



WORKSHOP REPORT

National Food and Nutrition Financing Framework Validation Workshop



9 – 10 June 2026

Ellili Hotel, Addis Ababa



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Introduction

The Government of Ethiopia has sustained its commitment to improve nutrition through strengthening the governance system and progressively increasing budget allocation from its treasury to finance high impact interventions that are proven to decrease all forms of malnutrition. To realize the goal of ending malnutrition, the government strengthened the food and nutrition policy landscape by developing and endorsing the Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy and the Seqota Declaration Roadmap. In addition, strong political and financial commitments were jointly made by government and development partners at the 2025 Paris Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit to support implementation of the national strategies and ultimately reach the country's nutrition targets.

The National Food and Nutrition Financing Framework provides a common understanding of the full resource need to end malnutrition in Ethiopia based on the well-established policy landscape and provides a framework of action to help achieve the financial and governance commitments made by the Government of Ethiopia at the 2025 Paris N4G.

From the outset, the financial framework was developed after key sectors identified and engaged in the design process using a participatory approach to ensure the framework reflects the perspectives, priorities, and expertise of all relevant stakeholders. An iterative process was used to refine the framework, including a series of consultations with technical working group members of FNS and document review workshops. Feedback from these engagements was documented and incorporated into the final draft. This process enabled sectors to review the financial framework before it is ready for validation

On this validation workshop key government sectors (Health, Agriculture, Water and Energy, Women and Social Affairs, Finance and Education), development partners (UNICEF, ECSC-SUN, YADAM foundation) and other stakeholders (SUN Business Network, Academia) participated, reviewed the draft document, provided additional feedback and endorsed the framework. The three worksheets included in the framework have been the focus of group discussions and fruitful discussion made on the planned regional investment plan development and post 2030 nutrition actions.

Objectives of the Workshop

- Provide overview of the Food and Nutrition Policy landscape and Financing actions
- Present the draft National Financing Framework
- Review and validate the final National Financing Framework
- Discuss and agree on the plan for Regionalization of the Framework and Development of Regional Nutrition Financing Plans
- Discuss the next decade of action on nutrition in Ethiopia [post 2030]

Opening Remarks and Keynote Address

Opening Remarks by Dr Sisay Sinamo - Senior Program Manager- Seqota Declaration

The opening remarks outlined the objectives of the workshop and emphasized the importance of the nutrition financing framework in the context of persistent underfunding of nutrition programmes and declining global financing. The remarks highlighted the need to strengthen domestic resource mobilization, explore innovative financing approaches, and better leverage regional resources. They also underscored the importance of developing regional financing guidance and investment cases to support regional budget planning and resource mobilization, before concluding with appreciation to all participants and to R4D and UNICEF for supporting the framework's development and validation.



Dr. Sisay Sinamo addressing workshop participants

Keynote by Dr Yitayish Maru – Nutrition Specialist, UNICEF

The keynote address emphasized the importance of nutrition financing and the existence of key policy and strategic frameworks in Ethiopia with dedicated costing, including the Food and Nutrition Strategy (FNS), Food and Nutrition Policy (FNP), Seqota Declaration Roadmap, and Food Systems Roadmap. The nutrition financing framework was presented as a tool for providing a comprehensive view of financing needs and opportunities. Updates were also provided on the Nutrition Budget Tagging and Tracking (NBTT) initiative, which is expected to be finalized and endorsed soon. Finally, the remarks highlighted ongoing governance fragmentation as a key challenge and noted that the recently approved legal framework by parliament is expected to strengthen accountability.

Presentations

Key milestones to help achieve Ethiopia's N4G nutrition financing commitments

The presentation from Dr. Sisay provided an overview of Ethiopia's progress toward its Nutrition for Growth (N4G) nutrition financing commitments, highlighting nutrition financing as a key demonstration of sustained government commitment. It covered the national nutrition policy landscape and financing tools, progress on the N4G accountability framework, alignment of costed strategies with national commitments, identification of financing gaps, development of the Seqota Declaration resource mobilization plan, and implementation of the Costed Woreda-Based Planning approach and federal-regional budget matching process, through which approximately US\$40 million was reported to have been allocated from federal and regional treasury budgets this year, 2018 EFY, alone. Updates were also provided on the Nutrition Budget Tagging and Tracking (NBTT), resource tracking, and partnership management systems,

noting the need to better track substantial government co-financing through IFMIS. The presentation concluded by emphasizing the importance of strengthening private sector investment and addressing persistent nutrition financing gaps at the subnational level.

National Financing Framework to Sustainably Finance Food & Nutrition in Ethiopia

Dr. Wossen presented the methodology employed to develop the National Financing Framework, as well as key findings from the consultations and review with sectors, including key



Dr. Wossen Negash presenting the National Food & Nutrition Financing Framework

government programs that deliver interventions to combat malnutrition, sector-wide strategies and policies that guide annual planning for nutrition, and major challenges & good practices for sustainable nutrition financing in Ethiopia. The total resource need for food and nutrition in Ethiopia estimated in the framework was also presented, along with a set of recommended priority actions to meet this need and sustainably finance food and nutrition actions.

Working Sessions

Session One –

Sector working groups worked together to validate and refine the key programs, policies, financing challenges, and good practices captured in the Food and Nutrition Financing Framework.

Key reflections from the Session 1 sector working groups:

- Ministry of Women and Social Affairs
 - o Alignment of sectors indicator at all levels is needed for effective financing plan outcome
- Donors to align their funding with sector priorities indicated on the sector's strategy
- Ministry of Water and Energy
 - o Scanning (Identifying) partners currently working in the water and energy sector at all levels is very important
- Ministry of Finance
 - o Developing this framework is very helpful- even though we did it late
 - o For future engagement it will be useful to engage the international financing and economic cooperation department in the next processes of financial planning
 - o Still government financing is not adequate, the lobby and advocacy should continue
 - o The mechanism for sustainable domestic financing to be established or

- strengthened (Eg DRMC indicated)
- Ministry of Health-ACF
 - o There should be a mechanism to accommodate private innovative financing approaches in development of investment cases



Session Two –

Participants from the various sectors represented were all clustered into working groups (See Annex A) to validate the table of priority actions needed to sustainably finance food and nutrition in Ethiopia. Priority actions were in alignment with both the Government of Ethiopia's finance and governance N4G commitments as well as those in the food and nutrition strategy.



Workshop participants in working groups to complete the worksheets

Key Reflections from Session 2 Clustered Groups:

- Key sectors' engagement to be strengthened until the framework development is finalized
- Most of activities are inclined to health sector
- Still more is expected from sectors engagement eg. Agriculture
- Sectoral alignment and working in group and sectoral commitments should be strengthened
- Collaboration with development partners to be strengthened
- Technical and Financial engagement from the partners must be properly documented and reported
- Resource and partnership management to avoid duplication of resources
- All sectors' engagement is equally important for the operationalization of the framework
- Before finalization of the framework good to clear on the remaining issues related to the responsibilities

Session Three-

Each sector developed a nutrition financing action plan. Referring to the validated list of priority financing actions, sector groups listed each of the activities they are responsible for implementing and identified next steps, responsible parties and the timeline necessary for completing each activity.

Key Reflections from the Session 3 Sector Working Groups:

- Ministry of Finance:
 - o Highlighted nutrition financing as a government key priority
 - o Private sectors' engagement should be more elaborate
 - o Nutrition should be mainstreamed across all sectors
 - o Dedicated budget for nutrition to become a national agenda
- Ministry of Water and Energy:

- Important to align these nutrition financing efforts with the Nutrition Budget Tagging & Tracking initiative
- Currently various sectors are working on establishing a nutrition structure
- Assigning a budget code for nutrition remains a high priority
- Sectors are making progress to map resources and partners in an effort to align finance and technical support
- Ministry of Education:
 - It is challenging to specify and indicate a responsible person for nutrition financing activities. The sector should work to clarify this.
 - There needs to be a long-term financial plan for sustainability



Participant working sessions continue to finalize the worksheets

Plenary Discussion

Planning for regional financing plan development

One of the key priority actions planned in EFY 2019 is to strengthen regional capacity on nutrition financing and develop Regional Food and Nutrition Financing (Investment) plans. Previously, a consultative workshop was conducted by MoH bringing together Key Sectors and partners from YADAM foundation, UNICEF and FCDP to discuss and agree on the next steps for regionalization. Key recommendations from that initial convening include:

1. Cluster regions geographically for the roll-out
2. Conduct a pilot in one clusters and apply the lessons learned for the remaining clusters

These inputs formed the basis of the continued discussion during the plenary session. Participants of the validation workshop provided additional input on the planned Regional Financing Plan Development process:

- Cluster-based regional financing plan development is resource intensive. Important to review cost effectiveness and practicality of logistics
- The Ethiopia Fiscal Year starts in July, and the first quarter is a critical month for financial planning. There is no need to wait until September to initiate regional financing plan development.
- Very important to provide a pre-convening orientation for all regional participants.
- Line ministers should support and help follow-up with their vertical focal point.
- A clustered approach will enable pooled technical and practical experience.
- For special cases, a few regions can be approached with one-to-one planning
- Key federal sectors should engage during the regional financial planning process from the beginning.
- Utilize the existing technical committee at all levels during the planning process.

- Regional plans should cover all woredas, not only SD woredas.

Next decade of action on nutrition - post 2030

- Nutrition as an independent sector post 2030
- Separate budget lines and code for nutrition budget
- A focus on data reform across all levels of government.
- All planning for the next decade to be strongly evidence-based
- The country's next 4-5 years' experience to guide the next chapter.
- An evaluation should be conducted to identify what has been working and what has not been working over the past decade.
- Regional councils and technical committees should be engaged in planning.

Key Takeaways from the Workshop

Broad ownership and coordination across sectors is essential. Participants emphasized that nutrition financing cannot be siloed within one sector. Stronger engagement, clearer roles, and greater accountability are needed across all sectors for implementation.

Domestic financing must be strengthened. Despite recent progress, government financing remains insufficient. Participants called for sustained advocacy, stronger domestic resource mobilization, dedicated nutrition budget codes, and greater private sector engagement to close financing gaps.

Better coordination and transparency is needed to improve the efficiency of nutrition financing. Donor funding must be aligned with sector priorities, and there remains a need for increased visibility of available partners and resources to reduce duplication and fragmentation.

The Food and Nutrition Financing Framework should be embedded within existing government planning and budgeting processes. Participants highlighted the importance of linking framework actions with annual financial planning, Nutrition Budget Tagging and Tracking (NBTT), regional planning processes, and existing government coordination mechanisms.

Regional implementation will require early planning and capacity building. Participants recommended pre-engagement orientations, coordination with federal sectors from the outset, and leveraging existing technical committees.

Looking beyond 2030, nutrition financing should be further institutionalized. Priorities included establishing dedicated nutrition budget lines, strengthening data systems, conducting a review of lessons learned, and ensuring future planning is evidence-based and sustainable.

Annex A

Cluster Based Working Groups

Group	Worksheet 2- Validation of Priority Actions to Sustainably Finance Food & Nutrition	
1	Fantahun Bekalu	MoF
	Sinatayehu Kenea	MoH
	Yihune Worku	MoWSA
	Roza Demamu	MoF
	Siyoum Tadesse	SBN
	Bisrat Haile	MoH
2	Hawi Gebeyehu	MoF
	Asmamaw Eshete	MoH/ACF
	Mulugeta Tegeng	MoWE
	Nahosenay Alemayehu	ECSC-SUN/SCI
	Dr Sisay Sinamo	MOH
	Sisay Tesfaye	UNICEF
3	Samson Gebremariyam	MoF
	Dr Aregash Samuel	MoH-EPHI
	Getachew Admasu	MoE
	Sintayehu Bedada	YADAM Foundation
	Dr Wosen Negash	R4D
	Meskerem Balcha	MoWE
	Adinew Abate	MoH