

Yehualashet Mekonen

Head, African Child Observatory

African Child Policy Forum, Ethiopia



Yehualashet Mekonen is the Head of the African Child Observatory Programme at the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF), a pan-African centre for policy research and advocacy on children based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Mr Mekonen has worked for more than 20 years in research, programme management and development of research tools and methodologies. He developed an approach for measuring government's performance in realising child rights and wellbeing, called the Child-friendliness Index. This composite Index is being used as a main component of the African Report on Child Wellbeing series, a flagship biennial publication of ACPF that monitors the extent to which African governments are living up to their commitments to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and welfare of the Child. He has authored and co-authored numerous papers, articles and reports focusing on issues related to children's rights and wellbeing. Before joining ACPF, Mr Mekonen was a Team Leader and Senior Researcher at the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia. As an Independent Consultant, he has also served several non-governmental organisations, UN agencies and Private Firms in undertaking national surveys, data analysis and drafting of research reports on a range of social, economic, human rights and governance related issues.