

Curriculum Vitae

Tafesse W. Gezahegn

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Department of Cooperative Studies

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College of Business & Economics

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=XFRhKkQAAAAJ&hl=en>

Mekelle University, Ethiopia

Mekelle, Tigrai

Education

KU Leuven

Leuven, Belgium

PhD : Agricultural Economics

2020

Wageningen University

Wageningen, The Netherlands

MSc: Economics, Environment, and Governance

2013

Mekelle University

Mekelle, Ethiopia

MSc : Cooperative Marketing

2008

Haramaya University

Haramaya, Ethiopia

BSc: Agribusiness Management

2005

Work experience

Assistant Professor

Currently

Mekelle University

Department of Cooperative Studies

Visiting Scholar (Postdoc)

June 2023 - September 2023

KU Leuven

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

**Lost years (trapped in a bloody war
and siege in Tigrai, Ethiopia)**

November 2020 – May 2023

Assistant Professor

August 2015 – October 2020

Mekelle University

Department of Cooperative Studies

Lecturer

August 2008 - July 2015

Mekelle University

Department of Cooperative Studies

Assistant Lecturer

August 2007 - July 2008

Mekelle University

Department of Cooperative Studies

Graduate Assistant

August 2005 - July 2007

Mekelle University

Department of Cooperative Studies

Courses handled

MSc

- Econometrics (with **Stata** application); Research Methods in Community Development; Community-Based Project Management; Research Seminar; Thesis supervision

BSc

- Intermediate Economics; Business Statistics; Operations Research; Project Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation; Business Mathematics; Risk Management and Insurance; Entrepreneurship; Introduction to Management; Cooperatives and Agribusiness; Cooperative Theory and Practice; Cooperative Legal System; BSc project supervision

Research

Published Articles

- Kifle T. Sebhatua, Tafesse W. Gezahegn, Tekeste Berhanu, Miet Maertens, Steven Van Passel and Marijke D'Haese (2021): Exploring variability across cooperatives: economic performance of agricultural cooperatives in northern Ethiopia. *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review* 24.3 (2021): 397-419.
- Gezahegn, T., Van Passel, S., Berhanu, T., D'Haese, M., Maertens, M. (2021): Structural and Institutional Heterogeneity among Agricultural Cooperatives in Ethiopia: Does it Matter for Farmers' Welfare? *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 46(2):325–342.
- Sebhatu, K. T., Gezahegn, T. W., Berhanu, T., Maertens, M., Van Passel, S., D'Haese, M. (2020): Conflict, fraud, and distrust in Ethiopian agricultural cooperatives. *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management* 8, 100106.
- Gezahegn, T. W., Van Passel, S., Berhanu, T., D'haese, M., Maertens, M. (2019): Big is efficient: Evidence from agricultural cooperatives in Ethiopia. *Agricultural economics* 50, 555-566.
- Gezahegn, T. W., Van Passel, S., Berhanu, T., D'haese, M., Maertens, M. (2019): Do bottom-up and independent agricultural cooperatives really perform better? Insights from a technical efficiency analysis in Ethiopia, *Agrekon*, 59(1): 1-17.
- Gezahegn, T.W., Gebrecherkos Gebregiorgis, Tesfay Gebrehiwet, Kifle Tesfamariam (2018): Adoption of renewable energy technologies in rural Tigray, Ethiopia: An analysis of the impact of cooperatives. *Energy Policy* 114, 108-113, DOI: 10.1016/j.enpol.2017.11.056.
- Gezahegn, T.W. & Xueqin Zhu (2017): How should urban water be priced? – An empirical analysis for the city of Mekelle, Ethiopia. *Urban Water Journal*, 14:4, 409-415, DOI: 10.1080/1573062X.2016.1175484

- Gezahegn, T.W. and Zhu, X. (2015): Marginal value of natural water in agriculture: a study in the suburbs of Mekelle City, Ethiopia. *Water Policy*, 17, 316-331; doi:10.2166/wp.2014.146

Submitted Articles

- Enhancing land productivity through a better cooperative organization: Evidence from Tigray, Ethiopia (Submitted to *Journal of Agricultural Economics*)
- Status and determinants of smallholder households' Food Security in Northcentral Ethiopia (Submitted to: *Journal of International Development*)
- Does Membership in Seed Producer Cooperatives Improve Smallholders' Teff Productivity? A Comparative Analysis in North Ethiopia (Submitted to: *Journal of Public and Cooperative Economics*)
- Do Migration Drivers Differ from Migrant Attributes? Insights from a Multinomial Logit Model in Ethiopia (Submitted to: *Habitat International*)
- The Effect of Social Capital on Migration Aspiration and Migration Capability: Insights from Tigray in Northern Ethiopia (Submitted to: *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*)

Articles in progress

- Land rental markets in Tigray, north Ethiopia: A quantitative analysis of determinants and productivity Implications.
- Adoption of Climate-Change Adaptation Strategies among Smallholder Farmers in North Ethiopia: An Empirical Analysis of Determinants and Productivity Impact (Submitted to: *Journal of East African Studies*)
- Tapping more trees less often or fewer trees more often? Evaluating preferences for forest resources governance in Tigray, Ethiopia
- Intra-household joint land management, factor markets, and returns in Tigray, Ethiopia.

Conference and seminar presentations

- Gezahegn, T.W. & Maertens, M. (2023). How Institutional Heterogeneity of Irrigation Cooperatives Impacts Land Productivity: Insights from a Plot-level Analysis in Tigray, north Ethiopia. Presented at the 17th EAAE Congress held in Rennes, France 29 August – 01 September 2023.
- Gezahegn, T. W., Van Passel, S., Berhanu, M., Maertens, M. (2023). Structure, Institutions, and Governance in Agricultural Cooperatives: A Quantitative Analysis of Efficiency, Productivity, and Welfare Effects in Ethiopia. Presented at University of Antwerp, Department of Environmental Economics.

- Gezahegn, T. W., Van Passel, S., Berhanu, M., Maertens, M. (2019). Do Bottom-up, Independent, and Participatory Agricultural Cooperatives Really Perform Better? Insights from a Technical Efficiency Analysis in Ethiopia. Presented at the 20th PhD Symposium of the Belgian Association of Agricultural Economists (BAAE) held in Brussels, Belgium on 24 April 2019.
- Gezahegn, T.W. & Maertens, M. (2018). Economic Incentives for Collective Action in Agriculture: Evidence from Agricultural Co-operatives in Tigray, North Ethiopia. In: 2018 Conference, July 28-August 2, 2018, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada 2018. International Association of Agricultural Economists.
- Gezahegn, T.W. & Zhu, X.: Welfare Effects of Marginal-Cost Water Pricing: Evidence from Mekelle City, Ethiopia. Presented at a Seminar at Wageningen University, Wageningen, The Netherlands, 2017.
- The role of cooperatives in poverty alleviation: the case of Tigray, Ethiopia (Co-author): Presented at a National Conference on Ethiopian Cooperative Development
- The cooperative business model in principle and practice: a study in Mekelle, Ethiopia (Principal Investigator): Presented at a National Conference on Ethiopian Cooperative Development

Research interests

- Agricultural Economics: production economics; productivity; technology adoption; institutional and price incentives; input substitution; land rental markets; land property rights
- Environmental and Resource Economics: Economics and management of the environment and natural resources; ecoefficiency; water pricing and allocation; ecosystem service valuation; property rights
- Development Economics: Rural development; Cooperatives and Socioeconomic development; food security; poverty reduction

Grants

- VLIR-UOS: granted fund for the project “Impact Assessment on Agricultural Cooperatives: collaborative research in Tigray region, Northern Ethiopia” (€300,000) [Role: Team member] (Status: completed)
- Mekelle University research fund: granted fund for the research project “Determinants of Credit Demand among Members of Savings and Credit Cooperatives in Tigray Region, Ethiopia” Grant code: CBE/RB/15/2014 (ETB 40,000) [Role: Team member] (Status: completed)
- Mekelle University research fund: granted fund for the research project “The Role of Cooperatives in Creating Market Access for Smallholder Producers in Tigray Region, Ethiopia” Grant code: CBE/RB/14/2014 (ETB 40,000) [Role: Team member] (Status: completed)

- Mekelle University research fund: granted fund for the research project “The Cooperative Business Model in Principle and Practice: a study in Mekelle, Ethiopia” Grant code: CBE/NORAD/14/2010 (ETB 24,022) [Role: Principal investigator] (Status: completed)
- Mekelle University research fund: granted fund for the research project “The Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Alleviation: the case of Tigray, Ethiopia” Grant code: CBE/RB/31/2011 (ETB 20,000) [Role: Team member] (Status: completed)

Article reviews

Journals

- Agricultural and Food Economics
- Discover Food
- Agribusiness
- Land Economics
- Energy Policy
- Local Environment
- Cogent Business & Management

Certificates

- A certificate of trainer on Entrepreneurship and Business Plan Development for internally displaced women in Tigray (2021)
- A certificate of training on Balanced Scorecard (BSC) planning tool.
- A certificate of recognition as a department-level best instructor of the year 2014, semester I.
- A certificate of professional contribution in Curriculum Development of Degree Program in Cooperative Studies, Mekelle University, Ethiopia.
- A certificate of Short-Term Training on Business Planning for Credit Unions Using PEARLS Monitoring System, World Council of Credit Unions, WOCCU.
- A certificate of professional contribution in Conference Organization, Mekelle University, Ethiopia.

Leadership experience

Department head

- Department of Cooperative Studies, College of Business and Economics, Mekelle University, Ethiopia (December 2014 – August 2016)

Community service (unpaid)

- Founder and Chairman of Mekelle University Employees' Savings and Credit Cooperative (October 2009 – October 2016).
- Founder and Secretary of Mekelle University Employees' Consumer Cooperative (June 2014 – August 2016).

Skills

Language

- *Tigrigna* (mother tongue)- Fluent (writing, speaking, listening)
- *Amharic* – Fluent (writing, speaking, listening)
- *English* (language of education since grade 7) – Very good (writing, speaking, listening)

Software

- *Stata* (very good); *SPSS* (good); *MINITAB* (good); *GAMS* (beginner); *R* (beginner)

Computer

- Word (very good); Excel (very good); Power-point (very good)

References

- Miet Maertens; Professor at the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium (PhD supervisor); E-mail: Miet.maertens@kuleuven.be
- Steven Van Passel; Professor, Department of Engineering Management, University of Antwerp, Belgium (PhD co-supervisor); E-mail: Steven.VanPassel@uantwerpen.be
- Marijke D'Haese; Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Ghent University, Belgium (PhD assessor); E-mail: marijke.dhaese@ugent.be
- Xueqin Zhu; Professor, Environmental Economics and Natural Resources Group, Wageningen University, Wageningen, the Netherlands (MSc supervisor); E-mail: xueqin.zhu@wur.nl