



# **SEQOTA DECLARATION**

## **RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN**



### **EXPANSION AND SCALE-UP PHASES**

**JANUARY 2024**



# **Achieving Ethiopia's Food and Nutrition Goals Through Sustainable Financing**

**Resource Mobilization Plan for the Seqota Declaration Expansion and Scale-up Phases**

**JANUARY 2024**

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## Foreword

Ethiopia's Food and Nutrition Strategy is the country's framework that envisions to see all citizens with optimal nutritional status, quality of life, productivity, and longevity. The Seqota Declaration is a bold commitment from the government of Ethiopia to end stunting among children under two years, which catalyzes and drives progress towards achieving the food and nutrition strategy goals. Attaining the Seqota Declaration strategic objectives requires adequate resources. As outlined in the Seqota Declaration Roadmap, the total cost to implement the Expansion and Scale up Phases is \$4.58 billion United States Dollars (USD). The Federal Government of Ethiopia has shown strong commitment to sustainably finance the Seqota Declaration initiatives. Despite a scale-up in disbursements from the government treasury during the Expansion Phase and a modest increase in support from partners over the past two years, there remains a large resource gap to implement the two phases. To put this gap into perspective, the baseline amount mobilized in the Ethiopian Fiscal Year (EFY) 2015 could not meet costs required to implement the Seqota Declaration activities planned for the year. In this regard, resource mobilization is paramount given the small amount of funds available vis-a-vis the substantial funding requirement to implement activities at the proposed scale and coverage to achieve the set targets outlined in the Seqota Declaration Roadmap for Expansion and Scale-up Phases.

The Seqota Declaration Resource Mobilization Plan aims to mobilize resources effectively and efficiently to address SD program priority areas and strengthen reach and impact. We acknowledge that resource mobilization now goes beyond the traditional donors; hence, we will broaden the scope and range of our partnerships to include governments, the private sector, CSOs, UN agencies and multilateral Partners.

This Resource Mobilization Plan is an indication of our commitment to raise funds and effectively deliver our commitment for ending stunting. All stakeholders have a role in achieving the Seqota Declaration financing goals, and this document proposes clear actions for stakeholders. The plan covers eight years (2023-2030) of the Seqota Declaration Roadmap and is a living document that can be adjusted and adapted as necessary.



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## Acknowledgments

The Seqota Declaration Resource Mobilization Plan was developed to provide programmatic and strategic guidance to decision makers, program managers and partners on ensuring sustainable financing for the implementation of the Seqota Declaration Expansion and Scale-up phases. It was developed within the Food and Nutrition Strategy and the Seqota Declaration Roadmap.

We acknowledge the leadership and hard work of the Seqota Declaration Federal Program Delivery Unit team within the Nutrition Coordination Lead Executive Office of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and their dedication and technical expertise, which was crucial in developing this document. The Seqota Declaration team would like to thank their colleagues from the MOH who provided review and feedback on the plan.

The Ministry also owes enormous thanks to development partners who have devoted their time, efforts, and expertise in providing invaluable inputs to finalizing this action plan.

The Ministry of Health gratefully acknowledges the technical support accorded by Results for Development (R4D) and funding provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of this Resource Mobilization Plan.



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# Acronyms

<b>AfDB</b>	African Development Bank
<b>AITEC</b>	Agricultural Innovation and Technology Centers
<b>B</b>	Billion
<b>BWP</b>	Big Win Philanthropy
<b>CWBP</b>	Costed Woreda-Based Plan
<b>CRS</b>	Creditor Reporting System
<b>DIP</b>	Detailed Implementation Plan
<b>EFY</b>	Ethiopian Fiscal Year
<b>ETB</b>	Ethiopian Birr (local currency)
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food & Agriculture Organization of the UN
<b>FCDO</b>	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office of the UK
<b>FPDU</b>	Federal Program Delivery Unit
<b>FMoAL</b>	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
<b>FMoH</b>	Federal Ministry of Health
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GMP</b>	Growth monitoring and promotion
<b>GUG</b>	Grant-under-grant
<b>JHU</b>	John Hopkins University
<b>IP</b>	Implementing Partner
<b>IYCF</b>	Infant and Young Child Feeding
<b>M</b>	Million
<b>MASReP</b>	Multi-Sectoral Approach for Stunting Reduction Project
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organization
<b>OECD</b>	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>OWNP</b>	ONEWASH National Program
<b>PLW</b>	Pregnant and Lactating Women
<b>PSNP</b>	Productive Safety Net Program
<b>PSNP-IV</b>	Productive Safety Net Program-IV
<b>R4D</b>	Results for Development
<b>RNCB</b>	Regional Nutrition Coordination Body
<b>RTPM</b>	Resource Tracking Partner Management
<b>SBCC</b>	Social and Behavior Change Communication
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>SUN</b>	Scaling Up Nutrition
<b>ToKP</b>	Triangle of Knowledge Partnership
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
<b>UNISE</b>	Unified Nutrition Information System for Ethiopia
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>WA</b>	Woreda Administrator
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
<b>WNCB</b>	Woreda Nutrition Coordination Board
<b>WNTEC</b>	Woreda Nutrition Technical Committee

# Executive Summary

The Seqota Declaration is the Government of Ethiopia's high-level commitment to end stunting among children under two years by 2030. It builds on and catalyzes the implementation of the national Food and Nutrition Strategy by delivering high-impact nutrition-specific, nutrition-sensitive, and climate and nutrition smart infrastructure interventions. After a successful Innovation Phase, the ambitious Expansion and Scale-Up Phases aim to reach more households with multi-sectoral food and nutrition interventions. The Seqota Declaration Roadmap indicates that over a 10-year period, scaling up programs to achieve the eight strategic objectives of the Seqota Declaration would cost a total of 4.58B USD, funding both the Expansion and Scale-Up Phases. Mobilizing these resources will improve access to healthy, nutrient-dense, and diversified foods, feeding and health care practices, safe WASH practices, school actions to improve nutrition practices, social protection actions to strengthen resilience of communities, women empowerment and gender equity, market accessibility and food affordability, and governance and coordination of multi-sectoral stunting reduction. The Seqota Declaration has established three sustainable financing goals to help achieve the funding targets.

**Goal 1: Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition for improved nutrition outcomes and evidence-based decision-making.** In Ethiopia, food and nutrition programs are funded through various sources and channels, so there is no one mechanism that manages all financing holistically. The Government contributes significant funding to the Seqota Declaration each year through the Treasury budget and regional matching fund allocations, which are planned and spent by woredas following the annual budget process. However, it can be challenging to see the complete financing picture, primarily when most funding for nutrition is channeled directly to implementing partners (IPs) and off-budget. The Seqota Declaration has developed and used innovative tools to strengthen planning and budgeting, including costed woreda-based planning tools, the Resource Tracking and Partnership Management tool (RTPM), the Unified Nutrition Information System for Ethiopia (UNISE), and the gender mainstreaming checklist. Additionally, the Triangle of Knowledge partnership (ToKP) is a collaborative platform that connects districts with universities to support data quality and management of the tools mentioned above and policymakers involved in the planning and budgeting cycle. Together, these tools and processes strengthen public financial management for food and nutrition by indicating programmatic areas prioritized by woredas to support their nutrition goals, highlighting the financing gap in woreda plans and funding needs across partners, identifying nutrition interventions that promote gender equality and empower women, tracking resources, both Government and external, to monitor progress, enabling stronger alignment across development partners towards priority areas, determining whether priority areas receive adequate funding.

### **Supportive Partner Actions for Goal 1: Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition**

1. Fund capacity strengthening activities to expand training on costed woreda-based planning to additional woredas.
2. Fund capacity strengthening activities to expand training on RTPM tool at woreda level to strengthen resource tracking and accountability mechanisms.
3. Scale-up of UNISE as multisectoral nutrition information system helping to monitor performance and program quality.
4. Strengthen the ToKP to enhance engagement of partner universities at local levels in supporting local level data generation, data quality assurance and formulation of policy riefs.
5. Fund capacity strengthening activities to support implementation of the gender mainstreaming checklist tool to strengthen gender-responsive resource allocation and planning.

**Goal 2: Increase sustainable funding sources by engaging with existing new and innovative stakeholders to fund the Seqota Declaration.** Baseline funding for the Seqota Declaration managed by the Government has increased by 24% from 13M USD spent in EFY 2014 (2021-22) to 16M USD spent in EFY 2015 (2022-23). Many partners support the Seqota Declaration by financing Seqota Declaration innovations and strategic objectives. However, data that quantifies financing is difficult to capture. A review of the current aid financing landscape for food and nutrition (based on a review of literature, existing data, and expert consultations) indicates significant room for improvement to make funding more sustainable. For example, increases in aid for nutrition-specific activities are primarily driven by humanitarian assistance, which, while necessary, is not conducive to the system strengthening needed for sustainable change.

Many investments operate off-budget and must be reported to government systems to ensure adequate coordination; however, there are often missed opportunities for strategic partnerships and collaborations due to limited reporting. Also, funding for nutrition has historically relied on a small set of donors for large multi-year programs. Enhancing the sustainability of funding requires increasing investment in longer-term development assistance that is focused on systems strengthening; mainstreaming nutrition within existing food and nutrition and other sectoral investments to help optimize nutrition gains; channeling aid to the Government directly or ensuring that off-budget funding is aligned to government priorities and reported on-plan; and diversifying donor base to include private sector funding sources.



### Supportive Partner Actions for Goal 2:

#### Increase sustainable funding sources by engaging with existing and new and innovative stakeholders to fund the Seqota Declaration

6. Support the existing multisectoral nutrition fund through Treasury to support Seqota Declaration interventions.
7. Consider the creation of a new multi-sector pooled fund for the Seqota Declaration (like One-WASH).
8. Fund implementing woredas and partners directly using a grant-under-grant (GUG) approach that enables a transfer of funds to woredas through a call for proposals from the woreda and kebele administrations.
9. Issue a call for proposals for community-based organizations through a competitive process that factors in gender mainstreaming to ensure women empowerment (apply for funding).
10. Fund IPs directly to help scale-up priorities identified to fill the gap in CWBP.
11. Engage public-private sector collaboration to fund nutrition programs.

**Goal 3: Mobilizing 3.86B USD over the next eight years to finance the Expansion and scale-up Phases.** Financing the Seqota Declaration Roadmap requires large investments to operationalize the Expansion and Scale-up phase in the next three years and maintain this scale level over the next full 8 years. Reaching these financing targets is achievable. For the Government, mobilizing 189M USD<sup>1</sup>(6B ETB) annually for the Seqota Declaration represents just 0.7% of the 2023-24 national parliament approved budget (787B ETB). For donors collectively, the annual need during Scale-up represents less than 4% of how much is spent annually on official development assistance to Ethiopia<sup>2</sup>.

To help diversify the donor base, at least **20% of external funding should come from new sources**, including private sector and charitable contributions. Supporting the Seqota Declaration Roadmap through these actions will help reach over 25 million households by 2030 with high-impact food and nutrition interventions. It will support the Government of Ethiopia in achieving the commitment to ending stunting and all other forms of malnutrition.

### Supportive Partner Actions for Goal 3

#### Mobilize resources to finance the Expansion & Scale-Up Phases

12. Over the next three years, commit funding for the Expansion Phase to help mobilize the financing needs required from partners to scale programs and strengthen systems.
13. During the Scale-up Phase, help mobilize 189M USD per year from external partners channeled directly to the government.

<sup>1</sup>Additional allocations to nutrition from government include other national programs with nutrition objectives such as ONEWASH and PSNP, as well as other broad sector nutrition allocations. This 189M USD does not include other allocations from government to nutrition outside of the Seqota Declaration.

<sup>2</sup>Data is from the OECD Creditor Reporting System. Average total ODA to Ethiopia over the last five years reported (2017-2021) is 5,139M USD.

# 1. Overview of the Seqota Declaration Roadmap

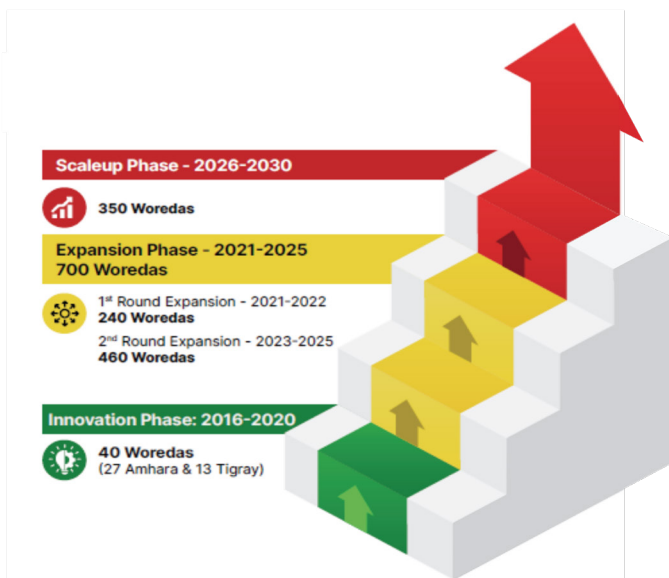
**The Government of Ethiopia has demonstrated strong commitment to improving food and nutrition security in the country.** As part of its national development agenda, the Government of Ethiopia has implemented several strategies and programs to ensure food and nutrition security over the past decade, including the National Nutrition Program II, the National Food and Nutrition Policy, the Food and Nutrition Strategy, and the Food Systems Transformation Pathway. The Food and Nutrition Strategy envisions seeing all citizens with optimal nutritional status, quality of life, productivity, and longevity. The strategy aims to attain optimal nutritional status at all stages of life span and conditions to a level consistent with quality of life, productivity, and longevity.

**Despite significant progress, malnutrition remains a major developmental and socio-economic problem in Ethiopia.** The prevalence of stunting in children under the age of 5 has held steady over the past four years, at 38% (5.2 million) in 2016 and 37% (5.5 million) in 2019. About 1 million children still experience wasting and require treatment (Ethiopian Public Health Institute, 2021). Malnutrition increases the risk of mortality, and according to the Cost of Hunger in Africa Report, Ethiopia loses 17% of its GDP each year because of factors associated with undernutrition. (Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), UN Economic Commission for Africa and World Food Programme, 2013).

**To address this, in July 2015, the Government of Ethiopia launched the Seqota Declaration, a commitment to end stunting in children under two by 2030.** The declaration builds on and contributes to the National Nutrition Program II and the Food and Nutrition Strategy. The aim is to reduce stunting in children under two from 28% to 14% by the end of 2025 and to zero by the end of 2030. Achieving this is critical to improving the health status and educational performance of the population and the socio-economic progress of the country.

**The Seqota Declaration Innovation Phase, implemented between 2016-2020, was highly successful and has guided the way for the Expansion and Scale-up Phases.** The Innovation Phase focused on 40 woredas along the Tekeze river basin, 27 woredas in the Amhara region, and 13 woredas in the Tigray region (Figure 1). Amhara and Tigray regional states were targeted because the stunting burden in both regions has consistently exceeded the national average. By the end of 2025, the aim is to expand the Seqota Declaration to 700 woredas and, by 2030, to 1050 woredas throughout the country (Table 1). The Seqota Declaration Roadmap and Investment Plan for the Expansion and Scale-up Phases provide a framework for implementation.

**Figure 1: Coverage Diagram of the Seqota Declaration**



**Table 1:** The expected targets to be reached by the Seqota Declaration investment by the end of 2030

Expected Targets to Reach	Expansion Phase (#)	Scale-Up Phase (#)
Woredas	700	1,050
Population	77,000,000	115,500,000
Households	16,739,130	25,108,696
Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW)	17,453,333	26,180,000
Children under two years of age	18,456,900	27,685,350
Children under five years of age	20,751,500	31,127,250

*Data Source: Expansion and Scale-up Phases of the Seqota Declaration: Considerations for an Investment Plan to Achieve Ethiopia’s Food and Nutrition Goals*

## 1.1. Seqota Declaration Strategic Objectives

Informed by the overarching Food and Nutrition Strategy, the Seqota Declaration has the following eight strategic objectives that guide implementation:



### **Improve access to diverse, adequate, nutrient-rich, and safe food all year round.**

Nearly 21% of households in Ethiopia are food insecure, and over half of Ethiopians consume four or fewer of the seven recommended food groups a week (as a proxy for poor nutrition security) (World Food Programme & Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia, 2019). Seqota Declaration Innovation Phase Impact Analysis showed improvements in infant and young child nutrition, achieved through complementary feeding and reduced household food insecurity, accounted for 90% of the stunting cases averted. Agricultural interventions had the greatest impact on stunting (John Hopkins University (JHU), 2021). Strategic Objective 1 aims to address these challenges of high food and nutrition insecurity and the inability of households to produce purchase, and access diverse foods.



**Improve maternal, child, and adolescent feeding and health care practices.** According to a review of child nutrition in Ethiopia, only 10% of children aged 6 to 24 months meet the minimum acceptable diet (Mohammed et al., 2020). Additionally, maternal undernutrition in Ethiopia is currently at 21%, which is a key risk factor for low birth weight and child stunting (Geda, 2021). Seqota Declaration Innovation Phase Impact analysis revealed that the impact on stunting prevalence is greatest in the 6–23-month age group, which is when stunting typically emerges as breastfeeding wanes and IYCF practices have significant effects (JHU, 2021). This objective aims to increase efforts to improve IYCF practice and maternal and adolescent girls' undernutrition in Ethiopia to accelerate child stunting reduction (Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 2021).



**Improve universal access to safe and clean water, sanitation, and hygiene services, and adoption of improved practices.** Evidence specific to the Ethiopian context shows a strong association between improved access to clean water, sanitation, and handwashing with reduced child stunting (Bekele et al., 2020; Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition, 2016). WASH interventions, including improved water access, improved sanitation, and hand washing with soap, are three of the top ten interventions or risk factors accounted for significant reductions in child stunting during the innovation phase according to the Innovation Phase Impact analysis (JHU, 2021). In Ethiopia, across the country, access to clean water drinking sources has improved (70%), but access to improved latrine facilities is very low (25%) (Andualem et al., 2021). This objective will work directly with the communities to adopt best WASH practices and ensure increased latrine access.



**Enhance the role of schools for improved nutrition practice and creation of nutrition change agents for the nation.** This strategic objective aims to promote nutrition education in schools using school clubs and mini media, ensuring nutritious school meals to improve nutritional status of children,

implementing school gardens to improve sustainability of nutritious habits, and diversifying local smallholder farmer food production, and in turn local community consumption (Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 2021). The Expansion Phase builds on the lessons learned during the Innovation Phase and Model Nutrition Schools regarding the use of school-based interventions to ensure sustainable access to nutrient-dense school meals.



**Increase the resilience of households and communities through social protection (social safety nets).** There is an established correlation between household food insecurity and stunting in Ethiopia (Betebo et al., 2017). This objective works to strengthen the capacity of program implementors and increase coverage of children in social safety net programs to improve food access to poor households year-round. Direct support through the soft conditionality program helps mothers attend pre- and post-natal maternity and nutrition services and secure nutritious foods for their children using the cash generated from the program. Additionally, fresh food vouchers will strengthen access to social, economic, and protection services.



**Enhance women empowerment, gender equity, and child protection.** Women's access to education, information, media, and income-generating activities is associated with lower rates of childhood stunting, and men's dietary knowledge strongly contributes to maternal and childhood dietary diversity (Abreha et al., 2020; Ambikapathi et al., 2021). This objective aims to strengthen both respectively.



**Enhance market accessibility and affordability of foods.** This objective seeks to improve the food market value chain system and infrastructure to improve nutrition security.




**Foster an enabling environment for strong governance and coordination of multi-sectoral stunting reduction efforts.** Despite crucial existing commitments to nutrition, including the National Food and Nutrition Policy (2018), the Food and Nutrition Strategy (2021-2030), and the on-going efforts to establish the Food and Nutrition Council, inefficiencies remain in multi-sector coordination, sustainable financing, and monitoring and evaluation for nutrition (IDS, 2020). This objective aims to address these inefficiencies to ensure multi-sectoral food and nutrition governance in Ethiopia.


## 1.2. Experience of the Innovation Phase


The Innovation Phase implemented six innovations to catalyze the delivery of priority interventions to reduce stunting, including:





**Program Delivery Units:** two-tiered PDUs (federal and regional) address limited horizontal ministerial-level inter-sectoral nutrition coordination mechanisms and support the Seqota Declaration delivery with five core functions: strategic management; coordinating policy; monitoring and improving performance; managing the politics of policies; and communicating results and accountability.

 **Data Revolution:** aims to bring nutrition data from all sectors into a single location through joint and routine monitoring. The long-term goal is to develop and implement a culture of data-driven decision-making by establishing a robust, multi-sectoral data management system to inform decisions and intervention targeting.

 **Community Labs:** are a collaborative mechanism that brings together woreda and kebele-level stakeholders to identify nutrition-related problems in a community and to identify, test, and replicate potential solutions to overcome them, ensuring local solutions for local problems.

 **Costed-Woreda Based Planning (CWBP):** a planning process and output that consolidates a list of nutrition-sensitive, nutrition-specific, climate and nutrition-smart infrastructure activities across implementing sectors and development partners at the woreda level to ensure sector priorities and implementation timelines for food and nutrition activities are aligned, planned, and financed, as well as address local problems prioritized by the woredas.

 **Agricultural Innovation and Technology Centers (AITEC):** serve as pathways for the integrated implementation of innovations for smart-irrigation technologies promoted to maximize efficient use of water in water-stressed contexts, improved agricultural practices, introduction of improved horticultural varieties and livestock breeds, as well as post-harvest technologies that increase productivity for increased production of diverse foods.

 **The First 1000 Days Plus Public Movement:** mobilizes influential community leaders and individuals and tailors social behavioral change and communication messages to promote essential nutrition actions and practices focused on the first 1000 days. It also mobilizes the public and supports sectors to mainstream and implement the social and behavioral change relevant to their sectors.

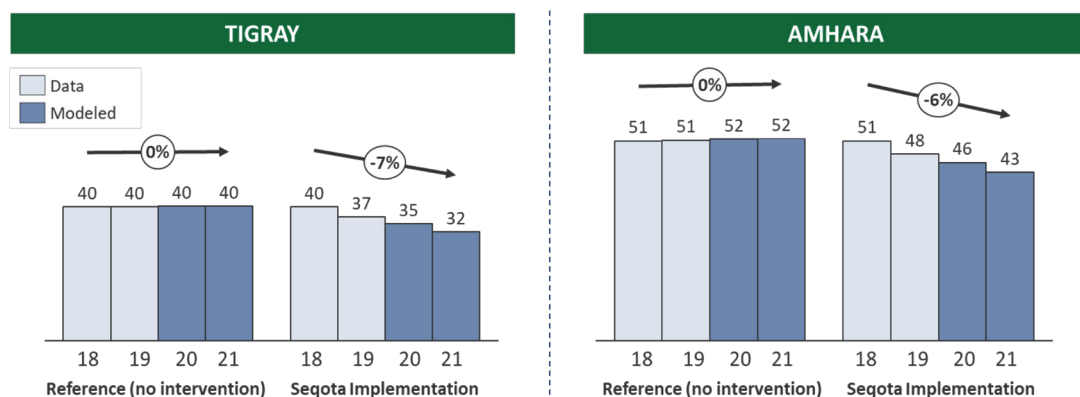
**Monitoring and learning were cross-cutting focuses of innovation implementation, generating learnings and evidence to bring forward to the Expansion Phase.** The Innovation Phase implemented the six innovations outlined above across 40 Amhara and Tigray woredas, monitoring processes for eventual adaptation and scale-up to all 1050 woredas<sup>3</sup>.

**Although not one of the six innovations, the Seqota Declaration Innovation Phase also implemented additional innovations such as the RTPM tool, ToKP, and Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) revitalization.** The Seqota Declaration prioritized revitalizing GMP since it is a composite indicator for stunting and wasting. GMP is a prevention activity that uses Growth Monitoring (measuring and interpreting weight for a child's age) to facilitate communication and interaction with caregivers and to initiate adequate action to promote child growth through increased awareness about the benefits, causes, and consequences of child growth faltering. The low national coverage of GMP and presence of widespread malnutrition and child growth problems in the country highlight the suboptimal implementation of GMP service and underscore the need to revitalize it. The revitalization processes initiate regular follow-up and timely informed decision-making to address these challenges and utilize GMP as a proxy indicator of multi-sectoral child nutrition and growth interventions.

<sup>3</sup>This number could change as the scale-up begins.

**Evaluation of the Seqota Declaration Innovation Phase shows a strong pathway to reduce stunting.** Evaluation of the first year of the Innovation Phase, from baseline in 2018 to the end of 2019, the stunting rate in Tigray fell from 40% to 37% and in Amhara from 51% to 48%, as seen in Figure 2. Based on this evaluation, there was a predicted decrease in stunting from 40% in 2018 to 32% in 2021 in Tigray and a predicted decrease in stunting from 51% in 2018 to 43% in 2021 in Amhara, whereas reference areas with no intervention showed no change. The Innovation Phase interventions prevented almost 1,031 child deaths in Tigray and Amhara regions. They averted over 109,831 stunting cases for children under 5 in the intervention woredas in the two regions during the innovation phase full-scale implementation (2018 to 2020) (JHU, 2021).

**Figure 2:** Impact of the Seqota Declaration on Stunting Prevalence in Amhara in Tigray, 2018-21



Data source: Expansion and Scale-Up Phase of the Seqota Declaration: Considerations for an investment plan to achieve Ethiopia's food and nutrition goals

### 1.3. Cost of the Expansion and Scale-up Phases

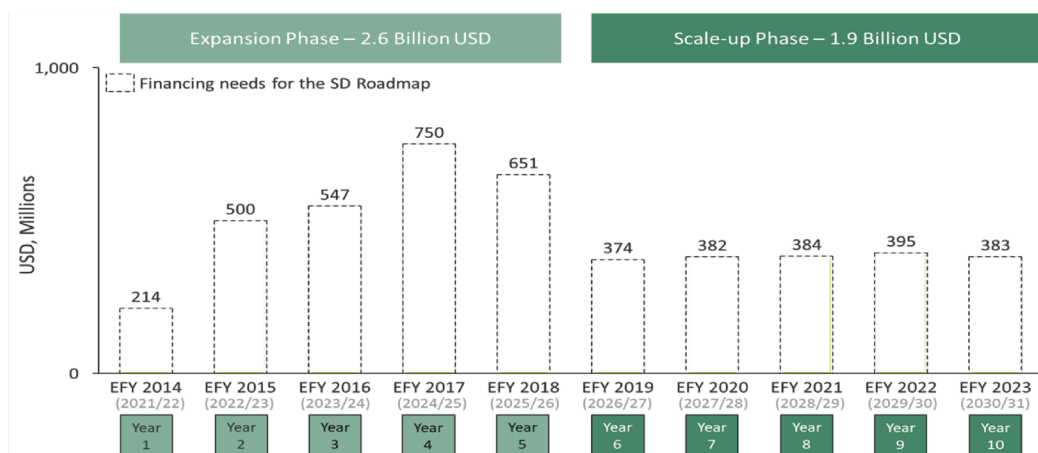
As outlined in the Seqota Declaration Roadmap, the total cost to implement the Expansion Phase is 2.66B USD (84.7B ETB) over five years, and the total cost to implement the Scale-Up Phase is 1.92B USD (61B ETB) over five years. Detailed sectoral costed work plans containing price breakdowns of Seqota Declaration interventions were used to estimate annual implementation costs according to the eight Strategic Objectives for the Expansion (2021-2025) and Scale-Up (2025-2030) Phases. Since the publication of the Roadmap, costs have increased due to inflation, and the true costs to implement the full scope of the Seqota Declaration have increased due to the current economic situation. The relative costs remain consistent and are, therefore, still used as the foundation for the resource mobilization targets. However, more will be needed to fulfill the true ambition of the plan.

**Annual implementation costs across the 10 years of the Expansion and Scale-Up Phases vary, with the highest costs incurring at the end of the Expansion Phase and dropping off during the Scale-Up phase.** The cost of implementation decreases by roughly 50% from Year 4 of the Expansion Phase (750M USD) to the start of the Scale-Up phase in Year 6 (374M USD).



This is due to a reduction in the number of target beneficiaries directly supported by the program. That is, as stunting is averted in more children, so is the number of PLWs who need direct support. In addition, most preparation and capacity-strengthening activities occur in the Expansion Phase, and the required investment in systems strengthening and SBCC activities continues to decrease during Scale-Up due to behavior changes and positive nutrition practices.

**Figure 3:** The estimated annual costs of the Seqota Declaration by Expansion and Scale-Up Phases (2021-2030, USD million<sup>4</sup>)



Data source: Seqota Declaration Roadmap for Expansion and Scale-up Phases 2021-2030

## 1.4. Seqota Declaration Sustainable Financing Goals

Following the Roadmap and Investment Plan, the Seqota Declaration aims to:

- 1. Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition for improved nutrition outcomes and evidence-based decision-making.**
- 2. Increase sustainable funding sources by engaging with existing new and innovative stakeholders to fund the Seqota Declaration.**
- 3. Mobilize 3.86B USD over the next 8 years to finance the Expansion and Scale-up Phases.**

This document aims to articulate the actions required to help achieve these goals collectively across partners. Chapters 2 and 3 set the scene, first by reviewing current systems and tools in place for financial management of the Seqota Declaration and then by reviewing funding available to the Seqota Declaration. Chapter 4 introduces financing targets across sources to achieve the Expansion and Scale-up Phases. Chapter 5 presents a call to action across all partners to support this ambitious plan in various ways, and Chapter 6 provides a tool for monitoring progress towards these actions and targets.

<sup>4</sup>Costs reported in USD were converted from the ETB costs reported in the Seqota Declaration roadmap using the average conversion rates from July to July of each Gregorian Calendar year to align with the corresponding Ethiopian Fiscal Year. The average conversion rate from 7/1/21 to 7/1/22 (EFY 2014) is 49.25. The average conversion rate from 7/1/22 to 5/30/23 (EFY 2015 to date) is 53.47. See Annex Figure A1 for Figure 3 reported in ETB.



## 2. Strengthening multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition

Improving nutrition requires a multi-sectoral effort. Each sector must identify and quantify the basic parameters of nutrition financing: what is being spent, by whom, and on what? Doing this across and within each sector requires strong coordination and partner management. Strengthening multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition requires strengthening institutional and public arrangements, including evidence-based prioritization, nutrition-responsive budgeting, nutrition expenditure tracking, and periodic budget performance reviews.

This Chapter reviews how food and nutrition programs are financed in Ethiopia and the innovative tools the Seqota Declaration uses to manage multi-sectoral funding.

### 2.1. How food and nutrition programs are financed in Ethiopia

**In Ethiopia, food and nutrition programs are funded through various sources and channels, and as a result, there is no one mechanism that manages all financing holistically.** Figure 4 shows the two main sources of funding for the Seqota Declaration—Government and external funding and the channels through which these two sources disburse funding.

**Government funding for food and nutrition programs comes from the Treasury and regional matching fund allocations.** Each year, the annual planning and budgeting process dictates the funding for food and nutrition. As part of this process, the Seqota Declaration requests the Federal Government, and an allocation is approved each July. This funding is managed by the Ministry of Health and is distributed across Seqota Declaration woredas for programming. Additionally, regions allocate resources to support the Seqota Declaration, ideally matching the Federal contribution or more. This funding is programmed with Federal funding based on woreda level priority setting and decision-making processes as outlined in the CWBP tool.

**External funding for food and nutrition programs, including aid from development partners and private philanthropies, can be “government-managed” or “off-budget.”** There are three aid modalities of how external funding can be channeled:

- **Channel 1** funds are channeled to the Ministry of Finance, including its regional, zonal, and woreda-level subdivisions. Large national programs, including the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and the ONEWASH National Programme (OWNP), are implemented using this aid modality.
- **Channel 2** funds are directly channeled to sectoral line ministries, including regional, zonal, or woreda-level subdivisions. Examples of funding channeled this way include SDG pooled funds within the FMoH (non-earmarked funds) and funding from development partners to ministries earmarked for specific program implementation.
- **Channel 3** funds are channeled directly to non-governmental IPs and considered “off-budget,” meaning they are not included in annual budgeting processes.

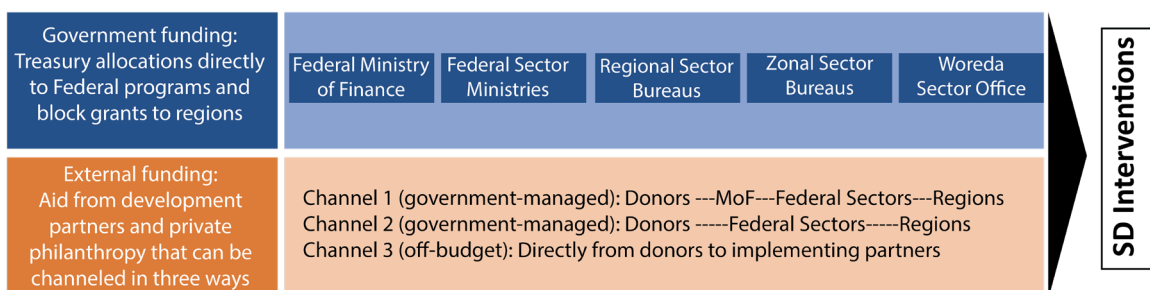
### Box 1: Definitions

- **Government-managed:** Financing is managed through government systems and includes funding from external partners that are channeled through the Government via Channel 1 or Channel 2.
- **Off-budget:** External funding is not channeled through government systems but directly through IPs (Channel 3). If not reported separately, the funding is not tracked or captured in government financial reporting and possibly planning.
- **On-plan:** External funding aligned with government priorities and reported effectively to the Government for planning purposes. All government-managed funding is considered on-plan.

Regardless of how aid for food and nutrition is channeled, the Government supports the “Three Ones” principle of One Goal, One Plan, and One Monitoring and Evaluation System. Even if aid is off-budget and not government-managed, all aid should be “on-plan” to ensure government ownership and avoid fragmentation.

Because most funding for nutrition is channeled directly to IPs and is off-budget, it can be challenging to see the full financing picture. It is for this reason that the Seqota Declaration has several tools and processes to cost, track, and plan nutrition activities across sectors: costed woreda-based planning, the RTPM, and the ToKP (each expanded on in the next sections).

**Figure 4:** Sources of Funding to the Seqota Declaration

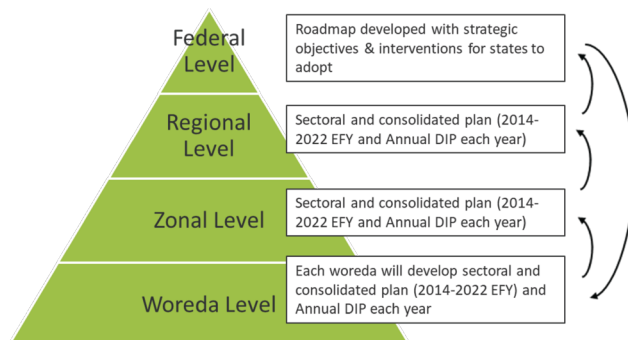


## 2.2. Costed Woreda-Based Planning

The development of CWBP was piloted during the Innovation Phase as both a top-down and bottom-up, multi-sectoral planning approach based on the Seqota Declaration strategic objectives. These objectives signal the woreda level on which kinds of investments may be considered for broad planning and prioritization. Still, woredas ultimately have the flexibility and autonomy to prioritize how their Seqota Declaration budget is allocated across sectors and to which interventions, as documented in their annual costed woreda-based plans. Once drafted, the costed plans go to the zonal, regional, and federal levels for approval and use in budget allocation (Figure 5).

The costed woreda-based multi-sectoral nutrition investment plan adopts a participatory planning approach and maps the contribution of all stakeholders (i.e., Government, development partners, and the community). The costed plans are owned by woredas and serve as a tool to indicate the level of the contribution to nutrition by government sectors and development partners. In addition, the CWBPs highlight the funding gap for nutrition interventions in geographic areas with the highest stunting burden.

**Figure 5:** Process of CWBP Development



## 2.3. Resource Tracking and Partnership Management and Unified Nutrition Information System for Ethiopia

As part of the data revolution innovation to strengthen data-driven decision-making introduced in the Innovation Phase (Innovation #2), the Seqota Declaration has rolled out the RTPM and UNISE tools at district level. The RTPM tool utilizes a web-based stakeholder mapping tool to assist the woreda and regional sectors in identifying, mapping, and prioritizing the stakeholders and tracking partners' performance and finance. The UNISE is a web-based monitoring tool for multi-sectoral nutrition coordination designed to track multi-sectoral nutrition data from the lower administrative unit (kebele) to higher levels (zonal, regional, federal levels) and to show performance progress in key program indicators in a dashboard for use by decision makers.

Both the RTPM and the UNISE tools help track nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities and the resources allocated by government ministries and development partners for their implementation toward the common goal of promoting mutual accountability and ensuring results.

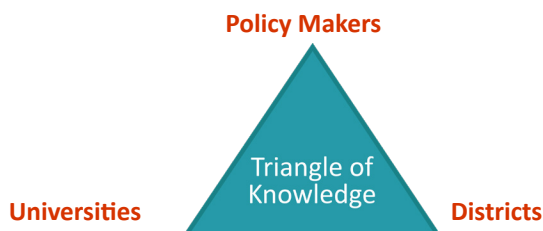
The RTPM tool is being rolled out as the main mechanism for monitoring finances and partners' engagement and will help generate various analytical reports to facilitate Stakeholder Analyses and data-driven decision-making.

## 2.4. Triangle of Knowledge Partnership

The ToKP consists of three main nutrition stakeholders: universities, policymakers, and districts/woredas. Working together, the ToKP aims to provide a strategy for effective collection and utilization of data across the three partners.

Universities are engaged at district level to provide expert advice and mentorship for sector experts at the district (woreda) level to ensure data quality and utilization. The universities are also expected to align their research activities with thematic areas related to the Food & Nutrition Strategy goals and develop policy briefs based on their findings. Policymakers are then tasked with applying the key themes highlighted in the data and subsequent analyses to enact targeted policy changes for improved nutrition.

The ToKP ensures data quality through continuous woreda-level support and mentorship.



## 2.5. Gender Mainstreaming Checklist for budgeting and planning

The Gender Mainstreaming Checklist was developed as part of the general guidelines to assist Woreda and Regional officials in ensuring that gender perspectives are incorporated into their work towards achieving the objectives of the Seqota Declaration. The checklist covers key components of planning and budgeting, including situation analysis, planning and resource allocation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. It is advisable to identify gender results and indicators as early as the planning and resource allocation stage to ensure the planning and budgeting are gender transformative and integrate all aspects of gender responsiveness.

The checklist is rolled out by Woreda Coordinators and the Woreda Nutrition Coordination Board (WNCB) during the initial budgeting process and drafting of CWBPs continuous capacity will be built to ensure that gender considerations are integrated into the Seqota Declaration nutrition programs. The checklist with its guidance is annexed.

## **2.6. How these tools together strengthen financial management for food and nutrition**

To operationalize a truly multi-sectoral response, these tools were developed as innovations of the Seqota Declaration to address the limited horizontal intersectoral coordination mechanisms at the woreda level and insufficient funding for priority nutrition interventions and strengthen overall public financial management for nutrition.

Together, these tools strengthen public financial management for food and nutrition by:

- Indicating programmatic areas prioritized by woredas to support their nutrition goals.
- Highlighting the financing gap in woreda plans and funding needs across partners.
- Tracking Government and external resources to monitor progress and efficient utilization.
- Enabling stronger alignment across development partners towards priority areas.
- Determining whether priority areas receive adequate funding.
- Ensure that gender perspectives are incorporated into the budgeting process, implementation, and resource allocation decisions.

### 3. Increasing sustainable funding sources for the Seqota Declaration

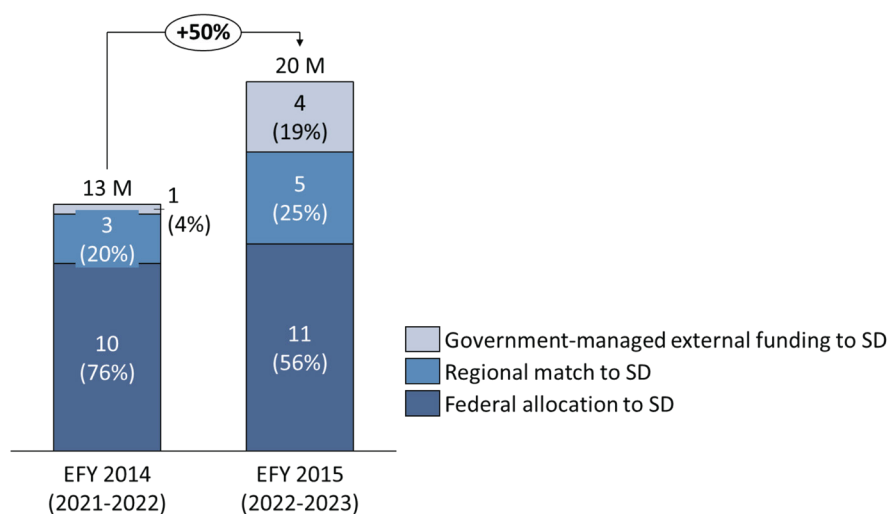
Starting with the Innovation Phase, the Federal Government of Ethiopia has shown a strong commitment to financing the Seqota Declaration sustainably. Disbursements from the Federal Treasury have scaled-up during the Expansion Phase as the number of woredas has increased. Now, accelerated effort is needed by all partners—Federal Government, regional matches, donors, and private sector partners—to mobilize costs required in the Seqota Declaration Roadmap, and commitments are needed to ensure funding is sustained.

This Chapter takes stock of funding flows directly to the Seqota Declaration and reviews the current characteristics of the aid financing landscape and ways to improve sustainability.

#### 3.1. Funding for Seqota Declaration

For purposes of target-setting in this plan, baseline funding to the Seqota Declaration is considered as all government-managed funding from both government and external sources. Off-budget funding is excluded as it is difficult to quantify annual expenditures comprehensively. As shown in Figure 6, government-managed funding that directly supports the Seqota Declaration totaled 20M USD in EFY 2015, representing a 50% increase from the previous year.

**Figure 6:** Baseline funding allocated directly to the Seqota Declaration and managed by the Government, EFY 2014 & 2015 (USD, millions<sup>5</sup>)



Data Source: As reported by the Seqota Declaration FPDU on August 24th, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> See Annex Figure A2 for Figure 6 reported in ETB.

Since the start of the Expansion Phase, the increase in funding for the Seqota Declaration has been driven by commitments made by the Government. As shown in Figure 6, Federal allocations from the Treasury increased from 10M USD to 11M USD between EFY 2014 and 2015. The Ministry of Health managed this funding, and most was allocated to regions to support the implementation of costed woreda-based plans (approximately 39K USD per woreda<sup>6</sup>) and was also used to support Yazmin Technology, Community lab activities & review meetings, regional multi-sectoral coordination, and to provide the government contribution for African Development Bank-supported project “Multi-sectoral Approach to Stunting Reduction Project” (MASReP).

### **Box 2: Experience from Amhara and Dire Dawa Regions**

During the National Food and Nutrition Strategy (FNS) and Seqota Declaration Expansion Phase 2015 EFY performance review and 2016 EFY planning workshop, two notable Seqota Declaration implementation experiences were shared from Amhara and Dire Dawa regions.

**In Amhara, the creation of a leadership position for the region’s nutrition advisor helped the region exceed the match funding amount to the Seqota Declaration.** The Amhara region assigned a Seqota Declaration Presidential Advisor having the same level as other bureau heads to lead the Seqota Declaration and other food and nutrition activities at regional level. This provided the advisor the power and authority to participate in regional cabinet meetings, present a reasonable budget, and defend it during budget deliberations. Given sector offices have distinct objectives, programs, and budgets, the first step the advisor made was advocating for political will within each sector office to mainstream nutrition into their annual plan activities. This helped to improve multi-sectoral coordination in the region and provided the chance for sector heads to discuss and resolve challenges encountered. The President Advisor also helped the Amhara region to allocate more than 4 times the amount of funding required to match the federal treasury’s contribution to the Seqota Declaration in Amhara. The Amhara regional government has also approved 62 woreda based nutrition heads positions from its regional government funding to coordinate the Seqota Declaration Phase implementation in 62 woredas. In monetary terms the regional government has made a commitment of about 9.7M ETB annually. The experience from Amhara region shows that the regional leader’s seniority level and commitment to take responsibility for food and nutrition is a key determinant in food and nutrition multi-sectoral coordination and sustainable nutrition financing.

**In Dire Dawa, district leadership established a nutrition benchmark to ensure adequate nutrition allocations and improve multi-sectoral coordination and planning.** Similar to Amhara, Dire Dawa had strong political will and high commitment from district leadership on nutrition. Because of this, the Dire Dawa City Administration committed to allocating 2% of the total annual budget amount to nutrition. This has created a predictable expenditure amount for nutrition related activities in Dire Dawa which allows for improved planning and budgeting. The Dire Dawa experience was put forward as a good example for other regions to follow in their annual planning and budgeting processes as well as to improve their multi-sectoral coordination of nutrition activities.

<sup>6</sup>Corresponds to 2M ETB per woreda. The conversion rate from ETB to USD used here is an average of the 2014 EFY and 2015 EFY conversion rate averages, 51.36.



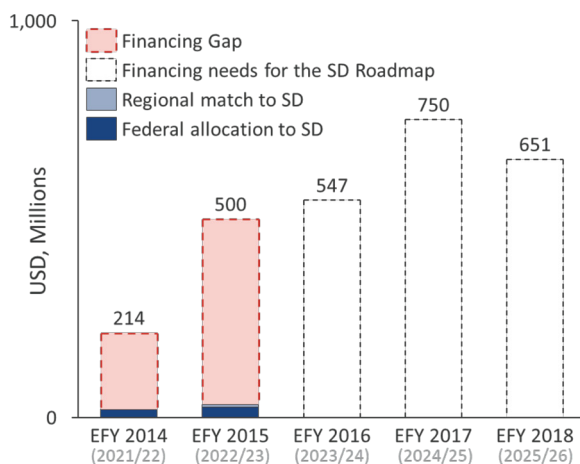
**Many regions are beginning to match Federal allocations—and some have gone above.** The Seqota Declaration annually requests regions to match the Federal allocation to support filling the gap in costed woreda-based plans. In EFY 2014, Amhara allocated 2.7M USD, exceeding the Federal allocation as the only region to contribute and/or match Federal funding to the Seqota Declaration. By EFY 2015, seven regions allocated funding to the Seqota Declaration, totaling 5M USD.

**Additionally, the Seqota Declaration manages some external funding channeled directly to the Ministry of Health for programming.** In EFY 2014, 0.5M USD in government-managed external funding was channeled to the Seqota Declaration, and in EFY 2015, this increased to 3.8M USD. Currently, two partners fund the Seqota Declaration in this way: the African Development Bank and Big Win Philanthropies (See Box 2). In EFY 2014, AfDB channeled 0.5M USD to the Government for MASReP implementation, and by the first half of EFY 2015, AfDB channeled another 3.8M USD. In EFY 2014, BWP disbursed approximately 33K USD, and 37K USD in EFY 2015.

**Many other development partners and UN organizations such as Big Win Philanthropies, UNICEF, Nutrition International, Save the Children International, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, FAO, Max Foundation, ESCE-SUN, Alliance2015, the World Bank, ECSC-SUN, Right to Grow, Results for Development, GIZ, Concern, Alive and Thrive, Action Against Hunger, and others support the Seqota Declaration through food and nutrition programming.** However, data on how much is allocated and spent outside government-managed systems is challenging to capture—especially annually. Box 2 lists some of the large investments partners have made in support of the Seqota Declaration that are off-budget and on-plan to ensure coordination and Government ownership. Seqota Declaration woredas are also supported through funding channeled to larger existing pooled funds such as the ONE WASH National Program and the Productive Safety Net Program-IV (PSNP-IV). These programs help support Seqota Declaration objectives and are captured within costed woreda-based plans.

**Even though funding has increased, there is still a large gap in financing the implementation of the Expansion Phase.** The baseline amount mobilized in EFY 2015 amounts to just 4% of the costs required for complete Seqota Declaration implementation in that year (Figure 7).

**Figure 7:** Baseline funding allocated directly to the Seqota Declaration and managed by the Government, compared against the costs for the Expansion Phase (USD, Millions EFY 2014-18)<sup>7</sup>



Data source: Seqota Declaration Roadmap for Expansion and Scale-up Phases 2021-2030 & reported by the Seqota Declaration FPDU on August 24th, 2023.

<sup>7</sup> See Annex Figure A3 for Figure 7 reported in ETB.



### **Box 3: Partners supporting the Seqota Declaration**

#### **The African Development Bank: Multi-sectoral Approach for Stunting Reduction Project (MASReP) project (2021-2024)**

- Funding committed: 48.2M USD (government-managed, including Government of Ethiopia counterpart funding)
- Objective: The project's Development Objective is to increase access to multi-sectoral nutrition services for children under-five years in the Seqota Declaration areas.
- Components: Infrastructure development/maintenance (water supply and irrigation schemes, health, education, and agriculture facilities); Livelihood support, production, and promotion of nutritious food crops and livestock; System/ capacity strengthening activities

#### **Big Win Philanthropies: BWP has supported the Seqota Declaration from its inception in various ways (2015-present)**

- Funding committed: 4.5M USD (government-managed)
- Objective: Systems strengthening
- Components: Technical assistance, labor, and non-labor costs.

#### **Max Foundation & Plan International: Healthy Village Ethiopia (2022-2025)**

- Funding committed: 14.4M British pound sterling (GBP) (off-budget)
- Objective: The Program aims to sustainably reduce stunting and water- and faecal-borne diseases, jointly with the Government of Ethiopia.
- Components: Food and Nutrition Security, Hygiene and sanitation, Water and Multiple use system, Entrepreneurship and access to finance, Cross-cutting themes (Gender, Climate)

#### **Alliance 2015: (2023-2026)**

- Funding committed: 11M GBP (off-budget)
- Objective: improve nutrition in emergency-affected areas
- Components: Emergency response project focusing on water, agriculture (nutrition-sensitive), and health (nutrition-specific)

#### **Right to Grow: Seqota Declaration -R2G partnership project (2023-2024)**

- Funding committed: 9.7M ETB (off-budget)
- Objectives: Capacity building, system strengthening, and scale-up of Seqota Declaration innovations.
- Components: Multi-sectoral platforms for lobbying and advocacy, effective coordination, and positive policies for nutrition and WASH within the Seqota Declaration framework.

## 3.2. Characteristics of the aid financing landscape for food and nutrition

As noted above, a major challenge the Government faces in coordinating food and nutrition programming is not having routine data on development partner financing for nutrition. This is partly because off-budget funding for nutrition is not routinely tracked or reported, or when it is reported through the existing reporting mechanisms (such as the FMoH resource mapping exercise), data gaps make it difficult to obtain a holistic view of aid financing trends. Collecting data across sectors from development partners also presents logistical challenges. Nevertheless, some data exist that help describe the aid financing landscape in Ethiopia: an analysis by the FMoH in 2016 that tracked funding for nutrition across sectors based on comprehensive data collection and data published by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on aid disbursed to Ethiopia<sup>8</sup>. These references point to the following characteristics of the aid financing landscape for nutrition.

### Characteristics of the aid financing landscape for food and nutrition:

- **Increases in funding for nutrition across sectors have been driven by large national programs being optimized for nutrition—a trend that should continue.** The 2016 resource tracking for nutrition exercise found that nutrition expenditures increased from 181M USD in EFY 2006 to 330M USD in EFY 2007, and by EFY 2008, budget allocations were even higher. This was largely driven by investments in nutrition-sensitive programs, including the ONE WASH National Program and the PSNP-IV.
- **Each year, partners provide large amounts of funding to support food aid programs, disbursing on average 707M USD annually in food aid to Ethiopia, 69% of which is humanitarian<sup>9</sup>.** Such a large sum of funding disbursed to Ethiopia could present opportunities to optimize investments to meet Seqota Declaration objectives by maximizing nutrition gains within food security programs, including development and humanitarian programs.
- **Aid for nutrition-specific activities has increased over time; however, this is largely driven by funding through humanitarian assistance, which, while necessary, is not conducive to strengthening sustainable systems.** Alarming, development assistance to nutrition-specific activities decreased by 7% annually between 2015 and 2020 despite increasing need (Figure 8).
- **Many investments operate off-budget and must be reported to government systems to ensure adequate coordination (on-plan).** The 2016 resource tracking analysis by the Ministry of Health found that in EFY 2008, 70% of total nutrition budget allocations across sectors were government-managed, while only 55% of nutrition-specific allocations were government-managed.

<sup>8</sup>Each of these sources have benefits and limitations. The 2016 resource mapping was comprehensive across sectors and technically robust but several years outdated. Data from the OECD provides more recent data and trend analysis over a 6-year period, however it is only nutrition-specific and, as it is globally sourced, likely misses some investments to Ethiopia due to reporting standards (e.g., via regional codes). Nevertheless, the characteristics reported here derived from these two sources are consistent with expert consultation and validation.

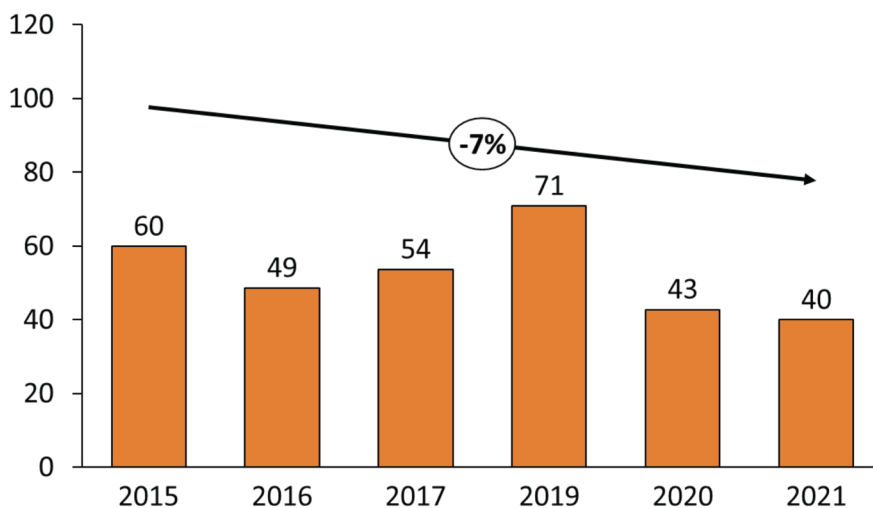
<sup>9</sup>Three-year average is reported using latest data. Total development food assistance to Ethiopia was 193M in 2019, 217M in 2020 and 245M in 2021 (USD). Humanitarian food assistance totaled 497M in 2019, 304M in 2020 and 667M in 2021 (USD). Data was downloaded from the OECD Creditor Reporting System on May 30th, 2023. All data years are reported in 2021 USD.

This finding is largely driven by the nutrition-sensitive programs included in the analysis, namely ONE WASH and PSNP, being World Bank-supported projects that work with the Government as IP (and are, by design, government-managed).

- Funding for nutrition has historically relied on a small set of donors for large multi-year programs.** The top donors to nutrition in Ethiopia funding large multi-year programs include USAID, FCDO, Canada, UNICEF, World Bank, and EU, although many other partners support the government nutrition plans. While private sector partners and philanthropists have engaged in nutrition, for example, through the SUN Business Network, private sources of financing are an important source of financing moving forward (especially domestic partners).

**Overall, the characteristics of the aid financing landscape indicate that aid for food and nutrition could be made more sustainable.** Enhancing the sustainability of funding requires increasing investment in longer-term development assistance that is focused on systems strengthening; mainstreaming nutrition within existing food security and other sectoral investments to help optimize nutrition gains; channeling aid to the Government directly or ensuring that off-budget funding is aligned to government priorities and reported on-plan; and diversifying donor base to include private sector funding sources.

**Figure 8:** Donor disbursements to the WHA nutrition targets in Ethiopia by development assistance ONLY 2015-2021 (USD million)



Data source: Globally sourced via OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and R4D tracking aid for the WHA targets; trends are consistent with country-level expert consultation. Note: In 2015, there was an additional 7M USD to nutrition in the form of Humanitarian Assistance; in 2016, 21M USD, 2017 36M USD, 2019 31M USD, 2020 36M USD, and 2021 54M USD. While necessary, this type of aid is often short-term, unpredictable, and not conducive to sustainable systems strengthening. Humanitarian assistance is defined by DAC Sector Codes 720-740. Development assistance includes all other sector codes. Dollars are in 2015 constant.

## 4. Mobilizing resources to finance the Expansion & Scale-Up Phases

A critical component for the success of nutrition programming is securing the required resources to implement activities at the proposed scale and coverage to achieve the set targets. The interventions designed to achieve the food and nutrition security goals outlined in the Seqota Declaration and costed woreda-based plans will require significant resource mobilization and a sharp increase in external donor funding for the final three years of the Expansion Phase.

This Chapter proposes a set of financing targets to mobilize the Roadmap's full costs to scale up programming and strengthen systems.

### 4.1. Financing principles and assumptions for target-setting

**The following financing principles centered on country ownership & sustainability have been used to guide target-setting for the resource mobilization plan.** They were established through a consultative process based on a review of Ethiopia's current financing landscape for food and nutrition programs, as described above. Table 2 summarizes the assumptions to guide target-setting that follow these principles.

#### **Financing Principles:**

1. Government investments in the Seqota Declaration continue accelerating to ensure sustainability and scale-up of programming.
2. When possible, donors increase the amount of funding channeled through "on-budget" support and managed by the Government to strengthen systems and match government initiatives.
3. Donors continue to increase "off-budget" support for the Seqota Declaration, following recommendations and reporting investments through Seqota Declaration planning mechanisms to strengthen coordination (noting that some donors cannot channel funds directly to the Government).
4. New innovative funding sources will be pursued, and funding will be pooled to support programs holistically.
5. In the longer term, once systems are strengthened and programs are established, annual costs will decrease and can be supported mostly by the Government.

**Table 2:** Assumptions used to guide target-setting across the three main funding sources

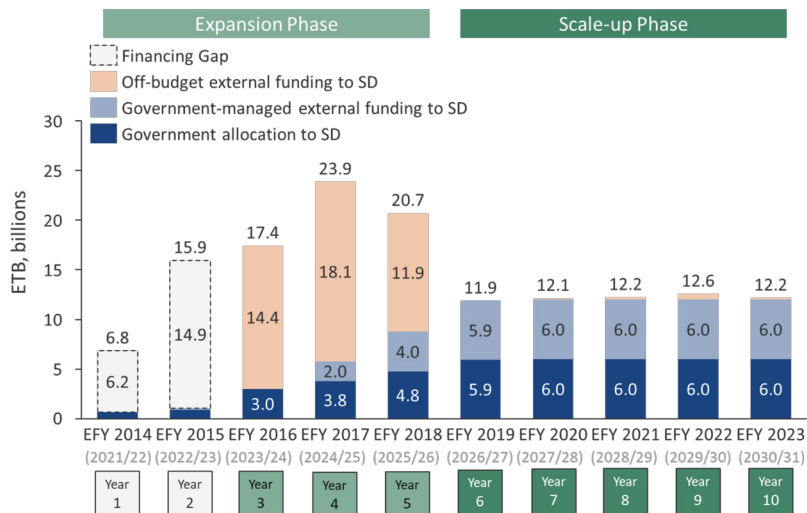
Funding Source		Assumption
Government Allocation to the Seqota Declaration: Federal & Regional		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Year 3, the Federal Government will commit the total amount requested by the Seqota Declaration, and regional governments will match Federal allocations (or more).</li> <li>By the start of the Scale-Up Phase (Year 5), the Federal Government will double its allocation directly to the Seqota Declaration, and regional governments will match Federal allocations (or more).</li> </ul>
<b>External Funding</b>  <i>Sources of external funding include donors, development banks, private sector charitable donations, philanthropists,</i>	<b>Government-Managed External Funding to the Seqota Declaration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Year 5, government-managed external funding to Seqota Declaration will double to 126M USD.</li> <li>By Year 6, partners will match government allocations 1:1 by providing on-budget support directly to Seqota Declaration (publicly managed through the government financial system - Channel 1 or 2).</li> </ul>
	<b>Off-Budget External Funding to the Seqota Declaration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External partners will increase off-budget allocations directly to Seqota Declaration to fill the remaining financing gap and meet Seqota Declaration Roadmap costs.</li> </ul>

## 4.2. Annual funding targets to achieve the 10-year Roadmap

Figure 9 illustrates annual funding targets needed to mobilize 3.86B USD over the next eight years to fulfill the ambition of the Seqota Declaration Roadmap<sup>10</sup>. Annual targets are set for the three main funding sources: Government allocations to the Seqota Declaration; Government-managed external funding to the Seqota Declaration; and Off-budget external funding to the Seqota Declaration. Mobilizing these costs will finance the Roadmap.

<sup>10</sup>As noted above in Chapter 1.3: Since publication of the roadmap, costs have increased due to inflation and the true costs to implement the full scope of the Seqota Declaration have increased due to the current economic situation. The relative costs remain consistent and are therefore still used as the foundation for the resource mobilization targets. However, more will be needed to fulfill the true ambition of the plan.

**Figure 9: Annual Funding Targets to Reach the Costs for Years 3-10 of the Expansion and Scale-Up Phases of the Seqota Declaration (USD, millions)<sup>11</sup>**



### Key takeaways and policy notes:

- Government contributions from both Federal and Regional levels require a steady increase throughout the Expansion Phase so that by Year 6, the Government is contributing half of the resource needs.** Starting from Year 1, the Seqota Declaration has requested 47M USD from the Federal Government, where roughly one-fifth of the request was funded (See Figure 6). By Year 3 of the plan, the Government expects to commit the full 47M USD requested and that regions will match (or exceed) this 47M USD allocation to reach a total of 94M USD contributed to the Seqota Declaration from government sources. By the start of the Scale-Up Phase, the Federal Government doubled its allocation directly to the SD from 47M USD in Year 3 to 94M USD in Year 6. Regional governments match Federal allocations (or more), similarly doubling from 47M USD in Year 3 to 94M USD in Year 6, for 189M USD contributed to the Seqota Declaration from government sources during each of the five Scale-up Phase years.
- Accelerated commitments from partners are needed over the next three years to support Expansion and systems strengthening.** Higher costs seen for the Expansion Phase are largely the result of scaling up the Seqota Declaration to 240 woredas in Years 1-2 and 460 woredas Year 3-5 and to support strengthening the foundational systems required for Seqota Declaration financial management overall. Up-front programmatic support is needed to fund priority interventions identified in woreda costed plans and systems support for the ToKP and RTPM tool (See Chapter 2). In this period, financial management systems are strengthened, foundations for intervention delivery systems are established, and the Government’s capacity to map nutrition financing to clear outputs and results increased so that by Year 6, the Government is capacitated to manage nearly all funding for the Seqota Declaration.

<sup>11</sup>See Annex Figure A4 for Figure 9 reported in ETB.

- **Government-managed external funding to the Seqota Declaration increased over time as an important way of strengthening country systems** (Collaborative Africa Budget Reform Initiative, 2008). By the end of the Expansion Phase, government-managed external funding to the Seqota Declaration should double from 63M USD in Year 4 to 126M USD in Year 5. By Year 6, partners match government allocations 1:1 by providing on-budget support directly to the Seqota Declaration, doubling the 186M USD to 378M USD in total government-managed funding. This funding is publicly managed through the government financial system, utilizing either Channel 1 or 2 (See Figure 4).
- **Off-budget external funding to the Seqota Declaration must be on-plan.** As it will likely take several years for partners to transition funding modalities to support the Seqota Declaration directly (e.g., government-managed or on-budget), the plan puts a focus on off-budget funding in the short term—with 447M USD required in Year 3, 6M USD in Year 5 and 375M USD in Year 6. This financing must be reported to the Government via existing mechanisms, including via costed woreda-based planning processes.
- **At least 20% of the total external funding should come from new sources, including private sector and charitable contributions.** As the amount of funding required from external sources is additional to existing contributions by current donors, there is a need for new sources of funding. A benchmark of 20% of external funding from new donors has been established. This can be either government-managed or off-budget support.

### Financing targets at a glance:

- To support the Expansion Phase, the aim is to mobilize an additional 1.9B USD over the next three years:
  - \* **552M USD (27.6%) managed through government systems, including:**
    - 363M USD from the Government (Treasury and regions)
    - 189M USD from external partners channeled directly to the Government to strengthen systems
  - \* **1.4B USD (72.3%) from external sources directly to IPs (off-budget)**
- Throughout the Scale-up Phase (Years 6-10), the aim is to mobilize an additional 378M USD each year managed through government systems:
  - \* **189M USD (50%) from the Government (Treasury and regions)**
  - \* **189M USD (50%) from external partners channeled directly to the Government to strengthen systems**

**Reaching these financing targets is achievable.** For the Government, mobilizing 189M USD<sup>12</sup>(6B ETB) annually for the Seqota Declaration represents just 0.7% of the 2023-24 national parliament approved budget (787B ETB).

<sup>12</sup>Important to note here there are additional allocations to nutrition from government including to other national programs with nutrition objectives such as ONEWASH and PSNP, as well as other broad sector nutrition allocations. This 189M USD does not include other allocations from government to nutrition outside of the Seqota Declaration.



Strengthened advocacy efforts can help achieve this target (See Box 4). For donors collectively, the annual need during Scale-up represents less than 4% of how much is spent annually on official development assistance to Ethiopia<sup>13</sup>.

#### **Box 4: Elevating Nutrition Financing through Strengthened Advocacy Efforts**

Budget advocacy will help elevate nutrition as a funding priority for the Government (federal/ regional/ woreda) and partners to allocate financial resources to implement the Seqota Declaration. This will be achieved through strengthening advocacy messages to ensure that nutrition is prioritized during budgeting and planning processes, developing position papers/policy briefs on the importance of specific nutrition budgets and budget proposals on innovative financing, lobbying to add a nutrition line in the budgeting at federal/regional levels, engaging key decision makers (parliamentarians at federal level and council members at regional) to influence the budgetary allocation for nutrition, conducting yearly regional workshops to align regional plans with the Seqota Declaration financing framework, and organizing roundtable meetings to advocate for funding allocation.

<sup>13</sup>Data is from the OECD Creditor Reporting System. Average total ODA to Ethiopia over the last five years reported (2017-2021) is 5,139M USD.



## 5. Call to Action: Achieving the Seqota Declaration Sustainable Financing Goals

The Seqota Declaration is designed to deliver high-impact nutrition, sensitive, nutrition-specific, and climate and nutrition smart infrastructure interventions across multiple sectors, recognizing that ending child stunting and all other forms of malnutrition requires coordinated efforts from all stakeholders. Nutrition is a central part of human capital development, and all partners, private & public, domestic & external, have key roles to play in sustainable nutrition financing. And by doing so, to eliminate stunting for children under two in Ethiopia.

Here are ways partners can help achieve the Seqota Declaration's sustainable financing goals (See Chapter 1.4 for the list of goals and see Annex 2 for further details on each of the actions below):

### **GOAL 1: Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition for improved nutrition outcomes and evidence-based decision-making**

As noted in Chapters 1-4 above, the Government of Ethiopia has already established processes and financial commitments to strengthen multi-sectoral financing management. This can be seen through implementation of GMP activities, continued roll-out of the RTPM and UNISE tools, coordination of ToKP, and development of CWBPs, among others. Supportive partner actions:

1. Fund capacity strengthening activities to expand training on costed woreda-based planning to additional woredas.
2. Fund capacity-strengthening activities to expand training on RTPM tool at woreda level to strengthen resource tracking and accountability mechanisms.
3. Scale-up of UNISE as a multi-sectoral nutrition information system helping to monitor performance and program quality.
4. Strengthen the ToKP to enhance engagement of partner universities at local levels in supporting local-level data generation, data quality assurance, and formulation of policy briefs.
5. Fund capacity-strengthening activities to support implementation of the gender mainstreaming checklist tool to strengthen gender-responsive resource allocation & planning.

### **GOAL 2: Increase sustainable funding sources by engaging with existing and, new, and innovative stakeholders to fund the Seqota Declaration**

The Government is committed to funding the Seqota Declaration. A review of the funding allocation shows the Government has increased its investment by 24% from 13M USD in EFY 2014 (2021-22) to 16M spent in EFY 2015 (2022-23), and the funding targets shown in Figure 9 indicate commitment to continue this acceleration. However, external partner support is needed to help fill the financing gap. Supportive partner actions:

6. Support the existing multi-sectoral nutrition fund through the Treasury to support Seqota Declaration interventions.
7. Consider creating a new multi-sector pooled fund for the Seqota Declaration (like One-WASH).

8. Fund implementing woredas and partners directly using a GUG approach that enables a transfer of funds to woredas through a call for proposals from the woreda and kebele administrations.
9. Issue a call for proposals for community-based organizations through a competitive process that factors in gender mainstreaming to ensure women's empowerment (apply for funding).
10. Fund IPs directly to help scale-up priorities identified to fill the gap in costed woreda-based plans.
11. Engage public-private sector collaboration to fund nutrition programs.

### **GOAL 3: Mobilize 3.86B USD over the next 8 years to finance the Expansion & Scale-Up Phases**

As per the Roadmap and the targets described above, the Government will increase funding during the Expansion Phase to operationalize the plan and expand its capacity to manage funding. By the Scale-up phase, the Government will mobilize 189M USD (from both the Treasury and regions) and manage approximately 100% of funding to the Seqota Declaration. Supportive partner actions:

12. Over the next three years, commit funding for the Expansion Phase to help mobilize the financing needs required from partners to scale programs and strengthen systems.
13. During the Scale-up Phase, help mobilize 189M USD per year from external partners channeled directly to the Government.

These actions from partners will help the Government of Ethiopia achieve the Seqota Declaration's financing goals and ultimately scale up the Seqota Declaration's coverage to reach all additional woredas and eliminate stunting for children under 2 by 2030.

**Supporting the Seqota Declaration Roadmap through these actions will help reach over 25 million households by 2030 with life-saving services and support the Government of Ethiopia's commitment to end malnutrition.**

## 6. Monitoring Progress

Monitoring progress toward financing targets and supportive actions is crucial to this resource mobilization plan. The log frame below can be used to track progress. As described in the section above, each sustainable financing goal requires a set of actions to be achieved by all partners. In the log frame below, these actions are presented as outputs with corresponding targets and example indicators for tracking. Progress should be reviewed routinely and as part of the annual budget and planning cycle.

### The Seqota Declaration Resource Mobilization Plan Logframe

Baseline year: EFY 2015 (July 2022-June 2023)

Intervention	Target	Indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Aim: Sustainable (stable and predictable) funding sufficient to implement the Seqota Declaration expansion and scale-up phases mobilized				
<b>Goal 1: Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition</b>		<b>Improved capacity to manage finance and partners and collect and utilize quality data for decision-making and accountability mechanisms</b>		
<b>Output 1:</b> Training on costed woreda-based planning provided additional Expansion and scale-up woredas.	• 1050 expansion and scale-up woredas by 2030	• # of Expansion and scale-up woredas received CWBP training	• Training reports • Quarterly and yearly reports	• Availability of funding on time Output 2: Training on RTPM tools provided for additional Expansion and scale-up woredas.
<b>Output 2:</b> Training on RTPM tools provided for additional Expansion and scale-up woredas.	• 1050 expansion and scale-up woredas by 2030	• # of Expansion and scale-up woredas received RTPM training.		
<b>Output 3:</b> Training provided on UNISE to additional Expansion and scale-up woredas.	• 1050 expansion and scale-up woredas by 2030	• # of Expansion and scale-up woredas received UNISE training.		
<b>Output 4:</b> Expansion and scale-up phase woredas received support from ToKP universities to improve data generation and utilization.	• 1050 expansion and scale-up woredas by 2030	• # of Expansion and scale-up woredas received ToKP initiative support.		
<b>Output 5:</b> Training on gender mainstreaming checklist tool provided to additional Expansion and scale-up woredas.	• 1050 expansion and scale-up woredas by 2030	• # of Expansion and scale-up woredas received gender checklist support.		
<b>Activities</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide training on CWBP for experts in Expansion and scale-up woredas.</li> <li>• Provide RTPM training for experts in Expansion and scale-up woredas.</li> <li>• Provide UNISE training for experts in Expansion and scale-up woredas.</li> <li>• ToKP universities provide technical and mentoring support in Expansion and scale-up phase woredas.</li> <li>• Provide training on gender mainstreaming checklist tools in Expansion and scale-up woredas.</li> </ul>				

Goal 2: Increase sustainable funding sources for the Seqota Declaration	Seqota Declaration funding sources are diversified by number and type			
<p><b>Output 6:</b> Increased government financial allocation at all levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All regions matched the federal Seqota Declaration budget annually</li> <li>75% of funding obtained through the on-budget channel by 2026</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of regions with equivalent budgetary match allocation to the Seqota Declaration.</li> <li>Amount of aid obtained through the on-budget channel to the Seqota Declaration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly and yearly reports</li> <li>Donor reports</li> <li>RTPM reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong financial advocacy activities in place.</li> <li>Sustained resource mobilization events and meetings implemented with government decision-makers, partners, and the private sector.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 7:</b> New multi-sector pooled fund for Seqota Declaration created.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed design and buy-in within 1 year</li> <li>A dedicated pooled fund created for the Seqota Declaration by 2025</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A dedicated pooled fund created for the Seqota Declaration.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Output 8:</b> Direct funding to woredas through GUG as one option</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 partners providing direct funding support through GUG scheme by 2025.</li> <li>875,000 USD provided per year under the GUG scheme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of partners providing direct funding support through GUG scheme.</li> <li>Amount of resources provided under the GUG scheme.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35 total woredas at 25,000 USD per woredas.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 9:</b> Options created to issue a call for proposals for community-based organizations with a consideration of gender mainstreaming for empowering women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 community-based organizations received funding till 2030.</li> <li>350,000 USD per year funding support to community-based organizations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of community-based organizations received funding.</li> <li>Amount of funding allocated to community-based organizations.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assuming 1 community-based organization per region. 25,000 USD per CBO.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 10:</b> IPs support woredas directly to fill the gap in costed woreda-based plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 partners providing direct funding support to fill CWBP gap.</li> <li>1.3 million USD per year provided through direct support scheme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of partners providing direct funding support to fill CWBP gap.</li> <li>Amount of resources provided through direct support scheme.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 regions and 35 woredas. 2M ETB per woreda, 1.3 million USD total.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 11:</b> Public-private sector collaboration strengthened to fund Seqota Declaration initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 private sector entities providing funding support to the Seqota Declaration expansion and scale-up phases.</li> <li>51 million USD allocated from private sector entities.</li> <li>20% of the total external funding will come from new sources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of private sector entities providing funding support to the Seqota Declaration expansion and scale-up phases</li> <li>Amount of funding allocated from private sector entities.</li> <li>20% of the total amount of external funding to come from new sources</li> <li>20% of 2.6 billion USD (total amount from external sources off and on budget) is 51 million USD</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% of 2.6 billion USD (total amount from external sources off and on budget) is 51 million USD</li> </ul>

**Activities**

- Map potential donors and private sectors and prioritize their engagement as aligned with all Strategic Objectives.
- Accelerated advocacy with regions to assign nutrition advisors at bureau head level.
- Advocacy activities with regional governments to dedicate a minimum of 2% of the regional annual budget to the Seqota Declaration.
- Advocate regions to match the federal Seqota Declaration budget.
- Advocacy with traditional donors and creating a dedicated pooled fund for the Seqota Declaration.
- Advocacy with donors to consider funding options through GUG scheme, call for proposals, and/or provide direct funding support to fill CWBP gap considering gender mainstreaming for women empowerment.
- Outreach to and engagement with private companies to seek commitment for funding.

**Goal 3: Mobilize resources to finance the Expansion and Scale-Up Phases**

**USD 3.86 billion mobilized to fund the Seqota Declaration expansion and scale-up phases**

<p><b>Output 12:</b> Stakeholders committed funding for the Seqota Declaration Expansion Phase.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD 1.9 billion mobilized for the expansion phase.</li> <li>• 363M USD from the government Treasury and regions</li> <li>• 189M USD over 3 years from external partners channeled directly to the Government.</li> <li>• 1.4B USD from external sources directly to IPs (off-budget)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Amount of funds mobilized for the expansion phase.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Quarterly and yearly reports</li> <li>•Donor reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•By Year 3, the total amount requested by Seqota Declaration will be committed by the Federal Government.</li> <li>•Regional governments match Federal allocations.</li> <li>•By Year 5, the government-managed external funding to the Seqota Declaration will double to 126M USD.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 13:</b> Stakeholders committed funding for the Seqota Declaration Scale-up Phase.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD 1.9 billion mobilized for the scale-up phase.</li> <li>• 378M USD each year managed through government systems.</li> <li>• 189M USD each year from external partners channeled directly to the Government to strengthen systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Amount of funds mobilized for the scale-up phase.</li> <li>•Amount of funds channeled directly to the Government to strengthen systems</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•By Year 6, partners will match government allocations 1:1 by providing on-budget support directly to the Seqota Declaration.</li> <li>•External partners will increase off- budget allocations directly to Seqota Declaration to fill the remaining financing gap and meet Seqota Declaration Roadmap costs.</li> </ul>

**Activities**

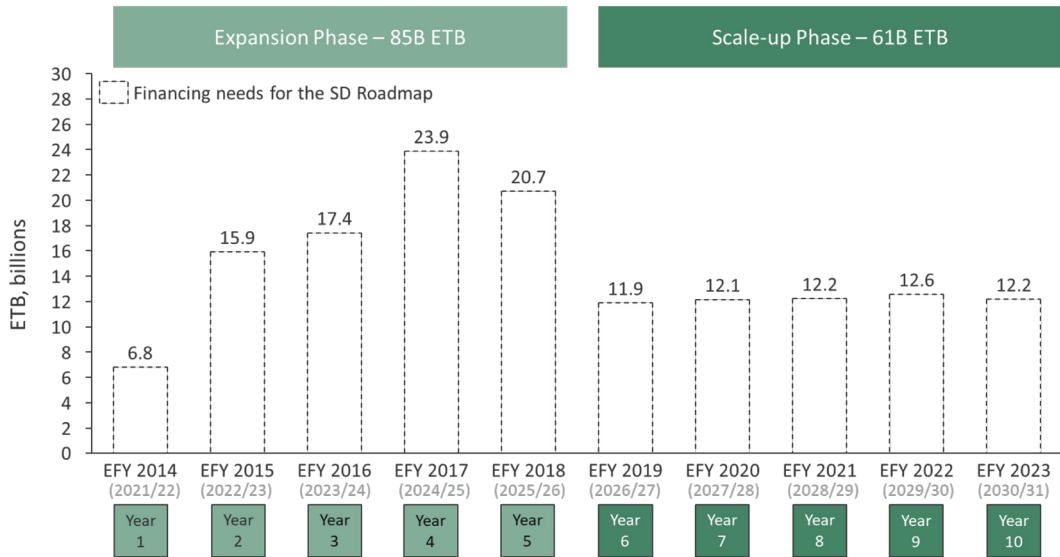
- Develop resource mobilization advocacy/communication tools for different audiences.
- Organize events (round table, one-to-one, workshops, etc.) to mobilize resources.
- Set multi-year mutual expectations for traditional donors with no multi-year agreements.

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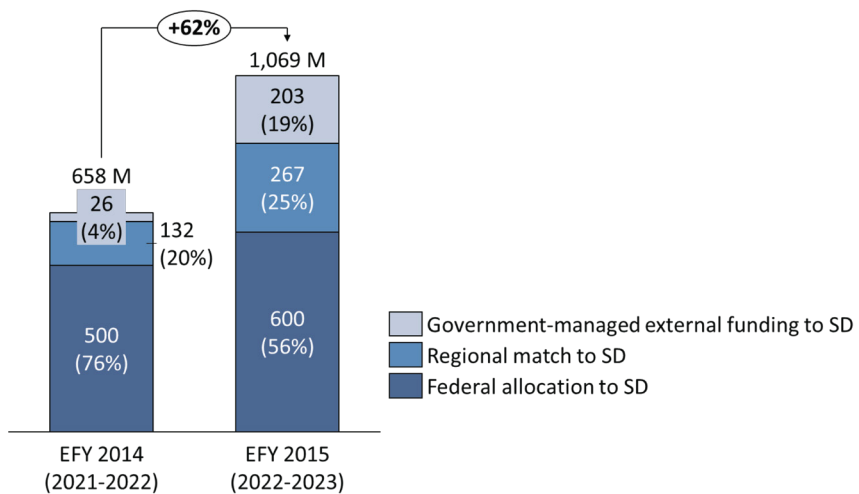
## Annex 1: Figures reported in Ethiopian Birr

**Figure A1:** The estimated annual costs of the Seqota Declaration by Expansion and Scale-Up Phases (2021-2030, ETB billions)

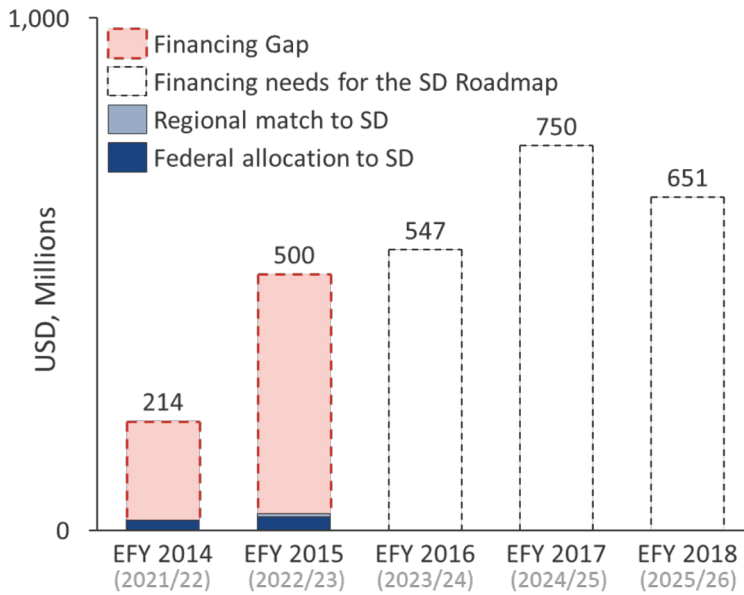


Data Source: Seqota Declaration: Roadmap for Expansion and Scale-up Phases 2021-2030

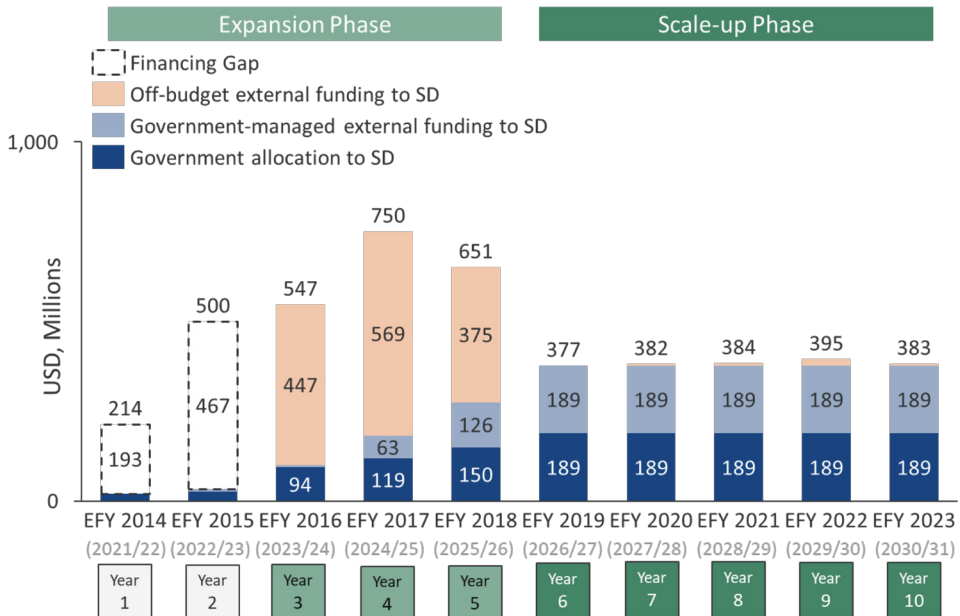
**Figure A2:** Baseline funding allocated directly to the Seqota Declaration and managed by the Government, EFY 2014 & 2015 (ETB, millions)



**Figure A3:** Baseline funding allocated directly to the Seqota Declaration and managed by the Government, compared against the costs for the Expansion Phase (ETB, Billions EFY 2014-18)



**Figure A4:** Annual Funding Targets to Reach the Costs for Years 3-10 of the Expansion and Scale-Up Phases of the Seqota Declaration (ETB, billions)



Note: Government allocations to the Seqota Declaration include both federal and regional commitments as per the breakdown noted in Table 2



## Annex 2: Call to Action Reference Table

Goal	Action	Notes
<p><b>Goal 1: Strengthen multi-sectoral financial management for nutrition</b></p>	<p>1. Fund capacity strengthening activities to expand training on costed woreda-based planning to additional woredas.</p>	<p>See section 2.2 for a description of costed woreda-based planning.</p> <p>The costed woreda-based planning process was successfully piloted during the Innovation Phase and now aims to be rolled out in 700 additional Seqota Declaration woredas in the Expansion Phase and 350 additional woredas in the Scale-Up phase. Capacity-strengthening activities and training are required to ensure activity prioritization, planning, and implementation. The woredas included in the Expansion Phase will be determined based on the Seqota Declaration selection criteria based on a combination of need (highest burden of stunting), return on investment, and opportunity for success</p>
	<p>2. Fund capacity-strengthening activities to expand training on the RTPM tool at woreda level to strengthen resource tracking and accountability mechanisms.</p>	<p>See section 2.3 for a description of the RTPM tool. Trainings are led by EPHI. Regional training has been completed, and additional training is underway. Materials and structures exist for the tool training to be rolled out to all other woredas.</p>
	<p>3. Scale-up UNISE as a multi-sectoral nutrition information system helping to monitor performance and program quality.</p>	<p>Following the success of the innovation phase, the Government of Ethiopia committed to prioritizing the capacity building needed for UNISE scale-up to ensure coordinated data collection and monitoring systems (Roadmap pg 40). See section 2.3 for a description of UNISE. Similar to the roll-out of the RTPM tool, targeted training and coaching support is led by EPHI to nutrition experts and frontline workers, which is essential to running a sustainable UNISE system. Funding the continued scale-up of UNISE will help with program monitoring and evaluation.</p>

	<p>4. Strengthen the ToKP to enhance engagement of partner universities at local levels in supporting local-level data generation, data quality assurance, and formulation of policy briefs.</p>	<p>See section 2.4 for a description of the ToKP. Data collected from CWBPs, the RTPM tool &amp; UNISE, should be analyzed and leveraged by ToKP partner universities to inform policy makers. Strengthening the ToKP will help strengthen coordination across all financial management tools and processes, including CWBP, RTPM &amp; UNISE, and help improve any data management or quality issues that arise.</p>
	<p>5. Fund capacity-strengthening activities to support implementation of the gender mainstreaming checklist tool to strengthen gender-based resource allocation and planning.</p>	<p>The checklist is rolled out by Woreda Coordinators and the WNCB during the initial budgeting process (See Annex 3).</p>
<p><b>Goal 2: Increase sustainable funding sources for the Seqota Declaration</b></p>	<p>6. Support the existing multi-sectoral nutrition fund through the Treasury to support Seqota Declaration interventions.</p>	<p>Partners would provide funding directly to the Government of Ethiopia through the existing multi-sectoral nutrition fund within the Ministry of Health.</p>
	<p>7. Consider creating a new multi-sector pooled fund for the Seqota Declaration.</p>	<p>Ethiopia has experience managing pooled funds, for example, the SDG pooled fund within the Ministry of Health. The proposed action is to consider a multi-sectoral pooled fund supporting nutrition activities across sector budgets and programs. There are several benefits to a pooled funding mechanism, most notably that pooling funds allows for lower administrative costs and efficiency gains in programming. However, the ability of multiple donors to pay into such a fund while meeting donor-specific requirements raises the biggest consideration for the feasibility of this option. If this action is selected, the design of a new pooled fund for the Seqota Declaration would need to be explored in further detail with interested partners and government counterparts.</p>

	<p>8. Fund implementing woredas and partners directly using a GUG approach that enables a transfer of funds to woredas through a call for proposals from the woreda and kebele administrations.</p>	<p>This action may be feasible through an existing, large-scale project funded by a donor. A Grant-under-grant (GUG) approach, called sub-granting or sub-contracting, involves directly channeling funding from an existing budget managed by an IP to the woreda or kebele. This will ensure specific needs of the woreda or kebele are met while remaining consistent with the broader project objectives and strategies determined by the funder/ partner. These specific needs may be identified through the CWBP process.</p> <p>For example, Save the Children International and Ethiopia Feed the Future - Growth through Nutrition Activity have implemented a successful GUG mechanism with the FMOH and FMOAL through a USAID multi-sectoral nutrition and WASH project and have published guidance on GUG design within Seqota Declaration woredas, which may serve as a helpful reference to partners who wish to explore this action.</p>
	<p>9. Issue a call for proposals for community-based organizations through a competitive process that factors in gender mainstreaming to ensure women’s empowerment (apply for funding).</p>	<p>This option might interest domestic private sector funders interested in supporting community-based organizations located in the geographies they work in and may not be as relevant for larger bilateral or multilateral partners working at national level. During the selection process, partners should prioritize women-led organizations and projects that mainstream gender to ensure women’s empowerment in support of the Seqota Declaration’s commitment to women’s economic empowerment in Strategic Objective 6.</p>
	<p>10. Fund IPs directly to help scale-up priorities identified to fill the gap in costed woreda-based plans.</p>	<p>Some donors may be unable to fund the Government directly for various reasons. Using the costed woreda-based plans to identify intervention area gaps will ensure funding is efficiently allocated and will limit duplication of effort. The option to fund IPs/NGOs directly also provides flexibility to partners with funding stipulations that limit their ability to fund on-budget programs.</p>

	11. Engage public-private sector collaboration to fund nutrition programs.	Private company corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs aim to provide positive social value and build a positive brand around the company. Potential public-private sector collaboration agreements could range from collaborations with food manufacturers to food supply chain infrastructure investments. Effectively utilizing public-private collaborations for sustainable development is a priority for the Government of Ethiopia, as highlighted in Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan (2015/16 – 2019/20) and Ten-Year Development Plan (2021-2030).
<b>Goal 3: Mobilize resources to finance the Expansion &amp; Scale-Up Phases</b>	12. Over the next three years, commit funding for the Expansion Phase to help mobilize the financing needs required from partners to scale programs and strengthen systems.	See Section 4 for details on financing targets by source. Actions 1-11 describe modalities through which partners may decide to mobilize funding. Investments in the next three years should prioritize systems strengthening alongside programmatic investments, as per the Roadmap and cost-woreda-based plans.
	13. During the Scale-up Phase, help mobilize 189M USD per year from external partners channeled directly to the Government.	During the Scale-Up Phase, investments should be channeled directly to the Government to strengthen systems.

## Annex 3: Gender Mainstreaming Checklist for budget & planning

### Gender Mainstreaming Checklist

#### Purpose of the Checklist

This checklist is part of general guidelines that attempt to assist woreda and regional officials to ensure that gender perspectives are incorporated into their work toward achieving the commitments of the Seqota Declaration.

The checklist covers key components of the TA: planning, resource allocation, partnership management, advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation. This checklist can be used at any time in the project cycle. However, it is preferable to identify gender equality results and indicators as early as the planning and resource allocation stage and integrate gender at all levels, including monitoring and evaluation stages. Most importantly, the checklist helps the reader in terms of asking the right questions to ensure gender is integrated at all levels through the tools and questions that it incorporates. Coordination mechanisms at the woreda level are – Woreda Nutrition Coordination Body (WNCB) and Woreda Nutrition Technical Committee (WNTC). WNCB is chaired by Woreda Administrator (WA). WNTC is normally chaired by a nutrition focal person or woreda coordinator (WC). The regional level, the coordination mechanisms are – the Regional Nutrition Coordination Body (RNCB) and the Regional Nutrition Technical Committee (RNTC). Resource allocation at the woreda level is managed by WA.

#### Who will use the checklist?

The Woreda Coordinator and WNCB should use the checklist during the initial budgeting process and resource allocation decisions. It should be used periodically by WNCB to review resource allocation and use for Seqota Declaration Strategic Objectives 8 and 9.

## The Checklist

The following checklist should be used by WC for gender mainstreaming activities:

No.	Issue	Yes/ No	Where	Key Strategies and Responsible Body
<b>Situation Analysis</b>				
1	Has a gender-responsive needs assessment been done?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC and WNCB to review at the beginning of the year
2	If there was, has there been a greater participation of women, girls, boys, and men?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC and WNCB to review at the beginning of the year
3	Do women and men have equal access to resources?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	Each sector should do this annually
4	Are stakeholders and groups with gender expertise (e.g., Ministry of Women's Affairs, women's rights civil society organizations, gender divisions in the United Nations) consulted and included in the sectoral costed plan development	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC and WNCB to review at the beginning of the year
5	Is there sufficient number of women in key technical positions? (sufficient number amounts to at least 40% women)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State	Regional President to review quarterly with RNCB and RNTC
<b>Planning and Resource Allocation</b>				
6	Is there gender-sensitive planning for the allocation of nutrition resources? (see section on gender-sensitive planning on page 9)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	RNCB, RNTC, and Woreda Administrator to review quarterly
7	Is gender-responsive budgeting employed to promote gender equality and gender equity throughout the budgeting process? (See section on gender-sensitive budgeting on pages 9 and 10)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda Nutrition Resource Allocation Budget; IPs proposals	WNCB and WNTC to review proposals and allocation of resources by donors, IPs, and government(sector) in their quarterly meetings; Review allocation of resources for SDSOs 8 and 9
8	Were women and men equally involved in nutrition project design?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda; IP proposals	WNCB and WNTC to review proposals and allocation of resources by donors, IPs, and government(sector) in their quarterly meetings

9	If not, what opportunities exist for increasing women's access to and control of resources and/or benefits?			
10	Has there been an analysis of resource allocation by NNPII and Seqota Declaration strategic objectives related to gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	Review quarterly - RNCB and WNCB
11	Is there a budget allocated to fight discriminatory beliefs and practices that affect women's access to resources such as land, water, and sanitation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	Review quarterly - RNCB and WNCB
11	Is there a budget allocated for women and children's health?			
13	Are WNCBs and WNTCs reviewing nutrition resource tracking tools and financial dashboards to determine actual allocation of resources and expenditure for SOs 8 & 9?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	Review quarterly - RNCB and WNCB
14	Has the utilization of funds allocated specifically to gender-based components (including what is budgeted/spent disaggregated by sex where possible and appropriate) been tracked?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	Review quarterly - RNCB and WNCB
<b>Planning and Resource Allocation</b>				
15		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC to conduct quarterly and report to WNCB and RNTC
16	Have there been gender sensitization efforts among key officials (WC, WA, finance focal person, nutrition focal person)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	Periodic orientation to key officials by FPDU and Ministry of Women, Children, and Youth
17	Is there a tracking of performance of gender-related strategic objectives of NNPII and SDSO 8 and 9?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda and Regional State	A gender-specific dashboard to be managed by Regional Nutrition Coordination Committee on a monthly basis. The Regional Coordination Body to review it on a quarterly basis
18	Is there an assessment as to whether budget allocations are adequate to implement the gender-responsive policy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Regional State and Woreda	RNCB and WNCB to conduct an analysis at the end of each fiscal year to inform budget allocation for next fiscal year
19	Is there an assessment as to whether budget allocations are adequate to implement the gender-responsive nutrition projects?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC to review this quarterly and report to WNCB

	Is there improved use of potential of beneficiaries and natural and community resources;	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC to review each project
20	Is there gender balance in project training programs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC to review each project
21	Is there gender balance in nutrition project staffing	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC to review each project
22	Is there gender balance in staffing in CSOs, IPs, and other donors supported projects	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WNTC and RNCT to review each project
23	Is there gender balance in partnership management bodies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	Woreda coordinator to review with WA for WNCB and WNTC
24	Do the capacity assessment and planned capacity-building actions consider and address the specific needs of men and women?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	WA to review with WC and WNCB
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation</b>				
	Is there a system of accountability for beneficiaries and various beneficiary groups?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	Woreda coordinator to review with WNTC
25	Does the M&E plan include planned collection/disaggregation of relevant data by sex and age, how data gaps will be addressed, and analysis of disaggregated data to inform decision-making?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	Woreda coordinator to review with WNTC
26	Does the M&E plan include specific indicators to track resource allocation and performance of SDO 8 and 9?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Woreda	Woreda coordinator to review with WNTC

### Scoring Hints:

If you answered “Yes” to the majority of questions, you could consider your program gender-responsive and, therefore, either gender-sensitive, gender-specific, or gender-transformative. Further analysis will be required to determine which to distinguish between gender-sensitive (not action-oriented) and gender-specific or transformative - where true gender planning and actions occur.

If you answered “No” to most questions, your program may be gender-blind or gender unequal – and, therefore, not gender-responsive; therefore, you might want to revisit your activities.



**JANUARY 2024**

