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**Education:**

PhD, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA  
PhD, Plovdiv Ag. University, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

**Research interests:**

phytoremediation, bioremediation, plant physiology, soil and water pollution, climate change

Dr Tesema Chekol is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC). His research carrier started at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, where he investigated the effects of plant growth hormones for his PhD degree. Dr Chekol obtained his second PhD from the University of Maryland, College Park, where his research was focused on phytoremediation of organic contaminants (PAHs, PCBs and TNT) in soil. He has extensively published in the areas of phytoremediation/bioremediation and sustainable environmental technologies and continues to serve as a session chair at numerous international conferences. Dr. Chekol has been teaching Introduction to Biology and Global Environmental Change and Sustainability at the University of Maryland since 2001.