

**Futsum Tekle** graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) with a degree in Economics and minors in Global Poverty and International Development & Conflict Management. After graduation, he completed the AEA Summer Program, a prestigious program that enables students to develop and solidify technical skills in preparation for a Ph.D. in economics. During his time at UMD, Futsum served multiple leadership positions across campus departments and organizations, most significantly as a Resident Assistant. He is passionate about creating data-driven solutions to combat the persistent issues we face today. His areas of interest include economic development, development economics, and international development revolving around reducing poverty and increasing economic growth.