

Food Security Impacts of Ethiopia MYAP

The Productive Safety Net Program



- The PSNP was developed in response to repeated emergency appeals in Ethiopia.
- The emergency appeal process lacked predictability and failed to address the chronic nature of food needs.
- To address this situation PSNP food insecure HHs receive planned-in-advance monthly food rations or cash payments in exchange for building community assets.
- The PSNP began in 2005 and has been working with approximately 7 million participants annually.

Objectives of the PSNP



- To meet food needs of the chronically food insecure while smoothing HH food consumption,
- To protect HH assets by reducing or preventing the sale of assets in food deficient periods,
- To improve community food security through the construction of community assets,
- The **long term goal** is the graduation of participating HHs after they have become completely self sufficient.

USAID/FFP funded PSNP



- In 2010 Title II covered approximately 18% of PSNP beneficiaries nationally.
- Remainder of funding coming from multiple donors.
- Currently the Cooperating Sponsors implementing the PSNP are:
- CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Food for the Hungry, Relief Society of Tigray, and Save the Children
- These agencies are implementing in 40 of the 301 PSNP districts.

Preliminary Results – Draft Final Evaluation



- Dietary diversity score increased from 3.3 to 5.0 - about a 50% increase,
- Average HH asset values increased from \$342 to \$413 – approximately a 20% increase,
- The PSNP was designed to protect assets but asset creation has been the norm,
- Estimated months of food self-sufficiency increased from 5.9 to 7.6 – a 29% increase.

MYAP Partners' Program Innovations



- Widely promoting village-based savings and credit groups.
- Promoting health and nutrition through community mothers and cascade group extension methods.
- The introduction of high value crops and income generating activities to vulnerable HHs, including beekeeping, apples, peppers, and beans.
- The development of VCs for these crops.
- Setting up certified seed multiplication programs in which PSNP HHs multiply improved varieties of important certified varieties of crops such as potatoes.

An Example – Potato Seed Multiplication and VC Promotion.



- Potato is one of the major staple crops of Amhara.
- It has a very high yield compared to the cereals and pulses traditionally grown in the area
- Potatoes require less time to develop than grain crops and can still be productive if the rainy season is short.

An Example – Potato Seed Multiplication and VC Promotion.



- The MoA had developed improved varieties of potatoes but they were not reaching farmers or being disseminated from the research stations.
- These varieties are resistant to late blight and yield 2 to 3 times more than traditional varieties.
- FH coordinated with the research centers and the MoA to get these new varieties introduced in PSNP districts.
- Farmers were organized into producer groups that grow certified seed potatoes that are sold to other producers and the Government of Ethiopia.
- This potato value chain ensures a sustainable supply of high yielding potatoes with the profits going to PSNP HHs.



Potato at the flowering stage under inspection for certification, packed for sale, and harvested from the field



Results



- The improved varieties are producing 2 to 3 times the traditional varieties.
- Producer groups are having their potatoes certified as true varieties and then selling them to a number of buyers.
- Average profits per household are up to \$300 for a small potato plot per crop.
- Improved, high yielding potatoes are being made available throughout the area.

Lessons/Comments from the Ethiopia MYAP



- **The Safety Net is not only protecting HH assets it is also building HH assets.**
- **The most vulnerable respond well to and benefit from value chain activities when the correct value chains are chosen and developed with the most vulnerable in mind.**
- **NGOs, because of their long standing work with poor communities, are in the best position to work with the most vulnerable and their involvement in FtF will increase the program's impact.**
- **A great example is recently released draft RFA concerning Zambia (Zambia Economic Resilience).**
- **It is well designed to reach the poor with FtF funding and we hope to see more RFAs with a similar focus.**



Thank You