

# Alemtsehay Subhatu Ph.D.

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## Professional Summary

- Results-oriented senior researcher with a Ph.D. in Geography and Sustainable Development and five years of experience post-Ph.D. dedicated to promoting sustainability practices and seamless migrant integration by leveraging holistic, interdisciplinary research approaches.
- Proven expertise in designing research methods and analyzing complex data using R & protégé.
- Publishing six peer-reviewed articles in high-impact academic journals and six international conferences.
- Secured funds for five collaborative research project funding applications, a total of CAD 60000 (about 2 million ETB of funding), including Mekelle University grants and international funding sources.
- Lead the development of innovative models, including the Migrant Integration Ontology Model, which redefined existing frameworks in urban migrant integration for infrastructure, markets, and dwellers of urban areas.
- Adept at managing and facilitating complex research projects in Canada, Ethiopia and Switzerland, with excellent multilingual communication and organizational skills.

## Technical Skills & Competencies

- Research design: expertise & motivation in developing innovative research ideas focusing on migrant integration, infrastructure services and markets in urban areas.
- Identification of research areas & grant proposal writing for funding
- data analysis: Protégé & R
- Model development: such as ontology model, land management and system dynamics mode
- Communication: excellent written and verbal communication in English, Tigrigna, and Amharic; basic German conversation.

## Work Experience

**Toronto Metropolitan University – Toronto Ontario**  
**Senior Research associate at Bridging Divide**

**May 2025 to date**

- Providing overview of the research and knowledge mobilisation happening within the thematic area.
- Providing input to the theme Co-Leads on how to strengthen collaborations across teams.
- Identify research fundraising opportunities, and support the researchers in writing and submitting grants.
- Drafting research outputs and knowledge dissemination materials
- Liaising with the Operations theme
- Continuing research project on system dynamics for urban market, urban infrastructure and migrant integration in GTA

- Utilizing system dynamics to analyze and predict how the urban housing and labour market systems behave under changing variables such as demography (in-migration), GDP growth and inflation to help urban planners, municipalities and policymakers.
- Authored an article on urban infrastructure and migrant integration ontology, addressing key challenges related to migrant integration, unemployment, and housing in Canada, which is currently under review.
- Reconceptualized migrant integration approach, developed a comprehensive, multidimensional framework including urban infrastructure, urban market and dwellers using an ontology approach.
- Holistic migrant integration and system dynamics include migrant participation, equity and access.
- Participated in conferences as presenter and participant, such as Canadian Association of Geographers - Ontario Division (CAGONT), 2024, the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference on Spatial Information Theory (COSIT 2024), and Scholars Excellence Workshop: How She Thinks.

**Mekelle University – Mekelle, Ethiopia**

**Jan 2020 – Oct 2023**

**Assistant professor & research & community service coordinator at an Institute of Climate & Society**

- Wrote and successfully secured funding for two grant proposals on the effects of climate change leading to extreme events and climate change adaptation strategies in Northern Ethiopia, totalling approximately CAD 30000\$ (one million ETB).
- Coordinated and facilitated over five research projects at the institute, resulting in improved research output quality and enhanced financial efficiency of research budgets through peer-to-peer collaboration and evaluation.
- Participated in multiple collaborative project funding applications, including an IDRC call for proposal in 2021, a call from USAID on climate action partnership for education in 2023, and a SIANI 2023 call from Sweden.
- Reviewed five research proposals as part of an evaluating committee to score papers for aiding funding decisions.
- Coordinated a workshop discussing grant writing & identifying research topics with respective teams and improving structural organization.
- Collaborated with industries and other government institutions.

**Raya University – Maychew, Ethiopia**

**May 2019 – Jan 2020**

**Assistant Professor in the Geography Department, and Research & Community Service Vice President of Raya University**

- As vice president for research and community service, I facilitated and administered dozens of studies and community service projects, including improving cattle production, crop production, ICT technologies, gender and equity, education, and truism.
- Held capacity-building training for 20+ researchers to enhance their research skills and improve these projects' financial efficiency through participatory methods.

- Developed and implemented comprehensive university-level research guidelines, enhancing research quality and improving financial efficiency by drafting streamlined research grants, research ethics, financial protocols, and structural improvements.
- Wrote a research proposal for funding on natural resource use and women's participation in Alage Northern Ethiopia.
- Facilitate collaboration with industries and other government institutions.

**International Maize & Wheat Improvement Centre – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia      Nov 2018 – Jan 2019**  
**Consultant (part-time)**

- Analyzed and visualized collected data in technical reports for regional projects in Ethiopia and Afghanistan, enhancing the quality and impact of reports.
- Coauthored a technical report titled "Gender norms agency and innovation in wheat-based systems and livelihoods: synthesis report of four community case studies in Afghanistan"

**Center for Development and Environment (CDE) – Bern, Switzerland      Mar 2018 – Sep 2018**  
**consultant (part-time)**

- Reviewing national and global 40+ reports on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to show progress on SDG goals internationally.
- Summarizing the main findings of each report for each respective 2030 SDG goals, including no poverty, health and well-being, sustainable cities and communities, gender equality, industry, innovation and infrastructure and climate action.

**Amhara Regional Agricultural Research Institute – Debrebirhan, Ethiopia      Dec 2012 – Jan 2014**  
**Soil and water management researcher**

- Wrote two research proposals that successfully secured a grant to implement, enhance, and demonstrate sustainable land management practices.
- Wrote and presented an annual report on research project progress at the regional review sessions, resulting in funding approval for subsequent phases.
- Managed the Soil Conservation Research Project (SCRIP), initially established in the mid-1980s by the University of Bern, Switzerland.
- Oversaw the SCRIP long-term database, including data encoding on climatic variables, soil loss, and crop harvest information in northern Ethiopia.

## **Education**

**Ph.D. in Geography and Sustainable Development** | Bern University, Bern, Switzerland| 2019

**Certificate of Specialization in Sustainable Development**, Basel University, Bern University, Zurich University and Lausanne University, Switzerland| 2019

**M.Sc. in Watershed Management (Soil and Water Conservation)** | Hawassa University, Hawassa, Ethiopia| 2011

## **Relevant Scientific Publications**

- **Alemtsehay Subhatu**, and Bilal Farooq. 2024. Urban Infrastructure Services and Migrant Integration Ontology. Under review in Cities Journal.
- **Alemtsehay Subhatu**, Chinwe Ifejika Speranza, Gete Zeleke, Vincent Roth, Tatenda Lemann, Karl Herweg, and Hans Hurni. 2018. Interrelationships between terrace development, topography, soil erosion, and soil dislocation by tillage in Minchet Catchment, Ethiopian Highlands. Land Degradation & Development journal. DOI: 10.1002/ldr.3109
- **Alemtsehay Subhatu**, Hurni K, Kassawmar T, Portner B, Zeleke G, Lemann T, Hurni H. 2017. Deposition of eroded soil on terraced croplands in Minchet catchment, Ethiopian Highlands. International Soil and Water Conservation Research Journal. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iswcr.2017.05.008>
- Vincent Roth, Tatenda Lemann, Gete Zeleke, **Alemtsehay Subhatu**, Tibebe Kassawmar Nigussie, Hans Hurni. 2018. Effects of climate change on water resources in the upper Blue Nile Basin of Ethiopia. Heliyon journal. doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2018.e00771
- Mulunesh Tsegaye, Kristie Drucza, **Alemtsehay Subhatu**. 2018. Gender norms agency and innovation in wheat-based systems and livelihoods: synthesis report of four community case studies in Afghanistan. Available at <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331113104>

## **Certificates and Professional Development**

- Academic Advancement and Career Alignment at Carlton University Ottawa, Canada. April 2– 26, 2024.
- Certificate in the perils of field research; practical problems and solutions | International Graduate School (IGS) North-South, 9 to 11 November 2015, Bern, Switzerland.
- Certificate in Doing Transdisciplinary; How to Increase the Relevance of Research or Society International Graduate School (IGS) North-South, 24 to September to 17 December 2015 Bern, Switzerland.
- Certificate in Writing for an Academic Audience; the Rule of Scientific Articles | International Graduate School (IGS) North-South, 15 October to 17 December 2015, Bern, Switzerland.
- Certificate in Resources, Economy, and Governance | International Graduate School (IGS) North-South, Switzerland 1-10 September 2014, Kenya.
- Certificate in Health and Environment | International Graduate School (IGS) North-South, Switzerland 1-10 September 2013 Côte d'Ivoire.