

Request for Proposal (RfP)

Cost-Benefit-Analysis of the NICE School Model in Dinajpur and Rangpur through 2 case studies

Organization	Sustainable Agriculture Foundation Bangladesh (SAF Bangladesh)
Assignment Type	Short-term Consultancy
Title of Assignment	Cost-Benefit-Analysis of the NICE School Model in Dinajpur and Rangpur through 2 case studies
Date	October – December 2026
Duration	45 working days
Location	Dinajpur and Rangpur

1. About SAF Bangladesh

The **Sustainable Agriculture Foundation Bangladesh (SAF Bangladesh)**, formerly known as the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA Bangladesh), is the Bangladesh country office of the Sustainable Agriculture Foundation — a Swiss-based not-for-profit organisation with a 40-year legacy of driving inclusive agricultural transformation. Our vision is *"a world in which smallholders, communities, and nature thrive together."* Since 2011, SAF Bangladesh has spearheaded transformative projects across agriculture, climate resilience, nutrition, and rural economic development, positively impacting over one million smallholder farmers through strategic collaborations with local, regional, and international partners. Learn more at <https://susagfoundation.org/>

2. Background and Rationale

The **Nutrition in City Ecosystems (NICE)** project is part of the Global Food Systems portfolio of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The NICE project aims to improve nutrition and reduce poverty among vulnerable city populations. It operates in secondary cities — defined as settlements with fewer than 500,000 inhabitants — and focuses on increasing the supply of and demand for nutritious foods produced locally using agroecological practices, alongside cross-cutting issues of good governance, gender, and social inclusion (leaving no one behind).

The NICE project cities in Bangladesh are Dinajpur Municipality and Rangpur City Corporation. The project is also implemented in Busia and Bungoma (Kenya) and Rubavu and Rusizi (Rwanda).

The project operates through four integrated workstreams:

1. The first workstream promotes good governance of food systems through the strengthening of multisectoral platforms at the city level (M/CLMNCC). These platforms facilitate access for vulnerable city populations to project interventions.

2. The second workstream relates to increasing the availability and production of nutritious, locally produced, and agroecologically produced foods through Nutrition Sensitive Value Chains (NSVCs) and social business models such as the Network Manager and Thursday Bundle programme.
3. The third workstream focuses on demand generation — using consumer insights, Behaviour Change Communication (BCC), youth engagement, and school-based nutrition programming to increase consumption of nutritious, local, and agroecologically produced foods.
4. The fourth workstream facilitates peer learning between cities, across workstreams, and among the three countries, including scale-up strategies for national learning.

Undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies during childhood have long-term consequences for children's cognitive development, educational attainment, health, and future productivity.

School feeding programs and nutrition interventions in schools around the world provide an important opportunity to improve children's nutritional status while enhancing school enrolment, attendance, retention, and learning outcomes.

The Bangladesh, the NICE Project is implementing an integrated school-based nutrition model linking Nutrition Clubs, Nutrition Gardens and Nutrition Canteens to promote healthy eating, practical nutrition education and sustainable food practices among students.

To assess the feasibility, sustainability, and potential for replication of this integrated model, a detailed business case will be developed based on an in-depth assessment of selected schools in two cities. The assessment will explore the linkages between the three components, their costs and benefits, and the extent to which the different components contribute to and reinforce each other.

3. Objectives of the Assignment

The overall objective of this assignment is to develop a practical and evidence-based business case for the integrated Nutrition Club–Nutrition Garden–Nutrition Canteen model that:

- Demonstrates the costs, benefits and return of investment (ROI) of the model – both the combination of the three initiatives as well as each initiative separately;
- Provides all the necessary documents and guidance to start the model independently in other schools and organisations, including practical recommendations and a replication guide;
- Describes how the three components are interconnected and mutually beneficial;
- Presents the two analyzed case studies and evidence made in a nice communication document (case story) that can be shared through relevant national and international platforms/conferences.

4. Scope of Work / Methodological Approach

The consultant will undertake the following activities:

1. Familiarize with the NICE school activities through a scoping visit accompanied by NICE staff.
2. Collect and familiarize with all the necessary documents (instructions, business plans, M&E tools etc., nutrition club materials, flyers etc.) utilized for the current initiatives.
3. Meticulously reflect on and identify all potential benefits the initiatives have for the selected schools and carefully assign a realistic monetary value to each of them, this will include:
 - half-day discussion sessions in both schools
 - validation workshop with project and CLMNCC/MLMNCC stakeholdersto ensure completeness of the list of benefit as well as realistic monetary assignments – make sure all donated and subsidized resources are correctly understood.
4. In an itinerary process with the project team as well as the two school teams, create a comprehensive list of every single cost associated with the initiatives from their initial conception through to their final implementation and any ongoing support needs; be particularly reflective on the costs of time invested by different stakeholders (project teams, school staff, students etc.).
5. Reflect and describe how the three components are interconnected and mutually beneficial and how these interconnections shall be marketed.
6. Prepare an analysis report summarizing the main findings from benefits analysis, cost analysis, reflections on interconnectedness and their benefits and have this intermediary report approved by the project team – inventories / tables of the benefits analysis as well as the cost analysis to be provided as annexes (excel if possible) and the report without annexes to be 10-20 pages max.
7. Prepare a concise, user-friendly replication guide on the NICE school initiatives providing in a first chapter the business case (cost-benefit analysis) and then all recommendations and documents required – focus on having this guide short and concise.
8. Write-up the two analyzed case studies and evidence found in two nice and well formatted communication products accompanied by relevant and consented pictures and targeted at a lay / teachers audience (5 pages each max).

5. Deliverables

- Discussion notes (feedback, inputs) and attendance lists of the 2 half-day discussions sessions in schools on benefits of the different NICE nutrition interventions
- Discussion notes (feedback, inputs) and attendance lists of the validation workshop on benefits of the different NICE nutrition interventions
- Meticulous inventory (excel) of all benefits the initiatives have for the schools and respective monetary value assigned
- Meticulous inventory (excel) of all costs associated with the initiatives incl. ongoing support, staff time etc.
- ROI of the initiatives, separately as well as in combination
- Analysis report (10-20 pages in English) summarizing a) the methodologies used for data collection / validation, b) costs, benefits, and ROI of the initiatives, all separate per initiative as well as in their combination, c) main feedback / discussion points from the analysis incl.

recommendations to start the activities in other schools incl. how to market them.

- Concise, user-friendly replication guide in Bangla on the NICE school initiatives providing in a first chapter the business case (cost-benefit analysis) and then all recommendations and documents required – focus on having this guide short and concise and targeted to schools directly
- **Two (2)** nice and well formatted communication products accompanied by relevant and consented pictures and targeted at a lay/teachers audience documenting the two case studies incl. their results from the cost-benefit analysis (5 pages each max in English & Bangla);

6. Time frame

This assignment shall cover ca. 40 working days to be provided between October – December 2026.

7. Qualifications

- Health economist, agroeconomist or similar with profound experience in conducting cost-benefit analysis in the public health space
- Expertise in nutrition and foods systems
- Expertise in the Bangladeshi public education system
- Neat and respectful way of working leading to nicely structured reports and excel as well as respectful collaboration with internal and external partners
- Proven expertise for communication documents / story telling documenting case studies for a lay audience – **please share two respective references**
- Good local knowledge of Dinajpur and Rangpur and openness to repeatedly travel to the districts (if not directly based there)
- Fluency in Bangla and English
- Able to work in a synergistic manner

8. Submission procedure

In the proposal (10 pages max), the consultant is requested to provide answers to the following questions:

- Please showcase the requested profile through justified examples and give an overview of the team, you propose (incl. daily rates). Please include examples of similar projects successfully completed.
- Please technically describe your approach for conducting this exercise by specifying how objectives are achieved and what each step of the Scope of Work should look like and needs (max. 12 pages). Please also include your understanding of consistent sponsor information.
- Please include a thorough and concise work plan and budget indicating dates until milestones are delivered, staff costs, travel, office costs, etc.

9. Submission

Qualified consultants or firms are invited to submit their proposals, CVs, and links to relevant previous work electronically by **15 October, 2026, 11:59 PM Bangladesh Standard Time** to: saf.bangladesh@susagfoundation.org

Please use the subject line: **"Cost-Benefit-Analysis of the NICE School Model in Dinajpur and Rangpur through 2 case studies"**

Disclaimer: The Applicant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their proposal. SAF Bangladesh reserves the right to amend this RfP, negotiate with the successful respondent prior to awarding a contract, or reject any proposal without obligation to enter a contract.

The proposal, including the consultant CVs, should not be more than 20 pages long, should have 1.2 line spacing, and Calibri font with a minimum font size of 11.

This Request for proposals neither expresses nor implies any obligation on our part to enter into a contract with a vendor submitting a proposal.