

The Kudumbashree- Ethiopia scoping exercise to pilot the Kudumbashree model of SHGs in Ethiopia is a project supported by Government of UK's Department for International Development (DFID) under its Knowledge Partnership Programme (KPP) implemented by IPE Global.

An 8-member delegation from Kudumbashree, Kerala conducted a scoping exercise to identify the existing structures and practices and exploring the potential of adapting Kudumbashree model to the context in Ethiopia from 15th November to 03rd December, 2015. The team visited Federal offices (MoWCA, MoH, MoA, Central Bank, FeMSEDA, AEMFI, CoSAP) and government functionaries and existing women groups in eight Kabeles across four Woredas in two Regions. The field areas visited included:

- Oromia Region – West Arsi Zone – Sheshemane and Arsi Negeellee Woredas
- SNNP Region – Gaurage Zone – Abeshge and Cheha Woredas

The delegation analysed the field situation by interacting with Women' Development Group. They focused on aspects such as health, agriculture, small and medium enterprises and job creation.

Interventions Proposed

Based on the Kudumbashree experience in Kerala and observations from the field, the following interventions were proposed:

1. Strengthening the institutional structure of WDG
2. Strengthening financial inclusion of WDG
3. Strengthening sectoral activities of the WDG
4. Building community based support system for strengthening the institutions, financial inclusion, and lending sectoral support

It was decided that the pilot project will be implemented in two Kabeles of Arsi Negeellee and Sheshamene in Oromia and two Kabeles in Abeshuge and Cheha at SNNP region. KPP will facilitate activities under this project till May 2016.

