



Save the Children

**ENGINE: Empowering New Generations to
Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities**
A project supported by the US Global Health and Feed the Future Initiatives

Year IV Quarterly Progress Report (Quarter I)

October 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

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Acronyms

ACoE	Academic Center of Excellence
AEWs	Agriculture Extension Workers
AGP	Agriculture Growth Program
AMde	Agribusiness and Market Development in Ethiopia
ANC	Antenatal Care
AOR	Agreement Officer Representative
ATVET	Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education and Training
CBM	Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition
CC	Community Conversation
CCAs	Community Change Agents
CF	Combined feeding
CHDs	Child Health Days
CIAFS	Capacity to Improve Agriculture and Food Security
CoE	Center of excellence
COP	Chief of Party
DAs	Development Agents
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DFID	UK Department for International Development
DZARC	Debre Zeit Agricultural Research Center
EBF	Exclusive breastfeeding
ECCs	Enhanced Community Conversations
EHNR	Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute
EIAR	Ethiopia Institute of Agricultural Research
EMRDA	Ethiopian Muslim Relief and Development Association
ENGINE	Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities
EOC-DICAC	Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church Development and Inter-Church AID Commission
EPHI	Ethiopian Public Health Institute
ETF	Emergency Task Force
ETS	Effective Teaching Skills Training
FANTA-3	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FBP	Food by Prescription
FCD	Food-cooking demonstrations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
FIDO	Fayya Integrated Development Organization
FMoH	Federal Ministry of Health
FMHACA	Food, Medicine and Health Care Administration and Control Agency
FRI	Farm Radio International
FTC	Farmer training center
FtF	Feed the Future
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GRAD	Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development
HC	Health Center
HEWs	Health Extension Workers

HF _s	Health Facilities
HH	Household
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HP	Health Post
HW _s	Health Workers
iCCM	Integrated Community-based Case Management
IFA	Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation
IFHP	Integrated Family Health Program
IMNCI	Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness
IRB	Institutional Review Board
IVR	Interactive Voice Response
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
JHU-CCP	Johns Hopkins University-Center for Communication Programs
JSS	Joint Supervision Visits
JU	Jimma University
LES	Livelihood and economic strengthening
LNGO _s	Local Non-Governmental Organizations
LOE	Level of effort
LOL	Land O' Lakes, Inc.
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAIYCN	Maternal, Adolescent, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MASHAV	Israeli Agency for International Development Cooperation
MFI _s	Microfinance Institutions
MIYCN	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MOI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSG	Mothers Support Group
MVHH _s	Most Vulnerable Households
NACS	Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support
NFFSC	National Food Fortification Steering Committee
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NNCB	National Nutrition Coordinating Body
NNP	National Nutrition Program
NNTC	National Nutrition Technical Committee
NNTWG	National Nutrition Technical Working Group
NSA	Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture
OFDA	Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
OR	Operational Research
ORS	Oral Rehydration Salts
OTP	Outpatient Therapeutic Program
PEPFAR	United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PI	Principal Investigator
PPR	Peste des petits ruminants disease
PSE	Pre-service Education
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
QI	Quality Improvement

RDQA	Routine Data Quality Assessment
RFP	Request for Proposal
RNCBs	Regional Nutrition Coordinating Bodies
RNTCs	Regional Nutrition Technical Committees
RPSN	Rural Productive Safety Net
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SBM-R	Standards-Based Management and Recognition
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region
SOW	Scope of Work
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
TSFP	Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program
TU	Tufts University
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Education Fund
VAT	Value Added Tax
VESAs	Village Economic and Social Association
VI	Valid International
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
ZC	Zonal Coordinators

Executive summary

Project overview

Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities (ENGINE) is USAID's flagship integrated nutrition program, which aims to improve nutritional status of Ethiopian women and children under-five. The primary objective of this five-year (2011-2016) program is to prevent under nutrition during the first 1,000 days, from conception until the child is two years old.

Save the Children forwards the implementation of ENGINE through a strong multi-sectoral platform driven by evidence-based direct nutrition and nutrition sensitive interventions that support existing government structures and synergistic partnerships with other USAID-funded projects. ENGINE has implemented its integrated nutrition package in 83 Agriculture Growth Program (AGP) (food secure) *woredas* and 11 non-AGP (food insecure) *woredas* and will initiate implementation in six additional non-AGP *woredas* in the next quarter to meet the project's planned coverage of 100 *woredas*. In Quarter II, ENGINE will also initiate implementation in an additional 16 *woredas* in Somali Regional State with a new pastoralist approach.

Save the Children effectively manages the integrated nutrition project interventions and activities in partnership with Jhpiego, Tufts University (TU), Land O'Lakes (LOL), Jimma University and three local non-governmental organizations (LNGOs) for implementation of the innovate ECC approach. The Manoff Group and Valid International (VI) provide additional technical assistance (TA) to the project.

Achievements and successes

ENGINE made significant progress toward reaching its objectives in Year IV covering the period from October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

Nutrition multi-sector coordination and partnership

In Quarter I, ENGINE provided technical support and active participation in nutrition working groups, particularly in preparation of the National Nutrition Program (NNP) 2016-2020. ENGINE contributed to working groups on agriculture, nutrition, multi-sector coordination, maternal, adolescent, infant and young child nutrition (MIAYCN), gender and advocacy and social change. ENGINE also provided technical and financial support to the Annual Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review Meeting and Capacity Building workshop held in Addis Ababa in October. ENGINE, with other partners supported a capacity-building training workshop for members of the regional nutrition coordinating body and regional nutrition technical committees in Oromiya and Tigray regions. ENGINE with regional health bureaus also supported quarterly NNP regional multisector technical committee meetings in two regions. To further support the roll-out and implementation of NNP to *woreda* level, ENGINE supported 21 *woreda* multisector coordination meetings. As Chair of Feed the Future (FtF) nutrition technical working group (TWG), ENGINE organized the quarterly TWG meeting in November 2014.

Nutrition pre-service education (PSE)

ENGINE continued supporting the eleven Phase I and six Phase II higher education institutions (five agriculture colleges and one nutrition department at a university). Accomplishments include a joint program monitoring team from Jhpiego and Save the Children conducted benchmarking visits to best performing institutions, five refresher trainings on selected nutrition topics were given to agriculture technical vocational education and training (ATVET) instructors to improve their knowledge in

nutrition, and four effective teaching skills trainings were conducted for Phase II institutions. Education quality improvement process and capacity-building initiatives were successfully introduced for all Phase II institutions. An annual review meeting was conducted for all project supported institutions and stakeholders.

Capacity building

ENGINE trained 1349 (618 female) health and agricultural workers in nutrition. The project provided training on MIAYCN for 416 health workers (HWs), of which 238 were female participants from all four regions to build their capacity to provide quality nutrition services. ENGINE trained 86 (17 female) development agents/agriculture extension workers (DAs/AEWs) in nutrition-sensitive agriculture (NSA) to integrate nutrition into agriculture to advance their capacity and provide them with tools to promote NSA. As a result of ENGINE's capacity-building activities, HWs and health extension workers (HEWs) counselled 173,673 pregnant and lactating women on exclusive breastfeeding (EBF), complementary feeding (CF), and dietary diversity at HCs and HPs. At the facility level, 45,004 children suffering from diarrhoea were treated with zinc and oral rehydration salts (ORS) and 115,204 pregnant women were supplemented with iron-folate.

Nutrition sensitive livelihoods

ENGINE supported 1,682 new most vulnerable households (MVHHs) with nutrition sensitive livelihoods interventions, including improved homestead production, and provision of productive livestock to 346 households. ENGINE trained 1,251 MVHHs on the type support they received, gender, nutrition, and environmental issues. ENGINE also established 86 new saving groups, of which 37 were linked to microfinance institutions (MFIs). ENGINE selected 3,138 households to receive livelihoods support in the current project year. ENGINE delivered incubators to support two private sector partnerships to improve supply of preferred improved breed of chicken. ENGINE initiated efforts to increase diffusion and adoption of agronomic and cooking demonstrations to additional *kebeles* as well as a monitoring system to assess the impact.

Social and behavior change communication strategy

During this reporting period, ENGINE finalized all materials for its innovative SBCC strategy. All materials are in printing, and enhanced community conversations (ECCs) through local non-government organizations (LNGOs) will begin in Quarter II. A total of 628 community change agents (CCAs) were trained to allow for rapid implementation of ECCs upon delivery of the materials. ENGINE implemented and assessed mNutrition activities for 250 HEWs and AEWs in this quarter. Preliminary findings are encouraging and ENGINE will expand and refine the service in Quarter II.

Nutrition operations research

In Quarter I, draft reports on the Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) operations research study and the Qualitative Community Perceptions of Malnutrition study were prepared. Findings were also presented at National Nutrition Program Research Dissemination Conference organized by Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) and financially and technical supported by ENGINE. ENGINE disseminated a total of 11 operations research documents at the conference.

Assessment of Critical Outcome Indicators

In this quarter, ENGINE successfully completed the first round of data collection to assess critical outcome indicators including dietary diversity and household food security. The survey addresses a recommendation of the mid-term evaluation and will be repeated two more times at intervals of 6-8 months to inform project implementation.

Implementation in non-AGP woredas

In this quarter, ENGINE continued implementation in nine non-AGP *woredas* in partnership with Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) and GOAL and expanded to an additional three non-AGP *woredas*. ENGINE also secured approval from Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR) Bureau of Finance and Economic Development (BoFED) to launch activities in the final six non-AGP *woredas* in SNNPR which will happen early in Quarter II.

In partnership with GRAD, ENGINE provided program managers training for 13 health and agriculture managers, MIAYCN training for 67 health workers, nutrition-sensitive agriculture training for 40 development agents DAs and trained 100 GRAD animators and community facilitators on perma-gardens. In partnership with GOAL, ENGINE trained 102 HWs and *woreda* health staff on MIAYCN, 95 DAs on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and reached 395 participants with cooking demonstrations. ENGINE also selected 416 households for livelihoods support to be provided in the second quarter.

Implementation in Somali Region

ENGINE submitted a draft a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and technical proposal for expansion into Somali region with the Somali regional government. ENGINE responded to questions raised by the regional government and agreement was reached on the proposal and the MOU. The MOU was submitted to USAID for review and approval is pending. ENGINE also completed recruitment of 14 staff critical for project start up in the region.

Reporting period

This is the ENGINE project's **Year IV Quarter I Report** covering the reporting period from **October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.**

Publication/reports

Did your organization support the production of publications, reports, guidelines or assessments during the reporting period? *(Copies of final reports available upon request)*

No/Not Applicable

Yes If yes, please list below:

Title	Author	Date
ENGINE Supported MSc Thesis / Abstracts From Local Universities	ENGINE	September 2014

Technical assistance

Did your organization utilize short-term TA 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.

TA consultants

Name	Arrival	Departure	Organization	Type of TA provided
Brian Doston	29 Sept 2014	3 Oct 2014	LOL	Follow up on LOL registration issue with Save the Children and USAID Discussed Year IV work plan with the LOL / ENGINE team

Travel and visits

Did your organization support international travel during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable

Yes

All international travel to conferences, workshops, trainings, HQ or meetings

Name	Destination	Departure from Ethiopia	Arrival in Ethiopia	Host organization	Purpose of the travel
Dr. Habtamu Fekadu	Washington, D.C.	29 Nov 2014	7 Dec 2014	Save the Children	To attend Save the Children US Global Nutrition Technical Team Retreat and to attend and present ENGINE's research and documentation activities at <i>What is Growth Good For</i> Technical Symposium

Field monitoring and supervision visits

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
ENGINE COP, Health and Nutrition team and Jhpiego PSE team	4 Nov 2014	6 Nov 2014	Alage ATVET, Shashemene Health Science College, Hawassa University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the Pre-service Education (PSE) institution logo for presentations and abide to USAID's branding. For agriculture skill lab prepare board with the benefit of the crop on each plot Distribute ENGINE counseling tools to each of the Health Science college skill lab.
Health and Nutrition team	27 Oct 2014	1 Nov 2014	Oromia region: Gudru, Horo, Diga, and Wayutuka <i>woredas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practices in one zone or <i>woreda</i> have to be shared in monthly meeting and experience-sharing visits have to be conducted in the zones where best practice is observed.
QI team	1 Dec 2014	4 Dec 2014	Meswaeti health center (HC), Mekan health post, Endamehoni and Korem <i>woredas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing performance monitoring team needs to be restructured and included medical record room head for the rest of selected HCs. All assessment forms need to be filled at each respective unit.
Livelihood and Economic Strengthening team	29 Sept 2014	5 Oct 2014	Tarima Ber, Qewot Efratana Gidem Antsokiya Gemza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home-made chicken feed preparation should be strengthened through regular follow-up and facilitating farmer-to-farmer learning mechanisms A comprehensive study on the prevalence of parasitism on chicken needs to be studied Prophylactic (preventative) treatment against a protozoa infection called Coccidiosis, which is likely to happen in a wetted chicken house, needs to be treated promptly. Home-made chicken feed chemical analyses should be done the earliest possible
	21 Oct 2014	25 Oct 2014	Liben, Lemu Bilbilo <i>woreda</i> Sinana <i>woreda</i> Munisa <i>woreda</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three of the small sized heifers visited in Liben <i>woreda</i> and in Munissa need replacing As a last resort, the low market price of sheep offspring at household (HH) levels can be resolved by approaching big livestock traders and/or abattoirs for coordinated purchase at villages gate Encourage the saving groups to take planned loans and seek the support of MFIs in small business management
	28 Oct 2014	1 Nov 2014	Toke Kutaye <i>woreda</i> Guduru Woreda Horo, Diga Woreda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance vegetable seeds provision to most vulnerable households (MVHHS) – crops that the farmers could save own seeds for the next season planting Prioritized chicken provision for MVHHS those who have constructed chicken house in the last two

			Wayu Tuka <i>woreda</i>	<p>years in the visited <i>woredas</i> and somewhere else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise the private chicken multiplication scheme to plant green feed for the chicken such as alfalfa
Livelihood and Economic Strengthening team Livelihood and Economic Strengthening team	12 Nov 2014	18 Nov 2014	Ambo Guder Bahir Dar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up and ensure that generator is in a standby position prior to incubating eggs in the machine In Bahir Dar, water reservoir (tanker) should be in place. In Ambo, financial management and responsibility segregation between partners own chicken multiplication unit is required as their record keeping practice is substandard and their roles are not well defined as such
	23 Dec 2014	31 Dec 2014	Alefa Quara Metema Dera Guangua Jabitena and Dejen <i>woredas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The region is providing a maximum of four vegetable varieties in some places or less. With the consultation of <i>woreda</i> agriculture office they have to increase the varieties suitable to the area among the selected list. This will assist the community to have dietary diversity and introduction of new technology in the area. Since the chicken will retire after providing eggs for 18 months, every chicken beneficiary should produce their own replacement stock using local brooding hen. Farmers who received cows and sheep/goats should collect and store feed for the long dry season.
Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) team	3 Nov 2014	5 Nov 2014	Hawassa Field Office Adama Field Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LES team members were briefed on the sampling methodology for 'MVHHs assessment for self-support on vegetable seed' LES team members were oriented on how to collect data on 'MVHHs assessment for self-support on vegetable seed' using the questionnaires developed
OR team	22 Sept 2014	12 Oct 2014	Woliso	Train the new supervisor for Woliso team on how to manage the data collection process in the field
	25 Oct 2014	6 Nov 2014	Gomma and Tiro-Afeta <i>woredas</i>	Continue recruiting more participants from <i>kebeles</i> with large number of pregnant women so as to meet the required sample size for the respective study <i>woredas</i> .
	4 Dec 2014	14 Dec 2014	Gomma and Tiro-Afeta <i>woredas</i>	Oriented enumerators and supervisors on the frontline workers questionnaire

Finance and award manager	19 Oct 2014	24 Oct 2014	Jimma University, CPHMS project Save the Children finance office	Review of sub-agreement and financial performance
WASH	Nov 24	Nov 26	Hawasa, Shebedino, Melga and Woliso districts of Sidama (SNNPR) and West Shoa(Oromia)	Lessons gathered in implementation of Sanitation Marketing by Plan International Women's groups and other existing groups assessed for capacity to act as WASH marketing groups Regions advised to complete further assessment and identify appropriate groups for WASH marketing activities

Accomplishments and successes during the reporting period

Project management

ENGINE Chief of Party (COP) and Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) reviewed the project management and performance with the Deputy Country Director and Country Director four times during the reporting period. The main issues discussed were budget utilization, procurement of SBCC printing materials, and scale up of ENGINE to Somali region and non-AGP *woredas*. ENGINE senior management conducted six management meetings with sub-primes, senior advisors and regional teams to monitor the project performance as per the project work plan. In this quarter, ENGINE management had two regular meetings with ENGINE Agreements Officer's Representative (AOR). The main issues were GRAD and ENGINE partnership and FtF nutrition working group activities.

Staff recruitment

During this reporting period, a senior M&E advisor, senior operation research manager and three regional staffs resigned. ENGINE recruited new staff for all the positions except the operation research manager position, which will be finalized during the next quarter. ENGINE also recruited one zonal coordinators for GRAD and ENGINE partnership, and four zonal coordinators for GOAL and ENGINE partnership. In addition, ENGINE recruited 14 staff, namely a senior program manager, project coordinators and nutrition and fodder/livestock officers for ENGINE's implementation in Somali region.

Sub-grantee management

ENGINE continued its regular staff meetings to discuss progress toward completing planned activities as outlined in the sub-grantee Year IV work plans and met individually with sub-primes to quickly resolve any outstanding issues to achieve optimal project performance. For example, ENGINE COP and pre-service advisor had a high-level meeting with Jhepigo to address low budget utilization and equipping the Academic Center of Excellence (ACoE) in Hawassa. Additionally, Save the Children, in consultation with USAID, made every effort to support LOL to register in Ethiopia to continue its work with ENGINE. However, this has not yet been achieved. Since the liability for Save the Children is high, Save the Children gave a warning letter to LOL to register by January 30, 2015. LOL headquarters has submitted all the required documentation to the Foreign Ministry to register as an NGO.

During the reporting period, ENGINE conducted field monitoring of sub-primes' implementation and compliance. ENGINE COP, the Sr. Nutrition Advisor and Jhepigo Deputy Country Director conducted joint field visits to Hawassa University, Alagae TVET College and Shashemene Health Science College. The visits helped to resolve some of the management issues that delayed establishment of the ACoE and improved branding and marking. ENGINE operation research team also provided distance monitoring support to Tufts and VI.

Technical assistance

In Quarter I, Save the Children continued to receive international TA from VI on ENGINE's operational researches on acute malnutrition with Jimma University. During the reporting period, ENGINE developed a statement of work (SOW) for additional TA from The Manoff Group in the next phase of innovative SBCC activities. The SOW will be finalized in Quarter II and a new contract developed.

ENGINE, GRAD and GOAL partnerships in 17 non-AGP woredas

In Year III, ENGINE started implementation in eight of 17 non-AGP *woredas*. In this quarter, ENGINE started implementation in three additional GOAL *woredas*. There was resistance from GRAD implementing partners to start the implementation because they were not well oriented by GRAD and needed new budget and sub-agreement modifications from GRAD. The issues were resolved with USAID intervention. In addition, some *woreda* and zonal officials requested letters of guidance from Oromia Regional Health Bureau, which slowed performance. ENGINE facilitated the letter and all *woredas* received a copy. ENGINE finalized MOUs with both GRAD and GOAL which will be signed in Quarter II.

The scale up to six GRAD and GOAL *woredas* in SNNPR was not carried out because regional BOFED insisted on a mid-term evaluation of ENGINE's implementation in the region over the last three years before it approved the new scale-up. The evaluation was completed and BOFED agreed to scale up ENGINE to GRAD and GOAL *woredas*. The original MOU was revised and signed. Implementation will start during the next quarter.

ENGINE start-up in Somali region

ENGINE recruited key staff who are instrumental for start-up of the project activities (see staffing section above) in Somali Region. ENGINE also submitted the project proposal and draft MOU to the Somali BOFED and Regional Health Bureau (RHB) for review and approval. The bureaus provided comments, which Save the Children addressed to their satisfaction. The bureaus also cleared the MOU for signature in November. The MOU was submitted to USAID for review and approval but response was not received until January, with a direction that it should be a tri-partite agreement with USAID and it should follow a new format that was provided by USAID at that time. ENGINE could not launch activities in the region or finalize the work plan with the MOU pending. The revised MOU has been submitted to USAID and regional government for review.

Partnership and multi-sector coordination

ENGINE continued to participate actively in key nutrition working groups, particularly NNP 2016-2020 review working groups on agriculture and nutrition, multi-sectoral coordination, MIYCN, gender, and advocacy and social behavior change. ENGINE also participated in a European Union (EU)-funded nutrition and UNICEF led steering committee established to guide EU nutrition investments in Ethiopia and to influence preparation of NNP 2016-2020. ENGINE provided technical input to the report produced by EU consultants.

ENGINE, as the chair of FtF nutrition TWG, facilitated the TWG quarterly meeting which was held on Nov 25, 2014. The key action points of the meeting were to establish an SBCC working group from each project to share SBCC experience and harmonization of messages, and members agreed to conduct half day SBCC meeting and a joint field visit to GRAD *woredas* in January.

GRAD, GOAL and ENGINE: ENGINE team met with national and regional level GRAD and GOAL teams three times to address some of the bottlenecks that slowed the implementation of the partnership in non-AGP *woredas*.

UNICEF: ENGINE partnered with UNICEF to conduct capacity-building workshops for regional nutrition coordinating bodies (RNCB) and regional nutrition technical committees (RNTC) members and zonal team in Oromia and Tigray, and partially in Amhara.

IR I: Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies

IR I.1: Strengthened policy environment

Planned activities

- Support national and regional nutrition multi-sector coordination mechanisms
- Address gaps in existing nutrition-related policies and guidelines
- Support national level food fortification and micronutrient survey
- Conduct benchmarking visit to best performing institutions
- Conduct nutrition refresher training for ATVET instructors
- Conduct one-day nutrition consultative meeting on integrating nutrition competency into ATVET curriculum
- Conduct core competency review and content integration workshop for Phase II institutions
- Conduct four effective teaching skills (ETS) training for Phase II agriculture college instructors
- Provided second round material support for Phase I institutions

Strategy I.1.1: Strengthen existing nutrition multi-sector coordination

Activity (i) Support the nutrition multi-sectoral coordination mechanism

Support national, regional and *woreda* nutrition multi-sector coordination mechanisms

ENGINE provided technical and financial support to Annual Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review Meeting and Capacity-building Workshop held on October 20-22, 2014 in Addis Ababa, by leading the programmatic working group; preparing the annual multi-sectoral nutrition summary report which was later shared to the nutrition case team at the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) for input and feedback. ENGINE also supported the preparation of the proceeding, which will be finalized and shared to key stakeholders during the second quarter.

ENGINE, with RHBs, supported quarterly NNP regional multi-sector technical committee meetings in Amhara and Tigray. In these regular quarterly meetings, multi-sectoral technical committees

exchanged updates about the progress of planned activities, challenges and the way forward. The major activities accomplished during the quarter include engaging all regional partners working in nutrition to become part of the MSNTC, initiating the NNP implementing sectors to prepare integrated nutrition sensitive plan and building the capacity of NNP implementing sectors at different levels.

In this reporting period, ENGINE in consultation with the RHBs, identified 10 model *woredas* to implement *woreda* nutrition multi-sectoral models as well as document the coordination effectiveness. In Tigray, one of the model *woredas* conducted its first meeting in December, 2014. ENGINE continued to support the *woreda* coordination mechanisms established in Year III to strengthen and sustain functional nutrition multi-sectoral coordination at the *woreda* level. ENGINE supported 21 *woreda* multi-sectoral coordination meetings to familiarize NNP implementing *woreda* sectors on NNP and to design sector-based nutrition sensitive plans.

Table I.1: Woreda multisector coordination meetings conducted in Quarter I

Region	Planned	Achieved	Achievement
Amhara	4	5	125%
Oromia	6	6	100%
SNNP	3	8	267%
Tigray	2	2	100%
Total	15	21	140%

Conduct multi-sector nutrition workshop with key nutrition stakeholders

In Year III, ENGINE supported the roll-out of the NNP, RNCB and RNTC structures in Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and SNNP. In this quarter, ENGINE, in partnership with UNICEF, FMOH and RHBs facilitated and supported capacity-building training workshops for members of RNCB and RNTC in Oromia and Tigray regions. The objective was to strengthen capacities of the members of RNTC to implement NNP and to promote common understanding of nutrition among the sectors at regional, zonal and *woreda* levels. These included commitment from each sector to establish a core group to include nutrition sensitive activities in annual plans, to implement and monitor progress of nutrition activities, and to report progress and evidence for technical committee review. In addition, they committed to cascade the capacity building to their respective *woredas*. A total of 109 participants (58 from Oromia and 51 from Tigray) from RNCB and RNTC members, zonal administrators and economic and social advisors, core process owners and senior experts, university lecturers and representatives of parliament attended the workshop.

Following the regional level capacity-building workshop, ENGINE supported two zonal level capacity-building workshops in Amhara region, where training was cascaded to all zones of the region. East Gojjam Zone cascaded the training down to *woreda* level to build the capacity of the NNP implementing sectors. In Oromia, the capacity-building workshop was conducted in December 2014 for East Shoa Zone. All nine sectors from the zones participated, and participants prepared a work plan to ensure sustainable coordination and how to build capacity of *woreda* multi-sectoral

teams. The participants drafted a terms of reference (TOR) for the zonal coordination body, which will be finalized during the next quarter. In Tigray, ENGINE supported roll-out of NNP to zonal and *woreda* level in South, West, and North West Zones. *Woreda* administrators and key sectors office heads attended the launch.

Activity (ii) Develop national nutrition advocacy approach

Following the consultative workshop in September 2014 with Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church (EOTC) religious leaders and church scholars, ENGINE's SBCC team compiled the data generated during the workshop and submitted it to the Orthodox Church's senior leadership to analyze and refine. Due to conflicting schedules of the Holy Synod, ENGINE and EOTC were unable to arrange a follow-up meeting planned in mid-October. The meeting has been postponed to the second quarter, where the compiled findings will be presented to the overall assembly of church scholars and the Holy Synod council members, chaired by his Holiness Abune Matias I, Patriarch of the EOTC.

An advocacy TWG meeting was held in the reporting period where the FMOH plan to conduct an advocacy workshop for the remaining parliamentarian was discussed. ENGINE recommended to first follow-up on the action points agreed during the first advocacy workshop. In addition, ENGINE prefers the strategic approach of conducting the workshop for the incoming new federal parliamentarians and regional parliamentarians after the election, rather than with outgoing parliamentarians. Thus, it will be conducted in the third or fourth quarter depending on their availability.

During the reporting period, the First Lady, W/o Roman Tesfaye and the State Secretary, Dr Kebede Worku visited Amhara regional state to see multi-sectoral nutrition activities in November 2014. They visited ENGINE supported health facilities, MVHHs, and *woreda* multi-sectoral nutrition coordination members in the Wonchit Kebele of Dera Woreda, South Gondar Zonal Administration.

Strategy I.1.2 Support development and revision of nutrition policies, guidelines and standards

Activity (i) Address gaps in existing nutrition-related policies and guidelines

ENGINE took the lead in facilitating different TWG meetings and actively engaged in the development of the NNP II for 2016-2020 (2008-2012 EFY). ENGINE's COP, Policy Advisor, Sr. OR and M&E Advisor, Sr. Health and Nutrition Advisor and Gender Advisor provided technical support and engaged in the NNP II development process. FMOH will organize block write up workshops to finalize the document in the next quarter and ENGINE will remain actively engaged.

ENGINE also shared its nutrition sensitive interventions in AGP *woredas* with consultants who have been hired by the EU to develop a nutrition design document to inform EU nutrition investments as well as to inform revisions of NNP. ENGINE will continue this activity in the next quarter.

Activity (ii) Support national efforts on micronutrient control and prevention

ENGINE continued to support FMOH and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOI) national level activities to facilitate the prevention and control of micronutrient deficiencies in Ethiopia.

National micronutrient intervention guidelines revision

In this reporting quarter, the FMOH Office of Minister provided comments on the final draft micronutrient intervention guidelines submitted to the Office of Minister in March 2014. ENGINE, working with partners, is addressing the comments and will deliver the amended version to FMOH for approval during the second quarter.

National food fortification plan of action

During this reporting period, ENGINE supported and participated in a meeting chaired by MOI to reach an agreement on finalizing flour and edible oil fortification standards, especially for iron. EPHI was assigned to conduct rapid assessment of iron content in industrially processed wheat flour and to share report within one month. However, EPHI has not yet finalized the study due to shortage of reagents. This delay has also prevented finalization of the National Food Fortification Implementation Plan of Action, which was drafted in Year III. ENGINE is ready to support the finalization in the coming quarter.

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

Strategy 1.2.1: Pre-service education for health care providers and agricultural agents

Activity (i) Develop and deliver pre-service education through partnerships with universities, colleges and other programs

Sub-activity (i) Implement education quality improvement process to strengthen nutrition education

In Quarter I, ENGINE PSE conducted an education quality improvement workshop for the College of Dry Land Agriculture and Natural Resources, Mekelle University. A total of 24 (all male) instructors attended the workshop. All Phase II institutions conducted baseline assessments on quality of agriculture education at their respective institutions and developed an action plan to fill identified gaps. For Phase I institutions, ENGINE facilitated two benchmarking visits to the best performing ATVET College and Health Science University which created an opportunity for Phase I institutions to share their best practices and challenges encountered. ENGINE conducted annual review meeting for the PSE component activities of Year III (see annex). A mini-university concept was introduced in the annual review meeting of ENGINE PSE to foster cross learning among institutions.



Demonstration of competency based nutrition skills at mini-university during PSE Annual Meeting

Sub-activity (ii) Strengthen curriculum for nutrition education

ENGINE provided five nutrition refresher trainings for a total of 133 (7 female) ATVET instructors (111 percent of plan), to accommodate newly recruited staff. The training was instrumental in standardizing nutrition background of ATVET instructors and responding to challenges encountered during delivery of integrated nutrition contents in their courses. In addition, the training created an opportunity to discuss institutionalization and sustainability of ENGINE PSE interventions at their respective institutions.

Workshops to integrate nutrition curriculum content for Bahir Dar University and to review agriculture core competencies planned for this quarter were not conducted and will be completed in the next quarter.

Sub-activity (iii) Enhance faculty instructional capacity and create an enabling environment

ENGINE conducted four ETS trainings for a total of 98 (13 female) instructors from Phase II institutions. Two of the six planned trainings were postponed to quarter two due to institutions' busy schedules in the quarter, which resulted in underperformance (68 percent of plan); these trainings will be conducted in quarter two. The six-day training equipped instructors with focused teaching and assessment skills in the classroom as well as practical sites. The training also created a forum for institutions to discuss opportunities and anticipated challenges to improve quality of agriculture education.

In this quarter ENGINE PSE distributed a second round of skills lab materials for establishment of nutrition skills labs at all supported health science institutions. Similarly, personal protective equipment was distributed to three ATVET institutions. In addition, a list of materials for supporting overall education quality improvement for Phase II institutions was completed.

Sub-activity (iv) Monitor and evaluate implementation of pre-service education strengthening activities

ENGINE PSE conducted joint program monitoring visits with ENGINE prime partner and stakeholders to Alage ATVET College, Shashemene Health Science College and School of Human Nutrition and Food Sciences, College of Agriculture, Hawassa University. The visit was important in reviewing implementation progress and identifying gaps at the institutions. The visiting team also

recommended further technical and materials support for institutions to provide competency based nutrition education with full capacity.

In addition, supportive supervision was conducted to four Phase I¹ and one Phase II² institutions. The major support given for ATVET institutions was reinforcing delivery of nutrition contents integrated into courses and discussion on institutionalization of quality improvement initiatives. Similarly, technical support was given to health science colleges to reorganize the skills labs and materials and mobilize existing resources to fully support the competencies taught by each discipline. In addition, the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine at Jimma University was visited to discuss practical ways to strengthen agriculture education quality improvement initiatives at the college.

Strategy I.2.2 Nutrition in-service capacity building for program managers and health providers

Activity (I) Strengthen nutrition service provision through in-service training and supervision

ENGINE PSE team continued provision of technical assistance to FMOH in finalizing comprehensive blended nutrition training package for health workers. The material is in its final revision phase for piloting.

¹ Alage, Shire and Wolaita Sodo ATVET Colleges, Araya Kahu health science colleges

² Agriculture College of Jimma Universities

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

Planned activities:

- Integrate nutrition into the facility quality services and implement a quality improvement (QI) model to improve quality of nutritional services
- Promote coaching/mentoring and supportive supervision for health service providers
- Build capacity of frontline health and agriculture workers to provide high quality services
- Conduct food cooking demonstrations (FCD) to promote dietary diversity
- Improve tools used by frontline health and agriculture workers to ensure proper MIYCN counselling
- Implement LNGO-led ECCs
- Support target *woredas* in Child Health Day (CHD) implementation

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, health facilities and communities

Activity (i) Develop QI model to improve the quality of nutritional services at community and facility

To improve the quality of nutrition services in a continuous manner, ENGINE is working with health facilities and *woreda* health offices to integrate nutrition into the facility quality services. During the reporting period, ENGINE oriented 47 *woredas* offices on QI program acceptance and the *woredas* accepted the initiative and assured their commitment for nutrition quality improvement. ENGINE in collaboration with *woreda* offices and health center staff also integrated nutrition into 84 health centers' quality services, fully achieving the quarterly target.

ENGINE continued supporting continuous quality improvement (CQI) for the model pilot health centers with their 42 health posts over the last three months, making a significant contribution towards improving quality of nutrition services. The overall performance to scale up CQI in the health facilities was 79 percent (11/14). Monitoring and documentation of the effectiveness of QI minimum nutrition service standards was not done because the roll out of QI requires ownership of the facilities management and staff members, and therefore needs time prior to documentation. ENGINE will give due emphasis on documenting QI best practices in next quarter.

Activity (ii) Promote coaching/mentoring and supportive supervision for health service providers

ENGINE in collaboration with trained Primary Health Care Unit (PHCU) supervisors mentored a total of 522 HWs and 487 HEWs in the quarter, achieving 127% (1009/792) of the quarterly target. The mentoring aimed to enhance the capacity of HWs and HEWs in providing quality Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) services and support to mothers and caretakers at health facilities. Comprehensive and standardized mentoring and supervision checklists, the MIYCN training guidelines and counselling card were utilized in the processes.

Table 2.1: Total number of HEWs and HWs mentored by regions

S/N	Regions	Planned for Quarter I		Achieved in Quarter I			
		HEWs	HWs	HEWs	#. Female	HWs	# Female
1	Amhara	96	96	95	95	96	36
2	Oromia	172	172	156	156	190	66
3	SNNPR	96	96	201	201	178	103
4	Tigray	32	32	35	35	58	23
	Total	396	396	487	487	522	228

During this quarter, ENGINE ZCs, in collaboration with *woreda* and zonal health offices, conducted initial supervision visits to 117 HCs and 184 HPs. The supportive supervision visits aim to improve the delivery of nutrition and health services provided by HWs and HEWs and to address challenges faced by frontline HWs. The team used checklists to assess and provide on-site feedback and developed action plans based on the findings.



ENGINE zonal coordinator at mentoring and supervision session, Lemu Seka Woreda, West Oromia

ENGINE's supportive supervision and mentoring improved nutrition services at health facilities with regard to the availability of micronutrients, especially zinc and iron-folate supplements, and quality of nutrition counseling. It also improved participation in food cooking demonstrations (FCD) and attendance at counseling services, which improved the target group's MIYCN and WASH knowledge and practices. Facilities also integrated nutrition into their regular activities and began reporting to their respective *woreda* offices on a monthly basis, as advocated for by ENGINE and the NNP. All regional teams added household visits to their health facility supervision trips to observe the benefits of cooking demonstrations and MIYCN trainings. As the household visits involved HEWs, the supervision teams use these interactions as opportunities to mentor HEWs and provide on-the-spot feedback for optimal MIYCN and WASH practices. The teams also provided feedback to the primary health care unit heads and respective officials on key household practices and HEW service delivery performance. The underachievement, 55 percent (301/543) of health facilities reached through joint supportive supervision is due to competing priorities among *woreda* health offices.

Table 2.2: Total number of HFs reached through joint supportive supervision by regions

S/N	Regions	Planned for Quarter I		Achieved In Quarter I		Total HFs	
		HPs	HCS	HPs	HCS	Planned	Achieved
1	Amhara	0	0	10	5	-	15
2	Oromia	178	67	73	52	245	125
3	SNNPR	114	34	64	30	148	94
4	Tigray	100	50	37	30	150	67
	Total	392	151	184	117	543	301

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

Child health and nutrition training by region

In the past three months, ENGINE trained 1,336 health and agriculture staff (616 female) and 628 (406 female) Community Change Agents (CCAs) with the quarter target fully achieved. The health and nutrition training topics during the quarter covered MIYCN, nutrition planning and management for program managers; QI, NSA and CCAs training on ECC for nutrition in 1000 days and WASH (table 2.3).

Table 2.3: Total number of people trained in child health and nutrition by region

S/N	Regions	Number of health and agriculture workers			Number of CCAs		
		Planned	Achieved	# female participants	Plan	Achieved	# of female participants
1	Amhara	372	311	112	216	216	132
2	Oromia	522	462	205	396	160	95
3	SNNPR	186	406	222	144	144	108
4	Tigray	49	170	79	108	108	71
	Total	1,129	1,349	618	756	628	406

Brief summaries of trainings, by training component, are presented below

Activity (i) Provide training to program managers, health workers and health extension workers

Training for program managers on nutrition program management

ENGINE provided nutrition program planning and supervision training for 49 (three female) *woreda* managers (out of 150 planned targets) from health and agriculture sectors in Oromia and Amhara regions. The training aimed to familiarize program managers with the concept of integration of health and agriculture, nutrition sensitive agriculture, food and nutrition security, impact of nutrition, and planning and supervision of nutrition activities. The overall performance for this target was limited because *woreda* managers, health and agriculture heads/deputy heads have been occupied with other government priorities, including political meetings in preparation for the elections in May.

Provide gap-filing standard MIYCN and on job training for HWs and HEWs

During the first quarter, ENGINE provided MIYCN standard or basic and on-the-job training for 416 HWs and HEWs (238 female) from all four regions reaching 112% (416/371) of the target. The aim of the training was to build capacity of HWs and HEWs to provide quality nutrition services. The

training in conjunction with mentoring and supportive supervision has helped to improve facility based routine nutrition services (see table 2.4).

Provide training for health care workers on quality of nutrition services improvement

ENGINE trained 667 (340 female) HWs, HEWs and woreda offices on basic Quality of Nutrition Services Improvement to provide comprehensive knowledge on the concept of quality and prepare the participants to measure, analyze and improve quality of nutrition services at health centers, health posts and community. The achievement was 133 percent (667/500) of the target for this reporting period. The training reached more staff than targeted due to increases in number of targeted health facilities as well as the necessity to conducting the training before establishing performance monitoring and QI team and conducting QI assessment.

Activity (ii) Provide DA/AEW gap-filling training on nutrition-sensitive agriculture

ENGINE trained 86 (17 females) development agents/agriculture extension workers on NSA training in Amhara and SNNP regions surpassing target of 38. The training objective was to integrate nutrition into agriculture to advance DA capacity and share tools to promote NSA.

ENGINE negotiated with the *woreda* offices to conduct most of the health and agriculture worker trainings in this quarter because of anticipated limited availability in the second and third quarters related to the election. This resulted in overachievement of quarterly targets for these trainings.

Activity (iii) Conduct food cooking demonstration (integrated with iodine salt and hand washing) at community, school, farmer training center and health facility levels

ENGINE is using food-cooking demonstrations (FCDs) at the community level to address low dietary diversity for mothers and children. During the reporting period, ENGINE supported 466 FCD events at health facilities and community levels, reaching 81 percent of the quarterly target (464/576). Some of the FCD sessions were also integrated with women’s conferences. A total of 18,971 individuals, including 14,398 pregnant and lactating mothers and 4,573 male partners attended the demonstration events (table 2.3). ENGINE promoted the importance of using iodized salt and hand washing during the demonstrations. ENGINE regional team incorporated household visits to mentorship and supportive supervision visits to monitor and provide feedback for HEWs. The impact of these FCDs will be assessed through planned project outcome indicator monitoring survey (IR 4.2).

Table 2.3: Total number of FCD events and participants by regions

S/N	Regions	Events in Quarter I			FCD Participants in Quarter I		
		Plan	Achieved	%	Plan	Achieved	Female
1	Amhara	144	70	49	4,320	2,233	1,401
2	Oromia	234	199	85	7,020	10,600	7,576
3	SNNPR	150	149	99	4,500	4,410	3,921
4	Tigray	48	46	100	1,440	1,728	1,500
	Total	576	464	81	17,280	18,971	14,398

Activity (iv) Improve tools used by frontline health and agriculture workers to ensure proper MIYCN counselling

Distribute and monitor proper use of MIYCN SBCC materials

ENGINE distributed MIYCN counseling materials to 105 health facilities in AGP woredas, which is lower than planned (105/526). This is because the distribution to health facilities in non-AGP woredas couldn’t be done because the training of health workers was not completed in the quarter.

Launch innovative mNutrition service to improve tools for health and agriculture workers

During this quarter, ENGINE conducted an impact assessment of the new mNutrition service for HEWs and AEWs in three regions, following the launch of the SMS and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) service last quarter. The assessment was conducted through interviews with frontline workers and SMS software data analysis to determine the accessibility and quality of the mNutrition service. Findings of the assessment will be compiled and necessary amendments to improve the service will be made in the next quarter. Preliminary results showed that frontline workers found the mNutrition service to be a useful service to help them with their day-to-day health and nutrition activities and the 'First 1000 Days' concepts were easily understood. ENGINE identified and registered 200 additional HEWs and AEWs in three regions to scale-up the service to more frontline workers.

Monitor and report MIYCN counseling for mothers by trained HWs

ENGINE provided capacity building through coaching, mentoring and formal trainings. During joint supportive supervision, the teams assessed HWs and HEWs routine nutrition service performance in their respective catchment areas. Facilities have also started sending reports on routine nutrition services to woredas. During the reporting quarter the trained health workers counselled 76,892 pregnant women on exclusive breastfeeding (EBF), complementary feeding (CF) and dietary diversity at HCs achieving more than the planned target of 44,622. A total of 173,673 pregnant women were counselled on EBF and CF including counselling done at health posts. As table 2.4 shows, almost all mothers and children visiting the facilities received direct nutrition services on routine basis as a result of ENGINE supported MIYCN training, coaching and supportive supervision.

Table 2.4: Total number of pregnant, lactating mothers & children who received direct nutrition service

Health post direct routine nutrition services	Amhara	Oromia	SNNP	Tigray	Total
# of pregnant women who sought ANC services	11,079	17,864	16,106	3,247	48,296
# of women provided with iron-folate	8,434	10,072	12,225	2,154	32,885
# of postnatal women counseled on EBF and CF	21,571	20,808	4,990	2,847	50,216
# of children diagnosed with diarrhea	6,155	6,735	4,661	1,589	19,140
# of children 0-59 months with diarrhea who received zinc & oral rehydration salts (ORS)	8,101	6,668	1,887	1,589	18,245
Health center direct routine nutrition services	Amhara	Oromia	SNNP	Tigra	Total
Total # of pregnant women sought ANC service	23,094	37,450	10,612	9,223	80,379
# of pregnant women counseled on infant and maternal nutrition	23,173	34,697	9,918	9,104	76,892
# of ANC women supplemented with iron-folate	26,277	20,133	8,349	9,104	63,863
# of lactating women counseled on infant feeding and maternal nutrition	7,825	27,793	6,875	4,072	46,565
# of lactating women supplemented with iron-folate	4,911	8,417	3,054	2,074	18,456
Total # of babies visiting the under-five clinic	44,327	50,486	19,103	27,521	141,437
# of babies(0-59) in sick babies assessed/checked for malnutrition	44,327	48,224	17,513	27,220	137,284
# of children advised for increased feeding	40,136	40,490	15,525	27,427	123,578
# of children diagnosed with diarrhea	10,338	9,444	3,215	4,752	27,749
# of children 0-59 months with diarrhea who received zinc & ORS	10,207	8,705	3,098	4,749	26,759
HCs and HPs summary	Amhara	Oromia	SNNP	Tigray	Total
Pregnant and lactating mother counseling on nutrition	52,569	83,298	21,783	16,023	173,673
Mothers received iron supplementation	39,622	38,622	23,628	13,332	115,204
Children with diarrhea treated with ORS and zinc	18,308	15,373	4,985	6,338	45,004

IR.2.2 Health and nutrition services seeking behaviors increased

Strategy 2.2.1: Develop the social and behavior change communication strategy as it relates to health-seeking behaviors

This is presented in IR 2.1. and IR 3.1.

IR 2.3: Access to health and nutrition services increased

Strategy 2.3.1: Strengthen the referral system and access to essential supplies with maternal and child health services

Activity (i) Link with existing program and partners

Support implementation of *woreda* Child Health Days

Child Health Days (CHDs) are a community-based health implementation modality organized quarterly to screen for malnutrition in children under five and pregnant and lactating women, and to provide group educational sessions for women and children. CHDs also provide vitamin A and deworming every six months. This program is transitioning to routine service through the HEP but there are some areas where the service is not yet integrated to the routine services. During the

reporting period ENGINE technically and logistically supported vitamin A supplementation and deworming in 26 AGP (out of 38 planned) *woredas* in Oromia, SNNPR and Tigray regions. As a result, a total of 362,254 (out of 625,503 planned) and 246,619 (out of 471,932 planned) children were supplemented with vitamin A and deworming tablets respectively. ENGINE provided support in transporting nutrition commodities to sites, and will continue supporting the routine vitamin A and de-worming efforts at health centre and health post levels. The remaining targets will be reached in the next two quarters.

IR 3 Improved Prevention of under-nutrition through community based nutrition care and practices

IR 3.1 Maternal, infant and young child feeding knowledge and practices improved

Planned activities in this quarter

- Finalize SBCC materials
- Mobilize communities to promote MIYCN practices through ECC
- Deliver radio program
- Match economic opportunities with household interest and capabilities
- Strengthen MVHH saving groups and create access to financial services
- Promote diversified food production at demonstration plots and school demonstration gardens
- Increase and measure adoption and diffusion of cooking and agronomic demonstrations and training
- Facilitate effective approaches to small scale horticulture and animal production Support establishment of improved chicken multiplication units through private producers
- Promote farming technology package and livestock at household level
- Promote asset protection through micro-insurance
- Subsidized provision of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) technologies
- HH latrine access and use improved through sanitation marketing
- WASH behaviors promoted in community

Strategy 3.1.2: Promote optimal nutrition practices through dynamic communication channels

Activity (i) Update existing materials and develop new media and materials in line with revised Social and Behavior Change Communication strategy

In the reporting period, ENGINE finalized all SBCC materials based on the SBCC strategy put into place in Year III. ENGINE worked closely with the creative agency to finalize audio recordings of the 'Virtual Facilitator' (VF) scripts, which are the integral component of the ECC facilitation. ENGINE also completed production of songs in four languages and music videos. All print materials are in production and include: interactive skills-building games, role-play cue cards, manuals, posters and accordion leaflets. The procurement and time needed for completion of printing took longer than expected due to the number and complexity of the SBCC materials. This delay in printing prevented ENGINE from distributing SBCC materials in Quarter I as planned.

Activity (ii) Mobilize communities to promote MIYCN practices

Sub-activity (i) Implement ECC through local NGO and social networks

Following training of trainers (TOT) on the ECC approach completed in Year III, trained LNGO supervisors and trainers cascaded the training to CCAs in three regions. A total of 628 (83 percent)

CCAs were trained to facilitate ECCs. EOTC, operating in three regions (Amhara, Oromia and Tigray) trained a total of 468 CCAs (311 females). Fayya Integrated Development Organization, operating in Oromia trained 160 CCAs (95 females). Ethiopian Muslim Relief and Development Association (operating in SNNPR) will receive TOT and cascade training in Quarter II.

Because it took time to finalize the printing agreement with printing companies and the delay in timely submission of multi-media materials in three languages by the creative agency, ENGINE couldn't start community ECC as planned. However, ENGINE will distribute all new SBCC materials and initiate ECCs through LNGOs in the planned 20 *woredas* in Quarter II.

Sub-activity (ii) mobilize communities through religious leaders to support nutrition social change

As described in Section I.1.1, ENGINE compiled and submitted data from the consultative workshop with EOTC leaders and church scholars. In the second quarter, the findings will be shared with Holy Synod.

Activity (iii) Deliver radio magazine on 1000 days

During this quarter, ENGINE's SBCC team finalized the TOR and request for proposal for the production of a radio program. The team is finalizing a design document using innovative and interactive radio formats and to produce a 1000 Days radio magazine show. Selection of a radio production company and the radio production process is underway and will be finalized during the next quarter.

Activity (iv) Monitor, provide feedback and document lessons learned, best practices and results

Following the launch of the mNutrition service last quarter, a rapid impact assessment was conducted on the pre-registered AEWs and HEWs, to determine the accessibility of the IVR and SMS service provided over a period of three months. Findings of the impact assessment will be compiled and reviewed in the next quarter.

IR 3.2: Access to food and economic strengthening opportunities through programming and cross-sector linkages increased

Strategy 3.2.1: Apply economic strengthening activities

Activity (i) Match economic opportunities with household interest and capabilities

In order to assess the sustainability of project activities, ENGINE conducted an assessment of 1294 randomly selected MVHHs supported in Years I and II to determine their ability to purchase seeds and agricultural inputs previously provided by the project. Questionnaires were designed and data was collected from 1270 HHs (98 percent of the target) in the reporting period. Data analysis and report write up will be carried out in the second quarter.

ENGINE, in partnership with *kebele* development committees, selected 3,138 (100 percent) new households from AGP *woredas* to receive LES support in the current project year in the 83 AGP *woredas*, and 1682 of them received LES support in the quarter as described below. All selected MVHHs were oriented on project-related support and their roles and responsibilities.

Activity (ii) Strengthen MVHH saving groups and create access to financial services

ENGINE established 86 saving groups (239% of the quarter and 46% of the annual target) among the MVHH selected for support this year. ENGINE utilized trainings organized for MVHHs on other topics as opportunities to organize savings groups, enabling much greater progress than planned in the first quarter. Of the total 86 saving groups established, 37 (218% of the quarter target) were linked to MFIs.

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

Activity (i) Promote diversified food production at demonstration plots and school demonstration gardens

Support schools in gardening, agronomic and cooking demonstrations

ENGINE and *woreda* agriculture office experts provided on-site TA to schools, focused on vegetable production, management of fruit seedlings and demonstration of agronomic and cooking practices. ENGINE supported schools to organize agronomic and cooking practice demonstration events to promote dietary diversification and MIYCN to the wider communities. A total of 43 events were held (table 3.1). Gap filling training was provided to 41 focal teachers (53 percent of plan) to support school based activities. The training is based on need and the low performance is because turnover of trained teachers was lower than expected.

Table 3.1: Number of demonstration events conducted in quarter one by regions

Region	Quarter I target	Number of events conducted	Percentage accomplishment
Tigray	8	11	138%
Amhara	26	23	89%
Oromia	3	5	167%
SNNP	8	4	50%
Total	45	43	96%

Support farmers training centers in agronomic and cooking demonstration

ENGINE supported a total of 49 FTCs (104% of target) with vegetable seeds in the reporting period. ENGINE with *woreda* agriculture offices also provided TA on vegetable production and fruit seedling management in this reporting period.

ENGINE organized exchange visits for 32 DAs (27% of plan) from FTCs not supported by ENGINE to FTCs supported by ENGINE to learn best practices. The exchange visits were affected by availability of DAs during the growing season. Exchange visits should be performed during growing season for effective demonstration and learning. The remaining plan will be completed in quarter three and four during the next growing season.

Activity (ii) Increase and measure adoption and diffusion of cooking and agronomic demonstrations and training

In order to increase the adoption of agronomic and cooking demonstrations, ENGINE provided training to 5055(89%) farmers living in kebeles adjacent to kebeles with ENGINE targeted FTCs. Training for farmers from nearby kebeles will be completed in Quarters III and IV during the production season. The training focused on nutrition sensitive agriculture, dietary diversity and agronomic and cooking demonstrations.

To assess the extent of adoption of agronomic practice demonstrations by the farmers from surrounding areas, ENGINE plans to conduct an assessment among 1110 randomly selected participants of agronomic demonstrations in two rounds, including 555 in quarter one. During the reporting period, the first round of data collection began. Data collection will be completed and data cleaned, analyzed and reported in quarter two.

Activity (iii) Facilitate effective approaches to small-scale horticulture and animal production to increase access to food for the most vulnerable households.

Support MVHHs in homestead production

During the reporting period, ENGINE provided 1949 (102 percent) MVHHs selected in Year III and Year IV with vegetable seeds, (table 3.2). In Amhara Region, vegetable seeds were distributed earlier than initially planned to those HHs who have access to irrigation to enable use of seeds as early as possible. ENGINE also provided 342 MVHHs with basic farm tools (100 percent).

Table 3.2: Number of MVHHs provided with vegetable seeds by regions

Region	Quarter I target	Number of MVHHs provided with vegetable seeds	% accomplishment against the quarter target
Amhara	0	150	
Oromia	271	167	62%
SNNP	1632	1632	100%
Total	1903	1949	102%

Train most vulnerable households in livelihood and economic strengthening inputs

During the reporting period, a total of 1251 (88 percent of target) MVHHs were trained in vegetable and fruit production, irrigation, water and livestock management as well as nutrition and gender themes that focused on dietary diversification and the role of women in household decision-making. Underachievement was due to late selection of some of the MVHH to be targeted. The trainers were from the *Woreda* Office of Agriculture, Cooperative Promotion, Women and Youth Affairs Offices to ensure participation, ownership, follow up and sustainability as part of ENGINE's exit strategy.

Implement Seed Strategy

In Year III, ENGINE finalized a sustainable vegetable seed supply strategy, which identifies mechanisms for MVHHs to acquire vegetable seeds for sustainable production in ENGINE project areas. In this quarter, ENGINE completed an assessment in ten selected model *woredas* to identify

potential seed dealers to be supported by ENGINE for sustainable vegetable seed supply. The assessment identified potential vegetable seed dealers (private vendors and farmers' cooperative) in the ten model *woredas* for support by ENGINE. The support schemes are based on the specific needs of the dealers in the *woredas* and the implementation of the support will be undertaken throughout the year.

Activity (iv) Support establishment of improved chicken multiplication units through private producers

In Year III, ENGINE initiated public-private partnerships between public research centers and small-scale private chicken producers to improve the supply of locally adaptable improved chickens. ENGINE partnered with Debre-Zeit Agricultural Research Center (DZARC) to access parent stock of the desired chicken breed and delivered to competitively selected private chicken multiplication units established with ENGINE support. This quarter, ENGINE delivered incubator-hatchery combined machines to private poultry farms in Ambo and Bahir Dar and facilitated installation of the machines. In Bahir Dar, ENGINE-supported private chicken multiplication units produced a total of 400 day-old chickens in three rounds and offered them to chicken growers receiving ENGINE technical support. In Ambo, 288 hen eggs will be offered to private chicken growers trained by ENGINE for this vocation.

In this quarter, a training needs assessment on chicken production and healthcare was conducted and training venue and resource persons identified. ENGINE will conduct training for 70 government livestock experts based in *woredas* and *kebeles* in early Quarter II.

Activity (v) Promote farming technology package and livestock at household level

Support most vulnerable households with productive livestock

ENGINE provided 346 new MVHHs with productive livestock, 80 MVHHs received chicken (32% of plan), and 266 MVHH (93% of plan) received heifers (72) or sheep or goat (194) (Table 4). SNNPR had no achievement in this quarter as they planned only for delivery of heifers and the activity was hindered by poor local supply. ENGINE will increase provision of heifers in the next quarter as issues with inadequate local supply are expected to improve. The low achievement of chicken distribution target is due to insufficient improved breed supplies. The private chicken model described above has already started producing chickens, and additional chicken demand is being met through Kombolcha Poultry farm in Amhara region. ENGINE expects these approaches in addition to purchases from commercial suppliers to enable scale up of chicken provision in the next quarter.

HHs receiving livestock support received training on improved livestock management practice, feeding and healthcare for the type of animals they received. Prior to distributing productive animals to MVHHs, ENGINE facilitated vaccination for all animals and provided deworming and pesticide spraying against external parasites. Households receiving chickens are trained on home-made chicken feed preparation to replace purchased feed and linked to nearby public veterinary health posts/clinics for timely vaccination and treatment services required after distribution. The homemade feed prepared using locally available ingredient was analyzed for chemical composition at EHNRI was found to be within the range of nutrient requirements.

Access and availability of chicken vaccines and drugs for rural families is a problem due to unreliable stocking of vaccines and drugs in rural vet clinics and health posts. ENGINE is supporting *woreda* livestock agencies with logistic support to ensure availability of chicken vaccines and drugs; 135 rural

vet clinics/health posts located near to project supported MVHHs were identified in the quarter for on-going support.

Table 3.3: Number of most vulnerable households provided with productive livestock by regions

Region	Year IV target	Quarter I target	Number of MVHHs provided with productive livestock	% accomplishment against the quarter target
Tigray	288	100	143	143
Amhara	872	80	80	100
Oromia	1449	295	123	42
SNNPR	684	57	0	0
Total	3293	532	346	65

Support HHs with cost-sharing for purchase of heifer

In Year III, Athene/Gaming for Good, made a donation as matching fund to support ENGINE livelihood and economic strengthening activities. The funds are being used to support MVHH that previously benefited from sheep or goats to purchase a heifer. The offspring of the provided goats or sheep are sold and income used to provide 65% of the cost of a heifer, while the project matching funds cover the remaining 35 percent. This enables more MVHH to both increase their asset and income base as well as to benefit from the more nutrition sensitive animal. 976 MVHHs (75 percent) received lactating cows, pregnant heifers or heifers ready to be served. The purchased animals' production status varies due to targeted HHs choice and market supply. 166 MVHHs have already started consuming cow milk. The remaining targeted MVHH will receive heifers in Quarter II.



Heifers purchased for MVHHs with matching funds in Lemu Bilbilo woreda

Activity (V) Promote Asset Protection through Micro-insurance

Saving groups received orientation on the benefit of contributions for livestock insurance as part of an introduction to micro-insurance mechanisms. One of 12 targeted groups started contributing money for micro-insurance in addition to their regular savings. The remaining 11 groups have been convinced of the benefit of additional contributions as part of social micro-insurance, but actual

contributions have not yet started. Group members will be encouraged to contribute and use the money for immediate cash need to treat sick animals in credit. The long-term plan of this approach is to scale-up in order to replace dead animals.

IR 3.3 WASH-related behaviors improved

Activity (i) Subsidized provision of WASH technologies

In Quarter I, ENGINE initiated procurement of water filters and mats that will be promoted and provided to target HH at a subsidized cost. Water filters will also be provided to health posts. The procurement will be completed in Quarter II and the products will be rolled out. In Quarter I, ENGINE provided 10 health posts with water filters using existing stock from willingness to pay study. ENGINE is promoting establishment of hand washing stations including through use of local tippy-taps and will begin monitoring establishment of hand washing stations in Quarter II.

Activity (ii) HH latrine access and use improved through sanitation marketing

As a first step in establishing a sanitation marketing approach, ENGINE has engaged effectively with government and implementing partners. This includes becoming a member of National WASH Movement and the National Sanitation task force at the invitation of FMOH. ENGINE is also participating in preparation of the National Sanitation Marketing training manual. ENGINE carried out an experience-sharing visit to Arsi zone and Sidama zone to get insight on implementation of sanitation marketing from Plan International. ENGINE is exploring the most feasible and sustainable approaches for establishing Sanitation Marketing groups, including assessing existing groups in the target *woredas* and *kebeles*.

Activity (iii) WASH behaviors promoted in community

Six school WASH and Nutrition clubs (100% of target) were established or revitalized in the reporting period, including at four schools in East Oromia and at two schools in SNNPR.

In collaboration with regional health bureaus , ENGINE facilitated celebration of Global hand washing events at selected WASH focused districts of Oromia, Amhara and SNNPR regional states in October and November 2014. The events were conducted in selected schools of the intervention districts. A total of 7,814 (3803 females) individuals were reached through celebration of Global hand washing day at schools events (table 3.4).

Table 3.4. Global Hand washing output by region and sex

Region	Sex		
	Male	Female	Total
Adama/East Oromia	556	425	981
Ambo/West Oromia	1,339	1110	2448
Bahir Dar/Amhara	874	894	1768
Hawasa/SNNPR	1,243	1374	2617
Subtotal	4,012	3,803	7,814

In Quarter I, ENGINE developed a WASH training manual to facilitate WASH training for its regional and Zonal MNCH and WASH coordinators as well as district and zonal WASH staff of the public sector. ENGINE also revised MIYCN and Livelihoods training manuals to ensure WASH is adequately addressed.

IR 4 Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

Planned activities:

- Implement Operational Research (OR)
- Support PhD and MSc students
- Design and conduct first round of project outcome indicator survey
- Implement project monitoring and data quality system
- Develop communication strategy
-

Strategy 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy

Activity (ii) Conduct OR studies on acute malnutrition

During the reporting period VI and Jimma University continued implementing a SAM research study and completed the data collection and report writing for a MAM research study. The purpose of the MAM study was to provide evidence about the level of need for a targeted supplementary feeding program (TSFP) in food-secure settings of rural Ethiopia. The objective of the SAM study is to determine the long-term health outcomes of children age 6-59 months successfully treated for SAM in a community-based management (CBM) program compared with a control group of children under five in the same community.

Moderate acute malnutrition

VI prepared and shared report on MAM operational study with Save the Children during the reporting period. Feedback has been given and the report will be finalized and disseminated in Quarter II and publications prepared for peer reviewed journals. Preliminary study results for the MAM study were presented this quarter during the National Nutrition Program Research Dissemination Conference that took place in Adama from 23-25 October 2014. Among other findings, the study has highlighted the following key points:

1. Nearly half of children who are MAM at the beginning of the post-harvest season either develop SAM or cross the four months of best food security without recovering. Many therefore risk entering the next hunger season in a highly vulnerable condition.
2. Mid upper-arm circumference (MUAC) category at enrolment was the best predictor of final outcomes in all models and could be used as a basis for targeted intervention.
3. Stunting is widespread in areas of Ethiopia classified as food secure. The process of stunting continued even when there was correction of wasting, especially in children less than 24 months. SAM occurred in the most stunted children.

The results indicate that children who suffer from MAM during the post-harvest season in a food secure zone experience an unacceptably high incidence of SAM and low recovery rate. This highlights the need to re-assess the current strategy for addressing MAM in areas classified as food secure. It is concerning that many of the children who did not recover will enter the next hunger season in a vulnerable condition, with likely consequences of increased risk of SAM and death.

Severe Acute Malnutrition

Implementation of this study started with recruiting eligible children in September 2013 in three woredas of Jimma zone. By December 2014, 440 children (220 cases and 220 controls) were enrolled into the study, which is 93 percent of total planned enrolment of the study. 358 (81.4 percent) children were enrolled during the planned recruitment period and will have a full set of data while the rest 82 (18.6 percent) children will have a minimum of six months data.

By December 2014, 164 (37.3 percent) children completed the study period and were discharged from the study. Five deaths and four defaulters were recorded in the last follow up period. At present 276 (62.7 percent) children, 139 cases and 137 controls are on follow up. In total, 194 (97.0 percent) children completed both first and second round measurement, the remaining three cases and controls will complete second round measurements in January.

Qualitative study: Community Perceptions of Malnutrition

The study was carried out in the rural district of Mana, in Jimma Zone, southwest Ethiopia from August 18th, 2014 through September 27th, 2014. The aim of the study was to better understand the complex nature of malnutrition, and to help policymakers to design nutrition education strategies. A novel approach of Q methodology was employed to understand local knowledge and perceptions of the definition, causes, and solutions of malnutrition in Jimma zone, Ethiopia.

The preliminary results of the study were presented during the National Nutrition Program Research Dissemination Conference that took place in Adama from 23-25 October 2014. Draft of the study report was submitted to Save the Children in December comments provided. VI will finalize and disseminate the report and prepare manuscripts for publication in peer reviewed journals in Quarter II.

Activity (iii) Implement birth cohort study

This study aims to establish the effectiveness of direct and indirect interventions targeting maternal and child nutrition and health outcomes. In this reporting quarter, the Birth Cohort (BC) study data collection progressed as planned. Recruitment of index women (4,680 pregnant women) was completed, and 2714 (58 percent) of the recruited participants have given birth and 2549 mother-infant pairs are currently being followed. One hundred ninety one participants have been excluded from the study (36 neonatal deaths, 61 still births, 30 abortions, 37 twins, 16 left the area of residence, 4 refusal and 7 maternal death, all unrelated to the study), according to the study protocol guidelines.

Recruitment of the household head interview is expected to be finalized early in Quarter II. To date 4,434 household heads have been recruited and interviewed, which is 95 percent of the total sample size.

During the reporting period, three supportive supervisions were conducted to provide technical and administrative support. The supervision team provided on the spot feedback to resolve data quality issues based on data manager error reports and distributed study supplies to field team. The Data Manager and Data Analyst conducted frequent data quality checks for consistency and accuracy of the BC data. Regular feedback is given to the field team and errors were corrected accordingly.

The Frontline Worker (Health Extension Workers, development agents and other health workers in the health center) questionnaire was completed, pretested and updated during the reporting period. The survey will begin in Quarter II.

Activity (iv) Conduct agriculture-nutrition cohort study

This study examines the role of ENGINE in affecting nutrition, food security, and livelihoods outcomes through its integrated programming. The second round (pre-harvest) Agriculture-Nutrition panel study data collection started in Sept. 2014, and during this reporting period, the data collection process was finalized. The data collection process went smoothly and was able to reach 1185 of 1197 households recruited in the first round, which is 99 percent of the targeted sample size for this round. Data were collected from three groups of study participants; namely, head of the household (n=1185), adult female (n=1185) and Mother/Caretaker of children under 5 years (n=697). Data quality was checked on a daily basis and any errors encountered were communicated to the data collection team immediately for prompt correction. After the data collection was completed, both round one and two data were cleaned and are ready for analysis. The data collection activities have been documented (pictures and videos) in Gera and Dimtu *woredas*.

Activity (v) Conduct secondary data analysis research

Nutrition policy research

In Year III, the nutrition policy research was finalized and a manuscript submitted for publication in the Food Policy journal and its acceptance is still pending. During this reporting period, an abstract titled “Dynamics of National Nutrition (NNP) Program Implementation in Ethiopia” was presented at the National Nutrition Operation Research Dissemination Conference.

Secondary data analysis research

Five ENGINE sponsored abstracts from the secondary data research were accepted and presented (3 oral presentation and 2 posters) on the NNP Operational Research Dissemination Conference. Two manuscripts were prepared in the reporting period and will be submitted for publication in Quarter II.

Activity (vi) Build capacity of researchers and postgraduate students

Research capacity building

A professor from Ghent University, Belgium visited Jimma University in November 2014 to discuss promoter’s issues for the seven PhD candidates. All candidates presented their proposals and the professor agreed to supervise three candidates whose topics related to his field of expertise. He also promised to look for and link the remaining candidates with other promoters in Ghent University.

During the reporting period, six of the PhD candidates attended two courses: Nutrition Policy Program, Planning & Interventions and Medical Research Ethics and Policy at Jimma University.

Through year III, ENGINE has supported 56 MSc student theses from five government universities, and also prepared summaries of 22 completed MSc theses findings. Printing of the theses was completed in the current reporting period and will be disseminated in a workshop to be held in Quarter II. Three MSc students’ thesis findings were presented at the NNP Operational Research Dissemination Conference.

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

Activity (vi) Establish program monitoring system

Sub-activity (i) Performance data collected from ongoing activities on a timely basis

During this reporting period, ENGINE central M&E team provided technical assistance on database utilization, reporting and documentation in the five regional field offices. This activity supported newly recruited regional M&E coordinators to verify the quality of reported data, assess the reporting and recording system, and implement corrective actions based on the findings.

Sub-activity (ii) Initiate annual assessment of critical outcome indicators

The midterm evaluation recommended that ENGINE's robust baseline and evaluation design and program monitoring be complemented with an assessment of critical outcome indicators (such as dietary diversity and HH food security) on a regular basis to inform program strategy and implementation. In the reporting period, ENGINE successfully designed and carried out the first round of this assessment among MVHH in ten model woredas that received project support in Year III as well as MVHH selected for support in Year IV prior to receiving that support.

Following recruitment and training of enumerators and supervisors, data collection was carried out in Nov and Dec 2014. The survey reached 834 (97%) households for data collection. All questionnaires were collected from the field, data entered, cleaned and coded and now ready for analysis. The data will be analyzed and the findings presented in quarter two. The analysis will allow us to compare HH prior to receiving support to those that have received ENGINE support for one year. To see trends during project intervention, the survey will be conducted on the same households two more times in six - eight months intervals.

Sub-activity (iii) Provide technical assistance support to MOH, RHBs and WorHOs with the integration of nutrition indicators into the HMIS

FMOH hasn't yet started the roll out of the new HMIS with nutrition indicators. ENGINE trained 27 HEW supervisors and *woreda* HMIS focal persons in the use of nutrition indicators through nutrition M&E training and data presentation skills.

ENGINE, working with UNICEF, took the lead in providing technical support to FMOH nutrition case team in the establishment of the NNP monitoring tool and nutrition programmatic information database. The hybrid nutrition database will be finalized and put into use in the next quarter.

Sub-activity (iv) Support quality of program implementation and data utilization at all levels

In this reporting quarter, ENGINE supported and participated in joint annual health and agriculture sector planning meetings conducted in 14 woredas of SNNP. The ultimate aim of the meeting was to communicate and align ENGINE annual work plan with the health and agriculture offices and other woreda partners. The participants agreed to amend nutrition activities in the sector plans and committed themselves to closely monitor its implementation. In the other regions, the annual woreda based planning hasn't started by the RHBs

ENGINE also conducted zonal level multi-sector review meeting in three zones of Amhara region, with the involvement of NNP implementing sectors and nutrition partners. Each NNP implementing sector reviewed its plans to ensure nutrition sensitive activities were included. The meetings also focused on building capacity of the NNP implementing sectors.

ENGINE supported and coordinated regular nutrition integrated review meeting in nine woredas (3 in Tigray, 2 in Amhara, 1 in SNNPR and 3 in Oromia) and seven cluster PHCUs, which is well below the planned 49 meetings due to the woreda offices' busy schedule and other priorities. The meetings allowed for review of gaps identified during Integrated Supportive Supervision and development of action plans to address those gaps to ensure the quality of nutrition services improves at all level. Micronutrient shortages, inadequate house hold follow up, poor quality of services were among core limitations identified based on ISS. Participants agreed to give focus to promotion of cooking demonstration at each level, and to integrate nutrition with ANC delivery, PNC, U5 and WASH activities, and to strengthen supervision at all level.

ENGINE financially supported and participated in integrated supportive supervision in Tigray in 14 HCs and 11 HPs in ENGINE supported woredas.

ENGINE continued to providing regular onsite mentoring and supportive supervision of recording, reporting, data utilization and data quality at field level to maintain the quality of the OR data, at service delivery points (school, FTCs, health centers and health posts) based on the existing government systems through its OR implementers, regional M&E officers and Zonal coordinators. Because of the program monitoring data collection, data quality assessment was not conducted in this quarter but it will be done at the beginning of quarter two.

National Nutrition Program (NNP) Research Dissemination Conference

The Ethiopian Public health Institute (EPHI) in partnership with key nutrition partners including USAID/ENGINE, World Bank, MI, UNICEF and Food and Nutrition Society of Ethiopia (FoNSE), held a three day NNP Operations Research Dissemination Conference from October 23 - 25, 2014. The objective of the conference was to bring NNP implementing partners together and discuss and analyze operations research findings, challenges of the nutrition program at the national level and draw recommendations to bridge the gaps. ENGINE supported the workshop both financially and technically. In addition, ENGINE disseminated 11 ENGINE supported operation research documents in the fields of nutrition policy, micronutrients, dietary diversity, complementary food product development, and nutrition and agriculture linkage. A total of 47 research papers in the areas of nutrition were presented. Ninety-five participants including policymakers and parliamentarians, research institutes, academia, NGOs and UN agencies were in attendance. EPHI will produce a report on the proceedings including abstracts presented in the next quarter.

Activity (v) Implementation of ENGINE's communication strategy

In the reporting period, ENGINE developed a TOR and initiated procurement of consultancy on knowledge management to assist ENGINE to rapidly identify top audiences and strategies for reaching them with key messages and learning from the project. The consultancy will be carried out and KM strategy and action plan developed and implemented in quarter two. In the reporting period ENGINE also finalized design and initiated printing of a number of technical reports and training manuals. ENGINE continues to update its project website with resources to ensure they are readily available to stakeholders. ENGINE also engaged a video production company in this quarter which filmed four of eight planned video documentaries that will showcase ENGINE's successes.

Crosscutting: Gender

Planned activities:

- Organize regional workshop to disseminate ENGINE gender strategy and analysis findings
- Provide decision making skill training for women and men from selected, well performing MVHH
- Organize experience sharing/peer learning sessions for members of women groups, share good practices on nutrition
- Support and conduct fathers group meeting at selected health facilities
- Select male role models from ENGINE targeted MVHH from ECC targeted sites
- Organize cooking demonstration for men to transfer skill and messages

Update Gender topics in training manuals and job aids

In this reporting quarter, ENGINE adopted a decision making and life skills manual. The content of the material is focused on decision-making and communication skills to improve nutrition in the household by facilitating couple communication. The manual has been shared to all the regions and the cascading will follow after providing orientation to the regional teams.

Integrate gender activities at the community and household level

A regional level workshop to disseminate ENGINE'S Gender strategy and Gender Analysis findings was organized for Regional, Zonal and Woreda level NTC members and gender specialists on December 24, 2014 at Bishoftu town. The aim of the workshop was to disseminate the findings of the gender assessment conducted by ENGINE and create awareness among the participants on the importance of integrating gender in nutrition programs to improve the nutritional status of mothers, children and adolescents. A total of 68 participants (28 female) attended the workshop.

In this quarter, decision-making skill training has been provided for 40 (20 female) beneficiaries from targeted MVHHs in Amhara region. The training was provided with the objectives of promoting male involvement in decision making role at household level. The low achievement (40/460) is due to the training manual being made available late in the quarter. Trainings will continue in quarter two. ENGINE also organized five food cooking demonstrations events for men to motivate male partners to take part in family cooking and feeding practices. The events were attended by 68 men. The cooking demonstrations will continue in Quarter II.



Husbands participating in a cooking demonstration in Arsi

Out of a total of 242 planned this quarter, 173 (72 percent) men received orientation on supporting their family and their wives on relieving women's work load and supporting their livelihood activities.

Community level gender activities were started late in the quarter due to emphasis being given to other trainings and activities that demand *woreda* and facility staff (prioritized due to upcoming election) as well as late delivery of training manual and orientation to the regional teams. Activities such as decision making skill training, exchange visits among women's groups, father's group meetings, selection of male role models, cooking demonstrations for men are being emphasized and moving ahead more quickly in Quarter II.

Strengthen gender in program monitoring system

Potential gender focused research questions were identified by ENGINE and will be shared with MSc students in the second quarter as potential thesis topics.

Data quality issues

ENGINE continued to providing regular onsite mentoring and supportive supervision of recording, reporting, data utilization and data quality at field level to maintain the quality of the OR data, at service delivery points (school, FTCs, health centers and health posts) based on the existing government systems through its OR implementers, regional M&E officers and Zonal coordinators. Because of the program monitoring data collection, data quality assessment was not conducted in this quarter but it will be done at the beginning of quarter two. ENGINE continues to see improvement in quality and timeliness of data reported through ENGINE database system.

Challenges and constraints and plans to overcome them during the reporting period

Challenges	Actions
<p>Late delivery of SBCC deliverables by contracted creative agency and delayed procurement process for printing of all SBCC materials has resulted in delayed implementation of ECCs and the innovative SBCC component of ENGINE</p>	<p>ENGINE management held meetings with creative agency to understand and address bottlenecks and to agree to an updated and firm delivery schedule for all remaining deliverables.</p> <p>ENGINE management followed the procurement process for printing of SBCC materials closely and is working closely with the four contracted printers to ensure delivery of all materials as agreed to enable ECC roll-out in February.</p> <p>Engine cascaded training to LNGO CCAs in the first quarter to ensure the LNGOs are able to implement in communities immediately upon delivery of materials.</p>
<p>Delayed start-up of non-AGP woreda implementation in SNNPR due to BOFED insistence on project mid-term evaluation and modification of MOU</p>	<p>As described in management section, ENGINE complied with SNNP BOFED's requirements and through persistent follow-up at the regional level reached an agreement on MOU modification which was signed in the quarter. Implementation will begin early in quarter two.</p>
<p>Implementation of the partnership with GRAD in non-AGP woredas has been slowed by poor engagement by GRAD implementing partners.</p>	<p>ENGINE management discussed with GRAD management. USAID also intervened to resolve the issue including by providing additional budget to GRAD. While some progress has been made, GRAD has still not hired community level staff as planned to deliver activities for the partnership. ENGINE is again following up with GRAD and expect the issue to be addressed in quarter two. If the issue persists, ENGINE will seek involvement of USAID</p>
<p>ENGINE's sub-prime, Land O'Lakes has not yet secured proper registration with ChSA</p>	<p>Save the Children has worked with LOL to determine possible courses of action, including facilitating a meeting with USAID in Addis Ababa.</p> <p>Save the Children sent LOL letter to complete registration in January or risk termination of sub-agreement due to unacceptable risk of operating without proper license.</p> <p>LOL management is giving the issue full attention and have completed required documents in the US and had authenticated at Ethiopian Embassy. LOL has hired a consultant to facilitate the process with MOFA and ChSA in Addis Ababa.</p> <p>Save the Children will monitor the situation in January and determine the appropriate course of action.</p>
<p>Delayed start-up of ENGINE activities in Somali Region due to delayed execution of MOU with Somail Regional State and USAID.</p>	<p>Save the Children and the Somali Regional State agreed to the terms of an MOU in November to launch ENGINE activities in the region. The regional government is requiring a signed MOU prior to project launch.</p> <p>ENGINE submitted the MOU to USAID for review in late November, but did not receive feedback until mid-January. USAID guidance includes the need to alter the MOU to include USAID as a signatory.</p> <p>ENGINE modified MOU and resubmitted to USAID for review and approval. Once approved, ENGINE will bring updated MOU to Somali Regional State for review and signature.</p>

<p>Government priorities limit availability for some planned activities, including program managers training and JSS.</p>	<p>ENGINE has planned a large number of trainings in quarter 1, with the expectation that quarters 2 and 3 will have lower number of training due to government involvement in the upcoming elections.</p> <p>ENGINE is emphasizing the importance of the activities and pushing to complete these trainings in quarter one and quarter two per government staff availability.</p>
<p>Due to difficult terrain in Operations Research study sites, motorbikes have broken down causing difficulties with study supervision</p>	<p>New motorbikes are being procured.</p>
<p>WASH activities are delayed due to long procurement process for water filters and mats.</p>	<p>ENGINE in close communication to finalize procurements.</p> <p>Training of WASH focal persons is planned to take place in advance of procurement completion to enable rapid start up.</p> <p>Guidance sent to regions to initiate work of identifying groups for WASH marketing</p>

Major activities planned in the next reporting period

Project management & partnership

- Hold quarterly review regional and subprime meetings
- Support regions in launching activities in non-AGP *woredas* and Somali Region
- Strengthen FtF linkages and conduct experience sharing visits with partners at the regional level
- Joint management meeting for non-AGP partnership

IR1. Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies strengthened

- Support National, regional and *woreda* level Nutrition Multi-sector Coordination Mechanisms
- Continue supporting the launch of NNP and establishment of WMNCB (including dissemination of NNP document) at zonal and *woreda* levels
- Address gaps in existing nutrition- related policies and guidelines
- Implement nutrition education quality improvement process
- Strengthen the curriculum for nutrition education
- Continue supporting establishment of ACoE for nutrition at Hawassa University

IR2. Quality and delivery of nutrition and health care services improved

- Implement QI activities for nutrition services at health facilities and conduct QI training for HW & HEWs
- Conduct on-job coaching and mentoring for health service providers
- MIYCN training to HWs & HEWs
- Program management training for health and agriculture program managers (*woreda* heads)
- DA/AEW training on Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture(NSA)
- Promote and conduct cooking demonstration(integrated with iodine salt and handwashing) at community, school, FTC and health facility levels
- Distribute and ensure proper use of MIYCN SBCC materials at health facility
- Monitor and report caregivers counseling for mothers by trained HWs
- Provide multi-sector nutrition and nutrition-sensitive agriculture training for program managers and frontline health and agriculture workers
- Support *woreda* level CHD implementation where CHD exists and routine program through planning, logistics management, mentorship and post monitoring and reviews.

IR3. Improved prevention of under-nutrition through community-based nutrition practices

-
- Train remaining CCAs on ECC
- Implement ECC activities
- Conduct modified ECC to ENGINE's MVHHs
- Develop job aids and materials for religious leaders

- Air 1000 days radio magazine
- Train *woreda* Agriculture livestock staff in chicken production
- Training of Model farmers at FTCs from adjacent *kebeles*
- Provide hand tools and fruit seedlings to MVHHs (year IV HHs)
- Provide vegetable seeds to MVHHs (year III & IV HHs)
- Support seed suppliers at *woreda* level
- Provide improved/local sheep and/or goats or chicken heifers to MVHHs
- Link MVHHs with veterinary services and obtain official vaccination documents
- Train MVHHs on the type of intervention
- Prepare WASH training manual for ENGINE project staff
- Promote household water filters
- Establish WASH marketing groups
- Provide water filters for government health institutions

IR4 Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

- Continue implementation of ENGINE OR on birth cohort, agriculture-nutrition panel, SAM and MAM studies
- Continue secondary data analysis and documentation
- Carry out data quality assessment and supportive supervision for M&E officers in all regions
- Build research capacity for researchers and postgraduate students (MSc & PhD) in ENGINE partner institutes
- Finalize a joint M&E plan for the partnership with GOAL and GRAD

Crosscutting: Gender

- Provide decision making skill training for women and men from selected, well performing MVHH
- Organize a gender sensitization sessions for ENGINE technical staff at Addis including sub primes
- Provide Supportive supervisions and TA for regions

Environmental compliance

Animal feed and feeding: ENGINE has continued purchasing animals from the local market to avoid additional pressure on the existing pasture. In addition, 1251 MVHs received training and planted multipurpose forage trees in their backyard boundaries.

Animal Health: In order to protect distributed animals from livestock diseases and maximize productivity, animals received vaccination against Anthrax, Black leg, Pastureullosis, PPR, and Pox, depending on the type of animal and area prevalence. All chickens distributed by ENGINE were vaccinated based on the recommendation of National Veterinary Institute (NVI) chicken vaccination calendar against NCD, Gumboro, Fowl typhoid and Mareks.

Table 3.10: Environmental mitigation and monitoring

Activity description	Mitigation measures	Monitoring Indicator(s)	Output	Comment
			# of people trained	
Provide selected VHHS and women's groups with livestock and seedlings for production of fruits and vegetables	Provide training of feed preparation, forage production, livestock management and veterinary services	# of people trained on feed and livestock management	1251	1246 HHs received training on forage production and feed reserve
	Provide required vaccinations for livestock	# of animals vaccinated	5396	During the reporting period, 5396 animals have been vaccinated. All animals received a thorough animal health examination by a government veterinary officer.

Issues requiring the attention of USAID management

As described in the Challenges section, the launch of ENGINE activities in Somali Regional State is greatly delayed due to process of agreeing to an MOU with USAID and Somali Regional State. Initial review by USAID took more than one month. We request USAID's expeditious review and feedback on the updated MOU so that it can be finalized and the project launched in Somali Region.

Save the Children's subprime, LOL, has not secured proper registration in the country which creates a risk to Save the Children and ENGINE. Save the Children has supported LOL in their efforts to complete registration, but has sent a formal notice to LOL management that registration needs to be completed promptly or the sub-agreement may be terminated. If LOL does not successfully register in the second quarter, Save the Children will terminate the sub-agreement which may have an impact on the project.

Data sharing with host government

Have you shared this report with the host government?

Yes

No

We have not shared this report, but at the request of FMOH we did share a semi-annual summary report (June – Dec 2014) of ENGINE activities to FMOH in January 2015.

Annexes

Annex I: Report on partnership with GRAD in non-AGP woredas

Project start up

ENGINE continued implementation of its partnership with GRAD in 4 non-AGP woredas in Amhara and Oromia regions. Approval from SNNPR to initiate implementation in three woredas in the region was received late in the quarter, and activities will launch in the second quarter (see management section). ENGINE recruited one zonal MNCH coordinator to support activities in Oromia. Recruitment in Amhara was completed in Year III.

A one day orientation session was held in Amhara with GRAD's local implementing partner attended by 13 GRAD staff. Topics addressed included an overview of the collaboration and its intended impact, progress reporting, modalities of livestock support to beneficiaries, and logistical issues.

Implementation in Oromia was slowed by poor engagement of GRAD implementing partners in the region and their need for additional funds from their prime organization. This has delayed their recruitment of staff, especially community animators who are responsible to conduct ECC. Delay of activities with budgetary requirements was not resolved in quarter one.

IR2.1: Quality of nutrition services strengthened

Provide training for health and agriculture program managers (woreda heads) and GRAD's gender & nutrition coordinators on nutrition program management

ENGINE provided nutrition program management training for 13 (1 female) agriculture, health and GRAD project program managers in Amhara region. The training familiarized program managers with health and agriculture integration, nutrition sensitive agriculture, food and nutrition security, and planning and supervision of nutrition activities. Trainings in SNNP will be conducted in quarter two.

Provide MIYCN training for HWs and HEWs

ENGINE provided MIYCN training in Amhara Region for 67 (21female) health workers from facilities and woreda health offices in two ENGINE GRAD intervention woredas. Trainings in Oromia and SNNP will be conducted in quarter two.

Provide DA/AEW training on Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) including Keyhole/Perma-garden

NSA and perma-garden training has been provided for DA/AEWs of 19 GRAD implementing kebeles in one intervention woredas in Amhara. A total of 40 (six female) DA/AEWs were trained, 61% of quarterly plan. DAs were engaged in other tasks and ENGINE was not able to complete other planned trainings, which will be conducted in quarter two.

Training of GRAD animators and conducting of VESA level ECCs were not accomplished as planned because of the above management constraints and the of ENGINE ECC materials under adaptation

for non-AGP woredas. This will be a priority for the next quarter as most of the constraints are resolved at the end of this quarter.

IR 3.2 Apply economic strengthening interventions to meet households' needs

Select FTCs with access to water to promote vegetables and fruit production:

During the reporting quarter two FTC sites which have access to water to promote vegetables and fruit production have been selected in Amhara regions. The selection was done with experts of woreda agriculture offices. ENGINE and woreda agriculture offices communicated with the respective DAs about the activities to be undertaken with the support of ENGINE-GRAD partnership project. Five additional FTCs will be selected in quarter two.

Provide Keyhole/permagarden training to CFs and animators at woreda level

Perma-garden training for Community Facilitators (CFs) and Animators has been provided in the two GRAD intervention woredas of Amhara Region. One hundred CFs and Animators (23 female) participated which is 33 percent of the quarter plan.

IR 4: Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

ENGINE and GRAD held discussions on developing joint M&E plan for the partnership. Finalization of the plan was delayed due to departure of both ENGINE Sr. M&E Advisor and GRAD M&E Advisor. The ENGINE vacancy will be filled in Q2 and joint M&E and learning agenda will be finalized.

Planned activities for Quarter 2

- Start implementation in 3 woredas in SNNPR
- MIYCN training
- ECC training of GRAD animators
- Conduct cooking demonstrations
- Targeting of households for project support
- Training of the households on the type of interventions
- Provision of support to the selected households
- Finalize M&E plan

Annex 2: Report on partners with GOAL in non-AGP woredas

Start-up

In the reporting period, ENGINE continued its partnership with GOAL in non-AGP woredas. In addition to the 4 woredas that began implementation in Year III, ENGINE expanded to three additional woredas in East and West Hararghe this quarter. ENGINE received approval late in the quarter for work in SNNPR (see management section) and will begin implementation in three additional woredas in SNNPR next quarter. ENGINE hired four zonal coordinators in the reporting period to support the partnership in East and West Hararghe, Oromia. ENGINE and GOAL finalized an MOU to guide joint implementation and will sign the MOU in quarter two. Two workshops were held to familiarize ENGINE, GOAL and partners staff about the partnership and planned activities.

IR2.1: Quality of nutrition services strengthened

Build capacity of health system to implement direct nutrition interventions and SBCC on nutrition and WASH

During this quarter, ENGINE extended its preventive nutrition support coverage to non-AGP woredas in East and West Hararghe in collaboration with GOAL. Trained staffs started counseling on key messages on nutrition and conducting cooking demonstration.

Provide integrated IYCF into CMAM training

In the reporting period, ENGINE carried basic MIYCN training for HWs and woreda health staff members from five woredas of East and West Hararghe zones. A total of 102 (F=34) participants attended the trainings. The training was conducted earlier than planned based on availability of woreda staff. Participants produced a post training action plan to guide them in initiating activities that they are expected to implement. Additionally, the participating PHCUs were provided with the necessary registration and reporting materials.

ENGINE visited 36 Health facilities (23 Health centers and 13 Health posts) to provide technical assistance in MIYCN counseling as well as to ensure all facilities have MIYCN registration books and reporting formats and are able to use them.

Provide training to DA/AEW and GOAL woreda staffs on Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture (NSA)

Training for AEWs in nutrition sensitive agriculture was conducted in this quarter in West and East Hararge. The training capacitated AEWs on Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture together with the basic concepts of Nutrition. A total of 95 (F=13) participants were trained. The training was initiated earlier than initially planned to take advantage of AEW availability in the quarter.

Conduct nutrition cooking demonstrations at community levels biannually at health posts including promotion of use of iodized salts and WASH.

During the quarter, ENGINE supported nine community level food cooking demonstrations in GOAL non-AGP woredas. A total of 397 (270 female) participated in the demonstrations. The overall summary of TA and cooking demonstration presented below:

Activity	Indicator	East Hararge	West Hararge	Total Achievement
Post MIYCN training follow-up and TA on maternal counselling	# of HC visited	11	12	23
	#HP visited	1	12	13
Registration book and reporting format distributed	#HC received	16	22	38
Facility /Community based FCD	#session	3	6	9
	#attendants	89 (88F)	306 (182F)	395 (270 F)

IR 3.2 Apply economic strengthening interventions to meet households' needs Selection/Targeting of Households with CMAM case for livelihood support

Four hundred sixteen (416) households with children exposed to relapse of acute malnutrition, per health facility records, were selected for project support of livelihood activities, which is 47 percent of the quarter plan. Selection of the households based on clinical records of children. Some of the children were from well to do families and didn't qualify for livelihood support based on the vulnerability criteria. In collaboration with kebele leaders and community elders ENGINE identified those who are qualified both in terms of need and relapse of acute malnutrition. Children from well off families suffering from relapse are referred for additional counselling on infant feeding. Household selection will continue and provision of livelihood support to the HHS will be done in quarter 2.

IR 4 Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

ENGINE and GOAL held discussions on developing a joint M&E plan for the partnership. Finalization of the plan was delayed due to departure of ENGINE Sr. M&E Advisor. The vacancy will be filled in the second quarter and joint M&E and learning agenda will be finalized.

Planned activities for Quarter 2

- Scaling up to the remaining three woreda of SNNPR
- MIYCN training for health workers
- NSA training for DAs
- Conduct cooking demonstration
- Targeting and training of households for LES project support
- Provision of support to the selected households
- Finalize M&E plan

Annex 3: Trip reports and PSE meeting minutes



Annex Trip Reports and PSE Meeting Minutes.zip

Annex 4: Performance Matrices: FtF, PMP and Workplan



Annex Performance Matrices.zip