

Professor Dereje is a distinguished obstetrician and gynecologist currently practicing as consultant Obstetrician and gynecologist at Motebang hospital and program director for OBGYN training at Lesotho Boston Health Alliance (LeBoHA) , Lesotho.

Previously, he was working an associate professor at Yekatit 12 Hospital Medical College and consultant at Yerar general hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He holds role as Registrar of the ECSACOG.

He had also served a vice secretary general for ECSACOG from 2017-2024 and Associate Editor-in Chief of the Ethiopian Journal of Reproductive Health (EJRH), the official journal of the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and Principal Investigator advocating for self-care in reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH) project under the ESOG.

Prof. Dereje has an extensive background in leadership and clinical service, having previously served as Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Clinical Service Director at a tertiary referral and teaching hospital, and a Senate member at Jimma University. His contributions to health policies include positions as Senior Clinical Advisor for Engender Health, Program Lead for the USAID-funded RMNCH private health sector project, and Senior Expert Health Adviser to the office of the minister, the Ministry of Health, Ethiopia. Notably, he led the ESOG-ACOG collaborative project focused on "Enhancing Residency and Medical Education" from 2016 to 2019, establishing Ethiopia's first ever harmonized residency curriculum in the specialty trainings in Ethiopia.

Professor Dereje has spearheaded several key projects, including the development of national private public-Mix implementation guidelines for RMNCH services, national integration of family planning services, SGVB emergency response, a baseline survey on cervical cancer, and evaluations of the Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) projects.

His leadership extends to board roles, as he has served as President of the executive board of the Ethiopian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ESOG), Executive Board Member and Honorary Treasurer of the African Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AFOG), and Board Member of the International Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (FIGO).

An accomplished researcher, Prof. Dereje has numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals, along with co-authorship of various national training manuals, guidelines, policy briefs, and abstracts focused on reproductive, maternal, and newborn health. He has also mentored numerous postgraduate students in their theses.

Throughout his career, he has received multiple accolades, including distinguished service award for his leadership from ESOG in 2026, recognition from IPAS for his long-term contributions to abortion care and reproductive health, and a certificate of appreciation from the Harvard-based

Maternal Health Taskforce and the International Institute of Education for his mentorship service of emerging leaders in maternal health.