



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### CONSULTANCY STUDY

FR-PA-DEP-PLAI2026 28

**Action Against Hunger (ACF)** is launching a call for proposals to conduct a study on *Team Europe's blended finance and guarantees, and their implications for nutrition financing*.

Blended finance and guarantees, alongside approaches to mobilise private-sector investment, have become central features of donors' development financing architecture. While these mechanisms have traditionally been used in infrastructure, energy, and economic development, there is growing interest in applying them to human development sectors, including food systems and nutrition.

This study will:

- Map the Team Europe financial architecture
- Analyse the financial and political economy dynamics
- Assess implications for nutrition outcomes and NGO engagement

### PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The selected consultant will be expected to:

- Map the institutions, instruments, mandates, and pipelines that compose the Team Europe blended finance and guarantee architecture relevant to nutrition
- Analyse how financialisation trends and political priorities influence the allocation of development and humanitarian resources for nutrition
- Assess transparency, decision-making power, and private-sector influence
- Identify practical opportunities and limitations for civil society engagement in these mechanisms

## KEY RESEARCH QUESTION

To what extent, and through which mechanisms, are the expansion of Team Europe's and Global Gateway's blended finance and guarantee instruments shaping resource allocation for nutrition, compared to traditional public systems strengthening approaches? How does this trend interact with broader political priorities and narratives of resource scarcity?

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The consultant will organise and conduct interviews with key stakeholders identified in coordination with ACF team, including:

- EU institutions
- Member State representatives
- Development Finance Institutions (DFIs)
- NGOs and civil society organisations
- Technical experts
- *(if time allows)* agri-food and nutrition firms/consulting groups

The objective is to gather insights on priorities, opportunities, constraints, and feasibility for strengthening nutrition financing within the Team Europe Investment Approach.

## PROFILE SOUGHT

We are looking for a dynamic consultant with:

- Proven experience in development finance architecture (knowledge of the EIB Group, EBRD, PDBs, DFIs, ECAs, and MDBs)
- Knowledge of (ideally) the Team Europe and "Team Europe Initiatives" ecosystem, as well as the Global Gateway Investment framework
- Strong understanding of European investment frameworks and international cooperation strategies
- Strong analytical skills
- Demonstrated expertise in conducting semi-structured interviews
- Fluency in written and spoken English (French, Spanish, Italian or German are an asset)

## PROVEN EXPERTISE IN:

- Blended finance, guarantees, DFIs/ECAs/MDBs
- EU and Member State development cooperation frameworks (e.g. EFSD+, NDICI, Global Gateway, Team Europe)
- Political economy analysis
- Nutrition financing or social-sector investment
- Strong research and interviewing skills
- Ability to synthesise technical and political dimensions
- Ability to present findings through diagrams and visual formats

## PRACTICAL DETAILS

**Duration:** Approximately 30 working days

**Estimated timeline:** August 2026 – October 2026

**Language of work and deliverables:** English

## DELIVERABLES

- **Inception Report** (methodology, interview list – approx. 12 interviews, refined analytical framework)
- **Comprehensive architecture and value chain mapping** (diagram + narrative)
- **Analytical Report (circa 25 pages)** covering:
  - Institutional landscape
  - Financial value chain analysis
  - Political economy dynamics
  - Implications for nutrition
- **Presentation of findings** to the internal team

## APPLICATION PROCESS

**Deadline for submission:** July 14th, 2026 (05:00 PM – Paris time)

Applications should be sent to:

- [mdacquino@actioncontrelafaim.org](mailto:mdacquino@actioncontrelafaim.org)
  - CC - [lcros@actioncontrelafaim.org](mailto:lcros@actioncontrelafaim.org)

To apply, please submit in English:

- Your CV
- A sample of relevant work
- A two-page draft methodology for the study, including foreseen overall budget (in euros)

We look forward to receiving your expressions of interest. For any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Activity	Date
Consultation publication	June 30th, 2026

Deadline for submission of proposals	July 14th, 2026 (05:00 PM – Paris time)
Review of proposals	July 15th – 20th, 2026
Interviews with shortlisted candidates	July 20th – July 27th, 2026
Notification of selected consultant	Week of July 28th, 2026
Contracting process	Week of August 1st, 2026
Contract signature	Week of August 06th, 2026
Consultancy start date	August 10th, 2026
Consultancy maximum end date	October 30th, 2026

Once the selection process finalised, ACF remains open to discussing the methodology and guiding questions with the selected consultant in order to define the most appropriate approach.