7-8 September 2015
Kibo Palace Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania

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REPORT OF THE FIRST ECSA REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR FORTIFIED AND NUTRITIOUS FOODS | 2
This report summarizes the proceedings of the First East, Central, and Southern Africa (ECSA) Regional Workshop, convened from 7-8 September, 2015 in Arusha, Tanzania. The Workshop brought together 65 professionals from governments, industry, civil society, and development partners working to strengthen capacity to produce, inspect, monitor, and evaluate programs for local fortified and nutritious foods. The Workshop focused on strengthening regional efforts to build local capacity.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere thanks to all the participants whose contributions are invaluable to the capacity development process throughout the region. Your recommendations and ideas were instrumental to the success of the event and will be necessary for the achievement of goals moving forward.

Thanks to Omar Dary and many others at USAID for providing their thoughts and inputs into the content of this workshop throughout the planning process. GAIN and the ECSA Health Community (ECSA-HC) express special gratitude to all the development partners, including Quentin Johnson, Manohar Shenoy, Rafael Flores-Ayala, and Maria Elena Jefferds who facilitated and led each of the working groups, and Jane Badham for facilitating the plenary sessions and discussions.

Thanks also to all the GAIN staff and consultants who gave of their time and energy in support of the design, organization, and logistics of this workshop.
# List of Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>CGIAR</td>
<td>Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHAI</td>
<td>Clinton Health Access Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSB</td>
<td>Corn-Soya Blend</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>Demographic and Health Surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAC</td>
<td>East African Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECSA</td>
<td>East, Central, and Southern Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECSA-HC</td>
<td>East, Central, and Southern Africa Health Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENABLE</td>
<td>Expanding Nutrition Access by Building capability, Linking initiatives, and Enhancing policy, a USAID project</td>
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<tr>
<td>FACT</td>
<td>Fortification Assessment Coverage Tool</td>
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<td>FBF</td>
<td>Fortified Blended Flours</td>
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<td>FFI</td>
<td>Food Fortification Initiative</td>
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<td>FRAT</td>
<td>Fortification Rapid Assessment Tool</td>
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<td>GAIN</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition</td>
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<td>GMP</td>
<td>Good Manufacturing Practice</td>
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<td>HACCP</td>
<td>Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point</td>
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<td>HKI</td>
<td>Helen Keller International</td>
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<td>HMIS</td>
<td>Health Management Information Systems</td>
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<td>IGN</td>
<td>Iodine Global Network, formally the ICC-IDD</td>
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<tr>
<td>IITA</td>
<td>International Institute of Tropical Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMMPaCt</td>
<td>International Micronutrient Malnutrition Prevention and Control, a CDC program</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSI</td>
<td>John Snow, Inc, a public health research and consulting firm</td>
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<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<td>MFFAPP</td>
<td>Micronutrient Fortified Food Aid Products Pilot, a USDA project</td>
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<td>MI</td>
<td>Micronutrient Initiative</td>
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<td>MICS</td>
<td>Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey</td>
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<td>MNF</td>
<td>Marketplace for Nutritious Foods</td>
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<td>NEPAD</td>
<td>New Partnership for Africa's Development</td>
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<td>PACA</td>
<td>Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa</td>
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<td>PFS</td>
<td>Partners in Food Solutions</td>
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<td>PHC</td>
<td>Project Healthy Children</td>
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<td>QA/QC</td>
<td>Quality Assurance/Quality Control</td>
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<td>RUSF/RUTF</td>
<td>Ready-to-Use Supplementary and Therapeutic Foods</td>
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<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
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<td>SAFE</td>
<td>Solutions for African Food Enterprises, a USAID project</td>
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<td>SBN</td>
<td>SUN Business Network</td>
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<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedures</td>
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<td>SPRING</td>
<td>Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally; a USAID project</td>
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<td>SUN</td>
<td>Scaling Up Nutrition</td>
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<td>TFDA</td>
<td>Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority</td>
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<td>TNS</td>
<td>TechnoServe</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOR</td>
<td>Terms of Reference</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children's Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<td>USDA</td>
<td>United States Department of Agriculture</td>
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<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Since the mid-1990s and with the financial and technical support of USAID and other international development partners, countries of the ECSA Region have established food fortification programs to complement the nutritional value of common diets. From 2003 to 2011, the ECSA Health Community worked with partners on a regional effort to coordinate the implementation of food fortification programs among countries within the region, from harmonization of standards to the development of 20 manuals for food quality control and inspection, to monitoring and evaluation at the consumption level.

Upon completion of this regional initiative in 2011, many of the linkages and exchanges among the countries have weakened and the overall quality and impact of programs for fortified and nutritious foods are generally unknown. The success of programs to promote the production and distribution of fortified and nutritious foods relies on the establishment of mechanisms that guarantee safety and quality by the food industries, continuous monitoring of compliance and enforcement of standards by government authorities of food control, and the assessment of consumption and program performance by research institutions in public health. There is a large need of more human resources in these areas within the ECSA Region. This first stakeholder meeting of a regional initiative provides a platform for the exchange of experiences and mutual learning to build the capacity of local personnel involved in these areas.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This initiative’s main objective is to strengthen the collaboration among countries and development partners in three areas, each led by a partner with technical expertise in the area, with coordination led by the ECSA Health Community and GAIN:

- Production and QA/QC, including food safety, coordinated by SAFE (TechnoServe and Partners for Food Solutions);
- Inspection and enforcement of standards, coordinated by SPRING/Uganda;
- Consumption monitoring and program impact, coordinated by CDC/IMMPaCt.

The First Regional Workshop was intended to provide a review of the current situation and a forum for facilitated discussion around harmonizing regional efforts to build capacity in each of the three working group areas. A second regional workshop will be held in March 2016 with the goal of examining progress made and facilitating discussion around national solutions to common regional challenges impeding progress towards identified goals.

WORKING GROUP RESULTS AND PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

Each of the three working groups discussed current status in relevant countries with regards to their focal area; the key needs and barriers to strengthening capacity; and the working group’s priorities to support national and regional efforts. The key priorities of each working group and the major discussion points are summarized here.

PRODUCTION AND QA/QC

- Creation of regional centers of excellence and a pool of African experts on QA/QC.
- Harmonization of standards for aflatoxin control, food fortification, micronutrient premix supply, and QA/QC test methods.
- Development of advocacy tools and common messages on the benefits of nutritious and fortified foods.
- QA/QC training for both industry and government authorities of food control.

1 Partners that have supported the ECSA Region in food fortification efforts include GAIN, MI, FFI, HKI, PHC, PFS, Smarter Futures, UNICEF, WFP, IGN, CDC/IMMPaCt, USDA, JSI, Abt Associates, and many others.
**Inspection and Enforcement**
- Management of overlapping mandates of regulatory bodies via a review of legal frameworks.
- Creation of a regional implementation framework to integrate inspection, enforcement, and monitoring systems.
- Development of a regional model for data integration and sharing, including periodical dissemination.
- Validation of analytical methods to recommend appropriate sampling and testing based on context.
- Building human resource capacity, via twining/training opportunities and linking to university curricula, especially of inspectors and laboratory analysts.

**Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact**
- Revitalization of the technical working group on consumption monitoring, evaluation, and surveillance for the ECSA Region to support the creation of region-specific models and tools for monitoring/surveillance.
- Assessment of existing monitoring and surveillance systems in countries and strengthening their integration into national reporting mechanisms.
- Strengthening ECSA-HC to address program monitoring and surveillance regionally.
- Identification of opportunities for exchange of experiences, lessons learned, and networking in the area of nutrition surveillance and epidemiology.

**Key Recommendations and the Way Forward**
Five key recommendations have come out of the First Regional Workshop as a result of the discussions and conclusions made during the plenary and working group sessions.

1. **Activate the three regional working groups.**
   - The regional working groups need first to be engaged to reflect on the findings of the workshop and how they can best leverage their collective expertise to build capacity in the ECSA Region. Draft TORs for each of the working groups will be finalized and working groups will be provided with a mechanism with which to engage their members via regular meetings and exchanges.

2. **Create an online learning and exchange platform.**
   - An online platform will be developed as a tool that working groups and other professionals can use to share best practices and lessons learned, request technical assistance, and post upcoming opportunities for additional training. The platform will serve as a community of practice and will contain links to guidance documents, manuals, reports, and other key information on each of the working group focal areas.

3. **Map the existing systems, frameworks, tools, and references.**
   - Each working group will undertake a mapping exercise, starting from the discussions held during the First Regional Workshop and include key issues, stakeholders, and priority solutions at national and regional levels. This exercise will culminate in a short report to be finalized by January, 2016 to serve as a benchmark for measuring progress throughout the initiative.

4. **Plan and implement activities leading up to the Second Regional Workshop.**
   - The mapping exercise will also serve as a starting point in developing a work plan for the prioritized activities for regional harmonization and capacity building. Participants will be asked to present on their progress towards these priorities during the Second Regional Workshop to be held in March, 2016.

5. **Coordinate with regional partners to identify and deliver training opportunities.**
   - ECSA-HC and GAIN will coordinate with other partners’ efforts and identify opportunities for local training and capacity building. Such trainings could be in the form of online courses and webinars; partnerships with institutions of higher education; and additional workshops and meetings focused on topical areas of need.
1 BACKGROUNDD AND RATIONALE

Since the mid-1990s and with the financial and technical support of USAID and other international development partners, countries of East, Central, and Southern Africa (ECSA Region) have established food fortification programs to complement the nutritional value of common diets. From 2003 to 2011, the ECSA Health Community (ECSA-HC) led a regional effort to coordinate the implementation of food fortification programs among countries within the region, from harmonization of standards to monitoring and evaluation at the consumption level. USAID, UNICEF, MI, GAIN, and CDC/IMMPaCt joined forces to finance and support this initiative. This project achieved the enactment and approval of regional food fortification standards for salt, vegetable oil, sugar, wheat flour, and maize flour; the production of 20 manuals for food quality control and inspection; and the establishment of regional working groups in the areas of: (a) advocacy, coordination and resource mobilization; (b) standards and enforcement; (c) food laboratories; (d) support to the industries; and (e) monitoring and evaluation.

More recently, all the international development organizations mentioned above plus USDA, Helen Keller International (HKI), Project Healthy Children (PHC), Smarter Futures, and WFP have accompanied the countries of the ECSA Region for the continuation and extension of the use of industry-produced foods as vehicles of micronutrients. Thus:

- **USAID** has sponsored projects to strengthen mass fortification as well as to improve the production of supplementary and therapeutic foods, such as composite flours, including corn-soya blend (CSB), and ready-to-use supplementary and therapeutic foods (RUSF/RUTF). Specific activities include:
  - **SPRING,** implemented by JSI and partners, is working to strengthen the Ugandan government’s enforcement and regulatory monitoring capabilities to improve fortification.
  - **Tuboreshe Chakula,** implemented by Abt Associates, worked to fortify rice and maize flour in rural areas of Tanzania.
  - **Solutions for African Food Enterprises (SAFE),** implemented by Partners for Food Solutions and TechnoServe, has provided technical assistance to the food industries in Zambia, Malawi, and Kenya with plans for expansion to Uganda and Tanzania.

- **Expanding Nutrition Access by Building capability, Linking initiatives, and Enhancing Policy (ENABLE),** implemented by GAIN, has supported governmental functions of standards enactment and enforcement and addressed the enabling environment constraints facing the production and distribution of nutritious processed foods.

- The **Marketplace for Nutritious Foods (MNF),** also implemented by GAIN, is working to strengthen networks, foster innovations, and provide investment to bring affordable nutritious foods to market. MNF is active in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Rwanda.

- **IMMPaCt/CDC** is working to advise countries in the ECSA Region, including Ethiopia and Malawi, to design, carry out, and report national micronutrient surveys to monitor the performance and impact of nutritional interventions.

- **USDA** works in Tanzania to produce novel fortified complementary foods using local ingredients.

- **MI** has supported food fortification programs in Ethiopia, Kenya and Malawi primarily through funds given by the Canadian government.

- **PHC** is supporting food fortification programs in Burundi, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe.

- **Smarter Futures** has organized training courses in several regions of Africa with funds from the Dutch government.

- **FFI** is a network of partners including the US-millers, CDC, UNICEF, MI and GAIN and works at the African continental level mainly in advocacy and policy.

- **HKI** implemented food fortification projects in Tanzania and Mozambique with financial support of GAIN and DFID.

- **GAIN,** using funds from various sources, has supported fortification and food quality and safety projects and surveys in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, South Africa, Uganda, and Zambia.

Upon the completion of ECSA regional project in 2011, several international development partners continued to support the countries of the ECSA Region in food fortification. However, many of the linkages and exchanges among the countries have since been weakened and the overall quality and impact of fortification programs and initiatives for supplementary and therapeutic foods is generally unknown. Based on an assessment of quality assurance data, it is estimated that under half of the staple food samples are complying with relevant national or regional standards. This situation also affects the countries of the ECSA region as

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2 ECSA-Health Community is an inter-country organization of the ECSA Region established in 1974 to foster and strengthen regional cooperation and capacity to address the health needs of Member States.

3 See http://www.eac-quality.net/the-sqmtncommunity/standardization/ideas/fp0.html

4 See http://www.a2zproject.org/node/74


2 WORKSHOP DESIGN AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The major goal of the workshop was to reinvigorate regional networks and relationships and strengthen the collaboration and coordination among countries and development partners. Three key topical areas were envisioned as a focus for the workshop’s discussions on capacity building:

- Production and Quality Assurance/Quality Control
- Inspection and Enforcement
- Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact

This workshop was intended as the first activity within an initiative with the goals of strengthening the capacity of the ECSA-HC and other regional organizations to support them as regional leaders and conveners for harmonized capacity building and monitoring activities within the ECSA Region. It is intended that future training and experiential learning activities will be held in conjunction with development partners to continue to build the capacity of local professionals and improved practices within each of the three topical areas.

The First Regional Workshop’s main tasks and objectives were defined as:

- Providing a review of the current monitoring situation throughout the region and within attending countries.
- Initiating three working groups in the topical areas of focus.
- Engaging in facilitated discussion around the key barriers and capacity gaps, needs and priorities for strengthening, and how to harmonize regional collaboration efforts to build regional leadership and capacity.
- Agreeing with partners and national delegations on broader areas of collaboration moving forward.
- Drafting of actionable tasks within each of the three working groups that can later be formed into work plans over the course of the following year.
- Establishing a plan to create an electronic platform for knowledge and experience dissemination as well as a forum for working group communications to track progress.

2.2 WORKSHOP DESIGN

Based on the background and rationale for this initiative, the workshop content and agenda were developed by ECSA-HC and GAIN in consultation with colleagues and workshop participants from USAID and other development partners (IMMPaCt/CDC, PHC, Smarter Futures, SPRING/Uganda, USDA, FFI, HKI, PFS, and WFP). The content was finalized during several meetings held in July and August, 2015.
Presentations and activities were organized to maximize opportunities for discussion. A significant proportion of the workshop agenda was designated for discussions on topics of interest and importance within each working group. Working groups were led by a development partner with technical expertise in each area (Smarter Futures and SAFE for Production and QA/QC; SPRING/Uganda and PHC for Inspection and Enforcement; and IMMPaCt/CDC for Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact).

The First Regional Workshop took place over two days in total, leading up to the #FutureFortified Global Summit on Food Fortification, co-hosted by GAIN and the Government of Tanzania. The workshop included a variety of speakers from ECSA-HC, USAID, GAIN, and other development partners, and national government representatives. Topics included:

- The current status of fortification and locally produced complementary and therapeutic foods in the region.
- Background on food safety, linkages between nutrition and aflatoxins, and regional efforts to control aflatoxins in local products.
- An introduction to each of the working group thematic areas with a review of case studies, success stories, and projects operating within the region.

Summaries of these presentations and discussions are included in the following sections. See Annex 1 for the full workshop agenda.

### 2.3 Workshop Participants

The First Regional Workshop convened over 65 professionals working in the production, regulation, inspection, enforcement, monitoring, surveillance, and evaluation of programs for fortified and nutritious foods. Participants hailed from all sectors, including government, industry, academia, civil society, regional inter-governmental organizations, and international development partners and NGOs. Participants represented the initiative’s target countries in the ECSA Region (Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe). Plenary sessions were facilitated by Jane Badham while each of the working group discussion sessions were facilitated by representatives from the lead development partner. See Annex 2 for a list of participants along with a directory that includes a photo and brief bio for each delegate.

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5 See also http://www.gainhealth.org/events/future-fortified/
6 Lesotho, South Africa, and Swaziland are also target countries within the region, but no participants from these countries could join this First Regional Workshop. Participation from these countries will be solicited for a Second Regional Workshop, aiming to be held in early 2016.
overcoming challenges in funding, capacity, and harmonization of methods and practices at a regional level. These are topics that need to be discussed at this workshop and in the future.

Dr. Omar Dary provided an overview of the rationale for this workshop and broke the ice with an investigation into some common myths about food fortification. He noted that we have gathered here at this workshop for critical analysis and thinking, to identify gaps and local solutions, to plan and make commitments, and to work with partners in support of country programs. He emphasized that we are not here for advocacy, to congratulate ourselves on demonstrating usefulness and building local capacity to carry them out.

Looking to the future, Dr. Dary encouraged everyone to be proud about prior accomplishments but be honest about the next steps. Decisions must be based on evidence and are the exclusive responsibility of the countries. Sustainability and permanence of programs depend on demonstrating usefulness and building local human capacity to carry them out.

Lastly, Greg S. Garrett briefly welcomed the delegates on behalf of GAIN, stressing that while we do want to harmonize as a region, we also want to consider the local appropriateness of everything that we do. He identified constraints specifically for regulatory and impact monitoring, including inspectorate training, clarity in roles, and funding constraints. For sustainability, he also emphasized the need to institutionalize specific methods and indicators that relate to fortification within existing national and regional efforts in food monitoring and control.

### 3.3 Setting the Context

The morning of the first workshop day was filled with presentations from various partners and regional organizations to set the scene and context of the work going on in the region. These presentations provided the background on the current status of fortification, locally produced complementary and therapeutic foods, and issues of food safety that should be considered. Brief descriptions of these presentations are given in this section.

#### 3.3.1 Current Status of Fortification in the Region

Five delegates representing various development partners gave presentations describing the current status of fortification in the region. Carol Tom, a public health and nutrition consultant opened the session by giving additional detail on the regional food fortification model used within the ECSA Region since 2000. Ms. Tom hinted at many of the regional constraints and needs that will be echoed throughout the workshop, including agreed consensus to move forward; clear, specific, and international guidelines; clear and simple procedures and manuals to follow; better harmonization with the partners, stakeholders, and projects operating in the region; and the need to convince people and empower champions. She stressed that we need to remember that the culture of the ECSA Region is that agreement and consensus is given by action, not by words.

Ronald Afidra from FFI gave a global and regional overview of grain fortification, noting that as a continent, Africa is leading the global momentum for passing legislation mandating the fortification of grains (wheat flour, maize flour, and rice). Mr. Afidra stressed the need to know how industries are being motivated to fortify, especially in countries with voluntary fortification legislation and how governments are working to pass legislation. Building multi-sectoral partnerships was highlighted as a key area of need and investment to ensure high quality fortified grains are available and accessible.

Laura Rowe from PHC discussed the organization's work in four countries in the ECSA Region: Rwanda, Malawi, Burundi, and Zimbabwe. Ms. Rowe described key opportunities of industry engagement, in-country prioritization, management, and leadership that poised the region to continue to make progress in the near future. She also highlighted common challenges of legislation, sampling and testing, and the lack of data capture systems that will provide a hindrance if not addressed and strengthened. She suggested that food control authorities and regulatory bodies need to build relationships and trust with industry, putting themselves in the shoes of industry to better understand what works in terms of incentives, enforcement, and motivation to comply with regulations and legislation.

Adan Kabelo from GAIN next discussed the journey to achieving mandatory fortification in Kenya. Mr. Kabelo highlighted the establishment of the Kenya National Food Fortification Alliance as critical to this success. This Alliance is chaired by industry but the secretariat is housed in the Ministry of Health, one key to its success. Other diverse stakeholders with clearly defined roles and responsibilities are also involved. Other key successes in Kenya include flexibility and teamwork and trust and
confidence between sectors. Despite the successes, challenges have been identified, including inadequate testing and technical capacity at industry and laboratory levels, a decentralized government system that places responsibility to county governments, as well as a lack of resources for scale up and increasing social demand. Mr. Kabelo also briefly discussed the results from a National Food Fortification Conference held in August, 2015 that discussed future strategies and shared experiences in regulatory considerations and leveraging programs to achieve greater nutrition impact. Lastly, Mr. Kabelo described the launch of a new web-based database which should facilitate data collection and usage among the counties.

Lastly, Fred Grant from HKI gave an overview of fortification programs in Tanzania and Mozambique, stressing that in both, partnerships, advocacy, communication, and social mobilization were the main drivers of success. Mr. Grant also discussed HKI’s Fortification Rapid Assessment Tool (FRAT) and its usefulness in prioritizing food vehicles and assessing industry readiness and capacity. He emphasized that the regional approach cannot substitute for country-level action, but that regional bodies can play a role in catalyzing a supportive environment for capacity building, scale up, and improved quality and coverage. Mr. Grant stressed that coordination and continuity will be critical for future success in this area.

3.3.2 CURRENT STATUS OF LOCALLY PRODUCED COMPLEMENTARY AND THERAPEUTIC FOODS

Two partners active in the local production of complementary and therapeutic foods, including fortified blended flours (FBF), corn soya blends (CSB), and ready to use supplementary and therapeutic foods (RUSF/RUTF) gave presentations describing their work and the current status of production of these foods within the region.

Hazvinei Mugwagwa, representing Partners in Food Solutions (a partnership of General Mills, Cargill, DSM, Buhler, and Hershey) discussed the organization’s programs and activities and alliance with TechnoServe to develop local food processing industries. These private sector alliances help to increase the competitiveness and market access for the local food processing and farming sectors while increasing the availability of nutritious foods. Mr. Mugwagwa also discussed the results of two projects, Project Peanut Butter in Malawi and Sector-wide Trainings for using CSB in schools and therapeutic feeding centers. Through the support of the PFS/TNS Alliance, local producers are now supplying WFP, UNICEF, and government programs for complementary and therapeutic foods.

Rufaro Musvaire from WFP also spoke to complementary and therapeutic foods and the rationale for local production to support development and emergency programs globally and within the ECSA Region. Ms. Musvaire noted that WFP has committed to improving the food basket to provide more nutritious foods for their beneficiaries and doing so locally, where possible to increase sustainability, cost effectiveness, local economic growth, and availability of these products outside of specific WFP project funding. She discussed two local production initiatives with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and with the SUN Business Network (SBN) to explore the use of complementary and therapeutic foods with a focus on the 1,000 days and to look at best practices in private sector engagement, production, distribution, and marketing of nutritious foods. With CHAI, a public-private partnership model has been used to sustain production of high quality nutritious foods. Product and process-related messaging has helped to catalyze success. With the SBN in Zambia, WFP has worked in developing marketing, messaging, and branding to increase consumer awareness.

3.3.3 FOOD SAFETY AND MYCOTOXIN CONTROL

Two partners active in food safety with a particular focus on mycotoxins, mainly aflatoxins, provided the workshop participants with background information on aflatoxins, implications for health and nutrition, and initiatives used to control them in the fortified and nutritious foods common in the ECSA Region. This section was particularly interesting for many participants who have yet to have much exposure to this topic.

Dr. George Mahuku from the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, a member of the CGIAR consortium, first gave a general overview of aflatoxins, their growth and contamination of staple foods throughout the region, and their impact on health and nutrition. Dr. Mahuku presented studies that suggested that exposure to aflatoxin can result in low birth weight, stunting, and impaired development during the first 1,000 days of life and that the prevalence of exposure in several countries was found to be alarmingly high. While these findings were much debated by participants for their validity, the conclusion that this is an area requiring further study, awareness, and attention was agreed.

Wezi Chunga-Sambo of the Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA) also gave a presentation on the coordinated approach taken to combat aflatoxin contamination and mitigate its affects on the population. Ms. Chunga-Sambo described PACA’s community-based approach and strategy for supporting governments to effectively manage the aflatoxin challenge.

3.3.4 REFLECTIONS FROM DELEGATES

At this point in the workshop, participants were all asked to write down their main expectations for what the workshop will provide as a key takeaway. These results are summarized in this section.

How to initiate fortification activities:
- Conducting a feasibility analysis.
- Learning from other countries how governments can implement efforts to improve the quality of fortified foods.
- Gathering ideas to accelerate the planning and design of national nutrition and fortification strategies.
- Understanding strategies in standards development and harmonization of fortified and nutritious foods.
- Working with the private sector more effectively.

**How to sustain fortification activities:**
- Thinking about how to be a better regulator and enforcer of regulations.
- Planning and budgeting for activities at a national level.
- Putting in place a robust monitoring system.
- Connecting with local producers and stakeholders.
- Building leadership and strengthening ECSA and NEPAD for micronutrient deficiency control.
- Setting up or adapting a National Food Fortification Alliance to make it a better platform to affect fortification.

**How to combine food safety and food quality:**
- Managing and controlling mycotoxins.
- Understanding the health and nutrition effects of aflatoxins and other mycotoxins.

**How to reset thinking and practice:**
- Operationalizing working group activities.
- Identifying the training needs and new approaches for building capacity.
- Collaborating with partners to address the capacity needs and gaps.
- Strategizing tangible outputs and opportunities for capacity strengthening.
- Networking with colleagues regionally to collaborate towards a common goal.
- Imparting new methods in QA/QC and inspection, specifically to stop relying so heavily on post-production testing.
- Approaching fortification as a multi-stakeholder initiative that requires advocacy and partnership.
- Leveraging private sector investment and participation in fortification efforts.

### 3.4 Introduction of the Three Working Groups

The Regional Workshop also gave plenty of time to in-depth discussions in three major areas: production and QA/QC, inspection and enforcement, and consumption monitoring and program impact. Delegates were asked to choose which of the three areas they felt most qualified to represent their country or organization in. For organizations and country governments that had multiple delegates participating in the workshop, they were asked to split up to gain the most benefit from multiple thematic areas.

Within the working groups, delegates were asked to first analyze the current situation of fortified and nutritious foods in that focal area. Presentations by select partners and country governments provided additional background in each area and started to bring up key discussion questions. Second, the working groups were to identify the limitations and challenges facing their country or organization and key methods and strategies being used to overcome these limitations. Lastly, working groups were tasked to identify the key capacity and resource gaps at the national and regional level and list the top five priorities for short and long-term action.

Further descriptions of each of the working groups and the presentations given during these sessions follow in the next sections. The list of participants given in Appendix 2 also indicates which working group each delegate participated in during the workshop.

#### 3.4.1 Production and Quality Assurance/Quality Control

The Production and QA/QC Working Group focused on filling the capacity and resource gaps that are identified in the production of fortified and nutritious foods (including complementary foods, such as FBFs, and therapeutic foods, such as RUTF). This working group will also focus on filling gaps within the quality assurance and quality control practices of the private sector to ensure that fortified and nutritious foods meet all applicable safety and quality standards, including the control of aflatoxins and the addition of adequate amounts of key micronutrients.

This working group was led by Dr. Quentin Johnson of Smarter Futures/FFI.

Five presentations were given to this working group as an introduction to the different partners and projects taking place in the region. First, Dr. Johnson provided an introduction and posed three thought questions to the group for consideration:

- What are the gaps in capacity and resources for the production of fortified and nutritious foods?
- What are the gaps in QA/QC systems and practices in the private sector to meet applicable standards and regulations?
- What are the gaps in QA/QC systems and practices to control aflatoxins and other food safety threats?

Paul Alberghine then gave an overview of USDA Food Assistance programs. He touched on a brief history of US Government food aid and approaches to improve its nutrition and quality. He then discussed the Micronutrient Fortified Food Aid Products Pilot (MFFAPP) Project intended to use locally grown foods to develop and test new or improved fortified food aid products. One such pilot is currently underway in Tanzania to test new formulations of three FBFs along with their nutrient cost effectiveness and feasibility to transition to local production.

William Benjamin of USAID/Southern Africa gave an overview of a partnership with Valid Nutrition in Malawi, who operates an RUTF production facility and is looking
to develop Ready-to-Use Complementary Food for markets in Malawi and throughout the region. This partnership aims to promote private sector investment and build quality improvements and inputs into the production process. Mr. Benjamin spoke to some of the results and outcomes of this partnership as well as the marketing approach for rapid scale-up throughout the region.

Hazvinei Mugwagwa of Partners in Food Solutions spoke in more detail about the PFS/TNS Alliance and some of the projects being undertaken in the region (Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, and Ethiopia), including Solutions for African Food Enterprises (SAFE).

He gave several case studies of specific training and technical assistance provided through these projects. He also spoke to some of the challenges encountered throughout the region, including technical skills deficits and lack of financing access in small and growing businesses. He also related some of the lessons learned throughout these projects, such as sector-wide trainings as a platform for bringing together many stakeholders to engage on topical issues and the need for business and quality assessments from the start to manage expectations and deliver more appropriate solutions.

Lastly, Penjani Mkambula of GAIN gave an overview of GAIN's work in building laboratory capacity for fortification programs. GAIN has taken the lead on this with myriad donors supporting projects in the ECSA Region, in West Africa, and globally. Through Project ENABLE, GAIN worked to assess food control agencies and key laboratories used in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda and conducted capacity building activities to bridge gaps. Through the Quality Improvement Network Project, GAIN is working to set up a network of laboratories within Africa with a central reference laboratory to share knowledge, expertise, and training. With WFP, GAIN is working to develop local capacities on quality control, which includes upgrading local laboratory facilities in several countries of West Africa. Overall, Mr. Mkambula stressed that compliance measurement is important to ensure fortification programs achieve impact and strengthening laboratory and testing capacity is one pressure point that can be leveraged to improve on quality and safety of foods.

3.4.2 Inspection and Enforcement

The Inspection and Enforcement Working Group is focusing on filling the capacity and resource gaps that are identified in the government-led inspections and auditing process for fortified and nutritious foods. This working group is also paying attention on filling gaps within the collection and usage of compliance data and the development and execution of enforcement strategies to hold producers accountable for the safety and quality of fortified and nutritious foods.

This working group was led by Manohar Shenoy of SPRING/USAID-Uganda.

Three presentations were given to this working group as an introduction to the different partners and projects taking place in the region. First, Laura Rowe, from PHC, gave a background on where we stand in terms of fortified foods meeting national standards. She outlined PHC's model for understanding fortification monitoring and using a set of tools to engage government, improve process management, and generate efficient improvements in this area. She stressed the need for data integration systems so that data can be used to take rapid action. She also presented the results of a GAIN/PHC study that aimed to better identify barriers and good practices used in 17 countries to achieve better compliance against standards. Overall, the key messages were to:

- Create strong and effective incentives and penalties for enforcement.
- Support leadership to reduce the perceived political risk around inspector enforcement.
- Prioritize financial resources to maintain trained inspectors and functional laboratories.
- Streamline and simplify data capture systems and use the strengths of other stakeholders such as civil society and consumer groups to reduce the burden on food control agencies.

Penjani Mkambula gave an overview and lessons learned from the ENABLE Project's components that aimed to identify policy gaps and constraints to the enabling environment and assess government regulatory control systems. Key challenges and gaps identified through this project include the need to harmonize standards regionally for complementary and therapeutic foods, provide greater breadth and depth of training to inspectors, and reform the regulatory structures to address duplication and confusion between roles. He noted that there are very few laboratories within the region that are accredited and testing experience and capacity vary widely. Additionally, expertise in sampling, testing, and equipment procurement and maintenance are lacking in many cases.

Lastly, Patricia Ejalu of the Uganda National Bureau of Standards spoke to the Uganda Experience for inspection and enforcement. She noted that inspections at the industry level have been successful. Due to quarterly industry inspections and training of District Health Inspectors, industries have improved their manufacturing practices and products are generally meeting standards. However, inspections at points of importation and market surveillance continue to present challenges due to inadequate human and financial resources and lack of information by importers and market sellers. These will be key areas of focus in Uganda moving forward.

3.4.3 Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact

The Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact Working Group is focusing on filling the capacity and resource gaps that are identified in the epidemiological monitoring and evaluation of programs for fortified and nutritious foods. This working group is also working on filling gaps within the collection and usage of data to monitor consumption of fortified and nutritious foods as
well as their epidemiological and nutritional impact at the population level. The aim of this group is to work towards the establishment of permanent surveillance systems that integrate indicators related to program performance and outcomes, and including the consumption of fortified and nutritious foods and determination of additional intakes.

This working group was led by Dr. Rafael Flores-Ayala and Dr. Maria Elena Jefferds of CDC/IMMPaCt.

Four presentations were given to this working group as an introduction to the different partners and projects taking place in the region. First, Dr. Helena Pachon of FFI gave an overview of a project conducted to assess countries’ progress toward monitoring their food fortification programs. She highlighted that countries in Africa are doing well in organizing national committees to oversee fortification programs, but tend to lack documentation for monitoring programs at external, commercial, and import levels. She stressed the need to develop, implement, and document rules and operating procedures for monitoring of programs at the national level.

Drs. Flores-Ayala and Jefferds gave a presentation introducing the differences between monitoring and surveillance and a comparison of different survey types. They gave a background and rationale for conducting continuous household surveys for nutrition surveillance, describing case studies of two nutrition surveillance systems implemented in Guatemala and Nicaragua. They also presented lessons learned from these experiences, including the need to involve diverse stakeholders for sustainability, advocacy, and continuity; the need to secure government commitment from Ministries of Health and Finance; and the need for technical assistance from the start to build local capacity over the long-term.

Valerie Friesen presented on GAIN’s tool for assessing coverage of fortification programs, the fortification assessment coverage tool (FACT). FACT combines measures of risk and indicators of poverty with household coverage and intra-household intakes to assess coverage and utilization of fortified foods as well as to identify barriers and opportunities for fortification programs. Utilization of the FACT methodology is currently underway in Tanzania, where GAIN will work to further refine the indicators, methods, and reporting tools to prepare the tool for public dissemination.

Lastly, Raymond Wigenge of the Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) gave a presentation highlighting the challenges facing the country in monitoring fortified foods. He spoke to some of the achievements of TFDA in this area, including conducting market surveillance on fortified wheat flour and edible oil at the retail level, leading to an identification of the need to prioritize building capacity of food producers to ensure compliance. He remarked that one of the major challenges lies in the fact that maize flour is produced by thousands of small and rural millers with limited technical fortification capacity, making it exceptionally difficult to monitor the quality of these products or their consumption and impact.

4 GROUP WORK AND REPORTS OF FINDINGS

After the working group introductory sessions, working groups had the opportunity to discuss topics within their focal area. A guide was created to facilitate discussion around four major areas:

- Current status at national and regional level, including the types of systems in place, state of activities within each focal area, availability of inputs, and usage of applicable data.
- Key needs and priorities for strengthening or developing systems within each focal area.
- Key barriers and capacity gaps to strengthening or developing systems within each focal area.
- Top working group priorities to support country and regional efforts, including thoughts on how to best work together to accomplish these priorities and harmonize efforts within the ECSA Region.

4.1 PRODUCTION AND QA/QC

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

At the national level, most countries have large companies with good QA capacity, but small and medium firms often lack QA/QC capacity. The food industry has access to fortification equipment and premix. Analytical lab capacity is lacking with little or no access to local or regional accreditation for micronutrient testing. Few countries provide import duty or tax relief for premix and equipment.

At the regional level, there is overall poor or limited capacity in the area of laboratory testing. Cases of poor quality premix and regional trade difficulties are persistent. There is an information gap between researchers and the food industry such that industry is not always aware of the latest research and best practices. There are inadequate incentives for industry compliance to meet standards. Limited financial, technical, and human resources persist to prevent industry performance and compliance.

NEEDS AND CAPACITY GAPS

At the national level, large companies require capacity strengthening in the area of using centralized data systems. For companies of all sizes, sharing of best practices for QA/QC and fortification processes is necessary. Lab capacity, including the training of lab personnel, is necessary especially for appropriate sampling and quantitative analysis of micronutrients. Lastly, capacity must be strengthened within the inspectorates using examples of good practices from other countries. Inspectors need to shift away from relying on end product testing and towards taking a more
holistic and systematic approach to monitoring industry processes.

At the regional level, there is a need for harmonization of standards, protocols, processes, and methods. Standardized testing kits need to be developed and utilized. Advocacy is key at all levels to ensure governments take charge and ownership, especially with regards to accreditation assistance and adherence to good fortification practices.

**Barriers and Challenges**

There is a lack of commitment by senior officials and the need to convince decision and policy makers to invest in fortification and QA/QC in particular. There is a high cost of accreditation, testing, and lab support. There is a lack of training on fortification and QA/QC and a lack of post-training support, follow up, and mentoring.

**Priorities For The Future**

- The countries and partners need to coordinate their efforts and share good practices, including creating regional centers of excellence, online platforms for knowledge sharing, and a pool of local African experts on QA/QC.
- ECSA-HC needs to support harmonization of standards for those fortified and nutritious foods and premix that are still pending, update testing methods, and strengthen aflatoxins control.
- ECSA-HC needs to build stakeholder agreement and buy-in at a regional level, especially in health, agriculture, trade, and standards.
- ECSA-HC needs to create simple and unified messages on the benefits of fortified and nutritious foods for regional advocacy efforts.

**Key Stakeholders**

Identified stakeholders and working group participants were identified as the national governments (especially inspectors and food control agencies), industry, GAIN, Project SAFE (Partners in Food Solutions/TechnoServe), WFP, UNICEF, MI, FFI/Smarter Futures, PACA, IITA, and others who will be invited to join as relevant.

**Reflections From Delegates**

- Not only is there an information gap between researchers and the food industry, but this also exists between and among government officials and farmers. All stakeholders could benefit from the translation of research into action.
- Developing and implementing strategies for understanding and controlling aflatoxins throughout the food chain should be a priority area.
- There is a need to transform a focus towards industry self-regulation and encouraging industry to have their own labs or access to efficient laboratory services; they could not depend on government inspectors, whose function is to verify for compliance.

**4.2 Inspection and Enforcement**

**Status of Programs**

There is currently inadequate coordination between stakeholders in fortification. Roles and responsibilities need to be better clarified and policies, legislation, and legal frameworks need updated and simplified. Clear and objective enforcement structures, including incentives and penalties, need to be outlined. At present, fortification is often a parallel activity to national food safety systems, but it should be integrated into those systems instead. There are inadequate data management mechanisms for collection, dissemination, reporting, and decision making. There are inadequate budgets for food safety and quality in general and human resource issues that need to be addressed, such as competence, remuneration, prevention of corruption, and laboratory and analytical capabilities.

**Needs and Capacity Gaps**

There is a need for human resources, both in number and in competence regarding inspection, testing, laboratory analytics, and equipment maintenance. There is new and emerging technology that has yet to be brought into national inspectorate systems. Budget allocations are inadequate from all key regulators.

Key items that need strengthening include policy, legislation, and legal frameworks, especially those surrounding enforcement measures. Information sharing needs more support at both national and regional levels.

**Barriers and Challenges**

At the national level, the greatest challenges are the overlapping mandates of regulators, inadequate data sharing, and inadequate monitoring programs. In many cases, sampling and testing is required in the field, but laboratories are only located centrally and within major urban centers. Better protocols need to be adopted to define the frequency of inspections and the most adequate and efficient sampling and testing methods.

At the national and regional levels, the greatest challenges are the lack of clear frameworks for coordination and the lack of harmonized formats for sampling, testing, and reporting. There is a challenge in selecting among several testing methodologies, both qualitative and quantitative, and in knowing their best uses, tradeoffs, and alternatives for a given context.

**Priorities For The Future**

Short-term priorities include:

- Mapping and analysis of available analytical technologies, lab capacities, standards and regulations, and enforcement systems.
- Development of a regional implementation framework for an integrated enforcement and inspection system by adjusting existing methods within PHC and Kenya to create a regionally harmonized model and ECSA-HC to house such models.
• Human resource capacity building through twining and training, specifically in inspection and sampling.
• Increasing analytical capacity through validation and evaluation of analytical methods and the creation of recommendations for appropriate methods for each context with SPRING/Uganda taking the lead.

Long-term priorities include:
• Development of a regional model for data integration and sharing, specifically for compliance, safety, and quality data.
• Bring in other regional institutions, such as EAC and SADC to partner with ECSA-HC in the improvement of university curricula and centers of excellence to build human capacity for inspection and analytical testing. Work also with these regional organizations to develop a pool of accredited reference labs.
• Manage the overlapping mandates of regulators and amend legal frameworks at national and regional levels.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS
Identified stakeholders and working group participants were identified as the national governments, regional economic communities that develop standards (EAC, EASC, SADC, and ECSA), GAIN, PACA, PhC, FFI, SPRING/Uganda, and others, such as MI, UNICEF, and IGN, who will be invited to join as relevant.

REFLECTIONS FROM DELEGATES
• Laboratories are not the silver bullet to solve inspection and enforcement problems. High quality products can still result from monitoring within a GMP or HACCP system that focuses on processes and implementation rather than lab testing.
• The job of inspectors is to enforce. This means knowing what to do with the sampling and testing information and results. This also needs to be an area of focus.
• Issues of ethical conduct of enforcers, including bribery and corruption also need to be addressed.
• Fortification is often perceived as an isolated activity, but it needs to be treated as part of the overall food control system and embedded within it from the start.

4.3 CONSUMPTION MONITORING AND PROGRAM IMPACT

STATUS OF PROGRAMS
At the national level, there is a variety of data sourced for routine program monitoring and surveillance, including HMIS, DHS, MICS, micronutrient surveys, and fortification specific surveys. There are many other large-scale population surveys that would provide potential sources of surveillance data.

Regionally, there are many opportunities to improve in this area, including a wide range of lessons learned from experiences globally, existing capacity and experience with fortification regionally, and existing monitoring and surveillance tools and models being used locally. There is increased political will and donor support for M&E, surveillance, and meeting global targets and commitments, such as those from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), World Health Assembly goals and targets, and the Malabo Declaration.

NEEDS AND CAPACITY GAPS
The greatest needs at the national level are to build capacity to develop and strengthen monitoring and surveillance systems and to harmonize and integrate different sources of data within data management systems. This will require adapting existing frameworks, models, and tools to the national context and coordinating with diverse stakeholders to establish databases, integrate data, and manage and disseminate results on a regular basis. Additional staff and resources will be required to do this effectively.

At the regional level there is a need to develop harmonized tools and frameworks for epidemiological monitoring and surveillance and train staff on their usage. Human resources need additional skills in data management, analysis, reporting, and dissemination of results. There also needs to be additional investment in institutional systems and structures that can support monitoring and surveillance integration nationally and within the region.

BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES
At the regional level, there is a significant lack of harmonized consumption and impact monitoring guidelines applicable to the ECSA Region. There is insufficient regional comprehensive monitoring currently undertaken by each country individually, and as a whole inside the ECSA-HC. Lastly, there are limited opportunities for countries to network and learn from each other in this area.

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE
Short-term priorities include:
• Revitalize a technical working group on consumption monitoring, evaluation, and surveillance for the ECSA Region.
• Assess existing monitoring and surveillance systems in countries.
• Strengthen ECSA-HC to address these topics in the region, including an identification of key gaps and resources available to fill these.

Long-term priorities include:
• ECSA-HC should develop a harmonized regional framework for monitoring and surveillance and a model to describe the pathways of impact.

9 The Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods is an African Union and Member State commitment to end hunger and halve the current levels of post-harvest losses. See also http://au.int/en/sites/default/files/decisions/9661-assembly-au_dec_517._._545_xviii_e.pdf
ECSA-HC should disseminate and build capacity on consumption monitoring using the Flour Fortification Monitoring Manual, lessons learned, and other resources.

Pilot test an integrated consumption monitoring system in one country in the region.

**Key Stakeholders**

Identified stakeholders and working group participants were identified as the national governments, regional economic communities, CDC/IMMPaCt, is leading this effort, and other institutions such as GAIN, FFI, HKI, MI, UNICEF, and others will be invited to join as relevant.

**Reflections From Delegates**

- Integration will be critical. Already countries are bogged down with too many surveys and finding funding to conduct these. The goal has to be to integrate key indicators for fortification programs into existing survey instruments for ongoing surveillance.
- Monitoring and evaluation can be challenging and requires greater technical assistance and capacity building. Results will often depend on the design of the program and the design of the survey or monitoring tool.
- The value of M&E can also be about mobilization and advocacy. This working group should also focus on how to use technology, such as the capability of mobile devices, to indicate the needs and motivate political will.

**5 Summary of Issues Highlighted in Plenary and Group Discussions**

This section will highlight some of the key issues brought up in plenary and working group discussions and how to resolve these as we move forward.

**5.1 How can we best learn from what is going well?**

The regulation, production, inspection, enforcement, consumption monitoring, and surveillance of fortified and nutritious foods is a complex effort requiring multi-stakeholder partnerships, understanding of roles and responsibilities, trust between sectors, and consensus on a path towards improvement and impact. Partnerships must be created with the goal of synergy and not competition or duplication of efforts. It is critical to learn from each other what works well in various contexts so that each country has a toolbox of options at their disposal to modify to fit their own local context. In this respect, participants discussed two ways to best learn from each other and share best practices.

First, additional workshops should be held such as this one as a platform for networking and discussion. Future workshops should contain thematic elements to explore various topics within the lens of each of the working groups established. Such workshops could focus on:

- Food safety and mycotoxin control.
- Best practices for government inspections and enforcement strategies.
- Development and use of data capture systems.
- Tools and procedures to measure program impact.
- Using and validating rapid test kits, such as iChecks.
- Understanding manufacturing processes for fortified and nutritious foods, including field visits to factories.

Participants also discussed the idea of creating an online learning and experiential exchange platform. They brainstormed ideas for the content of such a platform and suggested that this be housed within ECSA-HC’s website. These ideas are summarized below.

**Manuals and Guidelines:**

- Manuals, frameworks, tools, checklists, and SOPs for production (QA/QC, HACCP, GMP), monitoring (inspections and testing), and surveillance (M&E) for fortified and nutritious foods.
- Analytical methods for laboratories.
- Technical information on food safety and mycotoxins/aflatoxins.
- Guidance for sampling and testing methods, including when to use quantitative vs qualitative methods, single vs composite samples.
- Advocacy tools and communications guidance.

**Laws and Regulations:**

- Current standards, regulations, laws, and policy briefs regarding fortification.
- Guidelines on registration and marketing of fortified products.
- Notification of proposed changes/amendments and how to comment.

**National and Regional Data:**

- Country dashboard for production, QA/QC, monitoring and surveillance, coverage, and compliance data.
- Comprehensive data capture form including goals, benchmark indicators for fortification compliance.
- Country reports on inspections, laboratory capacity, and capacity building progress.
- Any relevant national survey reports that include fortification or nutrition data.

**Case Studies and Best Practices:**

- Lessons learned from countries with details on challenges and successes in implementation.
- Food safety and fortification activities, standards, and examples from countries.
- Links to relevant articles and research regarding fortification and new technology advances.
• Best practices in forming a food safety commission or fortification alliance.
• Ongoing and past funded project details and results.

Training and Exchange Opportunities:
• Trainings, forums, workshops, and stakeholder meetings happening in the region.
• Regular online group discussions and networking platform.
• Links to online trainings
• “Ask an Expert” chat facility to contact experts with specific questions.
• Calls for proposals.

Reference and Contact Information:
• Key contact information of country representatives, lead agencies, and regional coordinators, including organizational structures and roles.
• List of industries manufacturing fortified and nutritious foods, including LNS and FBF.
• List of premix/equipment suppliers and properties of different types of premix/equipment.
• List of accredited laboratories.
• List of experts in the field.
• List of fortification alliance institutions, civil society/consumer groups, and industry associations.

5.2 HOW CAN WE FOCUS ON LOCAL CAPACITY?

One key point that was brought up in discussions is how to stop relying on and looking for external donor assistance. In response to this, many participants suggested the need to build local capacity and expertise in various areas surrounding fortified and nutritious foods in an effort to reduce reliance on technical assistance. Through this, local champions could be identified in governments in order to advocate for increased national budget allocations and investment from the private sector in order to reduce the funding needs from external donors. Participants brainstormed on the specific topics that they and their colleagues could use further training on in order to build local capacity. These are summarized below.

Production and QA/QC:
• Good management practices and business models for sustainability, specifically for SMEs.
• Basic nutrition training as it relates to processing, fortification, and the handling of premix.
• Good manufacturing practices, including best practices in QA/QC systems, and HACCP.
• Technology trends for food processing, including the selection of appropriate equipment.
• Awareness on industry associations and regulations.
• Food safety, including the control, testing, and mitigation of /mycotoxins/aflatoxins.

Laboratories and Data Management:
• Good laboratory practices and technical laboratory management.
• Analytical methods and the use and maintenance of lab equipment.
• Sampling procedures, data collection, and sample handling.
• Data analysis, handling, decision-making, and dissemination to show performance of brands.
• Centralizing data management systems and using a data for regional comparisons.
• The use of rapid test kits and understanding effective testing methods at appropriate times and locations.

Inspection and Enforcement:
• Carrying out an effective inspection, including development of protocols and checklists.
• Inspector competence in monitoring, especially incorporating fortification into HACCP, GMP, QA/QC monitoring during field visits.
• Development of standards and regulations, including regional harmonization.
• Guidelines and monitoring manuals used in food fortification.
• Enforcement procedures.

Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact:
• Designing and implementing monitoring and surveillance tools/surveys (FACT, FRAT, Fortimas, etc.).
• Training governments to own monitoring and surveillance tools and coverage surveys.
• Monitoring and Evaluation of fortification programs and their nutritional impact.
• Differences between monitoring and surveillance and when would each be implemented.
• Establishing and managing a surveillance system.

General:
• Training of human resource experts to support Africa and the ECSA Region, including on-the-job training, leadership, and mentorship.
• Advocacy skills for sharing information to high level government officers.
• Curriculum development in higher institutions of learning.

5.3 HOW CAN WE BETTER INCORPORATE CIVIL SOCIETY AND CONSUMER GROUPS?

Throughout the First Regional Workshop, it was noted that one of the major drivers of change for fortified and nutritious foods was consumer demand and consumption patterns. This is a critical element that needs to be included in the stakeholder dialogue. As a
whole, consumer demand needs to be increased for programs to be successful, both in incentivizing production and in generating the intended nutritional impact. Since fortified and nutritious foods are types of credence goods, or goods that are not easily evaluated for their quality by the average person, civil society and consumer groups are necessary stakeholders that can assist with information collection and dissemination. In this way, consumers can be more informed about their options and the benefits of fortified and nutritious foods. At the same time, these organizations can serve as a watchdog to assist in regulatory processes.

6 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE WAY FORWARD

Five key recommendations for moving forward have come out of this First Regional Workshop. These are summarized in this section.

6.1 ACTIVATE THE WORKING GROUPS

The working groups will have a large role to play in this initiative moving forward. Thus, the first step will be to activate these working groups and start to engage them to reflect on the findings of this workshop and how they can best leverage their collective expertise to build capacity in the ECSA Region. GAIN has committed to playing a convening role and strengthening coordination among the stakeholders within each of the working groups and between each of the groups. ECSA-HC will apply its regional leadership role to engage the working groups and direct them towards activities that are prioritized from a regional standpoint.

Draft TORs for each of the working groups are currently being finalized and working groups will be provided with a mechanism with which to engage their members via regular virtual meetings and using an online learning and exchange platform.

6.2 CREATE AN ONLINE LEARNING AND EXCHANGE PLATFORM

An online learning and exchange platform will be developing in the coming months as a tool that working groups and other professionals in the ECSA Region and internationally can use to share best practices and lessons learned, request technical assistance, and post upcoming opportunities for workshops and other training meetings. The online platform will also contain links to guidance documents, manuals, reports, and other information as a one-stop-shop for key information needed within the region on the three working group focal areas for fortified and nutritious food programs. This platform will be initially built by GAIN with a transition plan to be maintained by ECSA-HC. All inputs, documents, links, and information housed within this platform will rely on partners and working groups to create, coordinate, and upload to the platform.

The online platform will also serve as a community of practice and will eventually include a database of a pool of experts, practitioners, and professionals working in programs for fortified and nutritious foods regionally and internationally. In this way, it will allow for additional networking and opportunities for exchanging ideas in the working group focal areas.

6.3 MAP THE EXISTING SYSTEMS, FRAMEWORKS, TOOLS, AND REFERENCES

Each working group will be tasked with mapping the existing frameworks, systems, and resources within the region in their focal area. This mapping will start from the initial discussions and results from the First Regional Workshop, broadening the scope and reach to include key issues, stakeholders, and priority solutions at both national and regional levels.

This mapping exercise will culminate in a short report by each of the working groups, finalized by January, 2016. These documents will be housed in the online platform and will serve as benchmarks and indicators for measuring progress throughout this initiative. A national and regional dashboard will be included on the online platform for countries to track their progress and compare across the region.

6.4 PLAN AND IMPLEMENT ACTIVITIES LEADING UP TO THE SECOND REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The mapping exercise will also serve as a starting point in developing a work plan for the prioritized activities for regional harmonization and capacity building. Stakeholders and working groups will be expected to make progress on one or more prioritized short-term actions identified during the First Regional Workshop and mapping exercise and present this work to the group during the Second Regional Workshop to be held in March, 2016. At this workshop, participants and working groups will then plan activities for the following 6 months and beyond.

6.5 COORDINATE WITH REGIONAL PARTNERS TO IDENTIFY AND DELIVER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Participants at the First Regional Workshop identified several areas in which they feel further training is needed for themselves and their local colleagues. ECSA-HC, GAIN, and other partners will need to coordinate their efforts and identify opportunities for local training and capacity building. Such trainings could be in the form of online courses and webinars, housed within the online learning and exchange platform; partnerships with institutions of higher education; and additional workshops and meetings focused on topical areas of need.
7 CONCLUSION

The First Regional Workshop achieved its objectives. It provided an opportunity for regional stakeholders to network and share stories of progress, programs, challenges, and successes within their countries and throughout the region. A full report of the workshop’s evaluation can be found in Annex 3.

Workshop participants were able to accomplish the workshop goals in initiating three regional working groups; discussing the key barriers, challenges, and opportunities within each of the working groups; and identifying a path forward to harmonize capacity building efforts throughout the region. Now, it is time for acting based on the conclusions and recommendations.
## ANNEX 1: WORKSHOP AGENDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session/Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00-08:30</td>
<td>Registration outside of Kibo Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30-10:30</td>
<td><strong>Session 1: Welcome Plenary, Kibo Hall</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Opening Remarks</strong> - Marc Van Ameringen, Executive Director, GAIN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Introductions of Delegates</strong> - Led by Jane Badham</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Achievements, Progress, and Plans in Food Fortification in the ECSA Region since 2000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rosemary Mwaisaka, ECSA Health Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rationale for the Workshop: Myths about Food Fortification and Vision for the Future</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Omar Dary, USAID/Washington DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Workshop Agenda, Goals, and Objectives</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greg S. Garrett, GAIN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Q&amp;A Panel – Greg Garrett, Omar Dary, Rosemary Mwaisaka. Facilitated by Jane Badham</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td><strong>Refreshment Break – On the terrace by the pool</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-12:45</td>
<td><strong>Session 2: Informational Briefings – Plenary, Kibo Hall</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Current Status of Fortification in the Region</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>A Regional Approach to Planning and Implementing Nutrition Programs: The ECSA Regional Food Fortification Model</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Tom, Consultant, Public Health and Nutrition</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Grain Fortification: Global and Regional Overview</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ronald Afidra, Food Fortification Initiative</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>The Status of Fortification: A Look at Four Project Healthy Children Programs in the ECSA Region</strong></td>
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<td>Laura Rowe, Project Healthy Children</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Kenya: The Road to Fortification Successes and Challenges</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adan Kabelo, GAIN Kenya</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>HKI’s Experience in Eastern and Southern Africa</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fred Grant, Helen Keller International</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Current Status of Locally Produced Complementary/Therapeutic Foods</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Improving Availability of Complementary Foods</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rufaro Musvaire, World Food Programme</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Partners in Food Solutions: Connecting Expertise with Opportunity</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hazvinei Mugwagwa, DSM/Partners in Food Solutions</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Food Safety and Control of Aflatoxins</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Aflatoxins and Implications to Nutrition</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>George Mahuku, IITA</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Combating Aflatoxins through a Sustainable and Coordinated Approach</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wezi Chunga-Sambo, PACA</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch served in the hotel restaurant</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00-14:15</td>
<td><strong>Session 3: Introducing the Regional Working Groups – Plenary, Kibo Hall</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presenting the goals of the working groups and a description of each working group.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Led by Jane Badham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15-15:45</td>
<td><strong>Session 3: Introducing the Regional Working Groups – Parallel Sessions, Kibo Hall, Mawenzi Hall, Uhuru Hall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other presentations may be included, TBD.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Production and QA/QC | Introduction to the Session: Consideration of Three Questions  
Quentin Johnson, Smarter Futures/FFI  
Improving Nutrition and Quality: USDA Food Assistance Programs  
Paul Alberghine, USDA-FAS  
A Local Retail Approach to Nutrition  
William Benjamin, USAID Southern Africa  
An Alliance for Business Expertise and Solutions in Global Development  
Hazvinei Mugwagwa, Partners in Food Solutions  
Building Laboratory Capacity for Food Fortification Programs  
Penjani Mkambula, GAIN  
Reactions and Comments from Government Delegations and Private Sector Representatives, TBD |
|---|---|
| Inspection and Enforcement | Inspection and Enforcement: A Lynchpin to Success  
Laura Rowe, Project Healthy Children  
Regulatory and Laboratory Capacity for Specialized Nutritious Foods – Lessons from ENABLE Project  
Penjani Mkambula, GAIN  
Inspection and Enforcement in Uganda: Lessons Learned So Far  
Patricia B. Ejalu, Uganda National Bureau of Standards  
Using iChecks for Monitoring Fortified Foods – Malawi and Uganda Experiences  
Phillip Makhumula, Consultant, Malawi  
Reactions and Comments from Government Delegations, TBD |
| Consumption Monitoring and Program Impact | Monitoring for Quality and Impact from Countries that Mandate Wheat Flour, Maize Flour, and/or Rice Fortification  
Dr. Helena Pachón; Food Fortification Initiative  
Continuous Household Surveys as a Method for Nutrition Surveillance  
Maria Elena Jeffers and Rafa Flores-Ayala, IMMPaCT/CDC  
Assessing Coverage of Large-Scale and Targeted Food Fortification Programs: Development of a Fortification Assessment Coverage Tool  
Dr. Grant Aaron, GAIN  
Surveillance and Monitoring Case Study: Tanzania  
Raymond Wigenge, Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority  
Reactions and Comments from Government Delegations and Regional Organizations, TBD |

**15:45-16:00**  
Refreshment Break – On the terrace by the pool

**16:00-18:00**  
Session 4: Facilitated Discussion and Working Session –Parallel Sessions  
- Identification of main gaps and challenges in each focal area  
- Proposal of initiatives and activities to overcome limitations.  
- Discussion of next steps.  
- Preparation of presentation to share with plenary the following day.  
Led by Working Group Chairs with rotating assistance from Jane Badham.

**18:30-21:00**  
Delegates Dinner Reception on the Terrace by the pool. Transfers back to your hotel at 20:00 and 21:00
# Regional Workshop Agenda, Tuesday, 8th September, 2015, Kibo Palace Hotel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07:00-08:30</td>
<td>Breakfast served in your hotel’s restaurant, Transfers to Kibo Palace at 8:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30-09:15</td>
<td>Second Day’s Introduction – Plenary, Kibo Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:15-10:15</td>
<td>Recap of the First Day and planning for the Second Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-10:30</td>
<td>Refreshment Break – On the terrace by the pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-13:00</td>
<td>Session 5: Workgroup Presentations – Plenary, Kibo Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:15</td>
<td>Lunch served in the hotel restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15-15:30</td>
<td>Session 6: Working Session – Parallel Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30-15:45</td>
<td>Refreshment Break – On the terrace by the pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:45-17:45</td>
<td>Session 7: Facilitated Discussion – Plenary, Kibo Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:45-18:00</td>
<td>Wrap Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30-21:00</td>
<td>Dinner on own. Transfers back to your hotel at 18:00.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Continuation of discussion from previous day and preparation of presentations
- Led by Working Group Chairs with rotating assistance from Jane Badham.

- Led by Working Group Chairs and Jane Badham, presentations by a member of each working group.

- Led by Working Group Chairs and Jane Badham, presentations by a member of each working group.

- Led by Working Group Chairs and Jane Badham, presentations by a member of each working group.

- Led by Jane Badham
## ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND DELEGATES DIRECTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Working Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ECSA Health Community</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECSA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rmwaisaka@ecsa.or.tz">rmwaisaka@ecsa.or.tz</a></td>
<td>Rosemary Mwaisaka</td>
<td>Food Security and Nutrition Manager</td>
<td>Consumption Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECSA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmarandu@ecsa.or.tz">dmarandu@ecsa.or.tz</a></td>
<td>Doreen Marandu</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECSA</td>
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<td>Edward Kataika</td>
<td>Director of Programmes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regional Health, Trade, Industry Organizations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Academy for Public Health</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmwanyika.sando@gmail.com">mmwanyika.sando@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Mary Mwanyika-Sando</td>
<td>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGIAR-IITA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:g.mahuku@cgiar.org">g.mahuku@cgiar.org</a></td>
<td>George Mahuku</td>
<td>Senior Plant Pathologist</td>
<td>Production and QA/QC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chungaw@africa-union.org">chungaw@africa-union.org</a></td>
<td>Wezi Chungu-Sambo</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEPAD</td>
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<td>Consumption Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Government Representatives in Food Control, Nutrition, and Standards</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia Food, Medicine, and Health Care Administration and Control Authority</td>
<td><a href="mailto:meharifmhaca@gmail.com">meharifmhaca@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Mehari Birhan</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kabuej@kebs.org">kabuej@kebs.org</a></td>
<td>John Kabue</td>
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<td>Production and QA/QC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya Ministry of Health, Food Safety Unit</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sikolobrendah@gmail.com">sikolobrendah@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Brendah Obura</td>
<td>Chief Public Health Officer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:komenlin@yahoo.com">komenlin@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Linda Komen</td>
<td>Food Fortification Manager</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:wanangwasindani@mbsmw.org">wanangwasindani@mbsmw.org</a></td>
<td>Wanangwa Sindani</td>
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<td>Malawi Ministry of Health</td>
<td><a href="mailto:walinanetsoka@gmail.com">walinanetsoka@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Catherine Tsoka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozambique Ministry of Industry and Commerce</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eduardamungoi268@hotmail.com">eduardamungoi268@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Eduarda Mungoi</td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:bcesarino@gmail.com">bcesarino@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Standards Technician</td>
<td>Production and QA/QC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rwanda Ministry of Health</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mucumbitsi2002@yahoo.fr">mucumbitsi2002@yahoo.fr</a></td>
<td>Alexis Mucumbitsi Habiyambere</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda Food and Drugs Authority</td>
<td><a href="mailto:agisa2006@gmail.com">agisa2006@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Alex Gisagara</td>
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<td>Private Sector Representatives</td>
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<td>Technical Director</td>
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<td>Development Partners</td>
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<td>Fred Grant</td>
<td>Regional Nutrition Lead</td>
<td>Consumption Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPRING/Uganda</td>
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<td>Manohar Shenoy</td>
<td>Chief of Party, SPRING/Uganda</td>
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<td>Vincent Assey</td>
<td>Regional Nutrition Coordinator</td>
<td>Production and QA/QC</td>
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Report of the First ECSA Regional Capacity Building Workshop for Fortified and Nutritious Foods
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**DELEGATES DIRECTORY**

**EAST, CENTRAL, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HEALTH COMMUNITY (ECSA-HC)**

**Edward Kataika, Director of Programmes, ECSA Health Community.** Mr. Kataika is a health systems development expert, with experience in health management, planning and economics. He is currently Director of Programs at ECSA Health Community. He is responsible for the overall implementation of programs in the organization, providing technical advice to Program Managers and ensuring that the work of programs responds to the strategic objectives of the organization. Contact: ekataika@ecsa.or.tz

**Rosemary Mwaisaka is a Manager for Food Security and Nutrition Programme at ECSA Health Community.** She received her Master of Science in Rural Development and Human Nutrition from Gent University, Belgium and Bachelor of Science in Home Economics and Human Nutrition from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania. She has more than 10 years of experience in the field of Nutrition and Development thorough working with the UN and other international organizations. Her role at ECSA HC gives her mandate to provide leadership in establishing regional policies and strategies on food security and nutrition for the ECSA region. Among others she has spearheaded Development of regional Food Security and Nutrition strategy for ECSA region. Contact: rmwaisaka@ecsa.or.tz

**Doreen Marandu, Bsc. Human Nutrition, MA. Development Studies. Program Officer of Food Security and Nutrition Programme at ECSA Health Community.** For the past 8 years she has been working with ECSA HC which is the regional intergovernmental body to support and facilitate member states to repackage and share good practices and lesson learnt from in the area of Nutrition & Reproductive Health through a regional platforms organized by ECSA. She has also worked on development of the regional Food Security and Nutrition strategy for ECSA countries which provides strategic information for adoption/ adaption by countries in planning and implementing their programs. She has also been sitting in the ECSA regional Nutrition expert committee as the secretariat. Contact: dmarandu@ecsa.or.tz

**GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS**

**ETHIOPIA**

**Shimelis Admassu Emire, Dr.Eng., Associate Professor of Food Process Engineering and Bioprocess Technology field of specialization.** He is Deputy Director General of Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Industry Development Institute, Ministry of Industry. He has been Associate Dean of Techno-Pharm Students and Food Process Engineering Chair Person of Addis Ababa University. He advanced experiences in food processing technology and participated in various International and National Consultancy Services. He has 77 papers (ISI, peer reviewed) and 12 Books (with ISBN) as Scientific outputs. Contact: shimelisemire@yahoo.com; fbpidi@ethionet.et

**Mehari Birhan, Head, Office of Director General, Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration and Control Authority (FMHACA), Ethiopia.** Contact: meharifmhaca@gmail.com
KENYA

John Kabue-Graduate of Bachelor of Science (Food Science and Post Harvest Technology) Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology Kenya, Works in Kenya Bureau of Standards as an Assistant Manager Quality Assurance with experience of 15 years in Quality Assurance and Inspection of manufacturing/Production of Foods. He has been involved in product certification activities hence assisting manufacturers to access local and regional markets. He is involved in inspection of production facilities involved in manufacturing of Fortified Foods. He is also a trainer on HACCP and Food Safety Management Systems as well as an Auditor of Food Safety Management Systems (ISO 22000 and Food Safety System Certification). Contact: kabuej@kebs.org

Brendah N. Obura (Msc. Health Management) Public Health Specialist. Deputy in charge of the Food Safety and Quality Control Unit at the MOH, Kenya. She deals mainly with policy development, capacity building, and surveillance of all food products at the National Government. She is the INFOSAN Focal person for the MOH. She is the current technical secretary for EDES/EU project in Kenya. She has provided technical assistance in the development of various Food Fortification Guidelines for the Ministry of Health Kenya. She has provided guidance in the amendment of the Food Drugs and Chemical Substances Act Cap 254 to be in harmony with the EAS on Fortified Foods. She is the current chair of the Monitoring and Evaluation committee for Fortified Foods at the Nutrition and Dietetics Unit. She is a member of the Kenya National Food Fortification Alliance. She has trained and sensitized Public Health Officers on Fortified Foods in collaboration with the Kenya Bureau of Standards, Nutrition and Dietetics Unit and GAIN. Contact: sikolobrendah@gmail.com

Linda Komen (Ms) Msc. Nutrition and dietetics officer, Ministry of Health, Kenya. National Food Fortification, Programme Manager, Nutrition and Dietetics Unit. She has 10 years of experience in the field of Nutrition and specifically on Nutrition policies and Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition both at county and National level. She has five years of experience working as the Programme Manager, Infant and Young Child Nutrition at the Division of Nutrition, Ministry of Health. Contact: komenlin@yahoo.com

MALAWI

Wanangwa Gift Sindani, MSc Food Science, Certification Manager, Malawi Bureau of Standards. He has extensive experience in Product Certification, Food Safety management System and Quality Management System. Contact: wanangwasindani@mbsmw.org, wsindani@gmail.com

Catherine Tsoka, MPH (Public Health Nutrition). Works as a Principal Nutrition Officer in the Department of Nutrition HIV and AIDS, Malawi. Her work involves providing technical support and assistance on a wide range of nutrition related topics and working with other stakeholders in development of education and communication materials dealing with community health and nutrition related problems. Catherine has 12 years’ work experience both at national and community level. Contact: wallinanetsoka@gmail.com
MOZAMBIQUE

Eduarda Zandamela Mungói, PhD. Food Science Specialist, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mozambique. Advisor to the Minister of Industry and Trade and Coordinater of National Food Fortification Committee (CONFAM). She is specialist on Food Safety and Food Science, Quality Auditor, Trainer Certified by ISO on Quality Management System based on ISO 9001 and Food Safety Management System based on ISO 22 000 for more than 15 years. She is a member of several Boards and Committees as Energy Fund (FUNAE), Academy of Science (ACM), Veterinary Statutory Board (ORDEM), National Codex Alimentarius and SPS Committee. She has provided assistance to SMEs on GMP, GHP and HACCP principles and as part of the team provided training to SADC Food Safety members of the Committee. 

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RWANDA

Alex Gisagara, Bpharm, MPH. National Medicines Regulation Officer for Rwanda. Liaison officer between the EAC Secretariat and the National Medicines Regulatory Authority/Ministry of Health on all matters regarding Medicines Regulation Harmonization and implementation of various EAC regional medicines registration and regulation policies, legislation, strategies, guidelines, standards, legal and regulatory frameworks at national and sub-national levels. More than ten years of experience in the field of pharmaceutical regulation, supply chain and policy development. He has worked as dispensing pharmacist at SAGAR APOLLO Hospital in Bangalore - India and with USAID under Management Sciences for Health (MSH-Project), Rwanda.

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Alexis Mucumbitsi, MPH International Health and Development, Nutrition Officer in Ministry of Health Rwanda. He has been a trainer on Mother, Infant Young Children Nutrition (MIYCN), Integrated Management of Childhood illness and Micronutrient deficiencies interventions. He has participated in the workshop on strengthening the human resource base nutrition in East and Southern Africa Bujumbura Burundi. Alexis is member of the Sectoral Committee on Health for the East African Community and Allied Health Professionals Council- Ministry of Health.

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TANZANIA

Raymond Wigenge is a Food technologist working with Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) as a Director of Food Safety. He has served in Food safety regulations for the past 25 years under different capacities in two different institutions. From 1990-2003, he worked with the National Food Control Commission (NFCC) for 13 years. When TFDA was formed in 2003, after merging NFCC and Pharmacy Board, he was absorbed in the new institution. He was actively involved in the formation of TFDA and developing a food control system in Tanzania. He was part of developing the Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 2003, developing various regulations such as those which regulate salt iodation, food fortification, marketing of food for infants and designated products, food labelling, food hygiene, food registration, control of food promotions and import and export control. Mr. Wigenge was also part in developing inspection systems and systems for monitoring of contaminants in foods including Post Marketing Surveillance systems. His experience in Food fortification starts in 1994 when Tanzania developed regulations on salt iodation. Implementation of the current Food fortification regulations of 2011 is partly based on experience gathered during implementation of salt iodation. 

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Generose Mulokozi, PhD, is a Principal Research Officer (Food Science and Nutrition) currently working for Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre Tanzania. She has 24 years of experience in research and project implementation in food science and nutrition mainly micronutrient interventions. She is a founding member of the national Food Fortification Alliance (NFFA) and worked for USAID’s Tuboreshe Chakula project for three years to introduce maize flour and sunflower oil fortification for SMEs. She has pioneered introduction of micronutrient powder (MNP) in Tanzania for children aged 6 months and 5 years in 8 districts of Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar through a commercial channel. Contact: gmulokozi@yahoo.com

Zena Issa, Bsc. Food Science and Technology, Standards officer at Tanzania Bureau of Standards, She has more than 5 years’ experience in standardization activities as a technical secretary in various technical committees including the nutrition and foods for special dietary uses. She has knowledge on food fortification hence facilitated several trainings to stakeholders. Contact: mumythu@yahoo.com

Sarah Ngalombi is a Senior Nutritionist at the Ministry of Health Headquarters in Uganda. She currently oversees the Micronutrient desk with a special focus on policy related issues in the area of anemia and large scale food fortification and Home Fortification with micronutrient powders. Sarah has vast experience in the field of food and nutrition education among which includes: teaching, curriculum development and the development and administering of students’ assessment materials for various education levels in Uganda. Contact: sngalombi@yahoo.com

Mrs. Patricia Bageine Ejalu is the Deputy Executive Director - Technical Operations Directorate at the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS). She is currently supervising all technical activities in the following Departments: Standards Development; Quality Assurance; Imports Inspection; Legal Metrology; National Metrology Laboratory; Testing and Training & Consultancy. Mrs. Ejalu served as a member of the National Biosafety Committee (NBC) housed under the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST), for a period of 10 years till 2013. She has over 15 years of experience in standardization services. She holds a Master of Science (MSc) in Food Science from the University of Reading, UK, and a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Food Science and Technology from The Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania. Contact: patricia.ejalu@gmail.com

Martin Imalingat, MSc. Engineering, Manager Quality Assurance Department, Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS). He is directly responsible for providing leadership to achieve departmental objectives and results for the following programs at UNBS – Product Certification, Management Systems Certification, Market Surveillance to Enforce Compliance to Compulsory Standards, SMEs Standards Implementation Technical Guidance, and Enforcement of the Mandatory Food Fortification Regulations through Industry and Market Monitoring in line with the UNBS overall mission. Previously also helped start the Regional Standards Coordination Division at the UNBS Standards Development Department Responsible for Coordinating all regional standardization activities at UNBS making sure all stakeholders are fully involved and make their input into the regional standardization agenda and all major regional issues. He is a member of the National Working Group on Food Fortification and has almost 15 years’ experience working in standards implementation assistance, enforcement and certification. Contact: imalingatm@gmail.com; mimalingat@unbs.go.ug
ZAMBIA

Freddie Mubanga is the Chief Nutritionist and Head of Public Health and Community Nutrition Unit (PHCNU) at the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC) of Zambia, a statutory body under the Ministry of Health. The NFNC is the Scaling Up Nutrition National Focal Point appointed by Government to spearhead the nutrition multisectoral response in the country. Freddie is the National Coordinator for the SUN/1st 1000 Most Critical Days Programme which is implemented by 5 key Line ministries. He heads the Unit (PHCNU) which coordinates issues of food fortification and serves as secretariat for the National Fortification Alliance. 
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Mulonda Mate Deputy Director Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety Ministry of Health Zambia. Mr. Mate heads Environmental Health in the Directorate of Disease Surveillance Control and Research. He deals with food safety and subsidiary legislation, including import and export health clearance. He is a member of the Fortification Alliance. Contact: mate4_ljsl@yahoo.com and mulonda.mate@moh.gov.zm

Anthony Munyenjembe, Standards Officer, Zambia Bureau of Standards. Anthony has expertise in standardization and quality assurance. He has developed standards in fruits and vegetables, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, fish and fish products, legumes and pulses. He has been involved in the development of standards for high energy protein supplements and fortified foods. He is also involved in the harmonization of continental and regional standards for food and agriculture. 
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George D. Kembo (Food and Nutrition Coordination) Director for Food and Nutrition Council. He has spearheaded the development of a multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition Security Policy for Zimbabwe. He led the development of the Policy Implementation Matrix. He is leading the establishment of decentralized multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition Structures in Zimbabwe. He provides technical support to the Working Party of Permanent Secretaries for Food and Nutrition in Zimbabwe. George is the Zimbabwe Scaling Up Nutrition Convener. He is also the Chairman for Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee and a member of the SADC Regional Vulnerability Committee. He also led the development of the Zimbabwe National Nutrition Strategy 2014- 2018. George is leading the roll-out of a Community Based Management for Food and Nutrition Security focusing on reducing stunting. He is the secretary to the Zimbabwe Food and Nutrition Advisory Group. 
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PRIVATE SECTOR

Brian Rwabwogo, Specialist in food processing. Chief of Party, USAID/UGANDA Production for Improved Nutrition- a program aimed at reducing the burden of undernutrition in vulnerable groups across Uganda. He provides technical expertise in local production of RUTF & CSB in Uganda and is a member of the Uganda Ministry of Health, Technical working group for national standards for RUTF and Complimentary foods. His areas of expertise also include private public partnerships, agricultural development and product development. Contact: brian@pin.reco-industries.com

Iddi Hatibu Mvungi, Quality Assurance Manager at Said Salim Bakhresa & Co LTD since 1999. Iddi holds a Bsc in Food Science and Technology and also Masters of Business Administration (MBA). He is a member of the Tanzania National Food Fortification Alliance. Iddi has participated in the establishment of food fortification programmes in Tanzania since 2003 and has been participating in various NFFA meetings. Contact: mvungi3@bakhresa.com

Peninah Kingori, Quality Assurance Manager, Mombasa Maize Miller Ltd. Peninah has over 10 years' experience in management and promotion of quality assurance programmes among customers and staff, as well as developing and implementing employee communication and training programs in connection with the company’s quality objectives, strategies and processes. She has a vast experience in developing, implementing and monitoring quality system such as GMP, HACCP, ISO 9001:2008 QMS and ISO 22000 FSMS. Previously, she has offered her expertise at Corn Products International in the field of quality assurance, market research and raw material management. Currently, she is spearheading development and implementation of ISO 22000 Food Safety Management system. Peninah holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from Egerton University. Contact: peninah.kingori@msa.mmm.co.ke

REGIONAL HEALTH, FOOD SAFETY, DEVELOPMENT, AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

Mary Mwanyika Sando, MD, MPH. Global Health & Population. Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Africa Academy for Public Health (AAPH). Mary leads implementation science research and capacity building efforts in areas of nutrition, reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH), HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases. She has managed the RMNCH programs at Management and Development for Health (MDH), including the scale up of the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) program in Dar es Salaam. She also worked with UNICEF Tanzania as the Health System Strengthening Specialist prior to her current role. Contact: mmwanyika.sando@gmail.com

George Mahuku, PhD, Senior Plant Pathologist, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). George is a senior plant pathologist with IITA and has over 20 years of research and development experience, 16 of which have been spent working for the CGIAR, mostly in Latin America and Africa. Before joining IITA, he worked with International Maize and Wheat improvement center [CIMMYT] (2007-2014) and International center for Tropical Agriculture [CIAT] (1998-2006). For the past 7 years, he has been leading the identification, characterization and development of host resistance to manage major maize disease, with special emphasis on aflatoxins and fumonisins. His research on mycotoxins focuses on documenting the incidence and prevalence of mycotoxins along the maize value chain, developing host resistance to major mycotoxin-producing fungi, and developing an integrated mycotoxin management strategy. Contact: G.Mahuku@cgiar.org
Wezi Chunga-Sambo is a Program Officer for the Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA), based at the African Union Commission (AUC) in the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA). Prior to joining AUC-PACA, Wezi was a Regional CAADP Consultant working for CAADP Pillar III at the Africa Centre for Food Security (AFS) at University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. Wezi’s background is in contemporary food studies and she holds a Master’s Degree in Food Policy from City University in London, UK. Wezi is currently a PhD candidate in Food Security, Rural Development and Planning at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. To the PACA Secretariat, Wezi brings expertise in policy development processes, translating policy into programs and specifically mainstreaming aflatoxins in relevant agriculture, health and trade policies, especially under the general framework of CAADP, of which PACA is a flagship program.

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DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Rufaro Musvaire, Nutritionist, United Nations World Food Programme Regional Bureau for Southern Africa. She works with 11 countries in the region to support nutrition interventions, including programme design and implementation, for children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and people living with HIV/TB. In recent years, she has also had a specific focus and interest in the areas of stunting prevention, fortification, social behavior change communication and local production of nutritious foods in the region. She is a member of the Southern Africa Food and Nutrition Security Working Group (FNSWG).

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Dr. Helena Pachón, Senior Nutrition Scientist, Food Fortification Initiative. Dr. Pachón is a public health nutritionist with over 15 years of work experience in research and programs to address malnutrition particularly in low- and middle-income countries. Currently, she supports food fortification in her capacity as Senior Nutrition Scientist for the Food Fortification Initiative (FFI). At FFI, Dr. Pachón collates or generates evidence on the public health impact of wheat flour, maize flour and rice fortification. With her FFI colleagues, she also provides technical assistance to country counterparts in fortification advocacy, monitoring and evaluation. Dr. Pachón completed her nutrition doctoral training at Cornell University and her Master of Public Health at Harvard University. She has an appointment at Emory University as Research Associate Professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health in the Rollins School of Public Health. Contact: Helena.pachon@emory.edu

Ronald Afidra, Africa Network Coordinator, Food Fortification Initiative. Ronald has worked as a food fortification advisor and monitoring specialist in the public, private and civic sectors, focusing on design, enactment of standards, implementation, enforcement, and monitoring and evaluation of fortification programs. With FFI, he supports flour fortification efforts with public, private and development partners in African countries to address health and nutrition challenges.

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Dr. Quentin Johnson, Smarter Futures/Food Fortification Initiative. Dr. Johnson has been working as Consultant to organizations and countries implementing staple food fortification programmes since 1997. His expertise includes advocacy for fortification, technical assessments and plans for fortification, training workshops for the food industry and government regulatory bodies. He has provided technical and training support to more than 85 countries around the world and worked with UN agencies such as UNICEF, WFP, WHO, World Bank, the Food Fortification Initiative, GAIN, HKI, MI, World Vision. Contact: quentin@quican.com
Laura Rowe, MS, MPH, Chief Operating Office, Project Healthy Children (PHC). Laura has over 10 years of experience in international public health and nutrition. Currently at PHC, she guides internal operations and nutrition training while leading the organization’s technical efforts in the design and implementation of national food fortification programs across a diverse portfolio of countries in East and West Africa. Past work has involved designing management and leadership programs for health care professionals in Ethiopia and Liberia, adjunct instructor in Global Health, and work on various nutrition related projects throughout India with UNICEF and the ICCIDD. Contact: lrowe@phcmail.org

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ANNEX 3: WORKSHOP EVALUATION

Of the 66 participants in the Regional Workshop, 49 provided feedback via a short questionnaire. The questionnaire asked participants to rank on a scale of 6 (high) to 1 (low), their satisfaction with the quality, content, and benefits of various aspects of the workshop. These are tabulated below. Participants were most satisfied with the quality of the parallel working group sessions and the benefits of learning from and networking with regional colleagues. Participants were least satisfied with the venue and accommodations. Overall, participants were very satisfied with the Regional Workshop.

FIGURE 1: QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES REGARDING WORKSHOP SATISFACTION

Participants were also asked to provide any additional comments and feedback via a write-in box. Many of these comments were positive and some provided recommendations for future workshops. Key recommendations are listed below:

- Invite key implementers of fortification programs and additional ECSA countries.
- The plenary room and set up were cramped, did not have table space for note taking, and were uncomfortable. Accommodations were below standards and it was unfortunate that not all participants could be located in the same hotel.
- Have additional beverage options during the meals, such as fruit juice, and have more opportunities to move around, such as dancing with dinner.
- The first day contained too many repetitive presentations with little time for Q&A and focused discussion.
- There were not enough presentations from countries, especially on their individual challenges, gaps, and areas requiring strengthening. We would all be surprised to hear and learn some of the innovative things that countries are doing to overcome their challenges.
- Would have been better to encourage Africans to facilitate the working groups and have more country input and leadership of the sessions.
- ECSA should upload the outcomes and way forward on their website to provide regular feedback.