

MANAGEMENT REPORT - NOVEMBER 2008

Review of ACCESS Branding Initiatives in the Philippines and Nepal



ACCU reviewed the implementation of ACCESS branding in the Philippines and Nepal. The two partner SACCOS visited in Nepal on November 3 were proud to share the new services, policies and products introduced. The Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Unions (NEFSCUN) is supporting 7 SACCOS to achieve ACCESS brand. Meanwhile, in a separate meeting with PFCCO and NATCCO on November 17 and 21 respectively, ACCU suggested increasing the number of credit unions to be branded – now four. The partner credit unions are very positive on the impact of ACCESS in boosting its image due to the professional management and soundness of their operation. Currently, partner credit unions have enormous tasks in decreasing loan delinquency, increasing institutional capital, documentation of policies and training staff.



NEFSCUN Board of Directors and Supervisory committee attended the four days Credit Union Directors Competency Course held on November 4-7 in Nepal. The course facilitated by ACCU team, brought essential learning on the important role of NEFSCUN's Board in setting the direction for the organization and for the credit union movement in Nepal. The course was also an opportunity for the Board to prepare themselves in the implementation of the three-year strategic plan including its support systems such as policies and programs. At the end of the course, the Directors received certificate of attendance. The CUDCC certificate will be awarded upon the completion of the post course project.



Chiengmai Exposure Program for DPI Directors

Six Directors and officers of the Department of Planning and Investment (DPI) from Luang Prabang (Laos) participated in the credit union exposure program on November 14-18 in Chiengmai, Thailand. The program organized in collaboration with the Credit Union League of Thailand is aimed to create heightened appreciation on the contribution of credit union to community development. The credit union promotion program in Luang Prabang is being implemented in partnership with DPI.



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Asian Credit Union Solutions Introduced to Coop Regulators in the Philippines



The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) and ACCU organized a three-day workshop that introduced five Asian Credit Union Solutions on November 22-24 in Manila. In attendance were the Cooperative Development Specialists and senior technical staff of CDA. The workshop highlighted the concepts, best practices and future direction of credit union development in Asia through the solutions called CUDCC, CUCCC, ACCESS Branding, Risk Based Supervision Service and Stabilization Fund. The regulators found the solutions consistent with MORR (Memorandum of Rules and Regulations) for savings and credit cooperatives.

ACCU Attends Cordaid's MF Consultation Workshop in Manila

ACCU along with Cordaid's partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America attended the Microfinance Consultation Workshop held in Manila on November 16-21. The workshop had an in-depth dialogue on key issues relevant to microfinance based on practice, experience and developments in Asia and other parts of the world. In attendance were partners involved in the implementation of development projects and programs in the field of microfinance in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

NATCCO's SF Committee Meeting Held

The first meeting of NATCCO's Stabilization Fund (SF)
Committee was held on November 24 in Manila. The committee is composed of NATCCO Chair and CEO, representative from CDA, Department of Finance and ACCU. The Fund launched by NATCCO in May 2008 has mobilized pesos 3.1 million from 8

cooperatives. The Chair of NATCCO is appointed as the Chair of the Fund and the Chair of CDA as the Vice-Chair of the Fund. By January 2009, the Risk Based Supervision System will also be in operation to ensure participating coops under Stabilization Fund are not exposed to undue risks.

SACCOS Face More Challenging Role in Reaching the Poor

Seven SACCOS attended the CUMI review meeting held on November 8 in Nepal. The meeting attended by the Chairmen, Managers and Field staffs of SACCOS, once again emphasized the need for credit unions to reach the low-income to fulfill its mission. The meeting concluded on appointing full time field staff and recruit 300 new low-income members by June 2009. NEFSCUN will have to provide training for the field staff and monitor the implementation of CUMI program. NEFSCUN also agreed to target additional 50 SACCOS for CUMI program.