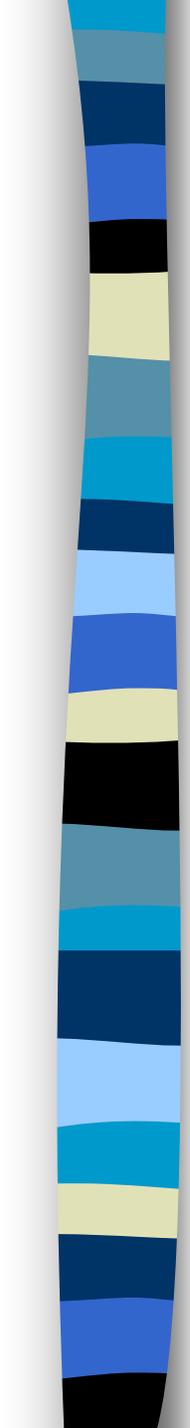


The Productive Safety Net Programme in Ethiopia



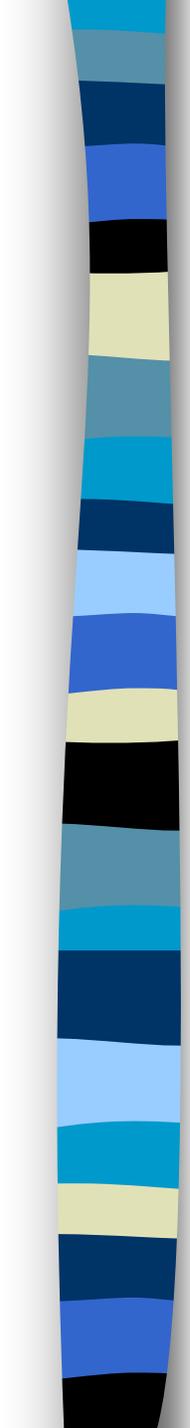
The Public Works Component



Situation analysis cont...

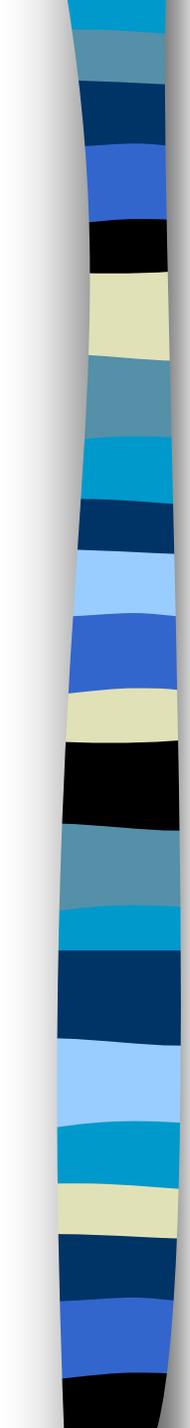
- A Food Security programme has been put in place which plans to graduate the chronically food insecure in five years.
- Many poor households are constrained to take advantage of the food security programme because of the risks they face and their susceptibility to asset depletion.
- An emergency program has been in place financed through an annual appeal system with updates; suffers from unpredictable resourcing with the result that it failed to prevent asset depletion and did not enable the construction of useful community assets.

Therefore the Productive Safety Net Program has been designed as an asset protection mechanism for the household level and to create productive community assets



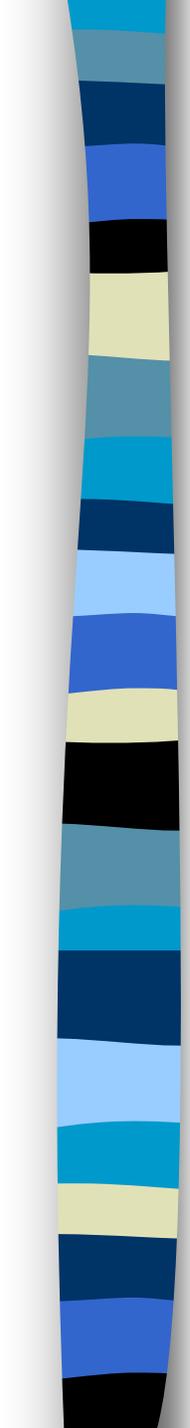
Objective

- To provide households with enough income (cash/food) to meet their food gap and thereby protect their household assets from depletion
- To build community assets to contribute to addressing root causes of food insecurity.



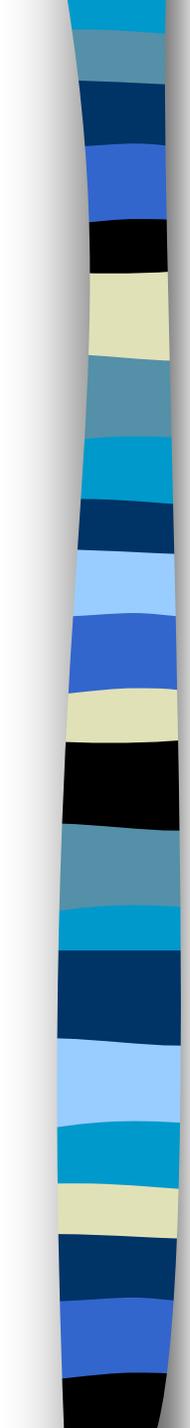
Expected Outcomes

- Household assets build through other programs are maintained so that recipient households come out of the problem of food insecurity
- Livelihood opportunities enhanced through the creation of community assets
- Reduction in environmental degradation in safety net program areas



Programme Components

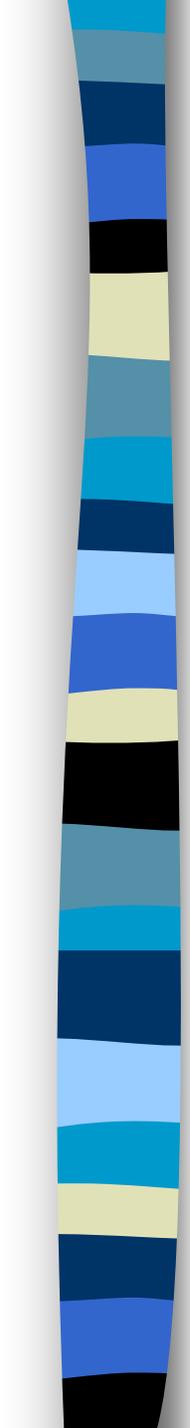
- Public Works
- Direct support (for those chronically food insecure households without labour: disabled, elderly etc.)



Public Works

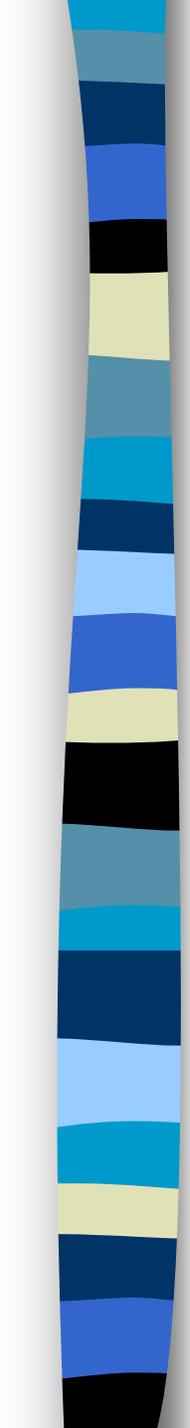
- How is the program targeted:
 - Geographically – food insecure areas have been defined to the PA* level
 - Community/administrative targeting.
 - A community committee is set up by the PA to select beneficiaries.
 - General assembly reviews list, amends and endorses it.
 - A review mechanism is in place to consider other beneficiaries for exceptional conditions.
 - Appeal committees exist at PA and at district level to handle targeting complaints.

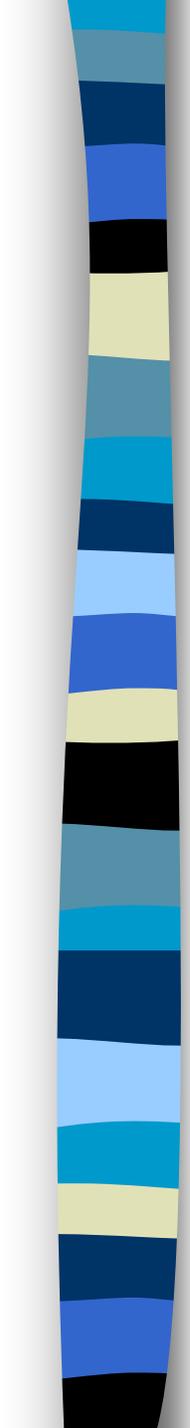
* The PA is the lowest administrative level in Ethiopia.
Each PA comprises approximately 1,000 households



- Eligibility Criteria

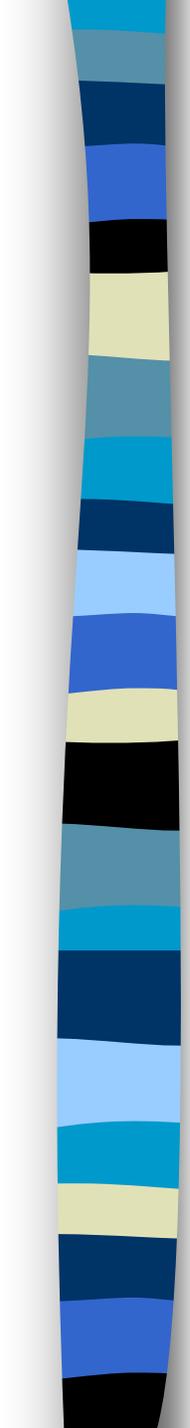
- Eligibility is based on three years continuous dependence on relief (a proxy indicator)
- Eligibility for public work is based on this and on the presence of adult able bodied labour.
- All household members of a targeted household qualify – but only adults work; and will work for those e.g. children who cannot work.
- Households with no labour, and no other means of support, are eligible for direct support

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- Why not a self targeted programme?
 - Limited employment opportunities with a context of pervasive poverty will not discourage people from taking part in PWs even at a very low wage rate.
 - There is a limited potential to lower the wage rate; doing so would compromise the objective of PSNP re. meeting the food needs of beneficiary households
 - Community targeting was possible, strong community structures exist in rural areas.



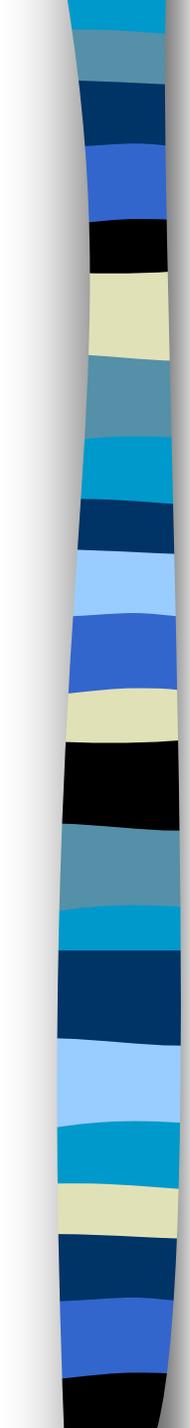
Public Work Planning

- Community Identifies public works to be undertaken. Can include: schools; roads; soil and water conservation; water development (spring, irrigation, ponds).
- Public works must be ‘communal’ with one category of exception. Investment activities (e.g. irrigation development) can be undertaken on the land of poor women headed households.
- District level aggregation and technical design.
- District puts together the plan and budget (with a limit of 20% on capital and administrative budget)



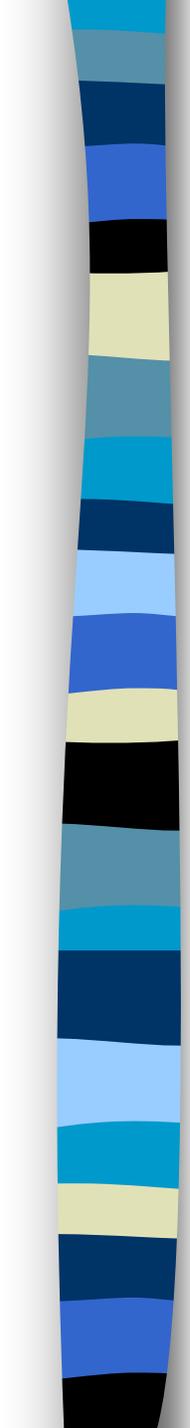
Institutional Arrangements

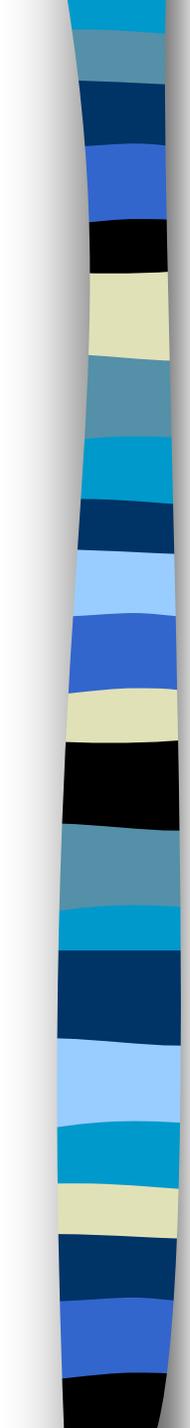
- Multi-agency coordination structure (steering committee) exists in every district comprised of representatives of relevant departments.
- The government department responsible for implementation varies depending on the type of work – Office of Agriculture, Rural Road Office; Water Desk etc.
- Capacity of implementing agencies regularly assessed and capacity building activities regularly undertaken.



Wages

- Each household member is eligible to receive a transfer equivalent to 15kg of cereal (in cash/food)
- At the wage rate set, which was less than the market wage rate, each adult is required to work for five days/month for each member of the household
- Those benefiting from the direct support component are also eligible for the same amount as those participating in PWs.
- The choice of food or cash is mainly dependent of grain availability in the market.
- The food option will be maintained as long as local markets cannot deliver the required food commodities.

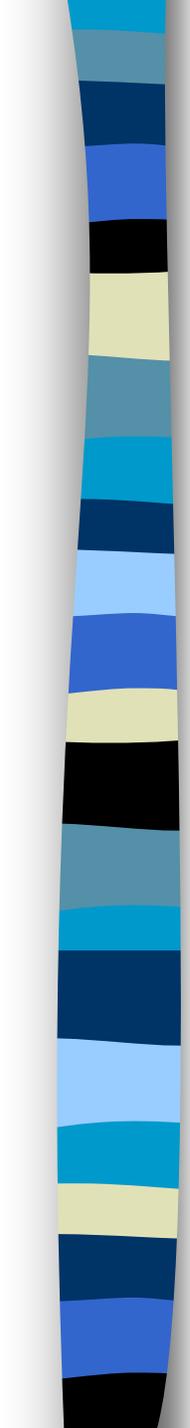
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- The default in the program is cash. Therefore, when markets can provide food will be scaled back.
 - There is flexibility in use of food/cash as transfer modalities
 - Note: an additional inflexible factor in food vs. cash is the resources provided by the donors. Some donors can only provide one or other resource.



Payment:

- Cash to be paid brought from bank and physically moved to distribution points.
- Payments are made on a monthly basis.
- Community representatives oversee cash payment process

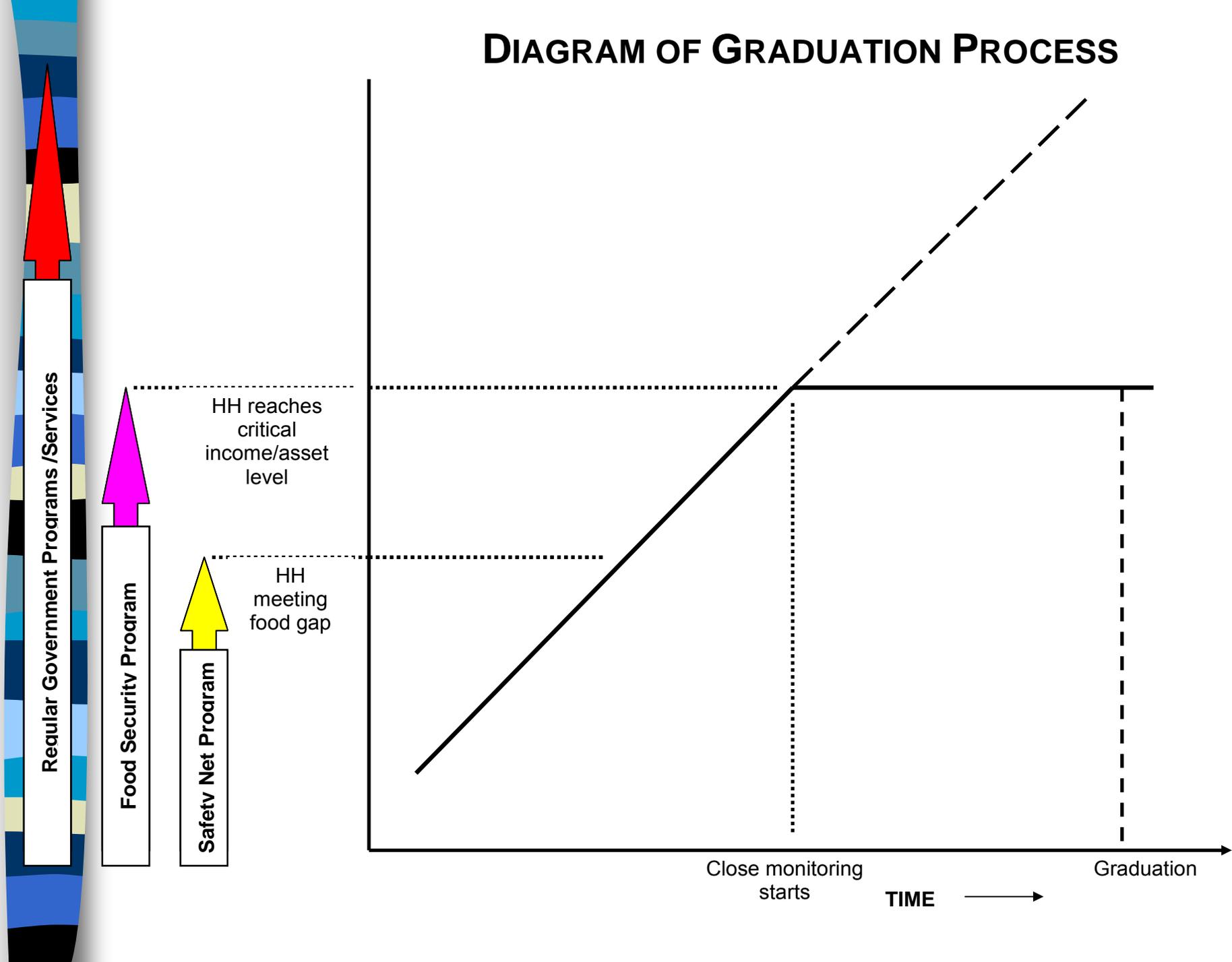
- Food process is similar; but distribution points more limited because the need for storage facilities.

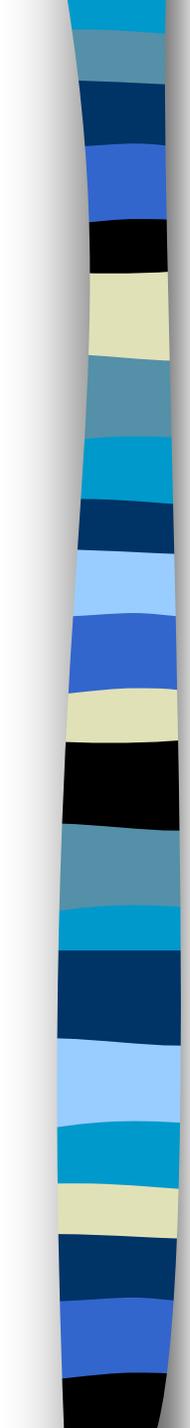


Exit Strategy

- A Food Security Program exists with the aim to enable households to build assets and increase income over a five year period.
- Public work beneficiaries will benefit from the food security program
- PSNP meets current food needs, while participation in other FS programmes allows graduation.
- PSNP will also contribute to food security enhancement through the community assets created

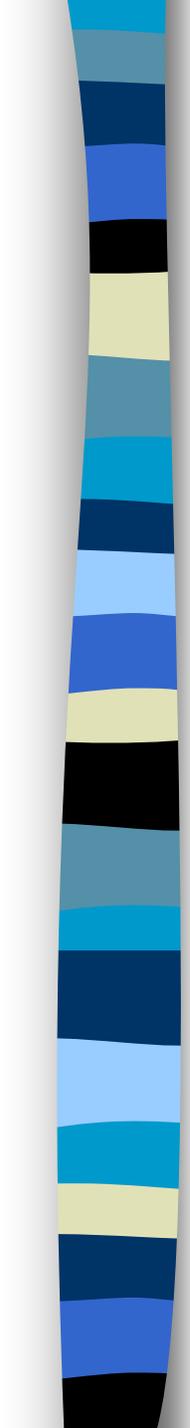
DIAGRAM OF GRADUATION PROCESS

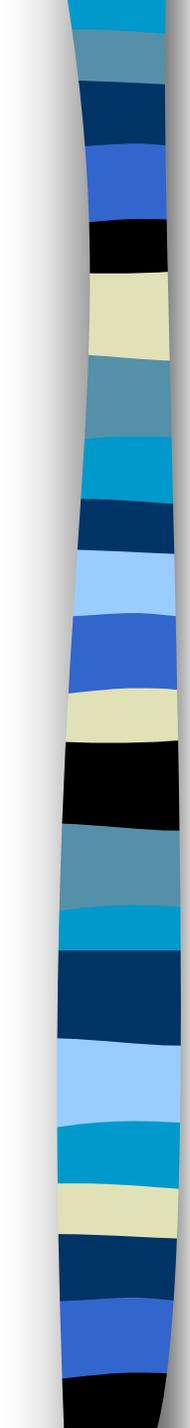




Monitoring and Evaluation

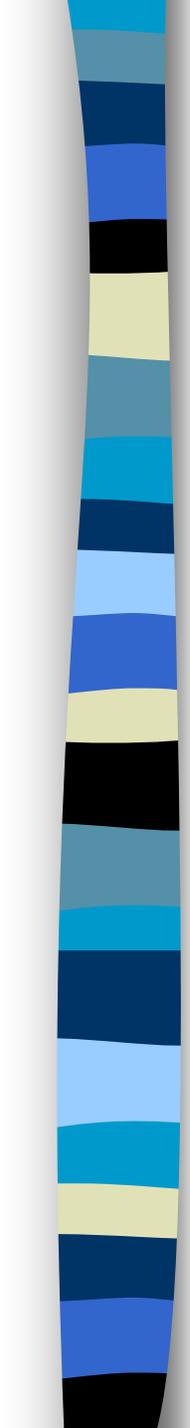
- The monitoring aspect looks at outputs and process
- While the evaluation component focuses on impact.
- Indicators:
 - Output
 - Outcome
 - Impact indicators
- It is one unified system for PSNP and other food security programs. This allows us to capture both asset protection and graduation.

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- The structure of the M&E system is decentralised with both vertical and horizontal reporting
 - Monitoring data are collected on monthly/quarterly basis while evaluation data are collected annually
 - Responsibility for data collection is with trained government staff
 - Responsibility for M&E rests with trained government staff located within the coordination agency
 - In order to minimise and address humanitarian risk in program areas; a rapid response mechanism was developed. RRTs were established at all levels



Lessons Learnt

- Beneficiary numbers were limited in first year of implementation; this led to a significant exclusion error. As a consequence a substantial retargeting exercise is currently underway and it is expected that the beneficiary number will significantly increase.
- Flexibility between food and cash as a transfer modality has been helpful. It was possible to respond to limited market availability of food and high prices by switching a number of affected districts to a food payment modality.
- Verification for quality of PWs vs. timely payment of wages. Need to maintain the primacy of transfers; therefore public work verification has been streamlined.

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- Capacity constraints have been a limiting factor. In addition to substantial capacity building efforts; districts are being classified according to capacity so that implementation can be fit to capacity. Furthermore, budget is being made available to regional offices to enable them to provide greater support.
 - In some areas wage rates during the first year were insufficient to meet food needs; wage rates are currently being reviewed.

