



# BOND Nutrient Expert Panel

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## Background

The *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has developed an initiative entitled *Biomarkers of Nutrition for Development (BOND)*. The goal of the BOND initiative is to provide information and service to support the entire nutrition research and global health enterprise and to include core elements of discovery, development and delivery/implementation.

The project has two intersecting tracks-

- Translational track: To develop and implement a resource available to the global food/nutrition community;
- Research track: To support and be informed by the translational track and include the discovery and development components.

Both tracks are intended to lead to guidance geared to the needs of the respective user communities/context.

The initial focus of the BOND project will be on six case study nutrients - Vitamin A, Iron, Zinc, Folate, Iodine and Vitamin B12. These nutrients have been selected by the BOND Steering Committee based on their perceived public health importance and unique challenges related to the biomarker agenda. The conclusions reached by the Expert Panels and the application of these conclusions to the BOND resource development will serve as a proof of concept to the BOND approach, i.e., to provide information to allow users to make informed decisions about biomarker selection based on the evidence and their particular needs.

Panels of 5 experts per nutrient are being constituted. The following details outline the Panelist terms and responsibilities:

- The estimated term of commitment for members of the BOND Nutrient Expert Panel is until end of Sep 2013;
- The BOND Secretariat will cover all relevant expenses for participation in BOND related meetings/activities as appropriate;

- It is anticipated that the Expert Panel will potentially meet twice face-to-face in the next three years. In addition to the face-to-face meetings, there will be at least 5 to 8 ongoing teleconference per nutrient expert panel, through the BOND project.

### **Charge to the Nutrient Expert Panels**

- Provide input to the development of queries that reflect the needs of the 4 primary user communities (researchers, clinicians, program development/implementation and policy makers) targeted by the BOND, including cross-cutting issues that are relevant to all user groups;
- Participate in nutrient specific technical consultation that will inform the nutrient expert panels and aid in their decision making process. The technical consultation will be held as an extension of the nutrient specific face-to-face working group meeting;
- Review and assess the relevant literature to support decision points throughout the resource query process with regards to specific biomarkers for each target nutrients;
- Provide input to the NIH Library resource staff supporting the BOND project about literature search needs pertaining to each of the identified nutrients;
- Identify gaps in knowledge and develop targeted research agendas based on literature reviews, in consultation with the BOND Steering Committee, the BOND Secretariat, and through feedback from the greater nutrition community via the weblinks/database resource;
- Perform needs assessment on the existing platforms available for assessing nutrient specific biomarkers and provide input to the BOND Secretariat to develop new platform if required;
- Represent the BOND at dissemination activities (e.g., conferences, workshops, publications) as needed.