



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 Quarter III Progress Report

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Acronyms

ACoE	Academic Center of Excellence
AEWs	Agriculture Extension Workers
AGP	Agriculture Growth Program
ANC	Antenatal Care
AOR	Agreement Officer Representative
ATVET	Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education and Training
BC	Birth cohort
CCAs	Community Change Agents
CHDs	Child Health Days
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
CoE	Center of Excellence
COP	Chief of Party
CQI	Continuous Quality Improvement
CAHWS	Community Animal Health Workers
DAs	Development Agents
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DQA	Data quality assessment
EBF	Exclusive breastfeeding
ECCs	Enhanced Community Conversations
EHNR	Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute
ENGINE	Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities
EOTC	Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church
EPHI	Ethiopian Public Health Institute
FCD	Food-cooking demonstrations
FMoH	Federal Ministry of Health
FMoA	Federal Ministry of Agriculture
FMoE	Federal Ministry of Education
FTC	Farmer training center
FtF	Feed the Future
GoE	Government of Ethiopia
GRAD	Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development
HCs	Health Centers
HEWs	Health Extension Workers
HPs	Health Post
HWs	Health Workers
IFA	Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation
ISS	Integrated supportive supervision
IVR	Interactive Voice Response
LES	Livelihood and economic strengthening
LNGOs	Local non-governmental organizations
LOL	Land O' Lakes, Inc.

MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAIYCN	Maternal, Adolescent, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MCH	Mother and child health
MFI	Microfinance Institutions
MIYCN	Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition
MOFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MOI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MVHHs	Most Vulnerable Households
NFFSC	National Food Fortification Steering Committee
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NNCB	National Nutrition Coordinating Body
NNP	National Nutrition Program
NNTC	National Nutrition Technical Committee
NRM	Natural resource management
NSA	Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture
OFLE	Office of the First Lady
OR	Operational Research
ORS	Oral Rehydration Salts
PHCU	Primary Health Care Unit
PI	Principal Investigator
PMP	Program Monitoring Plan
PNC	Post-natal care
PRIME	Pastoralists Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion
PSE	Pre-service education
QI	Quality Improvement
RDQA	Routine Data Quality Assessment
RHB	Regional Health Bureau
RNCBs	Regional Nutrition Coordinating Bodies
RNTCs	Regional Nutrition Technical Committees
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SoRPARI	Somali Region Pastoralist and Agro Pastoral Research Institute
STTA	Short-term technical assistance
SNNPR	Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region
TA	Technical Assistance
TOR	Terms of Reference
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
VESAs	Village Economic and Social Association
VI	Valid International
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WNMCB	Woreda nutrition multi-sector coordination bodies

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 the nutritional status of Ethiopian women and children under-5. 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 2 years old.

Save the Children leads 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 implements its integrated nutrition package in 83 Agriculture Growth Program (AGP) (food secure) *woredas*, 17 non-AGP (food insecure) *woredas* in partnership with USAID/Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) and GOAL and in this reporting period started implementation in an additional 15 *woredas* in Somali Region, with one additional *woreda* under discussion with regional government.

Achievements and successes

ENGINE made significant progress toward reaching its objectives in Year IV covering the period from April 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015.

Nutrition multi-sector coordination and partnership

In the reporting period, ENGINE provided technical support and actively participated in nutrition working groups, particularly in preparation of the National Nutrition Program (NNP) 2016-2020. ENGINE provided technical support for the second block write up workshop revising NNP document for submission to National Nutrition Coordinating Body (NNCB). ENGINE also provided technical and financial support to establish a regional multi-sector coordination body and technical committee in Somali Region. ENGINE, with other partners supported a capacity-building training workshops for members of the regional nutrition coordinating body and regional nutrition technical committees in Amhara and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's (SNNP) regions. ENGINE, with regional health bureaus, also supported quarterly NNP regional multi-sector technical committee meetings in SNNPR. To further support the roll-out and implementation of NNP to *woreda* level, ENGINE supported 27 *woreda* multi-sector coordination meetings which have strengthened implementation and monitoring of nutrition activities by all sectors.

Nutrition advocacy and social and behavior change communication

In Quarter III, ENGINE supported the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church (EOTC) religious leaders and church scholars to develop draft guidelines and sermon guides to support teachings on thematic areas related to fasting and pregnancy, fasting during lactation, fasting and children under-5 and gender roles/family support during the first 1000 days. The guide will be presented to the overall assembly of church scholars and the Holy Synod council members for endorsement. In Quarter III, ENGINE participated in advocacy and Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) Technical Working Group (TWG) meetings aimed at harmonizing and endorsing SBCC materials for the country. ENGINE

also participated in the workshop to draft comprehensive nutrition guidelines for health facilities and communities which was submitted to Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) for review and endorsement.

Nutrition capacity building

ENGINE provides nutrition capacity building for Government of Ethiopia (GoE) staff in both pre-service and in-service settings.

Nutrition pre-service education

ENGINE continued supporting eleven Phase I and six Phase II higher education institutions. Accomplishments include conducting a knowledge sharing workshop for all institutions; a review workshop for phase II institutions; nutrition forums at eight agricultural institutions; and a dietetics training for nutrition instructors from five health science institutions. In this quarter, ENGINE also collected data on the nutrition competencies of graduating BSc nursing and midwifery students to assess the impact of pre-service interventions; a report will be produced in Quarter IV. In Quarter III, ENGINE and Hawassa University formally launched the Nutrition Academic Center of Excellence at Hawassa University and established a webpage for the center as a key communication tool to support the center's goals.

In-service capacity building

ENGINE trained 565 (249 female) health and agricultural workers in nutrition. The project provided training on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) for 292 (217 female) health workers (HWs) and health extension workers (HEWs) from non-AGP *woredas* and Somali Region, to build their capacity to provide quality nutrition services. ENGINE trained 257 (27 female) development agents (DAs) in non-AGP *woredas* 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 HEWs counseled 171,462 pregnant and lactating women on exclusive breastfeeding (EBF), complementary feeding (CF), and dietary diversity at health centers (HCs) and health posts (HPs). At the facility level, 54,284 children suffering from diarrhea were treated with zinc and oral rehydration salts (ORS) and 130,756 pregnant women received iron-folate supplementation. In the reporting period, ENGINE also completed an assessment of MIYCN training effectiveness among 94 HWs and HEWs in four regions that showed 95 percent of HWs found the training to be 'highly effective'.

Nutrition-sensitive livelihoods

ENGINE continued to support most vulnerable households (MVHHs) with nutrition-sensitive livelihoods interventions, including providing seeds for improved homestead vegetable production to 2783 MVHH, and provision of productive livestock to 1668 households. ENGINE trained 563 MVHHs on homestead gardening and animal care with gender, nutrition and environmental issues integrated into the curriculum. ENGINE also established five new saving groups, and 36 established groups were linked to microfinance institutions (MFIs) in the reporting period. ENGINE also conducted an assessment of poultry intervention in Amhara region and found that 98 percent of supported HHs reported using eggs for consumption, however the reported average frequency of consumption by children under-2 years was three days per week. This is a great improvement in consumption of animal source foods, but indicates there is a continued need for promotion of children's egg consumption and dietary diversity.

In Quarter III, ENGINE began implementation of livelihoods activities in Somali region, which included mapping and assessments for rangeland management and fodder enclosures. ENGINE also developed vouchers for fodder seeds, supplementary feed and animal health services, identified beneficiaries to receive vouchers with and without subsidy and selected vendors. The vouchers and related livelihood activities will be rolled out early in Quarter IV.

Social and behavior change communication strategy

During this reporting period, ENGINE continued implementation of enhanced community conversations (ECCs) in four regions through local non-governmental organizations (LNGOs), conducting 4,536 sessions for 17,981 community members. ENGINE also developed content for sessions #7-10, which will be rolled out in Quarter IV. During this reporting period materials were printed and packed for the second round of ECC sessions 1-6 to start in Quarter IV. ENGINE also modified ECC sessions for use in non-AGP *woredas* by GRAD and GOAL, as well as a modification which will allow ENGINE savings groups in all AGP *woredas* to conduct ECCs without a virtual facilitator. Materials for both packages are in printing and will roll out in Quarter IV.

Nutrition operations research

In Quarter III, operations research studies progressed as planned. A manuscript on the Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) operations research study was prepared for submission for publication. The Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) study is progressing as planned and will be completed in Quarter IV. ENGINE presented five posters highlighting findings of operations research and secondary analysis at the 'Together for Nutrition 2015' conference in Addis Ababa, coordinated by IFPRI. In Quarter IV, ENGINE will disseminate preliminary results from the Birth Cohort and Agriculture-Nutrition panel studies.

Implementation in non-AGP *woredas*

In Quarter III, ENGINE continued implementation in 17 non-AGP *woredas* in partnership with GRAD and GOAL.

In partnership with GRAD, ENGINE provided MIYCN training for 118 HEWs, nutrition-sensitive agriculture training for 154 DAs and perma-garden training for 213 GRAD staff, animators and community facilitators. ENGINE also facilitated *woreda* level nutrition multi-sector coordination meetings in six of seven partnership *woredas*. In partnership with GOAL, ENGINE provided MIYCN training for 68 HEWs and 38 DAs were trained in nutrition-sensitive agriculture. ENGINE also provided 505 beneficiaries of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) services with goats, and agricultural inputs to 875 households which included training on livelihood interventions. ENGINE supported multi-sector nutrition meetings in all seven project *woredas* with GOAL. ENGINE carried out baseline surveys jointly with both GRAD and GOAL for the respective partnerships during the reporting period.

Implementation in Somali Region

During the reporting period, ENGINE initiated major activities in 15 *woredas* in Somali region, including launching the NNP in the region and establishing a regional nutrition coordination body and technical committee. ENGINE also adapted its training manuals and provided MIYCN training for 106 HWs and HEWs, and program planning and supervision training for 36 health and agriculture program managers in the region. ENGINE carried out mapping and assessments to guide rangeland management and

enclosure activities, and developed a voucher system for fodder seeds and animal health inputs which will be rolled out in Quarter IV. ENGINE will conduct a baseline survey for Somali region in Quarter IV.

Reporting period

This is the ENGINE project's Year IV Quarter III Progress Report covering the reporting period from April 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015.

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
Determinants of Participation in the “Nutrition-sensitive” Agricultural Activities of a Large-scale Integrated Nutrition Program in Ethiopia	Jennifer Coates and Yohannes Tesema	July 02, 2015
Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Training Effectiveness Assessment in Oromia, SNNP, Amhara and Tigray Regions	Save the Children-ENGINE	June 30, 2015
Post-Harvest Losses and Handling Practices of Temporary and Permanent Crops Produced In Relation with Food Security of Households in Ethiopia: Secondary Data Analysis	Hawassa University – Tufts University	June 2015
Evaluating Multisectoral Strategies for Improved Nutrition and Food Security in Ethiopia (Agriculture Nutrition Panel Survey. Round 3 – Post Harvest Report)	Tufts University (Addisalem Fikre)	May 02, 2015
Predictors of Household Dietary Diversity in Ethiopia: Analysis of the 2011 Welfare Monitoring Survey data	Jimma University – Tufts University	June 2015

Technical assistance

Did your organization utilize short-term technical assistance (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.

Name	Arrival	Departure	Organization	Type of TA provided
Lydia Clemmons	May 4, 2015	May 16, 2015	The Manoff Group	SBCC TA for development of ECC session 7-10 scripts
Stephen Sara	May 30, 2015	June 14, 2015	Save the Children	WASH short-term technical assistance (STTA)
Timothy Nziok	June 28, 2015	July 2, 2015	Land O'Lakes (LOL)	Management and partnership STTA for LOL. Assessed performance and addressed any challenges or issues.

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

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
Sr SBCC Manager	April 1st May 6th	April 4th May 9th	Tis Abay kebele South Achefer Kebele (both in Amhara region)	Observation and monitoring of 2 ECCs (per visit) was conducted. Interviews with CCAs and LNGO focal persons on ECC implementation. CCAs given guidance on how to lead ECCs more efficiently. Several home visits were conducted
Finance and award manager	June 07, 2015	June 11, 2015	Jimma University Tufts finance office for OR	Review of sub-agreement and financial performance and technical support on reporting and recording
ENGINE research and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) advisor	June 07, 2015	June 09, 2015	Jimma University OR study sites; Dimtu <i>woreda</i>	Check the progression of data collection and quality of data. Discuss with SAM primary investigators and Save the Children team on the finalization of the study and appropriate advice was provided.
ENGINE research and M&E advisor	June 09, 2015	June 11, 2015	Jimma Tufts longitudinal study sites and Jimma University MSc students	Tufts staff were advised to work on documentation and identify areas that need further research. Staff were also advised to abide to USAID brand rules. Jimma University MSc students' thesis work progress, financial utilization and reporting were assessed.
M&E team	May 12, 2015 June 08, 2015	May 16, 2015 June 11, 2015	East Oromia, West Oromia, and SNNP; Amhara	ENGINE country office M&E team provided data quality monitoring and provided feedback to regional teams to strengthen routine data collection, recording and reporting
Health & Nutrition and Livelihoods teams	June 19, 2015	June 23, 2015	E. Hararghe zone, Oromia	Monitoring of joint ENGINE/GOAL implementation: -At facility level the HWs and HEWs are providing treatment of SAM and in parallel with treatment the preventative nutrition counselling is being conducted. However, health center heads, HW and HEWS need continued support on preventive nutrition as their traditional focus is treatment. -Provision of vegetable seeds should consider the water requirement of the vegetable crops. Promotion of orange fleshed sweet potato should be considered for East and West Harerge. -Feeding goat milk to children should encompass the food safety, including boiling milk rather than providing raw milk.

Note: the monitoring trips included here highlight financial and management monitoring of sub-primes and regional offices. ENGINE thematic teams conduct frequent programmatic monitoring and technical assistance trips to regions.

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 three times during the reporting period. The main issues discussed were budget utilization, procurement of water filters, vehicles for Somali region, implementation in non-AGP *woreda*, and staff retention. ENGINE senior management conducted regular management meetings with sub-primes, senior advisors and regional teams to monitor the project performance as per the project work plan. In this reporting period, ENGINE management had two regular meetings with ENGINE Agreements Officer's Representative (AOR). During the reporting period, ENGINE reviewed and revised work plan targets for selected activities based on accomplishment to date, additional demand, budget and feasibility in the remaining one quarter of the project year. The changes are shown in the work plan matrix (Annex 5).

Staff recruitment

During the reporting period, ENGINE's Sr. Policy Advisor seconded to the FMoH resigned. ENGINE is currently working with FMoH and FMoA to assess the need for ongoing seconded positions.

ENGINE recruited a SBCC coordinator for Somali Region to lead the adaptation and implementation of ECCs in the 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 held meetings with Jhpiego management to resolve financial reporting issues; with LOL to address livelihood documentation needs of the project; and with Tuft University and Valid International to discuss operations research dissemination and baseline survey planning. LOL successfully completed registration in Ethiopia during the reporting period.

During the reporting period, ENGINE conducted field monitoring of sub-primes' implementation and compliance. ENGINE M&E and research advisor conducted field monitoring of Tufts and Jimma University. The senior nutrition and livelihood advisor provided routine monitoring of LOL activities. ENGINE senior SBCC manager conducted monitoring of LNGOs implementation of ECCs. ENGINE held a quarterly review meeting with sub-primes to review achievements and challenges encountered in Quarter II.

Technical assistance

In Quarter III, Save the Children received international TA from The Manoff Group (TMG) for SBCC to develop content for ECC sessions 7-10. ENGINE also received STTA from a Save the Children Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) specialist to assess and guide status of WASH marketing activities.

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

In Quarter III, GRAD and ENGINE held a joint review and work planning meeting with national and regional teams from both projects to update and approve a joint work plan. Significant changes were

made in ENGINE's role in livelihoods activities, and going forward, ENGINE will support FTCs and DAs in target woredas and provide training to GRAD staff on nutrition sensitive agriculture and poultry on demand, but will not be engaged in supporting HH level activities. Prior to the reprogramming, GRAD implementing partners did not have clear direction on their role in the partnership. The joint planning as well as USAID's provision of additional funds to GRAD in the reporting period are expected to result in timelier implementation. GRAD and ENGINE carried out a joint baseline study in the reporting period. The partnership with GOAL is progressing well and activities are being delivered as planned. The roll out of ECCs in GOAL woredas needs additional guidance from GOAL on the structures available to utilize and is under discussion. GOAL and ENGINE also carried out a joint baseline survey in the reporting period.

ENGINE start-up in Somali region

ENGINE's work plan and budget for Somali region were approved in Quarter III and implementation on both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive activities began. ENGINE has adapted training manuals and established a process for adaption of SBCC materials for the region. ENGINE is working quickly to implement livelihood activities in time to benefit from the rainy season. A voucher system to deliver fodder seeds and animal health services via PRIME supported and other private vendors has been put in place with vendors and beneficiaries identified – the voucher system will go into use early in Quarter IV. ENGINE has submitted a proposal to the regional government on the need to change one of the 16 selected woredas due to operational constraints, which is presently under consideration. Drought in a number of woredas in the region is a significant concern and may impact project activities and achievements.

Partnership and multi-sector coordination

ENGINE continued to participate actively in key nutrition working groups, including the NNP 2016-2020 block write up, a comprehensive nutrition guideline working group and SBCC/Advocacy working group to map and harmonize SBCC materials.

GRAD, GOAL and ENGINE: ENGINE team met with national and regional level GRAD and GOAL teams five times to address planning and implementation of the partnership in non-AGP woredas.

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
- Implement education quality improvement process to strengthen nutrition education
- Strengthen Nutrition Curriculum at project supported institutions
- Build staff capacity and create an enabling environment for competency-based nutrition education
- Strengthen nutrition in-service training and provide supportive supervision

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

The NNCB meeting planned for Quarter III was rescheduled to August 2015 to take place following experience sharing visits planned for NNCB members in July. This will maximize effectiveness of the visits and enable participants to discuss and determine actions following the experience.

In Quarter III, ENGINE supported the NNP launch in Somali Region and establishment of the regional Nutrition Coordinating Body (RNCB) and Regional Nutrition Technical Committee (RNTC). Regional bureau heads who function as chairs, co-chairs and members of the RNCB, signed the NNP and committed to cascade the program down to *kebeles*. ENGINE facilitated and provided technical and financial support to the NNP launch and establishment of RNCB and RNTC.



Fig 1: Members of RNCB pledging to be nutrition champions

In this reporting quarter, ENGINE provided technical support to revitalize the SNNP/RNTC, and one meeting was held. Each sector developed a nutrition action plan which was then presented to RNTC members and discussed during the meeting. In other regions RNTC meetings were held in Quarter II. The next meetings will take place in Quarter IV.

Over the reporting period, ENGINE provided technical and financial support to 27 *woreda* level multi-sectoral meetings in Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray regions. These were conducted to ensure that nutrition is included in each sectors' *woreda* plan and that the plans are implemented and monitored. These included 13 meetings (and nine field monitoring visits) of *woreda* nutrition multi-sector coordination bodies (WNMCB) in ten model *woredas* in Oromia, Amhara, SNNP and Tigray. During joint field monitoring visits the committees targeted most vulnerable households, schools, health facilities and farmer training centers (FTC). These meetings and field visits allowed discussion of the rollout of the NNP multi-sectoral coordination mechanism to the community/*kebele* levels and enabled *woreda* offices to see how nutrition activities are performing at the community level. ENGINE provided financial and material support to strengthen and sustain nutrition multi-sectoral coordination meetings and field monitoring visits in all regions. The strengths and challenges/lessons learned identified during meetings and field visits in model *woredas* as well as major action points are summarized in table I.I below:

Table 1.1: Major identified strength, gaps and action points suggested during model *woreda* nutrition multi-sector coordination body meetings and field visits

Region (model <i>woreda</i>)	Strength	Gap identified during meeting/field visit	Action points/recommendations
West Oromia (Woliso and Guduru)	Nutrition counseling is continuously conducted for mothers at HPS	All sectors are not equally responding to strengthen nutrition multi-sectoral implementation	Directions was given by <i>woreda</i> administrator to each sector to implement nutrition activities in their sector plans and follow up
	Mothers started constructing handwashing corners	Agronomic practices were not strengthened at schools	The HEW & DA jointly conduct visits and demonstrations at farmer's yards and schools.
Amhara (South Achefer and Takusa)	Establishment of <i>kebele</i> level committee	Poor documentation at the <i>woreda</i> and <i>kebele</i> levels	Provide stationery and other materials for documentation
	Farmers neighboring to ENGINE <i>kebeles</i> started preparing back yard farms for vegetables and fruits	Unavailability of multi-sectoral plan at <i>kebele</i> level	Preparation of sectoral and multi-sectoral plan at <i>kebele</i> level (with the assistance of the technical committee)
East Oromia (Yaya Gulele and Lemu na billillo)	MVHHs are widely practicing homestead gardening	The MVHH saving groups have not finalized formal registration	Agreed that <i>kebele</i> chairman, AEWs and the community leaders should finalize all legal requirements
	HHs are using iodized salt	Poor documentation of Nutrition Multisectoral Coordination Body (NMCB) activities	All documents of meetings and field trips (minutes and summary reports) are agreed to be filed at WoHO and administration office
Tigray (Enda Mehoni and Tahtay Adiabo)	Households are using iodized salt	Poor coordination at <i>kebele</i> level	Establishment of <i>kebele</i> level nutrition technical committee
	Households benefiting from milk and vegetable produced from homestead gardening	Poor savings group performance	Strengthened follow-up and support
SNNP (Misrak Azernet Berebere and Yem Special <i>Woreda</i>)	Promotion of cooking demonstration at each " <i>Gote</i> " level	Discovery of forged iodized salt packages in the market	Promote the use of iodized salt and strengthen enforcement of salt iodization regulation. Recommended for periodic quality checkup/Iodine test
	The crosscutting intervention /WASH and Gender/are well mainstreamed	Turnover of nutrition trained staff	Organize gap filling training

ENGINE supported establishment and/or meetings of *woreda* level nutrition multi-sector coordination bodies in seven GOAL and five GRAD partnership *woredas* (see annexes 1 and 2).

Conduct multi-sector nutrition training workshop with key nutrition stakeholders

ENGINE in partnership with FMoH and regional health bureaus (RHBs) continued facilitating and supporting capacity-building training workshops for members of NCB and NTC. In this reporting quarter, capacity building training was provided to 52 NTC and NCB members in SNNP and 65 NTC members in Amhara region. The training builds capacity of the members to implement and monitor the NNP, and promotes a common understanding of nutrition among the sectors at regional, zonal and *woreda* levels.

Promote exchange visits among countries that have successfully implemented multi-sector linkages

ENGINE and partners took the lead to organize and facilitate National Nutrition Coordination experience-sharing visits to Brazil and Uganda. Brazil was selected as it has made significant improvement in reducing the level of stunting and Uganda has a nutrition multi-sectoral coordination platform in the Office of Prime Minister and is implementing a successful national food fortification program. In this reporting quarter, ENGINE supported the organization of the visits with partners, communicated with government and civil society in Brazil and Uganda and provided financial support for the experience-sharing visit. Decision makers from NNCB will participate in the visits, which will take place in July. ENGINE will provide additional technical support to prepare the teams from Ethiopia and will also send project delegates to both countries to ensure the exchange visits have maximum impact, both across the program and Ethiopia.

Activity (ii) Develop national nutrition advocacy approach

Following the consultative workshop in March 2015 with Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church (EOTC) religious leaders and church scholars, a team of EOTC scholars developed draft guidelines and sermon guides to address issues of fasting practices during pregnancy and lactation, fasting and children under-5 and gender roles during the first 1000 days. The draft guide is currently being reviewed by ENGINE's SBCC team and will be finalized by senior EOTC scholars before being presented to the overall assembly of church scholars and the Holy Synod council members for endorsement.

During this reporting period, ENGINE participated in nutrition SBCC and advocacy technical working groups with FMoH and other stakeholders. ENGINE participated in a message harmonization workshop in May, in Adama where nutrition SBCC materials developed with partners, including ENGINE's SBCC materials, were reviewed and categorized by Technical Working Group (TWG) members. Existing MIYCN messages were standardized and new messages were also developed to address identified gaps, especially for adolescents and children aged 5-12.

FMoH and the Office of the First Lady (OFLE) showed a strong interest in ENGINE's advocacy workshops with Orthodox Christian Religious leaders and scholars to refine religious guidance to improve fasting practices related to maternal and child nutrition. ENGINE and World Vision were recognized for their advocacy efforts to engage religious leaders and were asked to present their findings to OFLE representatives. The First Lady W/ro Roman Tesfaye expressed her interest to support ENGINE's advocacy efforts and work collaboratively in the near future to find sustainable solutions to reduce maternal under-nutrition and childhood stunting. OFLE will schedule a follow-up meeting with ENGINE to discuss next steps in quarter IV.

Strategy 1.1.2 Support development and revision of nutrition policies, guidelines and standards

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

In this quarter, ENGINE provided technical support for the NNP II development second block write up meeting held on April 21-25 2015 in Bishoftu. The block write up meeting produced revised drafts of each strategic objective, which require final review by the core NNP II development team. The chapter on M&E and research was not finalized in this reporting period as the National Micronutrient and NNP end line survey report was not ready. The NNP II finalization core team meeting was held to finalize the document and prepare for approval. Both NNP II and NNS will undergo final editing and be submitted for approval and endorsement by the NNCB.

In the previous quarter, FMoH set a priority to prepare a comprehensive community based nutrition (CCBN) guide and package for health facilities and communities to standardize nutrition services. In this reporting period, ENGINE participated in a technical working group meeting held in Adama where a Comprehensive Nutrition Service Guideline was developed and submitted to FMoH for review and approval. Once approved, it will be piloted in selected *woredas*, including ENGINE *woredas* where ENGINE will support and lead the pilot process.

ENGINE, as a member of the steering committee for a European Union (EU) funded nutrition situation analysis, organized a site visit for the consultants leading the review to observe both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions in the field. The situation analysis will inform EU nutrition investments as well as revisions to the NNP.

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

As one of its capacity building objectives, ENGINE sustained technical and financial support to government organizations and ministries (FMoH, EPHI and the Ministry of Trade and Industry (Mol) directly involved in prevention and control of micronutrient deficiencies in Ethiopia.

National micronutrient intervention guidelines revision

ENGINE took the lead in addressing comments from FMoH Office of Minister on the micronutrient intervention guidelines. In this reporting quarter, the revised guideline was submitted to the nutrition case team of FMoH and is currently being reviewed. The nutrition case team will submit the guidelines to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) director and State Minister for approval following review.

National food fortification plan of action

The planned meeting of the national food fortification steering committee (NFFSC) to discuss findings of EPHI reports on iron content in industrially processed wheat flour was postponed to Quarter IV to take place after the members of NFFSC participate in the experience-sharing visit to Uganda.

Support national micronutrient survey

The government of Ethiopia is conducting a major micronutrient survey (iodine, iron, zinc, vitamin A and B12), which will be used as evidence and input for the development of a national food fortification strategy. ENGINE has financially and technically supported EPHI/FMoH to conduct this national assessment. In Quarter III, household level data collection and data entry was completed by EPHI. EPHI is drafting the preliminary report for release in Quarter IV.

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 order for ENGINE supported education institutions to learn from their successes and challenges, a two-day nutrition knowledge sharing workshop was conducted for Phase I & II institutions. Institutions came together to share best practices and challenges faced, and how to address specific gaps and discuss how apply what has worked across other institutions. The workshop coincided with the inauguration ceremony of the Academic Center of Excellence (ACoE) which provide an additional learning opportunity for the 22 participants.

In addition, a two-day review workshop was conducted for 26 participants (1 female) to review the progress of Phase II institutions on major project intervention areas. The workshop also served as a platform for the participating institutions to share their best practices and critical challenges as well as possible solutions. Institutions exchanged reference materials supporting nutrition education.

Sub-activity (ii) Strengthen Nutrition Curriculum at project supported institutions

In Quarter III, nutrition forums were conducted for eight agriculture institutions¹ as part of efforts to create awareness among graduating students and the college communities on the status, cause and effect of malnutrition in Ethiopia. The forums encouraged graduating students to play a role in tackling the problem and emphasized the importance of providing a formal course for selected agriculture disciplines as part of their curriculum. Four² institutions organized exhibitions of agricultural products and food items for which their nutrient contents & nutritional values were explained for the audiences before testing. The events were facilitated by the institutions who covered costs for the event, indicating improvements in capacity and ownership over the nutrition activities.

¹ Alage, Shire and Wolaita Soddo Agriculture Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) colleges, agriculture Colleges of Hawassa, Debre Markos, Gondar, Jimma and Mekelle Universities

² Alage ATVET, Debre Markos, Jimma and Mekelle Universities



Fig. 2: Food and agriculture products exhibition on nutrition forums at ENGINE supported institutions

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

In order to enhance instructors' capacity in facilitating nutrition teaching at clinical sites, a five day dietetics training was given to 19 (79 percent of target) (5 female) nutrition instructors from five³ Phase I health science institutions. The training gave practical exposure to in-patient dietary assessment & management techniques as well as an understanding of existing potential and gaps in providing dietary support at health facilities. The training also builds instructors' capacity to apply their nutrition background within a clinical/practical setup.

In this quarter, procurement of audiovisual materials and nutrition reference books to improve the learning environment for Phase II institutions was completed and prepared for distribution. BCC materials, including new materials developed by ENGINE, were also collected and distributed to project supported institutions.

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

Institutions have benefited from ENGINE support and have been using revised nutrition syllabi with established core competencies and newly established nutrition skills labs to deliver their courses. To

³ Mekele, Gondar, Jimma, Hawassa Universities & Araya Kahu Health Science Colleges.

measure the impact of these interventions, in Quarter III, ENGINE assessed the graduating class of BSc nursing and midwifery students as well as mid-level plant and animal science students on their nutrition competency. Data was collected in the reporting period and will be analyzed and written up in the next quarter.

Supportive supervision was conducted at six⁴ institutions with the aim of supporting implementation and institutionalization of the education quality improvement process, follow up on delivery of revised syllabi for nutrition and strengthening of utilization of nutrition skills lab.

Activity (i) Establish Nutrition Center of Excellence

The pre-service education (PSE) component of ENGINE took the lead to initiate and closely follow the establishment of an ACoE for nutrition by building upon the existing human resources and facilities at Hawassa University through training staff, strengthening and standardizing the nutrition curriculum, renovating and equipping the skills lab, and providing key educational materials including reference books and audiovisual materials. ENGINE also coordinated efforts to mobilize resources from various local and international partners to the center. Over the reporting period ENGINE and Hawassa University formally launched an ACoE for nutrition at Hawassa University with the aim of creating an excellent academic environment that links training, high quality and innovative community-based nutrition services and nutrition research so as to contribute to reduction of under-nutrition among women and children in Ethiopia. The ACoE webpage on the Hawassa University website also went live during the reporting period and is an important tool for communicating with partners and clients about the mission, history and services offered by the ACoE.



Fig 3: Ribbon cutting on Inauguration of renovated skills lab by Mary Harvey (USAID/E Nutrition Coordinator) and Ayana Beriso (V/president of Hawassa University)

Strategy 1.2.2: Nutrition in-service capacity building for program managers and health providers

Activity (I) Strengthen nutrition in-service training and provide supportive supervision

ENGINE continued providing technical assistance to FMoH in piloting the comprehensive blended nutrition training package for health workers. ENGINE participated in orienting the nutrition case teams

⁴ Gondar (Health & Agriculture colleges), Jimma, Debre Markos & Bahir Dar Universities, Bahir Dar Health Science College

at the regional health bureau of SNNP and Tigray regions on the purpose of the training package, mode of delivery, role of regional nutrition case teams and how to operate using the soft copy.

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

Planned activities:

- Integrate nutrition into the facility quality services and implement 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 Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) counseling
- Continue implementation of Enhanced Community Conversations (ECCs) through local non-governmental organizations (LNGOs)
- 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 coordination entities, health facilities and communities

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

To measure and improve quality of nutrition services in a continuous manner, ENGINE works with health facilities (HFs) and *woreda* health offices to integrate nutrition into facilities' quality improvement services. During this reporting period, ENGINE supported the establishment of performance monitoring and quality improvement teams at four health centers (HCs) in Oromia, achieving the quarterly target. Regional teams in Amhara and Oromia supported 14 HCs in assessing quality of nutrition services. The project team also assisted 30 HFs to incorporate QI activities into Primary Health Care Unit (PHCU) annual work plans.

ENGINE supported QI focused experience-sharing visits for 130 (98 percent of target) zonal and *woreda* nutrition focal persons to create a lesson-learning platform and produce improved nutrition service outcomes. In addition, ENGINE in collaboration with facility quality focal persons, monitored and documented four best practices on quality of nutrition services (Annex 3).

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

During the reporting period, ENGINE in collaboration with trained PHCUs and woreda experts mentored a total of 585 HWs and 622 HEWs; exceeding the overall Quarter III target in AGP (1024 mentored), non-AGP (141 mentored) and Somali (42 mentored) *woredas* (table 2.1). The mentoring aimed to enhance the capacity of HWs and HEWs to provide quality MIYCN services and support to mothers and caretakers at health facilities. Comprehensive and standardized mentoring and supervision checklists, the MIYCN training guidelines and counseling cards were all utilized in the processes. In partnership with GRAD, ENGINE started mentoring HWs and HEWs on preventive nutrition services in non-AGP target *woredas*. Accordingly, the regional team mentored 141 HWs and HEWs in Amhara and Oromia (see Annexes 1 and 2).

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

Regions	Planned		Achieved				Achievement (Percent)
	HEWs	HWs	HEWs	# of female	HWs	# of female HWs	
Amhara	182	168	288	288	190	103	130
Oromia	205	270	181	135	237	27	88
SNNPR	73	99	91	91	77	38	108
Tigray	62	46	43	43	58	34	94
Somali	40	24	19	12	23	9	66
Total	562	607	622	569	585	211	103

Similarly, ENGINE zonal coordinators (ZCs) and nutrition officers, in collaboration with *woreda* health offices, conducted initial supervision visits to 513 HFs (21 Somali) and follow-up supervision visits to 350 HFs in five regions (table 2.2). This includes visits to 74 facilities in non-AGP *woredas*. The supportive supervision visits aim to improve the delivery of nutrition and health services provided by HWs and HEWs. The team used checklists to assess and provide on-site feedback and developed action plans based on the findings. ENGINE's supportive supervision and mentoring improved nutrition services at HFs by ensuring the supply of micronutrients, especially zinc and iron-folate supplements, as well as improving the quality of nutrition counseling (table 2.3). It also improved participation in FCDs and attendance at counseling services, which is expected to improve mothers' MIYCN and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) knowledge and practices (table 2.4). Gaps identified included expired or absence of zinc and vitamin A in some facilities, inadequate nutrition counselling and shortage of nutrition counselling materials in some non-AGP *woredas*.

In Somali Region, the supervision team identified shortages of essential drugs and nutrition supplies in 12 of 21 HFs visited. Absence of counseling/IEC materials and poor documentation for antenatal care (ANC), post-natal care (PNC) and nutrition services in all HFs were other major gaps identified during the visits. ENGINE, in collaboration with Somali Regional health Bureau, will address these gaps in the next quarter.

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

Regions	First Visit				Follow up visit			
	Planned		Achieved		Planned		Achieved	
	HPs	HCs	HPs	HCs	HPs	HCs	HPs	HCs
Amhara	0	18	139	51	0	19	69	38
Oromia	146	54	94	58	30	18	63	39
SNNPR	90	14	109	20	36	0	59	31
Tigray	48	2	21	0	29	10	19	32
Somali	0	0	11	10	0	0	0	0
Total	284	88	374	139	95	47	210	140

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 Quarter III, ENGINE exceeded its overall training target in AGP, non-AGP *woredas* and Somali region for health and nutrition. ENGINE trained 1020 (465 females) front line health and agriculture workers on MIYCN, nutrition program management, nutrition for instructors and nutrition sensitive agriculture and WASH. Table 2.3.



Fig 4: Program managers training

Table 2.3: Total number participants trained on child health and nutrition

Regions	Planned for Quarter III	Achieved in Quarter III				Remark
		Male	Female	Total	%	
Amhara	80	8	76	84	105	
Oromia	75	51	22	73	97	
SNNPR	234	235	230	465	199	More training was given based on demand in non-AGP <i>woredas</i>
Tigray	31	14	13	27	87	
PSE (Universities & colleges in Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, SNNP regions)	24	14	5	19	79	
Somali	380	233	119	352	93	
Total	824	555	465	1020	124	

ENGINE continued its preventive nutrition activities (program managers, MIYCN, and NSA training) in non-AGP *woredas* through partnerships with GOAL and GRAD during the reporting period. Accordingly, ENGINE in partnership with GOAL trained 106 (77 females) frontline health and agriculture workers in Oromia and SNNP Regions, achieving the target for the quarter. Under ENGINE/GRAD partnership, SNNP regional team supported training for 251 (136 females) program managers, HEWs and AEWs/DAs (annexes 1 and 2).

MIYCN training assessment

During this quarter, ENGINE conducted MIYCN training effectiveness assessments in 20 health centers and 39 health posts in four regions. The aim of the assessment was to evaluate the MIYCN training effectiveness and identify any areas for improvement. The assessment sampled 94 HW and HEW using both qualitative and quantitative methods. The assessment provides tangible evidence that the MIYCN course objectives and overall goals are being met, with HWs and HEWs being able to provide nutrition interventions according to national guidelines in ENGINE targeted *woredas*. Major findings are shown below.

Major Findings of MIYCN Training Assessment

- 87 percent of respondents (95 percent of the health workers and 77 percent of the HEWs) found that the training on nutrition counseling skills was highly effective
- 81 percent of respondents (86 percent of the HWs and 74 percent of the HEWs) were able to at least partially accomplish implementing their nutrition work plans which they committed to during MIYCN training
- The MIYCN course was rated as 'highly effective' for 95 percent of the HWs and 77 percent of the HEWs.
- On average, each trained HW provides nutrition services for 99 pregnant women per month at ANC clinics and 106 clients per month at under-5 clinics.
- On average, each trained HEW provides nutrition services for 45 clients per month at health posts.
- 32 percent of the respondents (35 percent of HWs and 28 percent of HEWs) recommended that the training duration should be increased to 5 days and 12 percent of respondents suggested that more time should be allocated to focus on practical sessions.

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 102 (85 percent of target) *woreda* managers in Oromia, SNNPR, Tigray and Somali regions. The training aimed to familiarize health and agriculture 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.

Provide gap-filling standard Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition and on-job training for health workers and health extension workers

During this reporting period, ENGINE provided MIYCN training for 352 (119 females) HWs, HEWs and community leaders in Somali Region. In SNNPR, ENGINE in partnership with GRAD and GOAL, supported the training of 186 HEWs. The aim of the training was to build capacity of HEWs to provide quality nutrition services. The team used review meeting sessions as an opportunity to provide the training in three non-AGP *woredas*.

Activity (ii) Provide development agents/agricultural extension workers with gap-filling training on nutrition-sensitive agriculture

During the reporting period, ENGINE trained 28 (eight females) DAs/AEWs on nutrition-sensitive agriculture (NSA) training in AGP *woredas* in Oromia. The regional team working in partnership with GRAD, trained 133 (18 females) AEW/DAs in SNNPR. The training built capacity on nutrition sensitive agriculture practices and shared tools to promote the practices.

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

ENGINE conducts FCDs at the community level to address low dietary diversity for mothers and children. During the reporting period, ENGINE supported 1,189 FCD events at health facilities and in community settings in AGP (1016 events) and non-AGP (173 events) *woredas*, reaching 178 percent of the quarter target (1189/669). A total of 44,090 individuals (including 33,475 females) attended the demonstration events (table 2.4). Under the GRAD partnership, an additional 5207 Village Economic and Social Association (VESA) group members were reached through 227 cooking demonstrations through the VESA structure. ENGINE promoted the importance of using iodized salt and hand washing during the demonstrations. In Quarter III, ENGINE focused on quality of services in AGP *woredas* including FCD, supportive supervision and mentoring. Prior to the national election, ENGINE focused on training activities in Quarters I and II, this resulted in overachievement of Quarter III targets for FCD and supportive supervision as previous underachievement was addressed. ENGINE also emphasized FCD operating procedures to ensure that HEWs were not expecting or waiting for purchase of flour and oil by ENGINE.

Table 2.4: Total number of food cooking demonstration events and participants in AGP *woredas* by regions

Regions	Events in Quarter III			FCD Participants in Quarter III		
	Planned	Achieved	%	Plan	Achieved	Female
Amhara	235	524	223	6,591	17,159	12,478
Oromia	262	259	99	7,137	14,843	10,310
SNNPR	121	339	280	3,585	10,132	8,845
Tigray	51	67	131	1,530	1,956	1,842
Total	669	1189	178	18,843	44,090	33,475

Activity (iv) Improve tools used by frontline health and agriculture workers to ensure proper maternal, infant and young child nutrition counseling

Distribute and monitor proper use of maternal, infant and young child nutrition social and behavior change communication materials

In Quarter II, ENGINE assessed the need for additional FMOH standard nutrition counseling materials in all AGP and non-AGP *woredas*. In Quarter III, all required materials were printed and will be distributed to HCs and HPs in Quarter IV. In Somali region, ENGINE facilitated the establishment of SBCC working group and begun the SBCC material review and adaptation process.

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

During this reporting period, ENGINE launched the second phase of mNutrition service to 268 newly registered frontline workers (141 HEWs and 127 AEWs) in four regions. Frontline workers have received SMS messages from ENGINE twice weekly over the past two months, encouraging them to access the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) service using their mobile phones. In Quarter IV, ENGINE with support from the Manoff Group will review mNutrition program and develop additional messages to be delivered to frontline workers.

Monitor and report maternal, infant and young child nutrition counseling for mothers by trained health workers

ENGINE provided capacity building through coaching, mentoring and formal trainings to HWs and HEWs to provide ongoing counseling services at key contact points. During the reporting quarter, the trained HWs counseled 73,089 pregnant women on exclusive breastfeeding (EBF), complementary feeding (CF) and dietary diversity at health centers, exceeding the planned target of 70,481. A total of 171,462 pregnant women and lactating mothers were counseled on EBF and CF, including counseling done at health posts (table 2.5). In addition, 130,756 mothers received iron supplements and 54,284 children with diarrhea were treated with oral rehydration salts (ORS) and zinc at routine services at health centers and health posts.

Table 2.5: Total number of pregnant, lactating mothers & children who received direct nutrition service in AGP woredas

Health post direct routine nutrition services	Amhara	Oromia	SNNP	Tigray	Total
# of pregnant women who sought ANC services	20,317	22,824	7,183	1,685	52,009
# of women provided with iron-folate	15,565	16,059	7,224	1,720	40,568
# of postnatal women counseled on EBF and CF	27,198	18,223	4,026	1,639	51,086
# of children diagnosed with diarrhea	10,772	8,163	1,668	1,117	21,720
# of children 0-59 months with diarrhea who received zinc & oral rehydration salts (ORS)	8,439	7,317	1,663	1,117	18,536
Health centers summary					
Total # of pregnant women sought ANC service	36,805	34,584	6,547	6,330	84,266
# of pregnant women counseled on infant and maternal nutrition	35,366	25,077	6,316	6,330	73,089
# of ANC women supplemented with iron-folate	29,719	22,282	6,278	6,310	64,589
# of lactating women counseled on infant feeding and maternal nutrition	15,537	22,153	6,832	2,765	47,287
# of lactating women supplemented with iron-folate	10,204	9,931	4,336	1,128	25,599
Total # of babies visiting the under-five clinic	57,840	37,584	34,800	14,121	144,345
# of babies(0-59) in sick babies assessed/checked for malnutrition	56,727	36,394	31,752	14,121	138,994
# of children advised for increased feeding	53,902	30,247	34,299	14,121	132,569
# of children diagnosed with diarrhea	16,749	9,722	3,253	2,840	32,564
# of children 0-59 months with diarrhea who received zinc & ORS	16,246	9,147	3,248	2,840	31,481
Health centers and health posts summary					
Pregnant and lactating mothers counseled on nutrition	78,101	65,453	17,174	10,734	171,462
Mothers received iron supplementation	55,488	48,272	17,838	9,158	130,756
Children with diarrhea treated with ORS and zinc	27,521	17,885	4,921	3,957	54,284

ENGINE continued mentoring at health centers and health posts in GOAL-ENGINE and GRAD-ENGINE target woredas in Amhara, Oromia and SNNP Regions. The aim was to maximize the performance of HWs in providing quality nutrition and health services. Similarly, ENGINE supported GRAD-ENGINE woreda health centers and health posts in MIYCN counseling and ensured all facilities

had MIYCN registration books and reporting formats. Accordingly, 3,572 mothers out of 3,941 ANC visited received counseling services and iron folate at 15 health centers in two target *woredas* in Oromia.

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 delivery platform organized quarterly to screen for malnutrition in children under-5 and pregnant and lactating women, and to provide direct nutrition services.

In the past six months, ENGINE met its targets for children receiving Vitamin A and deworming. In this quarter, ENGINE supported CHD in six *woredas* of West Oromia reaching 221, 277 children with vitamin A supplements and 161,638 children with de-worming medication. The activities in two remaining *woredas* were not conducted due to overlap with a measles campaign. The Regional Health Bureau in SNNPR pushed the implementation of CHD to July 2015 contributing to low achievement.

During the reporting period MoH continued to transit CHDs into routine health services. The transition status varies among ENGINE target regions and *woredas*. ENGINE target *woredas* in Tigray were already transitioned. In Oromia, blanket transition is expected during the next quarter. Table 2.6 below shows the status of CHD transition to routine service by regions.

Table 2.6: Number of ENGINE target *woredas* transited from CHD to routine as of June 30, 2015

Region	# of target <i>woredas</i> (including non-AGP)	# of <i>woredas</i> transitioned to routine	Remark
Amhara	25	10	Includes two non-AGP <i>woredas</i>
SNNP	25	10	
Tigray	8	8	
Oromia	43	0	Majority of <i>woredas</i> expected to transition in Quarter IV

The transition may have a negative effect on reaching the overall annual target in the fourth quarter due to the following reasons:

- ENGINE will report the target for the last six months at the end of the year. Hence the target achieved during the first and second quarters will not be included. Additionally, most regions did not conduct CHD in the third quarter.
- The transition from CHD to routine delivery will potentially result in lower coverage because routine service delivery has not yet been as effective as CHD in coverage. ENGINE is identifying technical support needs of regions to increase coverage through routine services.

Major activities planned in the next reporting period

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

- Conduct QI experience sharing visit in selected model health facility (SNNPR) and conduct QI training for HW & HEWs (Somali Region)
- Conduct on-job coaching and mentoring for health service providers
- Conduct MIYCN training to HWs & HEWs
- Program management training for health and agriculture program managers (*woreda* heads) including in non-AGP
- Promote and conduct cooking demonstration (integrated with iodized salt and hand washing) at community, school, FTC and health facility levels
- Distribute and ensure proper use of MIYCN SBCC materials at health facilities in AGP and non-AGP *woredas*
- Adapt and distribute SBCC materials for Somali Region
- Support target health facilities in ENIGNE *woredas* of Somali Region in micronutrient supply chain management
- 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.

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

- Adaptation of SBCC materials for non AGP *woredas*
- Mobilize communities to promote MIYCN practices
- Monitor, provide feedback and document lessons learned, best practices and results
- Establish MVHHs savings groups for Year IV selected HHs

- Train MVHHs on the types of intervention
- Support well-performing schools in the demonstration of agronomic cooking practices to farmers
- Support MVHHs in homestead production
- Facilitate and monitor vet vaccine and drugs supply system
- Enclosure and Rangeland Management Assessment
- Mapping of the selected area for fodder/forage development using GPS
- Train and mentor smallholders fodder producing HHs on improved fodder/forage
- Conduct Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Community Mobilization training
- Subsidize provision of WASH technologies
- Household latrine access and use improved through sanitation marketing
- WASH behaviors promoted in community

Strategy 3.1.1: Develop the SBCC strategy through powerful formative research

Activity (i) Roll out phased implementation of ENGINE's SBCC strategy

During Quarter III, ENGINE organized workshops in Amhara, West Oromia, East Oromia and SNNPR for *woreda* health and agriculture officials, HEWs, AEWs, DAs and DEAs on ENGINE's SBCC strategy and ECC implementation. A total of 790 participants attended workshops on SBCC strategy roll out, at community level.

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 Quarter III, ENGINE, with technical assistance (TA) from The Manoff Group, finalized content and scripts for ECC sessions 7-10. The sessions are now being translated and will be rolled-out in Quarter IV.

In the reporting period, SBCC materials and ECC content were adapted for GRAD and ENGINE's non-AGP *woredas* in line with SBCC strategy and program requirements. A total of eight SBCC materials were adapted and session outlines were condensed to accommodate a reduction from ten to eight sessions. Amendments were made based on relevant MIYCN content and integrated WASH components, suitable for ECC implementation through GRAD's Village Economic and Social Association (VESA) groups. ENGINE also completed adaptation of AGP ECC sessions 1- 6 to be delivered without a virtual facilitator by ENGINE savings groups in all AGP *woredas*. Sessions 7-10 will be finalized in Quarter IV and the package rolled out to all AGP *woredas* to expand the reach and impact of ENGINE's innovative SBCC component.

In Somali Region, an SBCC Working Group was established under the leadership of the RHB. The working group has begun the process of reviewing available nutrition counseling materials and identifying gaps and the need for production or adaptation of additional materials relevant to the Somali pastoralist setting. ENGINE also initiated the process of adaptation of ECCs for Somali region and has hired an SBCC Coordinator for the region and will conduct existing material mapping for health facilities and rapid formative research in Quarter IV to further refine the development and adaptation of messages and SBCC materials for the region.

Activity (ii) Mobilize communities to promote maternal, infant and young child nutrition practices

Sub-activity (i) Implement Enhanced Community Conversations through local non-governmental organizations and social networks

During this quarter, the three LNGOs continued to implement ECCs through CCAs, using interactive adult learning methods, to engage community members in four regions. LNGOs completed 4536 (ECC sessions (sessions 1-6) in 21 *woredas*, in four regions, reaching 63 percent of the targeted sessions. ECCs will continue to be implemented in the next quarter.

Packaging and labelling of SBCC materials for the second round of ECC implementation took place in the reporting period. Mass distribution of SBCC materials to regions will be deployed early next quarter for the second phase of ECCs.

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

As described in IR 1, ENGINE is working in collaboration with EOTC church scholars to shed light on the fasting practices related to maternal under-nutrition and childhood stunting, in an effort to improve and standardize religious guidance for communities. A team of EOTC scholars assigned to outline the laws and regulations of the church based on four themes, developed draft guidelines and a sermon guide based on church doctrine. The draft sermon guide will be reviewed and refined by senior church scholars before it will be presented to the Holy Synod council members for endorsement.

Activity (iii) Deliver radio magazine on 1000 days

During this quarter, ENGINE's SBCC team finalized recruitment of a suitable radio production company, following a rigorous selection process. Representatives and relevant staff from selected firms were given an orientation on overall ENGINE activities and SBCC approach. Radio production based on the design document, using innovative and interactive radio formats will start early next quarter.

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

Following the start of ECC implementation in 21 model *woredas*, in four regions, both LNGOs and the ENGINE SBCC team are monitoring the roll-out of the ECC package. Early feedback from ECC participants is very positive with appreciation for the innovative approach and interactive adult learning methods used during ECCs. Preliminary observations show that ECC participants are eager to adopt the pro-nutrition behaviors taught during ECCs. Anecdotal examples of the impact of ECCs include one father near Bahir Dar, in Amhara region, who bought five chickens for 680 Birr after attending just one ECC session, when he learnt the importance of providing young children with animal source foods during the first 1000 days. Home visits to participants of ECCs also verified that pregnant women are using iron and folic acid (IFA) reminder calendars at home. Monitoring of ECCs has also identified some

challenges that ENGINE and LNGOs are addressing as during implementation, including the overall duration of some of the sessions and of the amount of noise during mothers' groups as there are many young children present.

To discuss both the successes, challenges and way forward with ECCs, ENGINE held a review meeting with the three implementing LNGOs in June. Participants identified needed actions for improvement including systematic use of ECC monitoring tools by LNGOs and regular monitoring of CCAs by supervisors. A plan for roll-out of the second round of ECCs was also agreed in the review meeting,

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

Strategy 3.2.1: Apply economic strengthening interventions

Activity (ii) Strengthen most vulnerable household savings groups and create access to financial services

In order to ensure MVHHs have access to financial services, ENGINE established three saving groups (60 percent of the Quarter 3 and 101 percent of the annual target) in AGP *woredas* of Amhara and Oromia Regions during the reporting period. Two additional savings groups were established in non-AGP *woredas* (25 percent of target) in Oromia region. Of the 172 savings groups established in Year IV; 36 were linked to microfinance institutions (MFIs) and saving associations in Quarter III, reaching 116 percent of the Quarter 3 target and 91 percent of the Year IV target.

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

Activity (i) Promote demonstration plots and school demonstration gardens

During the reporting period, the ENGINE team and *woreda* agriculture office experts provided on-site TA to schools that focused on vegetable production, management of fruit seedlings and demonstration of agronomic and cooking practices. ENGINE also supported schools to organize agronomic and cooking demonstration events to promote dietary diversification and MIYCN to the wider communities. As shown in Table 3.1 below, a total of 50 events were organized in Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray Regions in Quarter 3, which is 120 percent of the quarterly target and 97 percent of the annual target.

Table 3.1: Number of demonstration events conducted in schools by regions

Region	Target	Number of events conducted	Percentage accomplishment
	Quarter III	Quarter III	Quarter III
Tigray	1	3	300%
Amhara	0	28	>100%

Oromia	32	10	31%
SNNP	13	13	100%
Total	46	54	117%

During the reporting period, ENGINE provided vegetable seeds to 38 FTCs (118 percent of target) in Amhara and Oromia Regions. ENGINE, in conjunction with *woreda* agriculture office experts, provided on-site TA to the FTCs. Technical support focused on agronomic practices of vegetable production and fruit seedling management.

During the reporting period, ENGINE conducted experience sharing visits for 115 (105 percent of target) DAs from non-ENGINE FTCs to best performing ENGINE supported FTCs, to build knowledge and capacity to scale homestead gardening to small holder farmers in non-ENGINE *kebeles*.

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

In order to increase the adoption rate of vegetable production through agronomic and cooking demonstrations, ENGINE provided training to 681 farmers living in *kebeles* adjacent to the ENGINE targeted FTCs. During the reporting period, ENGINE achieved 191 percent of the Quarter III target and 85 percent of the Year IV target for trainings and demonstrations, the training focused on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, agronomic practices for vegetable production and dietary diversity.

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

During the reporting period, ENGINE provided 2783 MVHs selected in Year III and Year IV with various vegetable seeds including cabbage, carrot, Swiss chard, Irish potato, sweet potato (orange and white flesh), pumpkin, green beans and kale in Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray, Regions. This represents 108 percent of the Quarter III target (Table 3.2.) In non-AGP GOAL implementation *woredas* in Oromia, ENGINE provided four varieties of vegetable seeds (cabbage, carrot, Swiss chard & green beans) to 875 (100 percent of target) MVHs. **Post distribution follow-up visits by AEWs & zonal livelihood coordinators witnessed that farmers in West Hararghe zones started planting vegetables at their homestead.**

ENGINE also provided 608 MVHs with basic farm tools, meeting 54 percent of the quarterly target. The need for tools by MVH was overestimated which explains the low performance of this activity.

Table 3.2: Number of MVHs in AGP *woredas* provided with vegetable seeds by regions

Region	Quarter III target	Number of MVHs provided with vegetable seeds in Quarter III	Percentage accomplishment
Tigray	786	851	108%

Amhara	110	310	282%
Oromia	1682	1622	96%
SNNP	0	0	
Total	2578	2783	108%

During the reporting period, a total of 563 MVHHs in AGP *woredas* were trained in vegetable and fruit production, irrigation, livestock management and savings group formation, reaching 92 percent of the Quarter III target. Trainings included a focus on dietary diversification and the role of women in household decision-making, to help participants to utilize project support effectively and efficiently. Trainers came from the *Woreda* Office of Agriculture, Cooperative Promotion and the Women and Youth Affairs Offices to ensure participation, ownership, follow up and sustainability as part of ENGINE's exit strategy.

In non-AGP *woredas* in Oromia and SNNPR, ENGINE partnering with GRAD and GOAL, provided perma-garden training for 358 individuals, including DAs (157), GRAD community staff and community facilitators (20) and GRAD animators (164). Animators were trained separately (Annexes 1 and 2). Following the training, GRAD CFs and animators trained 188 VESA members in SNNPR and 638 in Amhara on perma-gardening. All the trained HHs then accessed seeds through links with agro-dealers and utilizing VESA credit.

In Quarter III, ENGINE provided support to identified seed dealers in the remaining three of ten selected *woredas* based on the specific needs of the dealers. ENGINE facilitated meetings between DAs, seed suppliers and farmers in each *woreda* to ensure that vegetable producing farmers can access and purchase high quality seeds to maintain diversified homestead production. ENGINE continues to support these linkages in all ten *woredas*.

Activity (iv) Support establishment of improved chicken multiplication units through private producers *woreda* agriculture livestock staff in chicken production

In Quarter III, ENGINE continued to provide technical support to private chicken multiplication units established in Bahir Dar and Ambo. The multiplication units and out-growers are performing as expected and are meeting the demand for chicken procurement in West Oromia and Amhara. In Amhara, 117 HHs received 1989 chickens (17per HH) and in Oromia 110 HHs received 1320 chickens (12per HH) produced by the multiplication units.

ENGINE also assisted five private chicken feed suppliers to improve access to feed for supported MVHHs. The private feed suppliers are located in major towns and had not developed strategies to reach rural farmers. ENGINE provided technical business development services to the selected suppliers in each region, and linked them with MVHHs who had received chickens. The MVHHs are now linked to private chicken feed suppliers and have started buying feed in bulk as a group.

Based on experience, ENGINE recognized that *woreda* and *kebele*-based government livestock experts have limited knowledge on improved chicken production practices and healthcare. Prior to distributing chickens to farmers in Quarter III, ENGINE provided hands-on training to 15 (107 percent of target) DAs and *woreda* livestock experts in Oromia on improved chicken production and healthcare practices.

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

During the reporting period, ENGINE provided 1163 MVHHs in AGP *woredas* (99 percent of target) with productive livestock (chicken, heifers, sheep and goats) based on their interest and capacity (Table 3.3). The Amhara region made up for Quarter II unmet targets, and exceeded its targets for this quarter. In Oromia, in partnership with GOAL, ENGINE provided goats to 505 CMAM beneficiary households in all seven targeted *woredas* with the involvement of a committee comprised of representatives from *woreda* offices, *kebele* development committee and project staff.

In partnership *woredas*, GRAD trained 37 DAs and veterinarians on poultry management in Amhara. Subsequently, 225 VESA members were trained on poultry management and established poultry production utilizing VESA credit revolving funds (Annex I).

Table 3.3: Number of most vulnerable households provided with productive livestock in AGP *woredas* by regions

Region	Quarter III target	Number of MVHHs provided with productive livestock in Quarter III	Percentage accomplishment
Tigray	0	0	
Amhara	355	413	116%
Oromia	558	534	96%
SNNP	257	216	84%
Total	1170	1163	99%

Prior to distributing animals to MVHHs, ENGINE ensured all animals were vaccinated, dewormed and sprayed with pesticide against external parasites. Supported MVHHs were linked with nearby public and private veterinary service providers for ongoing animal health services.

In the reporting period, ENGINE conducted a preliminary study on MVHHs that received poultry support in Year III and learned that 91 percent of the interviewed households prepared home-made chicken feed at least once, and 67 percent started hatching eggs using local chickens to produce their own replacement stock to ensure the sustainability of improved chicken production in the *kebele*. Almost all households (98 percent) reportedly used eggs for family consumption and 76 percent of the households also sold excess eggs for income. Children under five were reportedly given eggs an average of three days per week. While this is a significant increase in consumption of animal source foods, ENGINE will respond to findings with increased promotion and follow-up to ensure that children and pregnant and lactating women are consuming eggs daily.

ENGINE continued to support *woreda* livestock agencies to provide logistical support to rural vet clinics to ensure availability of chicken vaccines and drugs. ENGINE has reached 48 (63 percent of target) clinics based on demand and will continue to support additional clinics in Quarter IV.

In Quarter III, ENGINE continued to utilize private funds from Athene/Gaming for Good as cost-share to livelihood activities. To date, 2391 MVHHs that initially received small livestock from ENGINE have now purchased a cow, with 50 percent HH contribution and the remaining 50 percent matched by the private donor.

Activity (vi) Promote asset protection through micro-insurance

Savings groups received orientation on the benefit of contributing money for livestock health insurance as part of an introduction to micro-insurance mechanisms. In Quarter III, 14 groups (67 percent of plan) started contributing money in addition to their regular savings. The remaining groups have been convinced of the benefit of additional contributions as part of social micro-insurance, but have not yet started contributions. Group members will be encouraged to contribute and use the money to treat sick animals and ultimately, as insurance for loss of animals.

IR3.3 Livestock productivity and milk availability in pastoralist and agro-pastoralist woredas of Somali Region increased

In Quarter III, ENGINE began implementation of livelihood/milk matters interventions in Somali Region. The activities in this reporting period focused on initial assessments, mapping and training required to implement the program activities.

Farmer training center capacity assessment

ENGINE regional team conducted capacity assessment of 24 FTCs in 15 ENGINE targeted woredas. The assessment helps to identify potential FTCs for subsequent capacity building and use as demonstration/training sites for ENGINE milk matter interventions. Of the 24 FTC assessed, 19 are functional. All the FTCs assessed were established by the government and staffed by between one and seven DAs.



Fig 5: Dismantled Higloley kebele FTC



Fig 6: Harawe kebele FTC

The main gaps identified during the assessment were lack of refresher training for DAs, lack of equipment and materials, shortage of budget to adopt new technologies, shortage of water and lack of awareness by the community about the services rendered by the FTCs which leads to under-utilization of service. In Quarter IV, ENGINE will identify, select and support FTCs.

Drought enclosure and rangeland management

Enclosure and rangeland management are key approaches to ensure availability of fodder by targeted pastoralist HHs for their milking animals during the dry season. During the reporting period, ENGINE assessed the status of enclosures and rangelands in 75 operational *kebeles* in 15 target *woredas*. The assessment identified current community practices related to enclosures and rangeland managements and how ENGINE will utilize these approaches for the milk matters interventions. The findings of the rangeland management and enclosures included the following:

- All the *kebeles* assessed practiced traditional rangeland management system. However, the practice of enclosure is not common in some *kebeles* of the six *woredas*.
- Most of the enclosures are privately owned by individuals and there is a high risk of conflict during the dry seasons when the competition over resources is high. Hence, consultation with community elders or clan leaders to mitigate the problem is essential.
- There are no formal enclosure and rangeland management committees to manage the enclosures, but the communities use their traditional systems to manage these resources.
- Capacity building training for the community members and supply of hand tools are required to properly manage the rangeland and enclosures.

In the reporting period, ENGINE facilitated community consultations and mobilization in 24 Milk Matters *kebeles* from eight pure pastoralist *woredas*, focusing on the importance of enclosures for forage reserves during dry season. ENGINE consulted key NRM stakeholders on how to promote and practice drought rangeland management; enclosure and cut-and-carry systems to feed animals, especially milking animals, to yield sufficient milk for children in the dry season. A total of 1090 households and stakeholders participated in the conversations.

Following assessment and mobilization, ENGINE targeted eight pastoral and three agro-pastoral *woredas* for enclosure and participatory rangeland management activities. A total of 35 *kebeles* will benefit from enclosure for drought reserve with an overall identified enclosed area of 500 hectares. In Quarter III, the project established and enclosed 454 hectares of land in Degahbur, Gashamo, Ararso, Ma'iso, Shinile, Awbare, Kbayah, Filtu, Babile and Moyale *Woredas*. ENGINE also identified NRM stakeholders and users for participatory rangeland management in ten *woredas* (100% of target). ENGINE will improve pasture availability through over sowing of the degraded and over grazed areas of the enclosures and rangeland areas by providing suitable and tested improved tropical forage and fodder seeds. ENGINE will consider supporting private enclosures in areas where communal enclosures are not feasible.

Irrigated fodder development

In addition to enclosure and rangeland development, ENGINE will support irrigated fodder production where permanent water sources are available. In the reporting period, the regional team mapped 18 of 40 *kebeles*, for a total of 150 hectares of land, which was identified for irrigated fodder production. Each targeted HH will expect to start actual fodder production on a half hectare of land during the fourth quarter.

To support and enhance households' capacity on fodder production, productivity and quality, the project will increase feed production with TA and fodder production inputs (tools and seeds) for selected HHs in the intervention sites. In Quarter III, the project developed a voucher system to provide beneficiary households with fodder seeds (as well as supplementary feed and animal health services for milking). MVHHs were categorized to receive either full or partial subsidy, vendors were selected and oriented, and vouchers were designed and sent for printing. In Quarter IV, the system will be operational and HHs will be able to obtain needed inputs and services from the private sector, including suppliers supported by PRIME. In the reporting period, ENGINE also trained 225 HHs (75 percent of target) in improved fodder/forage development strategies, agronomic practice and management. ENGINE fodder and livestock officers, experts from *woreda* Livestock, Crop and Rural Development (LCRD) office and Somali Region Pastoralist and Agro Pastoral Research Institute (SoRPARI) facilitated the training sessions. The training covered topics of forage/fodder types, forage/fodder development, establishment and management of sown pasture, procedure of establishing sown pasture, seed propagation, sowing practice of Sudan, elephant and Rhodes grasses, lucerne and susbania, and weed control.



Fig 7: Practical session of smallholder fodder producing households

Health care provision for animals

To maintain a sustainable health service for livestock in the target community, ENGINE will support animal health service through a voucher system. In the previous quarter, ENGINE identified milking animals for veterinary services. In this quarter, ENGINE identified 15 potential private veterinary providers that will provide services through community animal health workers (CAHWs) using a voucher system.

Capacity building through trainings and extension work

During the reporting period, ENGINE trained 58 *woreda* agricultural professionals, including six females, from six *woredas* to build their capacity on mapping and managing natural resources and to take part in

the development of participatory natural resource management approaches. The trained *woreda* agricultural professionals will take the lead in the facilitation of community action plans (CAPs) and establish indicators for progress monitoring of CAPs.

During the reporting period, ENGINE also trained **39 ENGINE** staff members and regional agriculture bureau staff (five female) on NRM and community mobilization. The training aimed to equip the trainees with the knowledge and skills for effective community mobilization to ensure active beneficiary participation and sustainability.

In Quarter III, ENGINE also **trained 210 influential** community leaders (86 females) from ENGINE target *kebeles* to improve knowledge and skills of community leaders on the importance of improved nutrition during the 1000 days. ENGINE will use the trained leaders during its community conversation activities to help convince beneficiaries to adopt behaviors and take participate in project activities.



Fig 8: Nutrition training for influential community leaders

IR 3.4 WASH-related behaviors improved

Activity (i) Subsidized provision of WASH technologies

In Quarter III, ENGINE has nearly completed procurement of household water filters which arrived in-country and will clear customs and be delivered to ENGINE early in Quarter IV. ENGINE will immediately distribute the filters to *woredas* and groups which will undertake the sale of items to target HHs.

In the reporting period, ENGINE successfully introduced child-friendly floor mats to communities through WASH groups. During this quarter, 1457 ENGINE supported MVHHs with children under-2 purchased the mats at a subsidized price to create a safe and clean space for children to play (Table 3.4).

In SNNPR, training was conducted and mats distributed to WASH groups in the reporting period; sales to MVHHs will begin early in Quarter IV. After rapid purchase of mats in several *woredas* after introduction, ENGINE's WASH team monitored the activity and identified successes and challenges, which included the need for continued messaging on proper use of the mats to ensure they are used for children and not other purposes. The findings of the rapid assessment were shared with regional teams addressing similar implementation issues related to the mats

Table 3.4. Distribution of floor mats

Region	Plan	Achievements	Percentage
East Oromia	1100	697	63%
West Oromia	360	446	124%
Amhara	640	138	22%
SNNPR	609	0	0%
Tigray	150	176	117%
Total	2,859	1,457	51%

ENGINE promotes establishment of handwashing stations among targeted households using locally made tippy-taps as promoted in the HEW package. In this reporting period, ENGINE supported a total of 765 (68 percent) households to establish handwashing corners in the household.

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

In Quarter III, ENGINE trained 83 individuals from ENGINE savings groups and newly organized micro enterprises on sanitation and WASH marketing to address WASH needs and demands of households with children under two. The training included practical training on construction of sanitary latrine slabs. ENGINE procured fiberglass molds with private matching funds to enable sanitation marketing groups to construct consistently high quality slabs. The molds will be in use and slabs will be marketed, constructed and sold to interested HHs during Quarter IV.

Table 3.5: Number of individuals trained by regions

Region	Plan	Achievement	Females	%
Amhara	15	19	13	127%
SNNPR	15	29	21	193%
Oromia	15	20	14	133%
Tigray	15	15	13	100%
Total	60	83	61	138%

Activity (iii) WASH behavior promoted in community

During this reporting period, ENGINE established and revitalized one school WASH club and trained a total of 27 WASH club members in school-based WASH activities in Tigray region.

In Quarter III, ECCs continued in 21 *woredas* (IR 3.1), which include a WASH session to promote appropriate WASH practices, including construction of tippy-taps and separation of chickens from children. In addition, ENGINE and HEWs promoted tippy taps, latrine construction and proper hygiene practices in all ENGINE *woredas*.

IR 4: Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

Planned activities:

- Implement OR
- Capacity building/support PhD and MSc students
- Preparation for project end line survey for impact evaluation
- Implement project monitoring and data quality system
- Develop communication strategy

Strategy 4.1: Design and delivery of a research strategy

Activity (i) Conduct operations research studies on acute malnutrition

During the reporting period, VI and Jimma University continued implementing a SAM research study and completed and disseminated the results of MAM and qualitative studies.

Moderate acute malnutrition

The purpose of the MAM OR study is to examine the need for a Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP) in food-secure settings in rural Ethiopia. In this reporting period, a MAM operational study article was finalized with input from Valid, Jimma and Save the Children. VI will submit the manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal for publication early in Quarter IV. MAM research findings were disseminated through poster presentation at the “Together for Nutrition 2015” conference held on June 15, 2015 at Hilton Hotel Addis Ababa.

Severe acute malnutrition

The objective of the SAM OR is to determine the long-term health outcomes of children age 6-59 months that have been successfully treated for SAM in a community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) program compared with a control group of children under-5 in the same community.

During the reporting period, SAM operational research data collection continued and will be finalized and completed as planned in Quarter IV. ENGINE staff conducted supportive supervision visits in June 2015 to the SAM study site in Jimma zone to monitor and support data collection and prepared a schedule for final data collection, data entry and data cleaning and analyses with Jimma University.

Qualitative study: Community perceptions of malnutrition

The objective of the study is to gain insight into the complex nature of local knowledge and perceptions of the definition, causes and solutions of malnutrition in Jimma zone. In Quarter III, a manuscript from the study was submitted to BMC Health for possible publication. It is now being reviewed and has passed an initial assessment. The results of the qualitative study were further presented in a poster at the “Together for Nutrition 2015” conference.

Activity (iii) Implement birth cohort study

The objective of the birth cohort (BC) study is to establish the effectiveness of ENGINE direct and indirect interventions targeting maternal and child nutrition and health outcomes. The BC study follow-up interviews are progressing as planned. Thus far, 94 percent of the recruited participants have given birth, and 92 percent of mother-infant pairs are being followed, while eight percent of participants were excluded according to the study protocol.

The second round of Household Head data collection started in Quarter III. The Frontline Worker data collection was completed. The BC Time Point I and Frontline Worker Survey data has been cleaned and prepared for analysis during this reporting period. Analysis is underway on both sets of data and papers are being drafted for submission in the next reporting period.

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

Activity (iv) Conduct agriculture-nutrition cohort study

The aim of this study is to examine the role of ENGINE in affecting nutrition, food security and livelihoods outcomes through its integrated programming. The third round (post-harvest) Agriculture-Nutrition panel study data collection was finalized during this reporting period reaching 99 percent of the targeted sample size. Data was collected from three groups of study participants; namely, household heads (n=1,174), adult females (n=1,174) and mothers/caretakers of children under-5 years (n=712). A study team from Jimma and Tufts University conducted two supportive supervision visits during the third round survey as planned. A paper on the determinants of participation in nutrition-sensitive agriculture activities from analysis of the Agriculture and Nutrition Panel Survey data was drafted and will be submitted for publication.

A qualitative study titled “Qualitative Research for Gender Differences in Nutrition Message Access and Uptake in Ethiopia” was launched during this reporting period as part of the Agriculture-Nutrition qualitative research. The goal of this research is to examine the barriers and facilitators associated with nutrition-specific and nutrition sensitive message access and uptake, and how they differ between adult men and women. Focus groups have been completed in three *woredas*. The Agriculture-Nutrition study with data collection will be completed in two additional *woredas* in Quarter IV.

ENGINE plans to organize a webinar to disseminate the preliminary findings of BC and Agriculture-Nutrition studies in Quarter IV.

Activity (v) Conduct secondary data analysis research

Nutrition policy research

Nutrition policy research results titled “Dynamics of National Nutrition (NNP) Program Implementation in Ethiopia” were presented in the “Together for Nutrition 2015” conference organized by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The conference was attended by national policymakers, national and international researchers, donors and implementers. The paper was submitted for publication in Quarter I and received feedback from reviewers in this quarter.

Secondary data analysis research

Two Tufts-ENGINE sponsored abstracts from the secondary data research were accepted and presented (poster presentation) at the “Together for Nutrition 2015” conference.

Additionally, a manuscript on “Post-Harvest Losses and Handling Practices of Temporary and Permanent Crops Produced in Relation with Food Security of Households in Ethiopia: Secondary Data Analysis” was produced by Hawassa University researchers. A manuscript was also prepared by Jimma University on Predictors of Dietary Diversity, which received comments from reviewers and will be submitted for publication shortly.

Activity (vi) Build capacity of researchers and postgraduate students

Research capacity building

Professor Eileen Kennedy, Tufts-ENGINE Principle Investigator (PI), was in Belgium in June to discuss with Ghent University professors about how to speed up the PhD registration and supervision process in order to complete the program before September 2016. As a result of this discussion, four PhD students will travel to Ghent University in September 2015. During this reporting period, one student went to Copenhagen University for PhD study and two students drafted and submitted one paper each for their dissertation work.

In Quarter II and III, a panel of expert from ENGINE staff completed a review of 31 proposals submitted to ENGINE from five government Universities (Hawassa, Mekele, Haromaya, Jimma and Gondar) for possible financial support. In this quarter, ENGINE provided financial support to 25 proposals that satisfied selection criteria, achieving the annual target. ENGINE has supported a total of 80 students’ MSc thesis from five government universities.

In the reporting period, ENGINE conducted supportive supervision visits to Jimma University to see how MSc thesis work is progressing, to check financial utilization, and orient students and their supervisors on branding issues.

Strategy 4.2: Develop and manage an innovative and dissemination strategy

Activity (i) Preparation for project end line survey for impact evaluation

During this reporting period, the end line survey data collection schedule was finalized and agreed upon with Tufts University and Valid International. Every effort was made to streamline the schedule while retaining the seasonality pattern so as not to compromise comparability with the baseline. ENGINE will

utilize the best performing Ag-Nut panel survey enumerators and use electronic data collection devices. Data collection will start at the beginning of November 2015 and finish in July 2016 to allow adequate time for analysis and reporting.

During the reporting period, ENGINE initiated joint baseline surveys with both GRAD and GOAL in non-AGP partnership *woredas*, which will be repeated in Year V to assess the impact of the partnership (see Annex for more details).

Activity (vi) Establish program monitoring system

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

Woreda level planning with health and agriculture sectors was not conducted in Quarter III as *woredas* scheduled planning for Quarter IV.

Twelve nutrition multi-sectoral review meetings were organized at zonal levels in collaboration with partners: four (80 percent) in East Oromia, three (50 percent) in SNNP, four (57 percent) in Amhara and I (50 percent) in Tigray. The underachievement is due to competing priorities among government staff relating to the national election held in May. The meetings provide a forum for discussion of the status of nutrition activities by each sector, gaps identified during supportive supervision and time to develop action plans to improve quality of nutrition service at all levels.

Overall, 35 of 38 planned *woreda* level health and agriculture nutrition integrated review meetings were supported and coordinated by ENGINE: nine in West Oromia, three in East Oromia, 15 in SNNP, four in Amhara and four in Tigray. Additionally, 32 cluster PHCU review meetings in Amhara and East Oromia health facilities were conducted. The main focus of review meetings was on presentation and discussion on key nutrition successes stories - especially establishment of the NNP committee at lower levels, integration of QI models in health services and the development of action plans to improve quality of nutrition service delivery at all levels. The meetings have highlighted success related to improvement in nutrition counseling, iodized salt consumption and ANC.

Nutrition integrated review meetings were conducted in six ENGINE-GRAD partnership *woredas* (two each in Amhara, Oromia and SNNP). The meetings reviewed the maternal and child nutrition programs in each *woreda*, and discussed and prepared action plans for the next quarter.

Similar meetings were held in two ENGINE-GOAL partnership supported *woredas* in Oromia where nutrition sensitive and specific interventions were reviewed and the sectors produced an agreed plan of action,

ENGINE continued providing regular onsite regional routine data quality assessment of recording, reporting, data utilization and data quality at field level. ENGINE country office M&E team conducted data quality examination using a routine data quality assessment (RDQA) tool for Amhara, Oromia (East and West), and SNNPR in Quarter III. The team conducted RDQA of the service delivery sites (schools, FTCs, HCs, HPs and also at *woreda* and regional offices) and ENGINE regional database and reporting system. In each examination site, data quality gaps identified in quarter two were counter checked to see whether corrective measures were taken. The findings of the assessment with action points were shared to regions. Based on recommendations, regional M&E teams (E Oromia, Amhara and Tigray)

conducted their own DQA in their respective region. The number of data discrepancies and overall documentation in both hard and soft copies have improved as compared with QII assessments. Major findings of DQA in terms of strength, weakness and action points / recommended are summarized below.

Table 4.1: Summary findings on overall data management and reporting system by region

Region	Strength	Weakness	Action points / Recommendation
Amhara	Continues to show improvement in data management compared with the previous quarters	Use of livelihood format for reporting and documentation is minimal at <i>woreda</i> agriculture offices	Reorientation on reporting format should be given to focal persons
Oromia (East)	ENGINE health and nutrition intervention is well known and understood at all levels	Some of the FTCs are missing source documents	Zonal coordinator should provide data collection tools where missing
Oromia (West)	Compared to the previous RDQA findings, discrepancies between reported and recounted number have been reduced	Reports from some of the facilities are not received on a timely bases	Reminders should be sent to facilities by email and telephone
SNNP	Good coordination between the grass root government staff (<i>Woreda</i> Agriculture Office) and ENGINE staff	Livelihood registration formats prepared by Country Office M&E are not being used by some of the grass root levels	Proved support to facilities for consistent use of formats

Together for Nutrition 2015 conference

IFPRI organized a one-day conference “Together for Nutrition” on June 15, 2015 at Hilton hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The objective of the conference was to discuss the most recent evidence on the major issues in Ethiopia and deliberate on the implications of this research for program and policy. A display booth showcasing finalized ENGINE manuals, SBCC materials and brochures, as well as five poster presentations were facilitated for the ‘conference. USAID/ENGINE and EPHI also gave a presentation on nutrition policy research entitled, “An examination of the dynamics of National Nutrition Program implementation in Ethiopia: Facilitators and Constraints at National and Sub National Level”. National policymakers, national and international researchers, donors and implementers attended the conference.

Activity (v) Implementation of ENGINE’s communication strategy

In Quarter III, ENGINE completed filming eight mini documentaries highlighting the project's program areas, the videos are now in final production. Press releases, banners and a plaque were prepared for the launching of the Academic Center of Excellence (ACoE) in Hawassa University. ENGINE continued to document success stories and lessons learned, including Gender and QI success stories in Quarter III.

Crosscutting: Gender

Planned activities:

- Organize gender sensitization session for ENGINE technical staff and sub-primes
- Provide decision-making skill training for men and women from selected, well-performing MVHH
- Organize experience sharing/peer learning sessions for members of women groups, share good practices on nutrition
- Organize cooking demonstrations for men to transfer skill and messages
- Identify context specific technologies and promote to ENGINE households to address women's work load

Training and workshop on Gender

In the reporting period, one regional level workshop on gender and nutrition was organized by ENGINE in Amhara as a forum to trigger discussion on the impact of gender on nutrition. It was attended by 43 including 18 female, relevant regional, zonal and *woreda* stakeholders. In Quarter III, a gender awareness and sensitization training was held for ENGINE Addis Ababa based staff covering concepts and required practices for gender integration, including the tools available. A total of 14 ENGINE staff from both Save the Children and sub-primes attended the one-day training.

Integrate gender activities at the community and household level

In the reporting period, 268 (140 female) beneficiaries were trained on decision-making and communication skills to enable smooth communication and joint decision-making behaviors among the members of targeted HHs. These trainings were given to HHs in SNNPR, and East and West Oromia achieving 84 percent of the quarterly target.

In Quarter III, eight (75 percent of target) experience sharing visits were conducted for members of women's groups, HEWs, DAs and some *woreda* level experts in Tigray, Amhara, SNNPR and Oromia. The majority of the exchange visits were facilitated between *kebeles* in the same *woreda* and a few took place between *woredas*. The major focus of the experience sharing was on savings, basic financial literacy, nutrition and child feeding practice, and social integration between group members.

As ECCs rolled out in Quarter III (see IR3.1), ENGINE identified 17 (56 percent of target) male ECC participants to serve as role models, the men were chosen as they were striving to produce adequate nutritious food for their families, helping their wives with housework as well as in the livelihood supported activities, and had the ability to influence others. The men are instrumental in promoting similar positive behaviors in their communities to influence other men.

To further engage men, ENGINE sensitized men in selected MVHHs to gain their support for the project activities undertaken by women in the HH. A total of 606 (64 percent of target) men participated in an orientation on supporting their families and their wives by relieving women's workload and supporting their livelihood activities in Quarter III. ENGINE also conducted 15 (83 percent of target) cooking demonstrations targeting men to improve male involvement and to broaden their perspective on the impact of gender on nutrition, specifically on preparation of diversified food for children and care for women, especially during pregnancy and lactation.

In this quarter, regions selected and initiated procurement of labor saving technologies that will be distributed as an incentive to 20 well-performing HHs and as a means of introducing new technologies to reduce women's household workload. The technologies will be distributed in Quarter IV.

Sharing lessons on gender integration from ENGINE sites

One success story has been documented and compiled to show the role ENGINE's interventions are playing towards gender equality. The specific story illustrates men's involvement and how ENGINE's interventions are contributing to enhanced positive gender relations among couples for improved child and maternal nutrition.

ENGINE's Gender Advisor continues to actively participate in USAID's Gender Champions working group and share ENGINE's experience with partners.

Data quality issues

ENGINE continued providing regular onsite regional routine data quality assessment of recording, reporting, data utilization and data quality at field level. ENGINE Addis Ababa office M&E team conducted data quality examination using a routine DQA tool for Amhara, Oromia (East and West), and SNNPR in Quarter III. The team conducted DQA of the service delivery sites (schools, FTCs, HCs, HPs and also at *woreda* and regional offices) and ENGINE regional database and reporting system. In each examination site, data quality gaps identified in Quarter II were counter checked to see whether corrective measures have been taken or not. The findings of the assessment with action points were shared to regions. Based on recommendations, regional M&E teams (East Oromia, Amhara and Tigray) have started conducting their own DQA in their respective regions. The numbers of data discrepancies and overall documentation in both hard and soft copies have improved as compared with Quarter II assessments.

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

Challenges	Actions
WASH activities delayed due to long procurement process for water filters	ENGINE management and logistics department in close contact with supplier, both US and Ethiopian offices, to address bottlenecks in delivery. Filters delivery to begin early in Quarter IV and project is prepared for rapid deployment.
In some <i>kebeles</i> of Gomma and Tiro Afeta <i>woredas</i> , some respondents were not willing to participate in the follow-up OR study despite giving their consent during recruitment. Their concerns are mainly religious; they fear that the enumerators may preach to them about another religion.	The study manager, supervisors and enumerators worked in close cooperation with the <i>woreda</i> and <i>kebele</i> administrators to address and rectify the problem.
Procurement of vehicles for ENGINE's expansion to Somali region has been very lengthy and clearing customs has taken in excess of a month and is still pending.	Save the Children and ENGINE management are in communication with USAID logistics and ENGINE AOR for support to clear the vehicles from customs and allow delivery to the project. In the meantime, ENGINE is relying on rental vehicles in Somali Region which will result in higher operational costs than planned.
Late and/or inadequate rainfall, particularly in areas of eastern Oromia and Somali Region may lead to more acute nutrition emergencies and undermine the preventive work of ENGINE	ENGINE participates in regular humanitarian meetings at both USAID and Save the Children and is ready to partner with other projects to respond to acute emergencies.
Aware <i>woreda</i> in Somali region remains insecure, which restricts movement and may affect the timing of activity implementation.	Save the Children has strong security system and protocols in place and works closely with regional, zonal and <i>woreda</i> level officials. Save the Children is working with regional government to facilitate all needed security clearances.

Major activities planned in the next reporting period

Project management & partnership

- Conduct annual review and planning workshop
- Strengthen Feed the Future 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
- Review existing coordination structures and establish/strengthen nutrition coordination bodies at *woreda* levels in Somali region
- Capacity building/training for government officials on nutrition and multi-sectoral coordination in Somali region
- Support Nutrition multi-sector coordination meetings at regional and *woreda* levels in Somali region
- Continue supporting the launch of NNP and establishment of WMNCB (including dissemination of NNP document) at zonal and *woreda* levels including non-AGP and ENGINE Somali *woredas*
- Continue addressing gaps in existing nutrition-related policies and guidelines
- Support exchange visit for NNCB and NNTC
- Strengthen implementation of nutrition education quality improvement process
- Continue supporting ACoE to provide intended services
- Conduct instructional materials design and delivery skills training for ACoE staff
- Strengthening in-service training and monitor implementation of ENGINE pre-service education (PSE) strengthening activities
- Conduct a 2-day follow-up supportive supervision visits to PSE institutions
- Conduct joint program monitoring visit with prime partner
- Write technical report on nutrition competency assessment
- Document improvements in nutrition PSE and communicate best practices/success stories nationally and internationally

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

- Provide regular technical support to *woreda* offices and HFs, and supportive supervision tailored to creating ownership of quality improvement program
- Continue to give due emphasis on documenting and sharing quality improvement (QI) best practices.
- Conduct QI experience sharing visit in selected model health facility (SNNPR) and conduct QI training for HW & HEWs (Somali Region)
- Conduct on-the-job coaching and mentoring for health service providers
- Conduct MIYCN training to HWs & HEWs
- Promote and conduct cooking demonstration (integrated with iodized salt and handwashing) at community, school, FTC and health facility levels

- Distribute and ensure proper use of MIYCN SBCC materials at health facilities in AGP and non-AGP *woredas*
- Ensure quality of ECC and material distribution to ECC participants
- Support target HFs in targeted *woredas* of Somali Region in micronutrient supply chain management
- Monitor and report caregivers counseling for mothers by trained HWs
- 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

- Conduct second round of ECCs
- Conduct modified ECC for ENGINE's MVHHs
- Finalize sermon guide for religious leaders
- Finalize production of 1000 days radio magazine program
- Continue to monitor ECCs
- Link savings groups with MFIs or Savings Associations
- Train model farmers at FTCs
- Support well performing schools in demonstration of agronomic and cooking practices to farmers
- Conduct experience sharing visit among ENGINE supported FTCs on gardening in best performing FTCs
- Provide training on natural resource management, fodder harvesting and conservation.
- Provide fruit seedlings to Year IV selected MVHHs and hand tools, seeds, seedlings and other planting materials for fodder production inputs to HHs
- Provide improved/local sheep and/or goats, chicken or heifers to MVHHs
- Continue the support to seed suppliers at *woreda* level
- Conduct quarterly joint supportive supervision (to HHs, FTCs & schools and private chicken suppliers) with *woreda* agriculture office
- Conduct second round assessment on adoption of homestead gardening as a result of demonstration
- Support safe disposal of child faeces through improved sanitation
- Promoting improved and more frequent handwashing through the promotion of handwashing corners in the household
- Promote household water filters and use of clean water for HHs with children between 6-24 months of age
- Provide water filters for government health institutions
- Distribute and promote the use of clean mats for children 0 -24 months
- Facilitate formative research in line with Sanitation Marketing approach
- Conduct Sanitation Marketing training for government and project staff
- Support sanitation marketing team to construct sanitation center

IR4 Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

- Finalize preparation of logistics for endline impact survey and recruit and train data collectors
- Continue implementation of ENGINE OR on birth cohort, agriculture-nutrition panel and SAM
- In collaboration with Valid PIs and Jimma University Co-PIs, prepare manuscript for publication
- Conduct multi-sectoral review meetings at regional and *woreda* levels
- Carry out data quality assessment and supportive supervision for M&E officers in all regions
- Build research capacity for researchers and postgraduate students in ENGINE partner institutes
- Formative qualitative research for ENGINE Plus to identify barriers to behavior change for appropriate targeting and identifying communication strategies for ENGINE Plus
- Conduct baseline survey for ENGINE Plus

Crosscutting: Gender

- Provide decision-making skills training for men and women from selected MVHH
- Document and share success stories on gender integration
- Provide supportive supervisions and TA for regions

Environmental compliance

Animal feed and feeding

ENGINE has continued purchasing animals from the local market to avoid extra livestock stocking rates and additional pressure on the existing pasture. In addition, 515 MVHHs received training and TA on forage development and animal feed preserving techniques.

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 non-communicable disease (NCD), Gumboro, Fowl Typhoid, Fowl Pox and Mareks.

Table 5: 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	563	563 households received training on forage production and feed reserve
	Provide required vaccinations for livestock	# of animals vaccinated	6690	During the reporting period, 6690 animals have been vaccinated. All animals received a thorough animal health examination by a government veterinary officer.

Issues requiring the attention of USAID management

Procurement of vehicles for ENGINE's expansion to Somali region has been very lengthy. Following arrival in country, USAID process to clear customs and facilitate delivery of the vehicle to the project has taken in excess of one month and is still pending. This delay requires ENGINE to use rental vehicles in Somali Region, which results both in higher costs as well as creates additional logistical challenges to working in an already difficult environment. ENGINE requests USAID's attention to expeditiously finalize the clearance of vehicles with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Data sharing with host government

Have you shared this report with the host government?

Yes

No

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

Project start up and management

In the reporting period, ENGINE and GRAD held a number of management meetings to assess progress of the partnership and address implementation challenges. This included a one-day meeting between both projects, including technical, regional and sub-prime staff to review and update a joint work plan to ensure both projects are working in unison. The reprogramming included several changes to the modality of livelihood support for Village Economic and Social Association (VESA) members, which will follow the GRAD modality with technical support from ENGINE on request. An output of the review meeting and subsequent follow up meetings was a joint work plan approved by both projects. This national level review meeting built on prior regional meetings held between the projects, including a work planning meeting in Hawassa, which was held earlier in Quarter III.

During the reporting period, GRAD also received anticipated additional funding from USAID to support the scale-up of nutrition activities in the joint *woredas*. This will enable GRAD implementing partners to carry out all planned activities without the previous budget constraints.

Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies

New Animators recruited

CARE Sidama in SNNPR recruited and trained 33 (5 female) new GRAD animators. Animators are first level responsible volunteers at the grass root level to execute a development oriented projects. The new animators were engaged in selection of target households that participated in perma-garden/key-hole gardening.

Support nutrition multi-sectoral coordination

In Quarter III, support was provided to *woreda* level nutrition multi-sectoral coordination in five *woredas* in Amhara, SNNPR and Oromia. In Lay Gayint *woreda*, in Amhara, ENGINE conducted a *woreda* level NNP review meeting at the government's request. Both the nutrition multi-sector coordination body and technical committee participated in the meeting, which was chaired by the *woreda* administrator. The meeting addressed engaging and getting commitments from all sectors to contribute to nutrition programming, including planning and budgeting activities for the next year.

In Oromia, a *woreda* nutrition multi-sector coordination meeting was held in Adami Tulu *woreda* with the nine NNP implementing sectors. In the meeting a draft terms of reference (ToR) for *woreda* level multi-sectoral nutrition coordination was presented to participants, discussed and finally signed by members of NTCB and NTCC who have the responsibility to undertake and oversee the NNP implementation at *woreda* level. Members of the NTC agreed to meet monthly to review progresses of NNP implementation and to monitor the overall implementation of the coordination mechanism and identified activities in the plan of action. A total of 19 (4 female) participants attended the meeting.

In SNNPR, ENGINE supported and facilitated multi-sector coordination body and technical committee meetings in the three target *woredas* (Dale, Meskan and Hawassa Zuria).

Provide maternal, adolescent, infant and young child nutrition training for health workers and health extension workers

ENGINE provided MIYCN training for 118 HEWs in SNNP Region from two ENGINE-GRAD intervention *woredas* (Meskan and Hawassa). The training aimed to build the capacity of HEWs to provide quality preventive nutrition services in their facilities. Training was provided taking advantage of HEW participation in review meetings as an opportunity to reach HEWs.

Support quarterly joint and regular nutrition integrated supportive supervision to health centers and health posts with *woreda* health office

In Quarter III, ENGINE provided technical and financial support for integrated supportive supervision (ISS) in three *woredas* in Amahara and Oromia. In Amhara region, ISS was conducted in two *woredas* to assess the status of implementation of nutrition-related activities at health facilities after the support of ENGINE project. The supervision was held jointly with *woreda* health office experts using the checklist developed by ENGINE project. A total of 18 HCs, 45 HPs and 145 HHs were reached in Amhara.

As planned, one *woreda* in Oromia (Arsi Negele) was reached with supportive supervision during the reporting period. The activity assessed the level of performance and compliance to standards of major maternal and child health and nutrition services at selected HFs. The team, which included the ENGINE zonal coordinator and *woreda* health office experts, reached 4 HCs, 7 HPs and 20 HHs. During which HWs, HEWs and mothers and caretakers were interviewed and assessed for their level of service access, utilization and level of satisfaction. ENGINE has assisted the joint supportive supervision, both technically and financially. Major findings of the supervision indicated that MIYCN services are being provided and properly registered at HCs, and that FCDs were being effectively carried out by HEWs with the health development army. The supervision found weaknesses including a shortage of MIYCN counseling cards at some facilities, zinc tablets near expiration and a need for ongoing support to continue strengthening nutrition counseling at HPs. These issues are being addressed through PHCU review meetings and ongoing mentoring. ENGINE has printed additional counseling materials to be provided in Quarter IV.

Provide technical assistance (mentorship) to health extension workers for the implementation of direct nutrition services at facility and community levels

During the reporting period, 141 (240 percent of target) health professionals were provided with mentorship. This activity was underachieved in the previous quarter when training was emphasized, and has now been overachieved to meet the yearly goal. In Amhara, technical support has been provided for 89 (62 female) HWs working in under-5 and maternal OPDs of health centers and HEWs of the two GRAD/ENGINE *woredas*. The focus of the support was on quality nutrition counseling, counseling card availability and utilization, supplementation of micronutrients, WASH and treatment of malnutrition. In Oromia, ENGINE provided mentorship at selected HFs in the two ENGINE-GRAD *woredas* (Arsi Negele and Adamitulu) for 52 HWs and HEWs. On the spot feedback and support was provided.

Conduct nutrition cooking demonstrations at community level

In Amhara region, financial and technical support was provided for 49 FCDs conducted at HPs and community levels in the two ENGINE/GRAD *woredas*. A total of 1210 (1148 female) participants attended these events. The demonstrations were conducted using locally available ingredients and included demonstration of proper handwashing and food safety. An additional 38 cooking

demonstrations were held in two *woredas* of Oromia, reaching 1378 mothers and caretakers (1098 female). PHCUs and HEWs will provide household visits to monitor and support the uptake of recommended dietary and WASH practices.

Overall, 87 (290 percent of plan) cooking demonstrations were conducted in Amhara and Oromia for 2588 (345 percent) participants. The over achievement is due to accelerated HEWs initiation and considering the backlogs from underachievement in previous quarters.

Conduct nutrition cooking demonstrations for Village Economic and Social Association groups

In Amhara region, GRAD conducted 227 cooking demonstration sessions for 227 VESA groups reaching 5207 (2190, female) attendees. The cooking demonstration was conducted in LayGaint and Libokemkem *woredas*. Each cooking demonstration was attended by approximately 25 people.

Conduct Enhanced Community Conversations using Village Economic and Social Association structure

During Quarter III, ENGINE and GRAD consulted and agreed on a package of eight ECC sessions to be delivered once per month to each VESA Group. ENGINE's SBCC team adapted ENGINE's ECC materials for the PSNP context with input from GRAD. The materials will be printed and ECCs rolled out in Quarter IV.

Implement community based Nutrition-Sensitive Livelihoods

During the joint reprogramming meeting, a number of changes were made to the joint work plan, reducing ENGINE's role in any direct livelihoods support to VESA households, with ENGINE's role being support to FTCs and training of DAs in implementation *woredas* as well as provision of technical assistance at GRAD's request.

Select farmer training centers with access to water to promote vegetable and fruit production

In Quarter III, three FTCs (100 percent of plan) were selected in SNNPR for support in consultation with *woreda* agriculture offices. Two agronomic demonstrations were held at FTCs during the reporting period. Support (provision of vegetable seeds, fruit seedlings and TA) was provided to 3 of 7 planned FTCs during the reporting period; underperformance was due to delay until livelihood implementation modality was clarified.

Provide Development Agent training on nutrition-sensitive agriculture including key hole and perma-gardening

ENGINE provided nutrition-sensitive agriculture training for DAs of three partnership *woredas* in SNNPR (Loke-abaya, Hawassa Zuria and Meskan). A total of 133 (115 percent of target) (18 female) participants attended and included 12 (5 female) GRAD & ASE staff community facilitators. The training provided basic knowledge on nutrition and how to carry out nutrition-sensitive agricultural activities and facilitate nutrition cooking demonstrations at community level.

Provide Keyhole/perma-garden training to community facilitators and animators at *woreda* level.

In SNNP region, perma-garden training was provided in three partnership *woredas* (Loke-abaya, Hawassa Zuria and Meskan) for 217 (31 female) DAs (33), GRAD staff (2), CF (18) and animators (164) were

trained on the same topic in a separate training. The Oromia team provided perma-garden and key hole garden training for three days for 17 GRAD LCFs and animators (all are male) from ENGINE-GRAD intervention kebeles. The training participants learned through practical application of the new gardening and composting skills.

Train selected VESA members on homestead vegetable production including pema-garden/keyhole

Home garden training was further cascaded by GRAD CFs and animators to HH selected for this purpose in two woredas. In the first round, 188 HHs selected from VESA (1 per VESA) attended this training, The participants were 100 HHs from Loka Abaya and 88 HHs were from H/Zuria woredas. After the training participants have gained basic knowledge on nutrition and they have initiated to apply nutrition sensitive agricultural activities in their tasks at community level. Whereas, in Amhara region 638HHs were trained on the same subject.

Link HHs to agro-dealers to access vegetable seeds through GRAD modality

After the training, 826 HHs (188, SNNPR and 638 HHs, Amhara) trainees were able to access vegetable seed through linkage with agro dealers and VESA credits in their respectively. In the same reporting period vegetable seed including carrot, head cabbage, swiss chard, onion and beet root have been accessed by beneficiaries.

Conduct TOT training for community facilitators on chicken production and management

To deliver extension services for the beneficiaries with nearby, the project in Amhara has conducted training for 37(5 women) for development agents and veterinaries for two days on poultry management, handlings and this improved the quality of production further.

Select and provide training for model farmers on chicken production and gardening

The project in Amhara has given a two days training for 225 women on poultry management and handlings. All the 225 women were also supported to establish improved poultry production through VESA credit revolving funds. On the other hand 345 HHs were supported to establish a model home gardens that would be used as a learning and experience sharing points.

Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation

Support and participate in woreda health office regular nutrition integrated review meeting,

In Quarter III, ENGINE provided technical and financial support for nutrition integrated review meetings in 6 of 7 woredas in Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR. Participants were HWs from health centers, health posts and woreda health offices. In Amhara, a total of 205 (134 female) participants attended from both project woredas. In Oromia, both woredas held review meetings where performance was reviewed and plans of action were produced signaling stronger performance going forward. In SNNPR, integrated review meetings were held in two woredas and 228 (147 female) people attended.

Conducting baseline assessment

In Quarter III, ENGINE and GRAD jointly conducted a baseline survey. ENGINE provided nutrition input to the data collection tools and plan, which was developed by and led by GRAD. The assessment included both livelihoods and nutrition indicators.

The project teams jointly provided supportive supervision of data collection and any needed corrections were made on the spot. During baseline data collection four *kebeles* were addressed under supportive supervision in Oromia and SNNP regions. The data collectors have common understanding on the questionnaire.

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

Project Management

During the reporting period, ENGINE and GOAL continued joint implementation in 10 non-AGP *woredas* in Oromia and SNNP. The projects held two joint management meetings to review progress of implementation of the partnership and to discuss major activities. A joint monitoring visit to *woredas* in East and West Hararghe was also conducted in the quarter.

IR 1: Capacity for and institutionalization of nutrition programs and policies

IR 1.1: Strengthened policy environment

Strategy 1.1.1: Strengthen existing nutrition multi-sector coordination

To improve multi-sector nutrition coordination, ENGINE supported four *woreda* level nutrition multi-sectoral meetings in ENGINE-GOAL *woredas* in east and west Hararghe zones in May, 2015. In SNNP, three *woredas* participated in a meeting to review strategic objectives of the NNP and the role of each sector in addressing nutrition. An outcome of the meeting was the establishment of *woreda* level NTCB and NTCs. A ToR was endorsed and signed by the heads and representatives of the nine key NNP implementing sectors.

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

IR2.1: Quality of nutrition services strengthened

Provide integrated Infant and Young Child Feeding into community-based management of acute malnutrition training

In the reporting period, USAID/ENGINE has provided on the job MIYCN training for 68 HEWs at Dale *woreda* in SNNPR linked to a review meeting.

Provide training to development assistants /agricultural extension workers and GOAL *woreda* staff on nutrition-sensitive agriculture

In SNNP, ENGINE provided nutrition-sensitive agriculture training for 38 DA/AEWS (97 percent of target) from partnership *woredas*. The DAs gained knowledge on nutrition and have started to support nutrition-sensitive agricultural activities and facilitate nutrition cooking demonstrations at community level.

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

In Oromia region, ENGINE supported nutrition-sensitive FCD sessions at facility, *kebele* and *gare* levels. The sessions are used as vital platforms to promote and educate mothers and caretakers on preparation of a diversified food for infants, young children and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) as well as the importance of personal and food hygiene. To this end, a total of 86 sessions (172 percent of target) were organized in the seven *woredas* of the ENGINE-GOAL partnership. A total of 4786 participants, predominately PLWs (3220 female) attended the sessions.

IR 3. Implement community based nutrition-sensitive livelihoods

Train development agents in water management, homestead and perma-gardening

In SNNPR, ENGINE provided perma-garden training for 38 (97 percent) DAs. In Oromia, 86 DAs (14 female) were trained in homestead production including perma-gardening and water management as major part of the food handling and utilization. Trained DAs then developed an action plan to provide on-site mentoring support for HHs in their catchment area.

Provide vegetable seeds, fruit seedlings and hand tools to households

ENGINE team provided four varieties of vegetable seeds (cabbage, carrot, Swiss chard & green beans) for all targeted 875 MVHHs. Post distribution follow up visits by DAs and zonal livelihood coordinators indicate that farmers in West and East Hararghe zones started planting vegetable at their homesteads.

Provide on-site technical advice to households by *woreda* agriculture experts and ENGINE livelihood staff/development agents

In the partnership *woredas*, DAs provided on-site TA to 402 (402 percent) (167 female) CMAM beneficiaries on homestead production; iodized salt utilization; dietary diversity for pregnant and lactating women and children under two; recommended agronomic practices; and sharing household chores among family members to support mothers. The DAs were able to exceed the target as TA was provided to CMAM beneficiaries when they gathered for seed distribution at FTCs.

Organize savings groups

Saving groups help the participants to initiate the habit of saving, build the social capital of the groups and provide an entry point to join a local cooperative in order to derive more benefits. In the reporting period, two saving groups (25 percent of target) were established. Groups are being established with 20-25 members per group, rather than initial plan of 10 per group, which results in fewer groups formed than planned.

Goat or chicken provision for community-based management of acute malnutrition beneficiaries

In Oromia region, ENGINE-GOAL provided goats for 505 (111 percent of target) CMAM beneficiaries in all targeted *woredas* with the involvement of a committee comprised from *woreda* (including a home economist, an animal husbandry expert, a vet technician and two police) and representatives of the *kebele* development committee as well as GOAL staff. Accordingly, 2020 goats were purchased and distributed to the seven targeted *woredas* based on prior selection and training of beneficiaries.

IR4. Rigorous and innovative learning agenda adopted

Conduct biannual review meetings at *woreda* level with health and agriculture offices

In the reporting period, ENGINE provided technical and financial support for integrated health and agriculture *woreda* level review meetings at Oda Bultum and Burka Dimtu *woredas* of West Hararghe zone (50 percent of target). During the review meeting, key areas of nutrition multi-sectoral agendas, nutrition sensitive and specific interventions were raised and reviewed. Finally, both sectors at the two *woredas* produced an agreed plan of action. ENGINE provided financial and technical support to the review meetings.

Support and participate on biannual *woreda* health office regular nutrition integrated review meeting

In Oromia, ENGINE supported and assisted, two *woreda* level integrated Health and Nutrition review meetings at Oda bultum and Dadar in West and East Hararghe zones respectively. The support created a good platform on which performances of key maternal and child healthcare programs, including maternal and child nutrition activities over the past two quarters, were reviewed. HWs, *woreda* health office experts, HEWs and other supporting staffs attended the meetings. In SNNPR, ENGINE supported regular nutrition integrated review meeting in two *woredas*, with 190 (77 female) participants. The review meeting facilitated discussion on the gaps and strength of quality of nutrition services performed at all levels.

Conducting baseline data collection

In the reporting period, ENGINE and GOAL started a joint baseline survey in partnership *woredas*. Data collectors were trained, tools were piloted and updated and the survey was conducted in Meta and Odabultu *woredas* in Oromia. The survey was based on GOAL's standard survey with additional indicators provided by ENGINE to assess the impact of the partnership. The training ensured that data collectors were familiar with and able to accurately collect data on ENGINE indicators. Data collection is also planned in SNNPR, but was not conducted in the reporting period as approval from regional government is still pending.

Annex 3: Quality Improvement success stories



**ENGINE Year IV Q3
Report Annex 3.zip**

Annex 4: Trip Reports



**ENGINE Year IV Q3
Report Annex 4.zip**

Annex 5: Matrices: FtF, PMP, Work plan



**ENGINE Year IV Q3
Annex 5 Matrices.zip**