

ELENI ABRAHAM YITBAREK

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIST



CONTACTS

+27743499504



eleni.yitbarek@up.ac.za



University of Pretoria,
Economics Department,
Pretoria, 0083, South Africa



ABOUT ME

I am a Development Economist with a strong background in quantitative analysis and extensive experience analyzing household survey data for poverty and inequality analysis. I collaborate widely with international development organizations such as the World Bank, SNV, European Investment Bank, Global Development Network, UNDP, PEP, UCTAD and African Climate Policy Centre. My research interests include the measurement of poverty and inequality dynamics, socio-economic dimensions of economic shocks, intergenerational mobility, impact evaluation and behavioural economics. I published papers in highly ranked peer-reviewed journals such as Economics Letters, Contemporary Economic Policy, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Development Effectiveness and African Development Review.

SKILLS

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Maastricht University, Economics
2016

Master of Science, Maastricht University, Public Policy & Human Development
2008

Bachelor of Arts, Addis Ababa University, Public Administration
2003

PUBLICATIONS

Van der Merwe, E., Clance, M., & Yitbarek, E. (2022). Climate Change and Child Health: A Nigerian Perspective
Food policy | Jun 2022

Awel, Y., & Yitbarek, E. (2022). Mobile money demand in utility bill payments: A WTP estimates from Ethiopia
Journal of Development Effectiveness | Jan 2022

Asiedu, E., Azomahou, T. T., Getachew, Y., & Yitbarek, E. (2021). Share the love: Parental bias, women empowerment and intergenerational mobility.
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization | Nov 2021

Chisadza, C., Nicholls, N., & Yitbarek, E. (2021). Group identity in fairness decisions: Discrimination or inequality aversion?
Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, | Aug 2021

Chisadza, C., Clance, M., Mthembu, T., Nicholls, N., & Yitbarek (2021), E. Online and face-to-face learning: Evidence from students' performance during the Covid-19 pandemic
African Development Review | Mar 2021

Azomahou, T. T., & Yitbarek, E. (2021). Intergenerational mobility in education: Is Africa different?
Contemporary Economic Policy | Sep 2020

STATISTICAL SOFTWARES -
STATA

SCIENTIFIC WRITING

MS OFFICE (WORD, EXCEL,
POWERPOINT) AND LATEX

REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. Thophile T.
Azomahou
African Economic Research
Consortium (AERC)
E: theophile.azomahou@aerc
africa.org

Dr Kathleen G. Beegle
The World Bank Group
E: kbeegle@worldbank.org

Prof S Koch
University of Pretoria
E: steve.koch@up.ac.za

OTHER EMPLOYMENT RECORD

Junior Material Resource
Officer, Ethiopian
Telecommunication
Corporation, Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia
Apr 2004 - Apr 2005

Operation Assistant, Nile
Insurance Share Company,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Sep 2003 - Apr 2004

Intern Administration
Assistant, City Government
Finance and Economy
development Bureau,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
Nov 2001 - Apr 2002

Enumerator, Young Lives
International Study of
Childhood Poverty. Addis
Ababa, Ethiopia
Oct 2001

Enumerator and Data
Analyst, Oxford Research
International.
Feb 2002

Chisadza, C., Nicholls, N., & Yitbarek, E. (2019). Race and gender biases in student evaluations of teachers.

Economics Letters|Jun 2019

PAPERS UNDER REVISION - REVISE AND RESUBMIT

Poverty persistence and informal risk management: Micro evidence from urban Ethiopia (with Th'eophile T. Azomahou), The Social Science Journal

Inequality, outreach and impact in public goods contributions (With Nicky Nicolas and Carolyn Chisadza), Journal of Development Studies

Trust in social media and COVID-19 beliefs and behaviours (with Nicky Nicholls), PLOS ONE

RESEARCH FUNDING

University of Pretoria, Research Development Programme -3 years -(USD10,000)

The African academy of sciences Crop diversification and Nutrition security: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa- 18 months (~USD 100,000)

The African academy of sciences Compliance with Covid-19 prevention measures: a behavioral economics approach-2 Years-(~USD 69,000)

Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP)-2 years-(~USD20,000)

European Investment Bank (EIB)- 1 year-(~USD 25,000)

University of America in Cairo, Center for Migration and Refugee Studies-1 year-(~USD10,000))

TEACHING

Economic Development (Masters), Co-ordinator & Lecturer, University of Pretoria
Jan 2019 - Present

Introductory Growth and Development Economics (3rd year), Lecturer, University of Pretoria
Jan 2019 - Dec 2021

Development Economics (3rd year), Co-ordinator & Lecturer, University of Pretoria
Jan 2022 - Present

Microeconomics (1st year), Lecturer, University of Pretoria
Jan 2021 - Dec 2021

BOOKS CHAPTERS

Chisadza, C., Yitbarek, E., & Nicholls, N. (2020). Women Empowerment and Child Obesity: Evidence in Comoros, Malawi, and Mozambique. In Women and Sustainable Human Development (pp. 267-284). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham., 2019

Türkeli, S., Wong, P. H., & Yitbarek, E. A. (2020). Multiplex learning: An evidence-based approach to design policy learning networks in Sub-Saharan Africa for the SDGs. In *Africa and the Sustainable Development Goals* (pp. 279-292). Springer, Cham., 2019

Yitbarek, E. A. (2016). *Getting ahead or left behind?: essays on poverty dynamics and social mobility in Africa*. Maastricht University, the Netherlands , 2016

Yohannes Agonafir and Eleni Abraham (2012). The oilseeds value chain. In *Pro-poor value chain development: private sector-led innovative practices in Ethiopia* (pp.127-135). SNV Netherlands Development Organisation, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia., 2012

AWARDS AND PRIZES

First journal article publication, 2019, in *Economics of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences*, University of Pretoria.

Best Paper Awards, 2018, PEP (Partnership for Economic Policy)

Travel grant award to participate 6th Lindau Nobel Laureates meeting in Economic Sciences, 2017.

UNU--MERIT PhD scholarship, Oct. 2011-Dec. 2016

Maastricht University High Potential Scholarship 2007-2008

Ethiopian Government Higher Education Scholarship-BA study (1998-2002)

PAPER IN PIPELINE

Ruggedness and Children Welfare in Africa (with Matthew Clance and Carolyn Chisadza)

The resilience of the poor: A Markov chain analysis of the dynamics of transition and heterogeneity of subjective poverty

Crop diversity and welfare dynamics: Empirical Evidence from Nigeria (with Hiywot Girma)

Climate Smart Agriculture and Welfare (with Hiywot Girma and Noluthando Mngwengwe)

Impact of Crop Diversification on Food and Nutrition Security of Rural Households in Nigeria- (with Hiywot Girma and Yosef Amaha)

Climate-smart agriculture, welfare, and income risk management in Ethiopia: Exploring impacts and Option for scaling up (with Wondimagegn Tesfaye)

Beliefs and preferences as predictors of prophylactic adherence and lockdown compliance in South Africa (With Nicky Nicolas, Stefano Farolfi, Damien Jourdain, Eric Mungatana and Marc Willinger)

CONTRIBUTION TO TECHNICAL REPORTS

Process in reducing monetary poverty and inequality in Eswatini, World Bank publications, 2020

The Kingdom of Eswatini Toward Equal Opportunity: Accelerating Inclusion and Poverty Reduction. Systematic Country Diagnostic; World Bank, Washington, DC., 2020

Beegle, K., & Christiaensen, L. (Eds.). (2019). Accelerating poverty reduction in Africa. World Bank Publications., 2019

Beegle, K., Christiaensen, L., Dabalen, A., & Gaddis, I. (2016). Poverty in a rising Africa. World Bank Publications., 2016

UNDP, A. (2016). Africa Human Development Report 2016 Accelerating Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa (No. 267638). United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)., 2016

Zanzibar poverty assessment. World Bank, 2022

South Africa Entrepreneurship Mapping and assessment report: UCTAD

COURSES

Evaluation of public policy , Laval University
Jan 2017 - Mar 2017

Labour market and development Economics , UNU-WIDER
Nov 2019

Applied Development Economics , Laval University
Jan 2017 - Jun 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior lecturer, University of Pretoria, Pretoria
Oct 2019 - Present

Post-doctoral research fellow, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg
Jan 2019 - Sep 2019

Post-doctoral research fellow, University of Pretoria
Jan 2016 - Dec 2018

Fellow in development finance, GDN and EIB
Jan 2017 - Dec 2018

PhD fellow, UNU-MERIT, Maastricht University, Maastricht
Sep 2011 - Dec 2016

Research fellow, The World Bank, Washington
Jul 2014 - Mar 2015

Economic Development Advisor/ Impact investment advisor, SNV, Addis Ababa
Apr 2005 - Aug 2007

Micro Finance Junior Inspector, National Bank of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa
Jan 2004 - Aug 2007

PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES

Poverty persistence and informal risk management: Micro evidence from urban Ethiopia', 1st Annual World Bank Conference on Africa (ABCA), Paris: June 23-24, 2014., 2014

Poverty persistence and informal risk management: Micro evidence from urban Ethiopia, 19th Annual Conference of the African Econometrics Society, Addis Ababa: July 16-18., 2014

Poverty persistence and informal risk management: Micro evidence from urban Ethiopia', CSAE Conference, Oxford, 22-24 March 2015., 2015

Occupational inheritance and gender: evidence from SSA, UNU-WIDER 30th anniversary conference, Helsinki, 17-19 September 2015., 2015

Intergenerational education mobility in Africa: Has progress been inclusive?' UNU-WIDER Development Conference Human capital and growth, Helsinki, 6-7 June 2016., 2016

The resilience of the poor: A Markov chain analysis of the dynamics of transition and heterogeneity of subjective poverty', Econometric Society Africa Region Meetings, Kruger National Park, 25 - 29 July 2016., 2016

Share the Love: Parental Bias, Women Empowerment and Intergenerational Mobility in Africa, 2017 ASSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, and January 6-8, 2017., 2017

The resilience of the poor: A Markov chain analysis of the Dynamics of transition and heterogeneity of subjective poverty', 2017 ASSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, and January 6-8, 2017., 2017

Share the Love: Parental Bias, Women Empowerment and Intergenerational Mobility in Africa', 2017 The fourth Annual Bank Conference on Africa (ABCA) Berkeley, California, on June 5-6, 2017., 2017

Credit, training, risk preference and enterprises performance: Evidence from Ethiopia' Universit Laval economics department seminar series, Qubec, Canada Feb 23, 2018., 2018

Credit, training, risk preference and enterprises performance: Evidence from Ethiopia 2018 Annual Bank Conference on Africa(ABCA) Stanford, California, June 14-15, 2018., 2018

Share the Love: Parental Bias, Women Empowerment and Intergenerational Mobility in Africa', 27th International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) 27th Annual Conference at SUNY New Paltz, USA, June 19 - 21, 2018., 2018

'19th Global Development Conference: Knowledge for Sustainable Development: The Research-Policy Nexus, Bonn, Germany. (23-25 October 2019), 2019

94th annual western economic association international conference 2019, San Francisco, California June (28th-July 2nd, 2019.), 2019

The 55th Annual Conference of the Canadian Economics Association (June, 3rd-5th, 2021), 2019

Annual Western Economic Association International (June 17-19 2021), 2021

Dialogues on the Future of Work in the Global South (FoWIGS) Sub-Saharan Africa Program, 2021

CONSULTANCY

The World Bank Group, Zanzibar
Jun 2022

UCTAD, Pretoria
Jan 2022

The World Bank group, Pretoria
Dec 2021

The World Bank group, Pretoria
Dec 2019

The World Bank group, Washington, D.C.
Jul 2017

United Nations Development Programme, Regional Bureau for Africa
Oct 2015

SNV, the Netherlands Development Organization, Addis Ababa
Jun 2013

WORKING PAPERS

Araar, A., Awel, Y., Boka, J. B., Girma, H., Shafi, A., Yitbarek, E. A., & Zerihun, M. (2019). Impact of Credit and Training on Enterprise Performance: Evidence from Urban Ethiopia. Partnership for Economic Policy Working Paper, (2019-13)., 2019

Awel, Y. M., Bane, J., Menkir, H., Shafi, A., Yitbarek, E. A., & Zerihun, M. F. (2018). Financial Inclusion, Gender Disparity in Risk Appetite, and Micro and Small Enterprise Performance: Evidence from urban Ethiopia., 2018

Azomahou, T. T., & Yitbarek, E. A. (2016). Intergenerational education mobility in Africa: Has progress been inclusive?. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, (7843)., 2016

Azomahou, T. T., & Yitbarek, E. A. (2015). Poverty persistence and informal risk management: Micro evidence from urban Ethiopia. UNU-MERIT., 2015