



Social Safety Nets and Food Security in Ethiopian Villages: A Qualitative Assessment from 2003 to 2003

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Abstract

This study explores how social safety nets have influenced food security in Ethiopian villages over a decade. Qualitative research methods were employed, including participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions in randomly selected villages across Ethiopia. Interviews revealed that the social safety nets programme significantly increased food security by providing direct cash transfers to households, with a noted increase of 20% in household food availability compared to pre-programme levels. The study concludes that effective implementation and community engagement are key factors for enhancing the impact of social safety net programmes on food security. Recommendations include strengthening monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, fostering greater community participation, and integrating social safety nets with other development interventions to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Keywords: *African Geography, Social Safety Nets, Food Security, Qualitative Research, Ethnography, Community Development, Poverty Reduction Strategies*

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