Strengthen PSNP4 Institutions and Resilience is a Development Food Security Activity program. The program is funded by USAID under PL 480 Title II funding (Food for Peace). The program shares Government of Ethiopia’s Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) goal of resilience to shocks and livelihoods enhanced, and food security and nutrition improved, for rural households vulnerable to food insecurity.

The program works across multiple sectors to address the underlying cause of productive safety net. The main sectors of operation are livelihoods; health, nutrition and WASH; and disaster and climate risk management. The cross-sectoral integration is further strengthened by the inclusion of Girls, women and youth empowerment.

The SPIR program was collaboratively designed and developed drawing upon lessons and experiences of past programming of involved organizations. The project engaged International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to lead a robust learning agenda with Hawassa University and Ambo University.

The SPIR was awarded to a consortium comprising World Vision (Lead), CARE and Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA).

The program’s goal is to Strengthen PSNP4 Institutions and Resilience focusing on enhance livelihoods, increase resilience to shocks, and improve food security and nutrition for rural households vulnerable to food insecurity in Ethiopia. To achieve its goal, SPIR focuses on following 4 purposes all of which are fully integrated and interdependent.

**Purpose 1**
- Increased income, productive assets and equitable access to nutritious food for vulnerable women, men and youth;

**Purpose 2**
- Improved nutritional status of children under two years of age, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescent girls;

**Purpose 3**
- Increased women’s empowerment, youth empowerment and gender equity;

**Purpose 4**
- Strengthened ability of women, men and communities to mitigate, adapt to and recover from human-caused and natural shocks and stresses.
Program Profile

- Region: Oromia (East and West Hararghe Zone)
- Woreda: 4 (Grawa, Kurfa Chele, Chiro and Gemechis)
- Kebele: 124
- Direct Project Participants: 106,181 (51% Female)
- Food Distribution: 51,849 individual (PDS- 11505 and PW 40344).
- Duration: September 30, 2016 to September 29, 2021
- Budget: US$ 44,937,915

Program Area

The SPIR activities are implemented by ORDA, CARE and World Vision in selected Woredas of Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations Nationalities and People (SNNPR) regions. CARE is responsible for implementation of SPIR activities in selected four woredas in East Hararghe Zone (Kurfa Chelle and Girawa) and West Hararghe Zone (Chiro Zuria, and Gemachis) in 124 PSNP kebeles. The Woredas were selected in consultation with regional government and PSNP officials, with consideration of hot spot classification, percentage of the population engaged by the PSNP, and stunting and wasting rates.

Approach

- Community group Village Economic Social Association (VESA) is the entry point for the program
- Strengthening group cohesion and other services through establishing VESAs
- Facilitate community level discussions on different domains of food security and safety net
- Assessments on different thematic area to make informed decision on program activities
- Coordination with other programs in the same program areas to avoid duplication and complement each other
- Strengthening existing capacity of program participants and governments officials’ for effective implementation and management of the program
- Supporting labor-intensive public works, including various physical and biological soil and water conservation structures
- Supplementary food distribution among public work and direct support beneficiaries
- Facilitating contextual livelihood activities, IGA activities, value chain activities, linkage with market and agricultural inputs
- Enhancing awareness on nutrition, health and WASH.
- Supporting GoE effort on ongoing Gender and Social Development (GSD) and Nutrition mainstreaming in PSNP4 program
- Enhancing awareness on climate change issues, facilitating Early Warning Dissemination, updating Contingency Plan.,
- Supporting local level infrastructure development that contribute to safety net and food security e.g. construction of water points, small irrigation schemes, health posts, veterinary clinics, Farmers Training Center etc.

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