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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Research Fellow, Business, Markets and the State Cluster

LANGUAGES: English, Amharic and Afan Oromo

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: Agriculture, food, and nutrition; enterprise development and youth employment; renewable energy; political economy analysis, value chains and industrial policy

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: Ethiopia, Kenya, and sub-Saharan Africa; Vietnam

OVERVIEW

Seife is a development economist with over 25 years' experience in research, teaching and development practice. His work focuses on agricultural commercialisation and mechanisation, enterprise development and youth employment, political economy analysis, value chains and industrial policy. He is the principal investigator of the project [Renewable Energy Development in Ethiopia](#) which explores obstacles in energy procurement from independent power producers. He is currently a fellow in the [Business, Markets and the State](#) cluster at the Institute of Development Studies. Prior to joining IDS, he directed programmes in Ethiopia providing access to and adoption of improved agricultural technologies by smallholder farmers. He has also held a Research Scientist position at the International Livestock Research Institute, in Nairobi, and a Research Fellow position at the Open University, UK. He has led and conducted significant research in Africa and Asia and has extensively published in the areas of agricultural innovations and technology adoption, biotech crops regulation and enterprise development. His external roles have included membership of steering committees for international research and contribution to policy consultation processes. He is a member/associate member of networks and professional societies.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1997 - 2002 **PhD in Development and Business Studies**
Thesis title: The Role and Impact of Investment Incentives on Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Development in Ethiopia (The Open University, UK).

1992 - 1993 **MA Development Economics**
School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, UK

1991 - 1992 **Graduate Diploma, The Economics of Public Policy**
School of Economics and Social Studies, University of East Anglia, UK

1981 - 1985 **BA in Economics**, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

2016 – PRESENT **Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK**
Research focuses on business, markets, and the state in development.

2012 – 2015 **Consultant, Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA), Addis Ababa**
Director, Mechanization Programme; and Technology Access and Adoption Programme. Developed and supported implementation of a portfolio of agricultural initiatives to improve farmers' access to and use of agricultural technologies.

2008 – 2011 **Research Scientist, International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya**

Designed and implemented research into innovation capacities and processes to enhance understanding and sustainable improvement to the well-being of farmers.

1997 – 2008

Tutor/Research Fellow, Open University, UK

Designed, researched, and published, including from two UK Government Economic and Social Science Research Council's Science in Society Programme funded projects; tutored at residential schools *U208 Third World Development and MBA Strategic Management* courses.

1985 – 1995

Economic policy analyst, Ministry of Planning and Econ. Development, Ethiopia

Macroeconomic policy analyst, including project preparation, appraisal, and impacts.

AFFILIATIONS

Member, Ethiopian Economics Association, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Associate member of the Innogen Centre, The Open University - University of Edinburgh

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

2016-2022

Various studies, including: in 2019-22 lead the study of Renewable Energy Development in Ethiopia which explores obstacles in energy procurement from independent power producers, in 2021-22, co-lead Signature Program development guidelines for Heifer International, and in 2019 co-led the study of GIZ-funded Employment and Skills for East Africa (E4D-SOGA) programme in Kenya and Uganda. Findings fed into the design of Phase II E4D-SOGA.

Doctoral students' supervision and examination: supervised two doctoral students to completion and two are on-going. Examined three successful doctoral theses. Seife also supervised dozens of MA and MSc students.

2012-15

Mechanisation and Technology Access and Adoption Programmes Director, ATA, Ethiopia: led on several projects, including the development of the National Agricultural Mechanization Strategy to provide farmers access to and use of mechanization services and technologies.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

Ayele, S. and Shen, W. (2022) '[Renewable Energy Procurement by Private Suppliers in Ethiopia](#)', *IDS Policy Briefing* 187, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Ayele, S. (2021) '[The Resurgence of Agricultural Mechanisation in Ethiopia: Rhetoric or Real Commitment?](#)', *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 49.1: 137-157, DOI: 10.1080/03066150.2020.1847091

Orchard, S.; Glover, D.; Thapa, K. S.; Ayele, S.; Sen, D.; Rathod, R. and Rowhani, P. (2020) '[Exploring Synergies and Trade-offs Among the Sustainable Development Goals: Collective Action and Adaptive Capacity in Marginal Mountainous Areas of India](#)', *Sustainability Science* 15: 1665–1681, DOI: 10.1007/s11625-019-00768-8

Ayele, S.; Thorpe, J.; Ayele, G.; Chingaipe, H.; Teye, J.K. and O'Flynn, P. (2020) '[Agribusiness Investment in Agricultural Commercialisation: Rethinking Policy Incentives in Africa](#)', APRA Working Paper 33, Brighton: Future Agricultures Consortium, Institute of Development Studies

Ayele, S.; Nisbett, N. and Zegeye, E.A. (2020) '[Overcoming Challenges in Ethiopia's Nutrition Governance](#)', *IDS Policy Briefing*, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies

Belay, D.; Negatu, W. and Ayele, S. (2019) '[Gender, Social Capital, and Market Participation in Dairy Cooperatives in West Shoa, Ethiopia](#)', *AgriGender* 4.2: 1-17, DOI: 10.19268/JGAFS.422019.3

Ayele, S.; Oosterom, M. and Glover, D. (2018) '[Introduction: Youth Employment and the Private Sector in Africa](#)', *IDS Bulletin* 49.5: 1-14, DOI: [10.19088/1968-2018.167](#)

Ayele, S.; Khan, S. and Sumberg, J. (2017) '[Introduction: New Perspectives on Africa's Youth Employment Challenge](#)', *IDS Bulletin* 48.3: 1-12, DOI: [10.19088/1968-2017.123](#)

- Ayele, S.; Mader, P.; Thorpe, J.; Gu, J.; Morales, M.M. and Reed, P. (2016) [State–Business Relations Beyond Growth: Bringing in Development](#), IDS Evidence Report 215, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies
- Ayele, S.; Duncan, A.; Larbi, A. and Khanh, T.T. (2012) [Enhancing Innovation in Livestock Value Chains: Lessons from Fodder Adoption Case Studies in Developing Countries](#), *Science and Public Policy* 39: 333–346, DOI: 10.1093/scipol/scs022
- Ayele, S. (2008) [Biotechnology and Biodiversity Debates and Policies in Africa](#), *International Journal of Biotechnology* 10.2/3: 207-223, DOI: 10.1504/IJBT.2008.018353
- Ayele, S. (2007) [The Legitimation of GMO Governance in Africa](#), *Science and Public Policy* 34.4: 239-249, DOI: 10.3152/030234207X213931
- Ayele, S.; Chataway, J. and Wield, D. (2006) [Partnerships in African Crop Biotech](#), *Nature Biotechnology* 24: 619-621, DOI: 10.1038/nbt0606-619
- Ayele, S. (2006) [The Industry and Location Impacts of Investment Incentives on SMEs in Ethiopia](#), *Journal of International Development* 18.1: 1-13, DOI: 10.1002/jid.1186
- Ayele, S. and Wield, D. (2005) [Science and Technology Capacity Building and Partnership in the African Agriculture: Perspectives on Mali and Egypt](#), *Journal of International Development* 17.5: 631-646, DOI: 10.1002/jid.1228