

Supporting the Ethiopian Economics Association

ESSP has supported the [Ethiopian Economics Association \(EEA\)](#) to further embed its purpose as a collective body that contributes to economic research and development. Through this collaboration, ESSP has helped to forge stronger links with multiple stakeholders including EEA's members, local and international researchers, policy makers, and local and international development partners.

Through the annual international conference, jointly organized with [ESSP](#) and [EDRI](#), the EEA plays an important and practical role in building capacity by engaging institutions and the government. This year also marks a milestone for EEA through the launch of its training arm – *Economic and Business Training Institute (EBTI)* - to complement its research effort.

ESSP has supported the EEA through: i) Co-organizing the International Annual EEA Conference ii) Serving as an advisory body to capacity building iii) Joint presentations at regional and international conferences iv) Regular contributions to publications and training.

www.eaecon.org



The EEA has made remarkable progress over the last 24 years. It has expanded its membership, which now stands at 4500, and has spread its influence beyond economic research and development. The EEA has become the center of excellence in development research and economic policy analysis, contributing significantly to sustained development of the economics profession, and, partly through that, to the policy process.

In 2015, the EEA International Conference hosted over 800 participants. It was opened by H.E. Ato Mekonnen Manyazewal, Commissioner, National Planning Commission. In his opening statement, the Commissioner described the key elements of the second [Growth and Transformation Plan \(GTP\)](#) and highlighted the critical role of professional associations, such as the EEA, towards its successful implementation. More specifically, H.E. Ato Mekonnen acknowledged EEA's contribution through rigorous independent research, capacity building schemes, publications and dissemination, and the annual conferences. These activities are widely considered as vital contributions towards deeper understanding of the complex challenges facing the Ethiopian economy.



Participants at the EEA Annual Conference 2015
(Photo credit – IFPRI-ESSP)

During the same conference, H.E. Ato Sufian Ahmed, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, expressed how the EEA has helped transform Ethiopia through sustained economic growth. This was further conveyed by H.E. Dr. Arkebe Oqubay, Minister and Special Advisor to the Ethiopian Prime Minister, during his keynote speech, where he stressed the importance of platforms like the EEA conferences in formulating industrial policy in Ethiopia now and into the future.

ESSP's close relationship with the EEA has helped augment the already valuable contribution this association has made to economic policy development and ongoing policy-based research.

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