



Project Fact Sheet Tanzania

Advancing Large-Scale Food Fortification (LSFF) through Localisation, and Coordination

Background

Tanzania has established a strong policy and regulatory framework mandating the fortification of staple foods, including wheat flour, maize flour, edible oils, and salt. Despite this progress, implementation and compliance gaps persist, limiting the public health impact that fortification programmes can achieve.

Market evidence and engagement with **Millers for Nutrition (M4N)** highlight that inconsistent compliance and coverage stems from structural barriers within Tanzania’s fortification ecosystem. Key drivers include, unreliable quality and high cost of vitamin and mineral premix, weak regulatory oversight, limited laboratory capacity

for micronutrient testing, and fragmented value chains, particularly among small and medium scale maize and edible oil processors. Furthermore, taxes on imported premix raise production costs for processors serving low-income consumers, thereby reducing incentives for compliance.

As a result, the primary challenge in Tanzania is not policy design but effective delivery, specifically strengthening quality assurance, compliance monitoring, and equitable access to verified premix to ensure fortified foods deliver intended nutrition benefits at scale.

Project Overview

This initiative, implemented by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) in partnership with the Government and with support from the Gates Foundation, aims to strengthen the public health impact of LSFF in Tanzania through:



Improved premix quality assurance and supply systems



Stronger regulatory monitoring and enforcement



Enhanced national coordination, data use, and advocacy.

The project forms part of a multi-country investment designed to improve fortification compliance, coverage and sustainability through localized systems strengthening and evidence-driven decision making.



Project Duration: 36 months



Start Date: January, 2026



End Date: December, 2028



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Project Approach

In Tanzania project activities will be delivered under two key thematic areas:



Strengthening LSFF Compliance and Quality Assurance

Key Actions include:

- Conducting a nationally representative Premix Compliance Study across import points, suppliers, blending sites, and mills.
- Supporting the development and publication of an approved premix supplier list with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).
- Building regulatory inspection and monitoring capacity for fortified foods and premix.
- Strengthening laboratory and analytical capacity for micronutrient testing.
- Developing sustainable premix distribution mechanisms for medium-scale sunflower oil processors through TASUPA.
- Advocating for policy reforms to reduce premix costs, including classifying premix as an essential commodity to facilitate the removal of VAT and import duties.



Strengthening Local Coordination, Capacity and Sustainability

The Project will:

- Strengthen the Tanzania Food Fortification Alliance (TFFA) as a credible, action-oriented national coordination platform.
- Build capacity of local laboratories, institutions, and technical service providers.
- Support national advocacy coalitions and LSFF champions.
- Advocate for dedicated government financing to sustain fortification efforts beyond donor funding.

This **localization approach** is central to ensuring the long-term national ownership, accountability, and sustainability of LSFF systems.

Expected Results in Tanzania

By 2028, the project aims to:

- Improve compliance with mandatory fortification standards.
- Ensure quality-assured premix across fortified food supply chains.
- Strengthen regulatory monitoring capacity, laboratory systems, and data use.
- Reduce cost barriers to fortification through policy reform (EML inclusion).
- Institutionalize national coordination and accountability mechanisms for LSFF.

Key Partners

- **Government and Regulatory Institutions:** Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) & Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT)
- **Coordination Platform:** Tanzania Food Fortification Alliance (TFFA)
- **Industry & Technical Partners:** TechnoServe / Millers for Nutrition (M4N), SANKU, Tanzania Sunflower Processors Association (TASUPA)

Geographical Scope

The project is national in coverage, spanning, Ports of entry for premix quality monitoring, Major production hubs for maize, wheat, and edible oils & Markets, mills and regulatory inspection points across **mainland Tanzania**.



Why This Initiative Matters

Large-scale food fortification remains one of the most cost-effective public health interventions to reduce micronutrient deficiencies globally. Strengthening compliance, coverage, and sustainability in Tanzania will ensure fortified foods deliver real nutrition impact for vulnerable populations while building resilient, locally owned food systems for the future.