

## IN-COUNTRY PARTNERS

**Government Institutions:** Ministry of Health; Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives; Office of the Prime Minister; Ministry of Education and Sports; Uganda National Bureau of Standards; National Drug Authority; National Planning Authority; Uganda Bureau of Statistics; Uganda Revenue Authority; Ministry of Agriculture, Animal, Industry and Fisheries

**Academia and Research Institutions:** Makerere University and Uganda Christian University

**Private Sector:** Food industries, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, and Uganda Manufacturing Association

**Civil Society Organization:** Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Uganda

**USAID Implementing Partner:** USAID Social and Behavior Change Activity, USAID Uganda Learning Activity, and Feed the Future Inclusive Agricultural Markets

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND TOOLS

- Landscape Analysis Report for the Food Fortification Program in Uganda
- Profiling and Industry Analysis of Fortified and Fortifiable Foods in Uganda
- Mapping the Food Fortification Regulatory Monitoring Systems and Processes for Quality and Safety of Fortified Foods in Uganda
- Capacity Strengthening Plan for the National Working Group on Food Fortification in Uganda
- Capacity Needs Assessment for Food Processors of Maize and Wheat Flours, Salt, and Edible Oils and Fats
- Priority Actions for Strengthening Institutionalization of the Food Fortification Program
- Business Models/Investment Case Model for Food Fortification in Uganda
- Market Surveillance Study Report
- Technical Brief: Synthesis of Data from the Uganda National Panel Survey
- Advocacy Brief for Procurement and Consumption of Fortified Foods in Learning Institutions



Photo credit: Daudi Murungi

# USAID ADVANCING NUTRITION UGANDA

Strengthening National Efforts to Reduce Micronutrient Deficiencies



## OVERVIEW

USAID Advancing Nutrition worked in Uganda from June 2021 to September 2023. Using a multi-sectoral approach, the project supported the Government of Uganda to strengthen national efforts in the reduction of micronutrient deficiencies through Large-Scale Food Fortification (LSFF).

Specifically, the project identified, designed, and implemented interventions to overcome challenges related to enforcement of and compliance to food fortification standards, and monitoring the impact and quality of fortified salt, maize meal, wheat flour, and edible oil and fats.



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## ACHIEVEMENTS

1



### INCREASING THE PUBLIC SECTOR'S CAPACITY TO ENFORCE FOOD FORTIFICATION REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

- Compiled a landscape analysis report highlighting the implementation status and strategic actions needed to strengthen the food fortification program along the value chain.
- Mapped the regulatory monitoring of processes and systems and developed simple and low-cost actions to address gaps through consultative engagements with regulatory bodies.
- Documented progress and gaps in enforcement and compliance of the food fortification regulations of 2005 and 2011 to guide strategic policy decisions.
- Reviewed the fortification monitoring and evaluation framework and identified key indicators for integration into the national nutrition surveillance systems.
- Conducted a market surveillance study to measure the adequacy of fortified foods at the retail level.

2



### INCREASING THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S CAPACITY TO COMPLY WITH FOOD FORTIFICATION REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

- Conducted a capacity needs assessment of 58 food processors and identified their technical assistance needs.
- Developed training manuals on quality control and quality assurance practices to be implemented at wheat, maize, and edible oil and fat manufacturing and fortifying units to ensure the quality and safety of their products. Trained 36 national master trainers and 132 personnel from 26 industries.
- Profiled the production capacities and market share of fortified foods to guide strategic investments in LSFF.
- Sensitized 35 regional food producers and corporations on the value of scaling up production of fortified foods across the country.
- Engaged Uganda Revenue Authority to provide tax waivers/incentives on fortification equipment and fortificants
- Developed business case models to guide new industries to adopt food fortification.

3



### STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION IN FOOD FORTIFICATION

- Identified the National Working Group on Food Fortification (NWGFF) and institutional capacity needs, and developed a capacity strengthening plan.
- Revitalized the NWGFF committee and coordination functions for the secretariat, and revised the NWGFF and secretariat's terms of reference for sustained coordination efforts.
- Documented food fortification activities for integration into work plans and budgets of governmental ministries, departments, and agencies to strengthen institutionalization of the food fortification program.

4



### PROMOTING AWARENESS OF FORTIFIED FOODS THROUGH A TARGETED APPROACH

- Recognized industry contribution to reducing micronutrient deficiencies by providing accolades to industries that complied with the food fortification requirements.
- Reviewed marketing strategies and awareness-creation messages for fortification as it relates to a healthy diet.
- Collaborated with USAID's Social Behavior Change Activity to integrate food fortification into the national family health campaign materials.
- Streamlined the mandatory use of the nationally-endorsed fortification logo ("F-logo") in the packaging requirements for easy identification of fortified products by consumers, especially where both fortified and unfortified options exist in the market.