

TERMS OF REFERENCE

POLICY PAPER: ELIMINATION OF TRANS-FATTY ACIDS FROM FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN



Posted date	August 3, 2023	Last date to apply	August 9, 2023
Country	Pakistan	Location	Punjab
Type of Services	Consultancy (contractual)	Category	Policy Briefs
Position	1	Tentative commencement date of services	August 15, 2023
Level of Efforts	2 Months	Tentative duration	August 15, 2023 to October 15, 2023.
Proposals / applications to be submitted at: hr@cpdi-pakistan.org			

ABOUT CPDI

The Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) is an independent, non-partisan and a not-for-profit civil society organization working on issues of peace and development in Pakistan. It is registered under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (XLVII of 1984). It seeks to inform and influence public policies and civil society initiatives through research-based advocacy and capacity building to promote citizenship, build peace, improve governance, and achieve inclusive and sustainable development. Areas of special sectoral focus include promoting peace and tolerance, police reforms, right to information, strong local governments, climate change and mitigation, transparency in governance, democratic values, rule of law, accountable governance in the country and public health initiatives.

ABOUT THE ASSIGNMENT

1. BACKGROUND

Pakistan's trans-fat intake is estimated to be the 2nd highest in the WHO-EMRO region at nearly 6% of daily energy intake leading to higher vulnerability risk of coronary heart disease. Research studies have highlighted that the consumption of industrially produced trans-fatty acids (iTFAs) causes detrimental effects on human health. Higher consumption of Trans Fats (>1% of total energy intake) is associated with increased risk of diet related non communicable diseases (NCDs).

The main purpose of this project is to achieve a mandatory national limit of 2 grams of industrially produced trans fatty acids (TFA) per 100 grams of total fats in all foods in Pakistan.

The project is engaging both government and civil society organizations (CSOs) to build consensus for the development and adoption of best practice iTFA limit regulation, influence decision makers to pass iTFA standards and regulations, monitor and counter industry/front groups or any other opposition to create an enabling environment for the aimed policy change in Pakistan.

CPDI is a partner to Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) in Pakistan and implementing a project to eliminate trans fatty acids from the food supply chain. CPDI is looking for a consultant to develop policy paper and a dossier aimed at providing evidence based information to policy makers for making informed decision to limit consumption of trans fatty acids from the supply chain, as per WHO guidelines by adopting best policy practices. The consultant shall work closely with Nutrition Wing, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (MoNHSR&C), and TFA advisory group.

2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY PAPER

CPDI expects that this policy paper is a comprehensive yet brief document that provides decision-makers with the necessary information to make informed decisions about industrially produced TFA limit regulation as per WHO guidelines. It helps the decision-makers in a way that they are better placed to make informed decisions about the most effective ways to regulate TFA consumption, considering the potential impacts on industry, consumers, and public health..

3. KEY TASKS

1. Conduct an inception meeting with CPDI, GHAI and Nutrition Wing at MoNHSR&C.
2. Develop an outline for the policy paper and dossier/working paper in consultation with CPDI, GHAI and Nutrition Wing, MoNHSR&C.
3. Conduct a comprehensive review of the existing scientific evidence on the health effects of TFA consumption and other literature to build the case for best practices policy measures;
4. Conduct interviews with the key stakeholders including national and sub national (provincial) food regulatory bodies/authorities, MoNHSR&C, Pakistan Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, UN agencies, civil society, academia and others.
5. Enlist potential products which are source of TFA intake in the diet, but yet not covered under the standards which are in the development process by Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA). Indicate relevant technical committees working under PSQCA responsible to revise these standards.
6. Work closely with Nutrition wing, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, PSQCA, Sub National Regulatory Bodies/Authorities to identify the potential gaps in existing standards, regulations and policy related to TFAs, including limiting saturated fats and total fats in the diet.
7. Analyze Pakistan's context and develop a rationale for adopting the hybrid approach for TFA policy including both limiting TFAs through regulations and to imposing ban on Partially Hydrogenated Oil (PHO).

8. Enlist international best practices about TFAs regulation in high, medium, and low income countries and what Pakistan can learn from other countries.
9. Review the draft Pakistan's National Action Plan (2019 -2023) on TFA elimination and document if there are any implementation issues, along with the proposed solutions.
10. Develop evidence-based arguments in support of TFA limit regulation, and banning PHO.
11. Building on the WHO replace package, draft a policy paper for Pakistan documenting best policy practices on TFA elimination.
12. Draft a working paper/dossier, which may be submitted by Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination to PSQCA for change in standards to limit the TFAs by less than 2 percent of the total fats in all foods.
13. Any other task assigned by CPDI, GHAI or MoNHSR&C related to this assignment evolved during the work.

Policy paper and the executive summary must be designed in a way that it helps in advocacy for policy and legal changes related to TFAs regulation in Pakistan.

4. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

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| 1. Literature review: | 3 days | |
| 2. Research design and analysis plan: | 1 days | |
| 3. Main research questions: | 2 days | |
| 4. Data collection instruments: | 2 days | |
| 5. Data collection: | 10 days | |
| 6. In depth interviews | | |
| 7. Desk research from secondary sources | | |
| 8. Data review and analysis: | 4 days | |
| 9. Policy Paper Writing | 5 days | |
| 10. Dossier Writing | 2 days | |
| 11. Addressing comments and finalising the policy paper and dossier | | 3 days. |
| Total days: 32 | | |

5. DURATION:

- 1- Work plan
- 2- Policy Paper for Pakistan on best policy practices
- 3- Dossier/working papers to be submitted by MoNHSR&C to PSQCA

6. REQUIRED QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- The consultant should possess a combination of technical expertise, relevant work experience, and interpersonal skills to successfully deliver the consultancy assignment;
- Educational qualifications: The consultant must have a Master degree in food technologies, food regulation, public health, project management, development and policy studies or any other relevant field; Post doc shall be given priority.
- A deep understanding of food policy landscape in Pakistan is highly desired.
- Relevant work experience: A consultant should have a minimum of 5 years of work experience in relevant field;
- Strong communication and inter-personnel skills: The consultant should have excellent communication and inter-personnel skills to effectively convey information to the target audience, and ability to liaise with different stakeholders;

- Previous consultancy experience: Previous experience working as an independent consultant on similar assignments is mandatory.

7. REPORTING:

Project Manager & Executive Director CPDI

8. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The consultant shall work closely for all technical matters with National Coordinator Nutrition and NFA, MoNHSR&C, and Country Coordinator Pakistan at GHAI.

9. HOW TO APPLY:

Interested Individuals can send maximum 3-page *technical proposal* (70% weightage), explaining the approach and methodology, *one sample of relevant work*, CVs/Profile highlighting the relevant experience and qualification as well as the *financial proposal* (30% weightage for evaluation) mentioning the name of assignment in subject at: hr@cpdi-pakistan.org. The financial proposal should be inclusive of applicable taxes and work-related logistical costs (i.e., travel/ lodging, incidentals, etc.), as required for assignment related activities and meetings at CPDI offices or with other stakeholders in the Islamabad, Peshawar and target TLGs. No expense claims will be entertained/paid by CPDI.

*Late submissions will not be entertained.