Feed the Future Ethiopia Growth through Nutrition Activity is a five-year multi-sectoral nutrition and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) project which aims to improve the nutritional status of women and young children in four regions of Ethiopia. The project focuses on the first 1,000 days, from pregnancy through a child’s second birthday, recognized as the critical window of opportunity for a child’s growth and development. Save the Children manages the implementation of the project through a consortium of six international and five local partners.

Growth through Nutrition delivers results through five intermediate result (IR) areas including agriculture and livelihoods, social and behavioral change communications, health and nutrition, WASH construction and marketing, and multi-sector coordination and pre-service education. The project also implements cross-cutting activities, including gender and women’s empowerment, a rigorous learning agenda, convergence and overlay of multi-sector activities, and a crisis modifier to respond to emergency situations in the project’s implementation areas.

IR 4: Improved Access to WASH Products and Services

Growth through Nutrition promotes household adoption of improved WASH practices by enhancing sustainable access to safe water and improved sanitation in communities. The project constructs and rehabilitates water points in 30 woredas, and builds a functional private sector supply chain to provide access to improved sanitation products to households.

The project also supports the One WASH National Program at all levels to improve multi-sector coordination and implementation.

World Vision leads the implementation of water supply while Population Services International leads the WASH marketing activities through the private sector to avail a sustainable supply of WASH products and services to communities.
PROGRESS ON THE GROUND (October 2016 - March 2019)

1. Increased access to sustainable drinking water
   • Constructed and commissioned 69 new water schemes and rehabilitated 38 schemes providing safe water to over 47,000 people.
   • Water schemes include shallow wells with hand pumps or solar pumps, spring development and/or distribution, and rehabilitation of shallow wells, springs, and deep boreholes.
   • Established and trained 159 WASH committees in collaboration with Woreda Water Offices who will oversee and manage completed water schemes on behalf of the community.
   • Trained 211 households, 179 of which are female-headed, on multiple use water systems, particularly on simple and practical methods of using water for improving their livelihoods.

2. Increased demand and access to sanitation and hygiene products
   • Established partnership with various private sector partners (40 retailers, 29 slab manufacturers, and 41 masons) in 40 WASH-based woredas and nine wholesalers at regional/zonal level to provide sustainable market access to improved WASH products.
   • Partnered with USAID Transform WASH project to introduce new WASH products to the supply chain.
   • To date, more than 2,500 households have purchased sanitation products, providing improved sanitation to nearly 12,000 people.
   • Delivered capacity building training to 671 sales agents, slab manufacturers, masons, wholesalers, WASH business retailers, plumbers, WASH committees and government focal staff to support effective operation of businesses, sales activities, and utilization of WASH products.
   • Boosted demand creation through door to door promotion via sales agents, market day promotion, mass media, and integration of WASH into all SBCC activities.