



30 primary schools and nearly 31,000 pupils receiving locally sourced food; improving child nutritional status and supporting local small-scale farmers in the process.

Cost-effective water and sanitation infrastructure combined with behaviour-change education.



Annual preventive deworming treatment for over 22,000 school-aged children.

Evidence-based research on cost-effective and integrated school health and nutrition interventions.



## Enhanced School Health Initiative (ESHI)

ESHI is a joint collaboration of the Government of Ethiopia, the United Nations World Food Programme, the Partnership for Child Development, SNV and Dubai Cares.



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An innovative pilot programme integrating school feeding, water and sanitation, and deworming to support government initiatives in Ethiopia's Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region (SNNPR).



## Enhanced School Health Initiative (ESHI)



## Enhancing Communities in Ethiopia

With 89 percent of the population in Ethiopia facing multiple deprivations, the demand for services from the government, civil society and international community are immense. As a result, multiple organisations are operating to serve the same population and in some cases the same ailments.

This led to the question: **Can we work together to reach people in need more efficiently?** With the generous support of Dubai Cares, the Netherlands development organization SNV, Partnership for Child Development (PCD) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) are collaborating with Ethiopian government partners to pilot an innovative integrated school health and nutrition programme in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region of Ethiopia.

The result: the Enhanced School Health Initiative (ESHI), a programme which draws on the partners' comparative advantages to provide school health and feeding programmes which combine improved WASH, school-based deworming, and Home Grown School Feeding interventions. Together, these initiatives are designed to improve the health and education of children from 30 pilot schools.

Findings from this pilot will enhance the government's ability to deliver effective school health and feeding programmes.

## ESHI: What it's all about

### Home Grown School Feeding

HGSF has been shown to improve educational outcomes for children whilst at the same time improving local agricultural economies.

ESHI's HGSF component aims to strengthen the national capacity to improve primary education outcomes, reduce micronutrient deficiencies and to increase the income of smallholder farmers.

WFP is building the capacity of SNNP's regional Education Bureau to manage school feeding interventions, and of cooperative unions to market and supply quality products.



The Education Bureau will procure and deliver around 900 metric tonnes of maize, haricot beans, wheat, vegetable oil and salt annually to provide hot meals to nearly 31,000 school children in 30 primary schools.

### Water, Sanitation and Education

The SNV-coordinated Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) component is providing improved water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, services and learning to more than 18,000 vulnerable children and 100,000 members of the wider community.



Key activities include the construction and renovation of water and sanitation facilities, hygiene promotion and community capacity building.

## Deworming



Parasitic worm infections such as schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH) damage the health and educational development of children. As part of the annual deworming programme, more than 22,000 children in the 30 pilot schools received preventive treatment against STH. During annual surveys all children found to be infected by schistosomiasis

are treated with the drug Praziquantel as per national guidelines.

## Research and Learning



PCD, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute, is looking at the effectiveness of the ESHI programme.

The study includes a longitudinal survey to investigate the practicalities of

HGSF implementation and the efficiency of integrated school health and nutrition (SHN) approaches. Over the three-year pilot period, annual surveys will observe changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices of primary school children with regards to school feeding, educational access and WASH behaviour. Parasitic worm intensity and prevalence will be recorded each year as part of the deworming activities.

The data and findings will be used to shape the design and implementation of future large scale SHN intervention within Ethiopia and beyond.