

## **HANNA GIRMA WEDAJO (Ph.D.)**

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### **SUMMARY**

Experienced qualitative researcher with a demonstrated history of working in academia and international and local non-profit organizations focusing on education, gender, and youth. Skilled in Research Design and Implementation; Literature Review and Policy Analysis; Data Collection and Analysis; Reporting; and Monitoring and Evaluation.

### **EDUCATION**

**University of Minnesota**, Minneapolis, MN

Ph.D. in **Comparative and International Development Education**

**May 2022**

**Addis Ababa University**, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

MA in **Human Rights**

**2016**

**Dire Dawa University**, Dire Dawa, Ethiopia

LLB in **Law**

**2014**

### **EXPERIENCE**

**Education Development Center**

Remote

**Senior Research Associate**

July 2022 - Present

- Collaborate with partners in Kenya, Rwanda, and Brazil to carry a LEGO Foundation-funded initiative, the Scaling Learning through Play with Technology Research Collaborative by leading the implementation of qualitative research methods and facilitating the community of practice.

**UNICEF Office of Research**

Remote

**Education Researcher (Contract)**

July 2021 - June 2022

- Draft a regional report for the Time to Teach (TTT) research project by synthesizing qualitative evidence across 11 participating countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and report key findings and policy recommendations.
- Develop a concept note for a teacher allocation research project in Sub-Saharan Africa and support fundraising activities.
- Conduct literature review and policy analysis about teacher allocation policies and practices, draft a synthesis report across the participating countries, and identify best practices and policy implications.

**University of Minnesota**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Graduate Research Assistant**

January 2020 - December 2020

- Co-led a research project on sexual violence against female university students in Ethiopia including undertaking literature review and policy reviews on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) against women; coding and analysis of data from interviews; writing up findings and production of written outputs in the form of reports and blog posts.
- Conducted a literature reviews and comparative analyses on women's economic empowerment
- Developed research grant proposals and assisted in Institutional Review Board (IRB) application process.

**University of Minnesota**  
**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
September 2019 - January 2020

- Developed course syllabus and lesson plans for “Gender, Education, and Development” graduate level course in collaboration with the principal professor.
- Assisted the professor in teaching and facilitating class discussions and activities.
- Supervised and supported students in class discussions and assignments and provided feedback.

**University of Minnesota**  
**Graduate Research Assistant**

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
August 2018 - September 2019

- Synthesized and wrote research reports tailored to public and funder audiences.
- Conducted literature reviews and library research specifically related to the capability approach and girls and marginalized children’s education.
- Performed qualitative coding and analysis using Nvivo on a project focuses on girls’ education in India.

**Addis Ababa University**  
**Graduate Research Assistant**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
July 2015 - June 2016

- Developed interview protocols and focus group discussion guidelines on research projects focused on women with disabilities and administration of justice as well as obstacles in pursuing employment claims by women.
- Conducted interviews and guide focus group discussions.
- Transcribed the data, analyzed the findings, and wrote a report that inform the access to justice project at Addis Ababa University.

**Fana Broadcasting Corporate**  
**Producer and Host of ‘Seneheg’ Radio program**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
September 2014 - August 2016

- Advocated the rights of women and children while raising legal awareness in the community and hosted the radio program.
- Reported court cases related to violence against children and women and hosted a live dialogue with audiences and invited guests on the weekly show.

**Dr. Yared Legesse Law Office**  
**Legal Assistant**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
November 2015 - May 2016

- Articulated statement of claim, state of defense, memorandum of appeal and related legal documents.
- Opened and closed case files and provided precedence information to the attorney after performing detailed research.

**Vision for Generation**  
**Executive Director**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
August 2014 - December 2014

- Led projects that assisted economically disadvantaged students and secured full sponsorship for over 300 students from primary school and 500 female university students by networking among government and non-profit organizations.
- Developed project proposals and reports to public and funder audiences.
- Instilled an organizational structure that created efficiencies for the organization.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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- Scaling Learning through Play with Technology Research Collaborative, Education Development Center (EDC)
- Time to Teach (TTT): Teacher attendance and time on task in West and central Africa, UNICEF Office of Research.
- Teachers for All (T4A): Improving equity in teacher allocation in Africa, UNICEF Office of Research.
- Imagining and navigating the future: Aspirations and Agency of Economically Disadvantaged Secondary School Students in Ethiopia, A dissertation submitted to the University of Minnesota, Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development Department, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for Ph.D. in Comparative and International Development Education (CIDE) program.
- Sexual Violence against Female University Students in Ethiopia: Narrating Lived Experiences and Identifying Interventions, University of Minnesota.
- Law, the Administration of Justice and Women with Disability, Addis Ababa University, (Center for Human Rights).
- Obstacles in Pursuing Employment Claims by Women, Addis Ababa University (Center for Human Rights).
- Human Rights in Political Programs: Evaluation of Ethiopian Political Parties Programs in Light of International Human Rights Instruments, A Thesis Submitted to Addis Ababa University, School of Law and Governance, Center for Human Rights, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Human Rights.
- Human Rights Protection of Prisoners: The Practice of Dire Dawa Prison Administration, Dire Dawa University, School of Law, Senior Essay for the Partial Fulfillment of LLB Degree in Law.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Jativa, X., Karamperidou, D., Mills, M., Vindrola, S., **Wedajo, H.**, Dsouza, A., Bergmann, J (2022). [Time to teach: Teacher attendance and time on task in West and Central Africa](#), Innocenti Research Report.
- **Wedajo, H.** (Sep 13, 2022). [Why we need to channel teachers' voices: Perspectives from an Ethiopian student turned education researcher](#). UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti.
- **Wedajo, H.** (2022). [Imagining and navigating the future: Educational aspirations and agency of economically disadvantaged Ethiopian secondary school students](#). University of Minnesota.
- **Wedajo, H.**, DeJaeghere, J., Yednkachew, M. (Nov 19, 2020). [Research-Practice partnerships in Ethiopia confront sexual violence on campus](#). OpenGlobalRights.
- **Wedajo, H.** (2016). [Human rights in political programs: Evaluation of Ethiopian political parties' programs in light of international human rights instruments](#). Addis Ababa University.
- Mulugeta, Y., Bekele, B., **Wedajo, H.** (2016). Law, the Administration of Justice and Women with Disability, A Report to Addis Ababa University, Center for Human Rights, Access to Justice Project.