**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORS) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TANZANIA EDIBLE OIL FORTIFICATION ROAD MAP**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Micronutrient deficiency also known as hidden hunger is one of the major silent killers among children and mothers globally. Most women of reproductive age, infants, and young children suffer from deficiencies in vitamin A, iodine, iron, zinc and folate. Those deficiences lead to high mortality rates, birth defects, anemia, blindness, infertility, increased infections, reduced growth and cognitive defects. In Tanzania, the prevalence of vitamin A deficiency (VAD) is estimated to be 33% and 37% among children aged 6-59 months and women of reproductive age, respectively (TDHS, 2010); while anemia among the same groups is 59% and 42%, respectively (TDHS, 2022).

Edible oil fortification involves deliberately adding at least one vitamin and/or mineral to foods which forms a part of a daily diet. It has been identified as cost-effective food-based approach which aids in combating micronutrient deficiencies by enhancing the nutritive value of the food supplied to the population. Evidently, food fortification has contributed to a significant surge in enhancing the availability of certain vital nutrients, like iron, vitamin A, iodine, and folic acid. Regular consumption of fortified staple foods aids in the consistent supply of nutrients without impediments caused from seasonal availability of foods. Veritably, widely consumed foods like wheat, rice, salt and maize when employed as a vehicle for fortification can potentially augment the nutritional status of a huge population in a simple, efficacious, and economical way, this is known as “mass” or “universal fortification” ([World Health Organization, 2017](https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9641006/#bib131)). Mass/universal fortification is particularly effectuated, ordained, and monitored by the government authorities.

Recently, a systematic review and meta-analysis conducted on food fortification programs validated the positive influence of fortification on nutritional as well as functional consequences. The review indicated the decline in the burden of vitamin A, iron, and iodine deficiency as well as anaemia among children and women. A substantial retardation in anaemia, goitre and neural tube defects (NTDs) among children; and enhanced serum folate levels among Women of Reproductive Age (WRA) was also observed. This significant reduction has been ascribed to the implementation of population-wide fortification programs. Despite the achievement made in combating Micronutrient deficient still the pace of fortification is still low which lead to the increase of hidden hunger.

MoH is therefore looking for a consultant who will work with the formed core Team to compile and prepare the National 3 Years Edible Oil Fortification Road-map to be implemented by all the stakeholders.

**2.0** **GOAL, PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

**2.1 Goal**

To improve equitable access to quality Nutritious food for all Tanzanians.

**2.2 Purpose**

To provide a framework for strategic edible oil fortification to improve availability, accessibility of quality Nutritious food for all Tanzanians.

**2.3 General Objective**

To develop edible oil fortification road map with comprehensive and integrated approach for improving nutritional status of all Tanzanian.

**2.4 Specific Objectives**

1. To increase the availability of fortified edible oil in the Country.
2. To decrease the level of Micro-nutrient deficiencies

**3.0 SCOPE OF WORK**

1. Review policies and statutory regulations
2. Review exists programs
3. Gather information and opinions from stakeholders
4. Work with the core team in preparing the road map
5. Conduct 2 validation meetings
6. Identify key indicators upon which the fortification impacts will be measured
7. Identify key policy, legal and regulatory reforms that would support mass edible oil fortification in Tanzania.
8. Examine the impact of multiple regulatory bodies and their effects to the effective edible oil fortification.
9. Assess the key requirements needed to facilitate edible oil fortification including policy frameworks, support systems and infrastructure.
10. Assess successful models to be pursued by development partners in in facilitating mass edible oil fortification in Tanzania.
11. Suggest possible interventions to effect behavior changes to both edible oil processors and consumer

**4.0 REQUIRED COMPETENCES AND SKILLS**

* Degree or higher education in food science and technology
* Extensive knowledge of sunflower sector, agricultural policy frameworks and edible oils businesses.
* Various methodological skills (data collection and analysis, impact assessment etc.).
* Excellent report writing skills, as well as the ability to present results in a clear and effective manner
* At least 10 years’ experience in carrying out similar assignments
* Excellent proficiency in computer applications
* Fluent in written and spoken English

**5.0 DURATION**

The whole assignment is expected to be implemented within 4 months from the commencement date to be stipulated in the contract. Interested firms and individual consultants are invited to submit technical and financial proposals not later than two weeks starting 03rd February, 2025 to 14th February, 2025 to Project coordinator; Ministry of Health, P.O. Box 743, Email: peter.kaja@afya.go.tz and copy to TASUPA through sunflowertza@gmail.com

**6.0 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents shall be submitted by the applicant (consultant);

1. Technical proposal providing a brief methodology on how the consultant will approach and conduct the work, including working with the core team (**a maximum of 5 pages**
2. Financial proposal basing on the above TORs with costs breakdown and not a lump sum.
3. Personnel CVs including a brief profile showing experience in implementing similar tasks in the past 5 years with at least three references.

**7.0 THE CORE TEAM:**

General Requirements

The preparation of the edible oil fortification road map will involve Consultancy, line Ministries, TASUPA, TBS, identified edible oil stakeholders as well as identified development partners. These will form the core team; and the total number of individuals will be 12 people.

**7.1 Responsibilities of the Core Team**

1. To sort out policy statement on Food Fortification from the Nutrition and Food Policies.
2. Prepare a situation analysis on the implementation of policy statement of Food Fortification from the Nutrition and Food Policies
3. Prepare strategies (interventions) for fortifying edible oil which align with Nutrition and Food Policies and its implementation Strategy.
4. Costing each strategy (intervention) for fortifying edible oil and set timeline for completion.
5. Identifying stakeholders on the implementation of each strategy (intervention) for fortifying edible oil and Nutrition.
6. Prepare a draft the edible oil fortification road map and share with MOH Management for review.
7. Incorporate comments of the Management and prepare a matrix showing how all inputs and comments have been addressed.
8. Present a draft of the edible oil fortification road map to the multisectoral nutrition implementing ministries for review.
9. Incorporate comments of the multisectoral nutrition implementing ministries and prepare a matrix showing how all inputs and comments have been addressed.
10. Present a draft the edible oil fortification road map to the Nutrition stakeholders for review.
11. Finalize and submit edible oil fortification road map for approval.

**8.0 Deliverables**

 The following are expected deliverables: -

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| **S/N** | **Deliverables** | **Activity** |
| 1 | Policy statements on Food Fortification. | The Team will sort out policy statements on Food Fortification from the Nutrition and Food Policies. |
| 2. | Situation Analysis report on the implementation of policy statements of Food Fortification from the Nutrition and Food Policies. | Prepare a situation analysis on the implementation of policy statements of Food Fortification from the Nutrition and Food Policies |
| 3. | Costed strategies for fortifying edible oil. | Costing each strategy (interventions) for fortifying edible oil and set timeline for completion. |
| 4. | Identified stakeholders for the implementation of strategy  | Identifying stakeholders on the implementation of each strategy (interventions) for fortifying edible oil. |
| 5. | Draft of edible oil fortification road map | Prepare a draft the edible oil fortification road map and share with MOH Management, multispectral Nutrition line ministries and other stakeholders for review. |
| 3 | Final edible oil fortification road map for approval | Compiling comments from MOH Management, multispectral Nutrition line ministries and other stakeholders. |

**9.0 FOCAL POINT**

The office of Director of Preventive Services in liaison with the organizing committee will serve as the focal point for the Team and will provide the relevant information and any support required for the assignment