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Acronym List

CA	Community Animator	JEOP	Joint Emergency Operation
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker	J-SMR	Joint structured Monitoring Review
CAT	Cash and Asset Transfer	KFSTF	Kebele Food Security Task Force
CC	Community Conversation	LEWs	Livelihood Extension Workers
CCL	Centre for Creative Leadership	LICU	Livelihood Implementation Coordination Unit
CCFLS	Community-based Complementary Feeding and Learning Sessions	LF	Lead Farmer
CHAST	Children Hygiene and Sanitation Training	LG	Livelihood Group
CHNP	Community Health and Nutrition Promoters	LH	Lead Herder
CLA	Collaboration, Learning and Adapting	LRO	Livelihoods for Resilience -Oromia
CLTSH	Community-Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene	MCHN	Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition
CRS	Catholic Relief Services	MCS	Meki Catholic Secretariat
DFSA	Development Food Security Activity	MEAL	Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning
DiNER	Diversity in Nutrition and Enhanced Resilience	MG	Marketing Groups
ENA	Essential Nutrition Actions	MIS	Management Information System
ESDM	Environmentally Sound Design and Management	OSC	One Stop Centre
FA	Field Agent	PDS	Permanent Direct Support
FFP	Food for Peace	PDSA	Plan, Do, Study and Act
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration	PTC	Pastoral Training Center
KFSTF	Kebele Food Security Task Force	PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
FTC	Farmer Training Center	PSP	Private Service Provider
FY	Fiscal Year	PW	Public Works
GBV	Gender Based Violence	PWD	Persons with Disabilities
GoE	Government of Ethiopia	Q	Quarter
HCS	Hararghe Catholic Secretariat	QIVC	Quality Improvement Verification Checklists
HDA	Health Development Armies	OSC	One Stop Center
HEW	Health Extension Worker	RA	Regreening Africa
HF	Health Facilities	SILC	Savings Internal Lending Communities
HFW	Health Facility Worker	SPX	Cross-cutting Sub-Purpose
HH	Household	SWC	Soil and Water Conservation
IGA	Income Generation Activity	TFH/IFH	The Faithful House/Islamic Family House
IMNCI	Integrated Management of Newborn and Child Illnesses	TWG	Technical Working Group
		USAID	United States Agency for International Development
		WBC	Water Benefit Calculator
		WFSTF	Woreda Food Security Task Force
		YLG	Youth Livelihood Groups

i. Activity Summary

As in the prior quarter, CRS’ DFSA continued to experience insecurity in Dire Dawa and East Hararghe. In January 2020, the paramount concern among DFSA partners was the impact of the national elections in Ethiopia. CRS’ DFSA submitted a Contingency Plan on February 18 to FFP - events over the past 2 years and CRS’ responses/adjustments informed DFSA’s thinking and contingency planning - for example, the continued development and use of remote training tools such as audio stories/Speaking Books and visual aids and using TDYers to clear backlogs of work after access has been restored¹.

The spread of Covid 19 and the global pandemic has now become the primary concern of CRS and its partners as it works with FFP to measure the impact it will have on the overall food security situation in Ethiopia and its impact on DFSA programming. In Ethiopia, national and local governments have gradually put in place social distancing measures. Starting in mid-March, CRS’ Addis based staff now largely work from home, and only essential staff come to the office (remote working for field-based staff will be looked at in April). It is likely that a number of activities may be delayed, particularly those that involve large gatherings of community members and local partners (MCRS, HCS, CCL, GoE, etc.). All Purpose teams have been impacted. A more complete sense of the impact of Covid 19 will be known in the 3rd Quarter².

ii. Activity Outputs

As illustrated in Table 1, 27,391 PDS clients (100%) in HCS and MCS woredas received their first-round transfer in January 2020. In February 2020, 24,033 PDS clients (88%) received the 2nd round transfer. In March 2020, 18,812 (69%) received the 3rd round transfer. In MCS DFSA woredas, 6,154 PDS clients (100%) received three months transfers during the reporting period. In the HCS DFSA woredas, 21,237 PDS clients (100%) received the 1st round transfer in January 2020. In February 2020, 17,879 PDS clients (84%) received the 2nd round transfer, and 12,658 PDS clients (60%) received the 3rd round transfer.

Table 1: Q2 Food Transfers in MCS and HCS Woredas

Food Distribution		January	February	March	Unique Participants
Male	Actual	12,380	10,884	8,520	12,380
	Planned	12,380	12,380	12,380	12,380
Female	Actual	15,011	13,149	10,292	15,011
	Planned	15,011	15,011	15,011	15,011

iii. Programming Performance

SP X.1: Women and youth have increased access to and control of community and HH resources

DFSA SPX team established a total of 27 new Community Conversation Groups (CCGs) with 1,080 members (540F and 30 Persons with Disabilities - PWDs). Since October 1, 2019, 74 CCGs have been formed which constitutes 97.3% of the annual target. DFSA also created 11 youth CCGs with 433 members (166F). A total of 193 CC leaders and CAs (77 female) in HCS and MCS woredas have been trained in Q2 using the CCG facilitators guide; they have started regular CCG facilitation sessions. Strengthening and follow-up of the CCGs established in the previous quarters continued to ensure the positive changes observed in the members and their surroundings are continuing. CCG members have continued sharing their positive experiences (in sharing of domestic activities among husbands and wives, joint decision making, conflict resolutions, reduction of GBV/HTP). There has also been an increase of self-confidence of the PWDs in the CCGs, as well as better acceptance of PWDs by the communities. Separate youth CCGs have enabled youth to create their own space and focus on issues related to youth, organizing discussions around them. The youth CCGs also promote youth leadership skills and help youth seek jobs through counseling and mentoring. They have also worked as volunteers in their communities.

¹ CRS understands the elections have been postponed to January 2021 and so the contingency plan is no longer in effect.

² CRS’ DFSA submitted its Redirection Plan to FFP on April 1 (Q3)

SPX has identified and appointed 9 young male gender champions who have demonstrated experience in promoting gender equality and communicating it to the community. They were recognized during the International Women's Day celebration in early March in Negele Arsi and Heben Arsi woredas, and they shared their best practices with 407 (317F and 90M) participants including role model couples, prominent businesswomen, woreda government sectors, community members invited from different PSNP and non-PSNP kebeles.

Following the youth volunteerism refresher training for DFSA youth/gender experts and GoE staff in Q1, DFSA's youth team, in collaboration with other Purpose teams, selected and recruited 601 qualified youth volunteers (183F) in all woredas (100% of annual target). From those volunteers, HCS has recruited 19 college-graduate volunteers (15M and 4F) and engaged them to facilitate the youth CC group discussions with the YCCG leaders.

In Q2, DFSA established an additional 22 new school gender clubs (100% of annual target) with 1,100 members (50% female). Each club selected 2 leaders (1 girl and 1 boy) who will be trained in leadership skills, leading their respective teams in the use of the girls' and boys' toolkits. To facilitate the skill development of gender club leaders and members, CRS' DFSA designed and delivered a 3 days Communications Essentials Training for 228 (157M, 71F) club mentors, school directors and education office representatives from all DFSA woredas, conducted from February 19- 29, 2020. This training is designed to enhance the leadership capacity of teachers and school directors to run the gender club effectively by employing the toolkit provided. Moreover, the training aims to ensure a buy in from stakeholders, particularly the school directors and woreda education representatives through sharing the vision of the gender clubs and clarifying their role in strengthening and enabling the overall environment for gender club members to continue their peer-learning journey. To strengthen the new and ongoing school gender clubs, DFSA printed 171 multi-modular girls' and boys' toolkits and other inputs and materials purchased based on the clubs' needs. While distribution had been scheduled to occur in Q2, as stated in the previous quarterly report, Covid 19 has pushed the distribution to occur in Q3.

A 5-day ToT refresher training was given to 20 selected couples from January 13-17, 2020. The trained couples are supposed to cascade the training but this has been delayed due to Covid 19 restrictions on large gatherings and meetings in confined spaces. As part of preparations to cascade the training, HCS has printed 1500 copies of The Faithful House/Islamic Family House (TFH/IFH) couple handbook. In Q2, 14 model couples shared their positive experience after their engagement in TFH/IFH to 653 (473 female and 180 male) participants at the International Women's Day celebration in 3 MCS woredas. Their experiences focused on how to solve family problem and create good relationships within the family, foster a culture of savings and improve the overall standard of living of the family, and support women who hold leadership position and contribute to the reduction of gender-based violence.

The 1st and 2nd cycle functional literacy classes started in January and February in all targeted woredas. Due to Covid 19 measures on social distancing, the classes have been suspended. CRS is discussing opportunities with zonal education offices to develop and print a booklet that could help participants do literacy home-schooling. MCS established 4 Fuel Efficient Stove (FES) groups in 4 woredas. The members have been given the necessary technical training and inputs, including molds, cements, protective materials and shade construction materials. One of the groups has started production and discussing market linkage with respective sector offices in its woreda.

DFSA conducted gender and youth integration training for 72 (32 F) relevant woreda GoE staff (111% of annual target). The training enhances the knowledge and skill of key woreda staff in gender and youth integration in order for them to work with the other DFSA purpose teams to integrate gender and youth programming into their activities. At the end of the training, each woreda representative had to prepare an action plan with activities reflecting gender and youth integration. HCS also conducted a training to 44 Woreda Food Security Task Force (WFSTF) (5F) on PSNP-PIM gender and youth provisions. IEC/SBCC materials on the benefits of male engagement in domestic activities and childcare are being prepared and reviewed. Following recommendations in DFSA's GBV assessment, three training guides for DFSA staff, stakeholders' staff and community leaders have been developed. These training guide have been translated into Afaan Oromo and is ready for use by DFSA staff. Finally, the Disability Assessment (funded through CRS' private funds) planned for Q2 has been delayed due to Covid 19.

P I: GoE and community systems respond to reduce communities' and households' vulnerability to shocks

As planned in Q1, MCS trained WFSTF and Woreda public work technical committee (WPTC) members on Ethiopian Fiscal Year (EFY) 2013 (FY 2021) PSNP plan preparation process and the content of the annual plan. However, in line with Covid 19 restrictions, the community planning process has been delayed. During Q2, CRS' DFSA engaged in public work operations and maintenance plans for 72 PW sub-projects (49 watershed management, 16 water development, 7 social infrastructure projects). In support of this effort, CRS' DFSA conducted a five-day technical training to GOE and Project NRM and PW experts in two phases in FY19. The first phase was a Training of Trainers (ToT) for partners and GOE staff in Adama and Dire Dawa in Q4 FY19. CRS Addis and field staff facilitated this training. After the first phase, partners then cascaded the training (also in Q4 FY19) to DAs, CAs, WFSTF, and technical staff. After completion of phase 2, preparation began on PW operations and maintenance plans for 72 PW sub-projects during Q2. Operation and maintenance plans were completed for 49 watersheds, 10 irrigation schemes and 7 social infrastructure sub-projects. The users of these 72 PW sub-projects use the operations and maintenance plans to manage these community level assets implemented through the PW campaign in Q2 in a more sustainable way. CRS field and Addis staff worked in direct contact with the partners (i.e. in the field) to provide technical support in the preparation of the operations and maintenance plans.

CRS' Purpose I Team monitored a number of social economic infrastructures, small scale irrigation (SSI) and NRM sub-projects in Q2 – looking at construction progress, milestones and achievements and involvement/participation of community and users group (men, women & youth) in SSI construction and management. **In HCS areas, construction of small-scale irrigation (SSI) schemes is progressing well. During Q2, six SSI schemes in Dire Dawa, Babile, and Melka Belo funded by DFSA and CRS cost share have been completed. Two schemes in Babile and Deder are under construction with a completion rate of 60% and 90 %, respectively. During the same period, two SSI schemes were funded through the woreda capital budget: one scheme in Dire Dawa was completed while the other scheme in Babile woreda is still under implementation with 60% of the work completed. Regarding the FY20 social infrastructure schemes, in HCS' area, the procurement of capital goods (industrial and local materials) as well as skilled labor has begun, but construction did not start during the Q2 reporting period. CRS also visited three SSI projects in Arsi Negele, Heben Arsi, and Zeway Dugda funded by CRS and currently under implementation in MCS' woredas. CRS met with partner and woreda technical staff to review progress and troubleshoot issues such as adequate levels of community participation and contracting issues. These projects are expected to be completed in Q3.**

CRS organized a joint field monitoring visit with Oromia regional government food security officials as well as East Hararge Zone Agriculture Office from January 1- 4, 2020. During the visit, the team held discussions with WFSTF members on the challenges of the program, including the delays in the social and economic infrastructure projects, ensuring their quality, and addressing the lack of collaboration from WFSTF, and the future maintenance plans when the projects are finished - a follow-up from the JSRM recommendations. The same trip had also been planned for MCS woredas in late March (it was delayed due to Oromia government availability issues), but it had to be cancelled following Covid 19 travel restrictions.

CRS conducted a focus-group roundtable on February 3 and 4, 2020 for 23 government and partner staff (2F) from HCS HQ and DFSA woredas. During this roundtable, participants discussed reasons for slow graduation, recurrent drought, household cap of five persons, PW and livelihood linkages, shortage of loan capital, and community awareness on graduation. HCS and MCS, with the support of trained WFSTF members and CCL, conducted a series of ToT events on Leadership and Communication Essentials from January 27 to March 15 to 5 WFTSFs in Shalla, Ziway Dugda, Heben Arsi and Negele Arsi and Dire Dawa. 243 HCS KFSTF members (F69; M174) and 482 MCS KFSTF members (F135; M347) participated in this training.

MCS conducted a community scorecard training (March 14-16, 2020) at Meki town. The intention was to ensure accountability and transparency in DFSA projects implementation and create good partnership among service users and providers. 26 participants (4F) from three woredas (Negele Arsi, Heben Arsi, and Ziway Dugda) attended.

As a follow-up to the JSMR recommendations on improving the quality of NRM interventions, CRS and LimnoTech Engineering continued to develop the Water Benefits Calculator Version 1 (WBC V1) through Q1. Extensive geospatial data of Ethiopian soil characteristics, climate, drone imagery, and topography were assembled and used to by LimnoTech to beta test three different land scenarios representative of the Woredas that CRS and partners currently operate in. The WBC V1 focuses on public work (PW) land interventions undertaken by the GoE to support PSNP clients and is expected to be able to predict the positive or negative impacts on watershed hydrology depending on which PW interventions are implemented in a particular watershed. The WBC V1 is on schedule to be completed in April 2020 and will then enter a period of field testing followed up by toolkit and training development for CRS and partner staff. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the training for WBC V1 is expected to be virtual with a combination of live online trainings and self-lead modeling exercises. In addition to develop the WBC V1, during Q2 of FY2020, CRS and LimnoTech began developing a cost/benefit module for future versions of the WBC. This module will allow users of the WBC to understand the cost inputs required per unit of hydrologic watershed improvement. Finally, CRS and LimnoTech began the early stages of WBC V2 development which is on schedule to be completed in July 2020.

In collaboration with the Regreening Africa project team, MCS team organized a five -day technical training from March 16 to 20, 2020 at Ziway town, focused on FMNR best practices. Eighteen DFSA staff (8 GoE NRM staff) participated in the training. The training included a one-day practical exercise at selected FMNR sites to apply the knowledge and skill obtained through the training. As part of its environmental monitoring, CRS and its partners conducted a woreda-level seedling survival count comparing them with figures from Q1. The assessment showed that tree seedling survival rates have improved by 15% with an overall survival rate of approximately 70%. The highest survival rate recorded was in Boku (81%) in Heben Arsi woreda and the lowest survival rate is 45% reported from Shalla Bila kebele, Arsi Negele woreda. Some of the challenges for low survival rate in Arsi Negele include free grazing by livestock and poor handling when the seedlings were transported. This activity also addresses the JSMR recommendations on improving the quality and sustainability of NRM interventions.

To further improve the quality and sustainability of the PW activities, the P1 team organized a hands-on exchange visit for 26 DFSA staff to learn about best NRM-PW practices from other parts of Ethiopia from February 17 to 21, 2020. The visit was done in collaboration with the Amhara Region MoA-NRM directorate and PSNP-PW project staff in South Wollo. The visit combined field visits with discussions with communities, PSNP clients and experts and field visits.

HCS trained 251 (M238; F13) PW foremen/forewomen from February 7 to 16 on technical aspects of integrated watershed management using simple surveying tools. Participants were provided with Ethiopia's National Watershed guidelines. To improve participation and awareness in PW-NRM activities as well as quality, 493 (M474; F19) watershed committee members were trained from February 5 to 14.

P II: Households improve their sustainable livelihood and economic well-being

CRS' Purpose II team participated in woreda-level Livelihood Implementation Coordination Unit (LICU) meetings in all MCS woredas from January 11 to 14. CRS' DFSA conducted meetings with the Activity's Livelihood Extension Workers (LEW) for two days in each of MCS' operational woredas from January 27 through February 7, 2020. CRS' DFSA also facilitated a meeting from February 3-4, 2020 between 14 agro-dealers (4F) and 74 PSPs (23F) to improve their linkages and increase the agro-dealers' client base. The PSPs agreed to conduct need assessments of LG members to support/identify the demand for agro-dealer services. DFSA also organized a discussion forum among livestock traders and financial service providers from 17 kebeles across three DFSA woredas - Midega Tola, Deder and Melka Belo - on February 5, 12 and 14, 2020. The purpose of these fora was to improve the exposure to and awareness of PSNP clients to external financial service providers and their products.

According to SAVIX/MIS' online report (Q2 FY2), 1,696 livelihoods groups (LGs/YLGs) - 19,554 males and 21,844 females- continued participating in the Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC). LG members who have taken loans are engaged in different income generating activities. During Q2 FY20, a total of 2,997 (2,202F, 73%), LG members accessed 4.1 million ETB in loans to improve their IGAs. The loan fund utilization rate in Q2 FY20 is 51.5%, increasing from 49% in Q1 FY20. 906,740 ETB from the social fund was mobilized

from groups and shared out (distributed to the members) in Q2. A total of 6.96 million ETB has been collected by SILC members from inception to March 31, 2020.

A JSRM recommendation suggested that CRS should continue to invest in the sustainability and growth of its SILC program through the capacity building of the PSPs. In support of this effort, DFSA conducted a PSP networking, pricing and apprenticeship refresher training in Q2 for 17 (15M; 2F) SILC Supervisors to support PSPs to market their services to LGs and start creating new networks among various PSPs and initiate apprenticeships. In Q2, PSPs continued to form new interested non-PSNP clients as secondary adopters through a fee for service model. In Q2, 43 SILC groups (41 adults and 2 youth groups) with a total membership of 1,026 (533F) were formed in DFSA operational Woredas. From these groups, six groups started saving with the initial saving amount of 14,600 ETB from the new group formed in Q2. DFSA provided basic adult literacy training to 540 LGs members. DFSA also provided 2nd cycle Basic adult literacy training sessions to 688 (198F) LGs members, who completed 1st cycle class last quarter. Currently, due to the occurrence Covid 19, the training sessions have been suspended and discussion is ongoing with education office how to continue the training within the current government state of emergency.

In Q2, 411 SILC members (190F) accessed 1,869,800 ETB in credit from RUSACCOs (revolving funds) and from MFIs in Dire Dawa to improve their businesses. DFSA established 271 Marketing Groups (MGs) consisting of 9,200 (2,829F) members, These MGs focus on the following value chains: onion (28 MGs), groundnut (19), haricot beans (16), potato (8), pepper (19), wheat (17), poultry (33), ox fattening (39), shoa fattening (82), lagro processing (Baltina), and honey (9). DFSA LEWs (who had received a ToT in marketing training) trained 1,050 (377F) MG leaders in marketing skill development using a 7 step learning process in 5 woredas.

On Jan. 1, 2020, DFSA held a workshop in MCS' woredas aimed at establishing a strong network and collaboration among One Stop Centers (OSC) and other stakeholders, including Employment Placement Agencies, TVETs, GoE job creation centers, and GoE enterprise and industry development offices. This activity supported the JSRM recommendation to improve the effectiveness of LGs and their capacity to access more capital. 46 (2F) delegates from OSCs and government offices participated in this workshop. In total, 150 (47F) YLG members received employment skills training through DFSA mechanisms in Q2 at MCS' woredas. A TVET technician from Dire Dawa's Ethio-Italian Polytechnical School assessed the needs of sisal producing DFSA YLGs in Midega Tola Woreda. Recommendations included the design of small machines which will help the YLG to reduce labor, increase production in a timely fashion, and augment the quality of sisal fibers produced. The TVET has committed itself to supplying sisal processing machinery to the YLGs. OSCs in Midega Tola are linking the YLGs to sisal fiber processors and sisal sack producers.

CRS' DFSA continued working through LEWs and lead farmers/lead herders (LF/LHs) on promotion of improved technologies and practices to improve the productivity and management of crops and livestock. In Q2, 500 (93F) LF/LHs were registered and linked to livelihood groups/follower farmers for peer to peer (on-farm) learning. Through this approach, improved crop and livestock production techniques, better NRM and focused climate smart agricultural practices are transmitted to the smallholder farmers. CRS' DFSA trained 69 (10F) newly hired LEWs on LF/LH extension service approaches, improved crop production, animal husbandry, and management of natural resources from February 11 to 22. In Q2, 166 PICS bags were purchased from local agro-dealers in Shalla and Negele Arsi woredas for distribution to lead famers for demonstration purposes.

In Q2, 452 households (147 PSNP HHs) accessed small scale irrigation and cultivated high value and nutrition sensitive crops in DFSA's woredas. Trainings in forage development were cascaded to 15 LGs in Melka Belo (101 members - 43F) and 10 LGs in Deder woreda (219 members - 103F) from January 6 to 10, 2020. Participants included 30 LFs who will support follower farmers by demonstrating improved forage development on their farms.

In preparation for DFSA's Diversity in Nutrition and Enhanced Resilience (DiNER) Fairs' activity planned for Q3, implementing partners have been trained on CRS' Cash Asset Transfer (CAT) system (electronic vouchers). During Q2, DFSA continued its support of mobile cash transfer to PSNP beneficiaries in Ziway Dugda, Deder, and Melka Belo woredas. As part of this process, Mercy Corps regularly monitored the payroll preparation for timely

cash transfer and supported capacity building training for mobile banking agents in Ziway Dugda woreda. In Q2, the GOE transferred [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) using M-Birr's mobile cash transfer platform in the three woredas.

As noted, program activities have had to be postponed due to the social distancing measures and restrictions on meetings/gatherings from Covid 19. These delays are covered more thoroughly below in the section on Challenges.

P III: PLW and CU5 have improved nutritional status

CRS' DFSA conducted several trainings in Q2 to improve the quality of services delivered by GOE and project staff. Improving the quality of health and nutrition staff was a JSMR recommendation. These trainings included nutrition sensitive agriculture (NSA) training for 85 participants (34F), including DA, CHNP, CA, and LEW; IMNCI training for 12 GOE staff (2 female); and behavior change counseling training for 28 health facility workers (17 female). Since the cascade of the NSA training, 304 homestead gardens have been established (MCS 116, HCS 188) (59 female-headed households) out of an annual target of 4,000 after the NSA training to improve production and consumption of nutritious foods.

CRS' DFSA conducted 10 visits to health facilities using the integrated supervision checklist (annual target=36), of which 6 scored above 80%. Using the results of the checklist, the DFSA coached health facilities to develop corrective plans and will follow up on progress in the next quarter. CRS conducted a PIII Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting from January 1 to 3, 2020. Discussions included reviewing DFSA's Theory of Change and discussing progress towards IPTT indicators, planning for the Speaking Books distribution, identifying challenges in implementation and identifying paths forward, etc.

As stipulated in the last quarterly report to FFP, CRS continued its work with Community-led Complementary Feeding and Learning Sessions (CCFLS). HCS completed its training of CCFLS facilitators in Q2 (MCS completed in Q1), reaching 73 participants (49 female). CCFLS enrolled 834 children aged 6-23 months (795 MCS, 36 HCS) out of an annual target of 5,250, and 707 pregnant and lactating women (658 MCS, 49 HCS) out of an annual target of 5,250. To improve enrollment, CRS and partners will increase telephone follow-up to CHNPs and ensure smoother payment of monthly incentives to CHNP. However, enrolled caregivers' commitment to and attendance at CCFLS remains strong; of all participants enrolled, 818 children attended 10 out of 12 days (98%), and 675 PLW attended all 6 days of their sessions (95%). Due to new limitations on crowd size during Covid 19, CCFLS implementation slowed towards the end of Q2.

Improving the quality of DFSA health and nutrition materials used in behavioral change was a JSMR recommendation planned for Q2. Following the receipt of its full shipment of 10,000 Speaking Books ('Nutrition for Healthy Families'), CRS' DFSA oriented 28 CRS and partner staff (6 female) on their use and distribution mechanism. Following that, HCS oriented 24 zonal and woreda health officials cascaded training to 140 HEWs, CHNPs, teachers, and CAs; and distributed 450 books. However, further trainings/orientations and distributions have been suspended due to limited field movements due to Covid 19 but will hopefully continue in Q3.

CRS trained 111 participants (39 female) in Community-led Total Sanitation and Hygiene (CLTSH) and conducted triggering in two kebeles, reaching 1,031 community members (MCS 592, HCS 439). CRS continued post-triggering follow up in 18 kebeles (14 MCS, 4 HCS) that were previously triggered. In MCS area, 13 kebeles have reached 90% on their post-triggering follow-up checklist, showing great progress towards ODF declaration. HCS conducted Children Hygiene and Sanitation Trainings (CHAST) for 29 teachers (6 female) to orient them to the curriculum and methodology, create action plans for club creation at 12 targeted schools, and distribute CHAST materials. MCS was forced to postpone all CHAST trainings due to Covid 19 as schools were closed. CHAST activities will continue when schools reopen.

CRS continued its partnership with GSAP to build Microflush toilets and train makers. In Q2, CRS established 20 Microflush toilet maker groups, certified 3 makers (out of an annual target of 40) and built 35 demo toilets (15 MCS, 20 HCS). CRS and GSAP made significant progress in Q2 towards developing multiple job aids using adult learning techniques to distribute in future quarters to certified Microflush makers to ensure quality construction.

As part of the comprehensive water testing program called for by the JSMR, CRS conducted water quality testing at 13 community water supply sources (8 bacteriological and 5 chemical). CRS and government stakeholders are currently collaborating to ensure water safety at all levels from source to consumption. CRS also hosted a senior WASH technical advisor to provide recommendations for protecting sources from fecal contamination in the future; a draft strategy to negate water contamination is forthcoming.

As noted, some field activities slowed at the end of Q2 due to Covid 19 travel/crowd restrictions and some activities were postponed altogether, such as the planned CHAST training (annual target= 384, quarterly target=115) and central training for water safety planning (WSP), water quality training for partners and government staff. This is covered in the Challenges section below.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning

MEAL and health technical team conducted a data quality assessment exercise to assess the quality of reported data for two indicators based on DFSA's indicator tracking systems. These indicators look at the number of caregivers who completed at least ten days CCFLS sessions and number of zones that conduct CLTS triggering. Results were address through a mini-MEAL system design workshop in March. The workshop led to the revision of data flow map, communication and reporting map, revision of existing and creation of new tools to improve the quality of data collected for CCFLS and WASH interventions. All new WASH and Nutrition forms developed as a result of MEAL workshop were digitized and ready to be used for data collection.

To address the need to implement a process monitoring system to systematically collect, analyze, and use data to measure program quality, CRS hired two Quality Improvement (QI) field officers. Following a QI workshop held at Addis Ababa from January 16 to 17, 2020, Quality Improvement Verification Checklists (QIVC) with comprehensive quality standards and verification points on selected 12 QI priority areas were developed, digitized and utilized for baseline data collection. High impact visualization for quality tracking have were also completed and tested for final utilization. Orientation on QI implementation strategies and QIVC tools was provided to 44 DFSA technical and MEAL staff at Dire Dawa and Shashemene in February 20 – 21 and Feb 27 – 28 respectively. The team completed development of a sample using Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) approach and appropriate samples drawn for all the 12 priority quality intervention areas and prepared for baseline data collections. Baseline data collection was been scheduled to start in March 2020 but was not completed because of Covid 19 pandemic. This has been rescheduled for Q3. In response to a JSMR recommendation to improve the beneficiary database with unique individual and household identifiers, CRS' DFSA has continued updating the PSNP register by entering PSNP data into the management information system. More than 31,000 HHs have been updated into the MIS which uniquely identifies each HH and its members. Entry of the remaining 20,000 households is ongoing and will be completed in Q3.

iv. Challenges and Lessons Learned

While Covid 19 is only in its initial stages in Ethiopia, the national and local governments have put social distancing measures in place. Much of the international community has left Ethiopia. CRS and its partners have started to implement work from home measures where only essential staff occasionally come to the offices. Trainings and activities which would have taken place at the end of Q2 have been postponed. SPX has had to postpone leadership, negotiation, communication, and life skills trainings for youth, gender champions, and women leaders. Youth and gender club meetings were postponed. Likewise for PII, the following activities planned for Q2 have been delayed: a job fair, a livestock trade fair, basic business training for CAHWs, refresher training for CAHW/AAHWs, two sensitization and discussion roundtables to strengthen poultry vaccinations and demonstrate the construction of a poultry house and feeding system, the quarterly TWG meeting, and experience sharing sessions between successful farmers and livestock producers. Since the timing of these events are synced to the agricultural cycle, their likelihood of occurring next quarter is uncertain.

Transport and other logistic services in the country have slowed down considerably. CRS and its partners have put in place social distancing measures at FDPs. CRS received authorization to do one-time double distributions in order to complete distributions ahead of any potential lockdown. PIII has faced several challenges related to Covid

19 that will continue into Q3. Due to restricted field travel, limitations on group meetings, and the closure of public schools, PIII has already faced delays in CCFLS cooking sessions, adolescent nutrition club activities, Microflush toilet maker trainings, water-quality related trainings, CHAST training, CLTSH triggering in new kebeles, training of WASH Cos and water boards, conducting CHAST activities with WASH clubs, and distribution of and orientation on Speaking Books, which will all continue to be affected in Q3. Community mobilization meetings to improve the quality of unprotected water sources has also had to be postponed. Other new activities that will likely be affected in Q3 include cascading behavior change counseling trainings to the kebele level and training new HEWs on OTP.

In terms of lessons learned this quarter, the DFSA team has observed that the strengthening the OSCs is a very effective strategy for supporting the YLGs for easy access to different services. Stronger linkages between DFSA LGs/YLGs and OSCs has enabled them to access services like financial services and job information quickly and easily. Close collaborative efforts between DFSA, TVETs, and OSCs have the strengthened the capacity and ensured the viability of YLGs and MSEs.

v. Market Analysis

In Oromia region, prices of most staple crops (maize and wheat) were higher compared the same period in FY 2019 and exhibited an upward trend unlike in FY 2019 where they exhibited a downward trend. Even though prices for sorghum were higher than FY 2019, they did not exhibit an upward trend rather they were stable ranging between 1378 ETB and 1425 ETB per quintile. In Dire Dawa, all staple crops including barley, maize, sorghum, teff and wheat had an upward trend in price changes. For example, prices for teff rose from 2,781 ETB in January to 3,038 birrs in Dire Dawa region. Also, there are festivals like Epiphany and start of fasting in which peoples purchase seeds from the market for celebration. In Oromia region, prices for sheep and goats were also higher in FY 2020 than FY 2019 during the same period of January, February and March. The prices, however, exhibited a downward trend from 1470 ETB in January to 1393 ETB in March. In Dire Dawa, prices for sheep and goats exhibited an upward trend from 1300 ETB in January to 1600 ETB in March.

vi. Planned interventions for Q3 – April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020³

Purpose I will focus on the following activities in Q1

- Food dispatch and distribution for PW and PDS clients in HCS and MCS areas
- Provision of training on Water Benefit Calculator (WBC) spread sheet to partners and CRS staff through virtual learning
- Preparation of FY 20 Environmental Status Report (ESR) to be submitted to FFP.
- Partners support Woreda Food Security Task Force (WFSTF) and technical committee members to prepare the EFY 2013 PSNP planning in participatory process.
- Conduct watershed area mapping using ArcGIS and Collector Arc GIS and prepare management plan.

Purpose II will focus on the following activities in Q3:

- Link mature SILC groups/members to RUSACCO/MFI
- Complete/support individual livelihoods checklist
- Facilitate Market linkage to MGs
- Support LGs to develop business plan for LG/MG members

³ These planned interventions may change pending impact of Covid 19 and Government of Ethiopia restrictions (State of Emergency, for example). CRS' DFSA is engaging with FFP and partners on programme adjustments. A Redirection Plan was submitted on April 1 (start of Q3). While these are proposed Q3 activities, CRS is cognizant that some may be postponed/cancelled due to Covid 19. However, as of March 31, it's too early to predict/project ahead with any degree of certainty. Nonetheless, CRS' DFSA is continually looking at opportunities to deliver services while also being mindful of GOE restrictions and in line with GOE/WHO/USAID Covid 19 prevention measures. Any activities that should/can be delayed will be and CRS will work with FFP to see if any additional/new activities can/should be designed and implemented later in Q3 and Q4 (for example, livelihood transfers and scaled up DiNER Fairs or Direct Seed Distributions to minimize any economic backsliding). These will be reported on as part of the Q3 Report

- Provide agricultural inputs through DiNER fair for LG members and Farmers Training Center/Pastoral training Center (FTC/PTC)
- Link certified FAs (PSP) to agro dealers
- Provide skill training to youth
- Strengthening one-stop centers (OSCs)
- Facilitate linkage of YLGs and TVET graduates with OSC
- Facilitate quarterly Livelihood Technical Working Group (LTWG) meeting
- Provide refresher training on livestock technical training for LEWs
- Conduct Basic Business skill training for CAHWs
- Provide refreshment training for government Assistance Animal Health Workers (AAHWs)
- Organize sensitization and discussion forum to strengthen poultry vaccination
- Demonstration of local poultry house construction and feeding system
- Strengthen livestock producers' skill-practical demonstration by successful farmers

Purpose III will focus on the following activities in Q3:

- Support the health response to COVID19 by procuring and providing sanitary supplies to health facilities and promoting SBC at FDPs, local government offices and health facilities
- Mobilize community-level actors, such as CHNPs or Cas to continue household and kebele-level activities
- Undertake Spring development construction activities
- Continue household and kebele level activities, where possible
- Conduct pipelaying of more than 30 km in five locations (4 HCS, 1 MCS).
- Finalize Bore hole Rehabilitation in MCS area, Ziway Dugda Woreda
- Organize community mobilization of pipelaying activities
- Continue to monitor and provide guidance to other purpose teams on Covid 19

SPX will focus on the following activities in Q3:

- Finalize Covid 19 response strategies (youth engagement, IPV, functional literacy)
- Implement Covid 19 redirection/pivot activities
- Undertake CC sense make interpretation workshop
- Undertake disability assessment
- Undertake gender and youth TWG meeting
- Finalize job aids and IEC/BCC materials
- Conduct group coaching sessions for WFSTF
- Deliver 71 multi modular girls and boys club toolkit
- Finalize production and deliver 200 audio toolkits
- Initiate a remote supervision and provide mentoring support for partner organization gender experts and community animators for delivery, scaling and coaching for audio toolkit
- Follow up and support for gender clubs
- Provide skill training to youth in project development and resource mobilization
- Facilitate stakeholder consultation on youth Volunteerism institutionalization
- Undertake planned and delayed gender and youth related trainings

MEAL

- Annual survey planning
- Data Quality Assessment
- Finalization of community conversations study
- Finalize update of beneficiary register on MIS by completing entry of PSNP data.
- Rollout quality verification and improvement checklists

vii. Local and Regional Purchase Commodity (LRP)

Not applicable

viii. Cash Transfer and Food Vouchers

Not applicable

ix. Loss Reporting

Not applicable this quarter.

x. Commodity Quality and Safety

Not applicable this quarter.