Food Fortification Legislation in West Africa

Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy
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KEY ELEMENTS IN FORTIFICATION

- Population-based identification of food vehicles
- Industry assessments
- Legal framework
- Production
- Quality assurance
- Public awareness raising on fortification
- Private marketing of fortified foods
- Monitoring and evaluation
Status as of 2016
REGIONAL COORDINATION

• West African Health Organization (WAHO)
• West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA)
  – Technical: guidelines and training
  – Standards: harmonized across 8-country UEMOA zone
• ECOWAS
  – Commissioner of Private Sector Promotion
  – Commissioner of Industry
  – ECOWAS Harmonization Model
• Regional Industry Associations
  – AIFO-UEMOA (oil)
  – AIM-UEMOA (flour)
NATIONAL COORDINATION

- Ministries of Health, Trade, Agriculture
- Standards setting bodies
- Food control agencies and Labs
- Customs and border agencies
- Private Sector
- Consumer associations
- National fortification alliances
- Civil Society
MILESTONES 1

ECOWAS Assembly of Health Ministers

• 1994 resolution on Salt Iodization
• 2006 resolution on mandatory fortification of wheat flour and vegetable oil
UEMOA

- Harmonized fortification standards and logo since 2009

ECOWAS

- Council of Ministers adopted harmonized standards for vegetable oil December 2015
- Wheat flour and Iodized salt on agenda for 2016 Council of Ministers