



# Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS)

## Ethiopia Country Plan

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## Acronyms

CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
FTF	Feed the Future
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GFSS	Global Food Security Strategy
HA	Humanitarian Assistance
ICS	Integrated Country Strategy
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
REDFS	Rural Economic Development & Food Security
RFSA	Resilience Food Security Activities
UNDP	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USG	U.S. Government
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Program

## A. Country Context

### A.1 Introduction

The U.S. Government's (USG) Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) is an integrated whole-of-government approach that aims to end global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition through the Feed the Future (FTF) initiative. The 2024-2028 GFSS Country Plan was co-written by United States Government (USG) interagency partners involved in food security, resilience, and nutrition work after extensive consultation with stakeholders. The Ethiopia country plan outlines short-term programming that aligns with the long-term vision of FTF programming in Ethiopia: an Ethiopia free of extreme poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. These investments in Ethiopia's growth and transformation will serve as a foundation to reduce the need for humanitarian assistance in the long term as the country becomes more self-reliant.

Lessons learned from programming in the first two phases of FTF highlight the need to layer comprehensive and complementary programming, retain and expand proven strategies for economic growth, development, and resilience, and ensure flexibility to respond to crises while building resilience. Key changes to the FTF approach under this country plan include a stronger focus on creating jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities for youth and women, aligning programs with the increasing urbanization of the country, and adapting to the impacts of climate change while mitigating future emissions.

Ethiopia is currently marked by ongoing armed conflict, political instability, soaring inflation, and high unemployment caused by a wave of reforms and devastating shocks that slashed the GDP growth rate in half from 10.4 percent in 2015 to 5.3 percent in 2022 ([World Bank, 2023](#)). Development gains of the past decades have eroded significantly although evidence shows that past resilience investments limited household suffering. While Ethiopia is in a rebuilding phase, ongoing civil unrest, high inflation, and diminished access to agricultural inputs and foods are some major challenges in the rebuilding process.

After an impressive period of double-digit economic growth and declining levels of poverty and malnutrition, Ethiopia experienced the compounded impact of multiple shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic, desert locust outbreak, and a two-year civil war. Among other recurrent climatic shocks, the Horn of Africa is trying to recover from its worst drought in 70 years following five consecutive seasons of below-average rainfall between 2020 and 2023. This continues to affect an estimated 13 million people across Ethiopia ([OCHA, 2023](#)). The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)'s recent assessment of the food security situation of Ethiopia (2024) indicates that the wheat import parity price is lower than the domestic price and recommends that the country should import wheat in a substantial amount through purchase and aid to stabilize the domestic food market price.

### A.2 Poverty, Hunger, and Malnutrition

Ethiopia is the second largest country in Africa with an estimated population of nearly 127 million people (United Nations Population Fund, 2023). During a period of rapid population growth from 2011 to 2016, Ethiopia's economy grew, and the poverty rate fell six percentage points to 24 percent of the population, however, the poverty rate only decreased by four percentage points to 26 percent in rural areas ([World Bank, 2020](#)). During the same timeframe, the household expenditure on food increased by 21 percent with rural Ethiopia hit hardest ([Planning and Economic Growth Commission, 2019](#)). More recently, a simulation study of UNDP showed an upsurge in the rate of poverty in Ethiopia due to shocks and rising costs of living, especially for food, with severe impacts in war-affected and urban areas ([UNDP, 2022](#)). These trends are particularly concerning in the Tigray region where the rate of poverty increased from 27 percent in 2016 to 45 percent in 2022 compared to the rate of poverty in Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa surging during the same period from 17.8 percent to 24.0 percent and from 15.4

percent to 23.0 percent, respectively. Although rural poverty rates remain high, evidence shows that growth in the agriculture sector, improvements in market access, and safety net programs contributed to the reduction of poverty in rural areas from 2010 to 2016 ([World Bank, 2020](#)). Additionally, the poverty rate was found to be lower in female-headed households (20.4 percent) than male-headed (26.6 percent) in rural areas but higher in female-headed households (16.6 percent) than male-headed (14.2 percent) in urban areas in 2015/16. The Planning and Development Commission's Poverty and Growth Assessment (2018) associates the lower poverty rate of female-headed households in rural areas with improved access to land and food security programs. The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) claims that the national poverty rate dropped from 23.5 percent in 2015/16 to 19 percent in 2019/2020 and aims to reduce the national poverty rate to 7 percent by 2030 through the Ten-Year Development Plan.

Low income and few job creation opportunities remain barriers to food security. Ethiopia has a per capita gross capital income of \$1,020 and the labor market is struggling to keep up with generating new jobs (World Bank, 2022). Recent data estimates that about 56 million people were employed in the year 2022, a slight increase from the previous year. Overall employment in the country has increased since 2012 except for a slight drop in 2020. The urban employment and unemployment survey conducted in early 2022 revealed that 49 percent of the total urban population of the country aged ten years and above were employed with a higher number of men employed (60.7 percent) than women (38.7 percent) ([Ethiopian Statistics Service, 2022](#)). According to the Food Security Information Network and Global Network Against Food Crises (2023), 23.6 million people or 21 percent of the population in Ethiopia faced acute food insecurity in 2022. The impacts of food insecurity vary among the population as indicated by the World Food Program (2019) that found the food poverty level was as high as 27 percent in rural areas compared to 15 percent in urban areas. More than 32 percent of rural households spend 65 percent of their disposable income on food. Factors significantly associated with household food insecurity include larger household size, lower level of education of the household head, and the aging household head. An estimated 20.1 million people are estimated to require emergency food assistance in the country ([FAO, 2023](#)). These high levels of food insecurity threaten Ethiopia's nutrition gains.

Over the last two decades, Ethiopia has made remarkable progress in reducing stunting, wasting, and underweight among children, though progress has stalled in recent years due to the current drought and conflicts. The prevalence of child stunting was 57.7 percent, 44.4 percent, and 36.8 percent, respectively in 2000, 2011, and 2019 with a reduction of 13.3 percent between 2000 to 2011 and a 7.6 percent reduction between 2011 and 2019 (STATcompiler, 2023). The prevalence of children wasting was 12.2 percent, 9.7 percent, and 7.0 percent respectively in 2000, 2011, and 2019. Similarly, the prevalence of underweight children was 41.2 percent, 28.7 percent, and 21.3 percent in 2000, 2011, and 2019, respectively. Sustained economic growth, strong pro-poor spending by GoE, expanded agriculture extension and innovations in the public health system were major contributors to this success (Ethiopian Public Health Institute, 2019). Despite the achievements, these indicators show the need to think critically and develop sound strategies (e.g. increasing dietary diversity, social behavior change, and increases in education, income, and decision-making for women at the household level) that will significantly reduce malnutrition in the coming years.

Although improvements made so far are encouraging, it is still important to understand that stunting remains a concern. The FTF 2.0 baseline survey (2019) indicated that stunting remained around 40 percent and severe stunting at 22 percent among children under 5 years in the FTF ZOI (International Food Policy Research Institute, 2020). A recent National Food and Nutrition Assessment Strategy Baseline Survey (March 2023) by GoE corroborated these findings, indicating that progress on malnutrition in children has stalled with a high prevalence of stunting (39.0 percent), wasting (11.0 percent) and underweight (22.0 percent) ([Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, 2023](#)) which is a reversal of the historical trend of improving malnutrition statistics.

While Ethiopia treats the largest number of children with severe acute malnutrition globally (820,316 children), this constitutes two-thirds of the estimated annual burden in the country (1.214 million children) ([OCHA, 2022](#)). Progress on infant and young child feeding practices is mixed. Progress on children's dietary diversity has been particularly modest, with the percentage of children aged 6-23 who were fed 5 or more food groups increasing from 4.4 to 13.5 percent between 2011 and 2019, one of the lowest rates in Africa.

At the national level, more than half of children under five years old were affected by any form of malnutrition. This remains higher in rural areas (55 percent) compared to urban areas (39 percent) with the prevalence of stunting in rural areas and urban areas were 43 percent and 29 percent, respectively, with about 3 percent of children in rural areas affected by both wasting and stunting ([Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, 2023](#)). Women's nutrition shows uneven and slow progress. Women's underweight prevalence decreased from 30.1 percent in 2000 to 22.4 percent in 2016, well short of the 16 percent national target whereas the obesity prevalence increased from 0.3 percent to 1.5 percent for the same period of time (STATcompiler, 2023). A recent report showed a high prevalence of underweight among rural women of reproductive age (22 percent) compared to urban women (15 percent) ([Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, 2023](#)). The prevalence of overweight/obesity among women of reproductive age was four times higher in the urban areas (23 percent) as compared to the rural areas (6 percent) ([Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, 2023](#)). The primary direct and indirect causes of stunting in Ethiopia include persistent food insecurity, less dietary diversity, poor food quality/safety, poor maternal and child feeding practices, suboptimal hygiene and sanitation, and limited access to quality nutrition services. Through recent consultations, stakeholders<sup>1</sup> expressed that although efforts to improve nutrition have increased, consumption of nutritious foods remains low. Access to nutritious foods has been impacted by food price inflation and limited availability of diverse crops in some regions. The per capita milk consumption in Ethiopia (16.6 kg) is lower than in neighboring countries (e.g., 58 kg in Uganda and 110 kg in Kenya), and most households consume meat and fruit less than one day per week ([WFP, 2020](#)). Though some regions have increased production of nutritious foods and the urban middle class can afford to purchase these food products, limited nutritional knowledge, taste and diet preferences, and religious fasting obligations have limited consumption.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices have improved but remain insufficient to mitigate the negative feedback loop between poor nutrition and infection (STATcompiler, 2023; [Government of Ethiopia, UNICEF, 2023](#)). The prevalence of diarrhea in children was halved between 2000 and 2016, from 23.6 to 11.8 percent, and the percentage of households practicing open defecation decreased from 81.9 to 27.1 percent over the last two decades (2000 - 2019). Household access to basic water services improved from 65.2 percent in 2016 to 80 percent in recent years, while access to basic sanitation services remained very low (0.3 percent in 2000, 10.8 percent in 2019, and 25 percent in 2023). Anemia in children has increased from 53.5 percent in 2005 to 56.9 percent in 2016, but a recent report showed a substantial decrease in the prevalence of anemia (16 percent) with differences in rural and urban areas.

USAID's Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy (2014-2025) highlights the importance of mother and child nutrition on the first 1,000 days between pregnancy and the child's second birthday for optimum physical and cognitive development. A high prevalence of undernutrition and malnutrition among mothers and children in Ethiopia urges a need for targeted interventions by bringing together USAID's health, nutrition, agriculture, and humanitarian assistance programs. Interventions like optimal breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding; integration of hygiene actions in nutritional

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<sup>1</sup> USAID/Ethiopia consulted 320 individuals who represented 180 stakeholder institutions. Of which, 26 percent were from the private sector, 27 percent from the public sector, 13 percent from research and universities, 13 percent from CSOs and 21 percent from NGOS, donors and UN agencies.

programs; scale-up of proven nutrition-sensitive agriculture interventions and nutrition assessment, counseling, and routine clinical health care; increased provision of more nutritious and biofortified commodities for prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition; and women empowerment could bring a significant improvement in maternal and child health.

In Ethiopia, high-quality sex-disaggregated data are relatively limited, thus accurate estimations of the extent and impact of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition on men's and women's well-being are lacking. However, some analyses highlighted ongoing and emerging challenges around gender equality and women's empowerment. The Gender, Youth, Economic, and Social Inclusion (GYESI) Analysis (2023) for FTF Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture Activity revealed that women, girls, and vulnerable people, including Internally Displaced People (IDPs), elders, persons with disabilities, and children were disproportionately affected by both the conflict and economic disruptions from COVID-19. These conditions have further limited access of these groups to resources, education, basic health and nutrition services, and employment opportunities while further subjecting them to violence and harmful traditional practices.

### **A.3 Status and Constraints in the Agriculture and Food Sectors**

The agriculture sector in Ethiopia remains critical to rural populations who are often reliant on agriculture for employment, day-to-day food needs, livelihood opportunities, and incomes. The agriculture sector employed 64 percent of the total labor force as of 2021 with a declining trend since 2005 (78 percent). The contribution of agriculture to GDP was between 36 and 38 percent from 2015 to 2022 ([World Bank, 2024](#)). In 2021, agriculture employed 55 percent female and 71 percent male workforce ([World Bank, 2024](#)). The majority of farmers practice subsistence agriculture which is characterized by low productivity, is rainfed, and regarded as a less profitable business.

In addition to low productivity, the quality of agricultural products is poor. Some major factors responsible for low-quality crop products include the high moisture content of grains during harvest and/or storage, pre-and post-harvest attack of crops by insect pests and plant pathogens, and the accumulation of mycotoxins in the grains which is detrimental to humans and livestock health. The post-harvest loss in crops in Ethiopia is estimated to be worth US\$ 1.2 billion and, if prevented, can feed over 23 million people in the country ([Terefa, 2022](#)). With widespread use of outdated practices and limited availability and uptake of improved inputs, the country struggles to feed its growing population from domestic production. Currently, the food market system in Ethiopia is heavily influenced by the government and structured to incentivize centrally-controlled production of cereals and other common foods, factors that contribute to market instability and hence chronic food insecurity. The system is not demand-driven and disincentivizes innovation, competition, and the production and consumption of nutritious foods.

As of 2022, Ethiopia was importing up to 1.7 million metric tons of wheat each year to fulfill its food needs ([USAID, 2024](#)).<sup>2</sup> But since the impacts of Russia's invasion of Ukraine have increased wheat and fertilizer prices globally, self-sufficiency in food through domestic production became an agenda for the Ethiopian Government. In 2020, the government launched an initiative meant to increase wheat production through cluster farming systems and summer irrigation, with the goal of producing all 1.7

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<sup>2</sup> According to official figures from Ethiopian Customs, between 2018-2022, food assistance wheat imports accounted for nearly 40 percent of the total wheat imports and the remaining 60 percent was for commercial purposes, procured using GoE public funds.



million metric tons of wheat to meet domestic needs and exporting surplus production to other African countries.

The regional governments began to convert large-scale irrigable areas to mechanized wheat farms. The GoE touts that this import substitution initiative made the country self-sufficient in wheat production as of 2023 and decided to stop commercial imports of wheat. The GoE's wheat production data remains controversial given the soaring price of wheat, teff, and other grains, putting staple crop prices far out of reach for many consumers and escalating humanitarian food assistance needs in the country. The Ministry of Agriculture and wider GoE continue to amplify claims of dramatically increased wheat production, with Prime Minister Abiy claiming on October 28, 2023, that Ethiopia's 2022-23 production would exceed 11 million tons. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center satellite analysis suggest these numbers are grossly inflated, with USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service predicting 2023-24 production of 5.2 million tons due to reduced harvested area, dry conditions, and less input use ([USDA, 2024](#)). In 2023 the Ministry of Agriculture started transitioning to local procurement of wheat for its implementation of the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), though international food assistance operators continued to import wheat and other grains. However, the Ethiopian Trading Business Corporation (government owned entity) could not supply more than 50 percent of the contracted amount to the operators. Approximately 255,000 metric tons of wheat, designated as food assistance, was imported between January and June 2023.

The impact of COVID and domestic conflict coupled with the global impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, increased the costs of major import commodities like fuel, fertilizer, and wheat. Ongoing conflict in the two most populated regions of the country, supply chain disruptions, price spikes, and foreign exchange shortages continue to affect agricultural productivity in Ethiopia, significantly reducing the availability of fertilizer, improved seeds, and agrochemicals on the domestic market.

The annual inflation rate in Ethiopia eased slightly to 28.8 percent in July of 2023, the lowest since July 2021, down from 29.3 percent in the prior month. The headline inflation had held above 30 percent for two years, due to the cumulative economic impact of civil war in northern Ethiopia, drought, the Ukraine conflict, and the lingering effects of COVID-19 ([Trading Economics, 2023](#)). With increasingly weakened local currency and shortage of foreign exchange to import necessary food and non-food items affecting the rise in consumer prices by 2.6 percent in July 2021, after increasing by 3.3 percent the month before. Increased prices and limited availability of agricultural inputs undermined efforts to enhance agricultural productivity and affordability.

Limited access to finance, an unfavorable business enabling environment, vacillating reforms, lack of policy implementation, the crowding-out effect of direct procurement and distribution by international development organizations, and continued undue influence of the government in agricultural markets stifle market actor diversification and deter private investment in the food system. This limits the ability of the private sector to drive improvements in agricultural productivity and food availability, accessibility, and utilization. Additionally, increasing fuel prices due to withdrawn subsidies and fuel shortages have significantly affected food affordability. Land tenure security and governance issues also disincentivize investment. Current land regulations that have been in place since 2005 require government involvement in land allocation and limit the availability of land for the private sector. However, a package of policies drafted by the Ministry of Agriculture has the potential to improve access to finance, land governance, and the business-enabling environment to stimulate increased use of technologies, and a more competitive market system. If approved by GoE and implemented with the support of development partners, these policies can create a more favorable enabling environment for private sector-led growth in the food and agriculture sector, necessary for achieving economic development and resilience, particularly among the most vulnerable people in society.



A careful selection and scaling of appropriate technologies for demand-driven agricultural production systems supported with strong information and market systems, value addition activities, and enabling policy (e.g. low input agriculture technology for the low potential area and high input agriculture technology for the high potential area) are among the important prerequisites for modernizing Ethiopian agriculture. Digital technologies help in connecting different actors involved in the agri-food system. For example, its use enhances farmers' access to new technologies, farm inputs, market and weather information as well as other information related to their daily life. Therefore digital readiness of a country is imperative for agricultural transformation and acceleration of agriculture-led economic growth. Besides increasing productivity and food security, agricultural modernization helps create jobs which in turn deters youth recruitment in militias and armed groups, increases incomes, and brings economic prosperity to the country. Bridging yield gaps, strengthening value chains, establishing agro-based industries, and increasing the mechanization of small-scale agriculture are crucial elements to making agriculture a profitable and attractive business, particularly to the growing youth populations in the country.

The stakeholder consultations also revealed that some food security and resilience investments of the past have proven unsustainable, emphasizing the urgent need to ensure interventions utilize locally-led, facilitative approaches that buy down risk and are fully owned by market system actors<sup>3</sup>, and replicable at a system-level. Partnerships that include de-risked co-investment or in-kind support must include sufficient capacity building, preferably delivered by local self-sustaining advisory service firms. Prioritized investments that have delayed returns (e.g. tree crops) must incorporate time-appropriate sustainability strategies within a whole farm system approach.

With increasing population growth the quest for land is increasing as the ownership of land has become increasingly fragmented and with individual parcels owned by individuals or households dwindling in size, especially in the Ethiopian highlands. This is decreasing the amount of land individual producers have, causing millions of small-scale farmers, especially youth to become landless. This exposes the young rural population to poverty and food insecurity. Given these trends, it is necessary to support income diversification strategies for households in rural areas which create diverse economic opportunities for robust non-farm and off-farm income coupled with innovative farming practices, including youth-focused urban agriculture, which requires less land resources to produce food and crops.

Recent analysis in Ethiopia has shown that “agricultural cooperatives have a statistically significant positive impact on the food security status of households” (Guyalo, 2023). Agricultural cooperatives are shown to improve the food security status of the households. Furthermore, agricultural cooperatives help members pool resources to mitigate risk while increasing capacity to purchase capital investments that can expand and diversify production. In addition, cooperatives can increase bargaining power to increase profit margins and improve opportunities for accessing grants and other government programs to access water for example ([World Bank, 2023](#)). Research shows that, young households are about 4.6 percent more likely to join agriculture cooperatives than the older ones. This is likely due to the greater capacity of young people for innovation and entrepreneurship, along with their greater tendency to learn and work with new technologies, and they likely have higher levels of education (that could help them to easily analyze and understand the benefit of cooperatives) than older farmers. Cooperatives play a pivotal role in providing services in agriculture, financial, and consumer cooperatives to their members who would otherwise have no access to affordable means. The legal framework on cooperatives in Ethiopia is cooperative-friendly and recognizes coops for playing a significant role in eradicating poverty

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<sup>3</sup> Market system actors are types of entities that will continue to operate within the market system, even without donor funding. (For example it does not include donor-funded nonprofits or charities.) See Feed the Future's [Integrating a Market Systems Approach in Programming](#) guidance for more information.

through job creation, income generation, resource mobilization, and broad-based economic empowerment of men and women ([COOP, 2021](#)). However, coops are often reliant on government support, and it will be important to help cooperatives decrease their reliance on the government to create a more competitive market environment where coops can compete with other enterprises and reduce unintended negative influences on the private sector.

#### **A.4 Barriers to Economic Growth**

There is growing consensus that Ethiopia has not come close to achieving the type of structural transformation that is needed to power sustained private sector-led growth. The GoE acknowledges that the private sector enabling environment needs reform. There is a hope that federal policies and laws such as contract farming, removing import tax and tariffs on farm inputs and machinery, and seed system reform, enacted in 2019 and 2023, respectively, will allow the private sector to play a significant role in the agriculture sector if implemented properly and applied at all levels across the country. Additionally, an amended draft land law was approved by the Council of Ministers on October 27, 2023, and is awaiting enactment by the Parliament, which will allow the private sector to acquire land for investment from landholders through a long-term lease arrangement. This will enable farmers to have improved access to finance by using their land use rights as collateral. The GOE's Ten Year Development Plan emphasizes the importance of strengthening partnerships with the private sector while increasing the share of the private sector investment.

Mounting macroeconomic challenges such as a severe shortage of foreign exchange, a large trade deficit, a public sector debt burden, and a skyrocketing national budget deficit have reduced the government's ability to provide critically needed public services. Consequently, in 2019 the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) launched a comprehensive economic reform agenda named "Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda" to safeguard macro-financial stability and rebalance and sustain economic growth towards achieving the Lower Middle Income (LMI) status by 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 ([Ethiopian Ministry of Finance and Development, 2020](#)). These ambitions include tripling GDP per capita, halving poverty, and extending electricity and water to an additional 40 to 45 million people. The Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda envisioned reforming key productive sectors, including commercializing the agriculture sector for transformational outcomes in the areas of value addition, food availability, manufacturing input supply, and household incomes. In 2023, the GoE began working on a new version of the Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda to address the contemporary socio-economic challenges (e.g. COVID-19's lingering economic effects, global ramifications from Russia's war in Ukraine, multiple failed rainy seasons, violent domestic conflicts, etc.), capitalize on new opportunities, and ensure that Ethiopia stays on a path of sustainable and inclusive development.

Following the issuance of the Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda, Ethiopia revealed a Ten Years Development Plan (2021-2030). The plan sets targets serving as a foundation for making Ethiopia an "African Beacon of Prosperity" by ensuring quality growth, improving productivity and competitiveness, undertaking institutional transformation, ensuring private sector leadership in the economy, ensuring equitable participation of women and children, and building a climate-resilient green economy. The plan takes into account regional and global initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Agenda 2063, and Sustainable Development Goals ([FDRE Planning and Development Commission, 2020](#)). In addition, there are sector-specific policies and strategies helping to attain the Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda goals and the Ten-Year Development Plan targets. For example, Ethiopia's 2018 National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFPN) aims to attain "optimal nutritional status for all to promote quality of life, productivity, and longevity of life" by creating an enabling policy environment that supports seven nutrition objectives related to 1) availability and accessibility of adequate food, 2) nutrition and health services, 3) consumption of diverse foods, 4) improved food

safety and quality, 5) reduced food loss, 6) improved emergency risk management and preparedness, and 7) improved nutrition literacy ([FDRE, 2020](#)).

Ethiopia has quality policies in place that can enhance agricultural productivity, resilience, and food security. However, poor capacity, limited political commitment and ministerial collaboration, and vague decentralized administrative responsibilities between central and regional authorities hinder implementation at all levels of the government. An Institutional Architecture Assessment conducted by USAID's Champions for Food Security activity (USAID, 2023) found inconsistent understanding of policy-making processes by government officials in Ethiopia. These challenges extend beyond government officials to stakeholders from the private sector and civil society who were unaware of the updated framework package, had no awareness regarding how the frameworks were developed, and others remain pessimistic about their use citing delays in how the government formulates laws and implements policies. The assessment highlights a need to enhance context-driven, participatory, and inclusive policy-making with accountable, resourced implementation mechanisms.

Ethiopia's proportion of urban residents is lower than the East African and African average despite increasing rural-to-urban migration in recent years, particularly among youth ([Boulanger, Dudu, Ferrari, Hailu, Mainar, Mohammed & Yeshineh, 2018](#)), and an urban growth rate that is double that of the overall population growth rate ([World Bank, 2024](#)). Ethiopia's urban population did not exceed 20 percent of the total until 2018 ([World Bank, 2024](#)). However, since then the rate of urbanization has increased, and projections anticipate that urban residents will make up 40 percent of Ethiopia's population by 2050 ([United Nations, 2018](#)). At an average annual urban growth rate of 5.2 percent, cities gain more than one million new residents every year. Ethiopia's growing urban consumer base will demand a greater variety and quantity of foods, thus creating market opportunities in the agri-food system for farmers and employment opportunities in areas including agriculture-related processing, manufacturing, and services, along the downstream of the agricultural industry. These growing urban centers, with urban consumers who have increasingly higher disposable incomes, can provide a flow of investment capital, remittances, technologies, and know-how to the rural producing areas and markets. While urbanization presents many opportunities, there are inherent challenges to meeting the demands of an urban population including a poor enabling environment for the private sector, constraints on land and access to finance for farmers, limited employment opportunities for those entering the workforce, and strain on already overburdened social systems such as water, sanitation, and health services. In order to fully tap into the opportunities presented by urbanization, it is imperative to also address these challenges and constraints.

Ethiopia's economy cannot keep pace with the two million new entrants into its labor market annually. While job growth in the private sector has grown slightly in recent years, many remain in low-skill, low-productivity occupations and often contribute to the gig economy or informal sector ([ILO, 2022](#)). In 2021, 37 percent of Ethiopia's labor force was unemployed and underemployed (ILO, 2021). Ethiopia's progress on economic reforms to date has not produced the necessary structural transformation that is needed to drive sustained private sector-led growth. Agriculture still employs most Ethiopians and manufacturing exports lag far behind other Low and Middle Income (LMI) countries. Some services sectors are starting to see growth but are held back by many enabling environment constraints. Businesses looking to begin operations or expand are limited by the inability to pay for inputs that come from outside of Ethiopia. Multi-sector productivity growth is constrained by structural and institutional barriers (particularly foreign exchange shortages, limited access to reliable electrical power, constraints in access to land, corruption and government inefficiencies, and access to finance), specific barriers in key productive sectors (agriculture, manufacturing, mining, and tourism), and security. Although the GOE built some industrial parks to address working space and power issues, the parks can only accommodate certain garment and electronic industries with limited access to small and heavy industries. Macroeconomic imbalances caused by depleted foreign exchange reserves and mounting

public debt restrict the government's fiscal ability to provide critically needed public services and these policy choices distort the agri-food system.

Over the last 50 years, the GoE has taken policy and legislative actions with the intention to unlock better opportunities for women by improving their mobility, pay, workplace environments, domestic relationships, asset ownership, entrepreneurship, pension benefits, and land tenure through joint titling of rural landholding certificates. However, this legislation alone is not sufficient to get women on the same footing as men. Policies often do not address norms and system barriers to gender equality at all levels, and even when designed robustly, policy reform fails to translate to implementation. There are also still unmet legislative needs e.g. the law in Ethiopia does not prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender nor does it mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value ([World Bank, 2021](#)). While agriculture sector strategies and programs in Ethiopia generally claim to be gender-sensitive, their provisions are not comprehensive.

## A.5 Risk and Resilience Context

As a counterpoint to the significant opportunities for continued economic growth, Ethiopians also face increasingly diverse risks that serve as obstacles to development progress. Climate-related shocks and stresses (e.g., recurrent and extended droughts, flooding); frequent outbreaks of crop, animal, and human diseases; economic shocks (e.g. skyrocketing inflation, high food and agricultural input price, and credit liquidity constraints and hard currency and other challenges facing trade and market system development); growing insurgencies civil unrest; and political instability all represent challenges throughout the country underscore the importance of resilience policies and programs. Most rural areas and the systems that serve them remain extremely vulnerable to this set of interrelated shocks and stresses, as evidenced by recurrent high humanitarian caseloads, which is 20 million in 2023 ([OCHA, 2023](#)), over the last five to 10 years, in addition to the eight million chronically food insecure people who are supported by the GoE's Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP).<sup>4</sup>

With a total fertility rate of 4 births per woman and a life expectancy of 70 years for females and 64 years for males, the population of the country is expected to reach over 200 million by 2050 (some sources predict up to 215 million) ([World Population Review, 2024](#)). In 2021, the median age of the overall population was 17.9, with 42 percent of the population falling between the ages of 10-29 ([USAID, 2022](#)). Despite the fact that two million young people enter the workforce each year, the youth unemployment rate doubled between 2013 and 2021 ([ILO, 2023](#)). The GYESI Analysis described above noted that women and girls, along with other disadvantaged groups, were disproportionately affected by the conflict, droughts, and economic disruptions from COVID-19. Women in Ethiopia are more vulnerable to shocks and stresses and much more likely than men to face economic and social constraints including less access to credit services ([USAID, 2012](#)). Women-owned businesses also tend to be less resilient to shocks and stresses (USAID Feed the Future, 2023).

## A.6 Conflict and Insecurity

Over many years, Ethiopia has experienced tension and acute and entrenched conflicts both internally and with neighboring countries. The conflict in the north of Ethiopia emanating from Tigray was particularly impactful, however, leading to displaced communities, disrupted agricultural production, and

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<sup>4</sup> Investigations into large-scale food diversion in Ethiopia in 2023 revealed inflated beneficiary lists for the relief caseload and rendering the OCHA estimates suspect at best. Whatever the true number is, the caseload estimates are high and unsustainable, with many IDPs receiving assistance year after year.

reduced trade which has led to widespread food insecurity throughout northern Ethiopia. The economic cost of the conflict, \$28 billion, contributed to an increase in the national budget deficit from 25.23 percent in the Ethiopian Fiscal Year (EFY) 2013 to 37.78 percent in EFY 2014<sup>5</sup> and a budget shift from structural transformation to peace and security efforts ([Ethiopian Ministry of Finance and Development, 2020](#)). Ongoing and emerging conflicts across the rest of the country - particularly in the highly productive and populated region of Amhara - and along the border with Somalia have significantly contributed to the weakening of the Ethiopian economy and have diminished the resilience of local communities. Political instability has hampered growth, hamstrung market systems, and forced capital budgets to prioritize Internally Displaced Person (IDP) responses over development, particularly in Northern Ethiopia.

To respond to the instability, GFSS investments must promote peacebuilding and social cohesion and include conflict-sensitive approaches that enable partners to recognize how conflict affects their programs, how their programs affect conflict, and adapt their programs to reduce conflict. While past crisis modifiers in programming ([USAID, 2023](#)) were primarily designed to address drought vulnerability, they will be expanded to other major risks in fragile contexts in Ethiopia, including conflict.

## **A.7 Climate Related Shocks**

Consultations with stakeholders<sup>6</sup> highlighted the urgent need to address the impacts of climate change, degradation of natural resources, water stress, population pressure, and fragmented landholdings. Future projections mostly agree that the mean annual temperature will increase by between 1° and 2°C by 2050 and the frequency of hot days and nights will substantially increase. Future rainfall patterns are uncertain but extreme weather events are expected to become more common ([USAID, 2016](#)), as is the variability of seasonal weather patterns upon which agricultural production systems depend. The 2020-23 drought was of unprecedented duration and affected most of the eastern and southern pastoralist areas, exceeding drought coping capacities and substantially increasing the need for humanitarian assistance in many communities. This served as a reminder that weather shocks, made more frequent and severe by climate change and associated adversities, are a progressively worsening risk to rural Ethiopians in much of the country because it threatens agricultural productivity. Additionally, agroecologies that currently support agricultural and pastoral systems may shift, leading to areas that can no longer support their current agricultural, pastoral, or agropastoral livelihoods. Though Ethiopia is endowed with extensive natural resources, rich biodiversity, and diverse agroecologies, stakeholders expressed significant concern about the deteriorating condition of Ethiopia's productive natural resources while the country struggles to feed three million more people each year. While the stakeholders appreciated the multi-stakeholder efforts to increase agricultural productivity and ensure food security and resilience, they requested enhanced support to plan, prepare for, and address the impacts of climate change and systemic policy issues to achieve sustainable outcomes. Disaster Risk Management (DRM) policies and strategies such as early warning systems, disaster risk financing strategies, and access to climate information can help farmers, businesses, and communities prepare for extreme weather events and minimize losses while timely taking appropriate actions. Good DRM strategies can also make a strong investment case for disaster risk financing.

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<sup>5</sup> July 2020- June 2021 to July 2021 - June 2022.

<sup>6</sup> USAID/Ethiopia consulted 320 individuals who represented 180 stakeholder institutions. Of which, 26 percent were from the private sector, 27 percent from the public sector, 13 percent from research and universities, 13 percent from CSOs and 21 percent from NGOs, donors and UN agencies.



Evidence shows that multi-sectoral investments<sup>7</sup> and layered humanitarian<sup>8</sup> and development programming lead to strengthened multi-level resilience capacities and reduced need for humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia. As an example, targeted pastoralist households that participated in the FTF Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME) activity which provided comprehensive resilience interventions, experienced a 50 percent lower decline in food security levels through exposure to severe and prolonged drought during 2015-2017, with the resulting reduction of humanitarian assistance needs resulting in a savings of approximately \$22 million ([Smith & Frankenberger, 2022](#)). Although the magnitude of need across Ethiopia has outstripped the available humanitarian and development assistance resources, there are indications that participation in market-based activities like commercial destocking of livestock<sup>9</sup> safeguards households from destitution. Suitable financing, policy, and scaling mechanisms are now required to ensure proven approaches operate at a population level in the future. In addition, it is necessary to increase farm productivity, catalyze private sector investment, strengthen information and market systems that are inclusive of remote farmers and markets, as well as create stronger linkages to government programs that build on recent gains and scale sustainable solutions.

The U.S. The Department of State identified Ethiopia as a Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils (VACS) priority country. This initiative aims to promote the development and use of climate-resilient crops and sustainable soil management practices to enhance food security and agricultural resilience in the face of climate change. The Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit and the Nairobi Declaration has identified four key outcomes to support soil health in Africa. Implementation of VACS practices and key outcomes of Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit and the Nairobi Declaration would promote soil health and enhance food security and resilience of Ethiopian farmers in the changing climate.

Ethiopia's National Adaptation Plan (NAP-ETH) aims to reduce vulnerability to climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience by integrating climate change adaptation into Ethiopia's long-term development pathway. It is rooted in Ethiopia's 2019 Green Legacy Initiative, and this continuity demonstrates the country's long-term commitment to responding to the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation. The NAP-ETH proposes various adaptation options that coincide with the findings from stakeholders and the evidence base on resilience in Ethiopia. In particular, it proposes actions to improve agricultural productivity in a climate-smart manner, strengthen sustainable natural and environmental resource management, build social protection systems, and create sustainable and inclusive livelihood options.

## **A.8 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

While some socio-cultural norms related to gender are gradually evolving, challenges remain. Ethiopian culture has a distinct gender-based division of labor where men are considered bread-winners for the family, and women are expected to carry all household chores. Some of the challenges that remain

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<sup>7</sup> For example, across agriculture, nutrition, health, WASH, education and governance.

<sup>8</sup> Layering development and humanitarian assistance in this case refers to developing the resilient capacity of households against shocks through development assistance so that their need for humanitarian assistance declines over time. Current development resources do not currently map with ongoing relief caseloads. The Mission is developing a new strategy and evaluating if and how development assistance can or should more purposely layer with current relief caseloads to facilitate durable solutions.

<sup>9</sup> A successful drought strategy allows to focus limited resources (forage and stock water) on the breeding stock based on carefully selected traits and performance criteria.

include harmful traditional practices like early marriage and childbearing, female genital mutilation, and gender-based violence are continuing in society. Women's many unpaid domestic and community responsibilities place a disproportionate labor burden on them while simultaneously making it more unlikely that children under five, adolescent girls, and women eat an adequate diet; receive health care; accumulate savings; access markets; and have adequate access to financial, extension, and other advisory services that they can draw upon during crises.

A recently published global gender gap index report ranks Ethiopia in 75th position globally and 13th position in Sub-Saharan Africa having closed 71.1 percent of the gender gap (Ref.). This report also shows that Ethiopia has closed 43.1 percent of the gender gap on political empowerment, 58.7 percent in economic participation and opportunity, 85.4 percent on educational attainment, and 97.1 percent in health and survival. Similarly, the gender parity for labor force participation was 72.7 percent, and women's earnings were 66.1 percent of men's estimated earned incomes. The current data shows considerable improvement in some aspects, but there are also areas that need substantial work to achieve gender equality in Ethiopia. Analysis using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) in the FTF 2.0 baseline survey revealed that 32 percent of women and 44 percent of men in the FTF Zone of Influence were classified as empowered.<sup>10</sup> The domains that contribute most to empowerment among women include (i) control over the use of income, (ii) level of workload, (iii) ownership of assets, (iv) input in productive decisions, and (v) group membership. Although men have greater empowerment across the domains, women have significant decision-making power. This aligns with the lower poverty rate of female-headed households than males in rural areas. Continuing to increase women's decision-making power will play a critical role in improving the food security, resilience, and health of families and communities.

## A.9 Country Priorities

Many stakeholders in Ethiopia, including the GoE, are adopting a food system approach to addressing agriculture and food security challenges. The Ethiopian Food Systems Transformation Roadmap<sup>11</sup> seeks to accelerate progress toward creating an inclusive, equitable food system that increases agricultural production and productivity, provides food and nutrition security, promotes health and education, conserves precious land and natural resources, and protects the most vulnerable. The GoE adopted a food system dashboard and structure that will help address some stakeholder concerns regarding weaknesses in coordination, data reliability and knowledge sharing across the food system. If the coordination goes well and if there is a transparent and reliable data generation and sharing system in place, the GoE-led food system approach will improve stakeholders' understanding of the food supply chains, food environments, individual factors, consumer behavior, and diets.

The Ethiopia food system approach identified six clusters embracing 22 game-changing solutions: (i) ensure availability and accessibility of safe and nutrient-dense food; (ii) sustainable and equitable consumption of healthy, safe, and nutrient-dense diet throughout the life cycle; (iii) integrated policy and system to promote agricultural and rural transformation; (iv) accelerated mechanization, enhanced digital technologies and innovation throughout the food system; (v) access to markets, market

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<sup>10</sup> The survey included a random sample of the entire population living in the ZOI, which resulted in a makeup of 12.7 percent urban and 87.3 percent rural households.

<sup>11</sup> Ethiopia's Path to Food Systems Transformation developed and presented at the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit.



information, infrastructure and specialization; and (vi) managing and mainstreaming risk and protecting the poor.

There is a clear plan to engage governmental agencies, the private sector, civic society organizations (CSOs), development partners, NGOs, farmers, and the Ethiopian general public. The government has already formed an inter-ministerial steering committee led by the Deputy Prime Minister and co-convened by the Ministries of Agriculture and Health to oversee coordination efforts among agencies and provide strategic direction and support.

The Ministry of Agriculture in Ethiopia is working to align its sector policy with the endorsed national digital strategy frameworks that recognize digital agriculture as one of the national digital economy pathways. Therefore, the prospect of agricultural digitalization in Ethiopian agriculture as a platform to offer decision-making tools and support and incentivize agri-tech entrepreneurship is highly positive ([CIAT, 2022](#)).

### **A.10 Partnership Landscape**

As Ethiopia emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and a northern conflict that destroyed infrastructure and drained its budget, and continues to deal with active conflicts in Oromia and Amhara, the GoE is looking to re-engage reform measures to achieve the national Ten Years Development Plan and refresh the Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda while it seeks to partner with the international community to address its worsening macroeconomic conditions and operationalize its \$20 billion Resilient, Recovery and Reconstruction (RRR) Framework for Ethiopia.<sup>12</sup> In response to this, the United Nations agencies plan to provide a \$2.4 billion peace dividend program through a 24-month project in the war-torn regions of northern Ethiopia (Bogale, 2023).

Stakeholder consultations highlighted the need for better knowledge management and sharing practices and greater collaboration and coordination between programs and key actors. Both approaches must be prioritized to improve evidence-based policy-making and strengthen food systems, resilience, and nutrition outcomes. Some stakeholders noted that evidence-based practices and research are not consistently considered during the policy development process. Policies that have been designed to support the agriculture sector have at times resulted in unintended consequences for farmers because critical evidence and feedback were not incorporated when creating the policy. Policies can be improved by seeking input from local agriculture and food systems businesses, implementing project partners and research and academic institutions, and developing knowledge-sharing networks between these actors and the government. Further, though various coordination platforms exist in Ethiopia (see Section E), stakeholders expressed the need to strengthen these systems so that they help to facilitate knowledge sharing, scale successful innovations, and identify areas for potential collaboration and multi-sector integration.

Many stakeholders actively support food security and nutrition initiatives in Ethiopia alongside the GoE and USAID. Actors include civil society organizations, cooperatives, bilateral and multilateral government donors, research institutions and academia, international and local nonprofit organizations, intergovernmental organizations, private foundations, and religious or faith-based institutions. Their engagement ranges from humanitarian food assistance, agricultural production, access to finance, policy development, agriculture and food processing, WASH support, market system strengthening, business incubation and acceleration, research and development, and nutrition education and health services.

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<sup>12</sup> The RRR approach was developed following the CoHA between the GOE and TPLF and covers Tigray, northern Amhara and northern Afar.

Stakeholders implement programs at the national, regional, zonal, woreda, and kebele levels. In August 2010, the Peace Corps signed a memorandum of understanding with the GoE to improve food security in Ethiopia. Under this agreement, US Peace Corps Volunteers will work with development agents to educate smallholder farmers to improve household food production and nutrition. Peace Corps Volunteers left during COVID and have not been able to return yet due to conflict. Coordination with the Peace Corps will continue if and when they are back in the country.

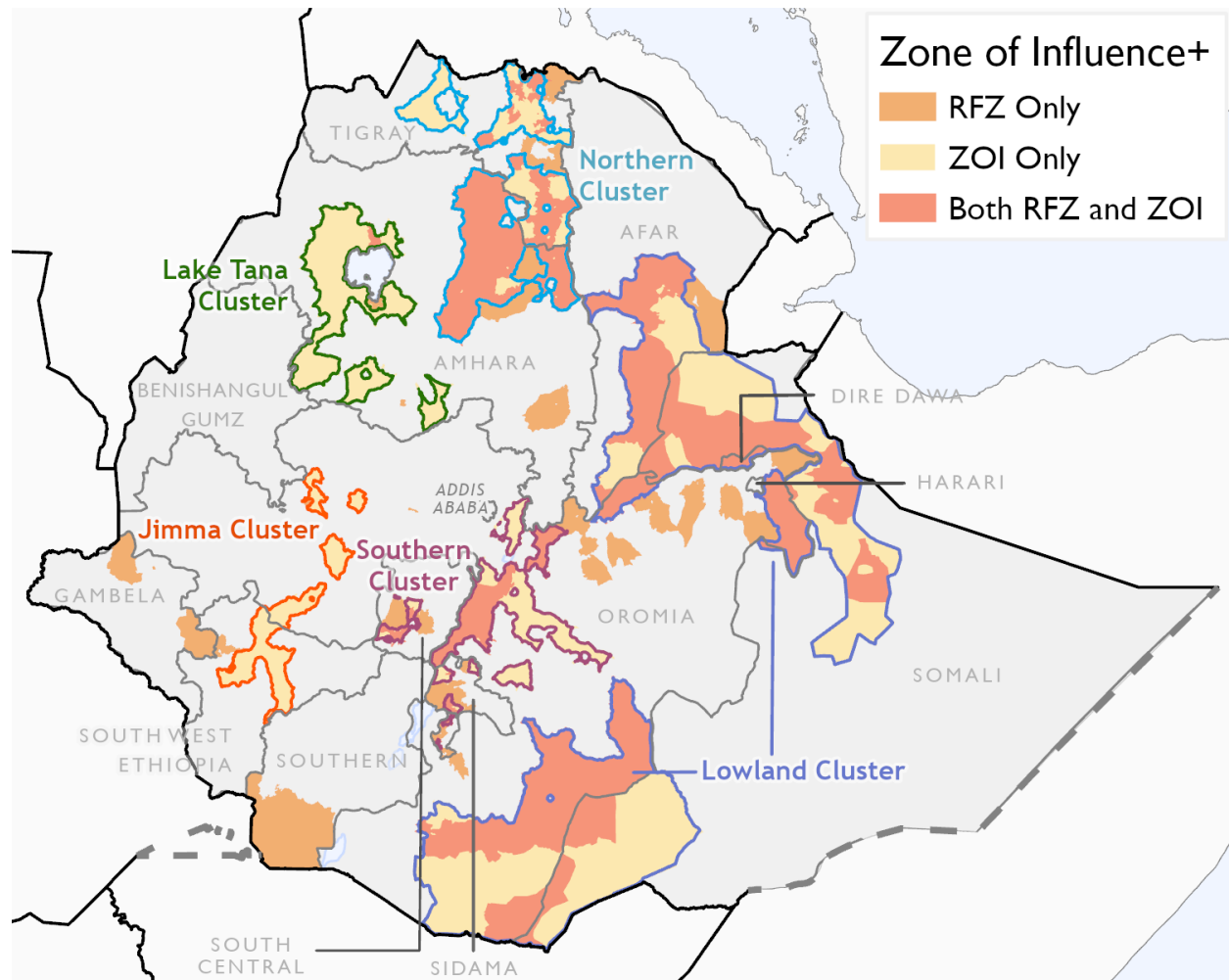
Over the years, USAID's Feed the Future (FtF) Innovation Labs and the CGIAR Institutions have implemented various projects providing indispensable innovation and research that contributed to improving agricultural productivity, enhancing food security, and promoting economic growth in Ethiopia—along with building research capacity throughout Ethiopia's academic institutions. Some of the key activities and initiatives include: improving crops and livestock productivity, technology transfer and extension services, climate resilience and adaptation, nutrition and food safety, market access and value chains, and capacity building of local institutions, including universities and research organizations, to conduct agricultural research and implement development projects. These activities addressed various challenges in the agricultural sector that helped enhance the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and support the country's overall development goals. These research partners, when paired with other USAID activities can often lead to transformative system-wide changes within the agriculture and food systems of Ethiopia.

Similarly, USDA promotes agricultural trade policy and reports on Ethiopia's production, supply, and distribution of key agricultural commodities. USDA currently implements Food For Progress Program and McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (McGovern-Dole) in Ethiopia. The Food for Progress Program helps developing countries and emerging democracies modernize and strengthen their agricultural sectors. The U.S. agricultural commodities donated to recipient countries are sold on the local or regional markets and the proceeds are used to support agricultural or economic development programs. Food for Progress aims to improve agricultural productivity and to expand trade of agricultural products. The key objectives of the McGovern-Dole program are to reduce hunger and improve literacy and primary education, especially for girls. By providing school meals, teacher training, and related support, McGovern-Dole projects help boost school enrollment and academic performance. USDA has invested in three McGovern-Dole projects in Ethiopia since 2008. The current project, which started in 2019, has reached over 200,000 students from 715 primary schools in Afar and Oromia regions. The project aligns with Ethiopia's national home-grown school feeding program that addresses interconnected challenges related to poverty, education, health, and agriculture, with the goal of improving the well-being and future prospects of Ethiopian children and communities.

In addition, Ethiopia maintains strong relationships with global stakeholder coordination platforms to advance nutrition and health objectives. Ethiopia is an active member of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in partnership with donors, UN, and civil society networks. USAID and the GoE also partner with UNICEF to secure funds for emergency nutrition interventions. USAID also actively engages with the Ministry of Health-led Health, Population, and Nutrition Group and the Ministry of Agriculture-led Rural Economic Development & Food Security (REDFS) donor coordination forum to improve cross-ministry collaboration and the integration of nutrition into health and agriculture programs and services.

## B. Targeting

### B.1 Map of Zone of Influence



**Figure A. Ethiopia GFSS Country Plan Zone of Influence+**

### B.2 Description of Zone of Influence

The Zone of Influence (ZOI) is the area where Ethiopia's GFSS Country Plan aims to have the largest impact on poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. The 247 woredas and towns<sup>13</sup> included in the ZOI are divided into five clusters. Together, they have an estimated population of 23.1 million people and are marked by high levels of poverty, food insecurity, and stunting. Overall, approximately 25 percent of people in the ZOI are living in poverty, and there is an approximate stunting rate of 42 percent.

<sup>13</sup> Since the delineation of the ZOI in the 2019-2023 GFSS Country Plan, Ethiopia's administrative boundaries have undergone a number of revisions, with the creation of the regions of South West, Southern, South Central, and Sidama regions and the division of numerous woredas into multiple smaller woredas and towns, meaning the ZOI contains significantly more woredas and towns while covering the same general area.

Ethiopia is maintaining its ZOI from the 2019-2023 GFSS Country Plan for three primary reasons. First, Ethiopia is emerging from the impact of multiple shocks including severe droughts, COVID-19, and conflict meaning that many GFSS activities have not had ample time to show results and associated impacts, making it premature to shift investments to new geographies. Second, the selected ZOI is in line with Ethiopia's market systems development approach which brings together rural market sheds and rapidly growing and industrializing urban areas where humanitarian and transition activities are being integrated with nutrition, health, and market development interventions. Focusing GFSS investments in these clusters will help address a number of Ethiopia's priorities including rural-to-urban migration, creating economic opportunities, especially for youth, mitigating and adapting to climate change, and engaging with the private sector. Finally, the GFSS Country Team considered USG budget resources and activities. Water, nutrition, resilience, and food security programming is layered with humanitarian assistance within the ZOI+ to promote results. Estimations indicate that anticipated USG investments over the course of the country plan are sufficient to realize the targeted 10 percent reduction of poverty in the ZOI<sup>14</sup>, meaning that based on US interagency presence in the ZOI along with current and planned FTF programming, this ZOI is right-sized to budget.

In addition to the ZOI, FTF investments are also present in an area known as the Resilience Focus Zone (RFZ). FTF work in RFZs implies among other things, that development programming is designed considering risk and vulnerabilities and specifically seeks to strengthen resilience to known risks, and humanitarian assistance builds on structures and systems established through development programming for greater efficiency and to facilitate quicker recovery. In Ethiopia, investments in the RFZ aim to create urban-rural linkages and market opportunities in some of the most remote and vulnerable areas of the country, particularly in the strategically targeted PSNP woredas. Subject to approval by USAID's Resilience Leadership Council, RFZs may expand to include targeted pastoral areas where regional governments develop strategic approaches to build long-term resilience of households, communities and systems. Together, the ZOI and RFZ are referred to as the Zone of Influence + (ZOI+). The RFZ spans 155 woredas and towns covering an estimated population of 17 million, with 104 woredas and towns overlapping with the FTF ZOI. Roughly 10.2 million people, or one-third of the ZOI+ are located in these overlapping woredas and towns. The combined ZOI+ allows for strategically layered and integrated activities that partner with different sets of upstream and downstream market actors and different areas of the food system to create sustainable and transformative change. FTF work in RFZs implies among other things, that development programming is designed considering risk and vulnerabilities and specifically seeks to strengthen resilience to known risks, and structures and systems established through development programming help to reduce humanitarian caseloads and facilitate quicker recovery.

### Characteristics of the FTF ZOI Clusters

The **Northern Cluster** is a dry mid-highland agroecology (Ethiopian Mapping Agency 2015) with an estimated population of 5.4 million that has been impacted by recent conflict. There are currently 3,238,803 IDPs (IOM 2023) in camps that are integrated with communities around big cities like Mekelle and rely on humanitarian assistance and share shelter and food with host communities. The conflict also influenced the functioning and resilience of the market system and changed the way farmers and businesses operate. People who fled came back to find their businesses and farms destroyed. The loss of assets, infrastructure, and equipment limited the availability of inputs and increased prices on key goods making it difficult for people and businesses to recover from the shock (RTI 2023). Humanitarian and development activities form a nearly contiguous intervention area in which the USG can drive reforms

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<sup>14</sup> Budget assumptions reflect FY 2022 funding levels. Funding is subject to the availability of funds, as determined by the President's Budget and a Congressional appropriation.

that promote better natural resource management, livestock and crop management, livelihoods diversification, health services, nutritional practices at household levels, and market linkages to Mekelle where increasing demand for food and labor provides income options for rural families. The Northern Cluster also bridges the government's Ethiopian Food Systems Resilience Project (EFSRP) previously known as the Agriculture Growth Program (AGP) and the PSNP areas surrounding Mekelle City.<sup>15</sup>

The **Lake Tana Cluster** has diverse agroecology with dominant moist midlands (Ethiopian Mapping Agency 2015) with an estimated population of 3.9 million which binds rural production areas to Bahir Dar city around Lake Tana. Since the GoE considers it to be a relatively productive agricultural zone and prosperous area, there are few humanitarian activities nearby, though recently the market was significantly disrupted by the conflict in the Amhara Region, and regional budget cuts curtailed extension outreach. Agricultural market and nutrition activities are well positioned to link farms producing maize, teff, wheat, chickpea, horticulture, livestock, and dairy with agro-processing facilities in the Bure agro-industrial park, the Bahir Dar market, as well as other domestic and international markets. The Amhara regional government promotes commercialization clusters that support smallholders to aggregate production of wheat, maize, horticulture, teff, and malt barley ([USAID, 2023](#)). During consultations, stakeholders also expressed the need for greater investment in the fish value chain and saw an opportunity in rice production.

The **Southern Cluster** is a moist highland and midland agroecology (Ethiopian Mapping Agency 2015) with an estimated population of 6.6 million along the main highway linking Addis Ababa to the city of Hawassa. This area is buttressed to the East by high-potential milksheds which can be linked to livestock and crop areas that serve both cities. Maize, enset, and root crops serve as major staples and coffee is the main cash commodity, which fetches farmers high prices in the international market. Other high-value horticultural crops such as avocado, banana, mango, papaya, tomato, onion, and red pepper have significant promise in this cluster, particularly as it has a strong road network that connects it to other regional markets ([USAID, 2023](#)). Since this area has been the focus of humanitarian and development programs in the past, the USG has an opportunity to increase food security and nutrition in the rural areas and in Hawassa itself as the population grows due to the pull of the Hawassa Industrial Park and associated businesses. This cluster is also home to Bulbula Integrated Agro-Industrial Park and Yirgalem agro-industrial park. However, recent changes in regional and woreda administrations have introduced government budgetary and extension challenges.

The **Jimma Cluster** focuses on an area of woredas that runs along a North-South axis West of Jimma and is a wet midland agroecology (Ethiopian Mapping Agency 2015) with an estimated population of 2.1 million which allows the population to produce a wide array of commodities, including coffee as a major cash crop. Avocado, tea, and spices are supported in the region, and commercial seed and grain production is growing. This non-PSNP region is largely dependent on Jimma for agricultural inputs, consumers, and government services. Emerging industrial and agro-processing parks enable private investment in the food system, though there are limited government resources in the newly established Southwestern Region. A recent market systems resilience analysis has identified the Jimma cluster as having the most resilient market system of all five clusters, with strong market cooperation and an orientation toward long-term value addition ([USAID, 2023](#)).

The non-contiguous **Lowland Cluster** is an area of hot to warm arid lowland plains that focuses on the main drought-affected areas, particularly the pastoralist and agropastoralist lowland areas in the eastern and southern parts of the country. It has an estimated population of 5 million. It includes vast areas

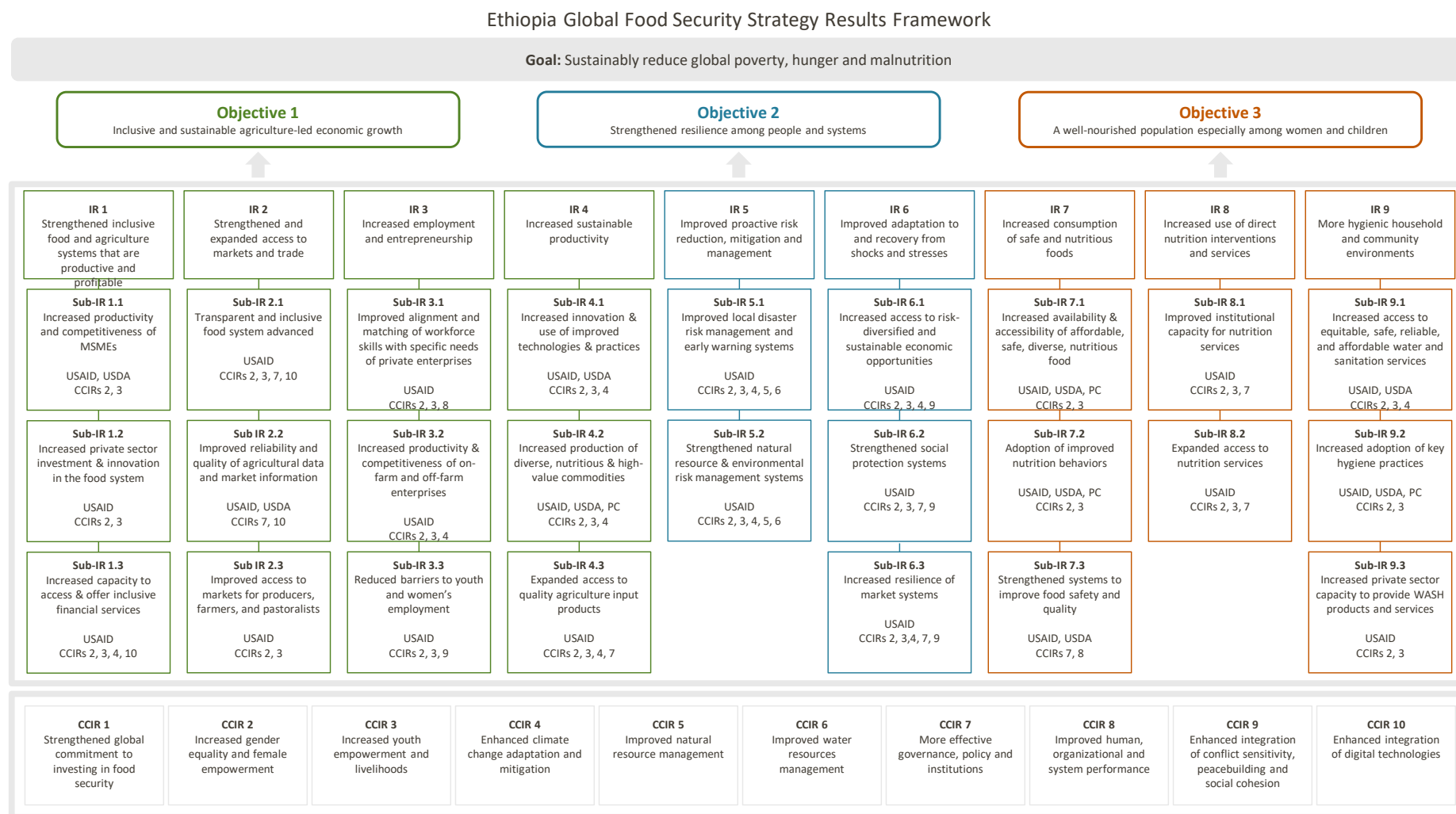
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<sup>15</sup> The PSNP paused implementation during the northern conflict, but government-led implementation is anticipated to restart by 2024 as Tigray recovers and emergency humanitarian assistance is reduced.

covered by recent or ongoing pastoralist, agropastoralist, resilience, and disaster risk reduction activities. Opportunities exist to scale public-private partnerships for veterinary services, and government initiatives such as the recently launched Somali Region Multi-Year Resilience Strategy provide immense promise for private-sector engagement and USG partnership. Investments in this cluster will also prioritize rural-to-urban linkages and will strengthen market systems to increase resilience and respond to humanitarian needs, including in areas where there are displaced communities due to inter-regional and tribal conflicts and threats from Al-Shabaab in bordering Somalia.

## C. Results Framework

### C.1 Results Framework Figure



**Figure B. Ethiopia GFSS Country Plan Results Framework**



## C.2 Results Framework Summary

The goal of the GFSS in Ethiopia is to sustainably reduce hunger, malnutrition and poverty, particularly in the ZOI. To achieve this, the Ethiopia GFSS Results Framework will advance nine intermediate results (IRs) and ten cross-cutting intermediate results (CCIRs), grouped under three objectives. Under this GFSS Country Plan and Results Framework, the USG will engage various stakeholders to strengthen Ethiopia's agriculture sector and food systems while recognizing that advancing economic growth, employment, and income opportunities in other sectors is important for Ethiopia's sustainable development in the long-term.

To achieve Objective 1, the Ethiopia GFSS Results Framework will work across IRs 1 - 4 to increase economic growth that reduces poverty for rural and urban households. USG investments will catalyze private sector-led economic growth, increase employment and incomes in rural and urban areas, and increase agricultural productivity. The impact pathways to achieve this include sustainably increasing crop and livestock productivity and diversification, improving the business-enabling environment, improving the productivity and competitiveness of MSMEs, expanding access to markets and services through increased urban-rural linkages, and increasing the use of improved technologies and agricultural practices. These pathways will increase agricultural productivity while supporting a gradual shift from an agrarian economy to an economy that has an increased share of manufacturing and services coupled with urbanization. Climate-smart and nutrition-sensitive agriculture approaches will be linked with resilience, NRM, and nutrition-specific investments under Objectives 2 and 3 to improve climate change adaptation, address the need for mitigation and management of risk inherent in the food and agriculture sector, and reduce overall malnutrition.

To achieve Objective 2, the Ethiopia GFSS Results Framework will work across IRs 5 and 6 while recognizing that resilience is not an outcome but rather the ability at multiple levels to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses in a way that reduces vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth. Strengthened resilience capacities are critical for both achieving and sustaining development gains such as reducing hunger, poverty, and malnutrition. Key impact pathways include improving local disaster risk management systems, strengthening the management of natural resources including water, increasing access to alternative livelihoods, and increasing the resilience of market systems to support communities during shocks and stresses. Improving resilience is not about maintaining the status quo in the face of recurring shocks but driving the growth and development needed to break the cycle of chronic vulnerability. It is critical to utilize a climate-smart lens within food security programming to look holistically at how to better prevent, mitigate, and adapt to shocks of all varieties. These investments in strengthening resilience will also drive and protect results under Objectives 1 and 3, strengthening efforts to increase economic growth and agricultural productivity, reduce malnutrition, and improve health outcomes.

To achieve Objective 3, the Ethiopia GFSS Results Framework will work across IRs 7-9 to use an integrated and multi-sectoral approach that addresses the immediate and underlying causes of acute and chronic malnutrition through nutrition-specific and sensitive approaches. On the supply side, GFSS investments will increase the availability of quality, affordable nutritious food, strengthen nutrition service delivery, and increase access to water and sanitation services. On the demand side, innovative social and behavior change (SBC) programming will lead to the adoption of improved nutrition and hygiene behaviors and demand for safe, nutritious foods and WASH products and services. Coordinated investments under Objective 2 will ensure natural resources, including water, are sustainably managed to support WASH and nutrition outcomes. The increased demand for accessible and affordable nutritious food that results from these pathways will be met with increased and improved supply through Objective 1 outcomes.

In order for these approaches to effectively reduce poverty, hunger, and malnutrition in Ethiopia, several key crosscutting intermediate results (CCIRs) are incorporated throughout the results framework. Specifically, GFSS investments in Ethiopia must work to increase gender equality and female empowerment (CCIR 2), increase youth empowerment and livelihoods (CCIR 3), enhance climate change adaptation and mitigation (CCIR 4), and enhance the integration of conflict sensitivity, peacebuilding, and social cohesion (CCIR 9).

The results framework is built upon six key assumptions: 1) physical and economic infrastructure will continue to improve; 2) the private sector will play an active role in target sectors; 3) complementary sectors to food and agriculture will experience growth; 4) the fertility rate and disease burden will reduce; 5) Ethiopia will achieve improved education outcomes; and 6) political instability will reduce, and Ethiopia will experience improved peace and security. In particular, this results framework is built on the assumption that parties who are in conflict will come to the table and work to resolve and prevent future conflicts.

### Addressing GFSS Priorities

The selected impact pathways are designed to elevate the following five GFSS priority areas.

1. **Equity and Inclusion:** All investments will use approaches that directly advance gender equality and women's empowerment (CCIR 2), and expand employment and business opportunities, particularly for the growing youth population (CCIR 3). Partnerships with enterprises and other public and private market actors will support an inclusive development agenda that ensures Ethiopia's food system is more inclusive of marginalized groups<sup>16</sup> in terms of both the supply and consumption of nutritious foods.
2. **An Ambitious Approach to Climate Change:** In order to achieve all Objectives, but particularly Objective 2, all inter-agency investments must contribute to enhancing climate change adaptation and mitigation (CCIR 4). Innovations in resilient and climate-smart agriculture, improved watershed management, and leveraging opportunities in climate finance are just a few examples of how the interagency will partner with Ethiopia to increase resilience to climate change.
3. **Proactively Counter the COVID-19 Pandemic's Long-Term Effects:** In Ethiopia, the immediate-to-medium-term effects of COVID-19 were quickly accompanied by other severe and ongoing shocks and stresses, including the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Building a more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient food system in Ethiopia will help to counter the long-term effects of all of these shocks, including high commodity and input prices. Additionally, by expanding the availability and uptake of digital technology (CCIR 10) and strengthening Ethiopia's health service delivery systems (Sub-IR 8.1), the interagency will continue to support Ethiopia's emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. **Working Across the Food System:** Results under all three objectives advance outcomes in food supply, food environment, and food and water utilization. GFSS investments will partner most heavily with agriculture and food market system actors to pursue food system transformation but will also strategically partner with health, education, natural resource

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<sup>16</sup>Marginalized groups expand beyond women and youth, and also include those in remote areas of the country with little access to markets and services, the poor and most vulnerable, IDPs, persons with disabilities, minority ethnic and religious groups, among others.

management, policy, and other interconnected systems to reduce poverty, hunger, and malnutrition in Ethiopia.

5. **Conflict Mitigation, Peacebuilding, and Social Cohesion:** Conflict has contributed to the halting and reversal of Ethiopia's economic gains, and though the peace agreement continues to advance in the north, conflict continues to re-inflate across the country. This impacts the effective functioning of food and market systems, destroys productive assets including human capital, and leaves millions of people displaced and vulnerable. Therefore, Ethiopia's GFSS Results Framework will integrate conflict sensitivity (CCIR 9) throughout its programming and aim to address drivers of conflict by promoting job creation, improving the economy, improving natural resource management, and diversifying incomes. The interagency will therefore dedicate resources to peacebuilding and social cohesion across all investments, contributing to USG's integrated approach to reducing conflict for sustainable development outcomes.

### **Alignment with Related Strategies**

USG investments under the GFSS are consistent with the GoE's Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda and Ten-Year Development Plan which foresee substantial state-facilitated, private-sector-driven investment in manufacturing and services sectors, diversifying the economy away from subsistence agriculture and providing employment opportunities for the youth. Within the Ten Year Development Plan, the results framework is closely aligned with (i) the agricultural development plan's main objectives to raise the incomes of livelihoods of farmers and pastoralists, satisfy the food and nutritional needs of the nation through modernizing agriculture, creating job opportunities in rural areas, and reducing the impacts of climate change, and (ii) the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) reform process on improving nutrition outcomes, decreasing poverty through agricultural-led growth, enhancing agriculture trade, and responding to the climate crisis in all member countries including Ethiopia.

The GFSS is aligned with the USG's Integrated Country Strategy (ICS) which has an objective of sustainable development and mutual prosperity. Most relevant to this plan, the United States and Ethiopia will work on mitigating and responding to recurrent natural disasters; increasing climate-smart agriculture; strengthening resilience; and investing in youth (USG 2023). The Ethiopia GFSS Results Framework is aligned with USAID/Ethiopia's 2019-2024 Country Development Cooperative Strategy (CDCS) including its climate annex ([USAID, 2019](#)), Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Country Plan, and High-Priority Country Plan under the USG's Global Water Strategy. This results framework complements these strategies in several ways:

- **USAID/Ethiopia Country Development Cooperation Strategy 2019-2024**
  - Development Objective 1: Disaster risk management strengthened (GFSS IR 5)
  - Development Objective 2: Resilience of vulnerable populations to key shocks increased (GFSS IR 6)
  - Development Objective 3: Private sector-led economic growth promoted (GFSS IRs 1, 2 & 3)
  - Development Objective 4: Sustained improvement in essential service delivery outcomes focused on women and girls (GFSS IR 8)
  - Special Objective: Citizen-responsive governance enhanced (GFSS CCIRs 7 & 9)
- **USAID/Ethiopia Global Water Strategy High Priority Country Plan 2022-2027**

- Strategic Objective 2: Increase equitable access to safe, sustainable, and climate-resilient drinking water and sanitation services and adoption of key behaviors (GFSS IR 9)
- Strategic Objective 3: Improve climate-resilient conservation and management of freshwater resources and associated ecosystems (GFSS IRs 5 & 9, CCIRs 4 & 6)
- **USAID/Ethiopia Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Country Plan**
  - Improve all four dimensions of the food environment: availability, affordability, convenience, and desirability of safe, diverse, nutritious foods comprising a healthy diet (GFSS IRs 4 & 7)
  - Promote increased employment and entrepreneurship in the agrifood sector, not only to raise incomes but also to foster innovation for services and nutritious food products tailored to local needs and increase demand for nutritious foods (GFSS IRs 2 & 3)
- **USAID/Ethiopia Climate Annex 2022-2030**
  - High-Level Target: Public and private finance mobilized (GFSS IRs 1 & 4)
  - High-Level Target: People supported to be climate resilient (GFSS IRs 5 & 6, CCIR 4)
  - High-Level Target: Supports Ethiopia's National Adaptation Plan by supporting GOE efforts to build the adaptation capacity of the agriculture sector and pastoralists (GFSS IRs 5 & 6)

## D. Program Components

### D.1 Programmatic Approach

This section of the Country Plan describes how the USG will target Feed the Future investments in Ethiopia to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in the GFSS. The USG will focus on collaborative investments that contribute to the Intermediate Results (IRs) specified in the Results Framework.

There are three guiding principles that will be integrated across all GFSS program components. First, GFSS investments will advance USAID/Ethiopia's localization agenda while also continuing to support context-driven research and learning by local institutions promoting **local ownership**, locally-led solutions, and capacity building of local systems and actors. Second, the portfolio emphasizes areas where the US Government can work with other stakeholders, including GoE programs and the private sector, to **leverage resources and expertise** and layer activities with past and current investments. Third, the activities are designed to enable Ethiopia's potential in the private sector to achieve inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction, improved nutrition, and resilience. This will ultimately end the need for US foreign assistance and achieve **sustainability**.

### D.2 Sustainable Production and Market Systems

Contributes to: **IRs** 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and **Sub-IRs** 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 6.3, 7.1, 9.3

To achieve the objective of inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth, increased production and an inclusive market system are necessary. Given the gap between average and potential yields for crops and livestock in Ethiopia, it is possible to increase productivity significantly, but this will require building strong linkages between producers, crop and livestock research, pluralistic extension services, agriculture input supply, and plant and animal health services. Improved technologies and practices will promote diversified production and generate high, profitable yields but must be relevant, accessible, affordable, and increase the resilience capacities of women, men, and young farmers and pastoralists who operate at different scales and in different climate-affected agroecologies including agropastoral areas. Key technologies and practices include mechanization, particularly for smallholder farmers, digital technologies spanning payments and access to finance, and value addition. Youth in rural areas present unique opportunities to increase productivity, as they are inclined to adopt the digital and other technologies necessary to increase productivity. To ensure the proper incorporation of new and innovative approaches, the GFSS Country Plan will leverage local knowledge, cost-effective evidence, and new and improved technologies, practices, and expertise from a variety of partners including universities and research institutions in Ethiopia.

The use of a market systems development approach inclusive of the private and informal sectors will address market constraints to create sustainable economic opportunities for Ethiopians. This approach will expand the provision of climate-smart agricultural inputs and services by the private sector in collaboration with wholesale, retail, and last-mile service providers to ensure farmers and pastoralists have access to inputs (such as organic fertilizer) and bundled services at low costs. Better market and income opportunities for farmers and pastoralists will enable them to improve productivity as well as increase the availability of diverse, nutritious foods for family members and consumers, and accelerate growth in agriculture based manufacturing and services.

Specific USG investments under this program component are Transforming Agriculture, Ethiopia Seed, Land Governance, Coffee Research, Market Systems for Growth, and the Ethiopia Food Systems Resilience Project. Efforts will be made to ensure the availability of timely, reliable, and quality agricultural data and market information to enhance agricultural regional trade and food security. Efforts

to increase the private sector's capacity to provide WASH services will contribute to the success of investments made under the nutrition component.

### D.3 Private Enterprise and Workforce Development

Contributes to: **IRs** 1, 3, 6 and **Sub-IRs** 1.1, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 6.1

Three critical trends in Ethiopia are fast-paced urbanization, the rapidly growing youth population, and a move from state-sponsored development to private sector-led development. To position Ethiopia to benefit from these opportunities, it is necessary to improve the business-enabling environment and ensure businesses have the right capacity to achieve their growth potential. In addition to policy engagement, the USG will provide technical expertise through its activities in urban planning and development issues, as well as development assistance for education, health, nutrition, WASH, good governance, and rural-urban food systems. Due to this support for MSMEs in agriculture and complementary sectors, farmers will increase their access to improved technologies and inputs, enabling them to strengthen the food system, grow the private sector, and create employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.

The USG will collaborate with the GoE, other donors, civil society, academic and research institutions, and the private sector to address policy, regulatory, and structural constraints that inhibit private sector investment and growth. Business development services will be provided to strengthen and increase the productivity and competitiveness of on-farm and off-farm enterprises. This capacity-building work will be coupled with increased access to finance, with a strong focus on ensuring financing opportunities are inclusive. Developing the workforce is crucial to the success of private enterprise in Ethiopia, and GFSS investments will promote the workforce readiness of women and youth and ensure formal training is aligned with current and future labor market demands. GFSS investments will strengthen market linkages between the industrial parks and agricultural production areas and provide integrated social support to factory workers to support their health and well-being.

Specific US investments under this program component include Transforming Agriculture, Market System for Growth, Ethiopia Seed, Land Governance, and Resilience in Pastoral Areas. Investments made under this program component will also support all program components, particularly supporting nutrition by promoting increased employment and entrepreneurship in the agrifood sector (USAID/Ethiopia, 2022).

### D.4 Resilience

Contributes to: **IRs** 1, 3, 5, 6 and **Sub-IRs** 1.1, 1.3, 3.3, 5.1, 5.2, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3

To support the GFSS' second objective of "strengthened resilience among people and systems", the USG will focus on resilience strengthening as a core objective of all programming. Ethiopia suffers from increasingly frequent shocks related to weather, conflict, health, and economic trends which exacerbate the level of poverty and food insecurity and put at risk economic progress and development gains. The most vulnerable individuals, households, and communities often have degraded land and small holdings, low incomes, poor social services, and a decline in ecosystems leading to unsustainable livelihoods, all of which are obstacles to meaningful and sustainable development. Women and girls are uniquely vulnerable to many risk factors while being essential to strengthen resilience. Under the GFSS, the USG will manage a set of investments that collectively balance aspirations for strong, inclusive economic growth with the need for people, groups, and businesses to manage and mitigate the risks that they face.

In relation to program components one and two, fostering a resilient market system and enabling an



environment that supports alternative livelihoods that diversify risk ([USAID, 2023](#)) is necessary to reduce household and community vulnerability. Access to finance, including improved product offerings such as mobile banking, insurance, climate-smart financing packages for promoting climate-smart agricultural practices, and loan products with agriculture-friendly repayment terms are key components of increasing the resilience of vulnerable populations reliant on agriculture-related livelihoods.

The Resilience Food Security Activities (RFSAs), situated in the RFZ contribute to the GOE-managed PSNP and seek to graduate households from the program with the resilience necessary to sustain that status. These programs and development activities in both lowland and highland districts build the capabilities, agency, and relationships of poor households, helping them become more productive, expanding their options for risk-sensitive livelihoods, and strengthening the systems on which they depend, particularly during or in response to shocks and stresses. Specific priorities will be to empower women economically and to develop off-farm/non-farm employment opportunities for youth from rural communities and who have migrated to urban and peri-urban areas. Investments made related to these resilience objectives will also support resilient and inclusive economic actors, market systems, and social services. New and strengthened small and medium enterprises will serve as catalysts for resilient economic growth and new employment opportunities in rural communities.

GFSS investments in community-managed disaster risk reduction will help build systems and platforms through which communities are better able to understand the risks, have improved access to timely early warning information, and can make informed decisions about mitigation and contingency actions. Institutional capacity building in DRM and shock response financing, mitigation and response coordination mechanisms, logistics and communication systems, and leadership and human resources will increase the Government of Ethiopia's and other non-governmental actors' abilities to effectively manage risks and shocks at an early stage to better prevent large humanitarian assistance needs.

Work under the GFSS will further develop crisis modifier modalities and opportunity modules, building them into the design and budgets of relevant activities, and will coordinate the development and humanitarian assistance, including through the Strategic Advisory Group for Emergencies, established during the previous GFSS timeframe. In addition, peace-building and social cohesion will form a part of new strategies and programming to reduce tension and build confidence for investment.

Specific USG investments under this program component include Resilience in Pastoral Areas, Resilience and Food Security Activities, Consolidated Disaster Risk Management Activity, Highland Resilience Activity, Resilience Learning Activity, Land Governance Activity, and Multi Donors Trust Fund for the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and the Ethiopia Food Systems Resilience Project (EFSRP).

## D.5 Nutrition

Contributes to: **IRs** 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and **Sub-IRs** 4.2, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.1, 8.2, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3

Due to the shocks and stressors mentioned earlier in the country plan, Ethiopia is suffering from stagnating and declining nutrition metrics. In order to actualize objective 3, "a well-nourished population especially among women and children", programming will first need to focus on safeguarding progress and bringing nutrition gains back to previous levels. Then, USG interventions can move towards further reducing malnutrition in Ethiopia, particularly among women, adolescent girls, and children under 5. To do so, the USG will require a multi-sectoral, integrated approach and significant investment. This entails



robust and locally-driven Social Behavior Change (SBC) approaches that promote the adoption of improved nutrition and WASH behaviors that support dietary diversity, food safety, optimal care practices, infant and young child feeding practices, sanitation, hygiene, women's empowerment, maternal health, and nutrition.

The USG will work directly with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture and coordinate with other USG health initiatives and stakeholders to strengthen health and nutrition service delivery by improving institutional capacity, thereby increasing availability and access to quality nutrition services. As mentioned above, the GoE created the 2018 National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP) to guide stakeholders on meeting Ethiopia's most prioritized nutrition actions. To achieve maximum nutrition gains, the GFSS Country Team will ensure that partners employ a multi-sectoral approach combining both nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific activities and interventions that are layered and integrated at multiple levels.

Specific USG investments under this program component include the Peace Corps Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture project and activities that increase the capacity of women of reproductive age and/or key household decision-makers to increase the dietary diversity of households, reduce hunger and improve literacy and nutrition outcomes for pre-primary and primary school children, especially girls in the lowland clusters. Investments made under this program component will also support the resilience of Ethiopians and will benefit from work being done with the private sector to better align supply with demand in Ethiopia's growing secondary cities (USAID/Ethiopia, 2022).

## E. Stakeholder Engagement

The GFSS Country Team is actively involved in well over 20 stakeholder engagement platforms. The following are most germane:

**Development Partners Group** - The USG is an active participant in the Development Partners Group (DPG) in Ethiopia. The DPG, established as the Development Assistance Group in 2001, is made up of about 30 bilateral and multilateral development agencies and provides a forum for those agencies to share information and foster more meaningful dialogue with the GoE. USAID leads the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus Accelerator under the DPG to coordinate strategies and advance nexus objectives in Ethiopia.

**Rural Economic Development and Food Security (REDFS) Sector Working Group** - Following an official request to the Development Assistance Group (DAG) by Ethiopia's Minister of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), and in alignment with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness principles of local ownership, improved donor coordination, results-based approach, and mutual accountability, the Rural Economic Development and Food Security Sector Working Group (RED&FS SWG) was formally established in April 2008. Focus areas of REDFS include Program/Policy Review, Harmonization, M&E, and support for implementation. The strength of REDFS is that all meetings are jointly chaired by one government representative and one development partner. Committees and Task Forces under the REDFS structure cover a range of technical issues including, but not limited to, Agriculture System Transformation, Livestock System Transformation; Natural Resources, Climate Change and Food Security; Policy and Governance, and Agriculture Input and Output Market System Development. Nutrition Coordination and Private Sector Development platforms are included in the REDFS structure as cross-cutting themes.

### **Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) Donor Working Group**

The PSNP Donor Working Group (DWG) was established in 2005 to foster a collaborative effort to improve aid effectiveness. Concrete steps were taken to increase harmonization, alignment, and predictability among donors and the GoE to effectively implement the PSNP. The primary purpose of the DWG is to support and ensure donor harmonization as it relates to the implementation of the PSNP. Specific responsibilities include the management of implementation support missions, agreement on common reporting requirements, development of a mechanism to reduce transaction costs on Government and development partners for program implementation, coordination of the response to emerging issues such as those related to humanitarian risks, and a more effective continuum of response across development and humanitarian investments, and sharing information on specific agency information requirements during the implementation. DWG Membership is composed of all active donors to the PSNP.

**Nutrition Development Partners Forum (NDPF)** - The NDPF is the main nutrition coordination platform at the national level in Ethiopia in which all the key nutrition stakeholders participate along with the GoE. The platform is utilized to promote information sharing, coordination, and policy discussions on nutrition. USAID is the co-chair with UNICEF for the NDPF.

**The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement** - The SUN Movement multi-stakeholder platform has become active in recent years and is being led by a SUN Focal Point appointed by the GOE. USAID is the SUN Donors Network Lead and facilitates donor coordination for nutrition.

**Water Sector Working Group** - The Water Sector Working Group is composed of GoE's four ministries (Ministry of Water and Energy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Finance), donor partners, U.N. representatives, implementing partners, and other stakeholders, and

is designed to promote dialogue and coordination across a range of WASH and Water Resource Management (WRM) related issues.

**Private Sector Advisory Council** - The private sector in Ethiopia is not yet strong enough to voice concerns in the sector and push for policy reforms. Although there are sector-based private business associations, they remain fragmented and are unable to influence macroeconomic directions and sector-specific policies. The GFSS Country team will advocate for and support the establishment of a Private Sector Advisory Council composed of relevant actors such as associations, trade chambers.

**Ethiopian Food Systems (EFS)** - The EFS process has brought together over 120 participants from government departments, donors, multilateral organizations, NGOs, civil society, and the private sector to identify key challenges for the Ethiopian food system. The Ethiopia Food System has inter-ministry steering committees for GoE departments and technical committees that bring together government ministries and development partners including USAID. Action areas for the EFS include ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all, advancing equitable livelihoods, and building resilience to shocks and stresses, key objectives of the GFSS country team which they will continue to advance through the EFS process.

## F. Annexes

### Annex I: Stakeholders Consulted

<b>Government Institutions</b>	
1. Ministry of Agriculture	2. Southern Nations, Nationalities and People Region Bureau of Agriculture
3. Agricultural Transformation Institute	4. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and People Region Bureau of Pastoral Development
5. Ministry of Planning and Development	6. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and People Region Planning and Development Commission
7. Sekota Declaration for Nutrition	8. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and People Region Seed Enterprise
9. The Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS) Secretariat (Government rep)	10. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and PeopleRegion President Office
11. House of People Representative (Parliament)	12. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and People Region Council
13. Somali Region President Office	14. Southern Nations, Nationalities Nations and People Region Disaster Risk Commission
15. Somali Region Bureau of Agriculture	16. South West Region Bureau of Land
17. Somali Region Pastoral Development Bureau	18. South West Bureau of Health
19. Somali Region Disaster Risk Management Bureau	20. South West Region Bureau of Agriculture
21. Somali Region Environment and Land Bureau	22. South West Region Bureau of Finance and Development
23. Oromia Region President Office	24. Afar Region Bureau of Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources
25. Oromia Region Agriculture Bureau	26. Afar Region Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Commission

### Government Institutions

27. Oromia Region Bureau of Irrigation and Pastoral Development	28. Afar Region Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
29. Oromia Region Bureau of Trade and Marketing	30. Afar Region Bureau of Women and Social Affairs
31. Oromia Region Bureau of Land	32. Tigray Region Agriculture Bureau
33. Oromia Region Bureau of Investment and Industry	34. Tigray Region Bio and Emerging Technology Institute
35. Oromia Region Planning and Development Commission	36. Amhara Region Council
37. Oromia Region Agricultural Transformation Office	38. Amhara Region Bureau of Finance
39. Oromia Region Food Security Task Force	40. Amhara Region Seed Enterprise
41. Sidama Region Agriculture Bureau	42. Amhara Region Industrial Park
43. Sidama Region Bureau of Livestock and Fish Development	44. Amhara Region Bureau of Women and Social Affairs
45. Sidama Region Bureau of Health	46. Amhara Region Land Bureau
47. Sidama Region Investment Bureau	

### Ethiopian Academia and Research Organizations

1. Addis Ababa University	2. Gewane College of Agriculture
3. Bahir Dar University	4. South West Agriculture Research
5. Hawassa University	6. Tigray Agricultural Research Institute
7. Jimma University	8. Bahir Dar Fishery Research Center
9. Mekelle University	10. Hawassa Agricultural Research Center
11. Amhara Agricultural Research Institute	12. Policy Study Institute
13. University of Gondar	14. Jigjiga Agriculture Research Institute
15. Wolaita Sodo University	16. Melkassa Research Center

### Ethiopian Academia and Research Organizations

17. Jigjiga University	18. Afar Pastoral and Agropastoral Research Institute
19. Semera University	20. Tigray Biotechnology Center
21. Arsi University	22. Andassa Livestock Research Center
23. Haramaya University	

### Civil Society Organizations

1. Tigray Women Association	2. Networks of Civil Society Organizations in Oromia
3. Southwest Forests and Landscape Group Tigray Youth Association	4. Siiqee Women Development Association
5. Amhara Women Association	6. Save Generation Development Association
7. Amhara Youth Association	8. Hundee-Oromo Grassroots Development Initiative
9. Ethiopia Economics Association	10. South Ethiopia People Development Association
11. Aged and Children Pastoralists Association	12. Wolayta Development Association
13. Multiple Farmers Cooperatives	14. Southern Ethiopian Peoples' Development Association
15. Ethiopia Center for Disability and Development	16. Action for Integrated Sustainable Development Association
17. Ethiopian Coffee Association	18. Alliance for Civil Society Organizations in Tigray
19. Forum for Social Studies	20. Consortium for Coordination and Networking
21. Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee	22. Association of Somali Region Victims and Survivors

<b>Implementing Partners, Donors, and Other Organizations</b>	
1. Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI)	2. Global Communities (GC)
3. Local Investment Commission (LINC)	4. Precision Development (PD)
5. International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	6. African Development Bank (AfDB)
7. Headlight Consulting Services	8. Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (VSF) Suisse
9. TechnoServe	10. Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
11. Advanced Technology International	12. SOS Children's Villages (SOS)
13. Mercy Corps	14. Organization for Victims and Survivors (OVS)
15. RTI International (RTI)	16. World Food Program (WFP)
17. Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA)	18. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
19. Palladium	20. OXFAM
21. Ethiopia Transforming Agriculture (ETA)	22. International Organization for Migration
23. Tetra Tech	24. Relief Society of Tigray
25. Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA)	26. Save the Children
27. Food for the Hungry (FH)	28. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
29. CARE International	30. World Vision
31. CultivAid Limited	32. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
33. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)	34. Action Against Hunger (AAH)
35. European Union (EU)	36. Economic Recovery and Development Activity (ERDA)
37. International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)	38. Third Party Payment Processors Association (TPPPA)
39. Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)	40. Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD)
41. Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA)	



<b>Private Sector</b>	
1. Askamar Consulting and Engineering PLC	2. Hamdu, Amina and Friends Forage Production and Sales
3. Cool Agro-processing	4. Tigray Chamber of Commerce
5. Bless Agri Food Laboratory Service	6. Tigray Commercial Poultry Producers Association
7. Nyala Insurance Company	8. Desta Commercial Farm Service Center
9. Enat Bank Company	10. Dedebit Microfinance
11. MB PLC	12. Sara Flour Factory
13. Kifya Financial Technology PLC	14. Adeday Microfinance
15. Wadani Food	16. Ethiochicken
17. Shabale Bank	18. Tigray Horticulture Association
19. EGG Poultry Farm PLC	20. Enderata Cooperative Union
21. Oromia Chamber of Commerce	22. Kaza Lease
23. Modjo Modern Export Abattoir PLC	24. Senay Flour Factory
25. Bale Green Spice and Grain Development PLC	26. Damot Farmers' Cooperative Union
27. Oromia Farmers Cooperatives Federation	28. Amhara Chamber of Commerce
29. Awash Olana Vegetables Farmers Production Cooperative Union	30. Amhara Women Enterprises Association
31. Flower Farm	32. Rural Saving and Credit Association
33. Hawassa Chamber of Commerce	34. Nigat Corporation
35. Sidama Women Business Association	36. Felege Hiwot Agricultural Input /Output Share Company
37. Sidama Chamber of Commerce	38. Yedenek Abeba Poultry
39. Sunvado Avocado Oil PLC	40. Genet Abebaw Fish rearing and Fruit and Vegetable Production
41. Kirubel Integrated Farm	42. Tana Saving and Credit Cooperative
43. South Cooperative Union Federation	44. ARUSA Business

<b>Private Sector</b>	
45. Afar Microfinance	46. Bayih Farm Development
47. Asma Tasuki Milk and Milk Products	48. Yewubdar Farm

## Annex 2: List of Woredas in the Zone of Influence +

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Oromia	Guto Gida	Jimma	X		146,225
Oromia	Wayu Tuka	Jimma	X		76,513
Oromia	Gera	Jimma	X		172,735
Oromia	Goma	Jimma	X		357,026
Oromia	Limu Seka	Jimma	X		175,125
Oromia	Bako Tibe	Jimma	X		179,996
South West Ethiopia	Debub Bench	Jimma	X		147,223
South West Ethiopia	Gidi Bench	Jimma	X		35,975
South West Ethiopia	Semen Bench	Jimma	X		123,655
South West Ethiopia	Shay Bench	Jimma	X		159,613
South West Ethiopia	Size town	Jimma	X		11,524
South West Ethiopia	Chena	Jimma	X		116,455
South West Ethiopia	Decha	Jimma	X		155,315
South West Ethiopia	Gewata	Jimma	X		103,100
South West Ethiopia	Goba (SP)	Jimma	X		32,416
South West Ethiopia	Shisho Ande	Jimma	X		94,806
South West Ethiopia	Wacha	Jimma	X		10,223
Amhara	Agew Gimija Bet	Lake Tana	X		14,327
Amhara	Ankasha	Lake Tana	X		123,577
Amhara	Ayehu Guwagusa	Lake Tana	X		121,907
Amhara	Chagni town	Lake Tana	X		35,181
Amhara	Dangila	Lake Tana	X		177,648
Amhara	Dangila town	Lake Tana	X		29,787
Amhara	Guangua	Lake Tana	X		256,725
Amhara	Zigem	Lake Tana	X		2,383

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Amhara	Alefa	Lake Tana	X		223,591
Amhara	Aykel town	Lake Tana	X		14,361
Amhara	Chilga 1	Lake Tana	X		115,248
Amhara	Chilga 2	Lake Tana	X		68,577
Amhara	East Dembia	Lake Tana	X	X	131,682
Amhara	Gonder Zuria	Lake Tana	X		158,641
Amhara	Kolla Debba town	Lake Tana	X	X	14,638
Amhara	Shawra town	Lake Tana	X		4,125
Amhara	Takusa	Lake Tana	X		164,848
Amhara	West Dembiya	Lake Tana	X		192,966
Amhara	Awabel	Lake Tana	X		150,467
Amhara	Bechena Town	Lake Tana	X		22,651
Amhara	Dejen	Lake Tana	X		122,711
Amhara	Dejen town	Lake Tana	X		10,895
Amhara	Enemay	Lake Tana	X		193,047
Amhara	Lumame town	Lake Tana	X		7,751
Amhara	Dera (AM)	Lake Tana	X		304,294
Amhara	Hamusit town	Lake Tana	X		8,938
Amhara	Bahirdar Zuria	Lake Tana	X		164,564
Amhara	Bure (AM)	Lake Tana	X		154,358
Amhara	Bure town	Lake Tana	X		32,911
Amhara	Debub Achefer	Lake Tana	X		162,919
Amhara	Dembecha	Lake Tana	X		157,852
Amhara	Denbecha town	Lake Tana	X		16,102
Amhara	Dure Bete	Lake Tana	X		9,465
Amhara	Jabi Tehnan	Lake Tana	X		225,519

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Amhara	Jiga town	Lake Tana	X		10,954
Amhara	Semen Achefer	Lake Tana	X		241,182
Amhara	Adagn Ager Chaqo	Lake Tana	X		80,742
Afar	Chifra	Lowland	X	X	81,657
Afar	Dubti	Lowland	X	X	57,921
Afar	Dubti town	Lowland	X		5,283
Afar	Gerani	Lowland	X		52,038
Afar	Mile	Lowland	X	X	68,018
Afar	Samera Logiya town	Lowland	X		32,637
Afar	Amibara	Lowland	X	X	34,882
Afar	Gewane	Lowland	X	X	48,134
Afar	Hanruka	Lowland	X		34,329
Dire Dawa	Aseliso	Lowland	X	X	27,215
Dire Dawa	Biyoawale	Lowland	X	X	58,420
Dire Dawa	Jeldessa	Lowland	X	X	15,020
Dire Dawa	Wahil	Lowland	X	X	51,720
Dire Dawa	Addis Ketema (DD)	Lowland	X	X	111,295
Dire Dawa	Dechatu	Lowland	X	X	13,583
Dire Dawa	Gende Kore	Lowland	X	X	7,887
Dire Dawa	Hafat Issa	Lowland	X	X	5,132
Dire Dawa	Kazira	Lowland	X	X	26,544
Dire Dawa	Legehare	Lowland	X	X	9,049
Dire Dawa	Malka Jabti /M.Jebdu)	Lowland	X	X	44,009
Dire Dawa	Police Maret	Lowland	X	X	21,025
Dire Dawa	Sabian	Lowland	X	X	80,633
Oromia	Gura Damole	Lowland	X	X	45,643

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Oromia	Meda Welabu	Lowland	X	X	150,302
Oromia	Arero	Lowland	X	X	53,144
Oromia	Dhas	Lowland	X		24,714
Oromia	Dire	Lowland	X		33,289
Oromia	Dubluk	Lowland	X		27,919
Oromia	Gomole	Lowland	X		29,269
Oromia	Guchi	Lowland	X	X	29,420
Oromia	Miyo	Lowland	X		73,611
Oromia	Moyale (OR)	Lowland	X	X	32,599
Oromia	Wachile	Lowland	X		22,573
Oromia	Yabelo	Lowland	X	X	71,126
Oromia	Yabelo town	Lowland	X		20,632
Oromia	Babile (OR)	Lowland	X	X	131,375
Oromia	Babile town	Lowland	X	X	7,487
Oromia	Gursum (OR)	Lowland	X	X	251,172
Oromia	Gora Dola	Lowland	X	X	99,486
Oromia	Gumi Idalo	Lowland	X	X	23,255
Oromia	Liben	Lowland	X	X	81,275
Oromia	Gumbi Bordede	Lowland	X	X	108,658
Oromia	Mieso	Lowland	X	X	119,055
Somali	Hudet	Lowland	X	X	40,264
Somali	Moyale (SM)	Lowland	X	X	56,169
Somali	Mubarek	Lowland	X		154,391
Somali	Qada Duma	Lowland	X		106,123
Somali	Aw-Bare	Lowland	X	X	271,040
Somali	Babile (SM)	Lowland	X	X	8,373



Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Somali	Gursum (SM)	Lowland	X	X	25,341
Somali	Harawo	Lowland	X		157,645
Somali	Haroreys	Lowland	X	X	41,136
Somali	Jigjiga town	Lowland	X		264,667
Somali	Kebribayah town	Lowland	X		16,197
Somali	Kebribayah	Lowland	X	X	170,214
Somali	Koran /Mulla	Lowland	X		30,424
Somali	Shabeeley	Lowland	X		183,823
Somali	Tuliguled	Lowland	X		39,281
Somali	Wajale town	Lowland	X		29,376
Somali	Ararso	Lowland	X		23,147
Somali	Bilcil-Bur	Lowland	X		7,147
Somali	Burqod	Lowland	X		29,313
Somali	Degahabur town	Lowland	X		18,102
Somali	Degehabur	Lowland	X	X	35,251
Somali	Yocale	Lowland	X		15,642
Somali	Deka Suftu	Lowland	X	X	59,558
Somali	Filtu	Lowland	X		189,696
Somali	Garbo	Lowland	X		32,617
Somali	Afdem	Lowland	X	X	64,401
Somali	Dembel	Lowland	X	X	141,538
Somali	Erer (SM)	Lowland	X	X	200,021
Somali	Gablalu	Lowland	X		73,009
Somali	Gota-Biki	Lowland	X		77,478
Somali	Hadhagala	Lowland	X		63,588
Somali	Miesso	Lowland	X	X	54,381

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Somali	Shinile	Lowland	X	X	73,324
Amhara	Angot	Northern	X		88,952
Amhara	Bugna	Northern	X	X	108,254
Amhara	Filakit town	Northern	X	X	18,755
Amhara	Gashena town	Northern	X	X	11,764
Amhara	Gazo	Northern	X	X	11,726
Amhara	Guba Lafto	Northern	X	X	122,497
Amhara	Habru	Northern	X	X	229,411
Amhara	Hara town	Northern	X	X	10,414
Amhara	Kobo town	Northern	X		45,182
Amhara	Lalibela town	Northern	X		21,520
Amhara	Lasta	Northern	X	X	140,125
Amhara	Meket	Northern	X	X	181,278
Amhara	Mersa town	Northern	X		19,450
Amhara	Raya Kobo	Northern	X	X	244,155
Amhara	Wadla	Northern	X	X	160,726
Amhara	Lay Gayint	Northern	X	X	238,815
Amhara	Nefas Mewicha town	Northern	X		24,583
Amhara	Sede Muja	Northern	X	X	137,670
Amhara	Semada	Northern	X	X	155,114
Amhara	Tach Gayint	Northern	X	X	134,191
Amhara	Wegeda town	Northern	X	X	6,685
Amhara	Abergele (AM)	Northern	X	X	61,099
Amhara	Amde Work town	Northern	X	X	4,702
Amhara	Dehana	Northern	X	X	135,173
Amhara	Gaz Gibla	Northern	X	X	93,846

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Amhara	Sahila	Northern	X	X	32,148
Amhara	Sekota	Northern	X	X	106,066
Amhara	Zequala	Northern	X	X	59,646
Tigray	Aheferom	Northern	X	X	116,259
Tigray	Edaga arbi	Northern	X	X	56,027
Tigray	Egela	Northern	X		62,469
Tigray	Emba Sieneti	Northern	X		74,729
Tigray	Endafelasi	Northern	X		56,695
Tigray	Enticho town	Northern	X		12,019
Tigray	Hahayle	Northern	X		54,527
Tigray	Keyhe tekli	Northern	X		90,958
Tigray	Kola Temben	Northern	X	X	98,016
Tigray	Agulae	Northern	X		79,792
Tigray	Bizet	Northern	X		32,217
Tigray	Ganta Afeshum	Northern	X	X	101,928
Tigray	Geraleta	Northern	X		38,887
Tigray	Gulo Mekeda	Northern	X	X	87,629
Tigray	Hawzen	Northern	X		135,429
Tigray	Hawzen town	Northern	X	X	8,140
Tigray	Kelete Awelallo	Northern	X	X	89,082
Tigray	Adi Daero	Northern	X		19,099
Tigray	Asgede	Northern	X		117,633
Tigray	Endabaguna town	Northern	X		6,273
Tigray	Lelay Adiabo	Northern	X		52,494
Tigray	Selekleka	Northern	X		92,181
Tigray	Seyemti Adyabo	Northern	X		44,580

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Tigray	Tsimbla	Northern	X		87,162
Tigray	Zana	Northern	X		62,962
Tigray	Hintalo	Northern	X	X	111,311
Tigray	Saharti	Northern	X	X	73,131
Tigray	Samre	Northern	X		107,304
Tigray	Wajirat	Northern	X		61,747
Tigray	Alamata town	Northern	X		59,363
Tigray	Bora (TG)	Northern	X		28,411
Tigray	Chercher	Northern	X		57,115
Tigray	Emba Alaje	Northern	X	X	81,015
Tigray	Endamehoni	Northern	X	X	82,226
Tigray	Mekhoni town	Northern	X		15,187
Tigray	Neqsege	Northern	X		25,334
Tigray	Ofla	Northern	X	X	106,685
Tigray	Raya Alamata	Northern	X	X	101,206
Tigray	Raya Azebo	Northern	X	X	120,273
Tigray	Selewa	Northern	X		36,773
Tigray	Zata	Northern	X		56,384
Oromia	Bekoji town	Southern	X		21,532
Oromia	Degeluna Tijo	Southern	X		197,805
Oromia	Dodota	Southern	X	X	101,653
Oromia	Hitosa	Southern	X		186,292
Oromia	Limu Bilbilo	Southern	X		243,453
Oromia	Shirka	Southern	X		254,015
Oromia	Sire	Southern	X	X	107,771
Oromia	Tiyo	Southern	X		132,444

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Oromia	Ziway Dugda	Southern	X	X	147,834
Oromia	Agarfa	Southern	X		150,120
Oromia	Sinana	Southern	X		152,176
Oromia	Ada'a	Southern	X		146,942
Oromia	Adama Tulu Jido Kombolcha	Southern	X	X	306,985
Oromia	Boset	Southern	X	X	200,430
Oromia	Dugda	Southern	X		197,839
Oromia	Gimbichu	Southern	X		123,197
Oromia	Lome (OR)	Southern	X		126,030
Oromia	Mojo Town	Southern	X		57,562
Oromia	Arsi Negele	Southern	X	X	259,160
Oromia	Arsi Negele town	Southern	X		56,041
Oromia	Dodola	Southern	X		268,441
Oromia	Dodola town	Southern	X		24,039
Oromia	Heban Arsi	Southern	X	X	77,868
Oromia	Shala	Southern	X	X	203,869
Oromia	Siraro	Southern	X	X	222,305
Sidama	Aleta Chuko	Southern	X	X	230,455
Sidama	Bilate Zuria	Southern	X		129,323
Sidama	Boricha	Southern	X	X	132,175
Sidama	Chuko town	Southern	X		14,822
Sidama	Dara	Southern	X	X	130,546
Sidama	Dara Otilicho	Southern	X		98,486
Sidama	Darara	Southern	X		135,873
Sidama	Malga	Southern	X		153,118
Sidama	Wondo-Genet	Southern	X		212,204

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Sidama	Wondo-Genet town	Southern	X		5,489
South Central	Endiguagn	Southern	X		73,904
South Central	Ameka	Southern	X		57,000
South Central	Duna	Southern	X	X	193,224
South Central	Gimbichu town	Southern	X		5,559
South Central	Jajura town	Southern	X		5,375
South Central	Lemmo	Southern	X	X	174,336
South Central	Mirab Soro	Southern	X		59,029
South Central	Misha	Southern	X	X	95,045
South Central	Soro	Southern	X	X	185,650
South Central	Mierab Azenet Berbere	Southern	X		91,758
Southern	Dila Zuria	Southern	X	X	161,571
Southern	Kochere	Southern	X	X	128,835
Southern	Wenago	Southern	X	X	183,237
Afar	Afambo			X	23,758
Afar	Asayita			X	50,960
Amhara	Debre Markos town			X	100,158
Amhara	Menze Gera Midir			X	144,878
Amhara	Menze Keya Gabriel			X	60,677
Amhara	Menze Lalo Midir			X	23,615
Amhara	Menze Mama Midir			X	104,288
Amhara	Molale town			X	7,465
Amhara	Dawunt			X	85,252
Amhara	Gidan			X	185,295
Amhara	Delanta			X	154,249
Amhara	Wegel tena town			X	11,247

Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
Amhara	Bahir Dar town			X	376,171
Gambela	Gambela town			X	72,408
Gambela	Itang			X	68,353
Gambela	Godere			X	79,355
Gambela	Mengesh			X	32,679
Oromia	Aseko			X	114,960
Oromia	Golocha			X	157,789
Oromia	Chinaksen			X	136,136
Oromia	Deder			X	331,593
Oromia	Girawa			X	317,042
Oromia	Kurfa Chele			X	85,871
Oromia	Melka Balo			X	262,526
Oromia	Midhaga Tola			X	147,869
Oromia	Fentale			X	117,926
Oromia	Nekemte town			X	127,163
Oromia	Kercha			X	244,080
Oromia	Chiro Zuria			X	253,767
Oromia	Daro Lebu			X	210,946
Oromia	Gemechis			X	266,998
Oromia	Ambo town			X	95,003
Sidama	Aleta Wendo			X	212,064
Sidama	Aleta Wondo town			X	34,641
Sidama	Dale			X	317,818
Sidama	Hawasa town			X	361,735
Sidama	Hulla			X	107,302
Sidama	Loka Abaya			X	130,414



Region	Woreda	FTF ZOI Cluster	FTF ZOI	RF Z	Population
South Central	Analememo			X	103,495
South Central	Gibe			X	168,155
South Central	Gombora			X	140,165
South Central	Shashogo			X	165,316
South West Ethiopia	Yeki			X	144,840
Southern	Gedeb			X	114,534
Southern	Yirgacheffe			X	209,928
Southern	Dasenech /Kuraz			X	76,676
Southern	Hamer			X	87,499
Southern	Nyngatom			X	25,262
Tigray	Erob			X	33,815
Tigray	Saesie			X	81,514
Tigray	Enderta			X	115,847

## G. Notes and References

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> USAID/Ethiopia consulted 320 individuals who represented 180 stakeholder institutions. Of these, 26 percent were from the private sector, 27 percent from the public sector, 13 percent from research and universities, 13 percent from CSOs, and 21 percent from NGOs, donors, and UN agencies.

<sup>2</sup> According to official figures from Ethiopian Customs, between 2018-2022, food assistance wheat imports accounted for nearly 40 percent of the total wheat imports and the remaining 60 percent was for commercial purposes, procured using GoE public funds.

<sup>3</sup> Market system actors are types of entities that will continue to operate within the market system, even without donor funding. (For example, it does not include donor-funded nonprofits or charities.) See Feed the Future's [Integrating a Market Systems Approach in Programming](#) guidance for more information.

<sup>4</sup> July 2020- June 2021 to July 2021 - June 2022.

<sup>5</sup> USAID/Ethiopia consulted 320 individuals who represented 180 stakeholder institutions. Of these, 26 percent were from the private sector, 27 percent from the public sector, 13 percent from research and universities, 13 percent from CSOs, and 21 percent from NGOs, donors, and UN agencies.

<sup>6</sup> For example, across agriculture, nutrition, health, WASH, education, and governance.

<sup>7</sup> [A successful drought strategy allows the focus of limited resources \(forage and stock water\) on the breeding stock based on carefully selected traits and performance criteria.](#)

<sup>8</sup> The survey included a random sample of the entire population living in the ZOI, which resulted in a makeup of 12.7 percent urban and 87.3 percent rural households.

<sup>9</sup> [Ethiopia's Path to Food Systems Transformation](#) was developed and presented at the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit.

<sup>10</sup> The RRR approach was developed following the CoHA between the GOE and TPLF and covers Tigray, northern Amhara and northern Afar.

<sup>11</sup> Since the delineation of the ZOI in the 2019-2023 GFSS Country Plan, Ethiopia's administrative boundaries have undergone a number of revisions, with the creation of the regions of South West, Southern, South Central, and Sidama regions and the division of numerous woredas into multiple smaller woredas and towns, meaning the ZOI contains significantly more woredas and towns while covering the same general area.

<sup>12</sup> Budget assumptions reflect FY 2022 funding levels. Funding is subject to the availability of funds, as determined by the President's Budget and a Congressional appropriation.

<sup>13</sup> The PSNP paused implementation during the northern conflict, but government-led implementation is anticipated to restart by 2024 as Tigray recovers and emergency humanitarian assistance is reduced.

<sup>14</sup> Marginalized groups expand beyond women and youth and also include those in remote areas of the country with little access to markets and services, the poor and most vulnerable, IDPs, persons with disabilities, and minority ethnic and religious groups, among others.

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