NIGERIA REPORT ON FLOUR FORTIFICATION AT THE QC/QA WORKSHOP IN LUSAKA ZAMBIA
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CURRENT STATUS
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

• Fortification is mandatory in Nigeria.
• The fortification vehicles are wheat flour, vegetable oil, sugar and salt.
• Maize flour is not produced in commercial quantity.
• Premixes are available from a number of sources, from Europe, America and far East. There are also local premix blending plants in Nigeria.
• There is capacity for internal verification of micro nutrient composition of premixes in both private and public laboratories.
• There is limited need for external verification.
NATIONAL FOOD CONTROL SYSTEM

• There is a legal frame work (National Legislation) on food fortification.
• There are 2 agencies principally responsible for micro nutrient composition and compliance.
  • Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) that elaborates the Standards and set the limits and the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) that regulate manufacturing practice and compliance.
• These 2 agencies have functional and accredited food laboratories to ISO 17025 and ISO 9001.
• There is also the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) which regulates consumer abuses and injuries arising from deviations or miss information of consumers.
STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

• There existing and operational regulatory frame works for micro nutrient inclusion.

• Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS) for Fortificants Premix (NIS 475:2015)

• Nigerian Industrial Standard (NIS) for Composite Flour (NIS 294:2015)

• There are also the NIS for Salt, Sugar and Vegetable Oils.
WHERE WE WANT TO GO
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

• To increase consumer awareness to begin to demand for micro nutrient fortified foods.
• To increase local capacity for micro nutrient production and thereby reduce cost.
• To clarify various Agencies’ mandate for ease of business and to avoid multiplication of functions.
• To create a single national body for the regulation of all food related issues including, GMP and fortification.
CHALLENGES

• Inadequacy of legislation especially in technical provisions.
• Duplication of the role of Government Agencies in the administration of regulation.
• Multiple fees, levies and administrative charges especially at the points of entry.
SOLUTIONS

• Proffer an improved coordination amongst public sector regulators.

• To vigorously pursue the National Quality Infrastructure Project of UNIDO for the establishment of a central testing laboratory.

• Proffer tax and levy holidays for premixes import.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED

• To review the current premix specification limits to establish tolerance levels.
• To carry out periodic physiological studies on the prevalence of micro nutrient deficiency and the impact of fortification.
• To assist with training on emerging technologies in micro nutrients analysis.
TIME FRAME

• Review of current premix specification limits to establish tolerance levels.
• To carry out periodic physiological studies on the prevalence of micro nutrient deficiency and the impact of fortification.
• By December, 2019
• Once every 4 years
TIME FRAME

• To assist with training on emerging technologies in micro nutrients analysis.

• Biannually
HOW WE WILL GET THERE

• Review of current premix specification limits to give tolerance levels.

• To carry out periodic physiological studies on the prevalence of micronutrient deficiency and the impact of fortification.

• Request by stakeholders to the Standards Organization of Nigeria for a review of the standards

• Collaborate with international donor agencies and relevant MDAs to carry out the periodic study
HOW WE WILL GET THERE

• To assist with training on emerging technologies in micro nutrients analysis.
• Through collaboration with industry experts and budgetary provisions for training.