



Management Report - March 2009



ACCU Laos Staff and SCU Volunteers Training in Full Sway

ACCU conducted four training programs in the northern part of Laos on March 3-10 and March 22-25. The newly hired project staff gained understanding of ACCU, credit union, and their responsibilities/ benefits as ACCU staff at the orientation training. Currently, ACCU has four staff stationed in Laos. Meanwhile, the other three trainings were conducted for the leaders of select five Village Development Funds (VDFs) in each of the province of Luang Namtha, Xayaboury and Oudomxay. The new project, in partnership with Agriterra has a target of transforming VDFs into full pledge savings and credit unions (SCUs). The transformation of an informal savings and credit association to SCUs would guarantee for the sustainable provision of affordable financial services to rural communities in Laos.



Strengthening Accounting & Financial Reporting of CBFIs in Cambodia

An on the job accounting training was organized for the Treasurers and Staff of 11 CBFIs, and field staff of SEDOC and FLIFLY in Cambodia on March 14 to 18. Participants worked on the actual financial transactions that helped them learn the system with ease. The accounting training covered the documentation of transactions to the preparation of Balance Sheet and Income Statement. ACCU designed the accounting system for CBFIs and supported the printing of accounting forms and books of accounts. The 11 CBFIs are required to update their books up to April 2009.



ACCU Assists Cordaid on its Consultation Meeting in Bangkok

ACCU assisted Cordaid on the logistical arrangements of its Consultation meeting on Technical Assistance for MFIs on March 26-27 in Bangkok. Fourteen representatives attended the meeting from 11 partners of Cordaid in 8 countries of Africa and Asia. The CEO of ACCU attended the meeting. Cordaid and its partners recognize the participation of cooperatives and credit unions in the microfinance service industry. The meeting agreed to create a special window for cooperatives in the Technical Assistance Fund Facility.



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Air Mauritius Co-operative Credit Union Study Visit to Thailand

ACCU organized the study visit of five leaders and staff of Air Mauritius Co-operative Credit Union on March 29-April 1 in Bangkok. The group visited FSCT, CULT, Thai Airways Savings and Credit Cooperative, Klongchan Credit Union and ACCU. The four-day visit concluded with a field reflection on the lessons learned. The leaders realized the importance of having the right vision and constantly revisiting the mission of the organization. The leaders understand the differentiation of credit union as embedded in its mission – helping members gain financial independence. ACCU also provided advice on the design of products and services and financial performance of Air Mauritius CCU.

All Set:

1. 66th ACCU Board Meeting in Bangkok

The ACCU Board Toolkit and meeting book for the 66th Board of Directors Meeting were sent to the members of the board. The Board will meet on April 20-23 in Bangkok. The Board will have the opportunity to attend the opening of the 4th Regulators Conference.

2. 4th Regulators Conference and CEOs Workshop

Confirmation letters for the participants of the 4th Regulators Conference on April 23-25, 2009 in Thailand were sent out. The conference will be followed by the CEOs workshop on April 26 to 27. The regulators conference will discuss the importance of separate laws and regulations for credit unions. To date, 48 regulators and CEOs from 19 countries are registered at the conference.

3rdACUF Organizers Meeting Proposes 2009 Forum Theme

The organizers meeting on March 17 came up with the proposed theme and topics of the 2009 Asian Credit Union Forum that will be held in Thailand on September 24-26.

The proposed theme will evolve on the impact of the Global Financial Crisis and the credit unions' response.

The venue of the Forum has been finalized at Emerald Hotel (www.emeraldhotel.com). The Forum brochure and registration will be available towards the end of April 2009.

