



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://feedthefuture.gov/country/ethiopia>

COUNTRY PROFILE



Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, Feed the Future is targeting investments in specific regions for maximum impact. These statistics reflect the realities of Ethiopia and the results of Feed the Future's work there.

POPULATION	POVERTY	STUNTING	RURAL	GDP
102 Million Number of people living in Ethiopia (World Bank, 2016)	35 Percent Percentage of people living in poverty in Feed the Future target areas in 2015	47.1 Percent* Percentage of children under 5 suffering from stunting in Feed the Future target areas in 2015	80 Percent Percentage of population living in rural Ethiopia (World Bank, 2016 estimate)	7.6 Percent Annual GDP growth. (IMF World Economic Database, 2016)
FARMERS	SALES	NUTRITION	LAND	INVESTMENT
563 Thousand Producers using new technology and practices with Feed the Future's help in FY16	\$35 Million Income earned by Feed the Future farmers in FY16 from agricultural sales	6 Million Children under 5 reached with nutrition help in FY16 across Ethiopia	175 Thousand Hectares tended with improved technologies or management practices in FY16	\$19 Million New private investment leveraged by Feed the Future in FY16

Approach

With a population of over 100 million people, Ethiopia is one of the fastest-growing population and economies in Africa.

Ethiopia's economy is dependent on agriculture, which accounts for 41 percent of gross domestic product and more than 80 percent of exports. However, challenges persist, including plot sizes too small to maximize economies of scale, low crop yields, lack of access to credit and land tenure constraints, limited use of improved seeds and fertilizers, and weak connections between farms and markets. In Ethiopia, only six percent of cultivated land is currently under irrigation, which is exacerbated by drought conditions.

Undernutrition hampers both human and economic development. Though in decline, child undernutrition rates in Ethiopia are among the highest in the world and undernutrition contributes to over 50 percent of infant and child deaths.

Despite these challenges, agriculture-led economic growth, accompanied by improvements in people's livelihoods and nutrition, can provide a long-lasting solution to Ethiopia's chronic poverty and food insecurity by building their resilience to recurring shocks. To achieve this, Feed the Future is helping vulnerable households in Ethiopia increase their agricultural productivity, participate in economic activities, and generate demand for products.

The U.S. Government selected Ethiopia as one of 12 Feed the Future target countries for focused investment under the new [U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy](#). A country plan is forthcoming.

Strategy

Goal: Reduce [prevalence of poverty](#) in Feed the Future target regions by 30 percent.

Goal: Reduce [prevalence of stunting](#) in children under 5 years old in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

To achieve its goals, Feed the Future is making key investments to:

- Improve productivity and commercialization
- Improve nutrition status of women and young children
- Improve resilience to and protection from shocks and disasters with increased livelihood opportunities
- Strengthen the enabling environment to support increased investment and broad-based agricultural growth

Feed the Future is focusing its efforts in targeted regions and value chains to maximize impact.

Value Chains

- Chickpea
- Coffee
- Dairy
- Honey
- Livestock
- Maize
- Poultry
- Sesame
- Sweet and Irish Potatoes
- Wheat

Target Regions

- Amhara
- Oromia
- Somali
- Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's
- Tigray

Program Highlights

Vulnerable Populations. Feed the Future works to increase sustainable livelihoods among chronically food-insecure households in targeted districts in Ethiopia and to develop economic connections between food-insecure regions and more productive regions. For example, Feed the Future supports Ethiopia's lowland pastoralists in selling livestock to processors in the highlands and export markets in Gulf States. Through these efforts, Feed the Future is empowering communities to manage agriculture and livestock activities even during periods of drought. Feed the Future is also supporting the Government of Ethiopia's national Agricultural Growth Program to address root causes of widespread, low agricultural productivity. Through close coordination among the donor community and the Government of Ethiopia, this support is accomplished, in part, by using public works to rehabilitate degraded watersheds and social infrastructure, improve rural roads, and restore essential vegetation. Complementing Feed the Future's longer-term development efforts, U.S. emergency [food assistance](#) provides relief to save lives and reduce human suffering among the most vulnerable populations.

Nutrition. In 2008, the Government of Ethiopia instituted a National Nutrition Program to respond to Ethiopia's high rates of undernutrition, and [expanded and strengthened the program](#) in 2013. Through Feed the Future, the U.S. Government is building on its prior nutrition investments to maximize impact on the nutritional status of Ethiopian households, particularly children, and is integrating nutrition objectives throughout agriculture and livelihood activities. These activities support Ethiopia's nutrition program by developing capacity at the policy and implementation levels, improving education and training, supporting large-scale behavior change communication, and integrating nutrition objectives into public-private partnerships.

Gender Integration. Empowering rural women as food producers and managers of household nutrition is critical for inclusive economic growth in Ethiopia. Feed the Future activities in Ethiopia are promoting equitable decision-making in managing household resources, providing training in reading and math, and engaging women's advocacy groups in policy reform to ensure that the constraints experienced by women farmers are considered and addressed. Feed the Future-supported land certification activities are also leading to improved productivity and increased benefits for women.

Partnerships. Feed the Future has formed valuable public and private partnerships across sectors to promote agricultural development in Ethiopia. The U.S. Government has partnered with the United Nations World Food Program, local partners including Guts Agro Industry, and smallholder farmers to increase chickpea production in Ethiopia and develop a chickpea-based ready-to-use supplemental food to address moderate acute malnutrition in the country. Feed the Future and the Government of Ethiopia, in support of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, are partnering with DuPont Pioneer to provide improved varieties of maize seed and technical assistance to over 100,000 Ethiopian smallholder farmers. Feed the Future has also partnered with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center and the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research to test and release new rust-resistant varieties of wheat. Feed the Future's work complements Global Agriculture and Food Security Program and bilateral donor investments that also support the Government of Ethiopia's food security programs.

Resilience. Climate and non-climate shocks, such as droughts and pest outbreaks, and stressors contribute to the vulnerability of people, places and livelihood activities in Ethiopia and hinder progress. Building resilience to these shocks is a high priority for the Government of Ethiopia and the donor community working in Ethiopia, including Feed the Future. Working in concert with USAID programs in the country, Feed the Future is helping Ethiopians increase their resilience through natural resource management, the building and restoring of community assets, and a combination of activities that provide families with sustainable and reliable sources of income and assets. Feed the Future is helping farmers and pastoralists improve their crop and livestock productivity and marketing while also helping those who struggle to make a living explore new economic opportunities through vocational training and access to innovative financial services. Activities support and include drought preparedness and response, nutrition, access to water and institutional capacity development.

Ongoing integration of humanitarian and development activities in Ethiopia is helping local communities gradually acquire the knowledge and skills they need to enhance and safeguard their livelihoods against potential risks in the future and become increasingly resilient. In 2015, Ethiopia experienced its worst drought in decades. However, due to a rapid response, including prepositioning of food, pivoting development investments, and coordination of programs by humanitarian agencies, donors and strong engagement from the Ethiopian government, such as the multi-donor Productive Safety Net Program, the impact in Ethiopia was less severe than in past droughts.

Regional Integration. Feed the Future and broader U.S. Government activities in Ethiopia aim to improve the standards, quality and efficiency of the livestock production and trade within the Horn of Africa and Gulf States. These activities are helping improve joint marketing and lobbying of Horn of Africa states, veterinary services, and access to regional markets; they are also helping countries harmonize regional and national livestock policies. Support for uniform regional application of disease surveillance and control programs, with a focus on animal health issues, will help stimulate additional investments in regional value chains from farm to market. Ethiopians participating across the value chain, from pastoralists and other livestock producers to market operators, transporters, feedlots, feed manufacturers, abattoirs, meat processors, retailers and consumers, will profit from the availability, sale, processing and consumption of healthy animals. Through Feed the Future, USAID is collaborating with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue to improve Ethiopia's sanitary and phytosanitary standards so the country can better participate in regional markets. Feed the Future is working in conjunction with the Government of Ethiopia to develop and launch traceability platforms, which will enable Ethiopians to participate more broadly in international markets. These efforts will help build consumer confidence and meet world standards for traceability in crops such as coffee and sesame. Feed the Future is piloting an Ethiopian Livestock Identification and Traceability System to assess its feasibility, cost effectiveness and viability.

Scaling Innovations. Feed the Future is scaling up the following technologies and practices to achieve greater impact overall on reducing poverty and undernutrition in Ethiopia:

- High-yielding chickpeas, maize and rust-resistant wheat
- Commercial farm service centers ([The Government of Ethiopia's Agriculture Transformation Agency is now scaling this input supply model across the country](#))
- Improved financial services
- Artificial insemination
- Milk cooling and storage

Results

Results by the Numbers

- Nearly **563,000 farmers and other producers** applied new technologies and practices last year with Feed the Future's

help.

- Producers applied improved technologies and management practices on more than **175,000 hectares** of land with Feed the Future's help last year.
- Feed the Future-supported farmers and producers earned nearly **\$35 million** from agricultural product sales last year.
- Feed the Future leveraged more than **\$19 million** in new private capital investment in food and agriculture in Ethiopia last year.
- U.S. Government programs reached more than **6 million children** under 5 across Ethiopia last year to improve their nutrition.

Impact

- **Poverty:** The prevalence of **poverty dropped by more than 12 percent** from 39.9 percent in 2013 to 35.0 percent in 2015 in Feed the Future target regions.
- ***Nutrition:** Feed the Future contributed to reductions in the number of underweight children by 17 percent, child stunting by 4 percent*, and child wasting by more than 30 percent from 2013 to 2015. The change in prevalence of stunting for Ethiopia was not statistically significant, meaning the margin of error of the survey sample was too great to **conclusively demonstrate change**.

For more details on impact data, [view the Feed the Future 2016 progress report](#).

Key Achievements

- Significant amendments to the Land Administration policy (promoted by the USAID supported LAND activity) have been accepted by the Ministry of Agriculture and will be forwarded to the Council of Ministers and House of Representatives for adoption.
- Over 100,000 maize farmers are now using hybrid maize varieties, promoted by a Feed the Future partnership with DuPont Pioneer, more than doubling their yields compared to the traditional varieties they were using previously.
- Ethiopia, supported by Feed the Future and private sector partners, **introduced** the first locally-fortified wheat flour in the country.
- USAID's Food for Peace environmental rehabilitation activities restored more than 22,700 hectares of land, which will improve households' resilience to shocks and stresses.
- Evidence from Feed the Future's resilience programming area in the Ethiopian lowlands shows that most households were able to maintain their food security status during moderate droughts in 2015. Households in lowland communities that were reached by comprehensive resilience programs were also better able to **maintain their food security** status in the face of the severe drought in 2016, whereas households in other communities experienced a 30 percent decline.

Source

The results shown reflect data from the USAID, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Peace Corps, U.S. African Development Foundation and the Department of Treasury (through the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program) reported into Feed the Future's central monitoring system for fiscal year 2016 (FY16). Impact data for poverty and stunting statistics are derived from the 2016 Feed the Future Ethiopia Interim Population-Based Survey Report. For more information on the indicators above, please view our [Feed the Future Indicator Handbook](#). All dollar amounts are listed in U.S. dollars.

Opportunities

Through Feed the Future, the United States is supporting Ethiopia's own priorities for agriculture-led economic growth by strengthening strategic crops, agricultural commodities and livestock value chains, promoting private sector engagement, increasing access to credit, targeting relevant research and development efforts for inputs such as seeds and fertilizers, and improving market access.

Ethiopia was one of the first member countries of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, under which the Government of Ethiopia and donors have endorsed a country-specific Cooperation Framework. The Ethiopian Government has committed to specific policy actions to improve the environment for private investment in agriculture. At the same time, donors have pledged to align funding behind the country's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program Investment Plan, and private companies have signed letters of intent for specific investments in Ethiopia's agriculture sector.

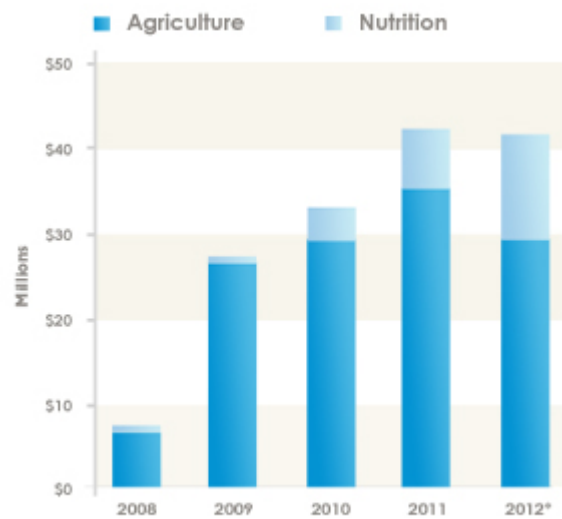
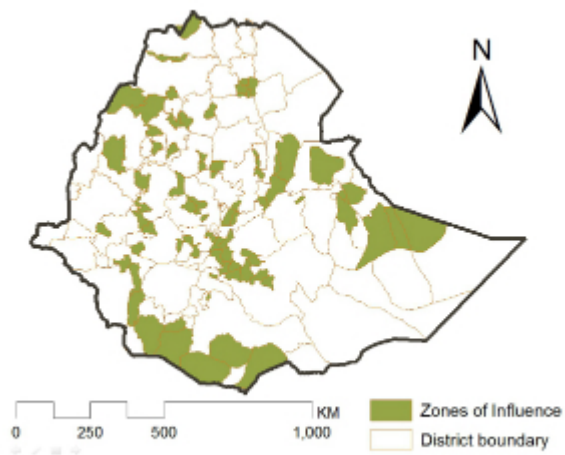
Activities

Feed the Future supports the following programs, partnerships and organizations in Ethiopia.

- African Alliance for Improved Food Processing (AAIFP)
- Agricultural Growth Project – Livestock Market Development (LMD)
- Agriculture Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy (AKLDP)
- Algae/Duckweed Innovation
- Asian Vegetable Research Development Center
- Borlaug Higher Education Agricultural Research and Development Program
- Camel Milk Value Chain Development in Somali Region
- Capacity to Improve Agriculture and Food Security (CIAFS)
- Development Credit Authority (DCA)
- Growth Through Nutrition
- Environmental Entrepreneurship Program
- Ethiopia Sustainable Agribusiness Incubator (ESAI)
- [Ethiopia Strategy Support Program](#) (ESSP)
- Ethiopia's Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA)
- Feed the Future Ethiopia Commercial Farm Services Project
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate-Resilient Chickpea](#)
- Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate-Resilient Sorghum
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Sorghum and Millet](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Soybean Value Chain Research](#)
- Global Agriculture and Food Security Program
- Feed the Future Systems Change Initiative
- Food for Peace Development Food Assistance Programs
- Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
- Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD)
- International Fertilizer Development Center
- Land Administration to Nurture Development (LAND)
- Linking Agriculture with Nutrition in Telalok
- Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services
- Pastoralist Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME)
- Peace Corps Global Food Security
- Private Sector Enabling Environment Program
- Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) partnership
- Smallholder Horticulture Project (SHH)
- Small-Scale Irrigation Project
- Strengthening Institutions for Peace and Development II (SIPED II)
- The John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program
- U.S. African Development Foundation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Food for Progress and McGovern-Dole Food for Education programs
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Geological Survey: Groundwater Exploration and Assessment Project
- University Linkages Program

Target Regions

Funding



*2012 is included in the President's budget request to Congress and is not yet approved