



Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia

# National Food and Nutrition Strategy

## Summary Booklet

**August 2021-2030**

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## **Purpose of the Food and Nutrition strategy Summary Booklet**

This summary booklet is illustrating the core concept of the Food and Nutrition Strategy Document to serve as a quick reference. The main Strategy document has 245 pages with detail action points and budget. This summary booklet indicates the exact page of each strategy objectives for facilitate further reading.

### **1. Background**

Ethiopia still faces a high burden of malnutrition due to environmental, social, political, economic, and cultural factors. Inadequate agricultural productivity, post-harvest losses, poor food safety and quality, poor caring and feeding practices, inadequate access to WASH products and practices and poor-quality health services, natural disasters such as drought and climate change, population growth, land degradation and lack of infrastructure are major drivers of the country's food and nutrition insecurity. The problem is further compounded by cultural beliefs, food taboos and traditional cooking and feeding practices, which tend to discourage women and children from consuming nutritious foods.

Nutrition security demands the utilisation of food to generate optimal nutritional status, wellbeing, productivity, and longevity. Nutrition security is achieved when the secure access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food is coupled with proper care and feeding practices, a sanitary environment and access to adequate health services, thereby ensuring a healthy life for all household members. Hence, food security alone is insufficient to ensure nutrition security. Thus, access to clean water, a hygienic environment, and adequate health

care services are central components of attaining nutrition security. Unhygienic environments, coupled with poor access to health services, impose a heavy disease burden that makes it difficult for individuals to properly utilize and absorb the nutrients they consume, which in turn further increases their exposure to infectious disease.

## Food and Nutrition Strategy of Ethiopia

The national Food and Nutrition Policy (FNP), endorsed in November 2018, has comprehensively addressed food security, food safety, food quality and post-harvest management, as well as other systemic issues, including multi-sectoral approaches and institutional arrangements for food and nutrition governance. The overarching policy directions were first broken down into strategic objectives, strategic directions, and strategic initiatives. This is to help streamline policy directions and strategies to be pursued.

Therefore, the strategy serves as a binding national document for the implementing sectors, and defines their roles, strategic actions, and key performance indicators. The sectors incorporate their specific roles in the development of nutrition-specific and sensitive implementation programmes, guidelines, protocols, and operational plans

### Values and principles:

This strategy was designed and implemented with centred the following values:

- Community-centred: giving priority to equal participation and benefits.

- Multi sectoral coordination: Ensuring participation of all stakeholders in the implementation of the strategy in a coordinated manner.
- Accountability: Being committed to, and be responsible for actions taken and communicate the results in a transparent manner.
- Equity: Narrowing vulnerability and inequalities with regard, gender, disability, age, geography, social status and living styles.
- Responsiveness: Ensuring timely and positive responses for food and nutrition demands of the community and build resilience capacity for self-sufficiency, food shortage and vulnerability.

#### Implementation Guiding principles:

- That it accommodates life cycle approach with special emphasis to the first 1000 days nutrition.
- That access to adequate, safe, high quality and nutritious food is a human right and ensures the right to informed choice of food based on trustworthy data/information and policy framework.
- That food and nutrition issues are crosscutting in nature and that effective multi-sectoral coordination is encouraged.
- That the sustainable food value chain is encouraged and dietary practices of the community are improved through the promotion of indigenous knowledge on food and dietary practices and sharing of relevant international experiences.
- That food sovereignty is ensured, and shared responsibility among public-private partnerships is promoted along the food value chain.

- That food is recognized as a national strategic resource, promotes innovation and application of new, profitable and environmental-friendly technologies for (value addition) preparation, processing and familiarization of new foods and food products.

## **2. Organization of the strategy**

This national food and nutrition strategy was designed to serve as a binding national document for the food and nutrition implementing sectors, and defines their roles, strategic actions, and key performance indicators. The sectors expected to incorporate their specific roles in the development of nutrition-specific and sensitive implementation programmes, guidelines, protocols, and operational plans.

As food and nutrition issues are multi-dimensional and cross-sectoral in nature, it demands multi-sectoral food and nutrition coordination and hence the strategy was basically crafted with a sense of multi-sectorial approaches as follows:

# Conceptual Framework for FNS





### **3. Rationale of the food and nutrition strategy**

Ethiopia faces a high malnutrition rate due to environmental, social, political, economic, and cultural factors. Inadequate productivity, post-harvest losses, poor food safety and quality, poor caring and feeding practices, inadequate access to WASH products and practices and poor-quality health services are major drivers of food and nutrition insecurity. The problem is further compounded by cultural beliefs, food taboos and traditional cooking and feeding practices, which tend to discourage women and children from consuming nutritious foods. There have also been frequent instances of drought and food insecurity, demanding an emergency response at scale. As a result, over 51 per cent of deaths among children can be attributed to malnutrition. Over 37 per cent of children below five years of age are stunted, which compromises potential cognitive development and future productivity. The problem of micronutrient deficiency is still rampant. Obesity/Overweight and diet related NCDs are mounting, which means the country is grappling with a triple burden of malnutrition.

The food and nutrition strategy is therefore formulated on the basis of the FNP, with the view to comprehensively address poverty eradication and achieve the country's vision of reaching global nutrition commitments by 2025, as well as create a conducive track for achieving national and SDG targets by 2030.

### **4. Strategic objectives of the food and nutrition strategy**

The food and nutrition strategy is systematically designed to be aligned with the strategic directions from the FNP by setting 13 strategic objectives, where each is linked to FNP directions. Each

strategic direction is further designed to include initiatives, actions and key performance indicator, along with lead and collaborating sectors. Accordingly, the first three strategic objectives are dedicated to ensuring the availability and accessibility of food in a sustainable way, and ensuring the proper utilization of diversified, safe, quality and nutritious food, including the improvement of post-harvest management of agricultural food products. The next four strategic objectives focus on ensuring optimal nutritional status by using the lifestyle approach, including effective food and nutrition emergency response systems and WASH. The remaining strategic objectives are dedicated to supporting effective food and nutrition governance, food and nutrition literacy, sustainable financing, institutional capacity, evidence generation and an effective nutrition communication system.

#### **4.1.Strategic objective 1:**

**Sustainably improve the availability, accessibility and utilization of adequate, diversified, safe and nutritious foods for all citizens at all times.**

By improving the availability, accessibility and utilization of food, this objective contributes to universal, physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, and an active and healthy life for all citizens. The strategic objective shall be realized through the implementation of the following directions, initiatives and actions. The detailed actions are indicated from page 25 -41in the main document.

**Strategic direction 1.1: Improve the availability of adequate, diversified, safe and nutritious foods for all citizens at all times.**

**Strategic initiative 1.1.1:**

Enhance nutrient-rich food crops production and productivity by using improved agricultural technologies and practices.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.2:**

Enhance animal production and productivity.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.3:**

Enhance agro-ecology-based farming systems and sustainable natural resource management.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.4:**

Promote commercial farming practices including nutrient-dense agricultural production.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.5:**

Strengthen linkages between food value chain actors.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.7:**

Promote utilization of underutilized and indigenous foods.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.8:**

Advocate for and implement land use policies.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.9:**

Empower women to access productive resources and labor-saving technologies

**Strategic initiative 1.1.10:**

Strengthen the capacity of the agriculture sector to mainstream nutrition.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.12:**

Strengthen agricultural research and support the adoption of technologies to increase the availability of safe and nutritious food

**Strategic initiative 1.1.13:**

Strengthen national food and feed reserve capacity.

**Strategic initiative 1.1.14:**

Strengthen agricultural inputs and service provision systems.

**Strategic direction 1.2: Improve the accessibility of adequate, diversified, safe and nutritious food for all citizens.**

**Strategic initiative 1.2.1:**

Increase the consumption of nutritious food.

**Strategic initiative 1.2.2:**

Strengthen income-generating activities.

**Strategic initiative 1.2.3:**

Support women's empowerment in the social, economic and decision-making sphere.

**Strategic initiative 1.2.4:**

Strengthen trade mechanisms alongside the food system.

**Strategic direction 1.3: Improve the sustainability of adequate, diversified, safe and nutritious foods for all citizens at all times**

**Strategic initiative 1.3.1:**

Update/develop environmental protection policies and strategies

**Strategic initiative 1.3.2:**

Develop and promote environmentally friendly agricultural technologies.

**Strategic initiative 1.3.3:**

Improve coping mechanisms for food price instability

**Strategic initiative 1.3.4:**

Adopt and promote advanced agricultural engineering technologies.

**Strategic initiative 1.3.5:**

Strengthen systems to conserve, protect and enhance natural resources

**Strategic initiative 1.3.6:**

Strengthen connections between agricultural risk management and resilience for smallholder farmers.

**Strategic initiative 1.3.7:**

Integrate indigenous agro-ecological knowledge with modern agricultural practices.

## 4.2. Strategic objective 2:

### Strengthening and applying an integrated food safety and quality system

This objective aims to address the quality and safety of agricultural inputs, agricultural products, and processed food products alongside the food chain. It is divided into six strategic directions, strategic initiatives and actions. The initiatives are paired with corresponding activities to be implemented by the lead and collaborating sectors. Key performance indicators for the evaluation of the responsible sectors' performance are also listed. The detailed activities are indicated in the main document from page 43-67.

#### Strategic direction 2.1: Establish a system for ensuring the safety and quality of primary agricultural food products.

##### **Strategic initiative 2.1.1:**

Strengthen pre-harvest food quality and safety management systems.

##### **Strategic initiative 2.1.2:**

Strengthen post-harvest food safety and quality assurance system

##### **Strategic initiative 2.1.3:**

Establish and implement food safety regulations and control systems

##### **Strategic initiative 2.1.4:**

Improve food safety research capacity.

## Strategic direction 2.2: Establish a system for ensuring the safety and quality of processed foods.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.1:**

Ensure the safety and quality of raw materials used for semi-processed and processed foods.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.2:**

Strengthen food safety and quality assurance systems for processed foods.

**Strategic direction 2.2.3:** Ensure the safety and quality of foods prepared and served to the community by hotels, restaurants, street vendors and other catering establishments.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.4:**

Strengthen food regulatory approaches to ensure the safety and quality of prepared, semi-processed and processed foods.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.5:**

Strengthen post-marketing surveillance.

**Strategic initiative 2.2.6:** Ensure food safety and quality in food processing enterprises.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.7:**

Establish a system for ensuring the safety and quality of imported and exported agricultural produce and food items.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.8:**

Strengthen waste management systems at food preparation establishments.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.9:**

Strengthen the traceability of food products.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.10:**

Promote routine and periodic health assessments for food handling individuals

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.11:**

Improve food handlers' knowledge and skills on food safety and quality.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.12:**

Strengthen quality assurance on food safety handling at food facilities.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.13:**

Establish and implement promotion and advocacy strategies for food safety and quality literacy.

### **Strategic initiative 2.2.14:**

Promote the appropriate use of food grade cleaning materials, disinfectants and ingredients, including water.

**Strategic direction 2.4: Prevent and mitigate food adulteration, misbranding, counterfeiting and sub-standardization.**

**Strategic initiative 2.4.1:** Raise awareness on the health risks of food adulteration, and take mitigating measures to prevent food adulteration, misbranding, counterfeiting and sub-standardization.

**Strategic initiative 2.4.2:** Establish a rapid alert system for food adulteration, misbranding,

counterfeiting and sub-standardization.

**Strategic initiative 2.4.3:** Strengthen quality control systems for the fast identification of and response to food adulteration, misbranding, counterfeiting and sub-standardization practices.

**Strategic direction 2.5: Ensure food safety during emergencies.**

**Strategic initiative 2.5.1:** Strengthen food safety systems for emergency situations.

**Strategic direction 2.6: Establish a system for ensuring the availability, safety and quality control of water supplies.**

**Strategic initiative 2.6.1:** Strengthen the availability, safety and quality control of water supplies.

**Strategic initiative 2.6.2:** Promote indigenous water purification practices.

**Strategic initiative 2.6.3:** Strengthen the availability and accessibility of safe and quality public water supply

**Strategic initiative 2.6.4:** Ensure the safety and quality of municipal water.

**Strategic direction 2.7: Ensure the biosafety and food defenses system.**

**Strategic initiative 2.7.1:**

Establish a food defenses system.

**Strategic direction 2.8: Capacity building to ensure food safety and quality**

**Strategic initiative 2.8.1:**

Building capacity to ensure the safety and quality of raw materials and semi-processed and processed foods

**Strategic initiative 2.8.2:**

Improve the capacity of the private sector and cooperatives working on food handling and marketing along the food value chain.

**Strategic direction 2.9: Strengthen the development and enforcement of legal frameworks to ensure the safety and quality of food products.**

**Strategic initiative 2.9.1:**

Strengthen legal framework development and enforcement to control food adulteration, misbranding, counterfeiting and sub-standardization.

**Strategic direction 2.10: Strengthen food-borne illness surveillance.**

**Strategic initiative 2.10.1:**

Establish a system for food-borne illness surveillance.



### 4.3. Strategic objective 3:

Improve post-harvest management throughout the food value chain.

This strategic objective is critical for improving food safety and preventing quantitative and qualitative food losses via the establishment of modern post-harvest management systems. These demand appropriate technology, skills, infrastructure, and sufficient resources along the food value chain. Strategic directions and initiatives meant to improve the post-harvest management system along the food value chain together with their corresponding key performance indicators. The detailed activities are indicated in the main strategy document from page 68-79.

#### Strategic direction 3.1: Strengthening post-harvest management research and development

##### Strategic initiative 3.1.1:

Improve post-harvest management research

##### Strategic initiative 3.1.2:

Enhance post-harvest education system at all levels

#### Strategic direction 3.2: Strengthen post-harvest management information and extension systems.

##### Strategic initiative 3.2.1:

Establish a central post-harvest management information system.

##### Strategic initiative 3.2.2:

Enhance the integration of post-harvest management services into the extension system.

### Strategic direction 3.3: Ensure access to post-harvest management infrastructure

#### **Strategic initiative 3.3.1:**

Improve storage and packaging facilities

#### **Strategic initiative 3.3.2:**

Improve agri-food transportation facilities.

#### **Strategic initiative 3.3.3:**

Improve the infrastructure for animal-based food products.

#### **Strategic initiative 3.3.4:**

Improve market infrastructure and marketing systems for agri-food products.

#### **Strategic initiative 3.3.5:**

Increase private sector investment in agro-food processing.

## 4.4. Strategic Objective 4:

Improve nutritional status throughout the life cycle through the provision of nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions.

This strategic objective targets the improvement of people's nutritional status throughout the life cycle. It focuses on the first 1000 days of life and beyond, from pregnancy and lactation, through infancy, childhood, and adolescence. This period is considered to be a window of opportunity for improving nutritional and health outcomes and breaking the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition. The section also addresses the nutritional needs of adults and the elderly, as well as those of people in special situations. As nutritional challenges stem from multiple causes, the strategic objective has identified nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions calling for multi-sectoral collaboration. Directions, initiatives, actions and their corresponding key performance indicators are included in main strategy document from page 80 – 116.

## Strategic direction 4.1: Improve the nutritional status of women of reproductive age and pregnant and lactating women

### **Strategic initiative 4.1.1:**

Improve the quality and coverage of nutrition services for women of reproductive age and pregnant women.

### **Strategic initiative 4.1.2:**

Improve the quality and coverage of nutrition services for lactating mothers

### **Strategic initiative 4.1.3:**

Improve the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women under PSNP.

## Strategic direction 4.2: Improve the nutritional status of 0-5 months (180 days) old children.

**Strategic initiative 4.2.1:** Ensure essential newborn nutrition and health services.

**Strategic initiative 4.2.2:** Ensure and support optimal breastfeeding practices and monitor the growth of infants 0-5 months of age (180 days) at the community and facility levels via appropriate individual and group counselling.

**Strategic initiative 4.2.3:** Ensure optimal breastfeeding practices for infants aged 0-5 months (180 days) at the community and facility levels

**Strategic initiative 4.2.4:** Ensure that health facilities (public and private) offering maternity services establish and implement baby-friendly health facility initiatives (BFHI) and become certified according to BFHI requirements.

**Strategic initiative 4.2.5:** Management of acute malnutrition among infants under 0-5 months (180 days) of age

### Strategic direction 4.3: Improve the nutritional status of 6-23 months old children.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.1:**

Ensure the timely initiation of age-appropriate, optimal, complementary feeding.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.2:**

Promote and ensure monthly growth monitoring and counselling for all mothers with children aged 6-23 months.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.3:**

Develop and enforce minimum standards on nutritional services for young children in special situations (refugee camps, internally displaced persons, disabled children, street children and orphans).

**Strategic initiative 4.3.4:** Prevent micronutrient deficiencies in 6-23 months old children.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.5:**

Strengthen the prevention and management of acute malnutrition in children 6-23 months of age.

**Strategic initiative 4.3.6:** Ensure appropriate feeding and dietary practices, paired with growth monitoring and promotion for children aged 24-59 months.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.7:**

Prevent and control micronutrient deficiencies among children 24-59 months old.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.8:**

Support the timely detection and management of acute malnutrition among children 24-59 months old.

#### **Strategic initiative 4.3.9:**

Integrate and ensure Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) and stimulation through existing community and facility-based nutrition programmes.

### Strategic direction 4.4: Develop the local production of ready-to use therapeutic and supplementary food

#### **Strategic initiative 4.4.1:**

Strengthen the local production of enriched complementary,

supplementary and therapeutic foods.

## Strategic direction 4.5: Improve the nutritional status of children 6-10 years of age.

### Strategic initiative 4.5.1:

Develop a platform for the promotion of good nutrition behaviours and improve the nutritional status of children 6-10 years of age.

### Strategic initiative 4.5.2:

Prevent and mitigate macro and micronutrient deficiencies for children 6-10 years of age.

## Strategic direction 4.6: Improve the nutritional status of adolescents 10-19 years of age.

### Strategic initiative 4.6.1:

Provide nutritional assessments and counselling services for adolescents at all contact points.

### Strategic initiative 4.6.2:

Promote good nutrition behaviour and prevent harmful traditional practices.

### Strategic initiative 4.6.3:

Prevent and mitigate macro and micronutrient deficiencies in adolescents.

### Outcome:

Strategic initiative 4.6.4: Ensure access to reproductive health information and services for boys and girls.

### Strategic initiative 4.6.5:

Develop and enforce minimum standards on nutritional and health services for adolescents in special situations, including but not limited to refugees and internally displaced persons, disabled adolescents, homeless adolescents, orphans, neglected adolescents and adolescents in food insecure areas and PSNP woredas.

### Strategic initiative 4.6.6:

Support adolescents' empowerment

### Strategic Initiative 4.6.7:

Promote the implementation of school health and nutrition programmes to improve the nutritional status of school

**Strategic direction 4.7: Improve the nutritional status of adults (20-49 years old).**

**Strategic initiative 4.7.1:** Provide comprehensive and quality health, food and nutrition services for adults (20-49 years old).

**Strategic initiative 4.7.2:** Provide behaviour change communication

to improve the nutritional status of adults.

**Strategic initiative 4.7.3:** Support women's empowerment.

**Strategic direction 4.8: Improve the nutritional status of people in special situations such as old age, disabilities, refugee camps and orphanages.**

**Strategic initiative 4.8.1:** Improve the nutritional status of elders and the disabled.

**Strategic initiative 4.8.2:** Initiatives to improve the nutritional status of internally displaced persons/refugees

**Strategic initiative 4.8.3:** Initiatives to improve the nutritional status of orphans/vulnerable children (OVC)

**Strategic direction 4.9. Combat micronutrient deficiency throughout the life cycle through food fortification**

**Strategic initiative 4.9.1:** Strengthen the National Food Fortification Programme Management and Coordination

**Strategic initiative 4.9.3** Build the capacity of the public and private sector on food fortification.

**Strategic Initiative 4.9.4.** Food fortification programme communication

## 4.5. Strategic Objective 5:

**Improve the nutritional status of people with communicable, non-communicable and lifestyle-related diseases.**

Nutrition is important for a healthy lifestyle and the prevention and management of chronic communicable and non-communicable diseases. Malnutrition is a critical, yet underestimated factor in susceptibility to infection, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Infection drains the affected individual of energy, leads to reduced productivity at the community level and perpetuates an alarming cycle of infection, disease and poverty. It is therefore essential to address the nutritional requirements of individuals with infections. Moreover, because of changes in dietary and lifestyle patterns, NCDs like obesity, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, stroke and some types of cancer are becoming increasingly significant causes of disability and premature death in both developing and developed countries, placing an additional burden on already overtaxed national health budgets. Timely interventions can help prevent these diseases, or reduce their severity and consequences. All sectors working on food and nutrition topics are responsible for implementing nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions for those dealing with communicable, non-communicable and lifestyle-related diseases. Strategic directions, initiatives, actions, and key performance indicators, as well as the lead and collaborating sectors, are described in detail in the main strategy document from page 117 -126.

## Strategic directions 5.1: Improve the nutritional status of people with HIV/TB or other infectious diseases.

### **Strategic initiative 5.1.1:**

Strengthen the capacity of facilities and health professionals to deliver quality, standard nutrition services to people living with infectious diseases (HIV, TB, newborn and childhood infections, or other infections).

**Strategic initiative 5.1.2:** Ensure the integrated delivery of food and nutrition services to people with HIV, TB or other infectious diseases.

**Strategic initiative 5.1.3:** Ensure the availability of nutrition-related products and anthropometric nutrition screening equipment for HIV/TB and other infectious diseases in a sustainable manner.

**Strategic initiatives 5.1.4:** Ensure the social safety net programme addresses HIV/TB and other infectious diseases for chronically ill patients.

## Strategic directions 5.2: Improve the nutritional status of people with non-communicable and lifestyle-related diseases.

### **Strategic initiative 5.2.1:**

Strengthen national food and nutrition-related NCD responses through mainstreaming nutrition in health policies, strategies, programmes, guidelines and training materials.

**Strategic initiative 5.2.2:** Raise public awareness on healthy dietary behaviours and physical activities.

### **Strategic initiative 5.2.3:**

Strengthen the provision of nutrition assessment and counselling services at the

community and health facility level.

**Strategic initiative 5.2.4:** Ensure the establishment of external environments that enhance physical activity in schools, at workplaces and in communities.

### **Strategic initiative 5.2.5:**

Strengthen the diagnostic, clinical and dietary management capabilities of the country's health system to prevent and treat diet-related chronic and non-communicable lifestyle-related diseases.



**Strategic initiative 5.2.6:**

Formulate and enforce regulations that address healthy lifestyles to prevent NCDs.

**Strategic initiative 5.2.7:**

Ensure the social safety net programme (social protection) addresses the needs of patients with NCDs.

**Strategic direction 5.3: Coordination of public and private sector engagement in the prevention and management of diet-related CDs and NCDs**

**Strategic initiative 5.3.1:** Ensure the coordination of facility- and community-based nutrition interventions for HIV/TB and other infectious diseases and NCDs.

**Strategic initiative 5.3.2:**

Strengthen the provision of nutrition services to patients with communicable and NCDs through the private sector

**Strategic initiative 5.3.3:**

Establish and strengthen evidence generation and its utilization for managing lifestyle-related, communicable and non-communicable diseases.

**4.6. Strategic objective 6:**

Strengthen the national capacity to manage natural and man-made food and nutrition emergencies in a timely and appropriate manner including for internally displaced persons and refugees.

This strategic objective will focus on strengthening multi-sector response approaches in three key strategic areas, which require coordinated interventions across individual sectors. These include:

Strengthening emergency preparedness to reduce risk and vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition in the context of disasters, thus preventing crises from developing into emergencies,

Strengthening timely and appropriate emergency responses that ensure all affected persons receive assistance to protect their food security and nutritional status and to avoid loss of lives and livelihoods, and strengthening emergency recovery, resilience building and long-term capacity development in order to improve post-emergency recovery and reduce the vulnerability of populations to food and nutrition insecurity.

The strategic directions, initiatives, actions, and key performance indicators are enumerated in detail from page 127 – 140 in the main strategy document.

**Strategic direction 6.1: Strengthening food and nutrition emergency preparedness**

**Strategic initiative 6.1.1:** Strengthen warning system(s) for the early detection of potential food and nutrition emergencies and real-time monitoring.

**Strategic initiative 6.1.2:** Strengthen advocacy and social mobilization for food and nutrition emergencies.

**Strategic direction 6.2: Strengthening timely and appropriate emergency response for food and nutrition**

**Strategic initiative 6.2.1:** Ensure access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene during emergencies.

**Strategic initiative 6.2.2:** Strengthen food and nutrition response during emergencies, including for refugees and most vulnerable groups.

### Strategic direction 6.3: Integrate the delivery of nutrition services during emergencies.

**Strategic initiative 6.3.1:** Ensure the delivery of nutrition services during emergency response.

**Strategic initiative 6.3.2:** Effectively target vulnerable populations during emergency response.

**Strategic initiative 6.3.3:** Strengthen micronutrient supplementation during emergencies.

**Strategic initiative 6.3.4:** Ensure the quality and safety of emergency foods.

**Strategic initiative 6.3.5:** Enhance school enrolment, retention and completion rates in emergency-affected areas

**Strategic initiative 6.3.6:** Ensure the availability of animal feed, water and disease prevention services in crisis-prone areas.

### Strategic direction 6.4: Strengthen emergency recovery, resilience building, and long-term development capacity for food and nutrition

**Strategic initiative 6.4.1:** Develop a rehabilitation system for food and nutrition emergencies that enables the affected communities to return to normal life after emergencies.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.2:** Enhance livelihood opportunities for communities affected by emergencies, as part of social protection schemes.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.3:** Support continuous peace-building initiatives to enhance national security.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.4:** Support livelihood recovery programmes by addressing primary production

to improve food availability and access.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.5:** Establish and strengthen soil conservation in crisis prone areas.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.6:** Create learning opportunities for displaced school-age children.

**Strategic initiative 6.4.7:** Assess the impact of emergencies on the food and nutrition situation of affected communities

**Strategic initiative 6.4.8:** Ensure adequate allocation of budget for sustainable implementation of food and nutrition security program.

## 4.7. Strategic objective 7:

Improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for individuals, households and institutions.

This section describes strategic directions, initiatives, activities and indicators for WASH. Lead organizations and collaborators are also listed for each strategic initiative and its corresponding activities. The WASH Programme is a multi-sector endeavour of MoWIE, MoH, MoE and MoF. These organizations are listed as lead actors most initiatives and activities (Table 7).

### Strategic direction 7.1: Improve nutrition through the provision of adequate WASH services.

#### **Strategic initiative 7.1.1.**

Proportion of population with access to pure water supply as per GTP-2 standards

#### **Strategic initiative 7.1.2:**

Promote the adoption of good hygiene behaviour and sanitation practices through awareness raising, eliminating open defecation practices, and enhancing environmental sanitation to control the transmission of WASH-related, communicable diseases

#### **Strategic initiative 7.1.3:**

Ensure the use of sustainable and cost-effective technologies to expand water supply coverage in rural, urban, arid and drought prone areas.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.4:** Ensure access to improved sanitation technology options and services.

#### **Strategic initiative 7.1.5:**

Strengthen the implementation of institutional WASH activities in schools and health institutions with full WASH package facilities (drinking water, latrines, MHM facilities, urinals, hand washing and solid waste disposal facilities).

#### **Strategic initiative 7.1.6:**

Adopt the use of standard guidelines, design and construction manuals and procedures for the construction of improved water sources and sanitation facilities.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.7:**

Strengthen the role of the public sector in the provision of water supply and sanitation services (regulatory, supportive and facilitative aspects).

**Strategic initiative 7.1.8:**

Strengthen the role of the private sector in the provision of water supply and sanitation services.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.9:**

Strengthen the role of the community in the planning, implementation, management, operation and maintenance of WASH schemes and services for a sustained service delivery.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.10:**

Ensure the active participation of women in WASH programme implementation and decision-making

**Strategic initiative 7.1.11:**

Ensure the implementation of a comprehensive water safety plan (catchment, protection, conservation and management practices), regular water quality monitoring, surveillance and treatment to ensure safe water provision .

**Strategic initiative 7.1.12:**

Ensure the provision of safe water from point of source to consumption.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.13:**

Strengthen systems and efforts to enforce standards and guidelines for maintaining water quality for all recognized water uses; e.g.domestic, livestock, industrial, others, etc.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.14:**

Promote the use of household water treatment technologies and safe storage for safer consumption and better health.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.15:**

Protect water bodies from pollution and contamination.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.16:**

Ensure the adoption of inclusive designs for the construction of WASH facilities to address the needs of women, children and differently-abled people.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.17:**

Strengthen the governance structure and sectoral coordination of WASH at all levels.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.18:**

Enhance networking, partnership and learning platforms for WASH.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.19:**

Ensure appropriate funding for the sector by increasing government budget allocation, and mobilizing funds by engaging

development partners, CSOs/ NGOs, the private sector and communities

**Strategic initiative 7.1.20:**

Develop and implement a comprehensive and cascaded capacity building plan to strengthen the technical capacities of professionals in the sector.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.21:**

Ensure household access to labour-saving technologies and safe drinking water.

**Strategic initiative 7.1.22:**

Strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems of WASH services.

**Strategic direction 7.2: Establish a system for ensuring the availability, safety and quality control of water supplies.**

**Strategic initiative 7.2.1:**

Strengthen the availability and accessibility of safe, public water supply.

**Strategic initiative 7.2.3:**

Ensure the safety and quality of potable water supplies for emergency situations.

**Strategic initiative 7.2.2:**

Promote indigenous water purification knowledge and practices.

**4.8. Strategic Objective 8:**

Improve the nutrition literacy of individuals, families and communities along the food value chain to make informed decisions on the uptake of diversified, safe, adequate and nutritious food.

Strategic objective eight aims to improve the nutrition literacy of individuals, households, and communities, thereby improving the uptake of diversified, nutrient-rich and nutrient-dense food.

The objective mainly focuses on improving nutrition knowledge, and practices among individuals, households and communities to overcome the burden of different forms of malnutrition. This strategic objective has three strategic directions, namely nutrition literacy at the individual level, nutrition literacy at the household level, and nutrition literacy at the community level. Under each strategic direction, there are strategic initiatives, activities and indicators will be implemented through multi-sectoral collaborations. The detail activities are illustrated in the main document page from 154 – 166.

**Strategic direction 8.1: Improve the nutrition literacy of the community through strengthening the policy environment.**

**Strategic initiative 8.1.1:** Explore and build on societal values and practices that impact nutrition

**Strategic initiative 8.1.2:** Enhance capacity at all levels to deliver food and nutrition communication activities.

**Strategic initiative 8.1.3:** Develop mechanisms to train policy and decision-makers on food and nutrition issues.

**Strategic direction 8.2: Improve nutrition literacy through strengthening institutional capacity.**

**Strategic initiative 8.2.1:** Ensure institutional capacity for the promotion of food and nutrition issues at all levels.

**Strategic initiative 8.2.2:** Ensure institutional awareness of food quality and safety issues along the value chain.

**Strategic initiative 8.2.3:** Enhance nutrition literacy through mainstreaming food and nutrition topics into different sectors' developmental plans.

**Strategic direction 8.3: Improve nutrition literacy at the community level.**

**Strategic initiative 8.3.1:**  
Improve nutrition literacy through

existing community networks and platforms.

**Strategic direction 8.4: Improve the nutrition literacy of individuals and families.**

**Strategic initiative 8.4.1:**  
Increase individual food and nutrition awareness to enhance optimal food and nutritional practices.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.2:**  
Improve individuals' and households' knowledge and practices on clean and safe water.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.3:**  
Improve households' knowledge and practices on food preparation, hygiene and safety.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.4:**  
Improve households' and communities' awareness and practices regarding food safety, healthy lifestyles and nutritious diets. using various channels.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.5:**  
Improve households' knowledge and practices regarding the production and consumption of nutrient-dense and diversified foods throughout the year.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.6:**  
Promote and support households' consumption of locally processed, imported and fortified food products that are safe and of good quality.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.7:**  
Promote the delivery of nutrition education to students and their parents through the incorporation of nutrition topics into the education curriculum.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.8:**  
Improve households' knowledge and practices in disaster risk early identification and response

**Strategic initiative 8.4.9:**  
Promote the effective delivery of nutrition messages to communities and households via social gatherings and building the capacity of frontline workers.

**Strategic initiative 8.4.10:**  
Integrate nutrition topics into the formal educational curriculum and the adult education curriculum.



## 4.9. Strategic objective 9:

Create a functional governance body to strengthen coordination and integration between FNP-implementing sectors.

Functional governance is essential to strengthen the coordination and alignment of FNP-implementing sectors. This strategic objective shall be realized through the implementation of the following strategic directions, initiatives, actions and key performance indicators. The detail activities in the main document page from 167 – 170. (Table 9).

### Strategic direction 9.1: Ensure strong food and nutrition governance structures from the federal to the kebele level.

#### Strategic initiative 9.1.1:

Establish a functional food and nutrition council and agency that oversees the implementation of the strategy.

**Strategic initiative 9.1.2:** Create an institutional arrangement in different implementing sectors to ensure the accountability and effective implementation of FNP/ FNS.

**Strategic initiative 9.1.3:** Ensure sustained technical support for FNP implementation.

**Strategic initiative 9.1.4:** Create a favorable structure for the deployment of food and nutrition professionals in all food and nutrition strategy implementing sectors.

## 4.10. Strategic Objective 10:

Strategies to ensure sustainable and adequate financing through all possible financing sources are essential to translate policy into action.

This strategic objective will be realised through the implementation of the following strategic directions, initiatives, actions. The detail activities are illustrated in the main document from page 171 – 174.

**Strategic direction 10.1: Enhance the contribution of the government, private sector, communities and partners in financing the implementation of the food and nutrition strategy.**

**Strategic initiative 10.1.1:**

Ensure that government sectors finance the implementation of food and nutrition strategy.

**Strategic initiative 10.1.2:**

Enhance the contribution of the private sector in financing the implementation of food and nutrition strategy.

**Strategic initiative 10.1.3:**

Enhance the contribution of development partners in financing food and nutrition programmes based on the FNS

**Strategic initiative 10.1.4:**

Ensure sustainable domestic financing from local financial institutions for food and nutrition strategy implementation.

**4.11. Strategic objective 11:**

**Build the institutional capacities of FNP-implementing sectors by investing in human resources, research and technological development.**

Investing in human resources, research and technological development at all levels is a necessary precondition to successfully implement the food and nutrition strategy. This strategic objective aims to build the institutional capacity of FNP-implementing sectors, which requires the implementation of the following strategic directions, initiatives, action and key performance indicators. The detail activities are indicated in the main document page from 175 – 181.

**Strategic direction 11.1: Strengthen food and nutrition related research, as well as training, innovation, technology and service capacities**

**Strategic initiative 11.1.1:**

Strengthen food and nutrition related training capacity and training provision at all levels

**Strategic initiative 11.1.2:**

Strengthen food and nutrition-related service provision capacities in food and nutrition strategy implementing sectors.

**Strategic initiative 11.1.3:**

Strengthen food and nutrition-related research capacities at all levels.

**Strategic initiative 11.1.4:**

Enhance the development and use of innovations and technologies in food and nutrition services.

**Strategic direction 11.2: Institutional capacities of FNP-implementing sectors improved**

**Strategic initiative 11.2.1:** Build the institutional capacities of FNP-implementing sectors with human resources.

**Strategic initiative 11.2.2:**

Conduct research to build the

institutional capacities of FNP-implementing sectors

**Strategic initiative 11.2.3:** Build the institutional capacities of FNP-implementing sectors through technological development.

**4.12. Strategic objective 12:**

Enhance evidence-informed decision-making, learning and accountability.

This strategic objective shall be realized through the implementation of the following strategic directions, initiatives, actions and key performance indicators. The detail activities are indicated in the main document page from 182 -185.

## Strategic direction 12.1: Ensure evidence-based implementation of the FNP and FNS

### Strategic initiative 12.1.1:

Ensure the continuous generation of quality food and nutrition data and its use in decision-making

### Strategic initiative 12.1.2:

Ensure the generation and dissemination of food and nutrition research findings

to enhance evidence-based decision-making.

### Strategic initiative 12.1.3:

Ensure the development of a multi-sectoral monitoring and evaluation system for FNP/FNS implementation.

## Strategic direction 12.2: Ensure food and nutrition evidence is further used for learning.

### Strategic initiative 12.2.1:

Create a mechanism to translate food and nutrition evidence into better programme implementation.

### Strategic initiative 12.2.2:

Ensure that evidence-based learning is in place.

## 4.13. Strategic objective 13:

Ensure effective food and nutrition communication.

This strategic objective shall be realized through the implementation of the following strategic directions and initiatives, the detail actions and key performance indicators are indicated in the main document page from 186 – 191.

**Strategic direction 13.1: Develop a system to optimally use existing and new communication approaches /channels for food and nutrition communication.**

**Strategic initiative 13.1.1:**

Develop/strengthen an effective food and nutrition communication system.

**Strategic direction 13.2: Use culturally appropriate, context specific, social and behaviour change communication channels to engage nutrition influencers, decision makers, families and communities**

**Strategic initiative 13.2.1:**

Create an environment to engage influencers and decision makers in the nutrition agenda

**Strategic initiative 13.2.2:**

Strengthen and utilize culturally appropriate channels for food and nutrition communication to create model families and communities.

**Strategic initiative 13.2.3:**

Strengthen the use of social and behaviour change communications (SBCC) to promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture

**Strategic initiative 13.2.4:**

Conduct social and behaviour change communications on maternal nutrition at the facility, community and household levels.

**Strategic initiative 13.2.5:**

Enhance the use of multiple media outlets to improve food and nutrition literacy.

## 5. Institutional frameworks and coordination mechanisms for the Ethiopian Food and Nutrition Strategy

As food and nutrition issues are multi-dimensional and cross-sectoral in nature, they require a multi-sectoral food and nutrition coordination body to facilitate interactions and collaboration between sectors, and guide the implementation of the FNP and FNS. Therefore, the National Food and Nutrition Council (NFNC), which is composed of all sectoral ministers, regional presidents and city mayors, and led by the prime minister, will oversee the implementation of the FNP/S. The council will convene biannually, or as frequently as deemed necessary, to give directives and make major decisions related to food and nutrition issues. The Council will also have a standalone secretariat (the Food and Nutrition Coordination Agency) with its own organizational structure to serve as a hub for routine coordination activities. The secretariat coordinates and supports food and nutrition implementing sectors and stakeholders to fulfil their duties and responsibilities. Analogous structures shall be established at the regional, zonal, woreda and kebele levels. The regional president shall chair the Regional Food and Nutrition Council, which is accountable to the National Food and Nutrition Council. Similarly, structures at the zonal and woreda levels will be led by the respective zonal and woreda administrators to efficiently coordinate and implement food and nutrition activities. At the kebele level, food and nutrition committees will be established and led by kebele administrators.



## 5.1. Food and Nutrition Technical Committee

The Food and Nutrition Council Secretariat/ Agency will have a Food and Nutrition Technical Committee composed of experts from FNP-implementing sectors, academia, development partners and the private sector. Food and Nutrition Technical Committees should regularly report their plans and performance to the Food and Nutrition Secretariat/Agency.

The technical committee will further have four steering committees, namely: the National Food and Nutrition Programme Management Steering Committee, the National Food Fortification Steering

Committee, the National Food Safety and Quality Steering Committee and the National Food and Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Steering Committee.

## **5.2. National Food and Nutrition Programme Management Steering**

The Ministry of Health (chair) and Ministry of Agriculture (co-chair) will lead the NFNPMSC in order to efficiently coordinate programme implementation in the country. The NFNPMSC will establish technical working groups to support different interventions in both the nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive sectors. The objective is to provide technical support to the National Food and Nutrition Technical Committee/Secretariat/Agency for the implementation of the national Food and Nutrition Strategy.

## **5.3. National Food and Nutrition Programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Steering Committee**

The Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) (chair) and Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) (co-chair) are responsible to coordinate the National Food and Nutrition Programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Steering Committee for efficient strategy implementation. The general objective of the steering committee is to provide technical support for the implementation of the monitoring, evaluation and research component of the national Food and Nutrition Strategy.



#### **5.4. National Food Fortification Steering Committee (NFFSC)**

The Ministry of Trade and Industry is responsible for chairing and coordinating the National Food Fortification Steering Committee (NFFSC). The co-chair will be the Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority (EFDA), while MoH will assume secretariat duties. NFFSC is comprised of relevant sectors/ agencies/ authorities, private sector, donors, nutrition development partners, universities, and associations whose participation in the efforts to address micronutrient malnutrition is necessary. The NFFSC's objective is providing technical guidance on the national food fortification programme.

#### **5.5. Food Safety and Quality Steering Committee (NFSQSC)**

The Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority is responsible for chairing and coordinating the National Food Safety and Quality Steering Committee. It will involve various government and private sector actors, development partners, academia and associations who have a stake in food safety and quality issues. The objective of this steering committee is to work on food safety and quality topics in the country.

### **6. Food and Nutrition Costing**

A total of 13 FNS strategic objectives were first separately inserted into an Excel sheet, along with their detailed strategic initiatives. The strategic initiatives were further decomposed into specific core activities for the application of activity-based costing (ABC) approach. During the costing exercise, activities under each strategic objective were prioritized based on set criteria and cost accordingly.

A total cost of **ETB 111, 351,414,286 (USD 2,548,087,283)** is required for the complete implementation of FNS within ten years throughout Ethiopia. The total cost is a sum of costs for each objective, given FNS activities and resource availability scenarios. The cost estimates show that costs are initially higher in the beginning of programme implementation and will decrease continuously following that. Only programme/activity costs are estimated. Interventions are to be implemented through existing systems or mechanisms, but running additional programmes requires additional resources. Therefore, capital costs such as buildings, vehicles and infrastructure are not included in this costing exercise, unless they are not covered by the existing government budget system. Transportation and rental (room) costs that are required to implement the interventions are estimated. Existing human resources will be used to implement the strategies. The staff will receive additional travel-related payments (but no additional salary) while working for FNS. If existing human resources are not sufficient to implement the strategies, additional human resources are to be considered. All estimated costs are calculated using 2020 fixed prices for the base year 2020. Budget estimates for 2021 will need to be adjusted for inflation. No projected future costs have been adjusted for inflation.

## 6.1. Yearly Cost Estimates

Yearly costs are identified based on the total sum of costs for all objectives per year. The three FNS objectives 1, 4, and 6 are broken down in more specific detail to capture food and nutrition security issues, which are individually costed for ten years. The remaining objectives, which are more comprehensive in their coverage, are

costed individually for the first five years and then presented as a total (sum) for the remaining five years out of ten. The total costs are lower for the second five-year implementation period, compared to the first five years (Figure 4).

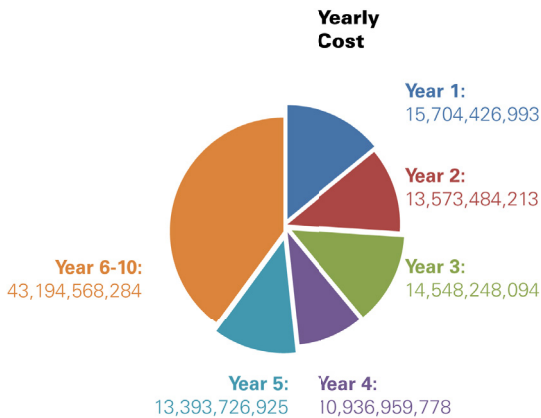


Figure 4: FNS yearly cost distribution for 10 years

## 6.2. Cost Estimates by Objective

A cost analysis for individual objectives is also prepared in order to understand the cost distribution over the entire 13 objectives. The results show that costs are mostly concentrated on Objective 1 (availability, accessibility and utilization of diversified diet), Objective 4 (Nutrition in the life cycle), Objective 5 (Nutrition and NCD and Life style), Objective 6( Nutrition in emergency) and Objective 7 (WASH). Figure 5 presents a more detailed breakdown.

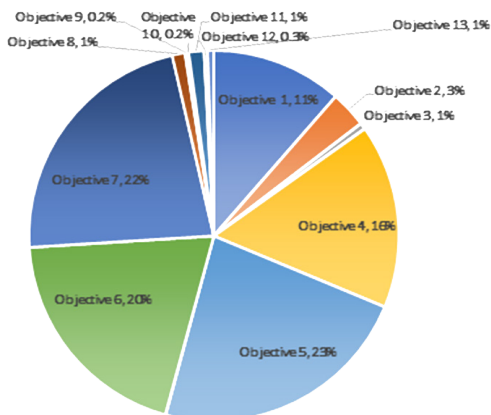


Figure 5: Distribution of Costs by Objectives

### 6.3. Cost Estimates by Implementation Sectors

Individual Lead		Integrated Lead	
Agencies	Estimated Cost	Agencies	Estimated Cost
MoA	18,033,715,838	MoH/MoA/MoTI	357,392,421
MoTI	22,347,000	MoH/NDRM	2,058,095
MoF	950,000	MoH/MoF	57,876,500
MoH	43,764,875,444	MoH/MoA	42,030,000
MoE	11,904,352,111	EFDA/MoTD/MoTI	52,378,080
MoWIE	21,244,450,862	NDRM/MoH	9,467,695,292
MoF	38,551,000	MoE/NDRM	11,653,560
MoSHE	1,462,206,900	MoWIE/MoH/ MoLSA/MoE	3,939,960,767
MoLSA	174,130,915	MoH/EPHI	204,636,600
MoWCY	32,040,527	MoTI/MoH/MINT	119,051,500
Food and Nutrition Council	29,231,538	MoA/NDRM	15,021,622

Individual Lead		Integrated Lead	
Agencies	Estimated Cost	Agencies	Estimated Cost
PM Office	58,032,000	Media and all sectors	63,860,000
Private sector actors	55,734,800		
EDPs and Partners	197,180,914		
Total	97,017,799,849		14,333,614,437
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>111,351,414,286</b>		

Table 14: Ten—year cost distribution by sectors

## 7. Monitoring and evaluation framework

The monitoring and evaluation system uses high-level performance (outcome and impact) indicators emanating from the policy directions' strategic objectives, and building up on output level indicators for strategic actions. Each sector is expected to provide quarterly reports to the Food and Nutrition Secretariat, based on the agreed upon indicators and using a predesigned reporting template.

Sectoral performance will be evaluated by the Secretariat against key indicators using a balanced score card that will be presented to the Council during its biannual meeting. Similar evaluation exercises will be carried out at all levels. The policy monitoring and evaluation system will be linked to other existing, sectoral monitoring and information systems, in order to identify best practices and facilitate rational policy revision over time.



# **National Food and Nutrition Strategy**

**Summary Booklet**

August 2021