**Programme Overview**

WFP is tasked with supporting the Government of Ethiopia and its programmes addressing hunger and food insecurity. The Targeted Supplementary Food (TSF) programme supports Ethiopia’s Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) for Child Survival which promotes preventative healthcare for mothers and children at community level. In 2012, TSF served 516,345 mothers and children in 7 regions. EOS is under the National Nutrition Programme of the Federal Ministry of Health.

High rates of stunting and underweight children under five are reported in Ethiopia, and under-nutrition contributes to an estimated 58 percent of the deaths of children under five. With about 13 million children under the age of five in Ethiopia, it is estimated that over 1.3 million children are wasted and approximately five million are underweight every given year. WFP’s efficient TSF interventions are essential to improving these statistics and ensuring the well-being of Ethiopia’s children.

TSF is jointly supported by WFP and UNICEF with the goal of rehabilitating moderately malnourished children under five and pregnant and nursing women.

**Programme Details**

At the local level, the TSF programme is managed by the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureaus. At the community level, Female Food Distribution Agents (FDAs) manage food commodities and are responsible for distribution. FDAs also provide basic nutrition messages to mothers when they come to collect food.

Programme participants are screened using the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) method. Children under five and pregnant and nursing women identified as acutely malnourished are enrolled in the TSF programme and receive fortified blended food and vegetable oil for six months. Anyone found to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition is referred to the nearest Therapeutic Feeding Programme managed by the Ministry of Health.
ETHIOPIA

TARGETED SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING (TSF)

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2012, the TSF programme distributed about 11,019 tons of food to 516,345 people through the support of UNICEF, WFP, the Ministry of Health and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureaus.

LOOKING FORWARD

WFP and its partners have made important changes to the TSF program over the past year in order to improve targeting and screening methods and to prioritize timely food delivery. TSF interventions now focus on hotspot priority one *woredas*, or districts, within each of the seven regions where the programme operates. Hotspot prioritization is computed following seasonal food security assessments, and focusing on priority one *woredas* enables TSF to reach the most food insecure areas of Ethiopia. Furthermore, TSF’s nutrition screening and treatment cycle has shifted from quarterly intervals (every three months) to monthly intervals. Monthly monitoring of nutritional outcomes by health extension workers and improvements in TSF’s food delivery protocol ensure that specialized food is distributed in a timely manner and closer to the individuals in need rather than going to food distribution centres that may be far from targeted communities.

Habtamu’s Story

Habtamu Wolde is four years old and thriving thanks to a TSF intervention. He lives with his mother, Zenebach, in the Wunjela Birhaneselam village in Kambata Tambaro zone, SNNPR. When he was first screened, he was suffering from acute malnutrition and swollen feet.

“My son stayed at the health centre for three weeks for treatment and then once I received my TSF ration, I took him home,” says Zenebach.

At home his mother continued to care for Habtamu and feed him his supplementary food as instructed. She insists he is only alive and healthy today because of the TSF intervention and the nutrition information she received.