



# Sessen Daniel Iohannes

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## ● WORK EXPERIENCE

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02/2020 – 10/2020 – Pisa, Italy

**MASTER'S THESIS RESEARCH INTERN – SCUOLA SUPERIORE SANT'ANNA**

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- Integrated bioinformatics, population genomics, landscape genomics and GWAS approaches to unfold the Ethiopian *teff* allelic diversity and the genomic architecture of complex traits related to adaptation to climate change, agronomic performance and smallholder farmer preferences.

09/2019 – 10/2019 – Debub region, Eritrea

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT – INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN THE DRY AREAS (ICARDA)**

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- Conducted formal surveys with smallholder farmers in Debub region within the *Transaction Costs, Risk Preference and Market Participation- Field Experiments with Chickpea Value Chain Actors in Ethiopia and Eritrea* project.

08/2019 – 10/2019 – Asmara and Halhale, Eritrea

**RESEARCH INTERN – NATIONAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

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- Evaluated the status of crop genetic resources conserved at NARI's genebank which could be leveraged for genomics and breeding efforts.
- Assessed the geographical distribution of the Eritrean *teff* germplasm and of the related bioclimatic variables across the sampling area.

06/2018 – 09/2018 – Pisa, Italy

**BACHELOR'S THESIS RESEARCH INTERN – DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF PISA**

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- Conducted research on the genetic architecture of the gut microbiome and its association to neuropsychiatric traits..

09/2017 – 12/2017 – Pisa, Italy

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH INTERN – DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF PISA**

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- Analyzed microbiological indicators of spice and essential oil-treated bread samples.

## ● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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10/2018 – CURRENT – Pisa, Italy

**HONOURS MASTER'S DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND MOLECULAR BIOTECHNOLOGY – Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna**

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**Thesis:** A multidimensional genomics approach to unfold the Ethiopian teff (*Eragrostis tef*) untapped allelic diversity and the genomic architecture of adaptive traits

**Thesis:** The psycho-physiological impact of the gut microbiota

## ● LANGUAGE SKILLS

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**Mother tongue(s):** TIGRIGNA | ITALIAN

**Other language(s):**

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1
<b>FRENCH</b>	B1	B1	B1	B1	B1
<b>ARABIC</b>	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

## ● DIGITAL SKILLS

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### Programming and development environments

Python | HTML CSS3 Javascript | GIT (GitHub) | Bash Programming | R

### Computational infrastructures and cloud computing platforms

Anaconda Software | Galaxy | CyVerse

### Bioinformatics data skills in Unix

### Application softwares

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | CsPro

## ● HONOURS AND AWARDS

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12/2019

**American Society of Plant Biologists' (ASPB) Conviron Scholar** – American Society of Plant Biologists

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- The ASPB Conviron Scholars Program is aimed at supporting the next generation of plant scientists by helping exceptional undergraduate and graduate students build a foundation for a successful career.

<https://aspb.org/awards-funding/aspb-awards/aspb-conviron-scholars-program/awardees-2020/#toggle-id-9>

05/2019

**Honors Student Award Recipient – University of Pisa**

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- Honors were awarded to students who graduated from University of Pisa with distinction.

10/2018

**Honors student – Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna**

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- Students are admitted to Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna after a selective public competition, which grants them the status of honor student. Honor students receive a full scholarship.

● **CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS**

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03/09/2020 – 03/09/2020 – Virtual

**CRISPRCon 2020 conference**

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- Presented a talk on *The role of early career researchers and underrepresented minorities-led science outreach programs in framing the narratives on genome editing in agriculture* .

27/07/2020 – 31/07/2020 – Virtual

**Plant Biology 2020 World Summit**

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- Moderated plenary and concurrent sessions.
- Presented an iPoster entitled *Integrating landscape genomics, association mapping and farmer preferences for the selection of Ethiopian teff varieties* .

26/11/2019 – 27/11/2019 – Pisa

**Economics and Management in the era of Data Science (EMbeDS) Workshop**

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- Conference attendee

28/10/2019 – 29/10/2019 – Bologna

**Training course on "Genomics-Assisted Breeding of Wheat" - Wheat Initiative**

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- Workshop attendee

15/10/2019 – 21/10/2019 – Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York

**Cereal genomics workshop**

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- Participation to the workshop was awarded by CSHL faculty through a selective competition.

17/07/2016 – 24/07/2016 – Belgrade (Serbia)

**"Generations celebrating innovations" workshop**

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- Participation to the workshop was awarded by World Youth Wave Belgrade through a selective competition.

17/06/2014 – 22/06/2014 – San Miniato (Pisa)

**Scuola Normale Superiore orientation course**

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- Participation to the workshop was awarded through a selective competition.

## ● NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

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12/2020 – CURRENT  
**American Society of Naturalists**

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08/2020 – CURRENT  
**ASPB African Researchers Network**

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- Establish a networking, mentoring and professional development platform to support and strengthen capacity building of scientists from and/or working in the African Continent.

12/2019 – CURRENT  
**American Society of Plant Biologists**

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## ● VOLUNTEERING

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12/2019 – CURRENT  
**"Progetto Bio[Tecno]logico" science communication initiative**

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- Pisa
- Organize outreach events aimed at bringing genetics and biotechnology literacy to Italian high-schools and the public.

01/2019 – CURRENT  
**"Laboratorio DopoScuola" social action volunteering initiative**

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- Pisa
- Provide science mentorship to elementary and junior students coming from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds.

03/2018 – CURRENT  
**"Partir De Soi Meme" social action volunteering initiative**

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- Pisa
- Organize intercultural exchange initiatives to strengthen social integration of migrants within the community.

09/2011 – 06/2015  
**National Union of Eritrean Women**

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Asmara (Eritrea)

09/2010 – 09/2014  
**National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students**

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Asmara (Eritrea)