

# FORTIMAS

## Fortification Monitoring and Surveillance

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3 December 2014





## FORTIMAS



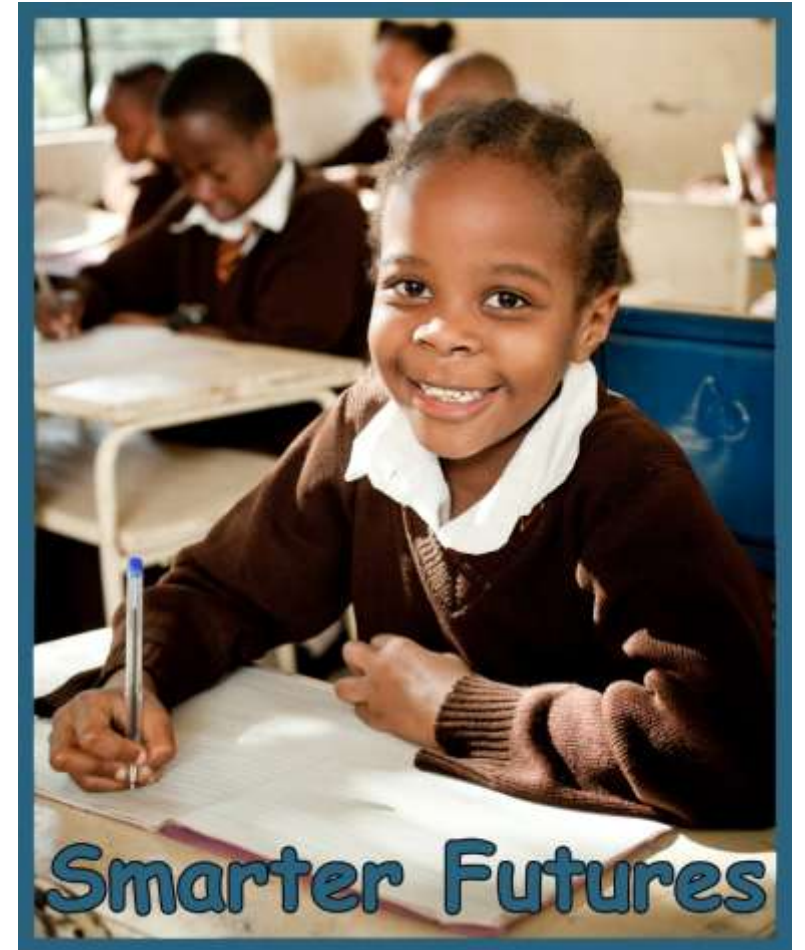
### FORTIMAS: An Approach for Tracking the Population Coverage and Impact of a Flour Fortification Program

#### How to use FORTIMAS?

The primary aim of the guide is to propose a population-level data collection approach to help answer the question, “**is the micronutrient status of those who regularly consume sufficient quality fortified flour improving?**”. During the planning stages of FORTIMAS, it may be useful to “work backwards” from the ultimate aim and review the issues that need to be addressed to achieve it. [Flow Diagram 1](#) (see below) illustrates this approach. Also, keep in mind that [Box 1](#) (see below) lists the essential preconditions for an effective flour fortification program that must be met before embarking on collecting primary data or using existing data to track the population coverage and impact of the intervention.

# What is FORTIMAS?

- Smarter Futures and a number of its partners, together with eminent experts from Africa have developed a tool to help you to track *trends* in the effectiveness of a flour fortification program *over time* in populations **documented to regularly consume fortified flour** – not necessarily to provide statistically representative estimates of the prevalence or incidence of micronutrient deficiencies in the population at *a point in time*.
- The next slide will provide an example of the guide and chapter by chapter information on how to use FORTIMAS



From: <http://www.smarterfutures.net/FORTIMAS>

## **Download the full document**

- [Preface](#)
- [Chapter 1: Background](#)
- [Chapter 2: Approach to FORTIMAS Data Collection](#)
- [Chapter 3: Planning and Implementing a Sentinel Site Flour Fortification Program Monitoring and Surveillance System](#)
- [Chapter 4: Additional Considerations for Implementing a Sustained Flour Fortification Program Monitoring and Surveillance System](#)
- [Appendix A – Example of a sentinel clinic data collection form](#)
- [Appendix B – Example of a household flour information form to be completed by sentinel school students](#)
- [Appendix C – Semi-quantitative spot test for iron as ferrous sulfate, ferrous fumarate, or electrolytic iron](#)
- [Appendix D – Semi-quantitative spot test for iron as Sodium Iron EDTA: Adaptation of the AACC 40-40 spot test](#)
- [Appendix E – Example of a flour fortificant test log-sheet for sentinel school teachers](#)

## Interactive charts for your use:

- [Decision Tree](#)
- [National Situation mapping worksheet](#)
- [Tool to estimate the number of days to recruit in clinic](#)

**The FORTIMAS full document is on the meeting CD. The website gives the option to download the entire guide or individual chapters**

# Why FORTIMAS?

- In some countries, flour fortification started without any baseline information on vitamin and mineral deficiencies
- In some countries, fortificants used are not appropriate to the food vehicle, the levels too low, or the compounds not suitable
- In some countries impact evaluation showed no impact because compliance by the mills was still low or only few people consumed the fortified flour
- A flour fortification programme in the early stages of implementation is always in a state of continuous change
- This makes it necessary to keep a finger on the pulse and have feedback loops

# When starting to use FORTIMAS:

Ascertain minimum conditions for effective flour fortification program:

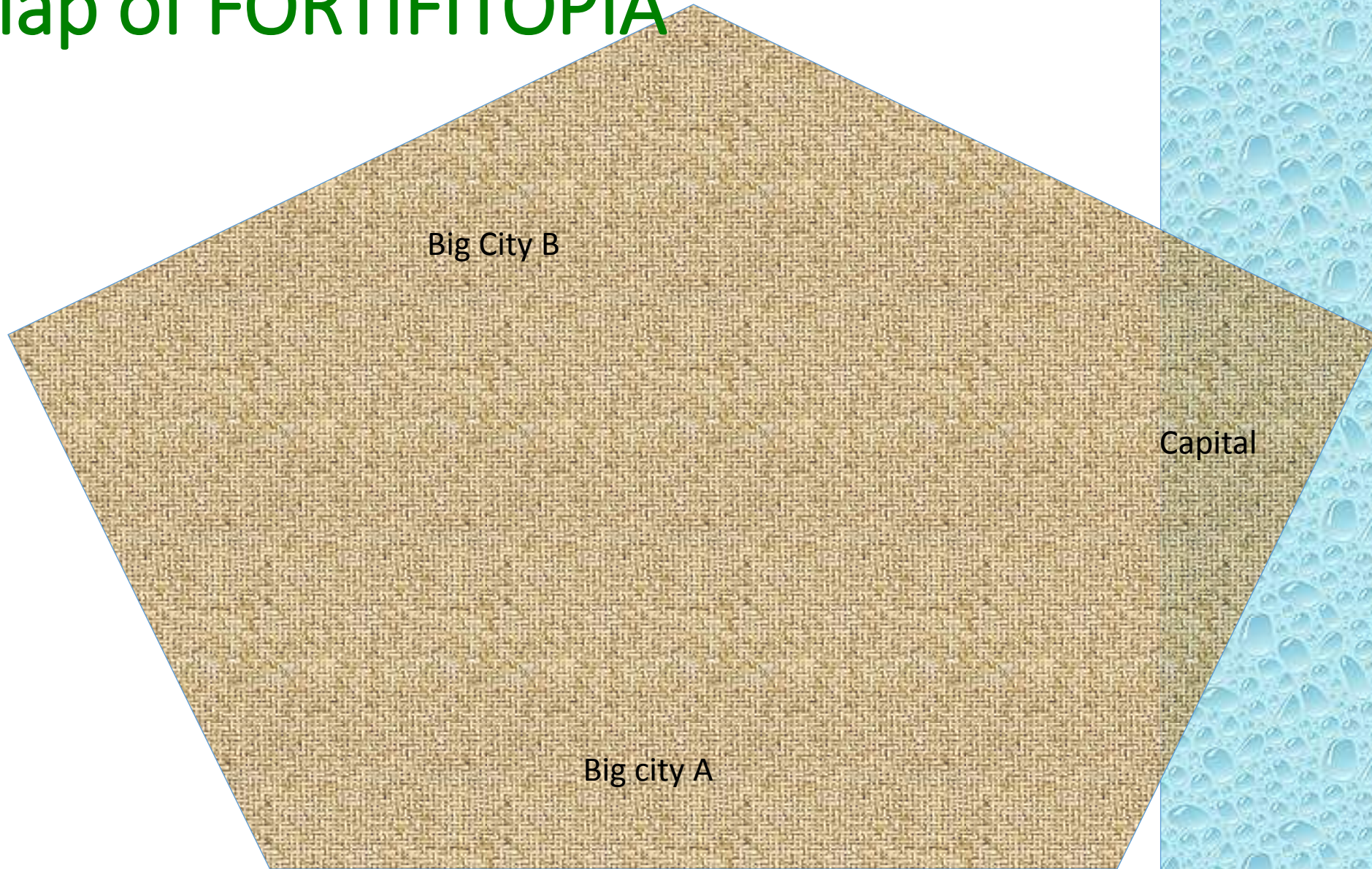


- High percent of fortifiable flour is fortified
- Bio-available type of iron is used
- Quality assurance practiced at mills; quality control practiced by food safety staff
- Close to 80% or more of the population has access to quality, fortified flour
- Consumer communications to encourage acceptance of fortified flour and fortification mandate

Introducing our imaginary country:

**“FORTIFITOPIA”**

# Map of FORTIFITOPIA



Big City B

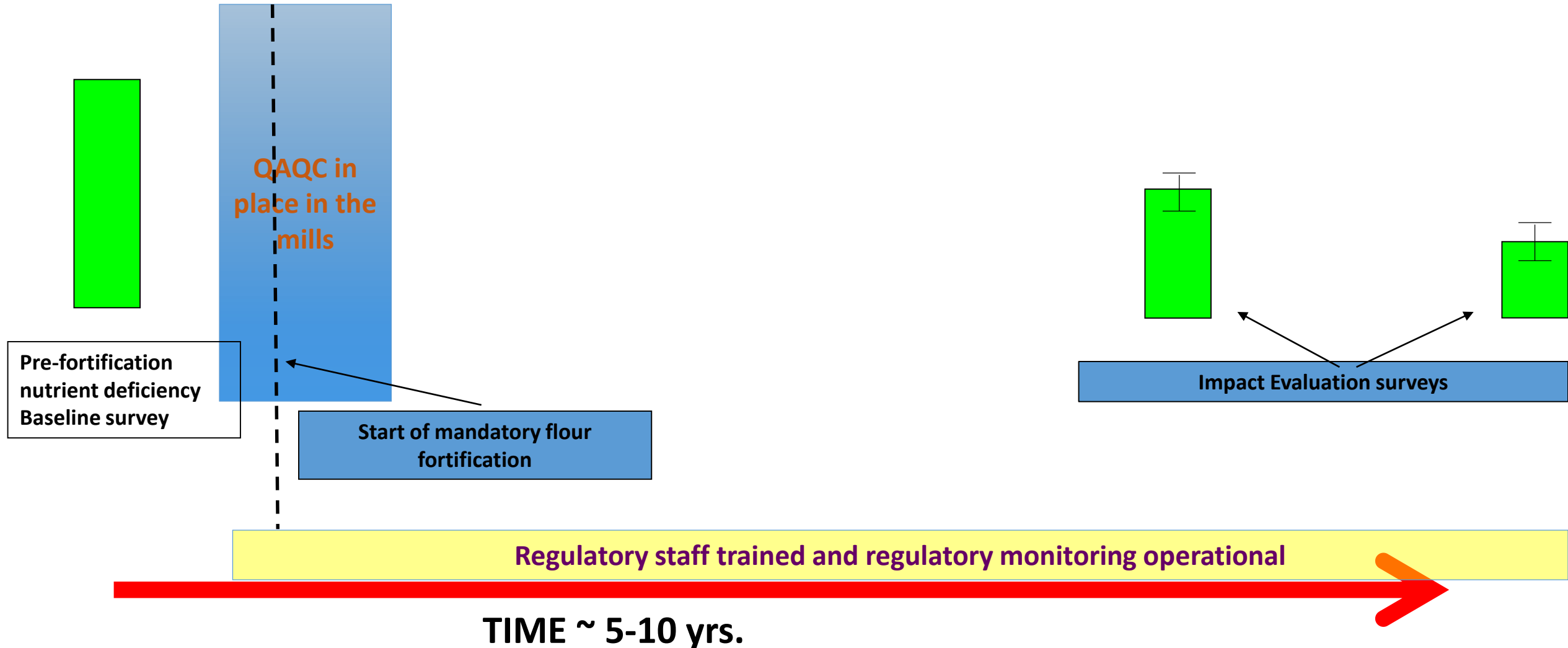
Capital

Big city A

SEA

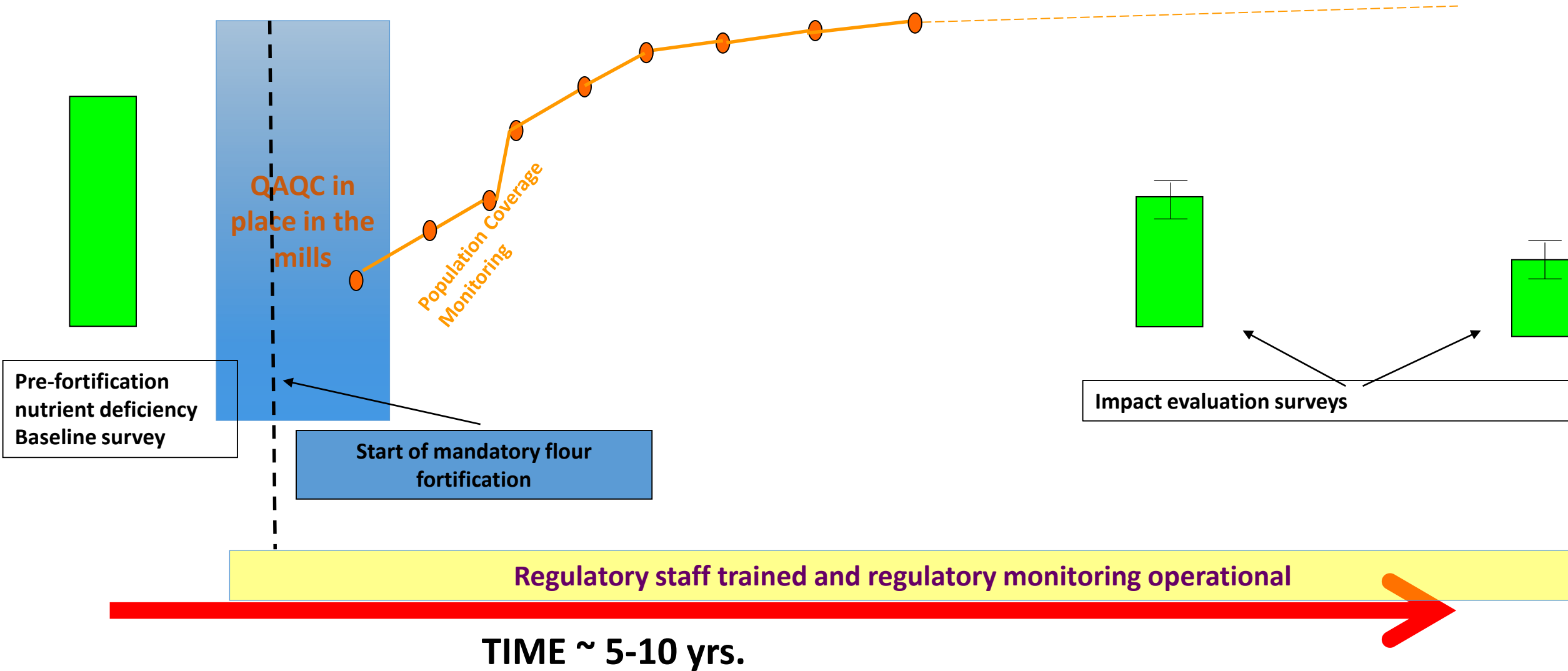


# Flour Fortification Programme in “Fortifitopia”

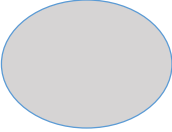


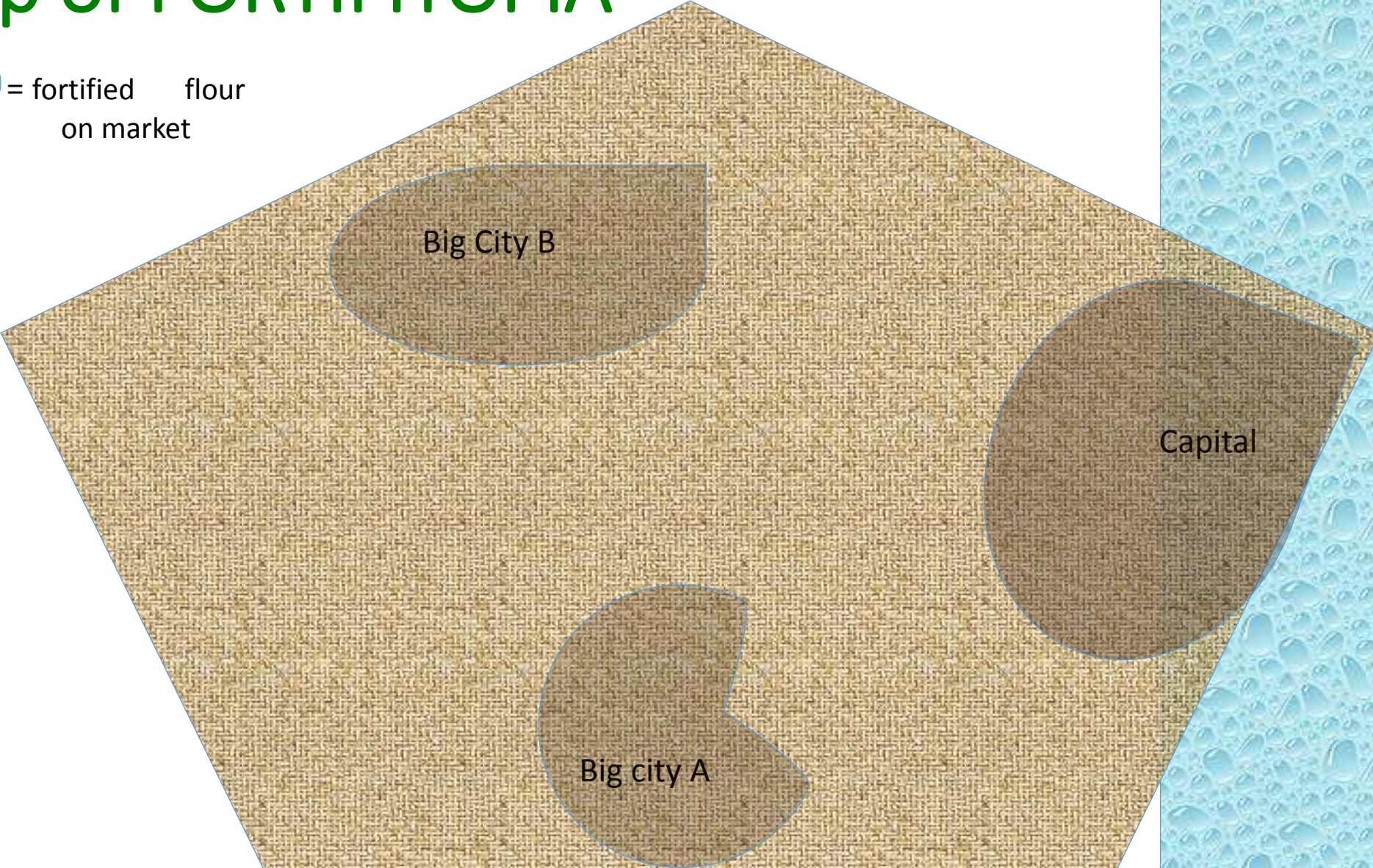
Question:

Are people buying the fortified flour or bread?

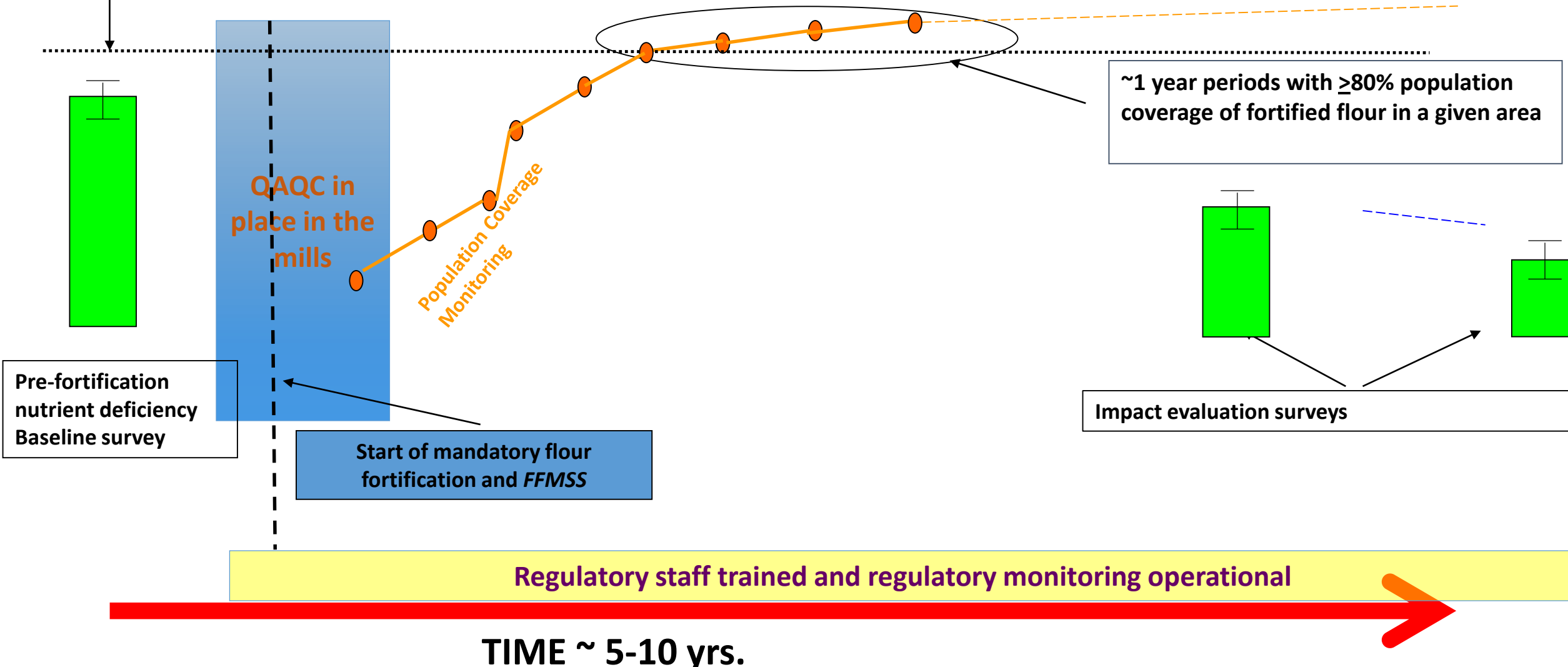


# Map of FORTIFITOPIA

 = fortified flour  
on market

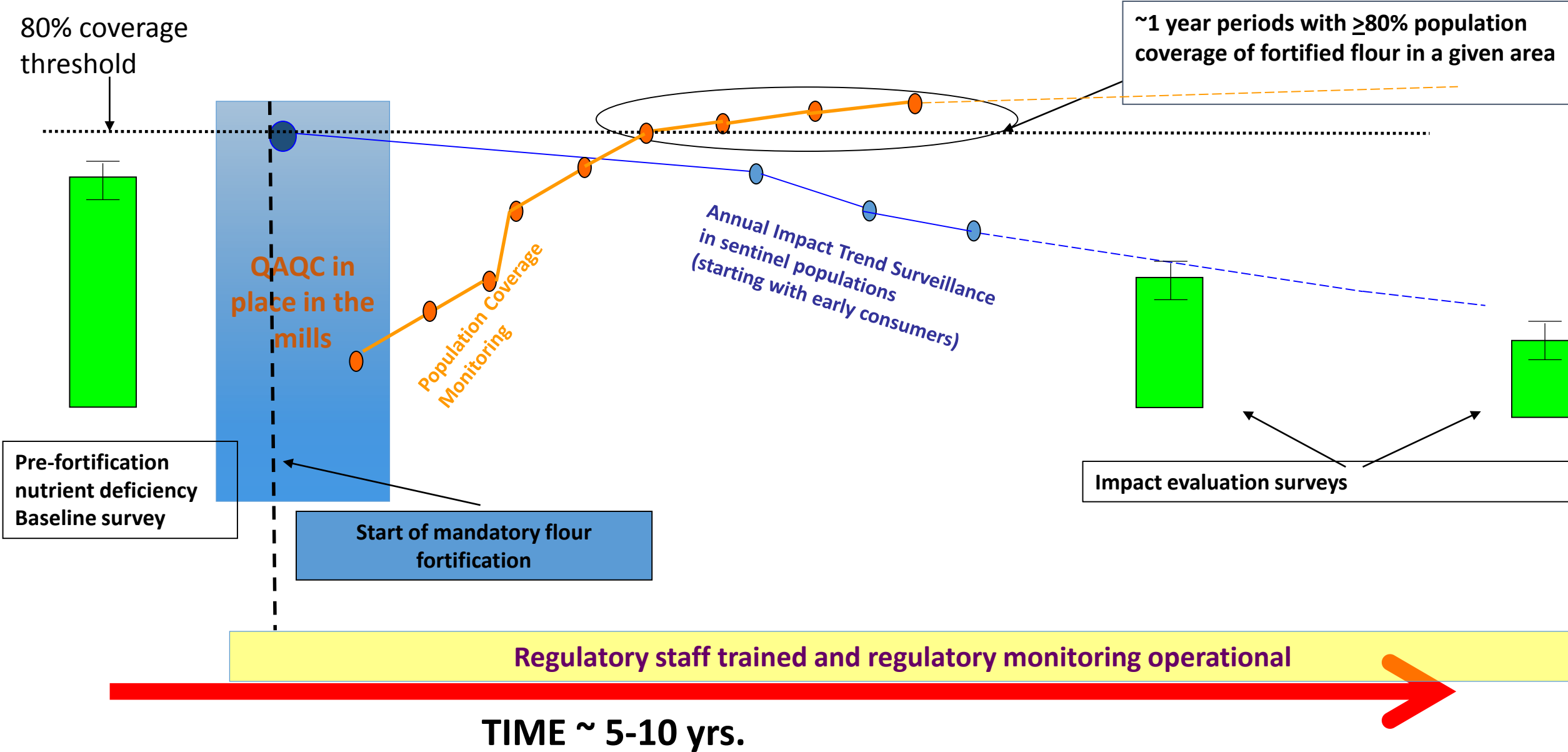


80% coverage threshold



Question:

People are consuming the flour, but does that have any effect on their health?

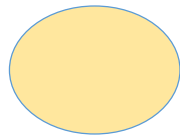


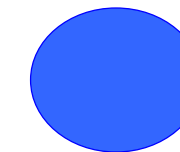
# FORTIMAS uses sentinel sites:

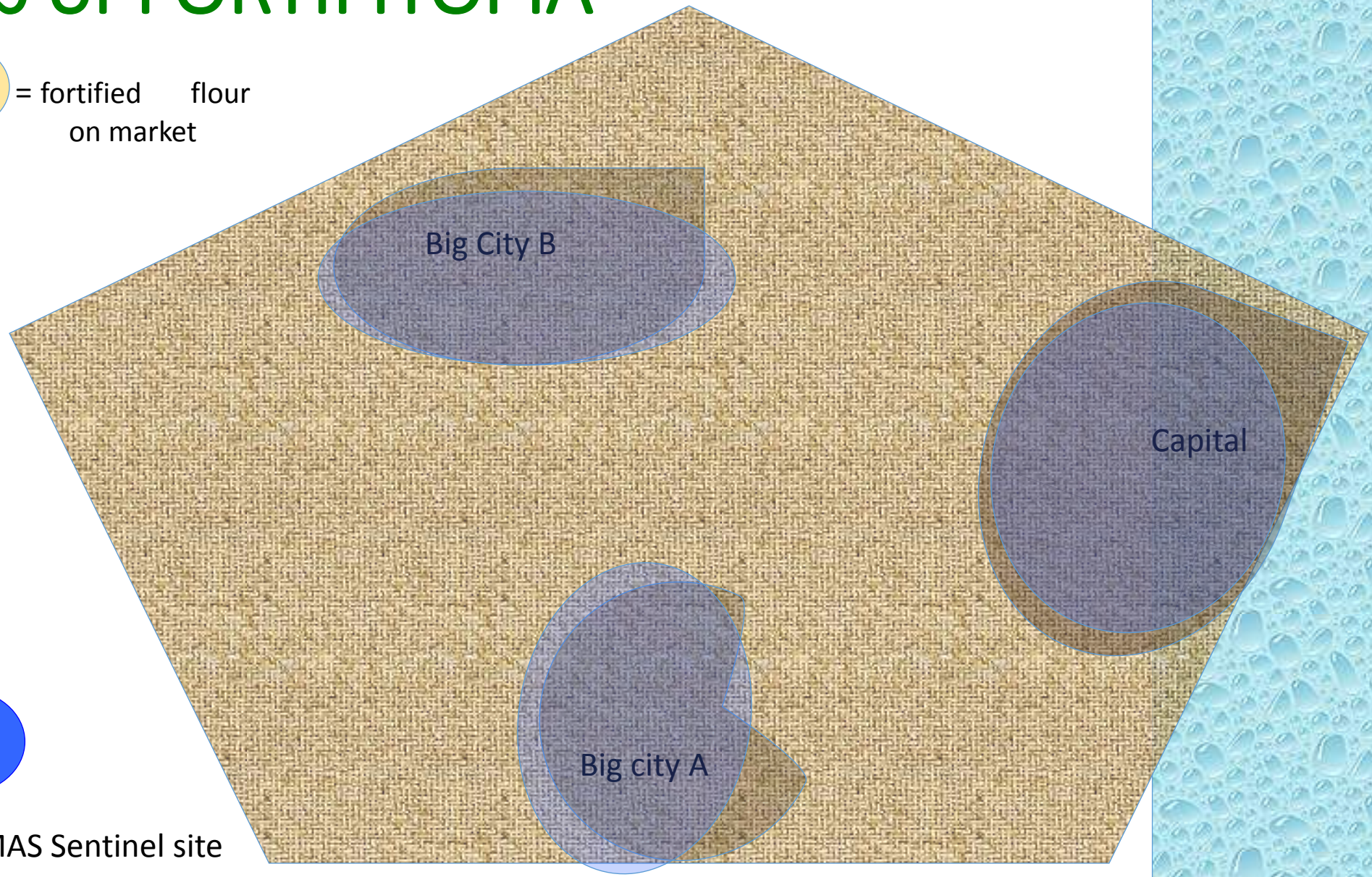
- The term “sentinel” refers to “watching over” selected areas or population groups.
- A few communities within those areas of a country, where fortified flour coverage is over 80 % are “purposively” and strategically selected as sentinel data collection sites.
- Sentinel sites can be primary health clinics (PHCs), houses of worship, large worksites, schools or any existing places where “average” or “typical” target subjects can be conveniently recruited for data collection in a timely manner.
- Existing or primary data may be collected through existing networks of sentinel data collection points within sentinel data collection sites
- Sentinel sites provide trend findings that are reflective of population coverage and impact of flour fortification



# Map of FORTIFITOPIA

 = fortified flour  
on market

 = FORTIMAS Sentinel site



# Why use FORTIMAS?

- FORTIMAS helps you answer the BIG QUESTION:  
“Is the micronutrient status of those who regularly consume sufficient quality fortified flour improving?”
- It helps you ascertain if the programme performs as expected or if it needs tweaking
- It offers flow charts to help you see what stage you are at and what steps you still need to take
- It protects you against looking for impact before there can be any or where there cannot be any

# For more information:

- Access FORTIMAS on-line at [www.smarterfutures.net/FORTIMAS](http://www.smarterfutures.net/FORTIMAS)
- The webpage gives guidance on how to use FORTIMAS
- You can download the entire document or download specific chapters
- You can download and use the interactive data sheets
- You can link to the WHO/CDC/ICBD tool for NTD surveillance
- Feel free to print copies!
- For more information: [info@smarterfutures.net](mailto:info@smarterfutures.net)