

# Micronutrient Data Group Meeting Notes

July 10, 2025

[Link to Recording](#)

The Micronutrient Data Group, coordinated by DInA, convenes quarterly to facilitate the sharing of project updates among members and seek feedback from the wider micronutrient data community. The aim of these meetings is to foster a collaborative working environment and cultivate synergies whenever possible. Participation is open to all individuals working with micronutrient data, and participation from those working at regional and national levels is strongly encouraged. The most recent meeting included three presentations and four speakers, with the high-level minutes shared below:

## 1. Building on Paris Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Commitments Across the Nutrition Data Value Chain

**Speaker: Saskia Osendarp (Micronutrient Forum); [Slides here.](#)**

- N4G Summit outcomes & commitments: Record \$29.5B in new financial commitments registered to tackle malnutrition by 160 commitment makers across 75 countries
- Development banks: the World Bank and the African Development Bank pledged \$5B and \$9.5B, respectively, with philanthropies collectively pledging \$2B.
- Most commitments were policy/enabling environment focused, and 13% were financial; about 31% were self-labeled as data and research commitments.
- SUN Secretariat review: 10% of 368 government commitments from SUN countries fall into the "Data, Research, and AI" category and 9% into "Monitoring and Evaluation."
- Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Djibouti, and Ethiopia are a few examples of countries that made commitments on evidence, data, research and innovations.
- Funding cuts may impact countries' ability to fulfill commitments, particularly given only 13% were financial.

## 2. Micronutrient Collective Action Plan: Outcomes and Next Steps from the "Micronutrient Data in a Changing Landscape" Workshop

**Speakers: Sorrel Namaste (DInA) and Rebecca Heidkamp (DataDENT); [Slides here.](#)**

- Challenges facing the micronutrient data ecosystem: sparse reliable data, available data not well analyzed, and existing analyses do not adequately inform national-level decisions.
- Workshop objectives: assess impact of funding cuts on micronutrient data and discuss cost-effective and sustainable approaches to strengthen the micronutrient data value chain.
- Key take-aways: there is a need for better advocacy and coordination, strengthened human resources capacity (technical and governance), build on existing data systems, integrate multisectoral approaches (engage multiple stakeholders including Ministries of Health, research organizations, Ministries of Agriculture, and regional/national representatives).

- Next steps: develop a micronutrient data collective action plan to enhance coordination between organizations, promote cross-country collaboration, and identify areas for donor investment and country financing to help address gaps along the data value chain.

### 3. Standard Analysis of Micronutrient Data: The WHO Micronutrient Survey Analyzer

**Speaker: Monica Flores Urrutia, World Health Organization (WHO); [Slides here.](#)**

- The analyzer (<https://www.who.int/tools/micronutrient-survey-analyser-and-other-tools>) is an online tool for comprehensive population analysis of four indicators: hemoglobin, ferritin, iron deficiency anemia, and urinary iodine concentration. The tool fills gaps for countries in building capacity to analyze biomarker and survey data.
- Key features: it provides standardized analysis following WHO recommendations, data quality assessment i.e., characteristics regarding missing data, it generates graphics and tables, and summary reports.
- Main outputs: an individual classification file (classifies data row by row), a short format prevalence file (e.g. will provide summary results for mild/moderate/severe anemia), a long format prevalence file, and data quality reports.
- [A quick guide](#) is available for users to understand how to use the tool.
- Next steps:
  - The user acceptance (UA) testing is now complete, and the team is consolidating feedback on the tool. Additional feedback on the tool is requested during this time from the Micronutrient Data Group members – please reach out to [floresm@who.int](mailto:floresm@who.int).
  - WHO is also doing additional analysis of larger administrative datasets and will be analyzing the individual datasets from VMNIS database sources to identify data quality gaps.
- With the current funding cuts, WHO is currently undergoing a prioritization exercise to define core activities in the next biennium.
- The plan right now is to maintain the tool, expand to include other key biomarkers, improve to allow longer connectivity time and number of usage capacity. However, funding challenges may impact tool enhancement and capacity building and WHO is looking for additional resources to support the tool.

#### Update from Micronutrient Data Group Members:

- The UC Davis multi-fortified bouillon project is concluding, with dissemination events planned in Ghana. Publications on this work are forthcoming and meanwhile we encourage our participants to review the papers on the benefits and costs of bouillon fortification in West Africa, highlighted in this [Special Issue](#).