

How large-scale food fortification will define Nigeria's future

Nigeria has a severe problem with micronutrient deficiencies. Many Nigerians are not getting the nutrients they need for proper brain development, immunity, and physical and mental health.

Iron deficiencies are severe and deadly

Nigeria has one of the highest levels of anemia in the world, caused primarily by too little iron in the diet.



▶ **In 2019, 68.9% of Nigerian children** under 5 - more than two-thirds - were anemic¹.



▶ **Nigeria accounts for almost 20% of the world's maternal deaths⁶.** Iron deficiency anemia is a leading cause of maternal death globally.



▶ **Infants with iron-deficiency anemia score 6-15% lower in intelligence tests²,** while children with insufficient iron are three times less likely to finish secondary school³.

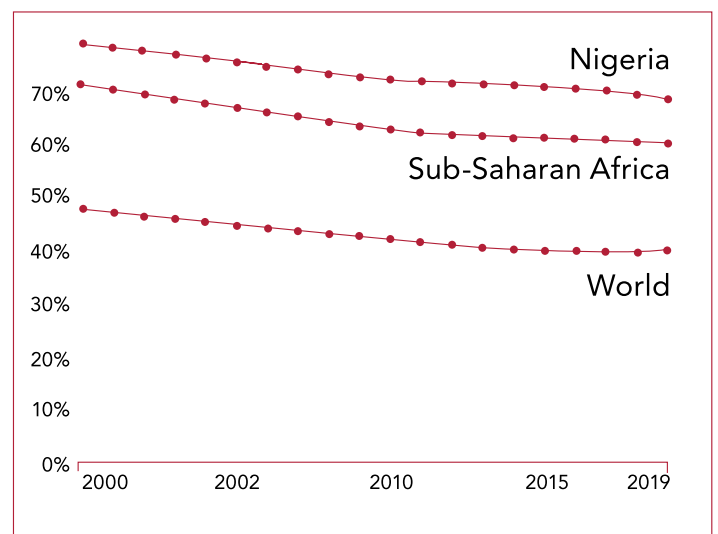


▶ **Iron sufficient infants have more than twice the coordination** and gross motor skills of infants with iron deficiency anemia⁴.



▶ **In 2019, 55.9% of pregnant women in Nigeria were anemic¹.** Women with severe anemia are more than twice as likely to die⁵ in childbirth.

% of Children with Anemia



Vitamin A deficiencies are catastrophic

The last comprehensive survey found 28.5% of Nigerian children had insufficient vitamin A⁸.

17 trials across nearly 200,000 children⁹ found sufficient vitamin A from supplementation reduced childhood deaths by 24%.

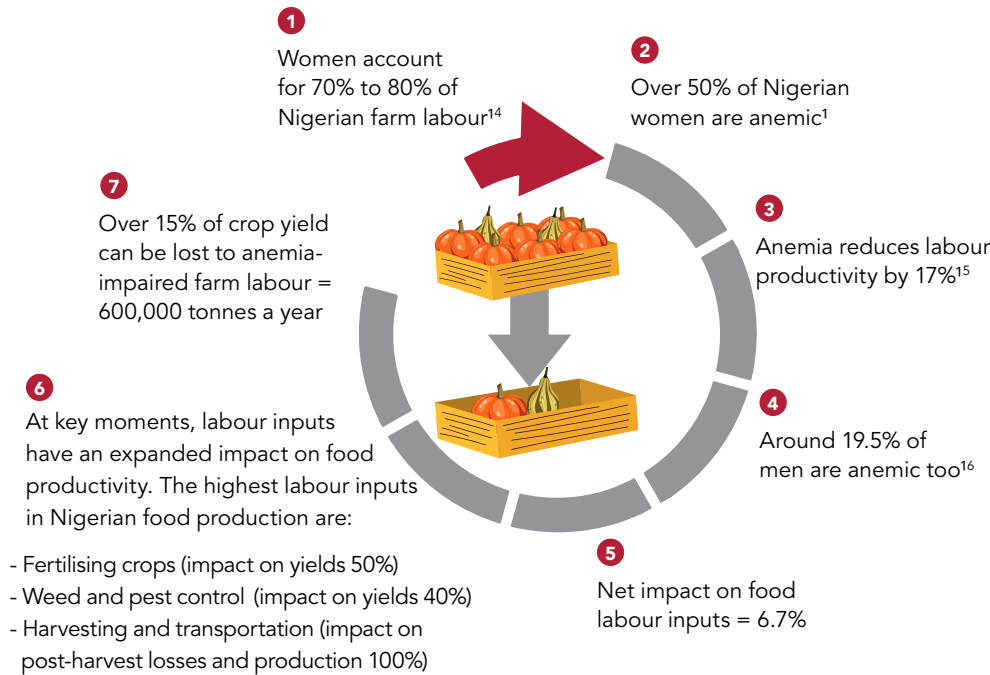
Food fortification with vitamin A has the potential to prevent deficiency in 3 million children globally each year.

This is why we are working so hard to get adequate vitamin A into Nigeria's staple foods.

Micronutrient deficiencies are costing the Nigerian economy millions of dollars every day.

The World Bank estimates **Nigeria loses \$1.5bn of GDP a year** to micronutrient deficiencies. These losses come from multiple sources, including lost productivity, early death, illness, reduced capacity, and resources diverted to healthcare.

Take the chain from iron deficiency to less food:



By adding vitamins and minerals to staple foods, in line with the mandated national standards, and reducing Nigerians' micronutrient deficiencies, fortified food producers have the power to transform the health of the nation.

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