

**ETHIOPIAN SOCIETY OF SOCIOLOGISTS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND
ANTHROPOLOGISTS (ESSWA)**

ANNUAL REPORT

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**SUBMITTED TO CHARITIES AND SOCIETIES AGENCY
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ACRONYMS

ACKS	Annual Conference and Knowledge Sharing
AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
BoFED.....	Bureau of Finance and Economic Development
BoLSA.....	Bureau of Labor and Social Affairs
BoWCYA	Bureau of Women, Children and Youth Affairs
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CDTC.....	Community Development Training Center
ChSA.....	Charities and Societies of Agency
COC.....	Center Of Competence
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DQA.....	Data Quality Insurance
DFID	Department for International Development
EGST	Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology
EIRC-PCSAE.....	Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
ESSSWA	Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists
FDRE.....	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
GTP	Growth and Transformation Plan
LLEEMP	Learning and Linking Existing Early Marriage Program
MDG.....	Millennium Development Goals
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoLSA	Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
MoWCYA	Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OCACA.....	Occupational Competence, Assessment and Certification Agency
OVC	Orphan and Vulnerable Children
PEPFAR	US President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief
PWD.....	Persons with Disabilities
SDPRP.....	Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program
SNNP.....	South Nation Nationalities and People
SPSSSE.....	Strengthening Public Sector Social Services System in Ethiopia
TASWO	Tanzanian Association of Social Work
TOT	Training of Trainers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
UNICEF	Fund United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ESSSWA expresses its deepest appreciation for USAID and the American People's generous contribution in funding ESSSWA's project on "Strengthening Public Sector Social Service System in Ethiopia (SPSSSE)". Since October 2013, the funding has allowed close to 3000 Social Service workers to attend community level social work training with all costs covered. In relation to this, ESSSWA would like to extend its profound gratitude to Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA) and Regional BoLSA and the Social Affairs Directorate for their unreserved support to make the implementation of SPSSSE Project in good truck.

Similarly, Oak Foundation, the long standing partner and donor of ESSSWA, is acknowledged for its priceless contributions in providing financial support for child focused support in: training, professional competence building, and experience sharing and learning. Moreover, ESSSWA highly values the support of Plan International and UNICEF Ethiopia to enhance knowledge sharing and dissemination of emerging child and gender issues with learning on the prevalence and drivers of early marriage in Ethiopia.

ESSWA's Secretariat Office appreciates partner universities for sharing their research products and their valuable contributions in cultivating professionals in the disciplines of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology. Similar credit goes to TVET agency and partner TVETs for their commitment and contribution in building the country's Social Workforce.

Last, but not least, is ESSSWA's Board of Directors without whose strategic guidance and leadership the recorded achievements in the budget year could not have been made possible.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists (ESSSWA), guided by its three year strategic plan, has strived to advance its professional contribution to change the quality of people's lives. Supported by **four** projects financed by USAID, Oak Foundation, UNICEF and Plan International Ethiopia, remarkable achievements have been recorded. In 2016 ESSSWA was engaged in implementing a three-year USAID-funded project titled: **"Strengthening Public Sector Social Service Systems in Ethiopia"** (SPSSSE). The ultimate purpose of the project aims at improving the social services system in Ethiopia with primary focus on strengthening social service delivery system and workforce development in the country. The project, which phased out in September 2016, has been closely working with MoLSA, regional BoLSAs and TVET agencies to train and build the skills of close to 3,000 Para-professionals, i.e. community level social workforce in Amhara, SNNRP, Oromia regions and Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa city administrations who are trained and deployed. With an extended support from ESSSWA, the registration for the new batch is still currently under ways and 325 trainees are under training in Bishoftu CDTC.

The Oak Foundation supported project on: **"Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (EIRC - PCSAE)"** has also contributed greatly in building ESSSWA's center of excellence in activities related to child sexual abuse and exploitation. As a result, ESSSWAs' seminar series, publications, research outputs and overall project implementation experiences have been instrumental to make the situation of child protection, child sexual abuse and exploitation in Ethiopia to be more recognized. The documentation and learning achievements of the projects has created better access to thousands of professionals at national and regional levels to share their knowledge, skills and experiences.

In all its endeavors, ESSSWA developed and designed its intervention on three broad thematic areas, namely; **research, knowledge management and learning, training and experience sharing**. ESSSWA, with EIRC - PCSAE and SPSSSE projects is working to improve quality of service provision to vulnerable children, enhance knowledge, and experience sharing, provision of responsive and relevant training to community level social service workers in child protection from abuse and sexual exploitation. This project was made to be aligned with UNICEF Ethiopia's special support related to children and gender issues.

In this budget year, a 10 month project supported by Plan International Ethiopia on learning good practices and dissemination of the information on the prevalence and drivers of child marriage in hot-spot woredas of Alefa (from Amhara), Gorchie (from SNNPR) and Deksis (from Oromia) is ongoing. It is hoped that all these will contribute to build the base for an enhanced community based social protection system in Ethiopia.

1. BACKGROUND

The Ethiopian Society of Sociologists, Social Workers and Anthropologists (ESSSWA) was founded in June 1996 and reregistered as an Ethiopian Resident Charitable Society with the certificate number 0350 in November, 2009. Over the last 20 years, ESSSWA played its professional role in promoting social development in the country. Currently, the society has more than 1000 active members (29% being females) and more than three institutional members and partners.

ESSSWA works with a vision to see sustainable and positive social change in Ethiopia and to be an active participant in the country's transformation process. Its mission is to enhance the contributions of the professionals of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology and advance the application of these disciplines for the wellbeing of the Ethiopian Society. Since its establishment, ESSSWA has organized series of national and regional workshops, annual conferences, knowledge sharing forums and trainings to its members and concerned stakeholders on broad issues of social development focusing on disadvantaged social groups such as vulnerable children (OVC), socio-economic consequences of HIV/AIDS, PWDs, the elderly, human trafficking, migration and settlement. Outcomes of such workshops were found extremely useful in guiding government sectors, civil society organizations and the public at large so that it provided opportunities for members and other stakeholders to be part of the debates in their respective areas.

ESSSWA has been engaged in research, knowledge sharing and training activities serving the needs of partner universities, members, and government and non-government practitioners. It also works in collaboration with bilateral and UN agencies to align its activities with national priorities such as GTP II, MDG and citizen's social protection. For many years, ESSSWA has been working with Oak Foundation on child sexual abuse and prevention with the objective of enhancing the capacity of professionals working with children exposed to sexual exploitation and abuse. ESSSWA had also ongoing discussions bearing fruits regarding development of knowledge sharing forums on children and gender inequality with UNICEF. Besides, ESSSWA works with different multilateral and bilateral agencies such as The World Bank and DFID using a common agenda in the National Social Protection Platform on Social Protection and Safety Nets in Ethiopia.

1.1. Objectives of ESSWA

ESSWA takes the issue of social welfare and development at the center of its activities, which is also geared towards its project interventions. Accordingly, the strategic objectives of ESSWA are the following:

- i) Strengthen the socioeconomic contribution of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology to the development of the Ethiopian people through harnessing theoretical and empirical research,
- ii) Capacity building, knowledge management and learning in areas of sociology, social work and anthropology to enhance public benefits,
- iii) Support the interests of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology professionals and like-minded organizations in training, information and knowledge sharing; and
- iv) Forge partnership and networking with national and international organizations.

1.2. Project Areas and Regions of Operation

Over the last twenty years of its existence, ESSWA played its professional role in promoting social development in the country. Currently, the society works closely with twelve universities in five regions and two city administrations promoting professional experience sharing and improving their social research capacities. These universities are found in different regional states of the country i.e. Ethiopian Somali, Tigray, Amhara, Oromia, SNNP regions as well as Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa city administrations. Partner universities are also found in the geographic area they are located. With the view to increasing representation and membership base, ESSWA has increased its regional chapters by twofold from the previous year by establishing seven regional chapters in the country that are advancing its mission. These regional chapters are attached with Bahidar and Gondar Universities representing the North-west Chapter, Mekele University, Northern Chapter, Hawassa and Arbaminch Universities for South Chapter, Jima University representing west chapter and Jigjiga University representing east chapter.

When we specifically see the implementation areas of the SPSSSE and Child marriage Projects, they are taking place in three Regional States of Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and two city administrations of Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa. The other projects on prevention of child abuse and gender-based violence (UNICEF & Oak Foundation financed) reach all regions except Gmbella, Benishangul and Afar

ESSWA's secretariat office based in Addis Ababa operates throughout the country through its existing regional chapters and partner universities. ESSWA's ongoing and upcoming projects will be implemented in partnership with Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology departments

of the different universities. The regional chapters will also serve as a base to reach adjacent regions or districts. In addition, ESSSWA plans to work closely with Ambo, Wollo, Adama and Wollega public universities as well as with private universities, such Rift Valley, Alpha and St. Mary universities which are currently providing training in Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology.

Furthermore, the FDRE Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Education and TVET Agency, Ministry of Health, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Office, including their respective regional offices, will have prime stake in the implementation and utilization of lessons. ESSSWA’s Secretariat Office and its project staff are closely working with those government partners.

1.3. ESSSWA’s Project Funding and Staffing

ESSSWA’s secretariat office is staffed with an Executive Director and a Secretary/ Cashier. In 2016 budget year, the secretariat office had a USAID-funded “**Strengthening Public Sector Social Service System in Ethiopia**” (SPSSSE) project, which has phased out in November 2016. The project was staffed by a project manager, two project officers and one M&E Officer and Finance Officer. While the project manager, the project officer and the finance officer continued with ESSSWA’s other projects, two of the project staff members have already left ESSSWA.

ESSSWA’s Budget Status as of Dec. 31, 2016 was as follows:

Source	Released Amount	Utilized Amount	B/F
USAID/SPSSSE Project	5,190,453.97	4,981,738.00	208,715.97
Oak/Child Abuse Program	1,987,195.96	1,667,051.00	320,144.96
UNICEF/Knowledge Sharing	660,402.34	623,286.00	37,116.34
PIE/Child Marriage	1,332,623.00	1,355,424.00	(22,801.00)
Membership Contribution	29,737.01	0.0	29,737.01
Total (Etb)	9,200,412.28	8,627,499.00	572,913.28

The project fund flow table above shows that ESSSWA has utilized over 93% of the released amount from different donors. Moreover, above 73.5% of the project costs are used for program operation.

2. PERFORMANCES OF ESSWA PROJECTS

Part I of this report covers the performance of USAID-funded “**Strengthening Public Sector Social Service System in Ethiopia**” (SPSSSE) project. In part II accomplishments of “**Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation**” (EIRC - PCSAE) Project, which is financed by Oak Foundation. In part III accomplishments of **Annual Conference and Knowledge Sharing (ACKS)** Project financed by UNICEF Ethiopia and lastly in Part IV accomplishments of **Learning and Linking Existing Early Marriage Program /LLEEMP/** Project financed by Plan International, Ethiopia is presented.

PART I. SPSSSE Project

1.1. Result Areas and Major Achievements of the SPSSSE Project

The SPSSSE project identified three achievable results that pillared on strengthening institutions (such as MoLSAs, regional BoLSAs and TVETs); developing social service workforce and building the capacity of ESSWA. The project was implemented primarily in Amhara, Oromia, SNNP Regional States, Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa City Administrations. The project has phased out in this reporting period.

During the project implementation period, ESSWA has achieved remarkable results in the areas of: partnership and networking strengthening, awareness creation, stakeholders’ capacity building, social service workers training, recording trainees in database, M&E system strengthening, certifying TVET assessors and trainers, revision of training curriculum, coaching and mentoring service provision to ZoLSAs.

Details of SPSSSE project achievements in each specific result area are described below.

1.2. Major accomplishments of the SPSSSE project as per the project Results

SPSSSE is a three years project which began in October 2013 aimed to support social service system through strengthening institutions and training social service workers in four Regional States (Amhara, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray) and two City Administrations (Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa). SPSSSE striving to achieve three inter-related and reinforcing results:

Result 1: Institutional and Technical capacities of MoLSA and regional BoLSAs and BoWCYA strengthened to establish a child focused social services system.

Result 2: 4000 Social service workers trained and deployed in four target regions and two city administrations to provide community based social services.

Result 3: ESSSWA and its regional chapters become centers of technical support and facilitation on social service workers' training and deployment.

Aiming at achieving these results, thus ESSSWA has been implemented SPSSSE project for the last three years in Amhara, Oromia and SNNP regional states, and Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city administrations at 9 TVET colleges. The major achievements the project has made in this annual project period are discussed under each result in the next section.

Result 1. Institutional and Technical capacities of MoLSA and regional BoLSAs and BoWCYA strengthened to establish a child focused social services system.

- A total of 268 higher officials including Regional Council Members, State Minister, Regional Bureau Heads, heads of zonal offices from MoLSA (68), Amhara (100), SNNPR (60), Oromya (14) and Addis Ababa (26) participated in a series of awareness raising training and consultative discussions held in their respective regions on how to sustain the SPSSSE project results in order to improve the wellbeing of OVC and other vulnerable groups in Ethiopia. In this awareness enhancement trainings and consultative meetings consensus was reached by participants to enhance effective placement of and service delivery by the newly trained social service workers. As the participants of the meeting were from policy making/decision making and different public sectors, it created a very good opportunity to discuss the successes, opportunities and challenges of the deployed social service workers in the provision of social services to the OVC care systems. The participants were unanimously convinced that there were immense benefits to be gained by deploying qualified social service workers as long as effective and quality social service delivery is sought. In all the sensitization and consultative workshops, participants promised to support, follow up and give due emphasis on the training and deployment/placement of the graduated social service workers.
- Partnership and networking strengthened among BoLSA and TVET Agency, and Pact Ethiopia YekokebBerhan HVC program. Thus, eligible social service workers pre-service trainees were selected properly. Besides, the project deployed the graduated social service workers easily and they are providing social service to vulnerable groups of community including children living with HIV/AIDS.
- ESSSWA also has achieved good results with respect to strengthening implementation capacities of BoLSAs. ESSSWA/SPSSSE project provided technical supports to Amhara, Dire Dawa, Oromia, and SNNP BoLSAs on how to give technical assistances, coaching, mentoring and experience sharing and ways to supervise the newly trained and

deployed social service workers in their respective regions and woredas. This is one of the core result ESSSWA/SPSSSE project planned and have strived to achieve.

- 25 existing social service workforce trainers were trained in Social service provision and social protection, monitoring and evaluation to facilitate the implementation of the project. The participants were from Oromya and Addis Ababa and TVET colleges. This helped them to coach, mentor and supervise the application of the criteria, training and deployment of social service workers and continued service provision for vulnerable children.
- Social Service Workers' Training Curriculum of Addis Ababa city and Oromia region TVET agency revised to facilitate child focused training. The curriculum revision has been conducted by experts from ESSSWA, BoLSAs, TVET Agency and TVET teachers.
- Based on MoLSA facilitation, 38 participants from all regions (BoLSAs, Social Service Providing Centers and MoLSA representatives) were participated in high level decision making and consultation workshop/training about the overall implementation of SPSSSE Project as per the New National Social Protection Policy, its demand for workforce and other critical inputs for the policy implementation. Participants also reached to consensus to strengthen the social services system and workforce development and to serve as mentors and supervisors for community based service providers. This was carried out from September 2016 at Harmony Hotel. The workshops helped ESSSWA to present its experience, lessons learned and successes made during the implementation of SPSSSE project.
- ESSSWA also supported MoLSA to facilitate a training session to its experts about the overall progresses on the implementation of the social protection policy in relation to workforce development. A total of 30 social service practitioners were participated in the training which was held at Adama German Hotel in Adama Town in September 2016.

Result 2.Social service workers trained and deployed in four target regions and two city administrations to provide community based social services.

- 710 Pre-service trainees completed their training in Oromya (433), Amhara (193), Addis Ababa (55) and SNNP (31). The project supported, facilitated and followed up the selection, enrollment and pre-service training activities.

TVETs by Region	Intake of Trainees		Status of Trainees		
	Planned	Achieved	In Training	Graduated	Deployed
Amhara					
Bahir Dar Polytechnic TVET College	100	45		45	45
Gonder Polytechnic TVET College	100	74		74	74
WoizeroSiheen Polytechnic TVET	100	74		74	74
Oromia					
Bishoftu CDTC	450	433		433	433
Addis Ababa					
Mickyleland TVET	100	55		55	55
SNNPR					
Hawassa Polytechnic TVET College	50	31		31	31
Total	900	712		712	712
% Achieved	--	80%	--	100	100

- Supportive supervisions were provided to Amhara, Dire Dawa, Oromia, and SNNPR Region BoLSAs (including the line offices) and TVET colleges to track the status of pre-service social service worker trainees and deployed social service workers. ESSWA/SPSSSE gave on site supports and written feedbacks to the organizations that supported them to cascade to their supervisees at the community level.
- All the trained social service workers were registered in the database. The profiles of the trained social service workers have been registered to the database. This facilitated ESSWA and its stakeholders to track the deployment status of the trained social service workers. It will also document the continuous professional development of those social service workers.
- Supported and facilitated the certification of the trained 55 pre-service workers upon completion of the training at Mickyleland (Addis Ababa).
- Facilitated revision of the Pre-service curriculum in Oromya and Addis Ababa
- Trainers in Oromya, Addis Ababa and SNNPR provided short term trainings on TTLM preparation, Monitoring and supervision, resource mobilization, coordination of care and resource mapping.

Result 3: ESSSWA and its regional chapters become centers of technical support and facilitation on social service workers' training and deployment.

- Documentation of the project to make evidence-based decision and produce reports for learning strengthened. The project carry's out, follows up and documents the training and deployment status of the prospective social service workers. In addition to this, the registration process and the profile of the pre-service trainees and copies of different reports are documented in hard and soft copies.
- Experiences and achievements which were developed from the implementation of SPSSSE project disseminated to 220 ESSSWA members at its annual conference. As most of the members have worked on social services sectors at different levels in different corners of the country, it was a good opportunity to aware and align them to give close supports to the deployed social service workers in their working areas.
- Capacity of ESSSWA/SPSSSE staff strengthened to implement the project properly. The Kaizen Company carried out capacity building trainings and technical assistance to the project staff. Thus the following manuals are developed: Financial manual, DQA manual, Service Delivery standard guideline, and Culture, gender and disability policy.
- With the help of the project by using SSW, ESSSWA is able to cascade protection of children from different forms of abuse to CCCs.

1.3. Challenges and Constraints

During this reporting period the project has faced the following challenges and constraints. Here are some of the challenges and constraints ESSSWA/SPSSSE has faced during this year:

- One of the major weaknesses was poor progress of the deployment process in SNNPR and Dire Dawa. Though most of the graduates have been providing social services voluntarily in their respective communities. In these regions, respective BoLSAs had not organizational structures at their lower level government system to employ the graduated social service workers. In SNNPR, hence, ESSSWA downsized the number of newly admitted pre-service trainees to 50 social service trainees which was planned to be 250 in 2016. Besides, ESSSWA facilitated an awareness enhancing and consultative training session to selected regional policy makers (Council members, president's social affairs advisors and BoWCA, BoLSA, Public Bureau, and TVET bureau as well zonal administrative) in SNNP in July 2016. Participants reached at consensus to enhance the implementation of SPSSSE project in order to ensure quality service to OVC and other vulnerable groups in the region.

- In the last six months of the implementation period, staff turnover was another challenge that affects implementation of the project.
- Implementation of the SPSSSE project was delayed in SNNP and Amhara regions. In most parts of the project implementation regions, officials were busy with other “top urgent” meetings in their respective regions. Hence, created delays in the selection and recruitment of pre-service trainees

Actions taken against the above mentioned challenges:

To improve the progression of deployment status in SNNPR, ESSWA in collaboration with the regional BoLSA facilitated a higher level consultative workshop. Participants drawn were from the regional Presidential office, heads of social affairs standing committee of the regional parliament, heads of key bureaus and zonal administrators. In this crucial discussion forum, the regional officials took the lead to facilitate the establishment of the regional community care coalition (CCC) with full-fledged manner to serve many demands of vulnerable communities in the region. Besides, the BoLSA and zonal administrative structures, the CCCs were asserted to be a very good destination for graduates of SPSSSE project in the region.

With regard to staff turnover, ESSWA has strived to maintain the existing staffs and replace the vacant positions. Hence, ESSWA turned to accomplish the project activities with the remaining staffs in its office.

To compensate the period elapsed in delayed; ESSWA re-planned selected activities and reached to consensus with USAID to accomplish these crucial tasks within the No-Cost-Extension period.

Summary of Planned Vs Accomplishment report for SPSSSE project

S/n	Description of Activities	Plan				Budget Allotted	Accomplishment							
		Fre q.	Tar get	Beneficiaries			Accomplish ed		Benefi ciaries		Budget		Remark	
				M	F		T	#	%	#	%	Birr		%
	Conduct consultative meetings with relevant Bureaus and offices in Amhara and SNNP regions to enhance deployment and effective service delivery of the trained social service workers.		2				2	100	268			360,614.00	120	Additional budget was released for this activity from USAID after the annual plan preparation
	Support MoLSA and BoLSAs to update a job description for the social service workers based on the HR assessment findings and monitoring visit.		1				1	100						
	Support Regional BoLSAs, and TVETs in revising SSWs training curriculum and preparing TTLM.		2				2	100						
	Provide financial support for 780 SSW trainees at the rate of Birr 752.30 per month for six consecutive months		780			3,604,515.00	710	91				3,504,798.00	97	
	Revise SSWs selection criteria with regional BoLSAs, BoWCAs, HAPCO and RTVET agencies.		5				3	60						
	Provide orientation for trainees and trainers of social service workers training on occupational standards, curriculum and preparation of modules.		801				731	94				150,000.00	250	Additional budget was released for this activity from USAID after the annual plan preparation
	Support the establishment of two new regional chapters in collaboration with Hawassa and Jigjiga Universities		2				2	100						
	Joint Monitoring project implementation with Regional BoLSAs, BOWCAs & HAPCO in Amhara, SNNP & Oromia		3			26,556.00	2	67				26,556.00	100	
	cover the cost of two project officers		16			229,392.00	16	100				229,392.00	100	

Document best practices and lesson learned		1					-						
Update Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)		1					1	100					
Conduct Final Terminal Evaluation						350,000.00					-	0	
Salary and Benefit						391,528.00					382,812.00	98	
Other Admin Cost						227,849.00					227,849.00	100	
Total Planned Vs Accomplished						4829840					4,981,738.00	103	Additional money was obtained from USAID after the plan preparation

PART II. EIRC – PCSAE Project

1. Project Title: Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (EIRC - PCSAE)

Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (EIRC – PCSAE) project is in its second year of implementation and will continue until June 2018. The overall goal of this project is to contribute towards creating a safer environment for the growth and wellbeing of children in Ethiopia focusing on prevention of vulnerable children from falling to be victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. This could happen by supporting institutional capacities of ESSWA and its affiliates, improving the analytical skills of young researchers to generate new knowledge and promote good practice to address the existing and emerging challenges of child protection. Since June 1, 2015, ESSWA has re-launched and is working EIRC – PCSAE project to achieve the following objectives:

1. To improve capacities of practitioners, academicians and students of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in research, violence prevention and the national social protection policy.
2. Support and disseminate research on key child protection issues with a focus on violence prevention mechanisms,
3. ESSWA’s organizational capacity is built in various areas enabling it to achieve its overall vision

1.1. Major accomplishments of EIRC - PCSAE project as per the its objectives

The overall goal of this project is to contribute towards creating a safer environment for the growth and wellbeing of children in Ethiopia focusing on prevention of vulnerable children from

falling to be victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. In line with this, the project in its implementation period has been actively implementing planned activities that would enable to reach the desired objectives. Major among them are: conducting a ToT to fill in the identified knowledge and skill gaps in research and child development practices, publication and dissemination of research outputs, establishing and/or strengthening partnerships and opening of ESSWA's new regional chapters. In addition to these, conducting symposiums with regional chapters that involved government and non-government practitioners, professionals of sociology, social work and anthropology were part of the achievements in this reporting period.

1.1.1. Objective 1: To improve capacities of practitioners, academicians and students of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology in research, violence prevention and the national social protection policy.

During the implementation of previous projects, ESSWA had learned and documented that building the capacities of professionals and institutions working on children has paramount contribution to prevent child abuse and sexual violence. Among the forerunner lessons are, therefore, building and strengthening the capacities of sociologists, social workers, anthropologists at public universities not only to prevent child abuse and sexual exploitation but also to the overall healthy child development.

In doing so, ESSWA, through this project, is working to enhance quality action-research by young professionals and quality service provision by duty bearers. The project contributes by enhancing professional and institutional capacity building of itself and those actors engaged in social protection of sexually abused and exploited children. ESSWA has accomplished the following major activities under this objective:

i) Organize ToT on Applied Research Methods and Evidence-Based Practices

Based on the needs emerged from the baseline survey, ESSWA has contracted consultants and conducted a ToT to fill in the identified knowledge and skill gaps in research and child development practices for 30 participants drawn from public and private universities and practitioners from March **7-11, 2016** at the Ethiopian Red Cross Society Training Centre. The pre and post training assessments, the daily feedback and the concluding remarks of the participants showed that the training was successful at increasing the knowledge of the participants to prevent child abuse and exploitation. The evaluation results also showed that ESSWA's intention to promote the level of knowledge, skills and competence of TOT participants was successful.

As this is one of the prime activities to achieve planned activities under objective 1 of the project, achievements in improving the capacity of academic institutions have leveraging effects on improving the researching skills of the new graduates in sociology, social work and anthropology disciplines. It is premised that each TOT participants would reach at least 80 prospective graduates of the three disciplines per year to promote child –focused applied, action-oriented, and evidence-based practices of practitioners. Apart from improving quality of researches, it is also expected that intervention that the adverse effects of child abuse, neglect and exploitation will be mitigated. In addition to the academic scenario, the TOT participants are also cascading the applied-research methods and evidence based practices to their fellow university instructors and practitioners in the CSO sector. Therefore, academicians’ and practitioners’ knowledge and skills have been improved regarding their evidence practices.

The TOT participants have already replicated the training in their respective areas. In relation to this, ESSSWA has supported the training at Mekele (53 participants of which 14 were female), Gonder (30 participants of which 7 were female), Bahir Dar (30 participants of which 6 were female), Arbaminch (38 participants of which 5 were female) and Hawasa (31 participants of which 10 were female). To date, the training improved the capacity of 212 (45 female) academicians, prospective graduates of MA and BA students, and practitioners to conduct quality action researches by considering appropriate ages of child development. The spillover effect is also anticipated to reach more children through action research and child-friendly social service provisions.

Research method ToT and training at ESSSWA’s Chapters

Training Place	Female	Male	Total	Practitioners
A.A. (ToT)	3	27	30	3
Mekele	14	39	53	5
Gondar	7	23	30	10
Bahir Dar	6	24	30	14
Arbaminch	5	33	38	10
Hawassa	10	21	31	6
Total	45	167	212	48

ii). ESSSWA supported and facilitated training on Mental Health Recovery Methods.

On top of ESSSWA’s capacity building/training activities made over the previous year, it has currently trained 30 psychosocial professionals in mental health recovery approaches with ultimate aim of preventing child abuse in those families affected by mental health problem.

The training was designed by the request of ESSSWA's member, Maji H/Mariam a Social Worker and Ph.D. candidate in the field of psychiatric epidemiology at Addis Ababa University. ESSSWA, appreciates Maji's Mandella Fellowship mentor Paul R. Sachs (PhD, NHS Human Services, Philadelphia, USA) who volunteered to come to Ethiopia and freely deliver this training. The aim was to provide recovery and resiliency oriented mental health training to participants in Ethiopia. Mental health treatment resources are scarce in Ethiopia and those treatment resources that are available rely on a biomedical model of care.

The specific objectives were then:(i) to provide information about an alternative model of care which does not replace the biomedical model but rather supplements it and (ii) to develop a model of training in this subject that can be used further for social work practitioners in Ethiopia and (iii) to reduce the negative impact of families with mental health on the well-being of children. The training was conducted in cooperation with Hyder Hospital in Mekele and in cooperation with Addis Ababa University Department of Social Work for two days each.

iii). Capacity Building Support at Bahir Dar (N/W Chapter)

ESSSWA also held a workshop at Bahir Dar Chapter on May 19, 2016 for 31 members who are academicians and practitioners. The newly ratified social protection policy was presented by experts from Amhara Regional State Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs with emphasis on Focus area 5 ***“Addressing Violence, Abuse and Neglect and Providing Legal Protection and Support”***. ESSSWA's project experiences and lessons in tackling child sexual abuse, neglect and exploitation were also shared to participants.

iv). Capacity Building using Symposium at Arbaminch University

As one essential strategy of enhancing social development, ESSSWA has used symposiums to create awareness and share experience among professionals and practitioners on topics related to child wellbeing and broader social issues. In this implementation period, ESSSWA has conducted symposium at Arbaminch Universities among professionals, instructors, prospective graduates of sociology, social work and anthropology, and community members. As such, awareness was created on effective violence prevention strategies and understanding of the social protection policy was created among participants.

ESSSWA's South West Chapter in cooperation with Arbaminch University's Sociology and Social Anthropology Department has organized a one day symposium on child abuse issues ***(09 December 2016)***. Child neglect and trafficking being one of the rampant child abuse manifestations in the area, the symposium was attended by more than 120 participants representing key government stakeholders, the justice system, police NGO practitioners and

graduate class students from Sociology and Social Anthropology Department of Arbaminch University.

As the symposium was considered to be part of public Universities' objective of reaching and serving communities, it was opened by the V/President of Arbaminch University, Yechale Kebede (PhD). This event was instrumental in raising and debating hot and live issues on the worst forms of child abuse in the area and paved the way for future coordinated action by avoiding fragmented efforts, which have rather perpetuated the problem. The first presentation on guiding principles of child protection was made by the Executive Director of ESSWA who was invited to share ESSWA's contribution in promoting child protection and children's best interests. This was followed by a research finding entitled: ***"the situation of child trafficking in Gamo highlands"***. One of the findings of this research shows that child trafficking in the area is on the increase and different push and pull factors such as poverty, child neglect and city lure, peer influence, respectively, contribute for this phenomenon. This has also led to hot debate between government stakeholders and researchers in that the former claimed the decreasing trend and the latter cited different facts and evidences to show the problem is steadily increasing.

The other interesting presentation was made by an expert from Zonal Women and Children's Affairs Office. The presenter confirmed that the problem is so intricate and complex mainly because child trafficking is conducted illicitly. Besides, since families, having the ability or not, are not sending their children to school, they are always vulnerable to trafficking.

Finally, the symposium was closed by confirming to take affirmative action in that coordinated and synergized efforts of key government actors, Arbaminch University's Sociology and Social Anthropology Department, researchers and practitioners should head towards solving the root causes of all forms of child abuse.

v). Integrating projects

As it has been mentioned earlier in this report, ESSWA is implementing one midterm and two short-term projects. The first is Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (EIRC - PCSAE) Project funded by Oak Foundation and focused on action-research to prevent child abuse. The second one is Annual Conference and Knowledge Sharing (ACKS) Project financed by UNICEF Ethiopia and the third one is Learning and Linking Existing Early Marriage Program/LLEEMP/Project financed by Plan International, Ethiopia.

With regard to UNICEF funded project, ESSWA has aligned similar activities in research and knowledge sharing forums. In this regard ESSWA has held two interlinked knowledge sharing

forums in this reporting period. The first was shared in 26 August and the second on 30 December 2016. 81 participants from academic institutions, universities, government stockholders, NGO practitioners, donors, ESSSWA members and other invited guests have attended the events. Debates on various social issues were made with the aim of enhancing ESSSWA's role in problem solving action-research and knowledge sharing activities.

Research papers presented at ESSSWA's 12th Annual Conference with the financial support of UNICEF and Oak Foundation have been designed to be child focused. In addition to this, ESSSWA has recently aligned UNICEF and Oak Foundation funded projects and called researchers and practitioners to conduct applied research on emerging issues related to Child Abuse and Neglect using both funds.

vi.) Signing Project Cooperation Agreement (MoU)

Signing Project Cooperation Agreement aims at combating child sexual abuse and exploitation using academic institutions in action research. The agreements also include capacity building support provision to selected partner universities. ESSSWA has signed such project agreements with:

- (i) Jimma University to implement EIRC – PCSAE and Learning Linking Early marriage Programs Project
- (ii) Hawassa University to implement EIRC – PCSAE Project and Learning Linking Early marriage Programs Project
- (iii) University of Gondar to implement EIRC – PCSAE and Project Learning Linking Early marriage Programs Project
- (iv) Hawassa University to implement EIRC – PCSAE project,
- (v) Bahir Dar University to implement EIRC – PCSAE project
- (vi) Mekele University to implement EIRC – PCSAE project
- (vii) Jigjiga University to implement EIRC – PCSAE project, and
- (viii) Arbaminch University to implement EIRC – PCSAE project

1.1.2. Objective 2: Support and disseminate research on key child protection issues with a focus on violence prevention mechanisms,

i).Publication and Documentation

Knowledge Sharing and Dissemination on socio-economic scenario is core for ESSSWA. It strives to produce quality research. This, however, is not an end for ESSSWA. ESSSWA strongly believes and works hard to disseminate the findings of social researches to reach target audiences through different mechanisms such as workshops, conferences, media, publication and

website. In this reporting period, ESSSWA has updated and revitalized its web-site as one of its basic knowledge sharing and dissemination Medias. It also provided orientations to members and follows and supported different research activities conducting in the sector.

ESSSWA also made and distributed two major publications in this year: The breakthrough is the start of **ESSSWA QUARTERLY** Publication. This publication has captured debated researches in ESSSWA's first knowledge sharing forum. The other publication is the usual one which presents ESSSWA's Twelfth Annual Conference Proceedings. In addition, ESSSWA's publicity leaflet is published in a simplified and attractive manner.

- Call for research papers for ESSSWA's professionals and related fields. Selected research papers will be presented on the 13th annual conference in March 2017.
- ESSSWA has financed the editorial work for eight research reports and made book publication of researches presented and discussed among scholars during the 2016 annual conference.

ii). ESSSWA's Annual Conference

For ESSSWA Annual Conference is not merely gathering of members, it is also one of the major national social development forums to disseminate capacity building outcomes in social research and facilitate intellectual debates of multi-disciplinary professionals and those of sociology, social work and anthropology on emerging social issues. On 4 & 5 March 2016, ESSSWA conducted its 12th annual conference attended by 154 (40 female) members and invited guests with a theme of **“Sustaining the Millennium Development Goals in GTP2 by Ensuring the Protection of Children from Abuse and the Social Benefits of Citizens”**.

For this annual conference more emphasis on children related issues was given in the call for research papers. Accordingly, research briefs and experiences related to the following were shared and debated:

- ✓ Baseline survey results on knowledge/skill gaps in child-focused programming and practices,
- ✓ Status of Social Protection Policy Implementation,
- ✓ Child-family heads and out of school children,
- ✓ Manifestations of children's sexual abuse and exploitation,
- ✓ Trafficked, migrated, accompanied /unaccompanied children,
- ✓ Children on the street, and
- ✓ Bonded and exploitive child labour and
- ✓ Violence against children were presented and discussed.

In brief, 53% of the presentations were on issues related to child abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The pre and post conference evaluation result and the final direct feedback from participants have shown that the conference was successful in terms of selecting thematic areas of the research papers presented and in terms of raising knowledge, skills and competence of participants on issues related to child abuse, neglect and exploitation. The new emerging child abuse and exploitation issues were tabled and elaborated to members who are academicians, students of sociology, social work and anthropology, and practitioners who are working with and for children. This has resulted in creating new dimensions of child protection within the framework of the national social protection policy.

1.1.3. Objective 3: ESSWA's organizational capacity is built in various areas enabling it to achieve its overall vision

With regard to ESSWA's institutional capacity, it needs to have qualified and competent professionals who can cope up with the growing demands of its development. More physical presence of ESSWA by opening new chapter is equally important. Besides, the creation of workable environment such as revising organizational policy manuals was vital. Therefore, ESSWA has accomplished the following from objective 3 activities in this reporting period:

i). Consultative Meeting:

ESSWA conducted one day consultative meeting with its individual and institutional members on its future directions and strategies in the context of the Charities and Societies' Regulations. At the meeting ESSWA's achievements with reference to the contribution to social development of the country and the newly inaugurated national social protection policy were presented. The participant affirmed to enhance their professional contributions and reached at consensus that ESSWA has to build its image and continue to serve as both professional and charitable society and enhance its engagement in social development agenda in GTPII and beyond.

Staff Training: ESSWA was invited to attend Oak Foundation sponsored Phase II of the Child-to-Child capacity building program in Tanzania, Arusha (20 – 24 June, 2016) ESSWA has benchmarked its experiences regarding Oak Foundation's six child rights principles in Phase 1. As part of Phase II, this regional workshop has provided ESSWA with an excellent opportunity to discuss our work face to face, which has also increased our understanding and expertise in the field.

Leadership Training: Based on the recommendation and financial support of Oak Foundation's East Africa, ESSWA's Executive Director was accepted to attend Resource Alliance's Future

Leaders Programme that took place from 4 – 8 April 2016 in Oxford, Welfson College, UK. Applicable lessons from peers and coaches have been gained in that leadership is about learning, communicating and coping with rapid change to get the right things done in the right ways.

Attending Regional Meeting: To increase its regional visibility ESSSWA’s Board Member was supported to attend the Eastern Africa Conference for Social Workers. Therefore, Dr Zena Birhanu one of ESSSWA’s active Board members was nominated and has attended the regional conference representing ESSSWA. This has also enabled ESSSWA to network with Tanzanian Association of Social Work (TASWO) that connects the East African Regional Social Work Network.

ii). New Institutional Members

In this reporting period, there were two applications for an Institutional Membership of ESSSWA and they are accepted and registered. The institutions are the Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology (EGST) that focuses on leadership MA program and Community Development and Stand for the Vulnerable Organization (SVO) that focuses on serving women and children. In total, ESSSWA has three Institutional Members including Rift Valley University College.

Summary of Planed VS Accomplishment report for EIRC – PCSAE project

S/n	Description of Activities	Plan			Budget Allotted	Accomplishment						Remark	
		Frequency	Beneficiaries (individuals or organizations)			Accomplished		Beneficiaries		Budget			
			M	F		T	#	%	#	%	Birr		%
1	Capacity building support for professionals in the field to conduct skill/knowledge gaps identification in action-research and applied researches	1			500	75,000	1	100	212	42	75,000	100	Public & Private universities GO/NGO partners covered
2	Build the capacity of ESSSWA's regional chapters and partner universities	8				170,000			8	100	155,000	91	Ongoing
3	Capacity building support (on demand basis) to ten researchers on selected themes of child	3				45,000			3	100	45,000	100	
4	Support five regional seminars, panels or discussion forums on research findings and emerging issues				250	100,000			212	84	90,000	90	
5	Organize annual conference of ESSSWA for about 250 to 300 at a rate of birr	1			300	118,750	1	100	250	83	118,750	100	

6	Conduct pre and post annual conference evaluations for further improvement	1				7,000	1	100			7,000	100
7	Compile and post on ESSSWA's website proceedings of regional and national seminars, policy briefs, lessons and annual conferences for the wider audience	6				3,000	8	130			3,000	100
8	Training on finance and HR policies and application for ESSWA members	25				25,000	7	28			15,000	100
9	Training on applied research on the basis of the identified gaps in the action research	25				75,000	30	120			100,000	125
10	Circulate and document experiences and lessons throughout the project in briefs	4				15,000	7	175			15,000	150
11	Upgrade and update ESSSWA's website that responds to emerging social protection issues.	1				10,000	1	100			10,000	100
12	Publication of Research projects every year	500				55,000			500	100	55,000	100
13	Expand ESSSWA's outreach by establishing/strengthening two new regional chapters	2				30,000	2	100			30,000	100
14	Community social work training to Integrate violence prevention within the existing	370				140,000			250	67	111,489	80
15	Strengthen ESSWA's capacity	50				150,000			30	60	131,490	88
16	salary and fringe benefit	5				503,922	5	5			503,922	100
17	Other Admin Cost					201,400					201,400	100
	Total Planned Vs Accomplished					1,724,072					1,667,051	96

PART III. UNICEF's Supported – ACKS Project

The overall objective of UNICEF's supported ACKS project is to help professionals in the three fields undertake research activities and share ideas and thereby contribute in tackling children and gender related problems. The major expected results are: (i) to organize effectively ESSSWA's 12th Annual Conference addressing thematic issues, and (ii) to enhance ESSSWA's knowledge sharing activities.

Outputs:

- Research outcomes and conference dialogues inform professionals in the field, academic institutions, government and civil society organizations the opportunities

created in Social Protection Policy, GTP2 and the SDGs and their impacts for children well being

- Inclusive social development approaches promoted by different researches,
- Three Knowledge sharing platforms on thematic research papers with more focus on gender inequalities and the well-being of children organized in 2016
- Social researchers on emerging issues related to child abuse and gender supported,

Based on the financial support from UNICEF Ethiopia, research reports were presented and discussed on the twelfth annual conference. The twelfth annual conference has provided 144 participants with wealth of knowledge and information where a total of 14 research papers were presented and discussed that can be divided in to three themes. These were:

- Preventing Violence against children.
- Disadvantaged social groups, and
- Good practices

Moreover, ESSWA has announced call for Research Papers on two thematic areas; Changing Gender Roles in a Period of Growth and Transformation and emerging issues in Child Abuse and Neglect. Accordingly and in response to ESSWA's Call for Research Papers a total of 18 research abstracts and 11 research proposals were submitted and reviewed by ESSWA's Editorial Committee. Out of the 18 research abstracts 9 were selected and presented (in two batches) to share their research findings. The first was shared in August and the second on 30 December 2016 at EGST Conference Hall. A total of 81 invited guests representing universities, government stockholders, NGO practitioners, donors and ESSWA members have attended the two knowledge sharing forums.

Presentation of the first batch was made on the following topics:

- The prevalence of and Determinants of Child Sexual Abuse in Gondar Town High Schools (by Kelemu Fanta)
- Child Poverty and Vulnerability in Southern Ethiopia: Children Recounting their Experience of Life on Street (by Yared Paulos)
- Birth Registration as a Means of Child Protection: Prospects and Challenges of Registration System in SNNP Region)
- Land Tenure Reforms and Women's Land Rights in Plural Legal Settings: A Comprehensive Study of Arsii Oromo and Dorze –Gamo, Ethiopia (by Geteneh Mehari)

Presentation of the second round was made on the following topics:

- Social determinants of PMTCT uptake and retention in Addis Ababa. By Getnet Tadele and Woldekidan A. (PhD), A.A.U.

- Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in Reducing Symptoms of Childhood Trauma in Poly-Victimized Institutionalized Ethiopian Children. By Mastewal Abawa, University of Gondar.
- Human Trafficking in Tigray: Awareness and Challenges of the Care and Protection Organizations. By Hagos Zeray (PhD), Mekele University.
- The Changing and Hidden Aspects of Early marriage Arrangements among the Peasant Communities of Fogera Woreda, N/W Ethiopia. By Eshetu Eunetu, Arbaminch University.
- Status of Society's Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice of Gender Equality in Amhara: an Implication for GTP2. By Yohannes Mersha, Bahir Dar University.

Moreover, the research results presented on ESSSWA's Annual conference and on the first round knowledge sharing form were published in the reporting period.

There are now more relevant research abstracts and proposals being submitted. Submissions of abstracts and proposals have also boosted competition, professionalism and improved quality of researches. However, the number of research abstracts and proposals submitted and the budget allocated to support these became incompatible. As a result, ESSSWA is forced to increase its own contribution using other sources.

The other outcome of this UNCEF financed project is that, ESSSWA is able to apply ethical consideration by forming its Research Review Committee, moving away from the tradition of using volunteers on ad-hock basis.

Challenges

- Due to difficulty of securing permission to conduct ESSSWA's 12th Annual Conference, and delayed renewal of ESSSWA's license, the starting period for this project delayed by 40 days.
- Security problems in the country: due to the declared of state of emergency and instability in the country, the second Knowledge Sharing Forum was postponed until 30 December 2016.
- Absence of some researchers in the country was also another challenge for ESSSWA.
- Financial Constraints.

Summary of Planned VS Accomplishment report for UNICEF's Supported - ACKS Project

S/n	Description of Activities	Plan			Budget Allotted	Accomplishment						Remark			
		Frequency	Beneficiaries (individuals or organizations)			Accomplished		Beneficiaries		Budget					
			M	F		T	#	%	#	%	Birr		%		
1	Research outcomes and conference dialogues inform Participants on Social Protection Policy, GTP2 and the SDGs and their impacts for children well being	1			300										Birr 10,043 refunded to UNICEF
3	Facilitate Knowledge sharing platforms on thematic research papers with more focus on gender inequalities and the well-being of children organized in 2016. (3 forums X 75 participants X 400/participants)	3			225										1 knowledge sharing forum has extended to 2017
5	Publication and dissemination				900										89
6	salary and fringe benefit														66
7	Other Admin Cost														72
	Total Planned Vs Accomplished														74
					194,804.00	1	100	250	100	184,661	95				
					179,500	2	67	100	45%	128,000	71				
					140,000	2				93,333	89				
					295,188					194,418	66				
					31,800					22,874	72				
					841,292					623,286	74				

Part IV. LLEEMP Project

The goal of Learning and Linking Existing Early Marriage Program/LLEEMP/project is linking of existing initiatives on early marriage to stimulate collaboration among various actors and to increase the impact of interventions in Ethiopia. The following two objectives are formulated to attain this goal:

- Understanding the prevalence and drivers/barriers of early marriage in three hotspot woredas of Amhara, Oromia and SNNP regional states; and
- Learning about what works in the existing early marriage programmes in Amhara, Oromia and SNNP regional states.

LLEEMP project has employed two principal investigators, one quantitative data analyst, a research coordinator, three co-researchers, one data clerk and two volunteers. Moreover, the Project has used a total of seven field supervisors; four data transcribed translators, three translators and 25 data collectors on short-term contract basis.

The progress of LLEEMP project is now in third quarter of implementation. In this reporting period, the following major activities are accomplished:

- Project inception report prepared and shared for stakeholders,
- Research tools are developed and translated from English into local languages,
- Existed programs identified, selected and reviewed in the target weredas of the project.
- Training and orientation provided for 25 data collectors 7 supervisors and 2 co researchers
- Field work for the three woredas is completed and resulted in a total of 1200 hhs covered in the hh survey and a total of 342 individuals participated in KIIs and FGDs from the selected three woredas of the three regions.
- Qualitative data transcription and translation of FGDs and KIIs on progress
- Quantitative data cleaning and entry on progress

Challenges

- The prevailing political unrest and civil protest in Oromia and Amhara regions have hindered the planned activities of projects financed by PIE.

Summary of Planed VS Accomplishment LLEEMP- Project

S/n	Description of Activities	Plan			Budget Allotted	Accomplishment						Remark
		Frequency	Beneficiaries (individuals or organizations)			Accomplished	Beneficiaries		Budget			
											#	
	Training, Orientation, consultation & prevention of EM focus participants			11 4	21,600			144	100	17,500	81	
	Training on Early marriage for key community leaders and government experts			24	6,000			36	150	5160	86	
	Training on Early marriage prevention for case study participants			24	7,200			45	187	3,600	50	

Education, orientation and discussion with selected Woreda HHS survey				12 00	90,000			1200	100	44,977	50	
Training on Manual Preparation on Early Marriage	1				58,500	1	100			57,500	98	
Felid work training for field research trainees	54				243,000	54	100			161,465.14	100	
Per diem for field HH educators on Early marriage for data collection	54				25,650	54	100			26,085	102	
Training activity on learning EM issues & quantitative data generation for ...	30				105,000	30	100			105,000	100	
Capacity building support for professionals on quality assurance, research review and edition	50				225,000	50	100			112,500	50	
Senior capacity building and Training Experts	20				90,000	20	100			-		
Early Marriage field educators for for field& supervisors	26				25,175	26	100			18,875	74	
Practical Field Training for 25 Potential Researchers on drivers and prevalence of EM				25	360,000			25	100	355,687	98	
Practical Field Training to 25 community social workers on drivers and prevalence of EM				25	114,000			25	100	114,805	100	
Per diem for training including travel days for 6 research trainees	30				14,250	30	100			14,225	99	
Refreshment during training (for 10 people including trainers field supervisors and facilitators)	30				6,000	30	100			4,384.86	73	
Transcription of voice recorded interview (in three languages of Oromifa, Amharic and Sidamigna)	20				40,000	20	100			40,000	100	
Training on Early marriage for field work community facilitators	15				30,000	15	100			15,600	52	
Training on EM for field work facilitator	45				10,125	45	100			12,124	119	
salary and fringe benefit	7				226,361	7	100			139,771	62	
Other Admin Cost					190,000					106,165	56	
Total Planned Vs Accomplished					1,887,861					1,355,424	72	

3. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF ESSSWA

- The most felt challenge is lack of reliable funding sources. In relation to this, the phasing out of USAID/SPSSSE project will drastically affect ESSSWA's ability to continue in its present condition holding the same office premise. Even if there might be a window of hope for continuation, it highly depends on the organizational strength of ESSSWA in a situation where it is urged to change name and form.
- On the other hand, the prevailing political unrest and civil protest in Oromia and Amhara regions have hindered the planned activities of projects financed by PIE and Oak Foundation.
- Staff turnover.
- ESSSWA has used the services of four volunteers, instead of recruiting replacements, for a project which is about to phase out.
- On the other hand, ESSSWA has selected FHI 360 to partner with to win a PEPFAR OVC project funding worth US\$50-million. Similar collaboration is also requested by the other competitor - Pact Ethiopia and ESSSWA has issued a support letter to work in collaboration if they win. In addition, ESSSWA has submitted a new proposal (CN) worth Etb 2.6 million to PIE to implement a program on Linking and Accelerating existing early marriage activities.
- On the positive scene, ESSSWA has received an encouraging promise of support from higher officials of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA). It was clearly indicated by the State Minister of MoLSA that much is expected from ESSSWA as a professional association in workforce development, setting workforce Occupational Standards (OS), development of training modules and curriculum and in managing certification of competency (COC).

4. BOARD ACTIVITIES

Engagement of the ESSSWA board members, both as a group and individually, was intensive and frequent. In this reporting period, the Board met five times discussing in more than 10 major agenda items. The Board members have also supported ESSSWA and the Executive Director with guidance in the overall strategic direction of the organization and by creating links with potential donors and helping in generating project ideas. Board members contribution extends to critical review and selecting of research abstracts for presentation in ESSSWA's annual conference. These are just to mention a few of the activities performed by the Board.

Board of Directors' Meeting in 2016

s/n	Date	Main Agenda Items	Attendants
1	01 April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Welcoming introduction of new board members ✓ Forming ESSSWA's Research Committee 	All 8 members
2	15 April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Revision of ESSSWA's Procurement Policy 	All 8 members
3	16 May 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Endorsing ESSWA's Procurement and Disposal Policy 	All 8 members
4	30 July 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff salary adjustment ✓ Renewal of ESSSWA's strategic Plan ✓ Selection of External Auditor ✓ Replacement of board member 	6 out of 8
5	14 October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Action on ESSSWA's Interim Strategic Plan ✓ ESSSWA'S Office Premise 	5 out of 7

5. MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND RENDERED SERVICES

ESSSWA's members have reached 1000. However, not more than 5% of the members pay annual membership fees on regular basis. On the other hand, over 20 years of its existence, ESSSWA has provided the following services to members:

1. Information sharing:

Information regarding ESSSWA, new developments and other issues were shared with members using regional seminars, knowledge forums, workshops and annual conferences as well as email communications and through ESSSWA's website, obsolete though.

2. Training:

Members from both the academia and from service providers have received various trainings in ethical standards, code of conduct, child protection and in secondary abuse by professionals at regional and national levels.

3. Capacity Building Support:

ESSSWA is working closely with seven regional chapters (Bahir Dar, Gonder, Jimma, Arbaminch, Jigjiga Hawassa and Mekelle) providing them with technical and material support and enable them extend similar services to members in those regions.

4. Reference Materials and Publications:

Every year ESSSWA's publications are shared with over 20 universities teaching in the field of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology, to more than 10 relevant government and non-government stakeholders. Many researchers in those fields are also taking ESSSWA's publications as references.

5. Creating Employment Opportunities:

ESSSWA's secretariat office is now serving as an employment centre in its ongoing projects supported by Oak Foundation, USAID, Plan International and UNICEF Ethiopia. At head quarter level, an employment opportunity is created for five professional staff and for two support staff.

6. Support Letters and Recommendations:

ESSSWA's members have provided commendable voluntary services and in exchange received support and recommendation letters on demand basis.

CONCLUSION

The Ethiopian society of sociologists, social workers and anthropologists, guided by its five year strategic plan has advanced its professional excellence by responding to emerging social issues. Supported by four projects financed by USAID, Oak Foundation, UNICEF Ethiopia and PIE remarkable achievements have been recorded. The development of community social workforce reflects ESSSWA's professionalism and its pragmatic actions. This was evidenced by USAID-funded three years project titled: **"Strengthening Public Sector Social Service Systems in Ethiopia"** (SPSSSE), which targets to build the skills of 4,000 Para-professionals and community level social workers.

The other remarkable achievement was gained by means of Oak Foundation supported project on: **"Enhancing Institutional and Research Capacities to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (EIRC - PCSAE)"**. The project has contributed greatly in building ESSSWA's research and development efforts by addressing issues on child sexual abuse and exploitation. Supported by different seminar series, the experiences of this project implementation have been instrumental to make the situation of child protection, child sexual abuse and exploitation in Ethiopia to be more recognized across all regions in Ethiopia.

The other achievement is that ESSSWA's research activities have been reoriented to focus more on addressing most felt social issues related to HTPS (child marriage) and hard-to-reach social

groups by identifying hot-spot areas (eg. corridors of child trafficking/migration, bonded labor and exploitation). It is believed that ESSWA's scope of operation will definitely reach out new graduates by improving their professional competence by linking action-research with practice in addressing the problem of early marriage, child trafficking, labor exploitation and sexual abuse thereby promoting child protection in Ethiopia.

The strategic plan has guided all its actions and helped to realize its mission by responding to emerging social issues. Accordingly, ESSWA's future focus will be more of quality orientation in its research products, publications, and documentation and communication practices. Such efforts should be cascaded to existing and forthcoming regional chapters and backed by making ESSWA's vibrant website vibrant. Finally, the new Social Protection Policy will give ESSWA further imputable advantage, visibility and acceptance.