

The Professional Fellows Program on Inclusive Civic Engagement



Fall 2022 Professional Fellow



Emebet G Lema

Disability Inclusion Officer

Light for the World—Ethiopia Office

“I expect to have mentorship on how I can best contribute to inclusiveness in the civic arena and to network with other Fellows with different expertise in the area.”

Emebet works as a disability inclusion officer for Light for the World—Ethiopia Office. In this role, she facilitates a *Disability Inclusion Academy* where youth with disabilities receive training and technical support around disability inclusion and civic engagement.

Prior to joining Light for the World, Emebet worked for the International Committee of the Red Cross—Ethiopia Office as a social inclusion officer, conducting access audits of rehabilitation centers. She also worked for the Humanity & Inclusion—Ethiopia Country Office as a project officer. Emebet held a position at the Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD), primarily supporting children and youth with disabilities. She earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Haramaya University.

Emebet has proposed a follow-on project that aims to equip 25–30 youth with disabilities graduating from public higher education institutions with the required skills to become gainfully employed and actively engage in civic life and society. Her project will work with youth to enhance their confidence and self-awareness to tackle social and economic barriers and boost their participation in the civic world.

Emebet will complete a 4-week Fellowship placement training with the University of Southern Mississippi’s [Institute for Disability Studies](#) in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

