

MENALE KASSIE

Contact details

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Personal details

Date of Birth: April, 1970
Nationality: Ethiopian
Gender: Male
Marital Status: Married with three children
Languages: English, Amharic

Degrees

- 2005: **PhD in Development and Resource Economics**, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway. Awarded December, 2005.
Dissertation Title: Technology Adoption, Land Rental Contracts and Agricultural Productivity.
- 1997: **MSc degree in Agricultural Economics**, Alemaya University, Ethiopia
Dissertation Title: Economics of Integration of Forage Legumes with Cereal Crops.
- 1991: **BSc degree in Agricultural Economics**, Alemaya University, Ethiopia.

Employments

- 07/2010-to date **Scientist-agricultural and Development Economist**, International and Maize and Wheat improvement Center (CIMMYT), Nairobi, Kenya
Duties: Undertake adoption and impact assessment of various CIMMYT interventions. Work on and coordinating the socio-economic component of ‘Sustainable Intensification of Maize-Legume Cropping Systems (SIMLESA) project implemented in five African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, and Mozambique). It is four years project funded by the Australian Government through the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).
- 10/2008-06/2010: **Researcher/Research Officer**, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Duties: This involves administrating and coordinating the research component of the Environmental for Development (EfD) research centers located in Africa, China and Central America. The position specifically involves research project selection and quality control of research and developing concept notes and proposals in collaboration with research teams from EfD research centers.

02/2008 – 09/2008:

Post Doctoral Fellow (PDF), International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Nairobi, Kenya.

Duties: This was a research position to undertake applied economic research in relation to improving the productivity and market competitiveness of dryland legumes. It also involved designing and developing survey instruments and implementing baseline survey questionnaires. In writing two documents on current situation and future outlook of three dryland legumes and one applied research on role of legume on poverty I developed knowledge and understanding of dryland legumes and experience in working in an international research environment.

2006 – 01/2008:

Research Fellow, in the Sida-funded Environmental Economics policy Forum for Ethiopia (EEPEF), Ethiopia.

Duties: This is primarily a research position. I worked mainly on impact assessments particularly in relation to understanding the role of productivity and production risk in the adoption and adaptation of sustainable land management technologies. This is the period I developed extensive knowledge of theoretical modeling and econometric methods in general and impact assessment methods in particular.

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07/1997-12/1999:

Head of Credit and Input section in the Bureau of Agriculture, Ethiopia.

Duties: Develop guidelines for effective input and credit distribution and estimated the annual agricultural input (e.g. seed, credit, fertilizer) demand of farmers in the region. This position also involved in identifying constraints and opportunities to scale-up and scale out agricultural inputs in the region. I was also responsible for supervising and managing team of input and credit experts working in the section.

06/1993-08/1994:

Team Leader, Planning and Programming Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia.

Duties: This involved preparing annual plans and monitoring and evaluation of annual plans. Coordinating and supervising experts working in this division was also my duty.

PhD Supervision

Student Name: Hailemaraim Teklewolde

Research Project: Essay on agricultural technology and productivity (2010 to date)

University: University of Gothenburg in the Department of Economics and one form

Student Name: Akalu Teshome:

Research Project: Impact of Institutional and Socio-Economic Factors on Sustainable Land Management Investments in North Western Ethiopia (2010 to date)

University: Wageningen University in the department of Environmental Sciences

Student Name: Jonas Kathage

Research project: Privatization of Seed Markets: Implications for Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa

University: Georg-August-University of Göttingen

List of publications**Journal Articles**

A11. Gebreegziabher, Z., M. Alemu, **M. Kassie** and G. Kohlin (2011) Urban energy transition and technology adoption: The case of Tigray, Northern Ethiopia. Accepted for application in the Energy Economics.

A10. Simtowe, F., A. Diagne, E. Muange, **M. Kassie**, S. Asfaw, B. Shiferaw, R. Ubwe, S.D. Lyimo (2011). Determinants of agricultural technology adoption: the case of improved pigeonpea varieties in Tanzania. Accepted for publication in the **Quarterly Journal of International Agriculture**.

A9. **Kassie, M.**, B. Shiferaw and M. Geoffrey (2011). Agricultural Technology, Crop Income, and Poverty Alleviation in Uganda. World Development, 39(10) pp:.

A.8. Kassie, M., G., Kohlin, R. A. Bluffstone, S. Holden. (2011) Are soil conservation technologies “win-win?” A case study of Anjeni in the north-western Ethiopian highlands, Natural Resource Forum 35, 89-99.

- A7. Kassie, M., P. Zikahli, J. Pender and G. Kohlin (2010) The Economics of Sustainable Land Management Practices in the Ethiopian Highlands, *Journal of Agricultural Economics* 61(3), 605-627.
- A6. Alem, Y. M. Bezabih, M. Kassie and P. Zikhali (2010) Does Fertilizer Use Respond to Rainfall Variability? Panel Data Evidence from Ethiopia, *Agricultural Economics* 41, 41, 165-175.
- A5. Kassie, M., P. Zikhali, K. Manjur, S. Edwards (2009) Adoption of Organic Farming Technologies: Evidence from Semi-Arid Regions of Ethiopia, *Natural Resources Forum* 33, 189-198.
- A4. Kassie, M., J. Pender, M. Yesuf, G. Kohlin, R.A. Bluffstone and E. Mulugeta (2008) Estimating Returns to Soil Conservation Adoption in the Northern Ethiopian Highlands, *Agricultural Economics* 38, 213 – 232.
- A3. Kassie, M. and S.T. Holden (2007) Sharecropping Efficiency in Ethiopia: Threats of Eviction and Kinship, *Agricultural economics* 37, 179-188.
- A2. Kassie, M., A.M Jabbar, B. Kassa and M. A. Mohamed-Saleem (1999) Benefits of Integration of cereals and forage legumes with and without crossbred cows in mixed farms: An ex-ante Analysis for Highland Ethiopia, *Journal of Sustainable Agriculture* 14, 31-48.
- A1. Kassie, M., A.M, Jabbar and B. Kassa (1998) Implications of forage Legumes and Cereal-based Cropping System for Sustainable Agriculture in Ethiopia: A Linear programming Approach, *Journal of the Third World Science, Technology & Development Forum* 16, 32-50.

Book Chapters

- B5. Shiferaw, B., M. Kassie, M. Geoffrey (2011). Rural Institutions and Imperfect Agricultural Markets in Africa: Experiences from Producer Marketing Groups in Kenya, in M. Esther, M. Helen, and M. D. Ruth (eds.) *Collective Action and Property Rights for Poverty Reduction: Insights from Africa and Asia*, John Hopkins press, forthcoming.
- B4. Kassie, M. (2011) Where does investment on Sustainable Land Management Technology Work? Empirical Evidence from the Ethiopian Highlands, in Randall A. Bluffstone and Köhlin, G., eds., *Agricultural Investments, Livelihoods and Sustainability in East African Agriculture. Resource for the Future (RFF) Press*.
- B3. Nune, S., M. Kassie and E. Mungatana (2010) Accounting for forest resources in Ethiopia”, in Mungatana, E., Hassan, R. and Glenn-Marie, L., eds., *Implementing Environmental Accounts*. Springer Publishing Company, New York, forthcoming.
- B2. Esayas, A., M. Kassie and E. Mungatana (2010) Land and soil resources accounts for Ethiopia”, in Mungatana, E., Hassan, R. and Glenn-Marie, L., eds., *Implementing Environmental Accounts*. Springer Publishing Company, New York, forthcoming.

B1. Kassie, M. and S.T. Holden (2008). Kinship, Tenure insecurity, input use and land productivity. The case of sharecropping in Ethiopia, in S.T. Holden, K. Otsuka and F. Place (eds.) The Emergence of Land Markets in Africa: Assessing the Impacts of Poverty and Efficiency. RFF Press.

Key policy documents

P4. Kassie, M. and Z. Precious (2009) The contribution of sustainable agriculture and land management to sustainable development, United Nations Sustainable Development Innovation Briefs, Issue 7, May 2009. Available at http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/publications/ib/no7.pdf.

P3. Mekonnen, A., Z. Gebreegziabher and M. Kassie and G. Köhlin (2009). Income alone doesn't determine adoption and choice of fuel types: Evidence from households in Tigray and major cities in Ethiopia, Policy Brief, April 2009. Available at <http://www.efdinitiative.org/centers/ethiopia/publications-projects/4-policy-briefs?uid=0c5a066600db62639785fa5bdfb89f85>.

P2. Yesuf, M., M. Kassie, and G. Köhlin (2009) Risk Implications of Farm Technology Adoption in the Ethiopian Highlands” Policy Brief, May 2009. Available at <http://www.efdinitiative.org/centers/kenya/publications-projects/4-policy-briefs?uid=10699efc10be336743552f1fc3261fd5>.

P1. Kassie, M. (2008). Where do Sustainable Land management practices work: A comparative study, Policy Brief, December 2008. Available at <http://www.efdinitiative.org/centers/ethiopia/publications-projects/4-policy-briefs?uid=46b4161494319cb6db603492c3e75a51>

Working papers

WP12. **Kassie, M.** (2011) Economic and Environmental Benefits of Forage Legumes-Cereals Intercropping in the Mixed Farming System: The Case of Ethiopian Highlands. Ethiopia: EDRI Working paper 008, Addis Ababa, EDRI. 2010

WP11. Nune, S., **Kassie, M.**, and Mungatana, E. (2010) Forestry Resource Accounting: the experience of Ethiopia. CEEPA Discussion Papers No. 47 (2010), CEEPA. University of Pretoria, South Africa.

WP10. Gebreegziabher, Z. M. Alemu, **M. Kassie** and G. Kohlin (2010) Urban energy transition and technology adoption: The case of Tigray, Northern Ethiopia. EfD Discussion Paper 10-12, a joint publication of Environment for the Development Initiative and Resources for the Future (www.rff.org), Washington DC, August 2009.

WP9. Kassie, M., B. Shifereaw, S. Asfaw, T. Abate, G. Muricho, S. Ferede, M. Eshete, K. Assefa (2009) Current Situation and Future Outlooks of the Chickpea Sub-sector in Ethiopia.” International Crops Research Institutes for the Semi-Arid Tropics. Available at http://www.icrisat.org/tropicallegumesII/pdfs/Current_Situation.pdf. June 2009.

WP8. Kassie, M., P. Zikhali J.Pender and G. Köhlin (2009) Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Agricultural Productivity in Ethiopia: Does Agro-ecology Matter?, EfD Discussion Paper 09-12, a joint publication of Environment for the Development Initiative and Resources for the Future (www.rff.org), Washington DC, April 2009.

WP7. Yesfu, M., M. Kassie and G. Köhlin (2009) Risk Implications of Farm Technology Adoption in the Ethiopian Highlands, EfD Discussion Paper 08-09, EfD Discussion Paper 09-13, a joint publication of Environment for the Development Initiative and Resources for the Future (www.rff.org), Washington DC, May 2009.

WP6. Kassie, M., S.T. Holden, G. Köhlin and R. A. Bluffstone (2008) Economics of Soil Conservation Adoption in High-Rainfall Areas of the Ethiopian Highlands, EfD Discussion Paper 08-09, a joint publication of Environment for the Development Initiative and Resources for the Future (www.rff.org), Washington DC, March 2008.

WP5. Kassie, M., M. Yesuf and G. Köhlin (2008) The Role of Production Risk in Sustainable Land-Management Technology Adoption in the Ethiopian Highlands, EfD Discussion Paper 08-15, a joint publication of Environment for the Development Initiative and Resources for the Future (www.rff.org), Washington DC, April 2008.

WP4. Conway D., L. Schipper, M. Yesuf, M. Kassie, A. Persechino and B. Kebede (2007). Reducing Vulnerability in Ethiopia: Addressing the Implications of Climate Change, Integration of Results from Phase I. Overseas Development Group, University of East Anglia, 38 pp., 2007.

WP3. Yesfu, M., A. Mekonnen, M. Kassie, and J. Pender (2007) Cost of Land Degradation in Ethiopia: A Review of Past Studies, Ethiopia: Thematic papers on land degradation in Ethiopia. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) and World Bank Publication, June 2007.

WP2. Zelek, G., M. Kassie, J. Pender, and M. Yesfu (2007) Stakeholder assessment of opportunities and constraints to sustainable land management in Ethiopia, Ethiopia: Thematic papers on land degradation in Ethiopia. MoARD and World Bank Publication, June 2007.

WP1. Desta, L., M. Kassie, S. Benin, and J. Pender (2000) Land Degradation and strategies for sustainable development in the Ethiopian highlands: Amhara Region, Socio-economics and Policy Research Working Paper 32. ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute), Nairobi, Kenya. 122 pp. 2000.

Conference paper

Kassie, M. (2010). Environmental and Natural resource accounting (ENRA) – results from applications in Africa and policy implications. Environment for Development(EfD) annual meeting held in the United Nation Economic commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 28, 2010.

Awards

Aw2. Full scholarship from the Norwegian government, through the QUOTA program, for a five year PhD program in Development and Natural Resource Economics at Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway (2000-2005).

Aw1. Research Fellowship sponsored by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to do my MSc thesis (1997-1998).

Grants awarded

2007: **Natural resource accounting** small grant award worth USD 27, 000. The primary objective of the project are to do forest and land and soil resources accounts in Ethiopia. The project is an initiative of the Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy in Africa (CEEPA), University of Pretoria—South Africa.

2006: **Humbo Community Managed Natural Regeneration Project** small grant award worth USD 9,000. The objective of this project is to establish a protected forest area for carbon sequestration purpose. My role in this project was to estimate costs and benefits of the proposed project and determine common indicators for economic returns, i.e., Net Present Value (NPV) and the internal rate of return (IRR) of the project. The project is an initiative of the World Bank, World Vision Ethiopia and Australia.

Knowledge of statistical software

S3. Stata econometric software

S2. General algebraic modelling system (GAMS): mathematical programming software

S1. SPSS

Research interest and expertise

- Research on agricultural technology impact on agricultural performance and household welfare,
- Program/intervention evaluation using program evaluation techniques (e.g., propensity score matching methods)
- Examining institutions and social capital role on technology adoption and household welfare
- Exploring the link between poverty and the environment in developing countries
- Analyzing how farmers adapt to climate change and variability
- Panel and cross-sectional data analysis
- Applied micro-econometrics and mathematical programming technique

Referee

Journal of agricultural Economics, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Water Management, African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (EAERE)

REFEREES

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