



FEED ^{THE} FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

EMPOWERING NEW GENERATIONS TO IMPROVE NUTRITION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES (ENGINE) PRE-SERVICE EDUCATION PROJECT OUTCOME DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP

Workshop Proceeding

June 9, 2016

Elilly International Hotel, Addis Ababa



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

innovating to save lives
Jhpiego
an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University



Save the Children

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Workshop Summary

Pre-Service Education Component of Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunity (ENGINE), is a five-year project from September 2011 to July 2016, implemented by Jhpiego- Ethiopia. Jhpiego has been working on nutrition pre-service education and in-service training at 13 higher education institutions in four regions of Ethiopia with target cadres of health and agriculture. To officially disseminate the project outcomes and mark the closing of the pre-service component of the project, a half day workshop was organized at Elilly International Hotel, Addis Ababa-Ethiopia on June 9, 2016 where more than 60 participants from the project supported institutions, government stakeholders, and nutrition partners took part in.

Following the opening remarks and keynote addresses from representatives of Jhpiego, Save the Children, USAID and Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH, key project outcomes in the area of strengthening nutrition pre-service education and in-service training were presented which was supplemented by documentary video and photo gallery. The participants also reflected on the partnership and key project outcomes. The workshop was concluded with awarding project supported institutions with certificates.



Dr. Tadele Bogale, Deputy Country Director of Jhpiego, facilitating participant introduction

Objective of the workshop

The half-day workshop had the objectives of disseminating the project outcomes and hand-over of the pre-service education activities of ENGINE project to project supported institutions, government counterparts and same minded partners to support the sustainability and scale up of the project outcomes.

Workshop overview and participant introduction

The workshop started at 9:00 am by debriefing overview of the workshop and participants introduction.



Hannah Gibson, Country Director- Jhpiego, welcoming and opening the workshop

Opening and Welcoming Speech

A welcoming and opening speech was made by **Hannah Gibson**, Country Director of Jhpiego Ethiopia focusing on the main achievements of the project such as integration nutrition competency in to Agriculture ATEVT Curriculum, establishment of Academic Center of Excellence for Nutrition at Hawassa University, and education quality improvement. She stated how to further institutionalize the current marks to ensure the sustainability of the ENGINE project outcomes such as strengthening quality assurance offices of the institutions by allocating budgets for education quality improvement. In conclusion, heartfelt acknowledgment was directed

to the active cooperation of education institutions for their commitment in the implementation of the project and the unreserved support of USAID for financing the ENGINE project.

Key note addresses



Mary Harvey: USAID/ENGINE

Marry Harvey (ENGINE Project AOR) from USAID quoted the ENGINE project evaluation made by the team from Feed the Future and implementing organizations; specially stressed on three areas which are the quality, appropriateness and sustainability of the Feed the Future investment on nutrition capacity building. *“Health and Agriculture lectures trained in pedagogical skill helped them to improve their teaching methods so that students’ competency improved on national exams,”* Mary Harvey said in her keynote address.

Mary added that the trainings and curricular improvement done by Jhpiego resulted in strengthening competency based nutrition education. However, during the field visit there was a gap seen in midlevel agriculture curricula which require further work that resulted in integrating two new nutrition courses in the final year of project implementation. She also raised the gender sensitivity of the ENGINE project capacity building interventions were special tutorial and mini library were arranged for female students. Mary remarked more quotes from success stories about ENGINE project outcomes and concluded her speech by saying *“It is an incredible achievement!”*

Dr. Habtamu Fekadu: COP of ENGINE said the big ENGINE project not only worked on community level but also worked on capacity building at pre-service education level. Dr. Habtamu appreciated Jhpiego’s role in strengthening education system in the country and nutrition education in particular. He cited the efforts made in integrating essential nutrition competency in to existing health and agriculture curriculum and capacity building activities for instructors to delivery competency based nutrition education. He also stressed on the role of the project in establishing nutrition academic center of excellence for nutrition (ACEN) at Hawassa University which currently reached at the capacity to conduct operational researches, services and organize national nutrition conferences for the first time in Ethiopia. He concluded his speech by calling all project supported institutions to contribute to the national effort to fight against malnutrition and hunger using the capacity developed.



Dr. Habtamu Fekadu: CoP ENGINE



Mr Birara Melese: FMOH

Mr. Birara Melese: National Nutrition Case Team Coordinator at Federal Ministry of Health; mentioned the current magnitude of malnutrition in Ethiopia and the government’s plan to address the issues. He appreciated the role of Jhpiego as nutrition partner focusing on the contribution of ENGINE project in implementation of the national nutrition program through the development of skilled man power for nutrition. Birara also acknowledged the role of Jhpiego in designing and development of comprehensive blended integrated nutrition learning material for standardized nutrition in-service training.



Mesfin Goji team leader for ENGINE Pre-service education component

Key Project Achievements

The project major achievements were briefed by Mesfin Goji, team leader for the pre-service component of ENGINE project. He highlighted how the comprehensive nutrition pre-service education and in-service training strengthening activities for health and agriculture agents contributed to strategic objective of improving the nutritional status of women and young children. Moreover, Mesfin pointed out the project achievements,

challenges encountered and lessons learned over the life of award as follows: (Annexed PPT for details)

- 1) Two Nutrition core competencies defined for Health and agriculture cadres
- 2) A total of 98 syllabi revised for nutrition content at both health and agriculture disciplines.
- 3) Two new nutrition courses integrated to ATVET curricula at level 1 and 3 for crop production, livestock, and natural resource cadres.
- 4) Establishment of academic center of excellence for nutrition at Hawassa University College of Agriculture.
- 5) Essential skills lab material support to create enabling environment for nutrition skill teaching
- 6) Improving the quality of education in general which contributed to increase in national COC pass rate. (> 90%)
- 7) Training instructors in nutrition technical competency (knowledge , skills and attitude) and pedagogy so as to facilitate nutrition courses effectively and creation of large pool of nutrition trainers
- 8) Strengthening in-service nutrition training through development of nutrition program management training package and contributing to development of Blended Integrated nutrition learning material

Challenges encountered over the course of implementation

- Unavailability of most skills lab materials on local market.
- Absence of graduate tracking system at higher education institutions.
- High staff turnover at the project supported institutions.

Lesson learned

- Aligning with government initiatives and system is a tool to ensure sustainability of project outcomes.
- Active engagement of institutions' management and leveraging local resources are keys to bring desired change.
- Holistic support created trust and increased collaboration with project supported institutions

- Creating strong documentation and knowledge sharing system is key to retain institutional memory

Participants' Reflections on the Project Outcomes



Dr Ayele Gizachew: MOANR

Participants reflected on outcomes of project support at their institutions and how they are working to sustain them the existing system.

Dr. Ayele Gizachew from Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resource appreciated the initiative of ENGINE PSE project in integrating nutrition competency in to the agriculture ATVET curricula so as to produce skilled human power in nutrition sensitive agriculture which is in line with the plan of the Ministry. He said the ATVET education system focused on 70% practical and 30 % theoretical teaching and the support of Jhpiego in strengthening skill teaching system has been very supportive in addressing competency based training at the colleges.



*Mr Teklay W/Tensay:
Shire ATVET College*

Teklay W. Tensay from Shire ATEVT College appreciated the technical and logistic support from ENGINE. He mentioned how his college is currently working to sustain key interventions like training of new staff on nutrition technical capacity and pedagogic courses by allocating budget. The college also assessed the nutrition competency of agriculture graduates and the result indicated the majority of them were competent enough to promote and assist in nutrition sensitive agricultural practices. Teklay also mentioned that his college scaled up key project interventions to similar colleges in the region such as Wukro and Maychew ATVET colleges.



Molla Mesele from University of Gonder explained the support of Jhpiego in the establishment of separate nutrition skill laboratory and building the capacity instructors and technical assistants in managing nutrition skills lab. He also said that his institution is currently recruiting two skills lab technicians for smooth functioning of the nutrition skills lab.



*Mr. Fekadu Reta, Hawassa
University:*

Fekadu Reta from Hawassa University explained how the establishment of the ACEN enabled the college to conduct advanced nutrition researches

and facilitating opening of additional higher level academic programs like PhD in nutrition. He said, *“Sustainability is not a big issue for the college, since we are there to provide quality education. As a center of excellence we have started organizing national nutrition conferences that will continue every years to play a facilitating role in evidence generation and knowledge sharing. The college has plan to update its faculty’s nutrition skill competency to enhance the quality of nutrition service at community levels”*. Fekadu concluded by underlining that the issue of limited employment opportunity for B.Sc nutrition graduates needs to be solved to increase students’ motivation.



Tamene Teye: MOANR

Tamene Teye: Nutrition case team leader at Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources expressed the engagement of Jhpiego in the development of nutrition sensitive agriculture strategic plan especially the capacity building part. He added the significant role of Jhpiego in bringing together Ministry of Education and Ministry of Agriculture to develop and integrate in nutrition competencies in to agriculture BSc curriculum at nation level.



The workshop participant from AKLPD, nutrition partner, gave her witness that ENGINE is promoting nutrition sensitive agricultural food production and consumption at community level. She said what she came across while conducting community based research in southern nations, nationality and people region where cash crop is dominant. She added that the community is witnessing ENGINE project’s initiatives in promoting vegetable and fruits gardening and consumption focusing on women and children with support from agriculture extension workers.



Project documentary show case (gallery walk and video)

A documentary film on the project accomplishment developed by Jhpiego was shown and a photo gallery was displayed which was visited by the participants. The photo gallery was organized in different parts comprising curriculum strengthening, skill lab demonstration, practical farm teaching, class room

instruction, and material donation for the project supported institutions in the past five years. Different publications developed by Jhpiego ENGINE project were also available for display.

Closing Remark and Certificate Awards

The closing remark was given by the deputy country director of Jhpiego and the workshop was concluded by handing over certificates of appreciation for the 13 higher education institutions implementing ENGINE project.



Annexes

Presentation of Key Achievements



Adobe Acrobat
PDFXML Document

Workshop Schedule



Schedule ENGINE
PSE Project Handover