This event on Africa day will explore three of the most pressing issues facing girls and women in Ethiopia - education, early marriage and rural-urban migration. Securing better future for girls and women in Ethiopia and elsewhere is important for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in general and gender equality and women’s empowerment in particular (SDG5). This seminar will consider Ethiopia’s past achievements, existing challenges and potential future gains in the areas of gender equality and women’s empowerment. Privileging the experiences of girls and women, this seminar will chart the opportunities and challenges that girls and women encounter as they search for better futures, set against the backdrop of Ethiopia’s rapidly changing social, economic and political landscape. It will emphasise that progress on gender equality requires an integrated approach that works across the multiple issues affecting the lives of girls and women, and also acknowledges the different experiences within and between distinct groups of girls and women. This event is organised by the School of Social Work and Social Policy, TCD with the support of the Trinity International Development Initiative and the Irish Research Council New Foundations Scheme.

**Date:** Thursday 25th May 2017  
**Time:** 10:30am-1:30pm  
**Location:** Global Room, Trinity College Dublin

**Speakers**

- **Professor Tesfaye Semela**, *Women and Gender Issues in Ethiopia: A Socio-Historical Analysis.*
- **Dr. Alula Pankhurst**, *Options for adolescent girls in Ethiopia: Education, work and early marriage - Evidence from Young Lives.*
- **Ms. Louise Yorke**, “*Maybe I will have a good life in the future*: The pathways of rural girls and women as they migrate to urban secondary schools in Southern Ethiopia.
- **Professor Susan Murphy** will provide a response to the three papers.
- **This seminar will be chaired by Professor Robbie Gilligan.**

Coffee, tea and sandwiches will be provided.

All are welcome. Please register your attendance [here](#) or contact yorkel@tcd.ie for further details.
Professor Tesfaye Semela, Director of the Centre for Policy and Development Research, Hawassa University, Ethiopia.

Tesfaye Semela has completed his PhD in 2003 from University of Tübingen, Germany. He is a recipient of the prestigious senior research fellowship award of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany) from 2009-2012 and also a fellow of the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS). Currently, Tesfaye is professor and director of Center for Policy and Development Research (CPDR) at Hawassa University, Ethiopia.

Dr. Alula Pankhurst, Director of Young Lives Ethiopia.

Alula Pankhurst is Country Director for the Young Lives study in Ethiopia. He has a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Manchester. He was Associate Professor in Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University where he taught for 16 years. His research has mainly focused on poverty, wellbeing, migration, food security, customary institutions, social exclusion, child work and marriage, adolescence and youth development, the longer-term impact of interventions and community trajectories.

Ms. Louise Yorke, PhD Candidate, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin.

Ms. Louise Yorke is a doctoral researcher at the School of Social Work and Social Policy, TCD and a Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholar. Her PhD thesis focuses on the migration of rural girls to urban areas for secondary education in Southern Ethiopia. Her research interests include education, rural-urban migration, gender issues and cross cultural research.

Professor Robbie Gilligan, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin.

Robbie Gilligan is Professor of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin. He served as founding Head of the School of Social Work and Social Policy from 2005 to 2011. He is currently Associate Director of the Children's Research Centre at TCD. Professor Gilligan is a Visiting Research Fellow (2013 - 2016) at SFI - The Danish National Centre for Social Research and Extraordinary Professor at the Optentia Research Programme at North Western University, South Africa. His research interests include at-risk children and youth, migration, disability and children in care. His knowledge spans across many diverse contexts including Ethiopia, Ireland, Lithuania, Vietnam, Thailand and South Africa.

Professor Susan Murphy, School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin.

Susan Murphy is the Assistant Professor in Global Development Practice with the School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin and coordinator for the joint Trinity-UCD Masters in Development Practice (MDP). Her research interests are in international political theory, issues in global justice, human rights and climate change, gender and social inclusion. Susan lectures on Gender and development, Climate Justice, and Development Research and Practice, and has been leading the GATE project (Gender Awareness and Transformation through Education) with Dar es Salaam University College of Education for the past three years.