Nutrition Scientist, Global Nutrition Report

About the GNR

The [Global Nutrition Report](#) (GNR) is the world's leading independent assessment of the state of global nutrition and leads the Nutrition Accountability Framework (NAF).[1] The GNR was established in 2014 following the first [Nutrition for Growth](#) (N4G) Summit as an accountability mechanism to track progress against global nutrition targets and the commitments made to reach them. It acts as a stocktake on the world's nutrition – globally, regionally and country by country – and on efforts to improve it.

The GNR is a multi-stakeholder initiative, consisting of a Stakeholder Group (SG), an Independent Expert Group (IEG) and the GNR Host (the current Host is Development Initiatives (DI)). The GNR aims to provide a single authoritative source on progress towards addressing poor diets and malnutrition on a global scale, with high standards of quality and independence. The GNR provides the best available data, in-depth analysis and expert opinion rooted in evidence to help drive action on nutrition where it is urgently needed. Through a comprehensive [Report](#), interactive [Country Nutrition Profiles](#) and [Nutrition Commitment Tracking](#), the GNR sheds light on poor diets and the burden of malnutrition, from undernutrition to diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs), tracks progress on global nutrition targets and highlights working solutions to improve nutrition around the world.

The GNR is led by the IEG Chair, who is supported by IEG members to develop an independent and high quality GNR. The current chair is Dr Renata Micha.

The GNR's goal is to inform, shape and inspire action with data and evidence on policy, practice and financing that result in greater accountability and progress in tackling poor diets and malnutrition globally.

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[1] The N4G Accountability Working Group, formed under the auspices of the government of Japan, has called for "an independent, coherent, streamlined, unified, well financed and cost-effective accountability framework to hold all stakeholders, including governments, businesses, civil society organizations (CSOs) and philanthropic organizations accountable". The Working Group has recommended that, as the key accountability mechanism for N4G commitment tracking, the GNR should be the natural choice for coordinating the overall nutrition accountability framework, thus extending N4G commitments aimed at coordinating nutrition accountability as a whole in the long term. See: https://nutritionforgrowth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Accountability-WG-Final-report-designed-VF_Compressed.pdf

About the GNR Host

The Host organisation supports the IEG in developing the GNR, providing the IEG with data analysis and research support as well as coordinating and managing key programme functions. The Host leads on programme management, fundraising and the production, communication and dissemination of the report, as well as maintaining the website and managing all digital assets of the GNR. [Development Initiatives](#) (DI) was awarded this role in 2018, and its hosting was extended in 2020 for a further three years, from March 2021 to March 2024.

DI is a global organisation harnessing the power of data and evidence to end poverty, reduce inequality and increase resilience.

We deliver trusted and actionable insights for decision-makers and partners based on what available data can tell us. We increase data use by growing people's skills, expertise and confidence in data and showing how data can drive better outcomes. And we improve what data is available by helping others to collect, share, manage and use data responsibly and effectively.

Through this, we are supporting partners to:

1. Better respond to people's needs through improved quality and use of data and evidence in policymaking.
2. Improve the quantity, quality and coherence of public finance and private investment.
3. Challenge systemic and structural barriers to equity and support the reform of existing systems.

So our work informs effective policy and practice, helps change mindsets and influences debate to bring about the changes we want to see.

With staff in Kenya, Uganda, the UK and the US, and partners in many other regions and countries, we have networks to make an impact across the globe.

We undertake an exciting portfolio of grant-funded work and we offer consultancy services to those who share our aims and values.

Nutrition Scientist

Role content and purpose

The role will be responsible for providing scientific and research expertise for the GNR. You will be knowledgeable in nutrition research methodology, analysis and reporting. The postholder will be accountable for delivery of specific GNR content, and will work under the guidance and oversight of the Independent Expert Group (IEG) Chair and IEG members as appropriate.

Nutrition research will include, but will not be limited to, evidence synthesis, protocol development and writing content for the GNR.

The role will work closely with the Senior Nutrition Scientist for the GNR and the data team for research, analysis, interpretation and presentation related to the GNR.

Contractual details

Start date: As soon as possible, depending on notice period
Location: Bristol, UK. Alternative locations within the UK will be
                 considered for the right candidate
Length: Fixed-term contract for 12 months
Salary Range: £35,000 - £40,000 per annum, depending on experience
Hours: 35 hours a week

Overview of duties

- Develop scientific, research, methodological and analytical content for the GNR, with overall responsibility for the developed content as approved by the IEG Chair or IEG core members
- Perform data analyses, interpretation and reporting
- Conduct evidence synthesis on specific topics identified by the IEG Chair, interpret and draw evidence-based conclusions from scientific literature
- Support the IEG Co-Chair and DI Communications team to promote the GNR through available communication networks, present the work of the GNR at events/meetings as required, and liaise with journalists to respond to inquiries as appropriate
- Represent the GNR externally in area of expertise
- Work collaboratively across teams, providing high-quality input in area of expertise

- Engage in an open and effective manner with the wider nutrition community, including the IEG and the Stakeholder Group
- Implement and manage strategic projects and activities in line with the GNR's vision, mission and values
- Demonstrate creativity in applying solutions
- Attend and contribute to regular GNR meetings and provide updates as required.

Person specification

Experience

Essential

- Minimum of two years' professional experience in nutritional research at postgraduate level
- Good publication record (minimum of five published articles in peer-reviewed journals)
- Experience with statistical software, such as Stata, R or SAS
- Proven experience in evidence synthesis, including in literature search, systematic reviews and/or meta-analyses
- Experience collaborating with data analysts/biostatisticians and overseeing nutrition analyses
- Experience working with nutrition scientists/researchers across disciplines
- Exposure to multiple areas of nutrition and diet-disease links, including undernutrition and diet-related chronic diseases.

Desirable

- Experience working in nutrition surveys/programmes at the national or sub-national level
- Work experience in more than one location or area of related work
- Experience in nutrition data standardisation and harmonisation
- Experience in project management and organisation, including administrative tasks, keeping track of processes/actions, and developing operating protocols/manuals.

Skills and Abilities

Essential

- Strong communication skills, including experience in working effectively across cultures and with diverse audiences, and communicating clearly and effectively both verbally and in writing
- Ability to work in English. Members must be proficient in English, written and oral
- First-rate written skills evidenced in published work, with the ability to present complex issues clearly to a wide audience and use appropriate scientific terminology
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment and deliver on time, with attention to detail and accuracy
- Ability to work independently with minimal support, as well as in a team environment
- Multi-tasking, project and time management skills, including ability to prioritise and coordinate tasks with a great degree of flexibility
- People management skills, including ability to interact effectively and efficiently with employees at all levels and from different departments, internally and externally
- Sound analytical skills, with experience in analyses and presentation of nutrition data, including understanding different types of data sources and accurately interpreting and presenting relevant data outputs.

Education

Essential

- Educated to degree level in human nutrition, dietetics, food science or a related field
- A Master's degree in nutrition, nutritional epidemiology, public health, food policy or a related field.

Desirable

- A PhD in nutrition, nutritional epidemiology, public health, biostatistics, food policy, food economics or a related field
- A Registered Dietitian (RD) or Registered Nutritionist (RN) credential.

Knowledge

Essential

- Sound understanding of nutrition indicators/metrics, dataset management, nutrition data from different countries and regions, diet-disease links and nutrition/food policies.

Desirable

- Understanding of nutrition financing – international, domestic or both.
- Existing awareness of, or links with, the GNR
- Knowledge of and/or contacts within the nutrition environment.

Personal Attributes

Essential

- Strong drive for results
- Attention to detail
- Ability to work independently or as part of a larger team
- Ability to work to tight deadlines and deliver within set timeframes.

Application details

To apply, please upload your application to our online application portal. This includes your CV (up to three pages), a brief personal statement (one page) detailing how your skills and experience match the services required, one or two letters of reference from a professor, prior supervisor or other professional familiar with your abilities and experience, and an official copy of academic transcript(s).

Early applications are highly encouraged; we will be reviewing submissions as they arrive, and interviews will be held periodically. As we are advertising on a rolling basis, we reserve the right to end advertisement without notice.

Other

We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

We have a duty to prevent illegal working by checking potential employees' documents, before employing them, to ensure they have the right to work in the country in which this post is based.

Development Initiatives is an equal opportunities employer and in line with our policies, we aim to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation or disability.

We find it helpful for all applicants to complete our Diversity Monitoring Form found on our website at: http://devinit.org/working-with-us/vacancies/

Working together

"People are our greatest asset" – it's a well-used saying, but at Development Initiatives, it really is true.

We acknowledge that we work in an environment where the pace is often fast, and we need our people to be able to respond swiftly and creatively to new situations and demands, so it makes sense that the better our employees are, the more effective we will be and for this reason, we work hard to create an environment that meets everyone's needs.

In line with our values (empowering, transparent, innovative, agile, quality), we aim for a culture of honesty and openness and want to attract and retain talented people who share our vision. We also like to offer individuals the space to use their talents in an innovative working environment with colleagues who are passionate about our vision.

UK

- Informal work environment (e.g. casual dress)
- Pension scheme with 5% employer contribution
- Flexible working arrangements (e.g. blended working, flexitime)
- Healthcare scheme with employee assistance programme
- Paid study leave and financial support
- Paid professional membership fees
- Buy/sell holiday scheme
- Cycle to work scheme
- Enhanced holiday entitlement, plus all bank and public holidays and discretionary paid time off at Christmas
- Up to five days' paid volunteering leave (addressing poverty/helping vulnerable people).

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