

PSNP PUBLIC WORKS

Innovations, Challenges, and
Lessons Learned



ETHIOPIA PSNP OVERVIEW



The Ethiopia Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) is a component of the Government of Ethiopia's food security initiative.

PSNP

- operates in 11 regional states
- covers 489 woredas (districts)
- benefits more almost 8 million clients

The Public Works component of the PSNP takes a holistic approach to addressing the decline in smallholder livelihoods due to both long-term environmental degradation and Climate Change.

It is implemented in 12,000 community watersheds covering approximately 4 million ha

PSNP PUBLIC WORKS OVERVIEW



PSNP Public Works utilizes an innovative approach that has multiple wins:

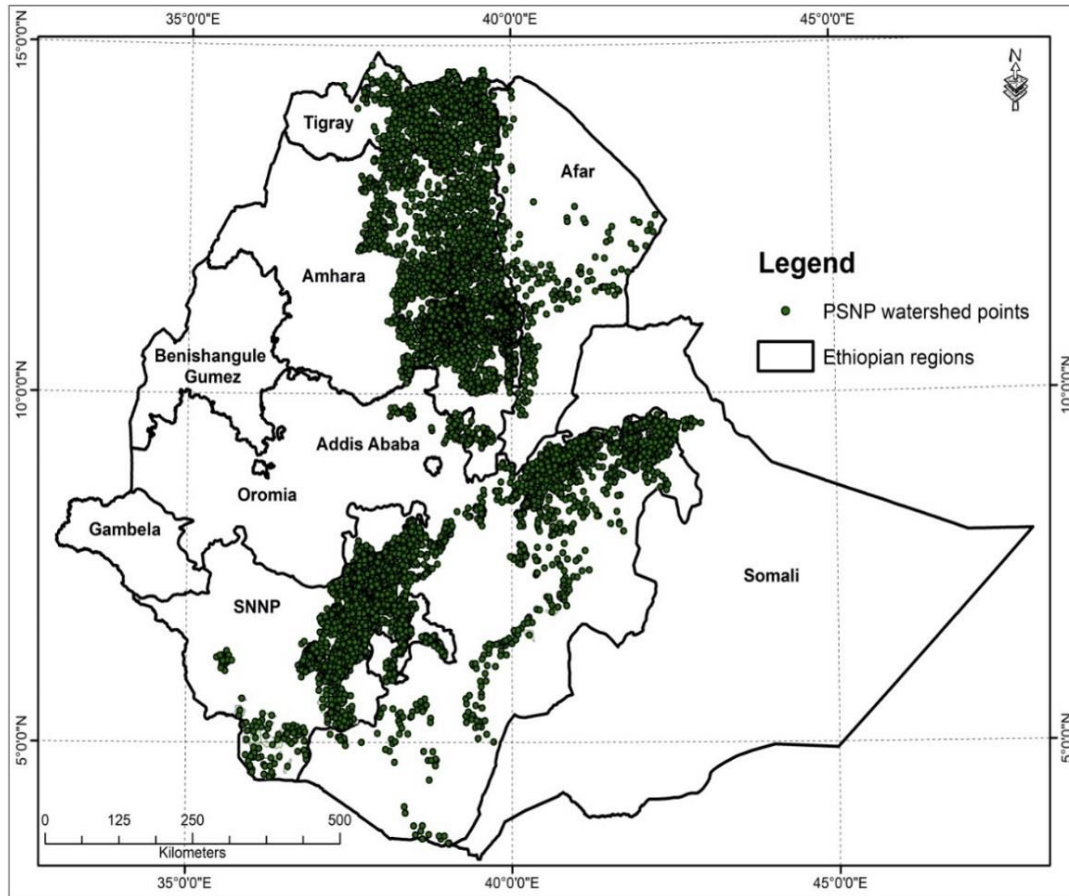
- Building Community resilience through productivity and food security
- Land degradation reduction \Rightarrow enhancing ecosystem services
- Climate change adaptation & mitigation

Key Public Works Activities:

- Biophysical Soil and water conservation,
- Afforestation/reforestation
- Gully control
- Social infrastructure
- Small-scale irrigation
- Nutrition-sensitive public works

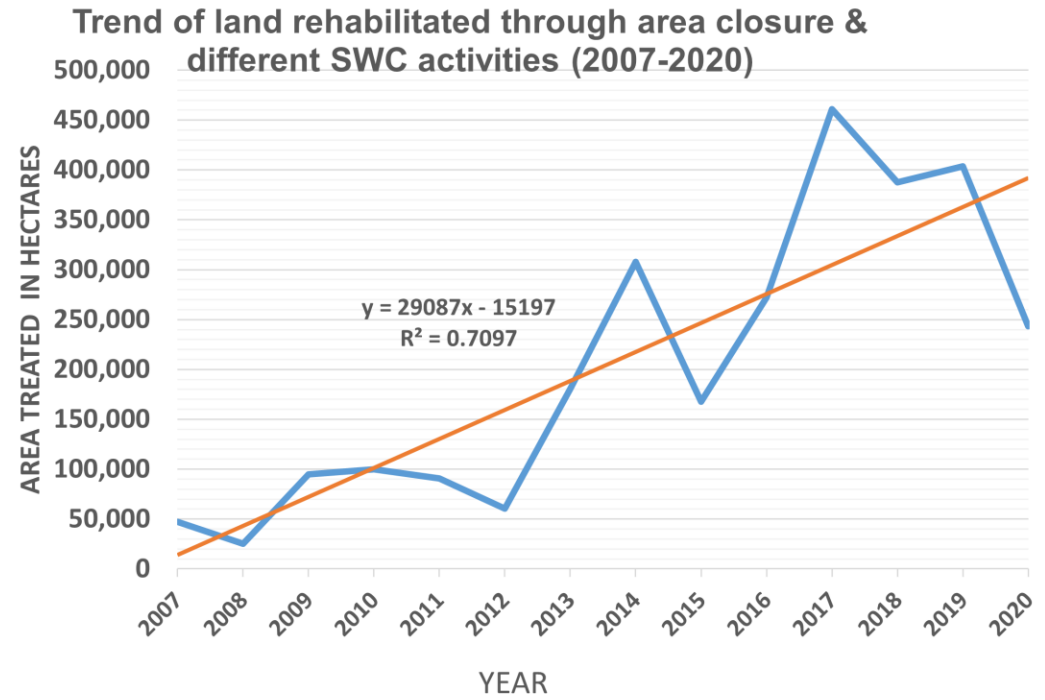
PSNP PUBLIC WORKS TRENDS

Interventions in woredas



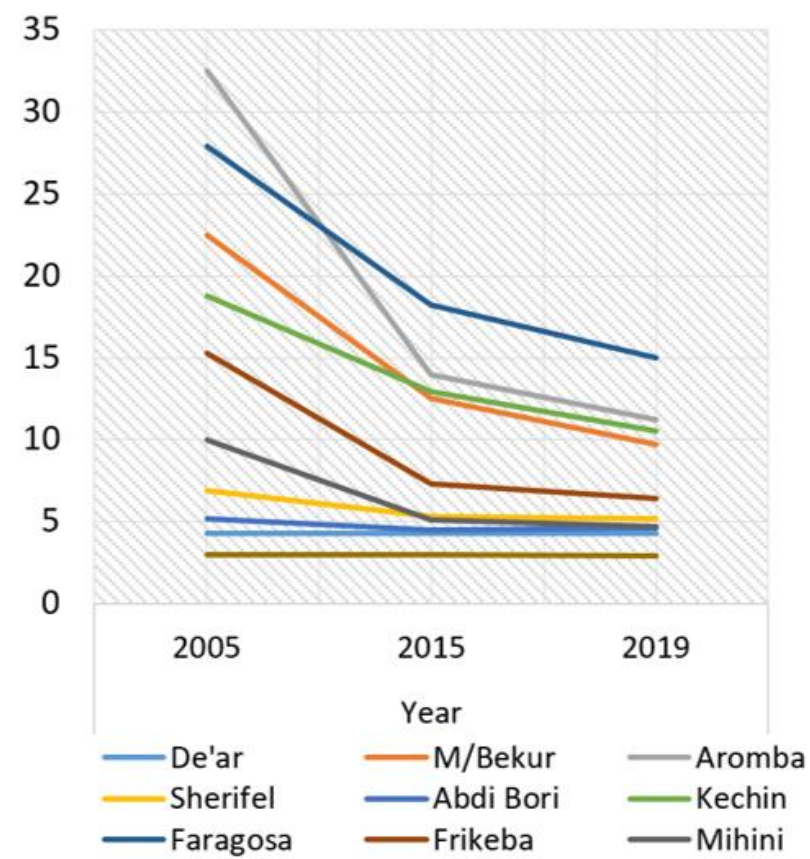
2.8 million ha degraded land treated; 1.7 million ha already treated by area closure, afforestation/ reforestation

(Source: PSNP Public Works Annual Reports)



PSNP PUBLIC WORKS TRENDS

Interventions in woredas



Trend of soil loss (in mm) in case study PSNP watershed (2005-2019)

National Soil Erosion in

- ❖ Mid 1980s = about 1.5 Billion t/yr
- ❖ 2016 = about 0.9 Billion t/yr

Soil loss considerably declined from all watersheds, with mean reduction from:

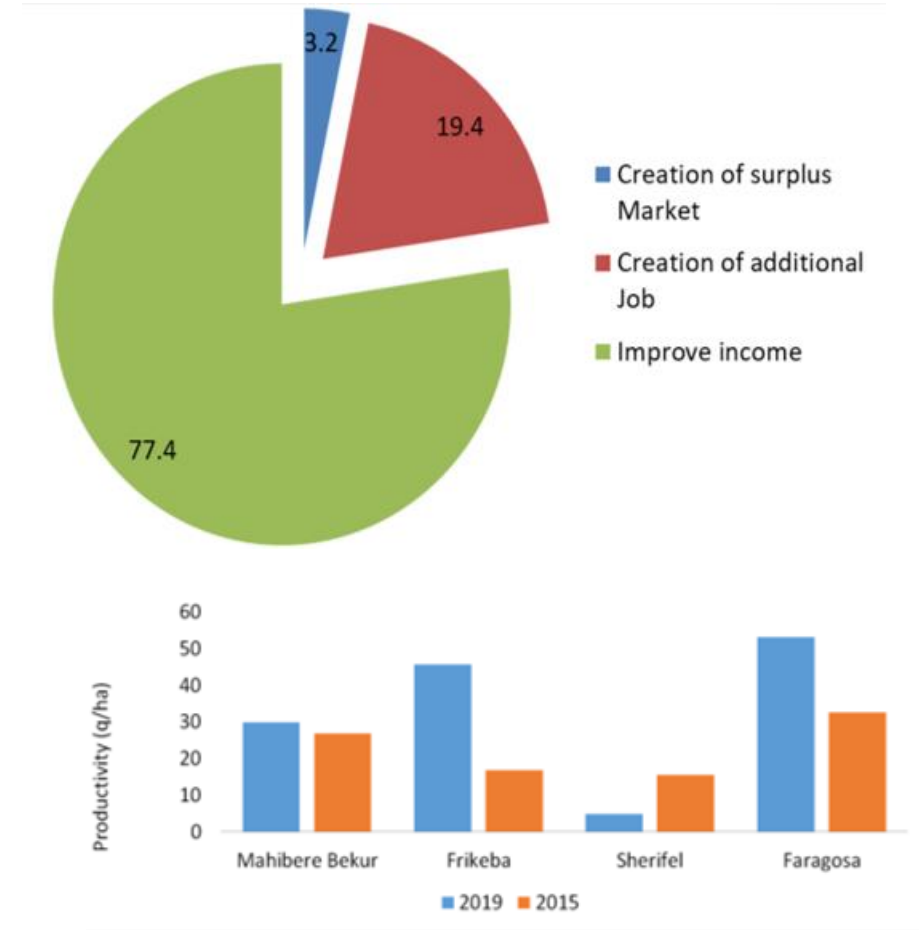
- 14.64 mm/yr \pm 10.47 in 2005 to
- 8.72 mm/yr \pm 5/12 in 2015 and to
- 7.46 mm/yr \pm 3.79 in 2019



PSNP PUBLIC WORKS TRENDS

Small-scale Irrigation and Diversification of Livelihoods Interventions

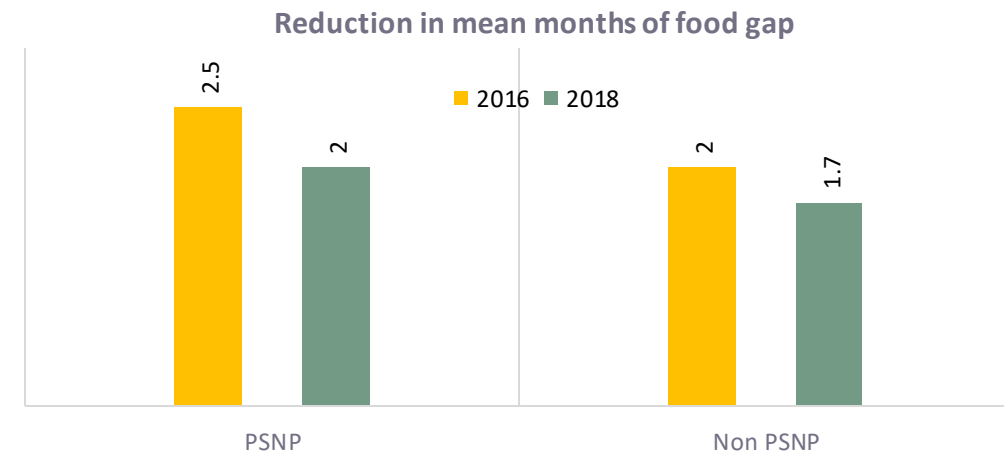
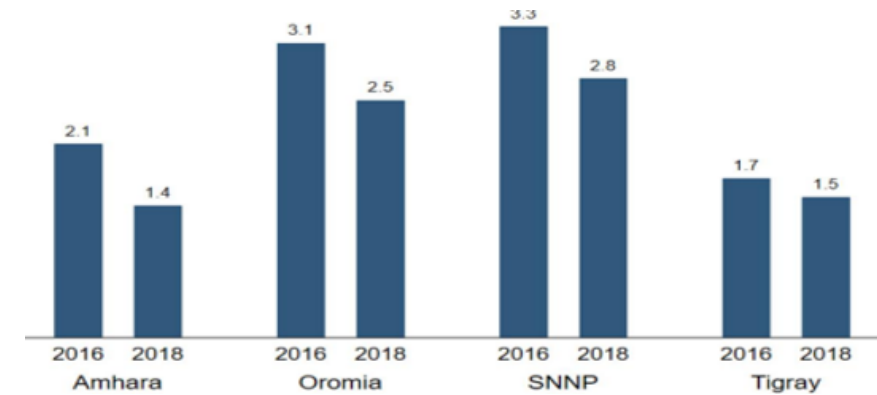
- The proportion of households working on irrigation increased
- Increased water availability for irrigation ~ up to 8 months
- Increased mean area of irrigation per household
- Increased vegetable and fruits production and productivity
- Increased livestock productivity through making feed availability (pasture irrigation)
- Income diversification
 - improved livestock farming, using the forage improved from the closed areas and form pasture improvement
 - Beekeeping increased among the beneficiary households



PSNP PUBLIC WORKS TRENDS

Food security improvement, food gap reduction, asset building improved

- Food diversity of beneficiary households improved because of small-scale irrigation
- Impact from Transfers:
 - Increasing the average number of months with sufficient food, from 8.4 months in 2006 to 10.1 months in 2012.
 - Declining trend in mean food gap (an average 2.05 months) during 2018, compared to the 2.3 months during the baseline (2016) for the four intervention regions.
 - From 2.5 to 1.97 months/highland and
 - From 2.4 to 1.28 months (lowlands)
 - Asset building of poor households improved



CHALLENGES

- Declining trend in the livelihoods-oriented public works sub-projects implementation due to reduced capital inputs due to a financing gap of PSNP 5. (This non-labor budget is necessary to ensure that sub-projects are productive, and can support livelihoods, distinctly from ‘food for work’)
- Recurring droughts has prolonged the maturity time for the rehabilitated watersheds
- Frequent and multiple conflicts has negatively affected the momentum of land rehabilitation
- Capacity of program supervisors is limited in lowland regions and some newly established regions



LESSONS LEARNED

- Public works such as terracing and other watershed rehabilitation **reduce erosion, improve infiltration, replenish water tables and enable the introduction of small-scale irrigation, boosting household and community resilience to low or unusually-timed rains**
- PSNP public works builds resilience by protecting watersheds from the impact of **drought** and connecting **remote communities to markets, services and economic opportunities (more months of streamflow)**
- It takes long time to see impacts of the rehabilitated watersheds, which sometimes affects the ability to convince policy makers of program impacts.



LESSONS LEARNED

- Inter-sectoral coordination especially at regional and federal levels can be slow, as such, continued sensitization at all levels is important.
- Community-based planning has proven to be effective because it allows the type of works to evolve as the needs of the communities' change.
- The opportunity for public works to support livelihoods of beneficiaries is an area that requires more investment and needs to be highlighted more clearly as a project impact denoting public works' opportunity to create jobs for the poor.



Before

After



THANK YOU