Ethiopia
Assessment of Food Security and Nutrition Situation

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Roundtable Discussion
March 28, 2016 | Addis Ababa
Progress in reducing hunger, but more to be done

- Hunger fell from 75% to 32% (1990-2015)
  - Yet no. of hungry people only fell from 37 to 32 million in same period

- Ethiopia food deficit: 236 kcal/day

- Poor spend 55% of income on food

Sources: FAO 2015, Hassen et al. forthcoming

Ethiopia Roundtable Discussion, March 2016
Poverty persists despite strong economic growth

- Low income country with impressive GDP growth – 9.6% average growth from 2000-2014

- Poverty greatly reduced, but 34% live below $1.90/day (2010)

- Majority of poor live in rural areas, where poverty and hunger are highest
Food availability increasing with room for improvement

• Food production and productivity have increased; from 2000-2013,
  – Yield increased for cereals (+60%)
  – Production increased for roots and tubers (+80%)

• Yet there is room for improvement; for smallholders,
  – Only 23% use improved seeds
  – 8.6% irrigate their farmland

Sources: FAO 2016, CSA 2013
Despite progress, child undernutrition is high

- **Child stunting** fell from 51% to 40% (2005-2014) – 2.7% reduction per year

- **Child wasting**: 9% (2014)

- **Anemia, women of productive age**: 19% (2011)

- **Child vitamin A deficiency**: 50% (2015)

- No current obesity problem

Sources: FAO 2015, Stevens et al. 2015), UNICEF/WHO 2015
Stunting prevalence varies by region

Stunting prevalence by zone*: Ethiopia DHS 2011

*Zones were ranked by prevalence of stunting and split into three tertiles.

Map from Tulane SPHTM Ethiopia Nutrition Project. Sources: Child data from EDHS 2011. Map from GADM database (www.gadm.org). All boundaries and administrative areas are approximate.
Selected determinates of nutrition

- **Diet diversity**: Ethiopia average proportion of calories from non-staple crops from 1991 to 2011: 25% (Africa average: 37%)

- **Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH)**: Increased coverage from 1990 to 2013
  - Safe drinking water: 13% to 57%
  - Improved sanitation coverage: 7% to 42%

- **Women empowerment** is shown to improve nutritional outcomes in Ethiopia
  - Ranks 126 of 146 countries in the WEF Global Gender Gap Index (2015)

## National frameworks and plans for food security and nutrition

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<tr>
<th>Strategy/Plan</th>
<th>Relation to food security, nutrition</th>
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| 2\textsuperscript{nd} Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP-II, 2015/16-2019/20) | • Includes stunting as a key indicator  
• Emphasizes food security and nutrition as main priorities of economic development |
| Seqota Declaration | • Expresses government’s commitment to end child undernutrition by 2030  
• Includes social protection, education, WASH, and other goals/sectors |
| Health Sector Transformation Plan (2015/16-2019/20) | • Guides implementation of health interventions, monitoring key indicators, including nutrition indicators |

Five strategic objectives

1. Improve the nutritional status of women and adolescents
2. Improve the nutritional status of infants, youth children and children under 5
3. Improve the delivery of nutrition services for communicable and non-communicable /life style related diseases (all age groups)
4. Strengthen implementation of nutrition sensitive interventions across sectors
5. Improve multi-sectoral coordination and capacity to ensure NNP implementation

Source: Government of Ethiopia, National Nutrition Program 2015
Coordinating and implementing NNP

National Nutrition Coordinating Body (NNCB)

Chair: State Minister for Programmes, FMOH

Co-chairs: State Ministers of Agriculture and Education Sectors

Secretary: Director, AHPDP Directorate FMOH

Members

- MOLSA
- MOA
- MOE
- MOT
- MOWCY
- NDP Rep.
- MOI
- Private Sector Rep.
- MOFED
- EHNRI
- FMHACA
- MOWE
- FMOH
- ACADEMIA
- Donor Rep.
Food and nutrition security institutional architecture

Key food security, nutrition bodies

- Drought Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS), within Ministry of Agriculture
- Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS)
- Humanitarian Response (UN cluster)
- National Nutrition Coordinating Body (NNBC)—mainstreaming nutrition
- NGOs e.g. Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA)

Elements of the food and nutrition security architecture in Ethiopia

- Food & Nutrition Security Coordination by Government through DRMFSS
- Humanitarian Response with coordination through UN cluster approach
- Agricultural Development with donor coordination through RED&FS
- Nutrition Mainstreaming through NNBC & NNP
- Linkage to NGO group

Source: Adapted from Droppelmann et al. 2015
Selected policy gaps

• Scaling up investments in agric. R&D and research capacity

• Leveraging agriculture for growth, reduced poverty, and better nutrition and health

• Examining and improving key policies driving diet diversity and quality

• Enhancing multisectoral approach through nutrition mainstreaming in all relevant sectors
Selected implementation gaps

• Improving coverage of key nutrition activities in zones/woredas of most need

• Strengthening capacity and support to health and farmer extension workers

• Improving coordination across sectors AND levels of government

• Addressing logistic and transportation constraints to implementation of nutrition programs
Selected knowledge gaps

• Understanding agriculture-nutrition pathways in Ethiopia
  – E.g. Women’s empowerment, behavior change communication

• Stimulating agricultural innovation
  – E.g. Greater investment in agric. R&D for local crops

• Generating evidence and success stories in nutrition, especially looking beyond food security
  – E.g. Evidence on WASH and nutrition
In summary
Challenges and opportunities

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<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
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<tr>
<td>• High level of political will for food security and nutrition</td>
<td>• Incomplete coverage of nutrition programs</td>
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<td>• Political structure in place for multisectoral collaboration</td>
<td>• Lack of capacity for multisectoral collaboration at community level</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Strong social protection (i.e. PSNP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Delivery mechanisms for nutrition in place, e.g. PSNP, Community health workers/ extension workers</td>
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<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Threats</th>
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<td>• Momentum from Sustainable Development Goals, global initiatives supporting Ethiopia</td>
<td>• Climate change</td>
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<td>• Integrating nutrition into social protection</td>
<td>• Risk of natural disasters</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Investing in local crop production (i.e. teff)</td>
<td>• Population growth/demographics</td>
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