

Quality in Nutrition Programming: Enhancing the Role of Food Aid

Patrick Webb

Dean for Academic Affairs
Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy
Tufts University

April 2009





Indu

Maha

Indu

Maha

Salari

Salari

Salari Super Especial

Salari

Salari Super Especial

Salari Super Especial

A new paradigm emerging on nutrition in food-supported programming:

- Food 'safety' and 'quality' emerging pillars of food security.
- Safety and quality key to 'new' nutrition programming.
 - e.g. Nutrition emerging as free-standing sector in Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP):

In 2000, 2 countries explicit nutrition focus.
In 2008, 9 countries (and global appeal).



Nutrition programming is not 'one thing'. What is the operational intent (of USAID interventions)?

- Resolve *chronic* (population-wide) nutrient deficiencies
- Prevent a *particular deficiency* from worsening
- *Promote gain* in weight or height
- Treat *acute deficiency* (of macro and micronutrients)
- Facilitate *recuperation* during/after treatment (acute/HIV)
- Leverage products to promote *behavior change*

Critical to each of these is 'quality' of practices and products, the entire length of the value chain.

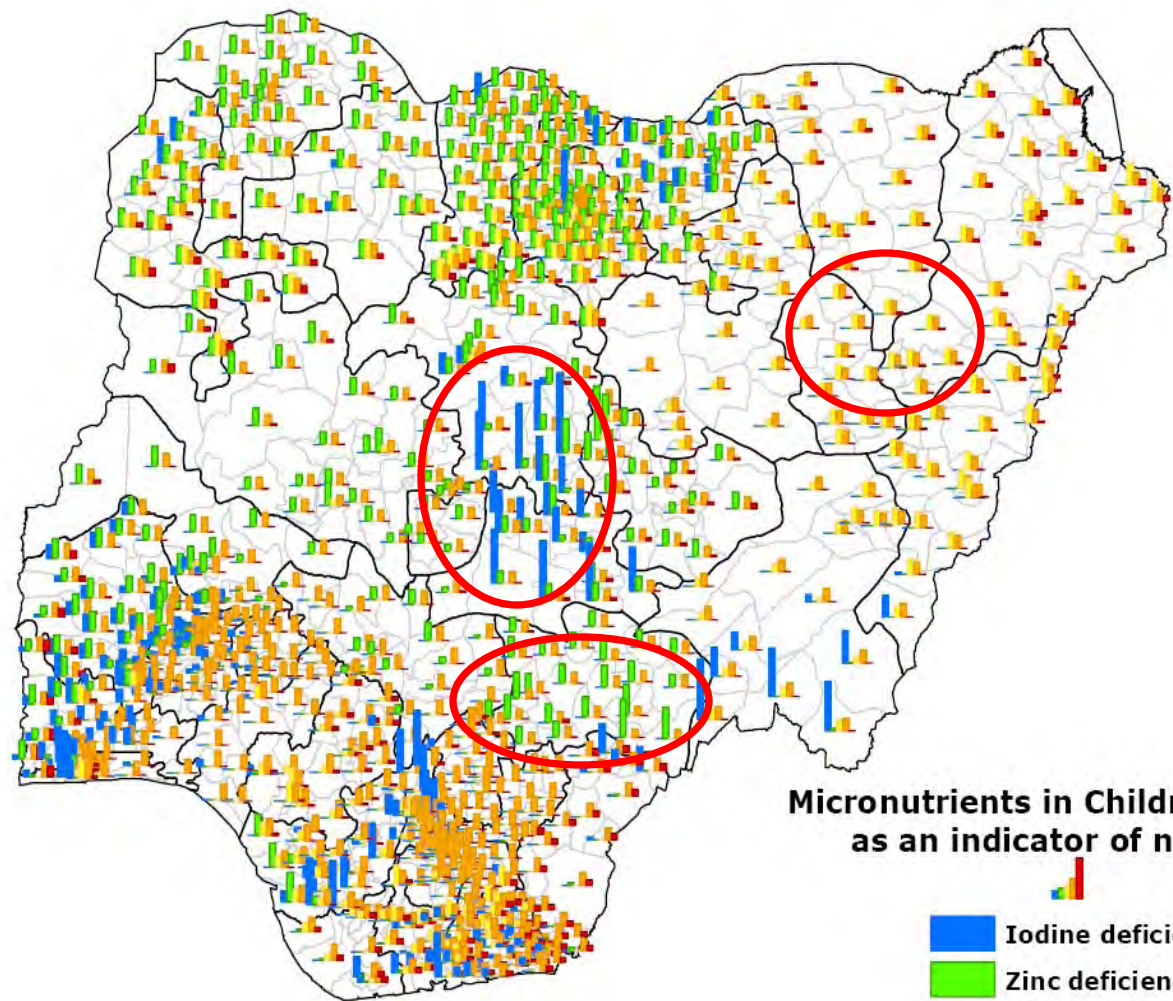











Niacin	10 mg*
Biotin	0.1 mg
Potassium	1173 mg*
Magnesium	73 mg*
Iron	0.35 mg max
Zinc	20 mg*
Copper	3 mg*
Selenium	47 µg*
Iodine	76 µg*
Sodium	170 mg





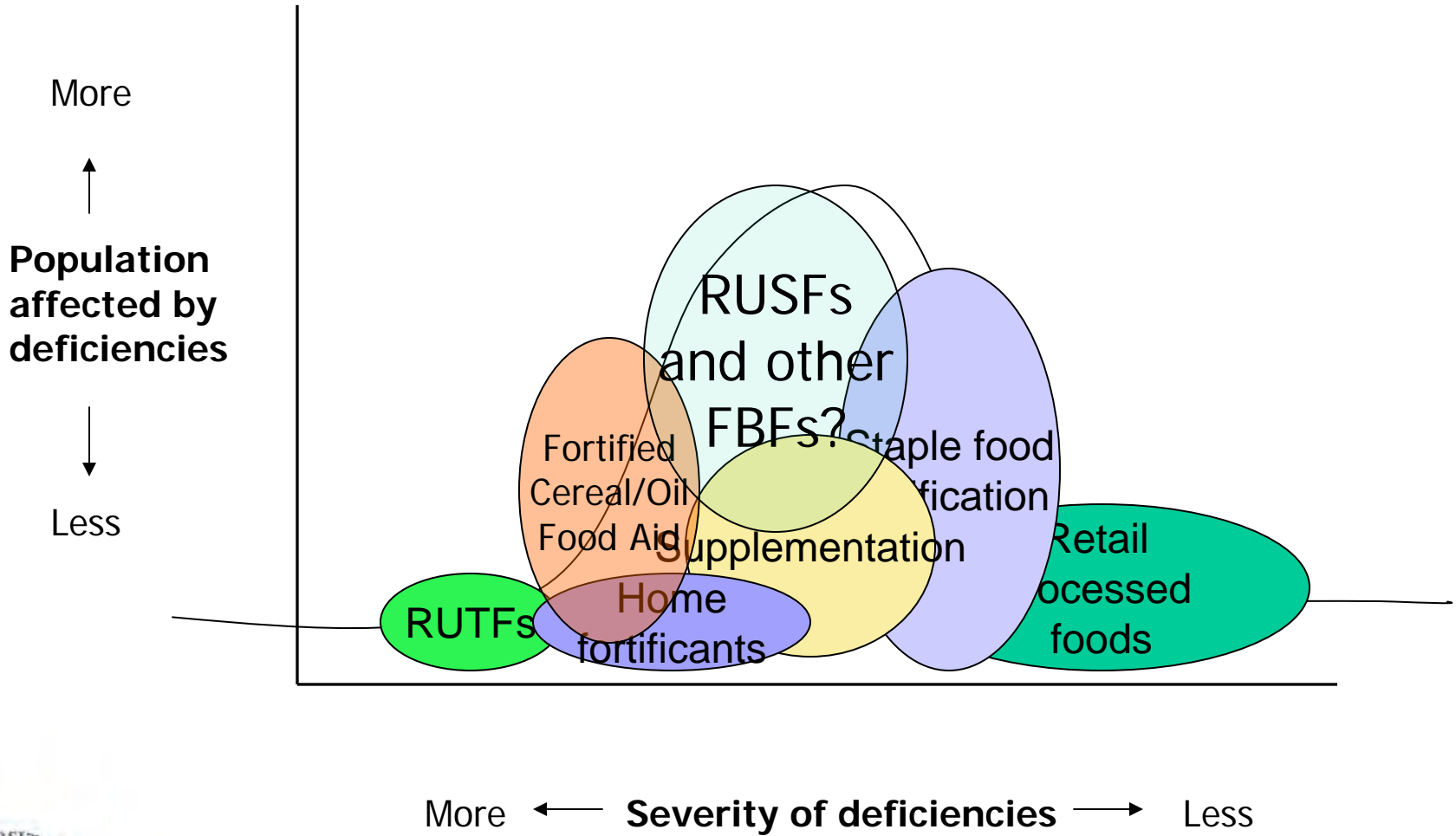
Micronutrients in Children's blood
as an indicator of nutrition

-  Iodine deficiency
-  Zinc deficiency
-  Iron deficiency
-  Vitamin E deficiency
-  Vitamin A deficiency



Source: Hyman (2004)





Nutritional “quality” in food aid:

- Quality of process (strategy for quality assurance)
- Nutritional quality of commodities (what nutrients products contain or lack)
- Nutrient quality (form of nutrients—soy versus other proteins, type of iron used in fortificant mix)
- Quality of nutrition programming

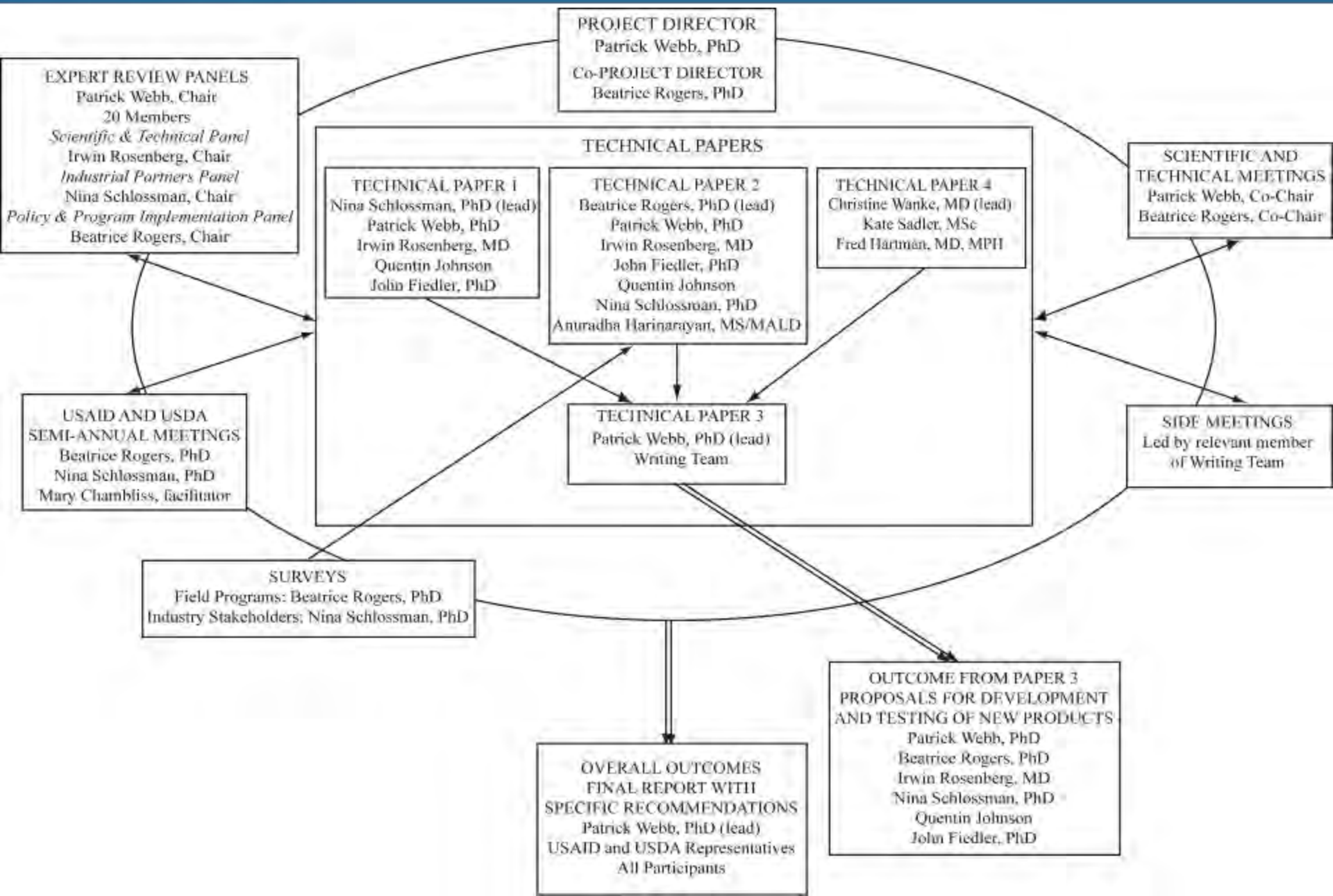


2 year, USAID-funded activity: “to examine the nutritional needs of beneficiary populations across the developing world, and the nutrition quality of commodities currently available to meet those needs.”

Focus of work:

1. Review science on nutrient needs (demographics; HIV)
2. Review current situation with respect to FBFs used in Title II programming (past recommendations; constraints to changes)
3. Derive recommendations on adjusted formulations, commodity mixes, programming approaches.
4. Consider industrial feasibility, costs, programming issues
5. Propose mechanism/system for periodic review updates and consensus-building





Scientific & Technical (Chair, Dr. Irwin Rosenberg)

Lindsay Allen, Center Director, USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center

Cutberto Garza, Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculties, Boston College

Omar Dary, Food Fortification Specialist, AED

Richard Hurrell, Professor, Institute of Food Science and Nutrition, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

Dan Raiten, Health Scientist Administrator, National Institute of Child Health and Disease (NICHD)

Ricardo Uauy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, President IUNS

Industrial Partnerships (Chair, Dr. Nina P. Schlossman)

Andreas Bluethner, Strategy Manager, BASF Micronutrient Initiatives

Héctor Cori, Scientific and Technical Director, DSM Nutritional Products

Paul Green North American Millers Association

Tonya Kemp, Washington Representative Gordley Associates

Robert H. Sindt, Attorney at Law,

Gloria Tosi, Director Tosi Maritime Consultants LL

Policy & Program Implementation (Chair, Dr. Beatrice Lorge Rogers)

Mary T. Chambliss, PCHA (former Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service of USDA)

Barbara MacDonald, Senior Manager, GAIN (formerly Canadian bilateral expert on food aid)

Joia Mukherjee, Medical Director, Partners in Health

Peter Salama, Chief of Health, UNICEF (former advisor for HIV/AIDS in Africa for USAID)

Ina Schonberg, GAIN (formerly SCF USA)

Anne Swindale, Director, FANTA project, AED

Tina van den Briel, Chief of Nutrition, MCH & HIV/AIDS, WFP



