

SPRING/UGANDA

Fortifying National Efforts to Improve Nutrition for All

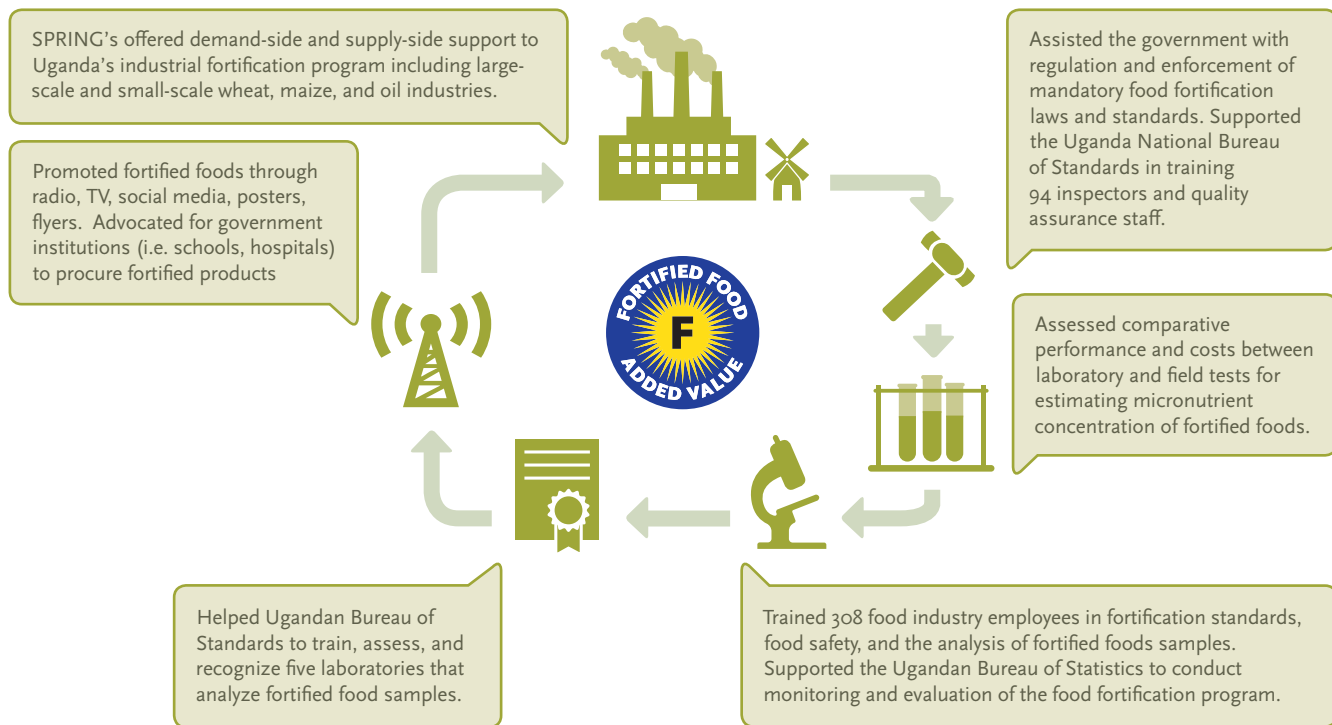
In Uganda, SPRING provides technical assistance and leadership at the national and district levels to help reduce stunting, micronutrient deficiencies, and anemia, particularly in children and women of childbearing age.







AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, SPRING SUPPORTED THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA TO:

- Lead the development of the five-year **multi-sectoral National Anemia Prevention and Control Strategy, the National Industrial Food Fortification Strategy, and corresponding budgets, action plans, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.**
- Launch a **national nutrition behavior change campaign with 1,800 radio spots** delivered through 14 radio stations across the country to promote healthy growth in the first 1,000 days and eating a healthy Ugandan diet.

ENCOURAGING FORTIFIED FOODS IN UGANDA



OPERATIONS RESEARCH

-  SPRING distributed micronutrient powders to 22,366 eligible children ages 6–23 months in Namutumba District, comparing distribution through community health workers versus health facilities.
-  SPRING and Mulago Hospital recruited 991 women for a randomized trial to examine the effect of iron/folate supplement packaging on regimen adherence
-  Piloted SPRING's District Assessment Tool for Anemia (DATA) and trained 93 people on how to assess anemia prevalence and catalyze action for district-level anemia programming.
-  Assessed the acceptability of maize-based fortified flours in schools to identify motivators, concerns and barriers to the procurement and usage of fortified maize meal to feed adolescents attending school.

IN ADDITION TO WORKING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, SPRING WORKED AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL IN THE SOUTHWEST AND EAST CENTRAL REGIONS.

NUTRITION ASSESSMENT, COUNSELING, AND SUPPORT (NACS) SERVICES IN HEALTH FACILITIES

SPRING built capacity for nutrition assessment, counseling and support (NACS) in 51 health facilities across ten districts in the Southwest and East Central regions of Uganda. SPRING's NACS interventions helped to link clients to nutrition-sensitive interventions provided by the health, agriculture, food security, social protection, education, and rural development sectors.

GREAT MOTHERS, HEALTHY CHILDREN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE CAMPAIGN

SPRING developed eight community-created videos to promote nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific messages among caretakers of children under two in the southwestern region. Through the Great Mothers, Healthy Children campaign, frontline health workers held video screening and discussion sessions in 216 villages that led to improved knowledge and increases in the target behaviors among the 14,317 participants and beyond.

