



**Ayisha Here Hussen**  
2019 AWARD-EIAR  
Fellow

Ayisha Here Hussen supports Ethiopia's fruit and vegetable farmers to use modern agricultural technologies to increase yield and improve their livelihoods.

Hussen is one of a growing number of women agricultural scientists who have won a customized institutional Fellowship for the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR). The customized institutional Fellowship is an intervention of AWARD's Gender Responsive Agricultural Research and Development (GRARD) initiative that supports institutional capacity for gender-responsive agricultural research.

Position	Junior Researcher
Institution	Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research
Country	Ethiopia
BSc	Horticulture
Mentor	Weldegebrial Gebrezgabrial Aregawi, Researcher I, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research
Research Area	Horticulture

Ayisha Here Hussen graduated with a BSc in Horticulture from Ambo University in July 2018. She is currently working at Werer Agricultural Research Centre as a junior researcher in horticulture.

"I support Ethiopia's fruit and vegetable farmers to use modern agricultural technologies. It is a very satisfying job and I would like to see more women scientists and researchers engaged in agricultural research in my country."

Hussen was not initially sure if she wanted to pursue a career in agriculture, but once she completed her first semester at the university, she found the course very interesting.

"Agriculture is an interesting and highly fulfilling profession that provides youth with viable and sustainable options to learn and earn a living, especially in a country like Ethiopia where most of the population is engaged, either directly or indirectly, in agricultural activities."

On the AWARD Fellowship, Hussen is hoping to sharpen her leadership, communication and presentation skills. She also hopes to grow her professional networks.

African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) works toward inclusive, agriculture-driven prosperity for the African continent by strengthening the production and dissemination of more gender responsive agricultural research and innovation. We invest in African scientists, research institutions, and agribusinesses so that they can deliver agricultural innovations that better respond to the needs and priorities of a diversity of women and men across Africa's agricultural value chains.

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