RESILIENCE FOOD SECURITY ACTIVITY (RFSA)

Overview of Ifaa

CRS' Resilience Food Security Activity (RFSA), entitled Ifaa (Afaan Oromo for "light") will brighten the future for poor communities in Oromia by reducing intractable poverty, vulnerability, and food insecurity. Building on experience from the previous CRS-led Development Food Security Activity, CRS will continue to lead a consortium of specialized local and international partners to deliver high-quality services

Ifaa targets nine Woredas (districts) based on poverty, Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) caseload/potential for scale, partner presence, and opportunity for impact in Ethiopia's East Hararghe Zone of Oromia Region. Ifaa, at its core, is about helping community visioning and human-center approaches become more realistic and impactful. Ifaa will prioritize pregnant and lactating women, with a particular focus on first-time mothers, caregivers, and influential community members to ensure children under five receive adequate nutrition, vulnerable community members are reached, and behavior change takes root to create lasting change.

Ifaa will implement six balanced and cross-sectoral intervention packages that build on earlier successes and learning, responding to the key drivers of rural poverty, facilitating expanded scope, impact and reach. Together, these intervention packages will allow Ifaa achieve bold but realistic to outcomes, including increased production and consumption of diverse and nutritious foods by vulnerable household members; sustainable on- and off-farm livelihoods, especially for women, youth and people with disabilities; improved equitable market system functionality; enhanced water access and management for all uses; and improved functioning and responsiveness of government structures at all levels.







Integrated Packages

Ifaa's six intervention packages each comprise a core set of interventions and approaches to support multiple purposes and outcomes.

STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Ifaa will strengthen the capacity of Government of Ethiopia structures at various levels to provide more effective service delivery to stimulate client graduation, with a focus on inclusive leadership, responsiveness and accountability.

EXPANDING EXTENSION SERVICES

Ifaa will engage with and strengthen frontline agents including the public and private sector, volunteers and project staff.

SUPPORTING BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Ifaa will promote and demonstrate key behaviors to enhance adoption.

S IMPROVING ACCESS TO MARKETS AND SERVICES

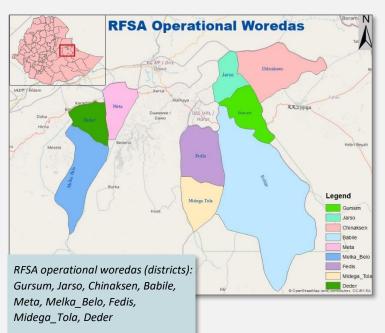
Ifaa will strengthen remote communities' access to inputs and services by supporting private agro-dealers and their networks, as well as specialized service providers such as community animal health workers, water operators, and toilet makers.

INCREASING EQUITY, INCLUSION & SOCIAL COHESION

Focus should be about female leadership, more household cohesion through the combination of Islamic Family House and The Faithful House and Dignified Families and added emphasis of PWD targeting.

BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT+ (IWM+)

Building climate resilience through Integrated Watershed Management+ (IWM+): Recognizing that social, economic, political, climate, technical factors and cross-sector relationships inform effective land, soil, and water use, and water programming, this Ifaa approach will strengthen the capacity and use of natural resource management (NRM) to improve land, soil and water decisions and initiatives combined with more effective integration with WASH.



Ifaa's Adaptive Management Approach

Ifaa's adaptive management approach and innovative feedback mechanisms will allow the activity to pivot or change as needed depending on challenges and shocks encountered during the activity lifecycle.

Ifaa will pursue cross-learning, integration, mutual reinforcement and collaboration with other USAID-funded activities, especially JEOP and three other RFSAs. Working with Woreda and Community level PSNP (Ifaa and Government of Ethiopia) teams, Ifaa will use a consultative process to guide communities to craft a shared vision of challenges and solutions and learn together for improved development results.

"THIS ACTIVITY HAS BEEN POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THROUGH THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT."

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