

### **2.3 Nutrition, Food Safety and Security, Dietetics and Nutritional Problems**

Optimal nutrition is critical for human development, economic growth and for being a stepping-stone for equity. Food and nutrition security continue to represent challenges for developing countries as marker and indicator of development. This is true for Ethiopia, where malnutrition remains serious public health problem. However, research evidence on the impact of mothers' prenatal nutrition on their fetus and young children neurodevelopmental outcomes and postnatal health; food hygiene and safety, diet therapy and nutrition sensitive interventions are lacking. As a result nutritional and food safety problems remain as a threat for future healthy generation. Therefore, the following research priority project areas are identified for the year 2017/18 (2010 EC)

- Maternal, fetal & child health nutrition in the first 1000 days;
- Design effective nutrition intervention and evaluation of existing programs
- Nutrition interventional approaches for Non-Communicable Diseases and nutritional concerns of old age
- Multi-sectoral approach for Food and nutrition Security
- Food hygiene , quality and safety
- Food therapy and dietetics