GUTAMA GIRJA URAGO

Agricultural Economist · Research Analyst

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia · girjagutama@gmail.com

Website · GitHub · ORCID · LinkedIn

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Smallholder productivity and input adoption; crop commercialization; food insecurity and vulnerability to shocks; applied microeconometrics with household panel data.

EDUCATION

International MSc in Rural Development (Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's) 2022 – 2024

Ghent University (Belgium), Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (Slovakia), University of Pisa (Italy)

Summa cum laude (851/1000). Joint highest first-year score in a cohort of 51.

Thesis: *The impact of cereal commercialization on the technical efficiency of farmers in Ethiopia.* Supervisors: F. Riccioli and S. Saia

MSc in Agricultural Economics 2019 – 2022

Ondokuz Mayıs University, Samsun, Türkiye

CGPA 3.88/4.00 (97.6/100). Included a one-year Turkish preparatory programme (C1).

Thesis: *Credit utilization and satisfaction of farmers from microfinance institutions: The case of Oromia Credit and Savings Share Company in Wadera District, Ethiopia.* Supervisor: M. Bozoğlu

BSc in Agricultural Economics 2015 – 2018

Haramaya University, Ethiopia

CGPA 3.99/4.00, great distinction. Gold medal for outstanding academic achievement.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Analyst, Laterite, Addis Ababa Aug 2024 – present

Design surveys, build data systems and analyse data for research and evaluation studies in Ethiopia and elsewhere in Africa.

- Run the technical side of field studies: questionnaire design, sampling, SurveyCTO programming, data-quality monitoring during fieldwork, cleaning and analysis.
- Design monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks, including theories of change, indicators and verification sampling.
- Work on household, business, health-facility and phone surveys, including panels of several thousand respondents, in agriculture, clean energy, health, nutrition, education and refugee livelihoods.
- Write R and Stata code for automated data pipelines and data-quality dashboards.
- Act as a technical contact for clients, co-write field reports and contribute to literature reviews.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Haramaya University Aug 2018 – Sep 2019

Department of Agricultural Economics

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

Under peer review

Urago, G. G. (2026). The fragility of the urban advantage: Vulnerability to food insecurity under systemic shocks. *Scientific Reports*, under peer review (second round).

Peer-reviewed articles

Bozoğlu, M., Dengiz, O., Başer, U., Turan, İ. D., & **Urago, G. G.** (2024). Estimation of the potential hazelnut plantation areas in Türkiye using a geographic information system. *Applied Fruit Science, 66*(4), 1319–1330. doi.org/10.1007/s10341-024-01126-4

Yıldırım, Ç., Bozoğlu, M., & **Urago, G. G.** (2024). Türkiye's competitive power in the world hazelnut market. *Applied Fruit Science, 66*(3), 921–928. doi.org/10.1007/s10341-024-01053-4

Urago, G. G., & Bozoğlu, M. (2022). Literature review on farmers' agricultural credit access in Ethiopia. *Anadolu Tarım Bilimleri Dergisi, 37*(2), 301–316. doi.org/10.7161/omuanajas.978056

Theses

Urago, G. G. (2024). *The impact of cereal commercialization on the technical efficiency of farmers in Ethiopia*. MSc thesis, Ghent University, Belgium.

Urago, G. G. (2022). *Credit utilization and satisfaction of farmers from microfinance institutions in Ethiopia*. MSc thesis, Ondokuz Mayıs University, Türkiye.

RESEARCH SOFTWARE

ctoclient R package (CRAN). A modern and flexible data pipeline for SurveyCTO. 2026
CTOCLIENT Stata module (SSC). Client for the SurveyCTO API. 2026
ethiodate R package (CRAN). Working with Ethiopian dates. 2025
ETHIODATE Stata module (SSC). Ethiopian date conversion utilities. 2025
nadaverse R package (CRAN). Browse microdata catalogs using the NADA REST API. 2025

Source code for all packages: github.com/GutUrago

TEACHING, MENTORING AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Taught Development Economics, Statistics for Economists and Farm Management undergraduate courses at Haramaya University (2018 – 2019).
- Supervised an intern at Laterite (June – September 2026) through an introduction to how Laterite produces high-quality data for research with social impact.
- Peer reviewer for *Journal of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development* and *Journal of Recycling Economy & Sustainability Policy*.

HONOURS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Scholarship, European Union 2022 – 2024
Türkiye Bursları Scholarship, Government of Türkiye 2019 – 2022
Gold Medal for outstanding academic achievement (CGPA 3.99/4.00), Haramaya University 2018
Merit Awards for best academic achievement in Agricultural Economics, Haramaya University 2016, 2017

SELECTED TRAINING

Introduction to Agent-Based Models United Nations University-MERIT 2026

Fundamentals of Data Visualization World Bank Group 2026
Credential ID 69cbc77f53cc7e3bd30b69c2

Reproducible Research Fundamentals World Bank Group 2025
Credential ID 675efc9f6317e96fa60ef8ff

SDG Indicator 2.1.2: Using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) FAO 2025
Verify: elearning.fao.org (code 0058248231GU)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: R (package development, tidyverse, httr2), Stata (ado and Mata programming), Python (pandas), Git/GitHub

Survey and data systems: SurveyCTO, ODK/XLSForm, Survey Solutions CAPI, REST API integration, automated data-quality dashboards

Spatial: QGIS, ArcGIS, Leaflet

Methods: Stochastic frontier analysis, panel data econometrics, sampling design, theory of change and MEL frameworks

LANGUAGES

Afaan Oromo (native) · Amharic (native) · English (fluent) · Turkish (advanced, C1) · Dutch (basic)

REFERENCES

Available on request.