

Pre-Event 22 June 2021  
Financial Management and  
Planning at Woreda Level

Results from Virtual Discussion

# GROUP DISCUSSION

- **What would be the steps required for woreda's to have a larger control over their development planning?**
  - In terms of having a comprehensive plan for their area?
  - In terms of developing and proposing projects in line with community needs?
  - In the adequate implementation of the different projects?
- **How to strengthen the financial procedures to support woreda level development?**
  - So that allocated funds are implemented?
- **What are the bottleneck to be removed (administrative system, logistics, human capacity, budget processes)**

# How to come integrated woreda plans, reflecting local priorities

- Experience from WASH (supporting local plans)
  - Spreadsheet based planning
  - Training in planning process
  - Technology per kebele depending on context
  - Factor in Operation and maintenance
  - Local discssion
  - Approved by Woreda Cabinet
  - Next develop financing strategy
- GOPA working in 4 woreda's experience
  - Plan is matching the need of community working> should be working at kebele level
  - Challenges with national financial reporting, lack regularity> needs to be improved
    - causes delays in disbursement/ releases

- Experience from Kenya – counties
  - Every 5 year county integrated development plans - requirement
  - Has priorities for each county in line with unique character
  - Incl how resources to be allocated to different sector/ priorities
  - Involve all stakeholders at the county
  - Integrate their own revenue – counties can raise their own revenue
  - National control of budget office
- Strategic multi-year planning at woreda would be useful:
  - Will inform annual plans – not haphazard submissions
  - Understanding the staggered/ prioritized demand (can not do all at once);
  - Bottom up process starting from kebelles
  - Bring in local context – joint vision – align different stakeholders
  - Also understand local resources and possibilities of finance
  - Bring in development partners
- Different sectors to meet before finalizing the plans
- Better harmonizing regional with woreda plans: make use of (enlarge) woreda block grant
- Need to have 2-3 people at woreda who have this as their responsibility, properly capacitate

# How to stream line procedures

- Pay more attention to proper reporting (see also above) and simplify and clarify for instance formats and necessary evidence
- Have updated standard costs – avoid inflated prices
- Have more SOPs
- Build in financial facility to deal with emergencies (locust, floods, droughts)

# How avoid underspending

- Pre-tender (before allocation) – example of hospital – or long term procurement arrangement
- Executive offices do not submit request on time now > need to accelerate – can get timely release funds
- Keep a certain flexibility in the plans
- Build also capacity of (private sector) implementers