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Description automatically generated **GNC and GNC Technical Alliance[[1]](#footnote-2)**

**Terms of Reference (ToR)**

**Focal Points & Workstreams for Cross Cutting Themes**

**Purpose of this document**

The purpose of this document is to outline the general Terms of Reference for the Cross cutting themes focal point/workstreams. It is intended that each focal point/workstream tailor the general Terms of Reference to best suit their needs and ways of working.

**1. Background**

The Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) exists to collectively strengthen the technical and coordination capacities for nutrition in countries, based on the needs of affected populations. This is to enable countries to forecast nutrition trends and prepare for, respond to, and recover from, shocks to the nutrition situation, thereby contributing to global efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition in all its forms.

The GNC Strategy (2022-2025) focuses on 3 strategic objectives including Strategic Objective 2 Operational and Technical Support: To provide adequate NiE coordination, IM, and programme operational and technical support to ensure that nutrition-related decisions and operational support at all levels are guided by timely and sound technical advice, while the documentation of experiences is undertaken and new evidence is generated. The Technical Support Team (TST) is an integral part of providing this support.

One of four main initiatives includes the mainstreaming of five key cross cutting themes (CCTs):

1. Accountability to affected populations
2. Disability
3. Gender mainstreaming
4. Humanitarian-Development Nexus
5. Localisation

The core initiatives of the CCTs include developing a common approach to mainstreaming CCTs into NiE coordination and programming, designating focal persons for priority CCTs including for in-country support, mapping and collating guidance for mainstreaming priority crosscutting issues in nutrition, and developing simple practical tools for mainstreaming these in NiE programmes and coordination mechanisms.

This will be achieved though the identification of focal point(s) and a workstream for each CCT.

**Overview of Focal Points and their responsibilities**

Focal Points are individuals within the TST to whom requests for support related to the CCT will be referred and are expected to respond or facilitate a response. The focal points might also be required to review products (e.g., ToR’s) with a gender or disability (for example) lens, to ensure the CCT is adequately accounted for. The focal points are also likely to be the co-facilitators of the Workstream.

**Overview of the Workstreams and their responsibilities**

Initially, the Workstreams will be made up of individuals from the TST and Alliance Leadership team, who have volunteered to take part, as well as some external individuals with a particular expertise as well as country level representation wherever possible. These groups will operate and be structured however the members deem appropriate, but they will generally meet on a regular basis to proactively advance the work.

The first activity of the workstreams will be to define a ToR covering member responsibilities, co-chairing arrangement and responsibilities, structure, and ways of working.

The main objectives will be as follows:

* To develop the thinking around the CCT for the GNC, and articulate this in terms of strategy, policy, or action plan documents, to support mainstreaming.
* To develop tools and resources, including FAQs, to support the work of the GNC in mainstreaming the CCT.
* Depending on the priorities of the Workstream, they may also play an active role in conversations related to the CCT within nutrition or the humanitarian sector.
* Champion the cause of the CCT within and outside of the GNC/GNC Technical Alliance on the subject matter
* Be available to coordinate and rapidly address questions that are received by the Alliance or challenges met by GNC/Alliance team members

Each Workstream has a different history and will be free to have a different trajectory, relevant to the CCT and the groups evolution. It is likely for localisation and gender that these workstreams will capitalize on the efforts over the past year by expanding on the existing TST Anti-racism and Localisation Workstream and the TST Gender Workstream.

For further questions or comments, contact: Andi Kendle ([akendle@actionagainsthunger.ca](mailto:akendle@actionagainsthunger.ca)) or Ben Allen ([ballen@actionagainsthunger.ca](mailto:ballen@actionagainsthunger.ca)) within the GNC Technical Alliance leadership team.

1. The Global Nutrition Cluster Technical Alliance (GNC Technical Alliance or Alliance) is an initiative for the mutual benefit of the nutrition community, and affected populations, to improve the quality of nutrition in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. The GNC Technical Alliance Partners are made up of the GNC partners and other individuals, organizations, initiatives, and academia at global, regional, and national levels that hold nutrition technical expertise across the humanitarian and development spheres. The Alliance Technical Support Team (TST) aims to meet the specific needs of the practitioner in a timely, cost effective, and sustainable manner. More information can be found here: ta.nutritioncluster.net. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)