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Using digital solutions to monitor iodized salt coverage to ensure its availability in Andhra Pradesh, India

Presenter Name: Ranjan K Jha Department/Division: USI and

Fortification

Organization: Nutrition International

**Equity and Inclusion** 





### **Background**

- Iodine is an essential micronutrient required in our daily diet critical in first 1000 days
- lodized salt is the primary source of lodine, providing 100% of Recommended Dietary Allowance
- In India, all edible salt is mandated to be iodized, with National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Program being the national program
- Andhra Pradesh has lowest coverage of adequately iodized salt as per India Iodine Survey 2018-19<sup>1</sup>
- The state government has adopted digital solutions for grassroot monitoring of lodized salt to improve its coverage



## **Implementation**



Collection of salt samples from HH, Shops, School, AWC



Testing of Salt Samples by Spot Testing Kit



Uploading the data in the Mid Level Health Provider App for Andhra Pradesh Government Health Clinic



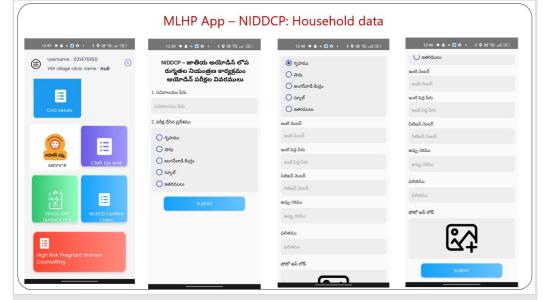
Analyzed report generated through the app, indicating location, types of salt, iodine content, brand etc.



Report shared
with Dept of
Health and
Family Welfare
(HH and AWC),
Education
(School Meal),
Food and Drugs
Control
Administration



Report reviewed in District and state meetings of relevant departments











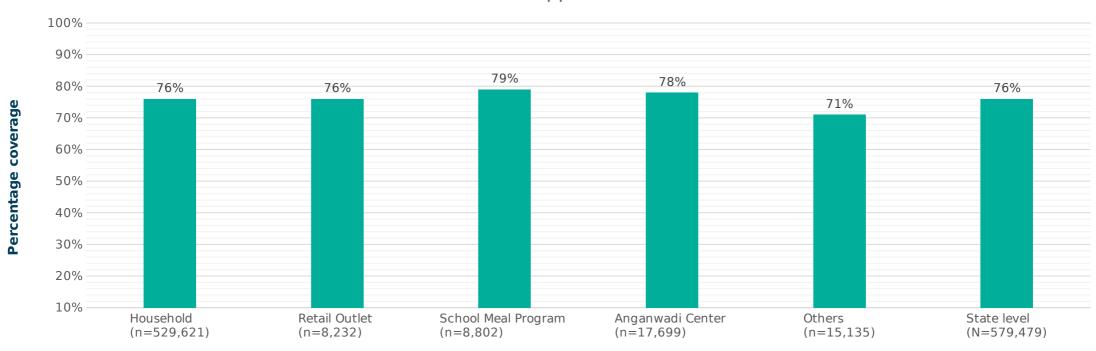
## **Nutrition International's support**

- Since 2000, NI has been supporting national and state governments as well as Industry through TA to achieve universal access to iodized salt in India
- Provided TA for developing layout and data entry format of the app
- Training of the 14,358 (90%) MLHP staff on the use of the app and subsequent handholding support for data entry
- Integrating the app by facilitating data review at district and state level program reviews
- Coordinated with key departments for action taken, on data findings



#### Result





**Point of salt sample collection** 

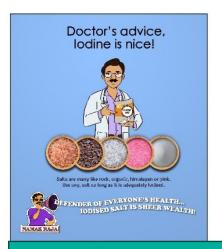


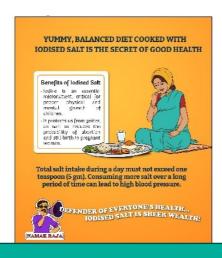
## **Implication**

- Improves grassroot monitoring on iodized salt usage at the household level as well as social safety net programs
- Allows Food and Drugs Control
   Administration to depute HR resources in identified geographies (rural and tribal) for effective compliance
- Contributes to ensuring optimal iodine nutrition of the population esp. pregnant and lactating women
- Integrated into existing program to ensuring sustainability and replicable in other states

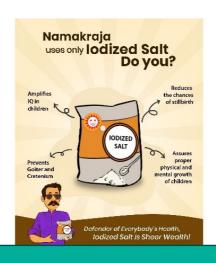


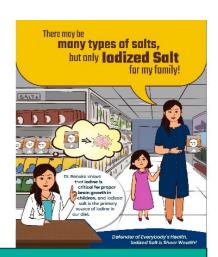
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# Thanks, and Questions !!!

