STRATEGIC PLANNING

A GUIDE FOR Credit Unions



SWOT Analysis

The analysis of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities set the direction to where the movement would be heading in the next three years. The consultation and interview with the management, Board of Directors and stakeholders of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE demonstrates the areas need to be addressed in the Strategic Plan:

External Environment:

Opportunities	Threats (Changes in the environment)
Because of unemployment, there is an increasing market for	 Increasing rate of unemployment
productive lending in rural savings and loans societies	 Microfinance initiatives supported by ADB and other donors.
■ S & L could participate in the microfinance initiatives given the	These institutions are also catering to the same market as the rural
appropriate policy and methodology of delivering financial	based savings and loans societies
services	 Fast changing technology that needs to be embraced to improve
	products and services
 Co-operative 'brand' is credible worldwide 	 The changing social values of people that decreases the value on
Mutuality principles	cooperation and volunteerism
 Member service philosophy 	■ Employee attitudes becoming career oriented which S & L cannot
 Personal relationships with members 	offer at this time. There is a question of organizational loyalty
 Saving and loan socities bonds 	 New product development speed
Community involvement	 New players in financial markets
 Recognized by the government as part of the financial system that 	 Diminishing personalised service because of the use of
could deliver financial services to the where other formal financial	sophisticated technology that offers easy access and convenience in
institutions are not catering	providing financial services
 Strong support from the Central Bank of Papua New Guinea, the 	 Middle-age bulge in the workforce and increase component of
regulatory body for savings and loans in the country	older workers
 Reshaping consumer demands – older and younger members and 	 Young professionals are more inclined to sophistication of
potential members to expand membership base	technology and there would be a difficulty for saving and loan
	societies s to attract the young generation

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■ **ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE** (as the national federation of Savings and Loan Societies)

Strengths (Based on the achievement of the last three years)	Weaknesses
 Drawn framework for the federation Democracy process installed - General Assembly was conducted after 10 years Financial reports presented to the General Assembly The board was elected after ten years FACTS (accounting package) introduced Started to offer training programs to savings and loan societies, however it has to be done on need basis Again connected to ACCU, an opportunity to have more options and be exposed to other country CU development Confidence is building up from Savings and Loans Societies though needs to be improved in terms of services that have to be provided Communicate again with savings and loan societies which was not happening before Consolidating the movement would be an opportunity to share cost especially in adopting technology to improve operation Code of conduct introduced to societies Established close working partnership with Central Bank 	 Lack of communication with members Management Analysis of services Lack of resources both human and financial Failed to regain the public confidence on savings and loan societies because of the past experience There was no structured training provided for the societies in the last three years. The federation have less options in terms of seeking technical advise (only the Central Bank and CUFA) Lack of information Failed to sell the federation No dialogue with the members Lack of information on members need and training needs analysis was not systematic Lack of commitment from the societies No innovation and still very traditional on products and services Services was focused on networking with members.

The Savings and Loan Societies

A Workshop on Strategic Planning was convened on January 20-21, 2001 participated by 30 Managers and Directors of 9 Savings and Loans Societies; the Board of Directors and Management of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE and officers from the Bank of Papua New Guinea. The workshop solicited inputs from the members to be able to come up with Strategic Plan that addresses operational issues that are obstacles to the sustained growth and viability of savings and loans society. The Federation could only be relevant to its members if it is delivering services that address recurring operational issues of its members.

Strengths	Weaknesses		
Organizational Structure			
Appropriate legislation is in place	No loans committee, inactive supervisory committee		
Responsive members hip	 Lack of knowledge of understanding of rules and functions 		
	Abuse of powers I.e. 1:10 or 1:5 where policy is only 1:2		
	 Violation of policies and guidelines 		
	No proper training programme		
	 AGM not held within 3 months 		
	Statutory Financial Report not submitted on time		
Leadership R	epresentation		
 Board are elected from the General Membership but need to have 	No nomination committee re: Election of Board of Directors		
policy or system adopted within the organization to ensure that	 No terms of reference 		
qualified people are elected to serve the savings and loan societies	 No standard voting system (I.e. secret balloting) 		
Humar	1 Resources		
■ The relatively large societies have paid management staff, however	 Inadequate skilled and qualified staff 		
there is a great need to recruit the right staff to the right	 Rewards on terms and conditions 		
management position.	 No successive training programmes for management level 		
	 People trained locally and abroad but not used to for training Board and staff 		
	Poor advise of management and the Board of Directors		
	Board not fit person		

	Products and Services				
	Introduced some sort of diversification on savings like Christmas savings club, however needs to emphasize more on savings campaign rather than credit driven services	 Loan: Ratio of 1:1 cannot meet members needs Savings – not very encouraging, no proper member education Services – currently limited to school fees and Christmas club No organization of strategic planning/financial management and policy/product development No networking or sharing of service products among member societies 			
	Institution	al Capacity			
•	FACTS as a standard accounting package Code of conduct being promulgated by needs to be practiced	 Lack of Skills – management / board – tailored training needs for staff and directors both in rural and urban based societies Procedures - Lack of procedure; lack of implementation; no review Policies – outdated policies; non compliance of polices; distribution of policies Information Technology – lack of training; not in place in some societies; cost reduction not achieved 			
	Financial	Strength			
•	Payroll deduction system that reduce collection cost Definite Cash Flow	 Capital reserves – inadequate reserves; operating losses Liquidity- wrong investment decisions; inconsistent payroll deductions; lack of cash flow management; negative member attitude Quality Assets – investment in non-performing assets; high delinquency; lack of insurance cover Growth – over expenditure- societies have no budget; membership fluctuation; Risks – lending; investment; membership (breach of common bond); politics; competition with other financial institutions. Financial reporting- behind in reporting financial information 			

Recommendation of the National Workshop

The process by which recommendations solicited from the members reinforced the relevance of the services that ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE to its members. The recommendations are divided into three levels according to organizational capacities and mandate. In reference to *Savings and Loans Societies*, the role assigned would serve as commitment on their part to upgrade its institutional capacity by adopting management tools, policies and reforms. On the other hand, the roles identified for *ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE* serve as guidance to review its vision for the movement, its role and purpose of existence and the goals that would be carried out for the next three years. Since the *Bank of Papua New Guinea* represents the regulatory body on behalf of the government, ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE would take a lead role on lobbying with the bank to obtain an enabling policy environment for the societies to develop a sustainable and viable operation that contributes to the economic development of the country.

Weaknesses	Recommendation	Role of S&L	Role of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE	Central Bank
 No loans committee, inactive supervisory committee Lack of knowledge of understanding of rules and functions 	Organiza 1. Training committee should be established perhaps within ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE	 Identify areas of weaknesses to identify and nominate suitable person for training 		Ensure that directors and members comply with the code of conduct
 Abuse of powers I.e. 1:10 or 1:5 where policy is only 1:2 Violation of policies and guidelines No proper training programme AGM not held within 3 months Statutory Financial Report not submitted on time 	3. Development of training programmes including sourcing of technical and resource personnel should be encouraged.5. In close consultation with	to consult ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE on the type of training required	of code of conduct	Central bank can assist in resources TA and financial

the Registrar of S & L enforce code of conduct on BOD of S & L	
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	Leadershi	p Representation		
 No nomination committee re: Election of Board of Directors No terms of reference for the nomination committee 	Nomination committee should be established in all societies.	• Establish nomination committees	Prepare and draft the relevant terms and reference	 To consider and approve the establishment of nomination
No standard voting system (I.e. secret balloting)	2. ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE to draw TOR for nomination committee for submission to registrar of S & L for approval			committee
	3. Registrar of S & L to direct all S & L to form nomination committees for each society, etc.			
	4. Nomination committee to operate within the TOR.			
	Human Resources			
 Inadequate skills of people we employ. How do we find the qualified person 	Standardize recruitment process for CEOs and management staff		X	

Rewards on terms and				
conditions	2. Standardize terms and			
 No successive training 	conditions and make it			
programmes for management	available to societies		X	X
level	with other options open			
 Poor advise of management and 	3. ABC CREDIT			
the Board of Directors	COOPERATVE is			
	addressing the training			
Board not fit person	requirements. Identify		X	
The state of the s	young people within the			
 People trained locally and 	movement and train to			
abroad but not used to training	the need of societies.			
staff				
	4. Develop a standard		X	X
	reporting system to the			
	Board. Quality advises			
	to the board. Sharing			
	information			
	5. Person must be fit			X
	Product	s and Services		
■ Loan: Ratio 1:1 cannot meet	1. ABC CREDIT		X	X
members needs	COOPERATVE			
	facilitate an institution			
■ Savings – not very encouraging,	for loan protection for			
no proper member education	societies.			
 Services – currently limited to 	2. Massive information	X	X	
school fees and Christmas club	campaign Program for			
	savings to encourage and			

 No organization of strategic 	educate members to save			
planning/financial management		X	X	
and policy/product development				
	people within the			
	movement and use them			
 No networking or sharing of 	to for training			
service products among member societies		X	X	
	4. Societies to share			
	services and other			
	information	X	X	
	5. Urban based societies to			
	be able to excess rural			
	base and vice versa	X	X	
	6. Adopt Marketing			
	information system-			
	profile of member			
		onal Capacity		
a) Skills – management / board –	1. Board			
tailored training needs for staff and				
directors both in rural and urban	•Induction – function, roles,		X	
based societies	acts and regulation			
	compliance			
B. Procedures – lack of procedure;	•General overview of society			
lack of implementation; no review	operation	X		
C. Policies – outdated policies; non	2.Management			
compliance of polices; distribution				

of policies	•Specific training		X	
-	•Regular staff appraisal	X	X	
D. Information Technology – lack of training; not in place in some societies; cost reduction not achieved	•Training policy	X	X	
	3.Procedures			
	•Adopt procedures; implement them, regular review	X	X	X
	4.Policies •Update; effective supervisory committee	X	X	
	5.IT – provide regular training	X	X	
	6.Adequate support system – societies consider it as management tool	X	X	
	Financ	cial Strength		
Capital reserves – inadequate reserves; operating losses	1.Cut cost and make profit	X		
Liquidity- wrong investment	2.Good investment policies	X		
decisions; inconsistent payroll deductions; lack of cash flow	3.Maintaining constant relationship with payroll	X		

management; negative member	section			
attitude	4.Proper cash flow	X		
Quality Assets – investment in non-	management	Α		
performing assets; high				
delinquency; lack of insurance cover	5.Sound investment policies	X	X	X
Growth – over expenditure-	6.Consider CFF	X	X	X
societies have no budget; membership fluctuation;	7.Effective loan management	X	X	
-	8.Insurance cover	X		
Risks – lending; investment; membership (breach of common bond); politics; competition with	9.Budget to be in place	X	X	
other financial institutions.	10.Marketing	X	71	
Financial reporting- behind in reporting financial information	11.Increasing common bond	X		
reporting minimum mornauron	12.Minimize risks	X		X
	12 D1-4111 1	X		
	13.Regulate all lending institutions			X
	14. Timely reporting of financial information	X		х

Vision Statement of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE

Based on the challenges posed by the changing market environment and the current situation of the savings and loans societies, the vision statement was revisited with the input of the members:

Vision Statement developed in 1998

FESALOS aims to be the *Nationally Democratically* controlled membership organization *promoting, representing* and serving the number of strong viable growing and potential primary Savings and Loan Societies throughout the nation.



The new Vision Statement ... revisited

A National organization of viable and sustainable savings and loan societies that practice cooperative principles.

Components of the new Vision Statement of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE:

- <u>National organization</u> represents a democratically controlled membership organization that represents the interest of the member savings and loan societies
- <u>Viable</u> defined as sustained growth, financially sound, competitive in the market because it is offering services based on member needs, covering its cost and generating profit for better service and portraying an image of safe institution to the public
- Sustainable will be continuously serving the community
- <u>Cooperative principles</u> the identity of savings and loans societies, the core foundation of its operation, a democratic organization and with the mission of improving the economic situation of its members

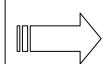
Mission Statement of ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE

The Mission is a statement that defines the role ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE as the national federation of savings and loan societies in Papua New Guinea and what it believes can be accomplished in the future in relation to its vision statement.

Mission Statement developed in 1998

Its mission is to develop and maintain a financially sound savings and loan movement to help meet the social and economic development needs of members through provision:

1.Movement planning for growth, development & stability
2.Technical and operational support
3.Central Financial Facility
4.Representation for the movement
5.Protection of members' interests
6.Training and education



The new Mission Statement ... revisited

To promote and strengthen savings and loans societies to enhance the social and economic development needs of its members.

Components of the new mission statement:

- <u>Promote</u> ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE would promote the organization of new savings and loans society but it would always maintain the main goal of ensuring that those societies are viable and sustainable
- <u>Strengthen</u>- ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE would provide technical assistance to ensure that the existing savings and loans societies are viable and sustainable to fulfill its mission
- <u>Enhance social and economic development needs of members</u> the ultimate goal of savings and loans society is to improve the socioeconomic standards of the members it is serving by making financial services available for everyone.

Goals and Strategies of the Strategic Plan

Goals		Strategies
1. To professionalize the operation of 18 existing savings and loan	1.	Appointment of Nomination Committee in the society that would
societies by the end of 2003.		screen qualified Board of Directors and Sub-committees.
Professionalize the operation means adoption and strict implementation of the required management tools for prudent	2.	Professionalization of Board of Directors and Management Staff
management which include:	3.	Standardization of the recruitment of Managers and staff of savings and loans societies
a. Human Resource Development Policy		
b. Standardization of Recruitment policy for S&L Managers & staff c. Policies on Operation – products & services, membership	4.	Standardization of Operational policies
recruitment	5.	Standardization of Chart of Accounts and Reporting System
d. Board of Directors and Sub-Committee Policy - terms and		
reference, code of conduct etc.	6.	Introduction of Prudential Standards
e. Standard Financial Disciplines and Controls		
f. Standard Accounting and Reporting System	7.	Establishing rating performance to check the compliance of the
g. Prudential Standards		savings and loan society.
h. Strategic Planning or Operational Planning System		

2. To reach financial sustainability of the federation covering 100% of its core cost from core services by 2003.	 Develop training services for savings and loan societies on a fee basis. Developing national marketing program for savings and loan societies. 	
	3. Developing "technical assistance" packages such as: Strategic Planning; Management Advisory Services; Accounting Service, Institutional Analysis and developing Strategic Marketing Plan on a fee basis.	,
	4. To establish Central Financial Facility mobilizing excess liquidity to get better return and bargaining power for the movement	7
	5. To establish Mutual Aid Fund that will protect members' loan in case an individual member dies.	ı
	6. To operate central computing system for the savings and loans societies.	;
3. To establish 5 new provincial savings and loan societies by 2003.	Obtain working arrangement with the Bank of Papua New Guinea on the promotion and organization of new saving and loan societies in the province.	

Tactical Plan

Goal 1: To professionalize the operation of existing 18 savings and loan societies by the end of 2003.

Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
1. Appointment of	1. Developing the TOR of the Technical	By March 2001	General Manager	Draft of the TOR
Nomination	Committee at the national federation			
Committee in the	2. Approval of the TOR by the Board of		General Manager /	
society that would	Directors		Technical	
screen qualified Board	3. Appointment of the committee	By March 2001	committee	
of Directors and Sub-				
committees.	4. Preparation of the TOR for the	5 3.5 4 6004	a	
	Nomination Committee that would	By March 2001	General Manager	
	include: compulsory training for the			
	Board of Directors, supervisory and			
	loan committee after being elected to the position plus the minimum			
	the position plus the minimum qualification to run for the position.			
	5. Presentation of the TOR to the Registrar	By September 2001	General Manager	Approved TOR
	of Savings and Loan Societies	by September 2001	General Manager	Approved Tok
	6. Dissemination of the TOR to the		Training and	Application by
	primary societies	By December 2001	Marketing	societies
	primary societies	2) 2000	1/	50010105

Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
Professionalization of				
Board of Directors,				
Supervisory Committee,				
Loans Committee and				
Management staff				
	1. Conduct the induction courses:	By December 2001	Training &	Trained Board of
Board of Directors,	Structure and Operation; Financial		Marketing	Directors and
Supervisory Committee	Management; Legislation –			installed Sub-
and Loans Committee	Implementation and Compliance			committees all 18
	Monitoring			members
	2. Conduct refreshment course and			
	continuing education program for Board	Yearly basis	Training &	Receiving regular &
	of Directors, Supervisory and Loans		Marketing	accurate reports from
	Committee			the 18 societies
	 Adaptation of the Human Resource 	Before June 30 2001	General Manager	Draft Policy Manual
	Policy Manual: recruitment,		with external	
Management Staff	professional qualification, promotion,		consultant or	
	compensation, performance appraisal,		ACCU	
	termination, rewards etc.			
	Review by Technical Committee of	Before Sept. 2001	General	Approved
	ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE		Manager/training	
	• Get approval from the Central Bank of	September 2001	committee	Trained Managers
	Papua New Guinea			
	 Conduct workshop on the adoption of 		Training and	
	the human resource policy in	November 2001	Marketing	Receiving regular
	participation of saving and loan			reports from the 21
	societies		Training and	societies

Review and include HRM aspect in the	Monthly starting	Marketing	
present monthly reporting format.	2002		

Strategies		Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
Standardization of	1.	Review and update standardize policies	By October 2001	Accountant	Operational Policy
Operational Policies		- savings, collection, Board of			Manual
		Directors, Supervisory Committee,			
		Loans Committee; investment policy,			
		credit administration, local and			
		overseas training etc. in consultation			
		with Central Bank of Papua New			
		Guinea.			
	2.	Review draft document by Technical	By October 2001	General Manager	
		Committee of ABC CREDIT			
		COOPERATVE	November 2001	Training &	
	3.	Organize national workshop to		Marketing	
		introduce the standard operational	2002		10 001 1 1
		policy.	2002	Accountant	18 S&L adopted
	4.	Implementation and monitoring			
Standardize Chart of	1.	Review and update present Chart of	By June 2001	Accountant	Standard Chart of
Accounts and Reporting		Accounts and Reporting System in			Accounts &
System		consultation with Central Bank of			Reporting System
		Papua New Guinea & Institute of	m 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	m · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	A 1 . 11 010 0 T
		Accountants.	To be conducted in	Training and	Adopted by 21S & L
	2.	Review draft document by Training or	conjunction with the	Marketing	
		Technical Committee of ABC CREDIT	HRD workshop		
	2	COOPERATVE			D . 1 1
	3.	Organize national workshop to	2002	Accountant	Reports submitted on
		introduce the standard operational	2002		time
		policy.			

4. Im	plementation and monitoring		

Strategies		Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
	1.	Review existing KPI and PEARLS to	By June 2001	Accountant	
Introduction of Prudential		develop the appropriate prudential			
Standards		standards for saving and loan societies			
		in consultation with the Central Bank of			
		Papua New Guinea.			
	2.	Prepare the policy document on prudential standards	By August 2001	Accountant	Policy Document
	3.	Conduct the training on prudential standards.	By September 2001	Training & Marketing	
	4.	Implementation and monitoring	Starting 2002	Accountant	Monthly report
Establishing rating	1.	Developing Rating Performance guidelines for savings and loan societies based on prudential standards in	February 2002	General Manager	Rating Performance
performance to check the compliance of the savings and loan society.		consultation with the Central Bank of Papua New Guinea.			
	2.	Diagnosis of the 18 savings and loan societies and evaluation of the compliance on the basic operational framework of the saving and loan societies.	March 2002	Accountant	Reports of Diagnosis
	3.	Accreditation of savings and loans societies according to the rating	Annually starting 2002	General Manager	Accreditation

guidelines.		

Goal 2: To reach financial sustainability of the federation covering 100% of its core cost from core services by 2003.

Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
Developing training services for savings and loan societies on a fee basis.	Prepare training curriculum base on out put for the induction courses: Structure and Operation; Financial Management; Legislation – Implementation and Compliance Monitoring and plus costing for each program i.e. national training program, in-house training or localize training program.	By end April 2001	Training and Marketing	Training packages Disseminated to the societies
	2. Prepare an annual training calendar.3. Set up HRD bank in ABC CREDIT COOPERATVE	By end of April 2001 By December 2001	-do-	List of HR in S & L

	Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
ma	evelop national arketing program for wings and loan	 Design promotional materials: poster, brochures, souvenir items etc. Production of media and TV promotion 	By September 2001 International Day	Training and Marketing	Printed materials
	ociety	launching corporate identity for saving and loan societies s and market positioning campaign.	2002	-do-	Aired on TV and newspaper
		3. Design one unique logo that will be used by all the saving and loan societies in the country.	-do-	-do-	Use of same logo for the entire movement
as su	eveloping "technical sistance" packages ach as: Strategic lanning; Management	1 1	By end of September 2001	Accountant	Technical assistance packages
Ac Ac In: an St	dvisory Services; ccounting Service, astitutional Analysis	annual calendar.	January 2002	-do-	Disseminated to the societies

Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
3. To establish Central Financial Facility mobilizing excess	Prepare Feasibility Study in setting up CFF(at least 5 years projection) .	By June 2001	General Manager with external consultant	5 Year Feasibility Study
liquidity to get better return and bargaining	2. Review the policies of CFF	By June 2001	Accountant	Draft Policy
power for the movement	3. Conduct national workshop and launch the program	By September 2001	Training and Marketing	At least 10 societies are member of CFF
5. To establish Mutual Aid Fund that will protect members' loan	1. Get formal approval from the regulatory authority to operate loan protection scheme.	By August 2001	General Manager	Approval from Central Bank
in case an individual member dies.	2. Prepare business plan for Mutual aid for at least three years operation.	By December 2001	Accountant	Business Plan
	3. Prepare operational policies and systems and procedures	By April 2002	General Manager with external consultant	Approved policy, system & procedures
	4. Launch the program	By June 2002	General Manager	At least 10 societies are member of CFF
6. To operate a central computing system for the savings and loans	Update the present services of FACTS with members.	By May 2001	General Manager Accountant/IT officer	Upgraded the system
societies.	2. Develop pricing policy for the technical service of FACTS.	By May 2001	Accountant/IT officer	Draft Policy

3.	C 3 11	By August 2001	Accountant /IT	Regulation from
	compulsory use of FACTS from the		officer	Central Bank
	Central Bank of Papua New Guinea.	By August 2001	General Manager	
			& External	
4.	Institutionalize back-up filing system for the user of FACTS.	By June 2001	Consultant	Policy developed
5.	. Prepare project proposal and business	By June 2001	IT officer /Training	Feasibility Study
	plan in setting up central computing system for the industry in consultation with the Central Bank.		and Marketing	
			General Manager	Project accepted for
6.	Present the project to World Bank and ADB seeking financial and technical support	By August 2001		funding
			General Manager	MOU with reputed IT
7.	Find the technical partner for the Data			company
	Processing unit in consultation with the	By August 2001		r. J
	Central Bank	<i>j</i>	General	At least 10 S & L
			Manager/IT officer	using
8.	. Launching the services	June 2002	6	<i>6</i>
	5			

Goal 3: To establish 5 new provincial savings and loan societies by 2003.

Strategies	Activities	Time Frame	Responsible	Indicators
Obtain working arrangement with the Bank	1. Identify 5 priority provinces	January 2002	Training and Marketing	Selected 5 potential provinces
of Papua New Guinea on	2. Meet with the governor of the selected	January 2002		Get consent from the
the promotion and organization of new saving	officers and explain the process of organizing	•	-do-	governor
and loan societies in the province.	3. Provide technical assistance to prepare feasibility study to selected provinces	February 2002	-do-	Feasibility study
	4. Conduct basic training	March 2002 June 2002		
	5. Assist in securing registration from the Central Bank of Papua New Guinea			5 registered S& L