



## Management Report - July 2009

### CU Youth Products Now with Social and Financial Literacy



At the Mid-Campaign Meeting in Cairo, Egypt on July 5-7, 2009, ACCU signed a Memorandum of Associate Partnership with Aflatoun Child Savings International based in the Netherlands. The partnership intends to spread the message of social and financial literacy to children. ACCU recognizes that today's economic conditions demand that credit unions educate future generations to become financially responsible adults. The Aflatoun way would enable to effect positive change through social and financial understanding in a fun and engaging way. The social and financial education will be added as components of the current financial products offered by credit unions to children such as YouthBee, Smarteens, GenX and EASY programs.

### ACCU Represented at World Credit Union Conference in Barcelona, Spain

The President Mr. Oh-man Kwon and CEO Mr. Ranjith Hettiarachchi represented the Asian credit union movement to the WOCCU's World Credit Union Conference in Barcelona, Spain on July 26 to 29. As practiced, the President and CEO represent ACCU to international network organizations. The conference was attended by more than 1,000 credit union directors, executives and supporters from 62 countries.

### Paglaum MPC Tops in Coop Microfinance Outreach

With the invitation of Paglaum Multi-Purpose Cooperative in the Philippines, ACCU CEO facilitated the staff congress and officiated the oath taking of the newly elected Board of Directors on July 11 in Mindanao. The CEO congratulated PMPC for its achievements in reaching out to the poor communities in Mindanao. PMPC has dedicated its service to poverty alleviation with an outreach of 30,000 members. Notably, PMPC reaches out to remote communities [where only horses are means of transportation], people with disabilities (PWDs) and indigenous people. PMPC is a supporter member of ACCU since 2008. ACCU recognizes that PMPC serves as encouragement to credit unions and cooperatives across Asia to dedicate their services in improving the life of people especially the disadvantaged.



### PFCCO NML Champions CUMI

The meeting with PFCCO Mindanao League on July 12 was focused on the CUMI achievement now 34 credit unions with outreach of 69,000 members. PFCCO shared the current credit union development focus such as the launching of Stabilization Fund, intensifying CUMI outreach, money transfer, promoting e-commerce for entrepreneurs, institutionalizing professionalization and benchmarking, and marketing software for credit unions. ACCU agreed to support PFCCO in Stabilization Fund and CUMI.



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### Credit Union Rich Experience Shared in ICA Conference

ACCU shared the strategies launched to ensure the soundness of credit unions at the International Conference on “Enhanced Role of Cooperatives in the Recovery from Economic Crisis held in Bangkok [Thailand] from 2nd to 4th July, 2009 organized by ICA Asia-Pacific Agriculture Committee. The presentation conveyed the message that credit unions must be strong and safe to fulfill its role in helping members improve their lives. The presentation was focused on the 15 business solutions developed by ACCU to assist credit unions deliver its mission while improving its institutional soundness. Seventy-five participants attended the conference from 16 countries.

### NEFSCUN Reaches 140 Credit Unions in CUMI



The recent visit to Nepal on July 17-21 evaluated the achievements of the two projects supported in NEFSCUN. Under the CUMI project, 140 SACCOS has adopted the methodology. The evaluation meetings with the partner SACCOS emphasized on the impact of CUMI in making difference on the lives of the poor people. Meanwhile, a review meeting was also organized for the seven partner SACCOS in ACCESS branding. The net institutional capital is far behind the standard of minimum 10% of the total assets. However, delinquency rate of the SACCOS has shown sustained improvements. NEFSCUN technical staff will have to assist the SACCOS in building their

### SCU Program Creates Thrift Habit among Laotians



ACCU organized separate workshops on Savings Product Development for the 15 pilot savings and credit unions (SCUs) in three project locations in Xayaboury, Luang Namtha and Oudomxay in Laos on July 19-23. Organized as Village Development Funds, the 15 SCUs only offered loan products from the funds given by the government. The training was the first attempt to introduce the value of self-help translated to prudent spending and thrift habit of members. Attended by 2 to 3 Directors from 15 SCUs, the workshop introduced savings products meant to inculcate financial literacy leading to members’ financial independence.



### Fostering Partnership:

ACCU paid a courtesy visit to the newly appointed Registrar of the Cooperative Department of Nepal, Mr. Maheshwor Paudel on July 21. ACCU agreed to facilitate symposium on building national policy on credit union development.



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### Online Credit Union Help Desk Launched in Asia

The Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) and the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) welcome ACCU members to an innovative online resource group. The Credit Union Help Desk is an internet based forum where co-op managers can meet, network and discuss important issues.

Resource persons from Canadian credit unions are online to facilitate discussions and respond to your questions. They have over 30 years of experience in the credit union system in areas such as governance, regulation, lending, finance and operations management, accounting, policies and procedures, product management, facilitation and training.

The Help Desk is organized into three main topic areas:

- Lending and Portfolio Management
- Financial Management
- Credit Union Governance

The forum is simple and easy to use and is open to managers of primary and secondary level co-operatives. If you would like to sign up for the forum please send an email with your name, position/title, country of residence, and credit union name to: [cuhelpdesk@coopscanada.coop](mailto:cuhelpdesk@coopscanada.coop)

*Thailand*

## Asian Credit Union Forum 2009

*Outsmarting Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis*

September 24-26, 2009 Bangkok, Thailand

**Registration Update: 312 from 21 countries as of August 4, 2009.**

Pre-conference workshops on September 21-23:

- CEOs – Sustained Action of the National Federations to Protect the Credit Union System in Asia
  - HRD – Good Governance Framework for Credit Unions
- Women – Trainers Training on Women Leadership and Decision Making in Credit Unions
  - Youth – Aflatoun's Child Financial & Social Literacy