



## **ENGINE: Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities**

*A project supported by the US Global Health and Feed the Future Initiatives*

Save the Children

Year II Quarter III Report

April 1, 2013 – June 30, 2013



**Contact Information for this report:**  
Habtamu Fekadu, MD, MSc  
Chief of Party, ENGINE Project  
Email: [Habtamu.Fekadu@savethechildren.org](mailto:Habtamu.Fekadu@savethechildren.org)

## Contents

Acronyms .....	3
Executive Summary.....	5
Reporting Period .....	6
Publication/Reports .....	6
Technical Assistance (TA).....	6
Travel and Visits .....	8
Program Management .....	8
IR 1: Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies strengthened .....	10
IR 1.2: Strengthened pre-service and in-service nutrition training for health care agents .....	13
IR 2: Quality and delivery of nutrition and health care services improved.....	16
IR 2.1: Quality of nutrition services strengthened.....	16
IR.2.2 Health and nutrition services seeking behaviors increased .....	20
IR 2.3: Access to health and nutrition services increased.....	21
IR 3.1 Maternal, infant and young child feeding knowledge and practices improved.....	23
IR 3.2. Access to food and economic strengthening opportunities through programming and cross sector linkage increased .....	24
IR 4: Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted.....	30
IR 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy.....	30
Strategy 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy .....	30
IR 4.2: Develop and manage an innovative documentation and dissemination strategy .....	32
Cross-cutting activities: Gender.....	36
Major constraints/challenges and actions to overcome them .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Financial Analysis .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Major activities planned for next quarter (July 1, 2013-September 31, 2103).....	38
Annexes.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

## Acronyms

AEWs	Agriculture Extension Workers
AGP	Agricultural Growth Program
AMDe	Agribusiness and Market Development in Ethiopia
ANC	Antenatal Care
ARM	Annual Review Meeting
ATVET	Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education and Training
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CC	Community Conversation
CCA	Community Change Agent
CHDs	Child Health Days
CoE	Center of Excellence
DAs	Development Agents
EHNRI	Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute
EMRDA	Ethiopian Muslim Relief and Development Association
ENGINE	Empowering New Generations in Improved Nutrition and Economic Opportunities
EOC-DICAC	Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Development and Inter-Church AID Commission
EOS	Enhanced Outreach Strategy
ES	Economic Strengthening
ETS	Effective Teaching Skills
FANTA-3	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project
FTC	Farmer Training Center
FtF	Feed the Future
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GRAD	Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development
HCs	Health Centers
HDA	Health Development Army
HEP	Health Extension Plan
HEWs	Health Extension Workers
HF	Health Facilities
HH	Households
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HP	Health Post
HR	Human Resources
HSDP IV	Health Sector Development Program IV
HWs	Health Workers
iCCM	integrated Community Case Management
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
ISS	Integrated Supportive Supervision
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
IYCN	Infant and Young Child Nutrition
JHU-CCP	Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs
LES	Livelihood and Economic Strengthening
LMD	Livestock Marketing Development
LOL	Land O' Lakes, Inc.
LOQAS	Lot Quality Assurance Sampling
MAIYCN	Maternal, Infant Adolescent and Young Child Nutrition
MCH	Mother and Child Health
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIYCN	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MIYCF	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Feeding
MI	Micronutrient Initiative
MIYCF	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Feeding
MIYCN	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MNCH	Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture

MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCYA	Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs
MSG	Mother Support Group
MUM	Mums for Mums
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NNCB	National Nutrition Coordination Body
NNCWG	National Nutrition Communication Working Group
NNP	National Nutrition Program
NNTC	National Nutrition Technical Committee
NTWG	Nutrition Technical Working Group
OR	Operations Research
OTP	Outpatient Therapeutic Program
PI	Principle Investigator
PNC	Post-natal Care
PSE	Pre-Service Education
Q&A	Question and Answer
QI	Quality Improvement
SBC	Social and Behavior Change
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SBM-R	Standards-Based Management and Recognition
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region
SQUEAC	Semi-Quantitative Evaluation of Access and Coverage
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
TDYers	Temporary Dutyers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VHH	Vulnerable Households
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WorAO	Woreda Agriculture Office
WorHO	Woreda Health Office
ZC	Zonal Coordinators
ZHD	Zonal Health Department

## **Executive Summary**

ENGINE made significant progress toward reaching its objectives and addressed key challenges over the third quarter covering the period from **April 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013**.

### **Strategic partnership:**

ENGINE identified the project's remaining 17 non-Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) *woredas* in close collaboration with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), regional teams, Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) and GOAL. While USAID is negotiating this unique development-emergency partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Ministry of Health (MoH), ENGINE has initiated the development of a multi-sector model to prevent and address high malnutrition rates in food insecure *woredas*, which is to be finalized next quarter.

### **Nutrition policy:**

ENGINE played a key role in the finalization and launch of the revised multi-sector National Nutrition Program (NNP) on June 24, 2013. At the NNP knowledge-sharing event, ENGINE showcased its innovative project initiatives and lessons learned through six abstract presentations and a poster session (see **Annex II: NNP News release, SC**).

### **Capacity building:**

ENGINE trained 3730 beneficiaries in nutrition and agriculture. To improve the quality of nutrition services at the community and facility level, ENGINE supported 29 *woreda* review meetings and supervision visits at 105 health centers (HCs,) 129 health posts (HPs,) and 180 households with government counterparts. In building the local capacity of households, schoolteachers and agriculture workers in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, ENGINE trained 17,863 farmers and government workers. ENGINE organized agronomic and cooking demonstration events at 10 farmer training centers (FTCs), 41 schools and 8 health facilities with active participation from 14,695 individuals (8719 females) that included farmers, students, government workers and mothers.

### **Operations Research:**

During this reporting period, subcontract agreements between Tufts University and all local research partners were signed, which will facilitate the smooth implementation of planned operations research (OR) activities over the life of the project. ENGINE also finalized the protocols for the two planned cohort studies (birth cohort and agriculture-nutrition panel) with the active participation of SC-ENGINE, EHNRI, Hawassa University, Jimma University and Tufts University.

## Reporting Period

This is the ENGINE project's **Year II Quarter III Report** covering the reporting period from **April 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.**

## Publication/Reports

Did your organization support the production of publications, reports, guidelines or assessments during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable

Yes  If yes, please list below:

### Abstracts accepted for the revised NNP launch and knowledge sharing event

Title	Author	Date
Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture to Promote Dietary Diversity	Kebede Tafesse, Senior Nutrition and Livelihood Advisor, Save the Children	2013 June
Rapid Market Assessment for Fruits and Vegetables	Amare Feleke, Economic Strengthening Advisor, Land O' Lakes	2013 June
Measuring Key Health and Nutrition Indicators by Woreda: ENGINE Year I Baseline Results	Philip James, Project Manager, Valid International	2013 June
Role of Gender Relations in Household Nutrition	Yetarik Sebhatu, Gender Advisor, Save the Children	2013 June
Nutrition Core Competencies: A Foundation for Pre-service Education & In-service Training	Endris Mekonnen, Pre-Service Education Advisor, Jhpiego	2013 June
Formulation of Quality Protein Maize- Nutritionally Improved Complementary Food: the Case of Shebadino Woreda in Southern Ethiopia	Beruk Berhanu (Master's Degree student supported by ENGINE)	2013 June
Prevalence and Associated Factors of Anemia among Pregnant Women Attending Antenatal Care at Government Health Institutions: Bahir Dar Town	Eyeshesh Beyene (Master's Degree student support by ENGINE)	2013 June

## Technical Assistance (TA)

Did your organization utilize short-term technical assistance during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable

Yes

Please list below:

If yes, please attach an electronic copy of the TA report as part of your submission (see **Annex I**).

**TA Consultants/Temporary Dutyers (TDYers)**

Name	Arrival	Departure	Organization	Type of TA provided
Michelle Kaufman	21 April 2013	28 April 2013	JHU-CCP	Facilitate training for Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) formative research study. <b>Annex I</b>
Cheryl Lettenmaier	19 May 2013 9 June 2013	25 May 2013 15 June 2013	JHU-CCP	Assist local team in completing delayed SBCC deliverables. <b>Annex I</b>
Joy Miller Del Rosso	29 June 2013	5 July 2013	Save the Children US	Develop social and behavior change (SBC) transition plan and provide TA in finalizing SBC strategy. <b>Annex I</b>
Carmen Jaquez	20 May 2013	31 May 2013	Land O'Lakes	Assess feasibility of developing livestock micro-insurance program. <i>Trip report will be submitted with annual report.</i>
Samuel Karnis	7 June 2013	15 June 2013	Land O'Lakes	Provide management support for field team. <b>Annex I</b>
Brian Dotson	12 June 2013	14 June 2013	Land O'Lakes	Review and discuss progress on Livelihood and Economic Strengthening (LES) activities. <b>Annex I</b>
Eileen Kennedy	27 May 2013	8 June 2013	Tufts University	Finalize policy research protocol and collect data. <b>Annex I</b>
Peter Walker Jennifer Coates Jeffrey Griffith	9 June 2013	15 June 2013	Tufts University	Conduct cohort study workshop. <b>Annex I</b>
Kate Sadler	7 May 2013	11 May 2013	Valid International	Provide TA for planning OR research studies. <b>Annex I</b>

## Travel and Visits

Did your organization support international travel during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable

Have any program **monitoring visits/supervisions** been made during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable

Yes

Please list below:

Description of Monitoring Team	Start Date	End Date	Sites Visited	Written recommendations provided
Health and Nutrition	16 April 2013	19 April 2013	Bonga <i>woreda</i> Decha <i>woreda</i> Chena <i>woreda</i>	-Provide Health Extension Workers (HEWs) with technical updates on promotion of optimal Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MAIYCN) behaviors (especially complementary feeding) at health center and <i>woreda</i> review meetings. -Conduct cooking demonstrations in different sites on a monthly basis with involvement from both development agents (DAs) and HEWs.
Monitoring and Evaluation	23 May 2013	26 May 2013	Guduru <i>woreda</i> Horo <i>woreda</i> Wayu Tuka <i>woreda</i>	-Provide more frequent data monitoring visits for DAs and <i>woreda</i> agricultural staff. -Equip <i>woreda</i> agricultural offices, FTCs and schools with necessary materials to document results. -Conduct data management and reporting training for <i>Woreda</i> Agriculture Office (WorAO), DAs and livelihood Zonal Coordinators (ZCs).
Livelihood and Economic Strengthening	17 June 2013	26 June 2013	Kaffa Zone: Decha and Chena <i>woredas</i> ; Jimma and Illuba bora Zones: Dhidessa and Badale <i>woredas</i> ; Yem Special <i>woreda</i> ; Gurage Zone: Enemor Ener Silite Zone: Misrak Azernet Berber	-Treat procured livestock with antibiotics and anti-parasitic treatments prior to vaccination. -Vaccinate sheep at least twice a year. -Audit livestock and take measure to reduce newborn mortality. -Prepare chicken feed using locally available materials. - Provide ongoing nutrition TA for homestead garden beneficiaries.

## Program Management

### Staff Recruitment:

ENGINE identified a candidate to replace the senior nutrition and HIV advisor, which is a key personnel position. The human resources department is processing the forms to send to USAID for

approval. Save the Children employed a new regional coordinator and Maternal, Nutrition and Child Health (MNCH) and HIV coordinator in West Oromia. Valid International hired a national country representative to replace the international project manager in September 2013.

**Staff management:**

From April 29-30, 2013, ENGINE conducted a quarterly review meeting with regional coordinators and technical advisors to strengthen and accelerate field-level implementation and increase budget utilization. As a result, all five sub-offices submitted revised budgets and re-programmed activity plans to increase spending.

**Sub-grantee management:**

ENGINE continued its regular bi-weekly staff meetings to discuss progress toward completing planned activities as outlined in the signed sub-grant agreements. ENGINE reviewed and provided feedback on all sub-grantee deliverables, coordinated technical assistance visits, and monitored sub-grantee narrative and financial reports to ensure compliance with USAID rules and regulations.

ENGINE conducted a quarterly review meeting with sub-grantees on May 16, 2013 with the objective of reviewing the third quarter project performance and budget utilization. The meeting helped to re-program the work plan to improve project implementation and increase the burn rate to reduce the pipeline.

Despite repeated negotiations, JHU-CCP has not been able to deliver the expected results with acceptable quality and timeliness especially the formative research. Save the Children decided to partially terminate the JHU-CCP sub-agreement as of June 19, 2013. JHU-CCP was given 60 days to close-out and submit their work plan and budget according to their revised scope of work. This decision was communicated to USAID. Save the Children will take over most of the SBCC responsibilities and is putting in place a transition plan.

**Technical Assistance:**

During this reporting period, ENGINE received technical assistance from Save the Children-US, JHU-CCP, Land O' Lakes, Tufts University and Valid International in formative research, SBCC activities, feasibility of micro-insurance for livestock, monitoring livelihood activities and operations research.

**Start-up Activities:**

ENGINE, in consultation with the regional teams, Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) and GOAL proposed 17 non-AGP *woredas* to USAID and they were

accepted. USAID sent a letter to the MoH and MoA requesting permission for ENGINE to expand to non-AGP woredas as part of the USAID Forward Initiative. ENGINE is leading the development of the intervention and implementation models and timelines with GRAD and GOAL, which will be finalized and submitted to USAID for approval next quarter.

**Building partnership and multi-sector coordination:**

As a follow up of the last March Feed the Future (FtF) Partner Coordination Workshop, working closely with USAID, ENGINE finalized the FtF proceedings which will be circulated at the next FtF meeting. ENGINE has started to roll-out the FtF partnership at the regional level. During this quarter, ENGINE facilitated a regional FtF consultative meeting in Amhara with Agribusiness and Market Development in Ethiopia (AMDe), GRAD, AGP, Livestock Marketing Development (LMD) and each regional FtF partner presented an overview of its respective program. ENGINE has demonstrated its partnership with the government and nutrition development partners by providing technical assistance and financial support during the planning, development and launch of the revised NNP (see IR 1.1).

**IRI: Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies strengthened**

**IR 1.1: Strengthened policy environment**

**Planned activities:**

- Support national nutrition multi-sector coordination mechanisms
- Organize consultative multi-sector workshop at national level
- Support the revision and launch of revised National Nutrition Program (NNP)
- Work with Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project (FANTA-3) and the Federal Ministry of Health (MoH) and other partners to develop nutrition advocacy strategy
- Support the national food fortification program
- Harmonize national maternal, infant and young child feeding (MIYCF) blended training manuals for health workers
- Support other national nutrition initiatives

**Accomplishments**

**Strategy 1.1.1: Strengthen existing nutrition multi-sector coordination**

**Support nutrition multi-sector coordination mechanisms:**

This quarter ENGINE supported two consultative multi-sector workshops at the national level. ENGINE gave technical and financial assistance to MoH in facilitating the National Nutrition Coordinating Body (NNCB) meeting held on May 29, 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to review the multi-sector coordination terms of reference (TOR) and revised NNP. H.E. Dr Kebede Worku, State Minister for Health, chaired the meeting. Other sector state ministers and delegates were in attendance<sup>1</sup>. The outcome of the meeting was that the TOR and revised NNP were formally endorsed by the NNCB.

ENGINE also supported and facilitated the National Nutrition Technical Committee (NNTC) meeting held on May 24, 2013. The meeting was attended by sectoral high-level experts and directors of all relevant sectors of the NNP and development partners. The final draft of the NNP was reviewed and the TOR of NNCB was amended based on their comments.

**Work with Fanta-3, FMOH and other partners to develop nutrition advocacy strategy:**

This activity was not carried out during this reporting period because of the delay from FANTA-3 to finalize the approval of the advocacy plan by MoH. ENGINE will roll out the activity as soon as it is approved by MoH.

**Strategy I.1.2: Support development and revision of nutrition policies, guidelines, and standards****Address gaps in existing nutrition- related policies and guidelines****Support the revision and launch of revised NNP:**

The revised multi-sectoral and costed NNP was launched nationally on June 24, 2013 in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister (PM), the Education Minister, the First Lady, ministers, ambassadors, including the US ambassador, donors, researchers and civil societies (see **Annex II: NNP News release, SC**). The Deputy PM provided guidance to the sectors and handed over the NNP to delegates of each sector.

ENGINE played a key role and was a highly supportive throughout the process of finalizing and launching of the NNP through participation in the small and strategic National Steering Committee; technical and financial contributions for the NNP revision, consultative workshops and NNP launch; and engagement of six of the project's experts in different NNP working groups.

---

<sup>1</sup> The sectors represented included Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Industry (MoI), Ministry of Trade (MoT), Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED), Ministry of Water and Energy (MoWE), Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs (MoWCYA). Participants also included the EHNRI representative, the USAID mission director, the UNICEF country representative, as well as representatives from the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce, the private sector and the media.

ENGINE facilitated and participated in a three-day (June 24-26, 2013) NNP launch and knowledge-sharing workshop as part of the launching of the revised NNP. ENGINE participated in the workshop by sharing field experiences in implementing nutrition sensitive agriculture, as well as contributing a presentation of six abstracts and one poster session.

**Support the national food fortification program:**

ENGINE is working jointly with an international consultant hired by the World Bank to support MoH with the preparation of a costed food fortification plan of action. The costed plan of action will be finalized and shared to partners for feedback by the fourth quarter.

**Support blended nutrition training module development:**

ENGINE facilitated a two-day consultative workshop on ‘Integrated blended nutrition learning module development for health workers’ organized by MoH and technical support of Jhpiego. A total of 22 participants from MoH, nutrition development partners and five local universities attended the workshop. The participants agreed on the outline and components of the module. They also reached a consensus on the module having five thematic areas<sup>2</sup>. ENGINE is leading two thematic areas: Maternal, adolescent, infant and young child nutrition (MAIYCN) and management of acute malnutrition sub-groups. ENGINE submitted a draft outline of MAIYCN thematic area to MoH and the technical working group (TWG).

ENGINE has been engaged in other national level technical support activities in line with a government request and its relevance to the project.

**Support the national Micronutrient Intervention guideline revision:**

Last quarter, MoH initiated revision of the national micronutrient guidelines, which were initially developed nearly a decade ago. Prior to the revision process, a steering committee was established to identify any gaps. The committee has agreed to consider nutrition intervention areas such as zinc, food fortification, food diversification and evidence-based public health approaches to control micronutrient deficiencies that were not addressed in the previous version of the micronutrient guidelines. A sub-committee was then established to undertake revision of different thematic areas. Accordingly, in this reporting period, two ENGINE senior advisors, assigned to the food fortification and salt iodization (Iodine) thematic areas, finalized their revisions and submitted the first draft to MoH

---

<sup>2</sup> Micronutrient intervention; Management of Acute Malnutrition; maternal, adolescent, infant and young child nutrition (MAIYCN), Nutrition and infection; Nutrition and lifestyle related non-communicable diseases; and Nutrition program management.

**International Micronutrient Forum:**

With the leadership of the Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (EHNRI) and the Micronutrient Initiative (MI), the third international micronutrient forum conference is planned to be held in June 2014, in Ethiopia. During this reporting period, ENGINE participated in three steering committee meetings to organize the conference, and establish sub committees for logistics, fund raising, communication and program management.

**Support national micronutrient survey:**

MoH/EHNRI invited ENGINE to technically and financially support the upcoming national micronutrients (iodine, vitamin A, iron and zinc) survey in Ethiopia, planned to commence data collection from Sept. 2013. During this reporting period, funds committed for the survey from ENGINE were transferred to the EHNRI project bank account. In addition to this, ENGINE has been providing technical support in survey tools development.

**Health Sector Development Program (HSDP VI) review:**

In its capacity as nutrition partner for FMoH, ENGINE participated in HSDP IV midterm review, where health and nutrition data were collected from regions, health facilities and communities to assess the performance of HSDP. The report will be used by MoH and its partners to assess achievements and challenges, as well as ways to improve HSDP implementation.

**IR 1.2: Strengthened pre-service and in-service nutrition training for health care agents****Planned activities:**

- Conduct second internal monitoring assessments for Standards-Based Management and Recognition (SBM-R) activities
- Integrate nutrition into the curricula for health and agriculture institutions
- Facilitate nutrition technical update training for selected institutions
- Organize nutrition forum for agriculture graduates
- Provide effective teaching skills training to university teachers
- Procure materials to strengthen nutrition education
- Establish academic center of excellence for nutrition education
- Develop and pilot test nutrition program manager training manual

**Accomplishments****Strategy 1.2.1: Pre-service education (PSE) for health care providers and agricultural agents**

**Implement second internal monitoring assessment for SMB-R activities:**

All 12 PSE institutions were monitored for the continuous nutrition education quality improvement process using the SBM-R tool following the module II workshops held last quarter. Jhpiego conducted the follow-up by phone and during on-site visits to Jimma University, Hawassa University, Alage and Shire Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) colleges. Some of the improvements documented at project institutions using the SBM-R tool included improved infrastructure, increased access and availability of improved training materials, and additional equipment and expansion of nutrition skill labs. Moreover, staff established regular meetings to discuss improving the teaching-learning process. Further to this, SBM-R has become a standing agenda item in the academic commission meetings in some of the project institutions.

**Integrate nutrition into curricula for health and agriculture institutions:**

During this reporting period, one on-site nutrition content integration workshop was conducted for Hawassa University, School of Human Nutrition and College of Health Science, from April 25-27, 2013. The purpose of the workshop was to integrate nutrition competencies into the curricula for undergraduate nutritionists and health science professionals. A total of 13 (8 male, 5 female) participants attended the workshops and 10 courses were revised and standardized. As a result of the workshop, the integrated courses were accepted by higher-level educational institutions and the standardized nutrition modules will be a model for other ENGINE-supported PSE institutions.

**Facilitate nutrition technical update training:**

One of the gaps identified by the preliminary PSE baseline assessment was the lack of nutrition information for health science and agriculture instructors. As a result, ENGINE planned nutrition technical update training, with the objective of building the capacity of nutrition course instructors in ATVET. This includes enabling instructors to discuss the basics of human nutrition, identify the role of the agriculture sector in nutrition and effectively integrate and deliver essential nutrition information into their courses. A total of 24 (3 female, 21 male) animal and plant science instructors from ATVET colleges were trained. Participants were also provided with national policy/strategy documents and selected up-to-date nutrition technical materials to share with instructors and students at their respective institutions.

**Organize nutrition forum for health and agriculture graduates:**

During this reporting period, a half-day nutrition forum was conducted at Shire ATVET College for 246 (138 male, 108 female) graduating students, the college community and zonal health and agriculture program managers. It focused on the magnitude of malnutrition in Ethiopia and interventions to address malnutrition, as well as the importance of multi-sector collaboration based on the revised NNP. This forum was highly interactive and sensitized the graduating students to the

importance of translating nutrition into income, rather than only on maximizing the production and sale of food products. Some agriculture graduates expressed disappointment that this nutrition training was held at the end of their program rather than being included in their formal curriculum. The forum enabled graduates to understand key nutrition challenges and the need to advocate for multi-sector coordination at all levels of the health and agriculture extension program.

**Provide effective teaching skills training:**

In this reporting period, on-site effective teaching skills (ETS) trainings were given to 32 instructors (30 male, 2 female) at Alage ATVET College. In addition, the following improvements were documented as outcomes of previous ETS trainings: 1.) Improved classroom instruction (course syllabi are now provided at the beginning of courses, session plans are consistently developed by instructors and there is a shift from didactic teaching style to interactive facilitation); 2.) Increased practical instruction (nutrition lab corners have been established in nursing and midwifery departments and learning guides are available for students in nutrition skills labs); and 3.) A more rigorous assessment approach has been established (exam committees are revitalized in some institutions and exam questions are checked for validity).

**Procure materials to strengthen nutrition education:**

ENGINE will provide nutrition materials, reference books and equipment for PSE institutions to strengthen the theoretical and practical teaching of nutrition. In the third quarter, Jhpiego started the procurement process of the final approved list of materials through a local bidding process. However, some of the laboratory equipment and selected reference books were not available from local vendors, so the project had to re-advertise for an international bid. Procurement from the local market will be completed by the fourth quarter and locally procured materials will be distributed to PSE institutions before the end of the fourth quarter.

**Establish academic center of excellence for nutrition:**

ENGINE plans to establish a center of excellence (CoE) for nutrition in one of the four project-supported universities. ENGINE, in collaboration with MoH, has established a center of excellence committee composed of MoH, MoE, EHNRI and ENGINE (Jhpiego and Save the Children). As part of this initiative a TOR was developed. A request for proposals was sent to the four universities, after which three submitted proposals. The center of excellence committee selected the School of Human Nutrition Food Science and Technology, Hawassa University. ENHRI raised a concern that the CoE had an overlapping mandate with EHNRI. Subsequently the purpose of the center was harmonized with ENHRI and activities. EHNRI requested that the name of the center be changed to 'Academic Centre of Excellence for Nutrition' to clearly distinguish it from EHNRI and avoid any

overlap. Next quarter, the planning committee will continue moving forward with plans to establish the center according to the TOR in close partnership with ENHRI.

### **Strategy 1.2.2. In-service capacity-building for program managers and existing health care providers (health officers, nurses, doctors)**

#### **Develop and field test nutrition training manual for program managers:**

During this reporting period, ENGINE developed a draft program managers training package for pilot testing. As part of the development process, the package was field tested from June 24-28, 2013 with 19 (all male) agriculture and health program managers from six Oromia *woredas*. In the next quarter, the manual will be finalized after incorporating the feedback gathered during the pilot training. This will be followed by a Training of Trainers (TOT) for regional trainers who will in turn train nutrition and agriculture managers.

## **IR 2: Quality and delivery of nutrition and health care services improved**

### **Planned activities:**

- Develop quality improvement (QI) model and road map for integration into nutrition services
- Promote coaching and mentoring for members of the health delivery service
- Support quality project implementation at ENGINE operational levels
- Support integrated supportive supervision (ISS) with government offices
- Provide MIYCN training for program managers, health workers (HWs), HEWs, and DAs
- Develop Community Conversations (CC) training manual and train 45 ToTs in CC
- Support WorHOs and health facilities (HFs) with the distribution of nutrition supplies, as needed
- Support transition of Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) to Child Health Days (CHDs)

### **IR 2.1: Quality of nutrition services strengthened**

#### **Strategy 2.1.1: Facilitate integration of quality improvement processes with Government of Ethiopia (GoE) coordination entities, HFs & communities**

### **Develop QI model to improve quality of nutritional services at community and facility level:**

#### **Hcs and HPs**

During this reporting period, a consulting firm hired by ENGINE conducted a QI assessment of nutrition services provided at 24 HFs (mix of health facilities and health posts) in eight selected *woredas* in the four target regions. The final findings of the assessment are being reviewed and will be used to develop a QI road map to integrate QI into nutrition services in the fourth quarter.

### **Promote coaching and mentoring across members of the health delivery service:**

In the third quarter, a total of 269 HWs and 343 HEWs in 93 HCs and 164 HPs were mentored on MIYCN counseling by ENGINE zonal coordinators in Oromia, Amhara, and Tigray regions. The mentoring was conducted using an observation detailed checklist to determine if HW/HEWs are providing quality counseling according to the project-supported MIYCN training. Following the mentoring visits, the zonal coordinators gave the health professionals verbal feedback and demonstrated optimal counseling techniques to transfer skills and knowledge. Action steps were also recorded for continued follow-up.<sup>3</sup>

### **Support quality of project implementation through supportive supervision at ENGINE operational levels:**

This quarter, the ENGINE regional team participated in joint ISS visits with 26 WorHOs at 105 HCs, 129 HPs, and 180 households in the four target regions. On-the-spot supervision feedback was provided to the HCs and HPs and recorded on the ISS checklists.

ENGINE staff conducted post training follow-up of MIYCN trained health workers in the Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region (SNNP) and Amhara region covering 58 HCs and three HPs for 83 HWs. The purpose was to identify areas of support and strengthen the provision of quality nutrition services at these facilities. In SNNP region, in all nine visited HCs and three HPs, MIYCN trained HWs were adequately providing the counseling services. HC staff were delivering on-the-job MIYCN orientation to HEWs under their supervision. However, there was a lack of Information, Education and Communication (IEC)/Behavior Change Communication (BCC) job aids in the three HPs, and the number of women counseled were not recorded and registered. These gaps were addressed by the supervision team.

---

<sup>3</sup> The mentoring is different from post-training follow-up in that it involves the checking the skills of the HW by the mentor (usually the ENGINE zonal coordinator). The mentor demonstrates how to do the counseling steps and required counseling process. In post-training follow up, the zonal coordinators check whether trained HWs are placed in the expected unit of service delivery points and if they have started the counseling in their HCs.

In addition, ENGINE staff conducted health facility supervision in all the designated regions, covering 90 HCs, 77 HPs and 51 households in 19 *woredas* using the ENGINE supervision checklist. A summary of the major findings for SNNP, East Oromia, and Amhara are shown in Table I.

**Table I: Health facility supportive supervision visits conducted in Quarter III**

Region	Supervision sites	Main findings	Recommendations
SNNP	28 HCs and 22 HPs in 11 <i>woredas</i>	<b>Strengths:</b> MIYCN counseling cards are available at key points (U5, ANC, and delivery); MIYCN recording has started in some HCs; At HPs, MIYCN counseling is being done using job aids. <b>Gaps:</b> Not all HF register MIYCN counseling; essential nutrition commodities are in short supply in both HCs and HPs.	The findings were discussed with HEWs, HC staff and WorHO heads. Optimal MIYCN skills were demonstrated; follow-up visits are scheduled next quarter.
East Oromia	5 HCs and 8 HPs in 2 <i>woredas</i>	<b>Strengths:</b> MIYCN counseling is given at HCs; Micronutrient supplements (vitamin A, iron/folate) are available; job aids are used for counseling; cooking demonstrations were carried out in a few HCs; most HPs have either conducted or plan to conduct food demonstrations next quarter. <b>Gaps:</b> Nutrition counseling not recorded at contact points; zinc not provided to all children with diarrhea; iron/folate not given to all pregnant mothers; nutrition counseling skills need improvement; in some HPs, zinc had expired; and recording of MIYCN counseling is not consistent at HPs.	HFs will start documenting MIYCN counseling activities in the remarks column of antenatal care (ANC) and post-natal care (PNC) registers. For HPs, a separate registration book will be supplied to record MIYCN counseling. Availability of zinc and expiration dates are being discussed with the WorHO. On-the-job training and mentoring activities will be provided by ENGINE team will partner with government counterparts to improve the quality of MIYCN counseling.
Amhara	7 HCs and 6 HPs in 5 <i>woredas</i>	<b>Gaps:</b> Counseled mothers were not registered and reported. MIYCN counseling aids were not being used. Micronutrient stock-outs were observed.	ENGINE team will work with government counterparts to improve MIYCN counseling and registration as well as advocating for adequate supply of micronutrient supplements for women and children.

### **Strategy 2.1.2: Build capacity of health facility and frontline workers to provide high quality services**

#### **Provide training to program managers, HWs and HEWs:**

During this report period, ENGINE trained a total of 3730 staff (health and agriculture) in child health and nutrition in all regions (see Table 2 below). Out of this, 2610 were health workers trained in MIYCN (see Table 3 below).

**Table 2: Total number of people trained in child health and nutrition by region and sex, ENGINE, April-June 2013**

Region	Male	Female	Total
Oromia	574	1328	1902
Amhara	170	109	279
Tigray	184	417	601
SNNP	805	143	948
Total	1733	1997	3730

**Table 3: Health workers trained in MIYCN, ENGINE, April-June 2013**

Region	Male	Female	Total
Oromia	352	1287	1639
Amhara	124	108	232
Tigray	150	413	563
SNNP	155	21	176
Total	781	1829	2610

**Build capacity of agriculture extension workers (AEWs) and DAs)in nutrition topics:**

In this quarter, ENGINE trained a total of 1120 agriculture workers/experts, home economists, DAs and schoolteachers in nutrition-sensitive agriculture (see Table 4 below). The training covered school gardening techniques, agronomic practices of vegetable production, cooking demonstrations and dietary diversity. The trainees will provide technical support to households, FTCs and school gardens in their localities.

**Table 4: Number of agriculture workers, and schoolteachers trained in nutrition-sensitive agriculture ENGINE, April-June, 2013**

Region	Male	Female	Total
Oromia	222	41	263
SNNP	650	122	772
Tigray	34	4	38
Amhara	46	1	47
Total	952	168	1120

**Improve tools used by frontline health and agriculture workers to promote the harmonization of nutrition messaging:**

During this reporting period, ENGINE printed and distributed 2,800 quick reference books and 2,800 counseling cards (brief cases) and 800 MIYCN counseling cards. These materials were produced in three languages (Amharic, Oromiffa and Tigrigna) and will be used by HWs and HEWs in all four regions (See Table 5, below).

**Table 5: Counseling material printed and distributed, April-June 2013**

Description	Amharic	Oromiffa	Tigrigna
Quick reference booklet	1,200	1,500	100
Counseling cards /brief case	1,500	1,200	100
MIYCN counseling card	300	400	100

## **IR.2.2 Health and nutrition services seeking behaviors increased**

**Strategy 2.2.1: Develop the social and behavior change communication (SBCC) strategy as it relates to health-seeking behaviors (discussed in IR 3.1 in detail)**

**Strategy 2.2.2: Mobilize communities to seek health/nutrition services**

**Develop CC training manual and conduct TOTs:**

The CC training manual was initially planned to be completed by Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (JHU-CCP) in the third quarter of year I. However, due to continuous delays, it was not submitted to ENGINE until April 12, 2013, a year later. Due to quality issues it was returned to JHU-CCP with substantial revisions required (see challenges section). On July 1, 2013, JHU-CCP submitted an improved CC training guide with a reference notebook and job aids, which will be field tested and adapted to the local context in the next quarter. The CC notebook includes a step-by-step process for facilitating discussions to promote nutrition skills for pregnant and lactating mothers, adolescents and children under two. The Master CC TOT—also delayed by more than one year—will be conducted in the next quarter for three selected implementing non-government organizations (NGOs).<sup>4</sup>

**Identify key community groups and change agents that can promote nutrition and health services:**

ENGINE identified 24 *kebeles* in three regions to pilot the CCs (Amhara, Oromia and Tigray). Each *kebele* will establish five CC groups, with a total of 120 CC groups to be established. The selection criteria used was *kebeles* with a high-density population and those with ENGINE livelihood activities. The implementing NGOs have prepared a six-month action plan to roll out the CC activities at the grassroots level. To creating linkages with the CC participants and service providers, ENGINE has developed a new referral card for community change agents (CCAs). Thus, the project-supported

---

<sup>4</sup> Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Development and Inter-Church AID Commission (EOC-DICAC), Ethiopian Muslim Relief and Development Association (EMRDA), and Mums for Mums (MUM).

CCs will complement the Health Extension Program (HEP) BCC activities and strengthen the comprehensive behavior change approach at the community level.

### **IR 2.3: Access to health and nutrition services increased**

#### **Strategy 2.3.1: Strengthening the referral system and access to essential supplies within maternal and child health services**

##### **Link with existing programs and partners:**

In year one, ENGINE trained mother support groups (MSGs) at HCs in MIYCN counseling in the context of HIV/AIDS. This quarter, five HCs were supervised in the Silte and East Gojjam zones, in SNNPR and Amhara region. The supervision visits showed that the MSGs are providing peer MICYN counseling services to HIV positive pregnant and lactating women at HCs, and also registering the counseling data. However, MSGs in Amhara region (Durbetie, Jiga, Dejen and Bichena *woredas*) are faced with the following challenges: absence of updated knowledge on HIV-exposed infant feeding, resource limitations for the graduation ceremony of HIV-free children and lack of audiovisual counseling aids (both nutrition and HIV). These problems will be discussed at the next MSG review meeting and an action plan will be developed to address them. ENGINE will also give a technical session at the review meeting on infant feeding guidelines for HIV-exposed infants to strengthen counseling skills.

During the third quarter, ENGINE supported measles immunization campaigns in Oromia, Amhara and SNNP regions from May to June 2013. ENGINE zonal coordinators were instrumental in planning the campaigns, supervising activities and supporting a post-measles campaign survey. In addition, ENGINE provided financial support, transport of vaccines and vehicles for supervision. In Arsi zone, Oromia region, ENGINE assisted the immunization of 315,000 children between the age of 9-59 months, of which 31,051 were vaccinated from ENGINE targeted *woredas* (Adaba, Dodola and Kofele).

#### **Support Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) transition to Health Extension Program (HEP) and implementation of Child Health Days (CHD)**

##### **Support CHD implementation:**

CHD is a community based implementation modality organized every quarter to screen malnutrition in under-5 children and pregnant and lactating women, provide group education and vitamin A and deworming every six months. ENGINE supported the CHD activities by planning the events, conducting supportive supervision, transporting nutrition commodities to provisional sites, disseminating IEC/BCC materials, covering staff per diem, and participating in post-CHD data

validation surveys. This quarter ENGINE supported the third round CHD implementation in 34 target *woredas* in all regions. In doing so, a total of **609,524** under-5 children and **464,486** 2-5 year old children were provided with vitamin A and albendazole tablets (see **Table 6** below).

ENGINE observed implementation gaps during the CHD supervision as indicated in the last report, of greatest significance was: Low attention given to the nutritional screening program by WorHOs and HPs; poor community mobilization; not using the HDAs, mothers' lack of awareness about the screening program; and poor registration, recording, and reporting. The ENGINE team in all regions discussed these issues with the zonal health department (ZHD) and WorHOs on how to resolve and maintain the quality and coverage of services in the fourth round of CHD.

**Table 6: Number of children provided with vitamin A and deworming tablets by region, Quarter-III, April-June 2013**

Region	# Under-5 children supplemented with Vitamin A	# of dewormed children (2-5 years)
Oromia	422997	336869
Tigray	124073	83037
SNNP	62454	44580
<b>Total children</b>	<b>609524</b>	<b>464486</b>

N.B: Amhara region did not conduct vitamin A supplementation & deworming in the third quarter

**Table 7: Summary of nutrition screening data in 34 *woredas* of Oromia, Tigray, Amhara, and SNNP regions, April-June, 2013**

Region	Population target 6-59 months children	# of under-5 children screened	Coverage (%)	Target PLWs	Screened PLWs	Coverage (%)
Amhara	109188	88091	81	22764	8897	39
Oromia	556608	527689	95	141745	85694	60
Tigray	129,036	124,107	96	32959	21991	67
SNNP	27678	27359	99	10554	16362	155
<b>Total screened</b>	<b>822,510</b>	<b>767,246</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>208,022</b>	<b>132,944</b>	<b>64</b>

N.B: PLW: pregnant and lactating women.

### **IR3.1 Maternal, infant and young child feeding knowledge and practices improved**

ENGINE will implement its SBCC activities combining individual counseling with multiple communication channels to promote optimal nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) behaviors. The SBCC strategy includes the counseling services provided by the government health extension service (HEWs, DAs, and HWs), at the individual and community level (See under IR2.1, strategy 2.1.2), and will be guided by the findings of the formative research.

#### **Planned Activities:**

- Conduct formative research and disseminate findings to key stakeholders
- Develop ENGINE SBCC strategy and communication materials and job aids
- Design and broadcast radio drama series and radio talk show

#### **Strategy 3.1.1: Develop SBCC strategy through powerful formative research**

##### **Conduct formative research to develop SBCC strategy:**

After over a year's delay (see challenges section), JHU-CCP completed the formative research data collection, following the training of enumerators and piloting the tools in selected *kebeles* in Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR regions. Data is currently being transcribed and analyzed. The final formative research report and dissemination workshop will be conducted next quarter.

##### **Develop SBCC strategy and communication materials:**

This quarter, JHU-CCP submitted a revised SBCC strategy after receiving substantial feedback from ENGINE on the initial version (see challenges section). The strategy and job aids will be finalized based on the formative research findings.

#### **Strategy 3.1.2: Promote optimal nutrition practices through dynamic communication channels**

##### **Radio Drama Series:**

The draft radio drama design document was prepared this quarter and will be finalized next quarter. JHU-CCP issued a request for a proposal for production companies to produce the 26 radio drama series in three languages (Amharic, Oromifa and Tigrigna). The regional radio stations will then broadcast the radio series and monitor them based on listener feedback.

**Radio Talk Show:**

As reported last quarter, ENGINE launched a 17-week radio talk-show in the four target regions. It was broadcast in three languages under the name “Shi Qenat”, which means the first 1,000 days. During this quarter, the four contracted regional radio stations have continued to produce and broadcast the “Shih Qenat” talk show with technical and logistical support from JHU-CCP. In SNNPR and Oromia, a total of 14 and 11 episodes were produced respectively, while in Amhara and Tigray regions 8 and 14 episodes were produced. The remaining episodes will be produced and broadcasted next quarter.

The radio show is estimated to have a total reach of 977,300 in the four regions.<sup>5</sup> The contracted radio stations have collected feedback from SMSs, voice calls and question and answer (Q&A) participation and summarized the findings in a mid-term report. The findings show that listeners are engaged because the radio program goes deep into the concerns of the society, as well as discussing relevant problems and solutions. Listeners commented that the presentation style is interesting and participatory. Some regular listeners mentioned specific episodes that attracted their attention, such as the health and nutrition problems of pregnant women.

**IR 3.2. Access to food and economic strengthening opportunities through programming and cross sector linkage increased****Planned activities:**

- Identify vulnerable beneficiaries and organize into groups
- Provide inputs to households such as improved seed varieties and horticultural hand tools
- Provide improved/local breed productive livestock to selected vulnerable households
- Train vulnerable households in small business management, nutrition, gender and related technical skills
- Train schoolteachers on gardening and food preparation
- Provide printed teaching aids on nutrition and farming technology to schools
- Provide financial and material support for FTCs and school gardens
- Support school and FTC events to demonstrate agricultural practices, food preparation and post-harvest technologies for the wider community
- Conduct experience-sharing visit on gardening for best performing schools
- Promote improved seed varieties in setting up the fruit and vegetable nurseries
- Assess feasibility of promoting asset protection through micro-insurance

---

<sup>5</sup> Radio reach = (Prevalence of radio possession, Census 2007) X (ENGINE's population) X (Gross reach according to the “Alive & Thrive, Ethiopia. Radio Reach assessment for IYCF and TV spots ” Draft 2012, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

## Accomplishments

### Strategy 3.2.1: Apply economic strengthening (ES) interventions to meet households' needs

#### Activity (ii) Match economic opportunities with household interest and capabilities.

##### Identify vulnerable beneficiaries and organize into groups:

In this reporting period, ENGINE identified a total of 1926 vulnerable households (VHHs) from all year two target *woredas* for livelihood and economic strengthening interventions.

**Table 8: Newly identified VHHs from year two *woredas*, ENGINE, April-June 2013**

Region	# VHHs identified
Oromia	855
Amhara	540
Tigray	320
SNNP	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>1926</b>

##### Train VHHs in small business management, nutrition, gender and related technical skills:

During this reporting period, 1441 individuals from the total of 1926 selected VHHs in the 42 Year II *woredas* were trained in homestead vegetable production, animal husbandry, business management and nutrition in Tigray, Oromia, Amhara and SNNP (see Table 9). The remaining 485 will be trained during the fourth quarter.

**Table 9: Number of individuals from VHHs trained in vegetable and livestock production, animal husbandry, gender and nutrition, April-June 2013**

Region	Male	Female	Total
SNNP	0	150	150
Oromia	0	660	660
Tigray	10	381	391
Amhara	0	240	240
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1431</b>	<b>1441</b>

##### Provide technical and material support to address strategic needs of VHHs:

ENGINE planned to apply an innovative homestead gardening agronomics methodology called home-based perma-gardening. It gives good yield in small plots of land, utilizes compost and uses water economically. As a pilot, 302 agricultural experts, DAs, teachers and ENGINE zonal coordinators

were given home-based perma-garden training to provide technical support to targeted VHHs to increase their production and income security using the new method. The outcomes of the perma-gardens will be followed for the real application into their farming and homestead activities during the fourth quarter. The production of the produce will be measured and compared with the normal gardening of the same farmer or neighboring farmer using the same area of land. If successful, the project will scale-up to other targeted households and DAs will be trained in perma-gardening techniques.

**Strategy 3.2.2: Facilitate community-based learning on agricultural techniques for increased production of diverse foods**

**Activity (i) Promote FTCs demonstration plots and school demonstration gardens**

**Train schoolteachers in gardening and food preparation (cooking):**

In this reporting period, ENGINE trained 510 teachers and *woreda* education office staffs in school gardening and nutrition, which exceeds the annual target (Table 10) of 400. This is because the training includes *woreda* education staff who are directly involved in supervision of the specific school we are working with. The purpose of bringing the education staff on board was to get them to buy in to the training and replicate it to other cluster schools in the *woreda*.

**Table 10: Number of schoolteachers trained in nutrition and school gardening training, April-June 2013**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Amhara	185	141	326
Tigray	34	4	38
SNNP	78	68	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>510</b>

**Provide printed teaching aids on nutrition and farming technology to schools:**

ENGINE trained 510 teachers then distributed the following training manuals and toolkits to be used as reference materials: ‘Setting up and running a school garden manual and teaching toolkit’ and ‘Customized nutrition and gardening training manual.’

**Provide financial and material support for FTC and school gardens:**

ENGINE provided 35 FTCs (12 FTCs in Amhara and 23 FTCs in Oromia) with cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard and Irish potato seeds during this reporting period. Similarly, ENGINE provided a total

of 64 schools (4 in Tigray, 9 in Amhara and 32 in Oromia and 19 in SNNP) with farm tools, and 46 schools (8 in Amhara, 36 in Oromia and 2 in SNNP) with vegetable seeds. Of the total 46 schools where vegetable seeds were distributed, 28 schools were from year II *woredas* and of the total 64 schools where farm tools were distributed, 47 were from year II *woredas*. Financial support has not been provided for schools because the students and teachers have volunteered to care for the gardens.

**Support school and FTC events to demonstrate agricultural practices, food preparation and post-harvest technologies for the wider community:**

To improve MIYCN practices at household and community levels, agronomic and cooking demonstration events were organized in FTCs and schools in all the regions during the reporting period. As Table II shows, a total of 14,695 individuals attended the events, including 8719 females at 58 events (6 events in Tigray, 11 in Amhara, 28 in Oromia and 13 in SNNP regions). Farmers, students and surrounding community members were among the participants. Demonstrations focused primarily on cooking diversified foods including the vegetables produced at FTC and school garden plots.

**Table II: Number of individuals participating in agronomic and cooking demonstration events, ENGINE, April-June 2013**

Region	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Oromia	2542	4854	7396
Amhara	2030	1715	3745
Tigray	998	1116	2114
SNNP	406	1034	1440
<b>Total</b>	<b>5976</b>	<b>8719</b>	<b>14695</b>

**Conduct experience-sharing visit on gardening in best performing schools:**

ENGINE conducted experience-sharing visits on nutrition-sensitive vegetable gardening at schools and FTCs in Tigray and Oromia regions. Representatives (including *woreda* administration, women affairs, zonal education and agriculture heads, schools heads and teachers, *woreda* agriculture, etc) from 16 schools and 12 FTCs in the Tigray region and 56 schools in the Oromia region, visited the best performing school gardens supported by ENGINE. These were Chere school, Dodola Woreda in Oromia Region and Menkere School, Ofka Woreda in Tigray region. The participants suggested students and farmers should apply the lesson learned from schools to their homes. Other schools should visit and then apply the learning to similar school gardens in the *woredas*. The importance of

documenting lessons-learned and the need for agriculture extension support in agronomic practices was stressed.

**Facilitate effective approaches to small-scale horticulture and animal production to increase access to food for the most vulnerable households:**

During the reporting period, a total of 2,178 HHs were provided with different types of vegetable seeds (see Table 12 below).

**Table 12: Number of households supported for homestead fruit and vegetable production by region**

Region	Gender of head of household		
	Male headed	Female headed	Total number of HHs
Tigray	0	561	561
Amhara	157	436	593
Oromia	34	900	934
SNNP	71	19	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>1916</b>	<b>2178</b>

**Promote farming technology package and livestock at the household level:**

As shown in Table 13 below, a total of 1581 productive livestock (1229 sheep and 352 goats) were procured and distributed to 419 HHs in this quarter. Ten farmers were provided with chickens, which have started producing 8 to 10 eggs per day and 178 to 300 eggs per individual household. The targeted HHs have reported that they have begun consuming the eggs in the household and selling the surplus.

**Table 13: Number of productive livestock distributed to HHs by region, April-June, 2013**

Regions	Number of HHs provided with productive livestock in quarter- III			Number of productive livestock provided to HHs in quarter -III				Total
	Male headed	Female headed	Total number of HHs	Sheep	Goat	Chicken	Heifer	
Tigray	7	142	149	180	340	0	0	520
Oromia	0	23	23	77	0	0	0	77
SNNP	172	75	247	972	12	0	0	984
<b>Total</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1581</b>



Figure 2: Productive livestock distribution in Dehub Ari Woreda of SNNP Region

**Aid communities to identify local storage and process capacity and existing and potential technologies**

**Support post-harvest technology workshop and/or demonstration:**

ENGINE contacted the MoA and agricultural research institutes to promote technologies but have not yet received a response. The project has have started compiling a post-harvest management manual of important vegetable crops used by ENGINE interventions.

**Support nutrition sensitive agriculture research (universities and research institutes):**

This activity is currently postponed, pending responses from universities and research institutions. ENGINE will continue to pursue options next quarter and will arrange a follow-up meeting.

**Promote asset protection through micro-insurance:**

In this reporting period, ENGINE conducted a micro-insurance feasibility assessment to promote asset protection through livestock micro-insurance. Following the recommendation of the assessment and identifying the most feasible option in different regions, ENGINE will pilot livestock micro-insurance in year III.

## **IR 4: Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted**

### **IR 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy**

#### **Planned activities:**

- Design research studies and develop protocols
- Conduct research development workshops
- Initiate data collection for at least four studies
- Obtain ethical clearances for the research studies
- Support MSc research capacity building at local universities
- Conduct research methodology training for university teachers

### **Strategy 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy**

#### **Finalize subcontract agreement with research partner institutes:**

During this reporting period, subcontract agreements between Tufts University and all local research partners<sup>6</sup> were signed. The successful completion of the subcontract agreements will facilitate the smooth implementation of planned OR activities over the life of the project.

#### **Design research studies and develop protocols:**

Since the development of the Year II work plan, the classification of ENGINE's OR has been broadly organized into three main areas; (i) nutrition policy research; (ii) birth cohort study; and (iii) nutrition-agriculture study.

#### **Conduct research development workshops:**

In this reporting period, the Jimma cohort studies protocol finalization workshop was conducted from June 10-14 2013, with the objective of finalizing the details of the two cohort studies (birth cohort and agriculture-nutrition panel). The workshop was hosted by Jimma University. Tufts University researchers facilitated the workshop with the active participation of collaborators from SC-ENGINE, EHNRI, Hawassa University, Jimma University and Tufts University. The major outcomes of the workshop included; deciding on sampling methodologies; identifying high priority and secondary-research questions; identifying staffing (including the Principle Investigators (PIs) and Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs), budgetary needs and management; and PhD students capacity-building issues (see report in Annex I).

---

<sup>6</sup> Hawassa University, Jimma University and the EHNRI

**PhD research capacity building activities:**

ENGINE has identified seven PhD candidates who will pursue their studies in Human Nutrition at Jimma University through a joint program with Ghent University, Belgium. The PhD candidates include three from Jimma University, two from EHNRI, two from Hawassa University and one from Tufts University. All candidates' research topics are in line with ENGINE research priority areas. The capacity-building program will start in September 2013. The potential opportunities discussed were: (1) to use local technical resources to train researchers on statistical analysis and study design; (2) to organize a mini-library on nutrition reference texts for each research partner and Tufts Addis office (electronic or hardcopy); and (3) to use Tufts one year, online graduate certificate courses, as an immediate capacity-building mechanism.

**Initiate data collection for at least four studies:**

This activity is awaiting final preparation of the research protocols and pending ethical approvals. The Jimma birth cohort study data collection will be initiated in September 2013, while the nutrition-agriculture cohort study data collection will start in January 2014 (to accommodate the post-harvest season of 2013). Data collection for acute undernutrition operations research with Jimma University has not yet started as data collectors and supervisors are being recruited in this quarter. However, final selection of study *kebeles*, pilot testing of study questionnaires, and procurement of necessary study equipments from outside and inside Ethiopia were completed in this reporting period. The data collection will start in the fourth quarter.

**Nutrition policy research entitled “Assessing multi-sector coordination for nutrition policy effectiveness”:**

Analysis of facilitators, constraints and solutions for effective implementation” is waiting a written approval from the EHNRI's Scientific and Ethical Review Committee. In this reporting period, the PI for this study (Dr. Eileen Kennedy) has provided a two-day training on qualitative data collection to EHNRI collaborators, who are leading the sub-national section of the data collection, analysis and write up. The nutrition policy research data collection is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter.

**MSc research capacity building at local universities:**

As one of its nutrition capacity building objectives, ENGINE has been engaged in supporting five local universities in four implementation regions. Since the start of project, ENGINE technically and financially supported 26 MSc student's thesis from five universities: Jimma, Gondar, Hawssa, Mekelle and Harommaya. Of these, six students were supported from Gondar University during this reporting period. Among those who successfully defended their thesis, two students were selected and presented their MSc research findings at the national NNP launch workshop.

### **Research methodology training:**

This activity was planned with the objective of building the research capacity of the local university teachers in nutrition research. However, because of competing priorities the activity is reprogrammed for the third year.

## **IR 4.2: Develop and manage an innovative documentation and dissemination strategy**

### **Planned activities:**

- Continue baseline survey data collection for year II *woredas*
- Prepare for barrier to access analysis (SQUEAC assessment)
- Conduct data quality assessments at health facilities
- Train HWs on nutrition monitoring and evaluation (M&E), data presentation and data utilization
- Assist *woredas* in evidence-based health sector planning
- Support review meetings with government counterparts
- Develop communication strategy for documenting ENGINE's activities

## **Accomplishments**

### **Continue ENGINE baseline survey data collection for year II *woredas*:**

ENGINE completed nine *woredas*, compared to the seven planned this quarter.<sup>7</sup> Since the launch of the baseline survey in June 2012, a total of 34 *woredas* have been surveyed. In June 2013, Valid International and Tufts University made a joint supportive supervision visit to Sidama zone. The team found the survey to be going smoothly with continued high quality data collection. The data collection will be completed in the fourth quarter.

### **Prepare for SQUEAC assessment:**

ENGINE plans to conduct a semi-quantitative evaluation of access and coverage (SQUEAC) survey early next year to better understand the barriers and facilitators of community-level Infant and Young Child Nutrition (IYCF) practices, as well as explore some of the baseline findings. Valid International has submitted a rationale document for a SQUEAC investigation, with a focus on early

---

<sup>7</sup> The nine surveyed *woredas* were four intervention *woredas*: Dera, Burie, Wondogenet and Yem 'Special' and five control *woredas*: Semen Bench, Fogera, Boricha, Ginir and Gasera.

initiation of breastfeeding and dietary diversity, which was commented on by Save the Children. The full design document will be developed in the fourth quarter.

**Conduct data quality assessments at health centers and health posts:**

In the third quarter, ENGINE conducted the first data quality assessment at three health centers and three health posts in three *woredas* (South Achefer, Dangila and Takussa) of the Amhara region. The data quality assessment was done using the lot quality assurance sampling (LQAS) approach recommended by the Ethiopian Health Management Information System (HMIS) and will continue in all ENGINE-supported regions. The assessment showed that HC data inaccuracies are high, especially in North Achefer *woreda*, which was found to have the poorest level. Data errors were noted in all under-5 clinics due to the rotation of trained HWs and lack of nutrition counseling registration. In contrast to the HCs, the data elements were found to be accurate at the HPs. The ENGINE team shared the findings with HC management and staff for immediate action, and discussed how to correct the observed errors. In addition, HWs were trained in data quality (see training section below). ENGINE's M&E officers and health zonal coordinators will follow-up with the trained HWs to mentor them on effective MIYCN data documentation and overall quality of mother and child health (MCH) data recording and reporting.

**Train HWs on nutrition M&E, data presentation and data utilization:**

ENGINE trained 248 health workers from Oromia and Amhara in the use of nutrition data, quality data assessment, recording and reporting. In Amhara, most HWs claimed they were not addressing data quality because of lack of knowledge and because it was an additional burden to their routine tasks. However, by the end of the training, participants gained the necessary skills to collect quality data and were committed to practicing data quality assessments on a quarterly basis. To monitor progress, ENGINE M&E officers and zonal coordinators will conduct post-training follow-up and mentoring for all trained HWs next quarter. In Oromia and Amhara regions, trainees raised the challenge of not having a performance monitoring team at HCs to assess the quarterly performance of the HC. ENGINE will address this gap through its quality improvement (QI) road map to be developed next quarter (see IR 2.1.1). The training in SNNP and Tigray regions was postponed until quarter four because key staff members were engaged in other government activities. For example, in Tigray region all HF personnel were participating in a mandatory two-month family folder training facilitated by the WorHO.

**Support *woreda* evidence-based health sector planning:**

*Woreda* evidence-based health sector planning is a nationally designed planning and costing tool (an Excel-based sheet) that helps *woredas* to plan adequately using available data from national and/or *woreda* level statistics. ENGINE supported this planning process through technical and financial

support. The technical support included: participation in identification of bottlenecks and their solutions; incorporating nutrition indicators outside of HMIS; and financial breakdown from government and partners. In addition, regional teams shared ENGINE's baseline survey findings to accurately plan for nutrition interventions. In fact, in Amhara, Tigray and SNNP regions, seven nutrition indicators<sup>8</sup> were incorporated into *woreda*-based planning as a result of ENGINE's input from its baseline and project indicators. The *woreda* planning has helped to incorporate ENGINE activities into the government plan and it was a good forum to bring nutrition into focus.

**Support quarterly review meetings with government counterparts:<sup>9</sup>**

During this reporting period, ENGINE provided technical and financial support for quarterly review meetings across all the regions as shown in Table 14 and 15 below.

**Table 14: Quarterly review meetings conducted in quarter III, April-June 2103**

Region	Woredas	Participants	Topics of Discussion
East Oromia	Kofele, Dodola, Wolemera, Gimibichu, Adea, Sinana, Gerar Jarso, Agarfa, Gasera, Liben Chukala, H/Abote, Yaya Gulale,	858 participants (WorHO heads, HCs heads, health center staff and HEWs)	Review of overall <i>woreda</i> health and nutrition performance; how to increase quality and coverage of CHD services by conducting social mobilization at HCs and HPs; strengthening role of HDA in CHD social mobilization; shortage of iron-folate and zinc at <i>woreda</i> level; strengthening nutrition-sensitive cooking demonstrations in all HPs with cluster HCs technical support; and shared ENGINE facility-based supportive supervisions findings, gaps, lessons learned.
Amhara	Takusa and Bure Zuria WorHo	174 HCs heads, HC staffs and HEWs	Presented 9- month performance of HFs and WorHOs; update on nutrition issues and data quality checks; lack of awareness on iodized salt promotion; integration of nutrition-related issues with pregnant women conference; and strengthening micronutrient supplementation at health facilities.
West Oromia	Ambo, Dendi, Toko Kutaye	181 participants (WorHO heads, HC heads, HEWs)	CHD coverage improvement through increased social mobilization for the 4 <sup>th</sup> round CHD; need for strong supervision support from HCs to HPs; and

<sup>8</sup> These indicators include: number of pregnant women counseled on maternal and infant nutrition, number of lactating women counseled on maternal and infant nutrition, Under-5 children who received zinc for diarrhea treatment, number of mothers advised for increased feeding while ill, children who started breastfeeding within one hour of birth, exclusive breastfeeding, and HIV positive clients who received nutritional counseling by case managers.

<sup>9</sup>Quarterly supervision visits are reported under IR2.1 in strategy 2.1.1.

			HEWs must make more frequent home visit activities to reach more households per year with complete health package, including nutrition.
Oromia RHB	All zones	80 participants from all ENGINE <i>woredas</i>	Integrated Nutrition & iCCM annual review meeting; discussed the overall nutrition performance of the region including CHDs.
Amhara	Dangila, Ankasha, Guangua, Jawi, D/Elias, Dejene and Enmaye agriculture offices	156 participants from <i>woreda</i> agriculture offices	<i>Woredas</i> evaluated the performance of ENGINE project activities; identified implementation challenges and designed solutions with stakeholders; sharing responsibility on overall project activities with <i>woreda</i> agriculture offices; and awareness and sense of ownership created as a result of the above.
SNNP	Enemur Ener, Endegagn, Goriche, Bule <i>woredas</i>	527 participants from WorHOs, HWs and HEWs attended the meeting	ENGINE & Government's nutrition implementation gaps were discussed and an action plan was developed with responsibilities assigned to participants. Linkage of nutrition program at the grass-roots level was strengthened due to commitment taken by respected participants; HEWs & DAs sector offices for all target beneficiaries; schools, FTCs, HHs & HF. Each DA & HEW took responsibility for each beneficiary to maximize the follow-up and reporting. Logistics gaps were addressed at HPs & FTCs.

During this reporting period, ENGINE conducted multi-sector review meetings in SNNP and Tigray regions as shown in Table 15 below. In Oromia, ENGINE supported regional level nutrition and integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) annual review meetings that emphasized the performance of nutrition and iCCM programs and regional commitment. In all the *woredas* and zones, ENGINE provided financial and technical support during the review meetings and ensured that nutrition was on the agenda.

**Table 15: Summary of multi-sector review meetings conducted, April-June 2103**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Woredas</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Topics of Discussion</b>
Tigray	R/Azebo, R/Alamata, E/Mehoni, Ofla woredas	76 participants from each sector: Health, agriculture, education and women's affairs offices participated in the review meeting	Woreda steering committee was evaluated- started regular monthly meetings putting nutrition high on the agenda, monitored livelihood activities, evaluating CHD performance against plan; prepared integrated action plan and submitted to women's affairs office and ENGINE; Strengthening CBN activities, early sensitization from administrators on CHD activity; improving iron-folate and zinc supply.
SNNP	Goriche	60 participants (WorHO, agriculture office, education office, woreda administration office)	ENGINE baseline survey findings presented and discussed; ENGINE activity performance presented; agreed to link each ENGINE VHHs and schools to each kebele DA and to be reported on weekly basis.

**Develop communication strategy for ENGINE's objectives, results and activities:**

During the reporting period, ENGINE hired a communication consultant to develop the overall communication strategy for ENGINE to document the learning agenda and outcomes from ENGINE program activities. The ENGINE communication strategy will be finalized in the fourth quarter and the project will develop web-based tools for the strategy and continue to document case studies and lessons-learned.

**Cross-cutting activities: Gender**

**Planned activities**

- Finalize gender audit and gender analysis reports
- Develop project-based gender strategy
- Develop gender awareness training guidelines for ENGINE

**Accomplishments**

**Conduct gender audit:**

In the second quarter, ENGINE conducted a gender audit that included ENGINE, MoH, MoA and Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs (MoWCYA) and their decentralized bureaus. It was implemented with the aim of identifying opportunities, barriers and possible entry points to promote gender sensitive nutrition programming across sectors. In this reporting period, the final gender

audit report was reviewed by the ENGINE technical team and is being finalized by the consulting firm.

### **Conduct gender analysis:**

Similar to the gender audit assessment, a gender analysis assessment was conducted in 12 selected woredas in the four project regions.

The objective was to investigate the underlying gender norms and dynamics affecting nutrition-related decisions in the households. The findings will be used to develop ENGINE's overall gender strategy to guide project implementation.

#### ***Preliminary findings from gender analysis:***

- ✎ *Women spent 13 hours a day working and nearly 50% of women spent more than six hours on food preparation.*
- ✎ *More than 50% of study participants claimed that women were passive participants in community structures while only 5% were able to make decisions.*
- ✎ *Although women had control over dairy products and poultry, the men controlled the majority of the resources.*
- ✎ *Nearly a third of women had no access to media compared to 17.4% of men.*
- ✎ *Only 13.2% of women and 23% of men had frequent access to nutrition information through radio and television.*

### **Develop gender strategy:**

After finalizing the gender audit and gender analysis assessment reports in the fourth quarter, the strategy development will be completed. The strategy will facilitate overall gender mainstreaming activities for the project and will be shared with other implementing partners. Gender issues will be fully addressed and integrated into ENGINE's nutrition and livelihood activities, such as involving men, targeting interventions that are controlled by women, empowering women to take an active role in community structures and improving women's access to nutrition information.

### **Develop a gender-awareness training manual for ENGINE:**

Following the findings of the gender audit, one of the recommendations was to develop a training manual to build gender capacity for project staff and implementing partners such as health and agriculture workers. Accordingly, during this reporting period, an ENGINE gender-awareness training manual was drafted. This will be used as a reference manual for conducting the gender-awareness training conducted by the project at all levels. In the fourth quarter, TOT training will be provided to selected ENGINE staff and experts from health and agriculture bureaus.

## **Major activities planned for next quarter (July 1, 2013-September 31, 2103)**

### **IR 1: Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies strengthened**

- Support nutrition multi-sector coordination mechanisms
- Support the National Food Fortification Program
- Develop blended nutrition training material for health workers
- Conduct PSE annual review meeting
- Follow up signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with project institutions
- Conduct content integration workshop for health science colleges
- Conduct syllabi harmonization for courses to which nutrition contents were integrated and technical update workshop (universities)
- Print & distribute nutrition core competency and other relevant nutrition document for all health and agriculture institutions
- Conduct knowledge update and skills standardization courses for health science colleges
- Organize four nutrition forums at ENGINE supported institutions
- Conduct two instructional design trainings for agriculture and health science colleges
- Facilitate the procurement process and distribution of materials for project supported institutions
- Continue establishing academic center of excellence (CoE) for nutrition
- Finalize competency-based training materials development for program managers
- Conduct ToT for health and agriculture program managers
- Monitoring and Evaluating PSE program: Develop year III activity plan for ENGINE PSE, document best practices of ENGINE PSE
- Collaborate with ENGINE partners (Tufts and Jhpiego) on knowledge management efforts
- Continue supporting the MoH on next steps after the launching of the NNP

### **IR 2: Quality and delivery of nutrition and health care services improved**

- Translate the job aids and training materials into three languages and distribute and monitor the printed materials
- Conduct TOT in three regions (Oromia, Amhara and Tigray)
- Train 240 community change agents at the selected *woreda*
- Establish 120 community conversation groups/sites in 24 *kebeles*
- Conduct eight sensitization workshops at *woreda* levels for concerned stakeholders
- Conduct supporting supervision for CC implementation activities at *woredas* and *kebele* levels
- Pre-test the CC materials

### **IR3: Improved prevention of undernutrition through community-based nutrition care and practices**

- Finalize formative research data analysis and disseminate the findings
- Incorporate formative research findings into SBCC strategy
- Finalize and translate (into Oromiffa and Tigrigna) the synopsis of the first 13 episodes for radio serial drama
- Pre-test the radio serial drama in all three languages and four regions, and air the radio drama in all four regions
- Continue producing the radio magazine (“Thousand Days”) shows in three different languages within the four ENGINE regions.
- Re-produce and broadcast the “Thousand Days” programs in two major local languages of the SNNPR on contracted community radio stations
- Support school and FTC events to demonstrate agricultural practices, food preparation and post-harvest technologies for the wider community in year I and year II *woredas*
- Provide training for targeted “most vulnerable households” on homestead production of horticultural crops, animal husbandry, small business management, nutrition and gender
- Provide technical support for vulnerable households, FTCs and school gardens
- Provide technical assistance to zonal coordinators on M&E activities
- Follow up with the market assessment and village saving tool

### **IR 4: Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted**

- Finalize the logistics, human and resource needs and implementation for Jimma birth cohort study
- Finalize data collection and analysis of nutrition policy research
- Implement research OR studies (hire enumerators and supervisors, train enumerators, start pretesting of study questionnaire, start enrollment of study subjects and data collection of the birth cohort study, etc)
- Training workshops for the undernutrition study teams, and start data collection
- Support MSc thesis to ENGINE PSE university
- Projected finalization of baseline survey data collection in September 2013
- Document effectiveness of livelihood interventions
- Submission of detailed SQUEAC design document
- Start preparation for mid-term evaluation
- Provide training on nutrition M&E, data utilization and presentation for WorHOs data specialists
- Support roll out of family folder (CHIS) (if any need arises)

- Conduct supportive supervision visits and participate in review meetings
- Conduct the ENGINE national review meeting with multi-sectoral partners
- Develop strategy for communicating ENGINE approach and progress to key stakeholders
- Develop the web-based tools for ENGINE communication strategy

**Cross-cutting – Gender**

- Conduct consultative workshop to develop ENGINE gender strategy
- Provide gender mainstreaming training