



Laterite Ethiopia

CAPACITY STATEMENT

Data, research and analytics

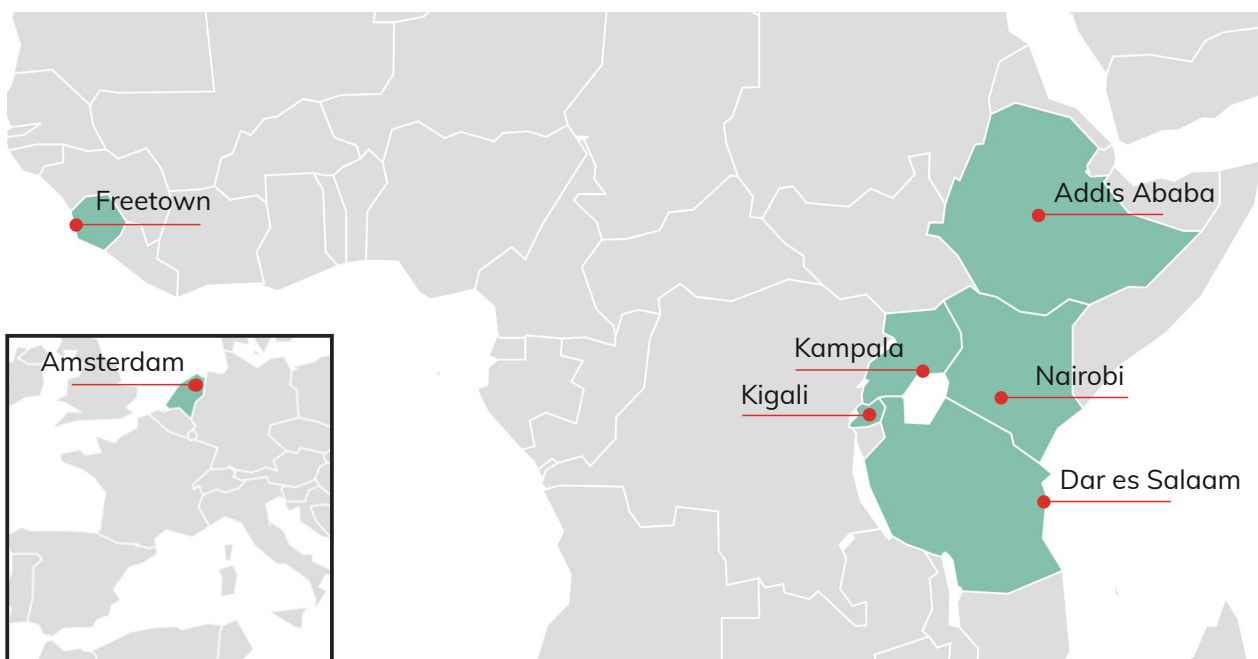
About Laterite

Laterite is an African firm specialized in research for social impact. We provide data collection and research services including technical advice on the design and implementation of research projects and development interventions. Honed over more than ten years of experience in East Africa, our approach is structured, data intensive, and embedded in the local context.

Over the past ten years, we have completed over 100 research projects with clients active in social impact and development research including large foundations and international organizations, universities, and NGOs. Our core sectors of expertise are education, public health, agriculture, livelihoods, urbanization and migration, and gender. We have offices in Rwanda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and the Netherlands, with a team of over 85 full-time researchers and data experts, based primarily in East Africa.

Laterite strives to carry out impactful research that helps decision-makers find solutions to complex development problems.

Our offices



What we offer

Our strengths



Expert team of technical professionals with experience in emerging markets



Top quality at every step of the process, from enumerator training to data monitoring



Strong understanding of the context via our local teams, networks and relationships



Emphasis on **ethically sound research**, from child safeguarding to COVID-19 protocols



Full-cycle research project support capabilities, from design to data collection to analysis



Focus on **innovation** in the way we work, always seeking new and better ways to do research

Our services



Data

- Quantitative & qualitative data collection
- Phone & SMS surveys
- Audio-assisted surveys
- Behavioral games
- Anthropometric & biometric measurements
- Observational learning and child development assessments



Research

- Program / impact evaluation
- Socio-economic household surveys
- Poverty analysis
- Policy / program landscape mapping
- Learning partnerships
- Design of MEL frameworks



Analytics

- Machine learning
- Predictive analytics and modeling
- Geospatial data and analysis
- AI tools to accelerate research

Laterite in Ethiopia

Laterite Ethiopia specializes in large-scale, complex research and data collection projects. Our office in Addis Ababa has been in operation since 2016 and includes technical experts in research as well as both quantitative and qualitative data collection expertise. We work with a roster of over 1,200 trained local enumerators. Our enumerators hold Bachelor's degrees, and are fluent in local languages as well as English. We have worked in all regions of Ethiopia with a focus on work in social protection, gender, agriculture, livelihoods, public health and education.

Laterite Ethiopia at a glance

~20

full-time staff

1,200

enumerators in our database

43,900+

households surveyed in 2022

21,400+

phone interviews done in 2022

19,000+

enumerator days in 2022

We have worked in all regions of Ethiopia



Examples of our work

Quantitative data collection partner for Gender & Adolescence: Global Evidence Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

GAGE is a large-scale longitudinal study that aims to collect data on adolescent wellbeing with a focus on gender in a range of countries. In Ethiopia, Laterite worked with the GAGE consortium to collect this data, including through a large-scale impact evaluation of over 8,000 adolescent boys and girls in Ethiopia on topics such as health and wellbeing, education, voice and agency, and economic empowerment.

Midline and endline data collection for impact evaluation of the Strengthen PSNP4 Institutions and Resilience (SPIR) Development Food Security Activity (DFSA)

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

The SPIR DFSA is a five-year project supporting implementation of the Productive Safety Nets Project (PSNP) in Ethiopia. IFPRI carried out a randomized controlled trial (RCT) impact evaluation of the SPIR DFSA to compare the impact of different combinations of livelihood and nutrition components of the project on measures of household wellbeing, food security, child and maternal nutritional status and related outcomes. For the RCT,



Our enumerators traveling in rural Amhara to carry out in-person surveys for the IFPRI SPIR DFSA midline in 2019

Laterite collected quantitative data across a sample of 4,300 households in the most remote areas of Oromia and Amhara at midline and endline, including anthropometric measurements of recent mothers and their infants. Laterite also carried out an additional household listing exercise across 180 kebeles. The survey included detailed socio-economic modules and sensitive modules related to IPV, maternal depression, and GBV.

> Read the [case study](#)

Tracking impacts of economic reforms in urban areas

World Bank

The World Bank and Laterite conducted a longitudinal Urban High-Frequency Survey among a representative panel of urban households in Ethiopia to monitor the impacts of the Homegrown Reforms Package, which aims to support economic growth and poverty reduction. Laterite assisted in designing the survey, and implemented data collection for an in-person baseline survey and three quarterly follow-up phone survey rounds. For the phone surveys, Laterite developed a dashboard with key indicators to enable the World Bank to observe changes over time. We successfully interviewed 3,000 households at baseline; 2,633 for the first round of phone surveys; 2,436 for the second round; and 2,275 for the third.

Understanding the Context for Teaching and Learning in Ethiopia

Mastercard Foundation

Laterite conducted a scoping study focusing on three educational systems in Ethiopia: secondary education, TVET and non-formal education for adults. We analyzed available statistics on teaching institutions, students and teachers/trainers, and conducted key informant interviews with stakeholders in Ethiopia's educational system. The results were used to create systems maps focusing on the framework of policy, governance, and financing. The first phase of the project focused on Addis Ababa and the federal level; and the second was country-wide and focused on regional variations. It also included education in emergencies.

Randomized controlled trial (RCT) to evaluate the impact of incentives on stumping uptake

HereWeGrow & TechnoServe

TechnoServe's Coffee Farm College is a two-year program that trains farmers to stump their old coffee trees. To understand how to provide additional motivation, Laterite developed the 'Tools For Stumping' pilot alongside TechnoServe and HereWeGrow. This pilot program provided coffee farmers with agricultural tools in exchange for their use of the stumping best practice. The pilot was expanded in 2022, to target 23,000 coffee farming households in Sidama. Laterite designed and led an RCT evaluation of this expansion, using a variety of econometric and machine learning methods to estimate a relationship between tool-based incentives and stumping adoption.

> Read the [blog](#)

Post Distribution Monitoring of Rural Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP5) recipients in conflict-affected areas

World Bank

The conflict and security challenges in Northern Ethiopia have posed significant challenges on the implementation of the PSNP in Tigray, Amhara and Afar regions. Laterite surveyed 220 households living in Amhara and Afar, to monitor PSNP beneficiaries' access to food and/or cash assistance in conflict-affected areas. Laterite managed all data collection and analysis, and reported findings to federal and regional stakeholders.

Key contacts in Ethiopia



Sachin Gathani
Managing Partner

Sachin is one of Laterite's founding partners. He has over 14 years' experience leading complex data collection and research projects, and has led over 65 projects in East Africa. Born and raised in Kenya, Sachin holds a Master's degree in International Affairs (Economic Policy & African Studies) from Columbia University.



Fitsum Dagmawi
Country Data Manager

Born and raised in Ethiopia, Fitsum holds an MBA with concentration in Project Management. He has over 12 years of experience in field research, managing data collection teams, conducting qualitative research, and leading operations on large-scale and complex research projects in Ethiopia.

Get in touch

Want to learn more about our work in Ethiopia, or discuss a potential opportunity? We look forward to hearing from you!

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