



Micronutrient Data Innovation Alliance (DInA)

STRENGTHENING THE MICRONUTRIENT DATA ECOSYSTEM THROUGH COLLECTIVE IMPACT

An estimated three billion people – almost 40% of the global population – lack the resources to access healthy foods, resulting in inadequate micronutrient intakes, and producing a broad array of adverse human health, development, and functional outcomes.^{1,2,3,4,5,6} Nationally representative status data is scarce, but the available data shows significant deficiencies in low- and middle-income settings (LMICs) indicating public health concerns.^{7,8}

To address this challenge, the global health community has developed effective, safe, and affordable strategies to help prevent micronutrient deficiency. Despite numerous program and policy successes, progress identifying and addressing micronutrient deficiencies has been uneven and insufficient.

One reason for the lack of progress is an immature data ecosystem. A well-functioning data ecosystem, including more and better data, and better utilization of data would dramatically improve program and policy effectiveness.

There are three related issues which affect the micronutrient data ecosystem: a scarcity of reliable, segmented, and normalized data; insufficient analysis of available data; and inadequate use of existing analysis.

These problems prevent countries from accessing the data needed to cost-effectively design well targeted programs, monitor progress and plan strategic actions to address micronutrient malnutrition.

Closing the data gap requires a well-functioning micronutrient data value chain that supports the collection, curation, exchange, analysis, and usage of micronutrient data. More and better data, improved access to data, and more data expertise would not only improve existing interventions but also increase adoption and scale-up of proven policies and programs in new settings.

The best way to effectively improve the micronutrient data gap is through collective action.

Today, many organizations produce and consume micronutrient data, but no single organization has the capability or mandate to work across the data value chain. As a result, issues are only partially considered or remain unresolved. A coordinated and aligned response is needed – which is why the Micronutrient Forum has launched the Micronutrient Data Innovation Alliance (DInA) – to systemically improve the micronutrient data ecosystem through coordinated action.

Collectively, the community can leverage existing activities, avoid duplication, and ensure consensus action on priorities relevant for national decision makers to close the data gap and expedite progress on policies and programs

DInA will convene diverse national, regional, and global stakeholders to improve the availability, quality, accessibility, and use of data across the micronutrient value chain to support national-level decision-makers.

The Alliance will also involve new organizations

with skills and perspectives not currently engaged in the ecosystem, such as digital modeling, artificial intelligence/machine learning expertise, and mapping proficiency to provide new perspectives, analytic and innovative approaches to micronutrient data availability, accessibility, quality, use, and insights.

Ultimately, DInA strives to develop the data ecosystem supporting the better design, implementation, measurement, and optimization of programs and policies to safely and effectively address micronutrient deficiency.

DINA THEMES

GLOBAL-LEVEL COORDINATION AND GUIDANCE	NATIONAL-LEVEL SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY	DATA EXCHANGE AND DISSEMINATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refinement of data and filling data gaps Best practices guidance for the analysis and use of data to guide programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support decision making related to large scale food fortification (LSFF) Promote data investment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster and facilitate data sharing Support and disseminate the results of global data analysis relevant to LSFF advocacy
FOCUS ON GENDER AND VULNERABILITY		

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

An Alliance with broad and engaged membership is critical to its success. We look forward to your participation in DInA! For more information, email us at DInA@micronutrientforum.org.

For more information, please see the [DInA webpage](#).

Follow us on [Twitter @MNData_Alliance](#) and [LinkedIn @Micronutrient Data Innovation Alliance \(DInA\)](#).

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