

# Overcoming Agricultural and Food Crises in Ethiopia

Institutional Evolution and the Path to Agricultural Transformation



Getachew Diriba

*The book can be purchased at Amazon market place in kindle and print versions. In Ethiopia a print copy of the book can be purchased from the CDRC and from the author.*

## Synopsis:

*Overcoming Agricultural and Food Crises in Ethiopia: Institutional Evolution and the Path to Agricultural Transformation* - is a sobering presentation of the crises of smallholder agriculture, food and nutrition, the environment and the impending threats to the survival and well-being of millions of Ethiopians and the nation.

Ethiopian agriculture is an open museum of the Neolithic invention; it is left out of the industrial and agricultural revolutions for far too long. It is unsustainable to continue to expect to feed 100+ million Ethiopians with the obsolete system of production. The origins of the discontent being displayed in many parts of the country since 2015 can be traced back to the lack of agricultural technology, land fragmentation, inadequate property rights, and absence of rural industrialization. The combination of the obsolete systems on the one hand, with a growing young population, sustained decline of agricultural land per capita, unstructured urbanization and absence of rural industrialization on the other, presents a grim prospect for the contemporary Ethiopian state builders.

The book seeks to call on political leaders, policymakers, scholars, innovators, business people, religious and moral authorities, farmers, and the general public to urgently mobilize bold vision and action to redress the crises.

## About the Author

Getachew Diriba was born and raised in rural Ethiopia like most of his contemporaries. He graduated from Haramaya College of Agriculture, attended a post-graduate program at the University of Dortmund, Germany, and obtained a Doctoral degree in agricultural economics from the School of Development Studies of the University of East Anglia, the United Kingdom.

He worked as extension program officer and Project Manager of the Kobo Alamata Agricultural Development Project in Northeastern Ethiopia; Program Manager for CARE Ethiopia; Regional Adviser for Southern and Eastern Africa for CARE International. He also worked for the United Nations World Food Program in Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping for the Southern, the Great Lakes, and the Central Africa Regions; Head of Program in the Republic of the Sudan, Regional Program Adviser for the Middle East and Central Europe, Director of the Partnerships and Capacity Development Service at Headquarters, Country Director and Representative in the Republic of Liberia, and Country Director and Representative in the People's Republic of China, in which he established the China Centre of Excellence for WFP. He retired from WFP in early 2017.