

SCN Working Group on Micronutrients: Information Sharing Template for 2006 and Earlier Activities

Table 1: Demographic Information

Name of Reporting Individual	Jennifer Peterson
Institution/Organization	Helen Keller International, Guinea and Sierra Leone
Contact address (Email)	jpeterson@hki.org
Position	Country Director
Department/Section	Africa Region
Major focus of activities	Support to others, Policy/Advocacy, Programming/Interventions

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Table 2: Measurement, assessment, monitoring and reporting micronutrient deficiencies

Geographic area(s) covered by this table	West Africa (The Republic of Guinea/Conakry and Sierra Leone)														
Project Name	A2Z (USAID); VAS+ FOR CHILD SURVIVAL in West and Central Africa (CIDA)														
Supporting Agencies	USAID, CIDA, MI, Ministry of Health														
Approximate # of beneficiaries	14,000,000 (the total population of both countries)														
	Micronutrients														
	Iodine	Iron	Folate	Zinc	Calcium	Vit A	Vit B-12	Vit C	Vit D	Vit B-1	Vit B-2	Vit B-3	Vit B-6	Vit K	Vit E
Activities															
Prevalence Assessment	X	X				X									
<p>HKI helps the Ministries of Health and Ministries of Commerce in Guinea and Sierra Leone to monitor iron deficiency anemia in pregnant women with blood hemoglobin tests using HemoCue® machines in 6 prefectures of Guinea (1990 women in 2006), and one district of Sierra Leone. HKI also supports national nutrition monitoring programs in Guinea and Sierra Leone, which include anemia prevalence assessments, iodine deficiency tests and vitamin A deficiency estimates (VAM survey in Sierra Leone, DHS in Guinea).</p>															
Training/Capacity Building	X	X	X	X		X									
<p>In 2006, HKI trained 564 health agents in Guinea and 191 health agents in Sierra Leone in basic micronutrient nutrition. HKI also conducted</p>															

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targeted training in routine and community based vitamin A distribution, the use of HemoCue machines, and the use of iodine measurement equipment. In both Guinea and Sierra Leone, HKI has organized meetings and distributed information to support the introduction of zinc therapy for diarrhea case management. In 2006, HKI distributed IEC materials to every health center in Guinea (500) and Sierra Leone (800) to promote positive nutritional behavior in pregnant women. These IEC materials included messages on micronutrient nutrition (vitamin A, iron-folic acid, and iodine). The capacity of government partners and NGOs at national and district levels was also strengthened through routine day to day technical assistance and knowledge transfer (dissemination of program findings, reports, etc.), and support for regular nutrition coordination meetings and events.

Monitoring and Evaluation	X	X	X			X									
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HKI supports the Ministry of Health in Guinea and Sierra Leone to monitor household consumption of iodized salt, assess market availability of iodized salt, and monitor the distribution and availability of vitamin A and iron-folic acid tablets in local health centers and during mass distribution campaigns.

Analysis and Reporting	X	X	X			X									
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For all the programs described above (A2Z, VAS+ for child survival), analysis and reporting of data in relation to vitamin A and micronutrient nutrition in general was conducted and shared with program partners, donors and other organizations through program reports, bulletins, newsletters, press releases, workshops and publications.

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Table 3: Food Fortification

Geographic area(s) covered by this table	The Republic of Guinea (Conakry), West Africa; nationwide
Project Name	A2Z
Supporting Agencies	USAID, MI; GOG/MOH, Ministry of Commerce, private companies in Guinea (GMG)
Approximate # of subjects or beneficiaries for each project described	9,000,000 (Guinea population, 2006 est)
	Micronutrients

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	Iodine	Iron	Folate	Zinc	Calcium	Vit A	Vit B-12	Vit C	Vit D	Vit B-1	Vit B-2	Vit B-3	Vit B-6	Vit K	Vit E
Commodities															
Salt	X														
Wheat		X	X							X	X	X			
Activities															
Policy and Advocacy	X	X	X												
HKI worked with the National Food Fortification Alliance to draft a national wheat flour fortification act. This act was signed by the Ministers of Health, Commerce and Finance in 2006, and requires that all flour sold in the country be fortified with iron, folic acid and B vitamins.															
Communication Support	X	X	X												
HKI assisted the National Food Fortification Alliance and the National Program to reduce problems related to iodine deficiency to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate communication programs (radio broadcasts, community theater events, televised debates, advocacy events, presentations, brochures, etc.) to promote the use of fortified products.															
Marketing Support	X	X	X												
HKI helped the National Food Fortification Alliance develop a fortification logo, and promotes regular market monitoring of fortified products (salt and wheat flour).															
Provision of Fortification Equipment	X	X	X												
HKI has conducted an assessment of the equipment needed to fully implement existing iodized salt and wheat flour fortification programs, and plans to purchase equipment to support any equipment gaps in 2007.															
Fortification Monitoring and Evaluation	X	X	X												
HKI/Guinea supports GOG efforts to monitor household consumption of iodized salt, and market availability of iodized salt. HKI also facilitates data collection and analysis of wheat flour imports and monitors the fortification of flour locally by private companies.															
Quality Assurance/ Quality Control for fortified foods	X	X	X												
Fortification project size															
Targeted Fortification															
Commercial complementary foods		X	X							X	X	X	X		
HKI/Guinea supports the fortification of a small scale, commercially produced complimentary feeding product (Baraka) with iron, folic acid and B vitamins. In 2006, 1 metric ton of this product was produced, fortified and sold.															

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Table 4: Vitamin and Mineral Supplementation

Geographic area(s) covered by this table	West Africa (The Republic of Guinea/Conakry and Sierra Leone)														
Project Name	A2Z (USAID); VAS+ FOR CHILD SURVIVAL in West and Central Africa (CIDA)														
Supporting Agencies	USAID, CIDA, MI, Ministry of Health														
Approximate # of subjects or beneficiaries for each project described	14,000,000 (the total population of both countries)														
	Micronutrients														
	Iodine	Iron	Folate	Zinc	Calcium	Vit A	Vit B-12	Vit C	Vit D	Vit B-1	Vit B-2	Vit B-3	Vit B-6	Vit K	Vit E
Activities															
Prevention Program		X	X			X									
HKI supports government efforts to prevent vitamin A deficiency and iron deficiency anemia by promoting bi annual mass distribution of vitamin A, routine distribution of vitamin A to sick children, and community based vitamin A distribution to women post partum. HKI also supports government efforts to prevent and reduce anemia by increasing iron-folic acid supplement distribution during prenatal care outreach, and promoting the use of iron folic acid supplements by teenage girls in schools.															
Supplementation project size															
Community Effectiveness Trials		X	X	X											
HKI promotes community based approaches to prevent and reduce anemia in a community based prenatal care outreach program in 80 sites in Middle and Upper Guinea (1990 women participants in 2006). In 2007, HKI will collaborate with INGOs in Middle Guinea to pilot test community based distribution mechanisms for zinc.															
Supplement's Primary Distribution															
Through Public Channels		X	X			X									
Through NGOs		X	X			X									
Through Private Channels				X											
Supplementation Monitoring/Evaluation		X	X			X									
HKI provides independent monitoring of the effectiveness and coverage of mass, routine and community based supplement distribution efforts															
Supplementation Targeted Groups															
Women		X	X			X									
Pregnant women		X	X			X									
Infants < 6 months of age															
Children 6-24 months of age						X									

Children 2 – 5 yrs of age							X												
Children in school		X	X																

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Table 5: Dietary Diversity to Improve Micronutrient Nutrition

Geographic area(s) covered by this table	West Africa (The Republic of Guinea/Conakry and Sierra Leone)																		
Project Name	A2Z (USAID); VAS+ FOR CHILD SURVIVAL in West and Central Africa (CIDA)																		
Supporting Agencies	USAID, CIDA, MI, Ministry of Health																		
Approximate # of subjects or beneficiaries for each project described	14,000,000 (the total population of both countries)																		
	Micronutrients																		
	Iodine	Iron	Folate	Zinc	Calcium	Vit A	Vit B-12	Vit C	Vit D	Vit B-1	Vit B-2	Vit B-3	Vit B-6	Vit K	Vit E				
Activities																			
Dietary Policy and Advocacy	X	X	X	X		X													
HKI has worked with UNICEF and the governments of Guinea and Sierra Leone to develop national food and nutrition policies and strategies based on locally available foods, as well as to develop guidelines for the rehabilitation of malnourished children, and breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding guidelines for HIV+ families.																			
Agricultural Initiatives																			
Agricultural Extension Activities		X			X	X		X											
HKI promotes the culture, transformation and processing of <i>Moringa olifera</i> for use in leaf sauce to reduce vitamin deficiencies.																			
Promotion of improved diet	X	X			X	X		X											
HKI has developed IEC materials, training modules and communication campaigns to promote the consumption of locally available foods to improve household consumption of micronutrient rich foods.																			

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Table 6: Other Public Health Intervention Links

Geographic area(s) covered by this table	West Africa (The Republic of Guinea/Conakry and Sierra Leone)														
Project Name	A2Z (USAID); VAS+ FOR CHILD SURVIVAL in West and Central Africa (CIDA)														
Supporting Agencies	USAID, CIDA, MI, Ministry of Health														
Approximate # of beneficiaries	2.2 million children 12 – 59 months of age (1.5 million in Guinea, and 732,000 in Sierra Leone)														
	Micronutrients														
	Iodine	Iron	Folate	Zinc	Calcium	Vit A	Vit B-12	Vit C	Vit D	Vit B-1	Vit B-2	Vit B-3	Vit B-6	Vit K	Vit E
Activities															
<i>Hookworm Control</i>						X									
HKI supported bi annual distribution of deworming medications (mébendazole) to children 12 – 59 months of age, coupled with vitamin A distribution in both Guinea and Sierra Leone in 2006															
<i>Malaria Prevention and Control</i>						X									
Vitamin A distribution was coupled with the distribution of impregnated mosquito nets in Sierra Leone in November 2006.															
<i>Polio/Immunizations</i>						X									
Vitamin A distribution was coupled with routine vaccination outreach programs in Guinea in June 2006 (all vaccination regimes), and with measles vaccination programs in Guinea and Sierra Leone in November/December 2006.															
<i>HIV/AIDS</i>															
HKI/Guinea trained 180 government and NGO staff in the nutritional needs of people living with AIDS (20 people in each administrative region of the country).															
<i>Safe Motherhood</i>															
HKI/Guinea promoted safe motherhood practices and the integration of micronutrient supplementation and positive nutritional practices into prenatal care programs in 80 communities of Guinea (1990 women participated in 2006).															