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MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA
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HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION!

Sustainable Undernutrition Reduction in Ethiopia (SURE): Evaluation studies

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What is the SURE program?

The SURE program is a government-led multisectoral intervention implemented by the Federal Ministries of Health and Agriculture.

SURE interventions

1. Age-appropriate IYCF counselling

2. Nutrition sensitive agriculture advising



Cooking Demonstration



Joint HH Visit



Men's group dialogue

3. Multi-sectoral coordination



Woreda MST

4. Media campaign

Hypothesizes that the package of SURE interventions will result in detectable differences in **minimum acceptable diet** and **stunting**.

SURE Evaluation Study

- The SURE evaluation study:
 - quasi- experimental design
 - theory-based and focuses on process, outcome, cost effectiveness and impact evaluations.

Proximal outcomes

Intermediate outcomes

Long-term outcomes

Impact

Key findings from : Evidence review

Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) barriers

- Insufficient understanding of optimal IYCF practices
- Children's dietary diversity is very poor
- Women's lack of access to resources & time constrain in diet diversity

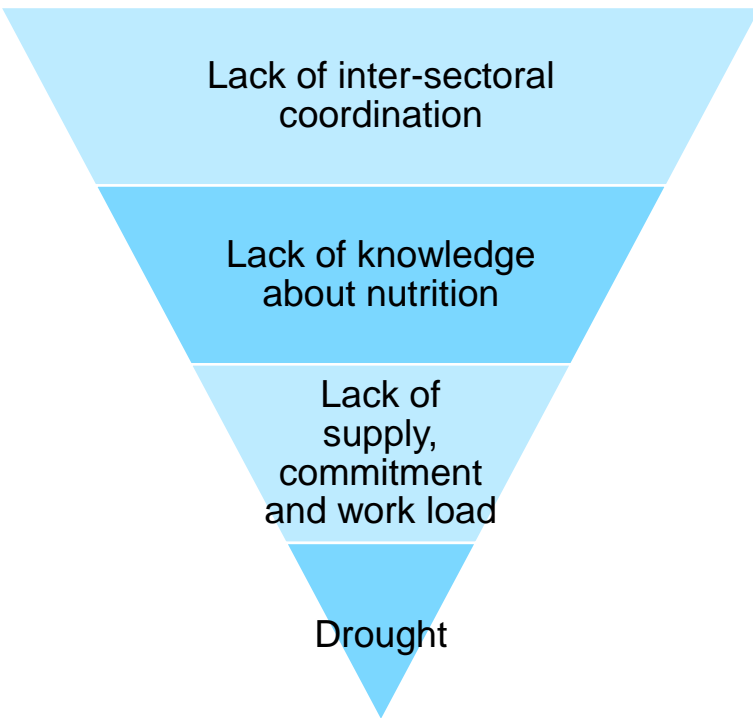
Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Facilitators

- Support of husbands is important for food access and decision making
- HEWs/AEWs are considered trustworthy sources of information

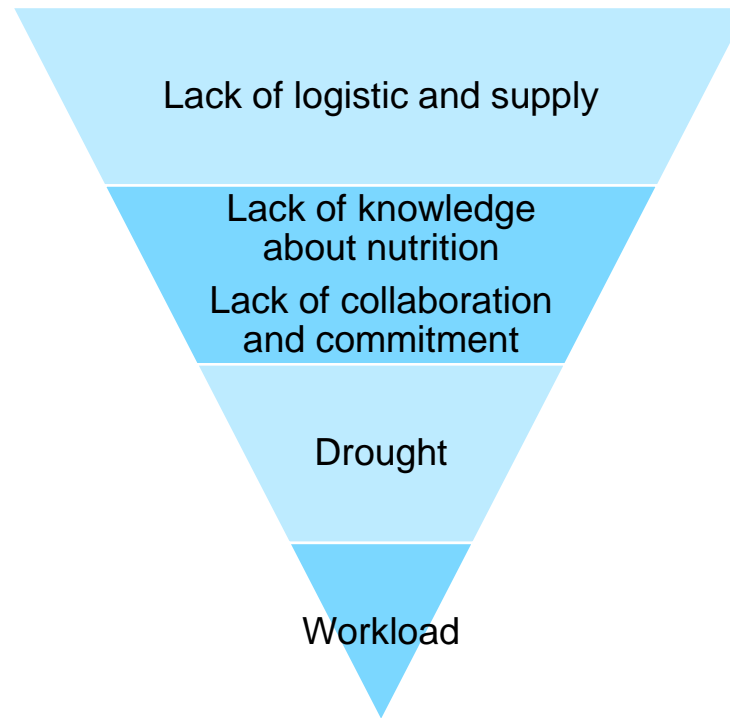
Identification of barriers and facilitators to link health and agriculture sectors

Results of a formative study carried out prior to implementation

Barriers



At Woreda level

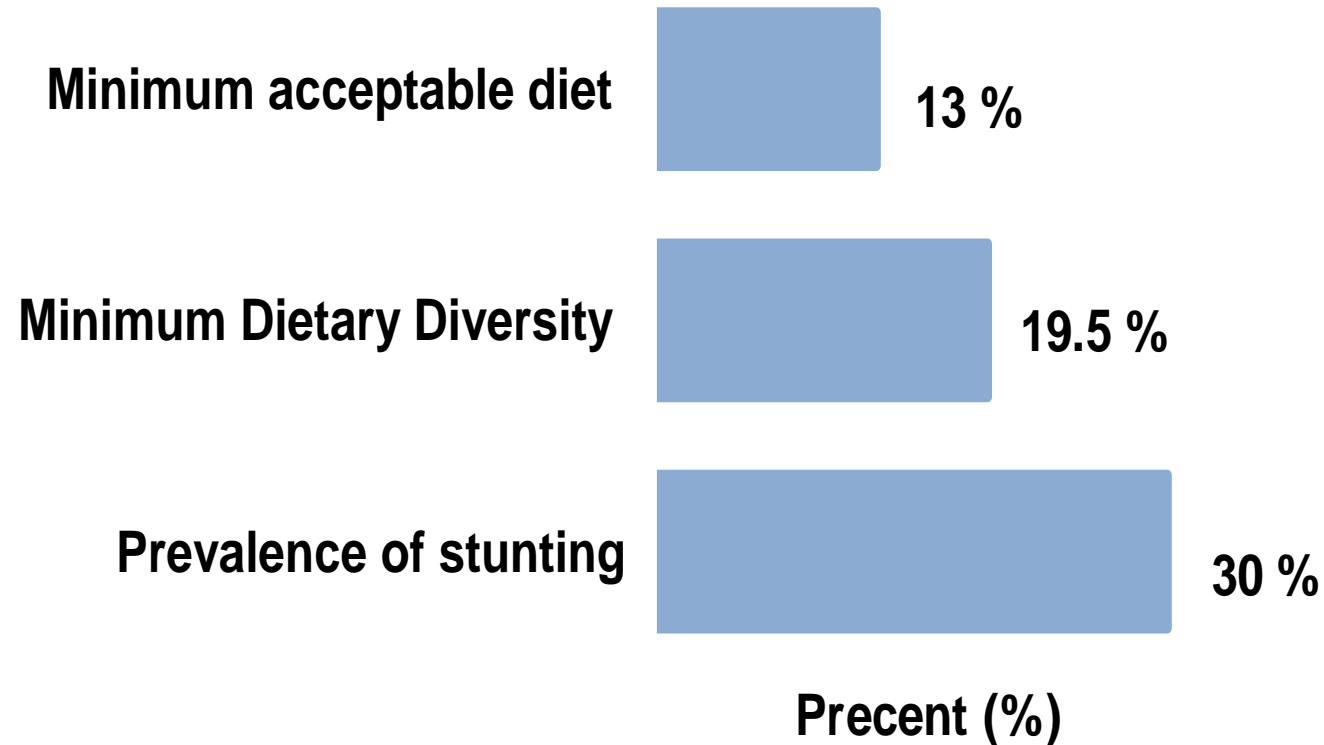


At Kebele level

Facilitators

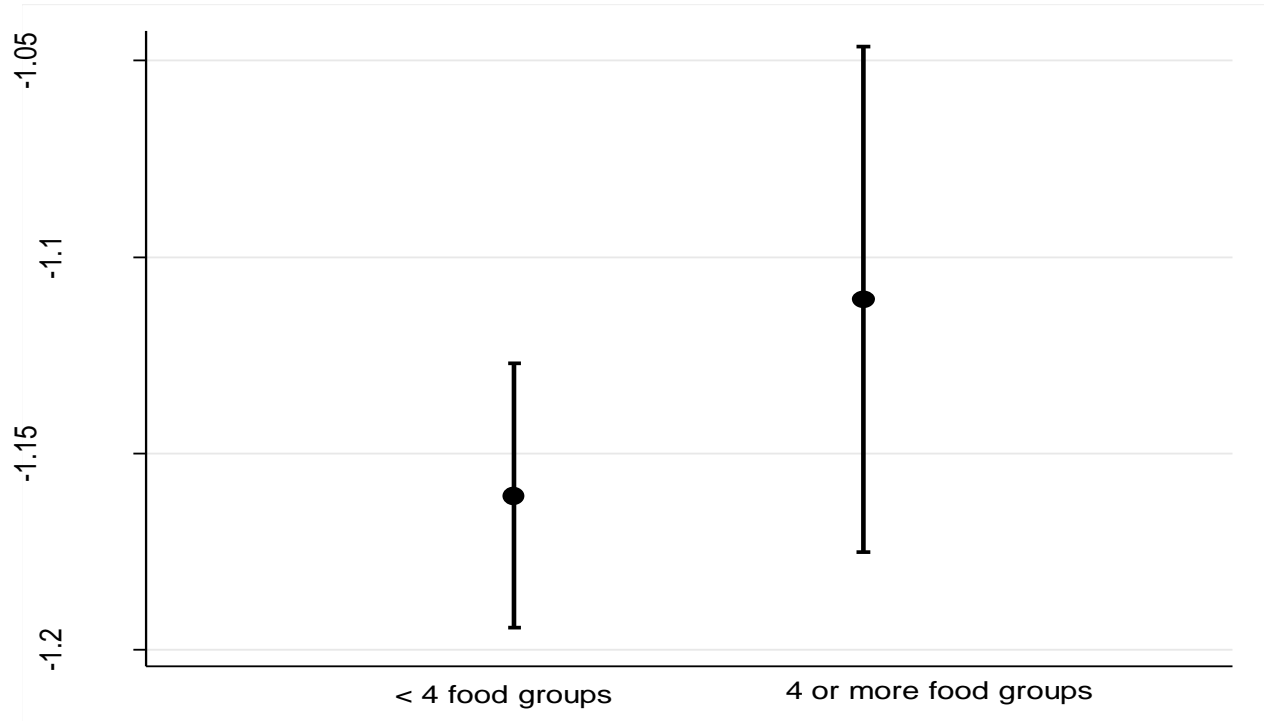
- Strong central commitment to nutrition
- Increased involvement of other partners in nutrition
- Presence of community development workers (HEWs/AEWs)

Key findings from SURE evaluation baseline survey, n= 1848 children 6-23 month



Key findings from SURE evaluation baseline survey

- We found that **child dietary diversity was positively associated with linear growth /length for age**
- Household **production of fruits and vegetables was associated with both increased child dietary diversity and linear growth**
 - Increased child dietary diversity (adjusted OR 1.16 95% CI [1.09, 1.24])
 - Increase linear growth (adjusted mean difference 0.05 [95% CI 0.005, 0.10]).



Adjusted for dietary diversity, age, sex, socio-economic status, hectares of land, maternal education, irrigation, fertilizer, animal food production, fruit and vegetable production, household food insecurity, decision making power, household chores

Process evaluation: Fidelity and dose

The fidelity and dose of message delivery on infant and young child feeding practice and nutrition sensitive agriculture

SURE target households had the intended exposure to messages

about exclusive breast feeding, timing of initiation of complementary feeding, food groups, diversified food consumption, irrigation, rearing small animals and vegetables

Few households reported receiving messages on the content or frequency of complementary feeding of a child beyond 6 months of age

Frequency of household visits and hence exposure to SURE messages was also varied

Agricultural messages delivered during household visits focused on improving standard agricultural practices and rarely covered the importance of nutrition-sensitive agriculture to improve household or child nutrition.

Major findings and implications for program/policy

Quantitative study

- Child dietary diversity is positively associated with linear growth
- Household production of fruits and vegetables is positively associated with child dietary diversity and linear growth/length-for-age-z score.
- Household cultivation of fruits and vegetables in rural agrarian settings may improve both child feeding practices and linear growth

Qualitative studies

- Limited awareness about the NNP and Multi-sectoral guidelines at Woreda and Kebele level.
- Barriers to health and agriculture sector linkages differ at the different levels of administration.
- Large scale SBCC programs can achieve moderate to good message exposure among target group despite varied message exposure.

SURE studies published and online open accessible

- Source: SURE protocol on BMJ
 - <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/8/7/e022028>
- SURE formative study on BMC
 - <https://bmcnutr.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40795-017-0189-4>
- Source: SURE baseline study on Maternal and Child Nutrition.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/mcn.12852>
- Source: SURE fidelity and dose on BMC Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition. <https://jhpn.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s41043-019-0187-z>



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Thank you !!!!



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