

ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN CONFEDERATION OF CREDIT UNIONS

MANAGEMENT REPORT - MARCH 2008



ACCU 63rd Board Meeting Held in Korea

The 63rd Board Meeting of ACCU was held on March 28 in Korea. The alternate Board elect Mr. Michael Koisen of FESALOS (Papua New Guinea) filled the vacancy in the Board. The meeting confirmed his appointment as the 2rd Vice-President of ACCU serving for the remaining term until September 2008. The Board meeting was hosted by NACUFOK in its headquarters.

1st Draft of CU Product Catalogue Completed



The first draft of Credit Union Product Catalogue was circulated to member organizations for comment. The catalogue is added to the series of solutions developed by ACCU to ensure that Asian credit unions financial services are providing solutions to members' financial problems. Credit union financial services should consider the diversity of members' financial needs and lifestyles, however, those financial products should be creating wealth for members that consequently help them reach their financial destinations.

CEOs of Member Organizations Inspired by NACUFOK's Achievements

The recently concluded CEOs workshop on March 25-27 in Korea shared the Business Processes of NACUFOK. Attending CEOs were very much inspired of the diligence, discipline and unity of the whole credit union system mirrored on its numerous achievements. Credit union supervision, Deposit Protection System, New Generation Information Technology, Education System, Ethical Management and PR/Marketing strategies were highlighted at the workshop. ACCU organized two CEOs workshop annually, one in conjunction with the Forum and Annual General Meeting of ACCU in September. The CEOs were very grateful to NACUFOK for hosting the workshop.





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ACCU Full Membership to WOCCU in 2008

ACCU Board accepted the proposal of WOCCU for reduced Full Membership dues for 2008 only. The AGM of ACCU held in Bali, Indonesia on September 2007 passed a resolution to offer flat rate dues to WOCCU for the next five years. However, WOCCU Board agreed only for 2008.

ACCU President and CEO are scheduled to meet with WOCCU Board this coming July 2008 in Hong Kong to reiterate the AGM's offer.

Project Evaluation in Ende Ngada, Indonesia

A project evaluation was carried out in Ende Ngada last March 10-13. The project has targeted to recruit 16 credit unions but only 9 credit unions have joined the program. Adherence to systems, capacity building of staff and efficiency were emphasized for partner credit unions in order to demonstrate significant outreach of the 'have less' women.

The evaluation pointed out the inability of partner credit unions to meet the expectations of the project as to the number of credit unions, recruitment of new low-income members, loans and savings. Building the skills of the credit union staff would be a major task to ensure the sustainability of the WECUMI program in Ende.

The project is in partnership with the Credit Union Central of Indonesia (CUCO) supported by Agriterra.

VDFs' Transformation to SCUs in Luang Prabang



ACCU and DPI Luang Prabang, in consultation with more than 30 Village Development Fund (VDFs) leaders, selected five VDFs to be transformed into full-pledged SCUs. ACCU will provide technical assistance to build the capacity of DPI staff to support the expansion of membership and installation of organizational framework to five SCU. Meanwhile, a trainers training on Credit Union Organization and Management was conducted for the District Staff of the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI) in Luang Prabang last March 18-19. The training would enable the staff to provide advice and conduct leadership trainings for VDF. Agriterra supports the project.

FSCT Grants CU Dev't. Fund to Luang Prabang SCU

Luang Prabang SCU received US\$ 1,700 grant fund from the Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives of Thailand to conduct in-house financial management training for its Board, Committees and Staff. The training is anticipated to increase the knowledge and skills of leaders and management to warrant the safety and soundness of LPSCU's operation. Through ACCU, FSCT annually offers grant fund to desirable credit unions in developing countries. The program is FSCT's demonstration of the principle of 'cooperation among cooperatives.'

Exposure for NEFSCUN New CEO to Thailand

ACCU facilitated the two-day exposure to Thai credit unions of the newly appointed CEO of Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperative Unions (NEFSCUN), Mr. Ram Prasad Dhakal on March 21-22. The exposure program presented broad understanding on federation's services geared towards the competitiveness and responsiveness of primary credit unions. Mr. Dhakal visited CULT, FSCT and Klongchan Credit Union



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Asian Credit Union Forum Brochure 2008

The brochure of the Asian Credit Union Forum 2008 in Bangladesh has been prepared. Electronic and hard copy are available to all member organizations of ACCU. The forum will be held Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, a five star hotel in central Dhaka city. For more information, please contact: accu@aaccu.coop

Progress Review Meeting with Cordaid

ACCU technical team had a meeting with Cordaid's Team Leader Asia Sector Entrepreneurship, Frans Goosens in Bangkok on March 19. The meeting discussed the progress and challenges of the project on Credit Union Development in Asia as well as the future credit union development agenda. Mr. Goosens showed concern on the commitment of Asian credit unions on poverty alleviation and the demonstration of its significant contribution. He agreed to talk on this topic at the Asian Credit Union Forum 2008 in Bangladesh.

Nepal's Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperative Secretary Visits Thailand

ACCU facilitated the visit of Nepal's Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mr. Tek B. Thapa in his visit to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives in Thailand and the Cooperative Promotions Department of Thailand.



The Secretary emphasized the significant role of SACCOS and cooperatives in the

supporting the growth of rural economy in his country.

Educational Opportunities on your fingertips . . .

- 10th Asian Development Education Workshop on June 13-18, 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand. The early bird registration was closed on March 15, 2008; however, regular registrations are accepted until May 15, 2008.
- Credit Union CEOs Competency Course on June 12-19, 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand; Early Bird Registration was closed on March 31, 2008. Regular registration are accepted until May 15, 2008.
- The 22nd NACUFOK Exposure Program, April 21-26, 2008 in Korea. The program is hosted by the National Credit Union Federation of Korea.

Note:

Due to members request, we changed the dates of the CUCCC from June 15-22, 2008 to June 12-19, 2008 (inclusive of arrival and departure) to accommodate those participants also attending the DE Workshop. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Thank you.