



ESSWA Signed MoU with SOS Children's Village Addis Ababa Program



Following the registration of SOS Children's Village Addis Ababa Program as ESSWA's institutional member, the two parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 7, 2017. The MoU was signed by Mr. Zelalem Anteneh, Executive Director of ESSWA and Mr. Lijalem Baileyegn, Program Director SOS CV Addis Ababa Program.

The MoU will enable the two institutions to collaborate in the areas of joint proposal development, capacity building, counseling, research, resource and material sharing, volunteer service, internship arrangement, networking and on other emerging issues in response to the needs of children, youths and their disadvantaged families. It is also believed to help exchange of complementary experiences and collaborate on provision of trainings, seminars and workshops and cooperate in different ways in efforts to promote psycho-social development of children, youths and their disadvantage families.

Mr. Lijalem, has briefly explained the historical background and main activities of SOS Children's Village. He mentioned that health, education and care are the main focus areas of SOS Children's Village Addis Ababa Program. He also indicated that currently SOS Children's Village



is working on prevention through its community development project. Likewise Mr. Zelalem has explained about ESSWA'S main activities and focus areas. He mentioned that research and training are ESSWA's main focus areas. Besides, Mr. Zelalem has described the different project activities in which ESSWA is engaged in.

Speaking on the occasion, Executive Director, Mr. Zelalem, said that ESSWA needs this partnership for two main purposes. The first one is, it facilitates internship/apprenticeship chances for para-social workers, BA, MA/MSC and PhD candidate students and professionals of ESSWA members and the second one is, it creates opportunities to sharing common activities. Similarly, Mr. Lijalem, said that this partnership creates conducive environment to mobilize resources and undertake evidence-based development initiatives jointly to work on the psycho-social problems of children, youth and their disadvantaged families.

This partnership agreement is expected to serve four years starting from August 2017. The duration for this partnership will be extended based on the interest of both parties. The MoU may be modified and amended as per the demand of the two parties. Finally, both parties agreed to implement this MoU in to practice.

So far ESSWA already has signed MoUs with one governmental, seven public universities and five non-governmental organizations.