Governance and Accountability for Food Fortification
Experiences from salt iodization; Can it be replicated?
Looking back – global milestones to success

• **1986** ICCIDD formed – technical expertise and advocacy
• 1986 WHA resolution- IDD control
• **1990** WHA resolution- IDD elimination by 2000
• **1990** World Summit for Children – IDD elimination by 2000 – political will
• 1996 WHA resolution- monitoring
• **2000** Global Salt Symposium the Hague – commitment from salt industry
• 2002 UNGAS, Global Network for Sustainable Elimination
• **2012** ICCIDD Global Network
• **2014** Iodine Global Network
Countries mandatory salt iodization

Cumulative number of countries with mandatory fortification, by year
Country has legal documentation that has the effect of mandating food fortification of selected food vehicle(s)

Between 1942 and 2020 (inclusive) 123 new countries added mandatory fortification legislation. As of 2020, 124 countries had mandatory fortification of food vehicle(s): Salt

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Reasons for success over the past 2-3 decades

- Effective advocacy based on science (impact on brain) leading to UN resolutions
- UN resolutions helped convince governments
- Worldwide large-scale programmes, in a positive climate for micronutrients
- Regulatory frameworks were set up (but limited control and enforcement)
- Successful engagement with salt industry & civil society
- Financial independence of process (once established, consumer pays)
- Consumer engagement through effective communication
- Ability to show progress
Some thoughts

• Different environment
• Is food fortification positioned well? Why do it?
• Lack of a solid global advocacy (UN)?

• Engagement with food industry is essential
• Small scale producers/millers are a tough nut to crack
• Learn lessons from existing (or lack) regulatory mechanisms
• Regional bodies are important.