

Omar Dary, PhD
Health Science (Nutrition) Specialist, Bureau for Global Health, USAID



Omar Dary works in the Nutrition Division of the Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition of the Bureau for Global Health in USAID. He also represents USAID in the Steering Committee of the Iodine Global Network (IGN), and is a member of IZiNCG. Previously (2002-2013) he worked for several organizations that implement USAID development projects such as Abt Associates, FHI-360, AED, and ISTI, mainly as a technical advisor for food fortification programs. During those years, he was a member of the Steering Committees of the Micronutrient Forum (2005-2009) and the International Vitamin A Consultative Group (IVACG, 1994-2005).

During the last 25 years, he has provided technical assistance to more than 40 countries in the areas of micronutrient interventions, nutrition surveys, and links between agriculture, food science and nutrition. He has been an advisor to WHO, UNICEF, FAO, WFP, IAEA, PAHO, the CDC, ILSI, MI, GAIN, and SUSTAIN. From 1990 to 2002, Omar was staff of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP) at its headquarters in Guatemala City. There, he led the Micronutrient Group, the Nutritional Biochemistry and Food Composition Laboratories.

Omar received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of California, Riverside. His interests include appropriate combination of nutritional interventions to complement the value of common diets — including the central role of breastfeeding — focused on reducing deficiencies but at the same time preventing unnecessary excesses; as well as to assess and monitor nutrient intakes, as well as anthropometric and biomarkers associated with nutritional status.