

Meet the CSAE Visiting Fellows 2024

– Gebeyehu Manie Fetene Video Transcript



Christian Meyer

Hi everyone, my name is Christian Meyer and I'm with the University of Oxford, and with the Centre for the Study of African Economies. I'm super excited to be joined today by Gebeyehu Fetene from the University of Addis Ababa who is one of our two CSAE Visiting Fellows this term. We'd love to use this time to chat a little bit more about your background, your research interests, and what you will be working on while you're here at the CSAE. Maybe let's start briefly by hearing a little bit about your background and your research interests.

Gebeyehu Manie Fetene

My name is Gebeyehu as you said, and I'm from Addis Ababa University. I am Assistant Professor of Economics. So I teach economic courses for undergraduate students. I also supervise theses and do research in areas like agriculture and labour. Ok, cool. So tell us a little bit about some specific papers that you have in these areas. I have been working mainly on the agriculture sector, focusing on technology adoption, the impact on production constraints, I am also working on the impact of food shortage on livestock production and crop production as well because livestock is critical in Ethiopia because it is used for crop production and for different purposes. I am working on an area that constrains this sector. And on labour, because I also teach labour economics to students, and I do this on factors that affect productivity.

Christian Meyer

And you have a really exciting and interesting paper on gender gaps using match firm-worker panel data.

Gebeyehu Manie Fetene

Yeah, we consider agro-processing and data sectors, and see if, in terms of gender, there are gaps in earnings, gaps in real benefits, as well as the subject's wellbeing. So, we use two rounds of panel data and we consider both sectors because they are the largest, in terms of labour share. But also in terms of the number of plants. Our intention is to analyse job increase by gender, in terms of earlier promotion or offering benefits.

Christian Meyer

Amazing. Is there a specific project that you will be working on while you are here at the CSAE?
How will you be using your time while you're in Oxford?

Gebeyehu Manie Fetene

I came with three main objectives. The first one is to explore areas for future collaborations to work together on projects. So I have been chatting with lots of professors and I am very happy that conversations have already started. That is my first priority. And then I will be working on the projects that I have already started. From the fund that we got from J-PAL we investigated the impact of mobile money in Ethiopia. Mobile money is widespread in Africa but it is new to Ethiopia. We wanted to investigate its use in Ethiopia. So we conducted a random experiment, and that is one of the papers I am working on here with co-authors, to send to a journal. So that's my plan.

Christian Meyer

That sounds great. We're super excited to have you here as part of our community, part of the seminars, and the CSAE Conference that is coming up. So we're super excited to have you. Thank you so much.

Gebeyehu Manie Fetene

Thank you so much for having me