Global Status of Rice Fortification
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Nutrition Division, WFP
Two billion people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies

Rice availability and fortification legislation

* Legislation has the effect of mandating grain fortification with at least iron or folic acid. This does not reflect how much grain is available in that country.


Legislation status from the Food Fortification Initiative (www.FFinetwork.org).

January 2019
Rice fortification has come a long way since the 1930s.
Fortified rice distribution by WFP in Egypt

2009 – 2010

2011

Rice fortification strategy drafted – focus on Asia, 2 large trials start

2012 – 2013

Trial in India starts. First WFP tender for fortified rice, large donor funding to scale up in Bangladesh

2014 - 2015

Regional rice fortification workshop Asia, dissemination successful trial results, joined advocacy, and new iron solution to increase bioavailability

2016

Regional workshop in LAC, trials in Sri Lanka and Bhutan. Landscape analysis Asian countries, scaling up in India, joint advocacy, and MN Forum symposium

2017 - 2018

Regional workshop in West Africa. Scaling up in Bangladesh. Integration into safety net programmes in LAC and Asia.

2019 - 2020

Scaling up in West Africa, integration in national school feeding programme in Peru, piloting in 15 states in India’s 3 safety net programmes.
## Fortified Rice Delivery Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Mandatory fortification</strong></th>
<th>Required by national law in general for locally produced Rice and importations. In some countries only imports have been mandated where local production is still low.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation and standards needed</td>
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<td>Enforcement</td>
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<td>High potential for public health impact</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Voluntary fortification</strong></th>
<th>Producer decision</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation not needed</td>
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<td>National standards sometimes available</td>
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<td>Usually low impact on public health except among a subset of consumers</td>
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<th><strong>Social Safety Nets</strong></th>
<th>Through social protection programs</th>
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<td>May be required under national policies or regulations and in those cases, standards needed</td>
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<td></td>
<td>High impact on beneficiaries of social safety net programs</td>
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<th><strong>Retail markets</strong></th>
<th>Through commercial retail market</th>
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<td>Requires demand creation initiatives</td>
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<td>Option for additional support via cash-based transfers or voucher programmes</td>
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Critical steps for scaling up rice fortification

Getting Started
- Achieving government commitment and leadership
- Establishing feasibility and acceptability
- Technical cooperation
- Investing in coordination and partnerships

Build Capacity
- Harnessing social safety nets
- Building the supply chain
- Controlling costs
- Ensuring quality

Scale Up
- Establish regulatory mechanisms
- Production of fortified kernels
- Consumer awareness / SBCC

Market penetration
- Demand generation
- Developing standards/mandate
- Providing tax incentives
Example from Bangladesh: transitioning from social safety nets to retail outlets

2020 Facts and Figures

- 7 Rice Premix Kernel Factories operational
- 70+ blending units operational
- 1 national lab testing all 6 micronutrients

Receiving fortified rice through large scale social safety net programmes and retail channels

- 2013: 30,000
- 2020: 7+ million

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