



Mariye Melkam Taye

2019 AWARD-EIAR
Fellow

Taye is keen on conducting gender-responsive research to positively impact the lives of smallholder farmers.

Taye 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	Animal Science
Mentor	Argachew Abebe Ademe, Assistant Resarcher II, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research
Research Area	Food, feed, and nutrition security.

Mariye Melkam Taye, a junior researcher at EIAR Mehoni Agricultural Research Centre, graduated with a BSc in Animal Science from Wollo University in 2018. She is currently working on animal feed and nutrition; feeds account for 70-80% of total cost in animal production and there is need to investigate how these could be reduced, especially for smallholder farmers.

"As far back as I could remember, I had always wanted to be an agricultural scientist. Agriculture is the backbone of our nation's economy and so research in this area should be promoted as it contributes to over 50% of our GDP and 85% of employment for the rural communities in Ethiopia," she noted.

Taye is interested in conducting gender-responsive research that would have a positive impact on the lives of smallholder farmers. Through the AWARD Fellowship she hopes to attain her career goals and is committed to passing on the knowledge gained to other women scientists at the research centre.

Discussing some of the challenges that she has encountered in the workplace, Taye mentioned gender bias and discrimination. "Some of my peers assume that I am not capable because I am a woman, but I am committed to working hard and proving them all wrong," she concludes.

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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