



Management Report - April 2010

Philippine ACCESS Coops Getting Ready for Final Evaluation



The April 12 meeting with the Board and CEOs of four cooperatives undergoing ACCESS accreditation in the Philippines enumerated plans to improve the rating on the key indicators until June 2010. All the partner coops have met the required provisioning on loan delinquency while the Net Institutional Capital is all positive ranging from 3.5 to 9.72% as of December 2009 (negative in 2007).



It was agreed that ACCESS branding would be given on the following conditions:

- The highest brand that can be given is bronze if the standard for delinquency (5% of loan portfolio) and Net Institutional Capital (10% of total assets) are not met; provided that the required provisioning is satisfied
- Bronze will be given if delinquency below 20% and fully provisioned according to standard and Net Institutional Capital to total assets is at least positive 5%
- The accreditation will be given if the provisioning and charging off is consistently applied in accordance with the policy (quarterly basis)
- The coops receiving the accreditation shall adhere to the condition to implement a comprehensive financial literacy program for their members. This will entail building the competence of staff in financial counseling, changing the approach in the pre-membership seminar and training the Board and committees on financial literacy
- From March to June 2010, all partner coops will have to update the ACCESS diagnosis for submission to the ACCESS Branding Team of PFCCO and NATCCO
- The scores will be revalidated by ACCU using the information of June 2010

The meeting concluded on concrete measures to improve delinquency and institutional capital ratios. These ratios are the test of institutional strength in ACCESS Brand credit unions. The accreditation process is a project supported by the Canadian Co-operative Association. Seven SACCOS are also undergoing ACCESS brand accreditation in Nepal.



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Governance Framework for Credit Unions in Sinhala Language



The training on Good Governance Framework for Credit Unions on April 5-6 introduced the adopted framework in Sinhala language. The framework gets 100% approval from the attending board of 15 Sanasa societies who agreed to adopt the manual in their respective society.

The Sanasa Federation will publish the Framework for wide distribution to credit unions across Sri Lanka. The federation is also ready to provide necessary training to credit unions. A staff of the federation was trained by ACCU in January 2009 ToT in Thailand. The Good Governance Framework for Credit Unions, assigned as CU Solution No. 14 is one of the building blocks for sustainable credit union system in Asia.

CUMI Progress Review in Sri Lanka

Forty SANASA primary societies implementing CUMI attended the review meeting on April 3-4 in Sri Lanka. The societies have total outreach of 10,000 have less members from January 2010. Besides the financial services for the have less, the societies also provide housing program for the poor and literacy program for poor children. It was emphasized that credit unions need to ensure the long-term impact on the lives of the poor through CUMI – gaining financial independence, thus alleviating them from poverty.

Governance Framework for Credit Unions Launched at NATCCO Forum

ACCU presented the Governance Framework for Credit Unions (CU Solution 14) at the NATCCO Congress on April 10 part of the launching of the new Training Program on governance. The governance framework is one of the topics in the continuing professional development of the Board in the Directors Competency course. The governance course will not only deal on concepts but most importantly will provide readymade policy and procedure templates for credit unions. A slight adaptation will be required to suit the regulatory environment of the country. The framework is a compilation of best practices and standards of governance. Some 400 cooperative leaders under the NATCCO Network attended the Forum.

The NATCCO Annual General Meeting was held after the forum on April 11. Mr. Reynaldo Gandionco was again elected as the Chairman of NATCCO.

CU Business Solutions Introduce to the Philippine Regulators



The two-day seminar on April 30 – May 1 introduced the Credit Union Business Solutions to the technical staff of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) in the Philippines. The seminar presented three business solutions developed by ACCU: Governance Framework for Credit Unions, ACCESS Branding and Risk Based Supervision. Currently, the credit union business solutions are being deployed by ACCU member organizations in the Philippines – NATCCO and PFCCO. Sharing the solutions with the regulators will generate healthier synergy between the regulators and regulated to ensure the growth and sustainability of established cooperatives.



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PFCCO's 50th Anniversary Celebration Draws 450 Coop Leaders



ACCU joined the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives on April 28-29 in Baguio City. ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi emphasized the strengthening of the supervisory role of the federation to ensure protection of members' interest in the topic on the Sustained Actions of the National Federations to Financial Crisis. He also pointed out that credit unions should invest on potential members and use public relations or advertisement to communicate the advantages of credit unions to the public. PFCCO drew 450 credit union leaders and professionals across the Philippines to celebrate the anniversary of PFCCO.

CULT's Forum Talks on Coop Business in the Current Economic Landscape



Attended by almost 400 credit union leaders, the educational forum organized by CULT on April 23 discussed on the Cooperative Business in Thailand's current Economic Situation. It was followed by the AGM on April 24 that elects new set of Board of Directors with Mr. Niphon Sompuen as President.

ACCU Technical Mission in Cambodia Promotes Household Savings

On the request of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), ACCU provided technical assistance to the Cambodian Community Foundation Network (CCFiN) on April 18-29. The Manager Member Services worked with CCFiN and credit union leaders to develop strategies for increasing member savings rates. The mission assisted the credit unions to develop marketing plans for increasing member savings and develop financial literacy education programs that credit unions can implement to build members capacity, demonstrate the benefits of savings, and encourage savings as a key part of household financial strategy.



CARD-MRI & ACCU Explore Potential Partnership

ACCU and CARD-MRI, Philippines discussed potential partnership in promoting microfinance for credit unions in Asia on its meeting on April 26. CARD-MRI, the most successful microfinance program in the Philippines has presence in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Indonesia.





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SCUs Making Headway in Lao PDR



The SACUDIL (Savings and Credit Union Development in Lao PDR) project has turned over table, chair and signboard to Khon Chanh SCU in Luang Namtha province (northern part of Laos) on May 1. The SCU is now visible in the community through its signboard and can now operate in their makeshift office. Meanwhile, ACCU Program Assistant conducted a progress review and carried out training on effective presentation skills for the project staff of SACUDIL. In partnership with Agriterra of the Netherlands, the project is targeting to organize 15 SCUs and a secondary credit union organization in the northern part of Laos.

ACCU Bestowed F.W. Raiffeisen Honor to Dr. Supachai Srisupaaksorn



The ACCU F.W. Raiffeisen Award recognizes outstanding leaders who exemplify the qualities lived by the founder of credit unions F.W. Raiffeisen. As approved by the Board on its 69th meeting, the award is bestowed to Dr. Supachai Srisupaaksorn, the President of Klongchan Credit Union and past President of ACCU. Like Raiffeisen, Dr. Supachai is regarded as social revolutionist, as credit union pioneer, a helper of humanity and a farseeing organizer of economic forces. Formal awarding will be given at the opening ceremony of the Asian Credit Union Forum on September 8, 2010 in Korea.

Asian CU Forum Early Bird closes May 15, 2010

ACCU Moved to New Office

ACCU has moved to new office on May 10, 2010 with the following address and contact numbers:

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