virtual workshop to present the draft Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan and solicit feedback from all relevant stakeholders.
- **Submission of the Draft Document:** Provide the final draft of the Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan for use by the Nutrition Cluster Coordination team in further stakeholder engagement, buy-in, and final endorsement.

## 5. Deliverables and Timelines

Task	Deliverable	Timeline
Development of the Methodology	Submission of the methodology and assignment workplan, detailing approach, timeline, and key milestones	1 week
Desk Review of Documents	Comprehensive list of relevant (nutrition and multi-sectoral nutrition) documents, strategies, frameworks, and guidelines to be referenced in the strategy and response plan	2 weeks

Submission of Zero Draft	Submission of the Zero Draft of the Somalia Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan, including all key sections and framework	3 weeks
Stakeholder Consultation	Conduct one virtual workshop to present the Zero Draft and solicit feedback from relevant stakeholders	1 week
Incorporate Feedback and Finalize the Draft	Finalized Nutrition Cluster Strategy and Response Plan (2025-2028), incorporating feedback from stakeholders and ready for endorsement	1 week

## 6. Qualifications and Experience

The consultant should have:

- **Advanced degree** in Nutrition, Public Health Nutrition, Food Security with strong Nutrition emphasis, or a related field.
- **Minimum 7 years of experience** in nutrition programming and humanitarian response.
- Demonstrated experience in **developing sector-wide strategies** and response plans.
- Knowledge of **global nutrition related guidelines, Sphere Standards, and humanitarian coordination mechanisms.**
- Strong skills in **stakeholder engagement, multi-sector integration and programming for nutrition, and strategic planning.**
- Excellent **analytical, writing, and facilitation skills.**
- Familiarity with the **Somalia context and nutrition landscape** is an asset.

## 7. Reporting and Coordination

The consultant will report directly to the **Somalia Nutrition Cluster Coordinator**, with oversight from the **Nutrition Cluster Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) and the Recruiting Organization (WHH)**. Regular updates will be provided to Cluster partners, FMOH, and key stakeholders.

## 8. Resources and Support

The consultant will have access to the following:

- Relevant documents from the Nutrition Cluster and the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- Technical guidance from the Nutrition Cluster team and partner organizations.
- Administrative and logistical support from WHH as needed.

## **9. Budget and Payment Terms**

The total consultancy budget will be determined based on the **level of effort and deliverables**.

## **10. Application Process**

Interested candidates should submit:

- **A CV and cover letter** highlighting relevant experience.
- **A technical proposal** outlining their approach to developing the strategy.
- **A financial proposal** with a detailed budget breakdown.