

Education and Development in Ethiopia: Existing Realities, Pressing Concerns and Implications for Quality Education

Start date – August 2019; Ending date – Dec 2021

S.N	Main Investigators	Qualification	Specialization	Contact address (e-mail)
1	Misganu Legesse	PhD	Educational leadership& Mgt	misganul@yahoo.com
2	Mesfin Molla	PhD	Educational leadership& Mgt	mesfinmollademissie@gmail.com
3	Berhanu Mekonnen	PhD	Curriculum & Instruction	Berhanu.my@gmail.com
4	Berhanu Haile	MA	Educational Leadership	<birhanugra2003@gmail.com>
5	Adane Hailu	MA	Educational Research	Adish2001@gmail.com
6	Mulgeta Fufa	MA	Educational Research	Mulerf25@gmail.com
7	Negash Haile	MA	Economics	

Executive Summary

The purpose of this thematic research proposal is to study the relationship between education and development in relation to the existing realities, serious challenges and its implication for Quality Education in the Ethiopian context. To address these broad and holistic concerns, this thematic research is further broken into three sub-themes: The Human Capital Development initiatives: Trends and Regional Comparisons; The Nexus between Education and Economic Growth: Analysis of Individual and Social Earnings; and finally, the External Efficiency of Higher Education: Employability and Competitiveness. This study will be nested in philosophical underpinnings of Pragmatism by combining Positivist and Constructivist philosophies using Eclectic Epistemology. More specifically, it will use Mixed Research approach with sequential research designs to analyze and diagnose the points under discussion. Both probability and non-probability sampling techniques will also be employed to draw representative samples from the total population. The data collection instruments will be questionnaires, interviews, focused group discussions, and document analysis. Quantitative data will be analyzed and interpreted using descriptive and inferential statistics. On the other hand, qualitative data will be analyzed thematically. The three thematic research sub-themes will be empirically assessed on the bases of the international and local reviews including education and development theories, econometrics, proxy indicators of measuring the relation of education to universal development frameworks. For better understanding, the conceptual framework is developed to show the interplay between the theme and the sub-themes. To conduct the research, a total amount of 584,335.50 birr is required and supposed to be completed within the coming 4 years.

Keywords: Education, Human Capital, Economic growth, External Efficiency, Development

Box 1: Summary of research components (*Sub-thematic areas*) and their respective objectives;

I. Human Capital Development in Ethiopia: Trends and Regional Comparisons

(Dr. Misganu L., Mr. Berhanu H., & Mr. Mulugeta F.)*

- To analyze the existing human capital development index of Ethiopia from pre-primary to tertiary level
- To analyze the disparities in human capital development efforts among regions and city administration in Ethiopia
- To disclose the major challenges that restrain the human capital development
- To come up with alternative strategies that could avert the problems of the existing human development processes

II. Higher Education External Efficiency: Graduates Competitiveness and Employability

(Dr. Mesfin M., Dr. Berhanu M., & Mr. Adane H.)*

- To evaluate the competitiveness of the graduates in finding relevant job opportunities in the existing political economy of Ethiopia
- To analyze the applicability of higher education program relevance in producing internationally competent and locally responsive graduates
- To indicate the unemployment and under employment rates in the Ethiopian context
- To examine the institutional capacity of Ethiopian higher education institutions in conducting problem solving researches, providing demand driven community services and active participation in innovation and technology transfer.

III. The Nexus between Education and Economic Growth: Analysis of Individual and Social Earnings

(Dr. Berhanu M. Dr. Mesfin M. & Mr Negash H.)*

- To compute and analyze earning of individuals of different professions and total rate of return in relation to the cost incurred for education
- To analyze the extent to which education determines the level economic growth in the Ethiopian context
- To find out the existing externality effect of education on societal wellbeing
- To identify the major challenging factors that affects the strong relationship between education and economic growth.

**sub-theme leaders*