

# Growth through Nutrition Activity

Improving the nutritional status of women and children in Ethiopia



## Who We Are

**Feed the Future Ethiopia Growth through Nutrition Activity** is a five-year (2016-2021) multi-sector nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) project which aims to improve the nutritional status of women and young children in Ethiopia. The project works with the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock resources; Health; Water, Irrigation, and Energy; and Education at all levels to strengthen institutional capacity and influence policy to improve nutrition. Save the Children leads the implementation of the project in collaboration with six international and five local partners.

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**Geographic coverage:** 82 food-secure and 20 food-insecure woredas in Amhara, Oromia, SNNP, and Tigray Regions.

### TARGETS

**Primary Targets:** Over 1 million pregnant women and children under two and 28,000 most vulnerable households.

**Frontline workers:** Health and agriculture frontline workers, and WASH committees.

**Institutions:** Farmer Training Centers, Primary Health Care Units, Woreda Sector Offices, and Higher Learning Institutions.



# WHY WE CARE ABOUT NUTRITION IN ETHIOPIA

Despite Ethiopia reducing chronic child malnutrition by 20 percentage points over 16 years, undernutrition remains a significant health problem.

- 2 out of every 5 children in Ethiopia are stunted; 1 in 3 women are undernourished.
- More than half of children 6-59 months and one quarter of women suffer from anemia.

Poor access to improved WASH is a significant contributor to child undernutrition.

- 43% of rural households lack access to improved sources of drinking water, and 94% lack access to improved sanitation.

The consequences of malnutrition on human health, education, and economic development are huge.

- 28% of all child mortality in Ethiopia is associated with undernutrition.
- Ethiopia loses an estimated 16.5% of GDP annually due to child undernutrition.

Source: Demographic Health Survey, 2016  
*The cost of hunger in Ethiopia: implications for the growth and transformation of Ethiopia. UNICEF, 2013*

## Our Approach

Strengthening Ethiopia's institutions, systems and human capacity to improve nutrition and significantly reduce stunting



### Livelihoods & Agriculture

Increase smallholder farmers' access to diverse, safe, and quality foods through the promotion of nutrient dense crops and small livestock; and use of improved inputs, cultivation practices, and post-harvest handling practices. Economically empower vulnerable households.



### Social & Behavioral Change Communication

Strengthen nutrition promotion through health and agriculture systems; and implement innovative and evidence-based behavior change approaches to improve maternal, adolescent, and child nutrition by increasing adoption of optimal gender-sensitive nutrition, WASH, and agriculture behaviors with a focus on the first 1000 days.



### Nutrition Quality Improvement

Ensure provision of quality nutrition services by establishing quality improvement mechanisms at health facilities, building capacity of health service providers, improving availability of nutrition commodities, and support effective utilization of nutrition data for decision making.



### Multi-sector Coordination & Capacity

Support development and implementation of nutrition policies and strategies, strengthen individual and institutional capacity to implement the National Nutrition Program and One WASH National Program, support effective multi-sector coordination at all levels, and strengthen quality of nutrition education at 19 higher learning institutions.



### Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene

Provide sustainable access to safe drinking water by supplying new, and rehabilitating non-functional, water points and strengthening their management. Increase access to WASH products and services, particularly improved sanitation, through the private sector.

Cross Cutting: M&E and Learning, Gender and Women's Empowerment, and Strategic Layering & Convergence with partners.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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