



The Places of My Life

So far, the most important places in my life have been Ethiopia and Italy. I was born and raised in Ethiopia, and I studied there up to my secondary education. After that, I moved to Italy for my doctoral programme. My stay in Italy was fabulous, notwithstanding the challenges I faced for a while after my arrival. It gave me the opportunity to immerse myself in a new culture and international diversity that enabled me to see the world differently than I used to. Particularly, Bergamo, where I lived during the doctoral programme, has a special place in my heart. It is a city where I got shaped not only professionally, but personally as well. My love for the city is immense and unforgettable. Lately, when I am around the city, I feel like I am home.

My Talent is...

In the academic field, my talent is conducting evidence-based research related to labour market issues. I am well equipped with economic (labour) policy analysis skills that will enable me to conceptualize the issues of underdevelopment, such as youth unemployment and the school-to-work transition in Africa. I am capable of designing appropriate policies for youth labour market problems from the African perspective.

Three adjectives to describe myself

First of all, I am curious. This is because I am eager to know or learn new things every day. This means that life-long learning has a special place in the agenda of my personal development. And at the same time, as long as my career is related to research, I strongly believe that curiosity is a major driving force for any academic research outcome.

Secondly, I am tolerant. Knowing that today we live in an age of relativism, I like to be tolerant of diversity in terms of habits, beliefs, opinions or behaviors. Life is much easier than we think. All that we have to do is bearing the intolerable, doing

Mesele Araya

ADAPT Research Fellow



“

*If you can dream it,
you can achieve it*

”

Zig Ziglar



without the indispensable and accomplishing the impossible. With tolerance, everything is possible.

Thirdly, I am adaptable. This is because in an ever-changing world, I trust that being able to adjust to new conditions is one of the most important aspects for a successful life.

How I met ADAPT

The first time I came across ADAPT was through its website: www.adapt.it. After that, I joined the International Doctoral School in the beginning of 2012 and I started to become involved in many ADAPT activities.

What it means to be in ADAPT for me

The time I have spent in ADAPT is great and amazing! Indeed, to be in ADAPT is a great opportunity for me. It is a place where I have gained practical experience for nearly three years. It has been incredibly inspiring to work with other colleagues and see how the work environment abroad is different from my previous experience in Ethiopia.

More particularly, along with my study, I have been involved in

- doing research related to youth labor market and economics of education
- working as an active member of the Editorial Board of the English Bulletin;
- Facilitating activities for a new publishing venture of the Adapt Labor Studies Book Series and
- Managing different ADAPT twitter accounts.

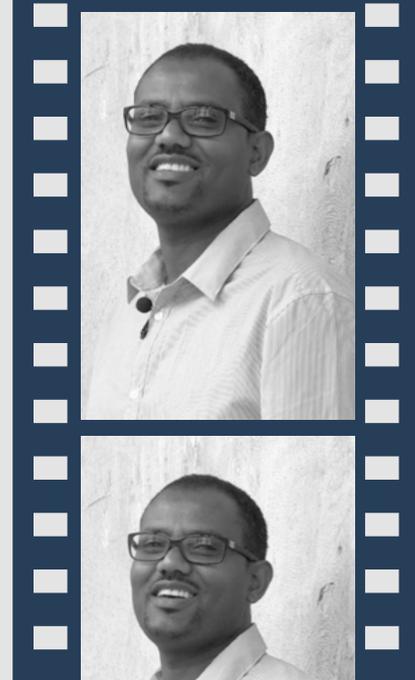
As for studying abroad, I am planning to travel to the USA to complete my empirical research as a visiting researcher at the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, in Michigan. My stay will last four months, from next September 1 to December 31, 2014. And I hope my research abroad will be important and support my future career.

In the future, I will work as...

My future work will be similar to the one in ADAPT and match my academic interests. I will be fully involved in projects that aim at downsizing youth unemployment levels and improving the school to work transition of African young people. In short, my goal is to work as a labour economist in particular and developmental practitioner in general so that I will make a real difference in the society in which I live, especially in Africa where there are many young people with disadvantaged backgrounds.

My reference models

Prof. Michele Tiraboschi: Full Professor of Labour Law at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. Visiting Professor at the University of Paris Pantheon-Assas (Paris II), at the Middlesex University (London) and at the Universidad Tres de Febrero (Buenos Aires). Director of the “Marco Biagi Centre for International and Comparative Studies” and director of the ADAPT International School of Higher Education in Labour



Mesele Araya

ADAPT Research Fellow



“

*If you can dream it,
you can achieve it*

”

Zig Ziglar



Law and Industrial Relations.

My PhD advisor is Prof. Tayo Fashoyin. He is visiting Professor of Labor and Employment Relations at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. He is also the former director of the Industrial and Employment Relations Department of the ILO, former Secretary General of the International Labour and Employment Relations, ILERA, and Founding Secretary of the Nigerian Industrial Relations Association.

My favourite books and movies, and my passions

My favourite book is: "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People", by Stephen Covey (1989).

A movie I like most: "A Beautiful Mind".

Further interests: playing table tennis and chess, reading newspapers and watching documentary movies



Mesele Araya

ADAPT Research Fellow



“

*If you can dream it,
you can achieve it*

”

Zig Ziglar

Rubrica a cura di: *Eliana Bellezza, Maria Teresa Cortese*

Grafica: Sara Rossi

Impaginazione: *Francesco Nespoli*

Riprese e montaggio: *Francesco Nespoli*



#PEOPLEFIRST

