



MACAU UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
澳門科技大學

Faculty of  
Hospitality and Tourism Management  
酒店與旅遊管理學院

Ermias Kifle Gedecho, PhD  
Assistant Professor

<u>Areas of Research Expertise</u>	<u>Areas of Teaching Expertise</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Well-being and Mental health</li><li>• Festival/Tourism Experience</li><li>• Hospitality and Tourism Marketing</li><li>• Diaspora Festivals and Tourism</li><li>• Africa's Tourism and Hospitality</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to Cultural Tourism</li><li>• Event Management</li><li>• Research Methods in Tourism</li><li>• Introduction to Tourism &amp; Hospitality</li><li>• Tourism Geography</li></ul>

## QUALIFICATIONS

### *[Academic Qualifications]*

- 2019-2022: PhD in Hotel and Tourism Management, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
- 2011-2013: Master of Art in Tourism and Development, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
- 2006-2009: Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Ecotourism Management, Hawassa University, Ethiopia

### *[Awards]*

- SHTM Best Ph.D. Thesis Award 2022/23 Awardee, School of Hotel and Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- PolyU Best Ph.D. Thesis Award 2023 Nominee, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- [Hong Kong Ph.D. Fellowship Awardee](#), UGC, Hong Kong, 2019-2022.
- Gold Medal Awardee, Outstanding Undergraduate Graduate, Hawassa University, Ethiopia, July 4, 2009

### *[Certificate and license]*

- Certified Hospitality Educator (CHE), American Hotels and Lodging Association, January 2022
- Becoming an Effective Teaching Assistant (BETA), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, November 2019
- Higher Diploma Certified Professional Teacher (HDP), Hawassa University, Ethiopia, September 2018

## WORK EXPERIENCES

### *[Teaching and Research Experience]*

Aug 2024 - Present	Assistant Professor, Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Macau University of Science and Technology,
May 2023 - June 2024	Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Hotel and Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
Nov 2022 - May 2023	Assistant Professor, Department of Management, Kotebe University of Education, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Sept 2022 - Oct. 2022	Research Associate, School of Hotel and Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
Sept 2019 - Sept 2022	Teaching Assistant, School of Hotel and Tourism Management, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong
Oct 2017 - Aug. 2019	Lecturer, Department of Management, Kotebe Metropolitan University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Sept 2018 - Feb 2019	Lecturer, Department of Hotel Management, National Aviation College, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Oct 2015 - July 2017	Lecturer, Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management, St Mary's University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
July 2013 - Oct 2017	Lecturer, School of Wildlife and Ecotourism Management, Hawassa University, Ethiopia
Sept 2009 - Sept 2011	Graduate Assistant, Department of Wildlife and Ecotourism Management, Hawassa University, Ethiopia

### ***[University Services]***

Nov 2018 – Aug 2019	Interim Head, Department of Management, Kotebe Metropolitan University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Feb 2018 – April 2018	Ad-hoc Committee Member: Student Assessment Policy & Implementation Guideline Development, Kotebe Metropolitan University, Addis Ababa
Dec 2016 – Oct 2017	Head, School of Wildlife and Ecotourism, Hawassa University, Ethiopia
Oct 2015 – Dec 2016	School Council Member, Secretary, and Module Team Leader for Ecotourism and Cultural Heritage Management, Hawassa University
Nov 2015 – Dec 2016	School Academic Standards and Quality Assurance Committee Member, Hawassa University
June 2014 – July 2014	Graduation Committee Member, Hawassa University
Sept 2010 – Nov 2010	Curriculum Development Committee Member, Hawassa University

### ***[Outreaching and community services]***

- April 2024, Shared research output entitled “Sense of community and well-being in diaspora festivals” on the [Tourism Geographies podcast](#).
- Jan 2024: Volunteered as a guest on a [local TV program called “Dinar”](#) to discuss [Ethiopian festivals and share my research findings](#).
- 22 Sept 2023, [Friday Seminar](#), Department of Anthropology, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.
- Feb – May 2019, Committee Member, Designing National Ecotourism Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ethiopia
- Nov 2018, External Reviewer, Reviewing Tourism and Hospitality Management BA Degree Program Curriculum, HERQA, Ethiopia
- Sep. – Dec. 2015, Trainer. Provided on job tour guiding and communication skill training for local guides and local tourism service providers, Hawassa University, Ethiopia

## **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

### ***[Ad-hoc reviewer]***

- Tourism Management
- Journal of Sustainable Tourism
- International Journal of Hospitality Management
- International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management

- Tourism Management Perspective
- Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management
- Tourism Review
- Tourism and Hospitality Research
- International Journal of Tourism Cities
- Culture and Religion
- Cogent Business & Management

#### [Conference Paper Reviewer]

- IMPACT 2023
- 2023 APacCHRIE
- 2024 ApacCHRIE

## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

#### [Journal Articles]

1. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Kim, S., and Wondirad, A. (2024). Experiential attributes and benefits of transnational festivals. *International Journal of Tourism Research*, 26(4), e2672. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jtr.2672>
2. Chua, B., Kim, S., Badu-Baiden, F., Yong, R., Kim, B., **Gedecho, E. K.**, & Han, H. (2024). The effects of hawker influence and local gastronomy involvement on authenticity, personal nostalgia, and hawker cultural identity. *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Insight*. <http://doi.org/10.1108/JHTI-01-2024-0077>
3. **Gedecho, E.K.** (2024). Toward a theoretical framework of diaspora festivals: Concepts and typologies. *Journal of Heritage Tourism*. 19(4), 540-558. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1743873X.2024.2327434>
4. **Gedecho, E. K.** and Kim, S. (2024). Mental health and well-being in tourism scholarship: a Horizon 2050 paper. *Tourism Review*. <http://doi.org/10.1108/TR-12-2023-0842>
5. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Kim, S., and Xiao, H. (2023). Sense of community and well-being in the diaspora festivals. *Tourism Geographies*, 25(8), 1947-1973. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2023.2280690>
6. Kim, J., Weldesenbet, E., Kim, S., **Gedecho, E. K.**, Han, H., and Hong, J. (2023). Re-assessing hotel room performance before and during the pandemic. *Journal of Vacation Marketing*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13567667231211349>
7. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Kim, S., and Senbeto, D. L. (2023). Emotional and Hedonic Well-being Experiences of Diaspora Festival Visitors: A Contemporary Migrants' Perspective. *Journal of Travel Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00472875231195738>
8. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Chua, B., Kim, S., Kim, B., and Han, H. (2023). Hawker culture ethnocentrism: Building an integrative framework for consumer intention toward Hawker restaurants. *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management*. 56, 336-346. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhtm.2023.07.011>
9. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Masiero, L., Wavei, E., Qiu, R., and Kesande, P. (2023). Investigating the determinants of outbound long haul tourists' daily expenditure and length of stay. *Tourism Economics*, 29(8), 1995-2011. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13548166221122490>
10. Demeke, A., Tamene, S., **Kifle, E.**, & Mengesha, G. (2019). Diversity and relative abundance of birds in Loka Abaya National Park, Sidama Zone, Southern Ethiopia. *International Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation*, 11(8), 230-240.
11. **Kifle, E.** and Tensay, A. (2017). Tourism as a perpetuator of harmful traditional practices in Ethiopia's Hamar community. *Tourism Culture and Communication*, 17 (4): 271-287.
12. **Gedecho, E. K.** and Guangul, A. T. (2017). Tourism potential and constraints: considering the natural and cultural attractions of South Omo, Ethiopia. *African Journal of Hospitality, Tourism, and Leisure*, 6 (1): 1-23.

13. **Ermias K. G.** (2016). Urban Stakeholders' Role and Practice: A case of Hawassa City, Ethiopia. *Journal of Tourism Research and Hospitality*, 5(2), 1-10.
14. **Gedecho, E. K.** (2015). Urban tourism potential of Hawassa city, Ethiopia. *American Journal of Tourism Research*, 4 (1): 24-37.
15. **Gedecho, E. K.** (2014). Challenges of religious tourism development: in the Case of Gishen Mariam, Ethiopia. *American Journal of Tourism Research*, 3 (2): 42-57.
16. **Gedecho, E. K.** and Yebo, M. F. (2014). Religious tourism potential of Gishen Debre Kerbe Mariam, Ethiopia. *Journal of African Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure*, 3 (1).

#### **[Book chapters]**

1. **Gedecho, E. K.** and Nyikanna, S. (2023). Religious heritage, tourism, and pilgrimage in Africa: Historical, traditional and contemporary perspectives. In Timothy, D. (Ed.), *Cultural Heritage and Tourism in Africa* (pp. 85-103). London: Routledge.

#### **[Conference Proceedings]**

1. **Gedecho, E. K.**, Kim, S., & Tafesse, A. (December 2023). Effects of diaspora festivals on empowering attendees to fulfill their responsibilities and fostering well-being. IMPACT 2023 Conference. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.
2. **Gedecho, E.K.** (7-8 June 2018). The negative impact of tourism on combating harmful traditional practices in the Hamar community, Ethiopia. 3rd Annual National Research Symposium, Debre Tabor University, Ethiopia.
3. **Gedecho, E.K.** (15 May 2018). Urban Tourism Development, Challenges, and Prospects in Hawassa City, Ethiopia. Annual National Research Conference, Catering and Tourism Training Institute, Ghenet Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
4. **Gedecho, E.K.** (May 4 -5, 2018). Tourism and Harmful Traditional Practices in South Omo, Ethiopia. The Fourth National Research Symposium of Dire Dawa University, Ethiopia.
5. **Gedecho, E.K. & Yebo, M. F.** (June 2014). Challenges and Prospects of Religious Tourism Development in Gishen Mariam. Annual Conference organized by The Institute Catering and Tourism Institute, held in Sheraton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

#### **[Research Projects Funded]**

- 2018 – 2019 Role of Souvenir Handicrafts in Urban Tourism and Cultural Regeneration of Addis Ababa City, Ethiopia. Funded by Kotebe Metropolitan University. (Principal Investigator).
- 2017 – 2019 Integrated design for park management: resources, livelihood & tourism potential of Loka Abaya National Park, Sidama, Ethiopia. A medium-scale NORAD research project, Hawassa University. (Principal Investigator).
- 2017 – 2018 Ecotourism for forest conservation and its implication for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Funded by MRV-HUWGCF research project. (Investigator).
- 2015 – 2016 Tourism and harmful traditional practice in South Omo, Ethiopia. Funded by Hawassa University, Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources. (Principal Investigator).
- 2014 – 2015 Challenges and prospects of urban tourism development in Hawassa city, Ethiopia. Funded by Hawassa University, Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources. (Principal Investigator).