

# Ethiopia Strategy Support Program II

## Bridging Knowledge and Policy

### ESSP PROGRAM HISTORY & OBJECTIVES

Based in Addis Ababa, ESSP began its activities in late 2004 with the aim of undertaking timely and actionable research to fill knowledge gaps, improve knowledge database management systems, and strengthen national capacity to undertake policy relevant economic analysis.

Phase I of ESSP operated from September 2004 to June 2008. ESSP conducted a varied program of economic research and provided extensive technical and analytical support towards the establishment of the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange (ECX). Phase II of ESSP, which began in July 2008, places a greater emphasis on capacity strengthening, while continuing a program of policy-relevant research and analysis.

### ONGOING RESEARCH THEMES Research Initiatives 2011:

- Determinants of agricultural productivity
- Determinants of market prices of cereals
- Book on Ethiopian food and agricultural policy
- Rural-urban transformation
- Evaluation of watershed management investments
- Production shocks, livestock markets and household welfare
- Consumption, Savings and Investment Behaviors of Successful Farmers

### ESSP-II FUNDING

Since 2008, ESSP-II has received funding from a consortium of donors:

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Irish Aid-Government of Ireland
- UK Department for International Development (DFID)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



ESSP-II aims to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction in Ethiopia through policy-oriented research, institution strengthening, capacity building, and dialogue on economic and agricultural policy issues.

## Ethiopia Strategy Support Program Phase II (ESSP-II)

### Bridging Knowledge and Policy

The Ethiopia Strategy Support Program II (ESSP-II) is a collaborative program of capacity building, research, policy analysis and knowledge dissemination by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI).

### ESSP-II major activities:

- **Collaborative research within three key institutions promoting poverty reduction and economic development in Ethiopia**
  - **Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI)**
    - Support the EDRI SAM/CGE Analysis
    - Support short-term policy analysis on cereal markets, inflation, and economic growth
  - **Central Statistical Agency (CSA)**
    - Support integration of GIS analysis in CSA reports
  - **Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)**
    - Support analysis of agricultural markets and food security
- **Robust knowledge-management to contribute to policy dialogue, strategic priority setting, and evidence-based policy analysis.**
  - Strengthen data dissemination through REKSS
  - Create and maintain operational geo-database at CSA
  - Create operational agricultural policy database at MoA
- **Capacity strengthening and increased knowledge dissemination within the academic and policy research community, including:**
  - Joint seminars and training on economic modeling (EDRI)
  - Financial support for PhD training in economic analysis (EDRI)
  - Federal and regional GIS training (CSA)
  - Training on agricultural market analysis (MoA)
- **Enhancing communications and institutional linkages between policy makers, policy analysts, civil society, and other policy and research actors through joint seminars and other dissemination events.**

### ESSP-II Highlights of 2010

- CSA and ESSP-II launched the 2007 Ethiopia Population and Housing Census Atlas and database in November 2010.
- CSA and ESSP-II created a census geo-database.
- 155 trainees from EDRI, CSA and MoA were trained on CGE Model, GAMs Training (EDRI), Market Price Analysis (MoA) and / or GIS Training (CSA).
- 31 seminars and presentations were given to partners jointly with EDRI, EEA, and other collaborating institutions.
- A total of 16 Working Papers and 4 Draft Working Papers were published. Please visit <http://www.ifpri.org/category/publication-type/project-papers-and-notes/essp-ii-working-paper>
- ESSP-II selected 23 candidates for the Small Research Grant Award.
- A GIS-Lab was launched and support is available for all EDRI Research Staff.

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### COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIP

ESSP-II achievements depend on coordination and communication with key partners and stakeholders, including policymakers, donors, researchers, and private-sector and civil society leaders.

The Program has developed formal links with key institutions such as the Central Statistical Agency, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, the Ethiopian Economics Association, Ethiopian universities and research institutes, and numerous private trade associations.

### NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NAC)

- **Ato Newai Gebre-Ab**  
Chief Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister and Executive Director, EDRI
- **Ato Wondirad Mandefro**  
State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
- **Dr. Abraham Tekeste**  
State Minister, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)
- **Dr. Solomon Assefa**  
Director General, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR)
- **Wro. Samia Zekaria**  
Director General, Central Statistical Agency (CSA)
- **Ato Bulbula Tulle**  
Managing Director, Hawas Agri Business (Private Sector)
- **Dr. Bart Minten**  
Program Leader, IFPRI-ESSP-II (non-voting, ex-officio member)

### Providing Support in a Dynamic Environment

ESSP-II is country driven and country-owned. The program's priorities are set and updated regularly by a high-level National Advisory Committee.

ESSP-II is supported by a consortium of four donors who have pooled their funding to support policy analysis and evidence based policy dialogue, with the understanding that national partners set the agenda.

ESSP-II is structured in a way that enables collaboration with an extensive and unlimited range of partners, including national academic institutions, private-sector and civil-society actors, technical experts in line ministries, and donor agencies.

### The ESSP-II Team

The ESSP-II team is composed of nearly 40 highly qualified international and national researchers, based in Addis Ababa and Washington DC, who work with a broad set of collaborators in relevant partner institutions. The Program's primary administrative base is the IFPRI Addis Ababa office (on the campus of the International Livestock Research Institute), with an active research and outreach base at EDRI.

### Capacity Building Initiatives for 2011

- **Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI)**
  - Support to EDRI SAM/CGE Analysis
  - Support to short-term policy analysis on cereal markets, inflation, and economic growth
  - Joint seminar series
  - International PhD (5) training (planned)
- **Central Statistical Agency (CSA)**
  - Support to GIS analysis
  - Federal and regional GIS training
  - Strengthening of data dissemination through REKSS
- **Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)**
  - Support to agricultural and food security policy analysis
  - Creation of operational agricultural policy data base
  - Training on agricultural policy analysis

#### IFPRI – ETHIOPIA STRATEGY SUPPORT PROGRAM

[www.ifpri.org/themes/essp/essp.htm](http://www.ifpri.org/themes/essp/essp.htm)

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