

Assessing the Impact of the Ethiopian Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)

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Key Features

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❑ Motivation

- the drought of 2002-03;
- New Coalition for Food Security in Ethiopia (2003)

❑ Features

- Coordination and commitment – donors (9), government;
 - Predictability - multi-year planning and financing;
 - Combine transfers with asset building – PW plus direct support ;
 - Integrated with the broader development agenda;
 - Large
 - Beneficiaries - Up to 8 million persons, started with about 300 woredas (40%), it will reach more than 400 soon;
 - Cost - US\$1.5 billion (2005-09); US\$2.1 billion (2010-14);
- ❑ Geographic and community targeting;

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Methodology

- ❑ **Approach:** “Before/after” “with/without” design - estimate the difference between outcomes achieved by beneficiaries – **double difference** (difference-in-difference)
- ❑ Requires a comparable “without” group; i.e. households not receiving PSNP benefits but were similar in observable characteristics to PSNP beneficiaries - **Matching**
- ❑ This approach became inapplicable at the later stage of evaluation - *too few households that have never received benefits and too different;*

Assessing the impact of the PSNP ... cont'd

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- Instead, we estimate the following relationship:

$$\text{Food Gap}_{i,t} = \beta \cdot \text{Public Works payments}_{i,t} + \delta (\text{other factors affecting the food gap}) + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

- We use all five rounds of data when estimating equation (3.1);
- Payments are for 10 months prior to the survey. They are expressed in real (2014 Birr) terms, adjusting for inflation.
- Other factors:
 - characteristics that do not change over time (such as location and pre-programme household characteristics);
 - characteristics that do change such as household size and composition and the age and sex of the household head; and
- Instrumental-Variables Household Fixed Effects estimator (IV-FE).

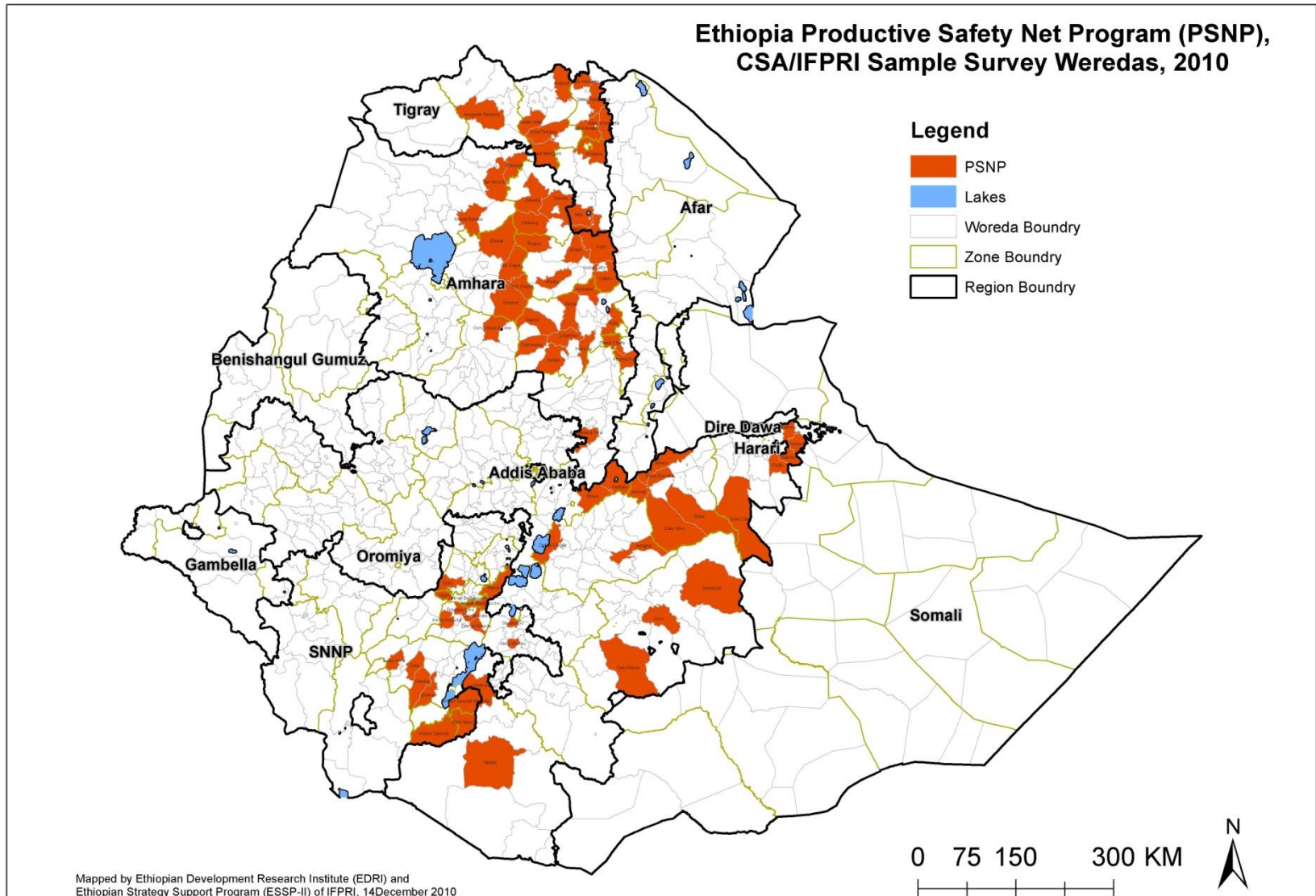
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Data

- ❑ a panel of households (beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries) in 68 *woredas* in Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya and SNNP (2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014)
- ❑ Low attrition:
 - 3,670 hh in 2006; 3,091 hh in 2014 (attrition of 1.7% p.a. (better than US Census Bureau))
- ❑ Comparability over time:
 - Survey fielded at approx. same time of year;
 - Core questions, enumerator training etc not changed;
 - Core team (JH, AS, YY) involved since 2006;
- ❑ But no “non-PSNP *kebeles*”; therefore cannot quantitatively assess impact of public works; also, first survey occurred one year after PSNP began

Assessing the impact of the PSNP ... cont'd

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Assessing the impact of the PSNP ... cont'd

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- Additional households included over time:
 - *woredas* in Amhara that were initially supported through USAID (“Amhara-HVFB”);
 - additional Direct Support households, additional recent graduates.
 - Sample size in 2014 was ~5,100 hh
- Quantitative data at the *kebele* (since 2006) and *woreda* (since 2010) levels;
 - *Woreda* data focuses on resources needed to implement PSNP and HABP; data on payment processes
 - *Kebele* data focuses on local infrastructure and implementation of PSNP and HABP

Assessing the impact of the PSNP ... cont'd

- Detailed qualitative work undertaken in 10 *woredas*. This includes:
 - Key informant interviews (officials, task force members, DA, MFI representatives, traders)
 - Focus Group Discussions (Chronically dependent households, Recent graduates, Women, Men, Youth)
 - Household case studies: Graduates, Long term PSNP beneficiaries, household participating in HABP, youth

Impact

- ❑ Improved household level food availability and security;
 - Lower food gap;
 - Higher diet diversity;
 - Increased per capita food and total consumption;
- ❑ Improvements are not seen at the child level.
 - Little change in child nutritional outcomes due to PSNP;
 - Child diet quality is poor.
- ❑ Missing link - nutrition knowledge of mothers and the household at large:
 - Mother had no contact with health extension workers;
 - Mother had not received information on good feeding practices;
 - Poor hygiene and water practices observed;

Key Lessons

- ❑ **Dialogue** – genuine; covers what and how (mechanisms, implementation strategy); across design, implementation, revision
- ❑ **Ownership** – Government program;
- ❑ **Complementarity** – addressing emergency, enhancing resilience, and promoting development (E.g. Drought Risk Financing (DRF))
- ❑ **Integration** – part of the national development effort/plan;
- ❑ **Coordination** – among donors, donors and government, within government;
- ❑ **Decentralized implementation** –
 - Government – federal, region, woreda, and kebele levels;
 - Community – targeting, community asset selection, appeals;

Key Lessons

☐ Monitoring and evaluation

- a part of the initial design and mutual understanding;
- independent but collaborative – government, donors, the national statistical agency, external evaluators;
- rigorous evaluations (five, so far) and related studies:
 - Create opportunities to learn and adjust (Payroll and Attendance Sheet System (PASS), Client cards)
 - Help bridge results-based budgeting and longer term programming designed to achieve impact

☐ Design (PSNP4, SCT pilots)

- Child nutrition
- Pregnant and lactating women (PLW)

IN-SCT Evaluation Study

□ *Objectives*

- estimate impact of SCT program on child nutrition and health outcomes:
- evaluate the operational linkages and effectiveness of coordination of the system approach of program:
- assess impact of soft conditionalities related to nutrition: is household dietary diversity of DS clients and Temporary Direct Support clients improved?
- assess the effectiveness of the program in reaching the target group and delivering expected social outcomes: nutrition, health, education and child protection;
- identify challenges and lessons learned;