

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (updated Apr 2026)

NAME: Abraham Aseffa, MD, PhD		POSITION TITLE: Adjunct Senior Scientist, AHRI; Honorary staff, Haramaya University, School of Laboratory Sciences	
(Full name on passport: Abraham Aseffa Armidie)			
EDUCATION/TRAINING			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	MM/YY	FIELD OF STUDY
Gondar College of Medical Sciences (Ethiopia)	MD	1978-1984	General Medicine
Institute of Medical Microbiology and Epidemiology, University of Leipzig (Germany)	PhD	1986-1990	Clinical Microbiology
Louisiana State University, GWLHDC (USA)	Postdoc	1996	Leprosy Immunology
University of Lausanne (Switzerland)	Postdoc	1998-2000	T cell immunology
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	Certificate	2017-2018	Executive Global Health Leadership

Positions and Employment

Current Position:

Oct 2024 - Adjunct Senior Scientist, AHRI

Previous Positions:

Feb 2020 - Jun 2024	Unit Head, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) at WHO
Jan 2001 – Jan 2020	Senior Scientist, Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
June 2016 – Aug 2018	Acting Deputy Director General, Research and Innovation, AHRI, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2010-2016	Scientific Director, Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2003-2010	Deputy Director, Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2001-	Honorary Associate Professor, Immunology and Clinical Microbiology, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
1998-2000	Postdoctoral Research, Leishmania Immunology, WHO Immunology Research and Training Centre, Lausanne, Switzerland
1996	Postdoctoral Research, Leprosy, GWLHD Centre, Carville and Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

- Board Certificate in Microbiology, Berlin from the Akademie für Ärztliche Fortbildung, Germany (1990)
- Senior Fulbright Fellow, USA (1996)
- Member: Interim Scientific Advisory Committee, European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) (2013); Member, Developing Countries Coordinating Committee (DCCC), EDCTP (2011-2012)
- Chair: Science Program, 16th ICASA (International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa) 2011 Conference
- Chair: Pan African Bioethics Initiative (PABIN) (2011-), Secretariat Coordinator (2004-2010).
- Chair: National TB Research Advisory Committee (TRAC) (2001-2014) (Founding member)
- Member: National Biotechnology Task Force, Ethiopia (2014-2016)
- Temporary Adviser, Several WHO Expert Committees; SAG for Blueprint on Epidemic Preparedness (2015-2016); Member, WHO Global TB Research Taskforce (2016 - 2020), Global Coordination Mechanism (2017-2020)
- Member, Examination Boards, Addis Ababa University (several PhD and MSc programs, 2001-), Muhimbili University, Tanzania; MPH Orientation Disease Control – MDC, Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium, 2010.
- Member, Ethiopian Medical Association, Ethiopian Public Health Association, Ethiopian Public Health Laboratory Association (founding and executive committee member, and Vice President for two terms)
- Peer review journal Associate Editor: Ethiopian Journal of Health Development (EPHA) (2006-2015), Associate Editor: Public Health Action (IUATLD, Paris) (2014- 2021); Associate Editor-in-Chief, Ethiopian Medical Journal (2016- 2021)
- Member, International Vaccine Taskforce, World Bank and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (2017-2018)
- Adjunct Professor of Medicine, Emory University, Atlanta (USA) (2014-)

Honors

2021	African Union Kwame Nkrumah Continental Award for Scientific Excellence, African Union Feb 2020 Edition
2013	Fellow, Third World Academy of Sciences
2013	Gold Medal, Ministry of Health, Contribution in Health Research
2012	Fellow, Ethiopian Academy of Sciences, (2012-2016 -Secretary of the Health Working Group)
2010	Gold Medal, Ethiopian Medical Association, Contribution in Health Research
2003	Gold medal, Ethiopian Public Health Association, Contribution in Health Research

C. Peer-reviewed Publications: Author/co-author in over 500 publications (460 listed in PubMed [Aseffa A], h index 56 (Web of Science), h index 61 (Scopus), h index 85 (Google Scholar); ResearchGate H-index 74, i10 index 357 (Google Scholar);

D. Teaching: Supervised over 20 PhD and more than 50 MSc theses (completed); currently mentoring PhD and postdoc students.

E. Research Support: Completed grants: More than 20 as Principal Investigator (PI), Site PI or Co-PI (from several international funding agencies) BBSRC, Wellcome Trust, WHO/TDR, EDCTP, BMGF, EU, WHO) **Wellcome Trust.** Wellcome Trust-Brighton and Sussex Centre for Global Health Research. 2013-2017. (PI: Melanie Newport). (251,014 GBP). Co- Director

Past research and grants, PI role transferred to other colleagues in 2020 upon joining WHO:

- **African Academy of Sciences.** TBGENAfrica: An integrated approach to unraveling susceptibility to tuberculosis in Africa. 2018-2022. (2,825,739 USD). PI. (Current PI: Dr Kidist Bobosha)
- **Swedish International Development Agency.** Biomedical Science Postgraduate Training Program. 2014-2018. (1,620,000 USD) PI:
- **National Institutes for Health (NIH), USA.** Ethiopia – Emory TB Research Training Program. 2013-2017. (1,065,840 USD) (PI: Henry Blumberg). Co-PI: Abraham Aseffa. 1D43TW009127-01A1 (Project number) (Current PI: Dr Kidist Bobosha)