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:

- SPRING’s offered demand-side and supply-side support to Uganda’s industrial fortification program including large-scale and small-scale wheat, maize, and oil industries.
- Promoted fortified foods through radio, TV, social media, posters, flyers. Advocated for government institutions (i.e. schools, hospitals) to procure fortified products.
- Assisted the government with regulation and enforcement of mandatory food fortification laws and standards. Supported the Uganda National Bureau of Standards in training 94 inspectors and quality assurance staff.
- Assessed comparative performance and costs between laboratory and field tests for estimating micronutrient concentration of fortified foods.
- 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.
- Helped Ugandan Bureau of Standards to train, assess, and recognize five laboratories that analyze fortified food samples.
- Trained 308 food industry employees in fortification standards, food safety, and the analysis of fortified foods samples. Supported the Ugandan Bureau of Statistics to conduct monitoring and evaluation of the food fortification program.

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.

www.spring-nutrition.org
USAID’s multi-sectoral nutrition project
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.

This graphic is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-11-00031 (SPRING), managed by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI) with partners Helen Keller International, the Manoff Group, Save the Children, and the International Food Policy Research Institute. The contents are the responsibility of JSI, and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.