

June 17, 2026

LETTER OF SUPPORT

To Colleagues, Partners, and Prospective Supporters,

I am pleased to express my support for the mission of the Enset Innovation Institute (EII), an emerging nonprofit organization working to elevate awareness, research, partnerships, and investment around Enset (*Ensete ventricosum*), one of Africa's most important yet under-recognized food systems.

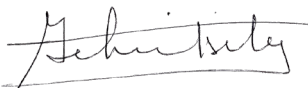
As an Ethiopian agricultural scientist, I have long believed that Africa's future food security will depend not only on major global crops but also on strengthening indigenous crops and farming systems that have sustained communities for generations. Enset is a remarkable example. For millions of Ethiopians, it serves as a source of food security, resilience during climatic shocks, and an integral part of local livelihoods and cultural heritage.

I am encouraged by EII's efforts to bring together researchers, universities, government institutions, development organizations, civil society, and private-sector actors to explore how Enset can contribute to climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, women's economic empowerment, biodiversity conservation, and rural development.

The growing interest in Enset by Ethiopia's research institutions, universities, and national stakeholders presents a timely opportunity to strengthen collaboration, generate new knowledge, and expand responsible investments in this important system.

I commend EII for helping advance dialogue and partnerships around Enset and encourage interested organizations, researchers, philanthropists, and development partners to learn more about this promising area of work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gebisa Ejeta", with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Dr. Gebisa Ejeta
World Food Prize Laureate
US National Medal of Science Laureate
Distinguished Professor of Agronomy (Emeritus)
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