

Vietnam – an effective program

- In 2000, 20% goiter rate in children and median UIC of schoolchildren was 32 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$.
- Advocacy by UNICEF and the ICCIDD Regional Coordinator – the government set targeted goals and a Government Decree called for mandatory salt iodization for human consumption and food processing to eliminate IDD.
- These targets were achieved in 2005: household iodized salt coverage was >90%, the goiter rate fell to <4 percent. Median UIC in schoolchildren 8-12 years old had almost tripled to 113 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$. Median UIC among women of reproductive age (15-44) was 122 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$.



Vietnam –slippage

- The Ministry of Health in Vietnam deemed that the goals had been reached and IDD activities would simply become part of the routine activities of local public health sector. No National Coordinator in place.
- A new decree was passed in 2006 that no longer made salt iodization mandatory. The price of potassium iodate increased sharply in 2009-2010, and the salt producers stopped procurement.
- There was no specific annual budget allocation for IDD activities. The effective IDD Management Team under the Hospital of Endocrinology in Hanoi was dissolved. Provincial laboratories dissolved. No monitoring or communication activities to promote IDD 2005-2009.
- By 2010, IDD again a public health problem in the country. Household usage of adequately iodized salt went from more than 90% in 2005 to less than 50% in 2011. Median UIC among women of reproductive age (15-44) fell from 122 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ in 2006 to 83 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ in 2009.

Vietnam – revitalizing the program

- The joint ICCIDD/UNICEF/WHO in May 2012 mission identified a number of achievements and constraints in Viet Nam. Discussed with MoH. Including:
- Revise current Decree 163 by including mandatory iodization of all edible salt for human use and food processing, including various types of salt-based seasonings.
- Re-establish a National Committee for IDD Control, involving health and other sectors, with clear goals, targets and a time frame.
- Re-establish the Hospital of Endocrinology in Hanoi as the national monitoring laboratory to oversee all laboratories carrying out IDD monitoring functions (at national and subnational levels), including laboratories in the salt factories.

