



**ASSOCIATION
OF ASIAN
CONFEDERATION
OF CREDIT UNIONS**

Management Report December 2011



Financial Behavior Change of the Have less Needed

Thirty (30) participants attended the CUMI review workshop on December 14-15, 2011 organized by the Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives and ACCU with the support of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA). The workshop identified problems that mainly emanated from the inability to properly educate the members on the financial planning and wise use of money. It was revealed that education to members is very much focused on credit. Credit unions are also challenged by MFIs that grant easy credit. The staff of the credit union must have skills in training, community organizing and financial literacy. The TOT for CUMI field staff will be organized in February 2012 as recommended by the workshop.

First Draft of Federation’s Diagnostics Completed

The first draft of the Federation’s Diagnostic tool is developed at the meeting organized by ACCU with PFCCO and NATCCO technical team on December 13 in Manila, Philippines. The diagnostics tool is an adaptation of ACCESS for the national level credit union organization. The draft will be presented at the CEOs workshop in April 2012. The name of the diagnostic tool is yet to be conceptualized. It is expected that the federation’s standardization will commence on the 2nd half of 2012 as the new tool will be released after the April 2012 workshop of the CEOs. This initiative is also supported by CCA.

DID to Conduct the CEOs Seminar on Financial Decision Making

As concluded in the September 2011 CEOs workshop in Malaysia, ACCU has requested Développement International Desjardins (DID) to conduct the Financial Decision Making seminar for the CEOs. After the submission of the proposal, ACCU and DID agreed to organize the seminar on April 27 to May 1, 2012. The objectives of the seminar are: 1) Interpret and analyze the financial information of an organization and make strategic and enlightened decisions aimed at improving financial performance and 2) Identify and apply relevant and adapted solutions. The venue is to be finalized by January 2012.

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NEFSCUN's 2nd Batch ACCESS SACCOS Speed Up Accreditation



The managers and Chairman 11 SACCOS registered under the 2nd Batch of ACCESS accreditation demonstrated accelerated implementation during the workshop held on December 3-4 in Kathmandu. Even prior to NEFSCUN's diagnosis, the SACCOS have started products, systems and process documentation. NEFSCUN attributed the achievements to the inspiration derived from the seven SACCOS piloted for ACCESS branding. The 11 SACCOS have visited the pilot SACCOS, learned from their experiences and used the tools introduced by ACCU. The workshop prepared an action plan to achieve PEARLS standards by June 2012, undergo training to build the skills of staff and board and submission of the monthly financial reports to NEFSCUN.

Technical Support to SANASA Federation



At least 140 leaders from 52 credit unions attended the Credit Union Directors Competency Course (CUDCC) facilitated by ACCU CEO in SANASA Sri Lanka on December 12-14. Consolidation of credit unions and minimum 1,000 members per credit union were among the conclusions of the program.

On December 15, SANASA Federation launched the in-house service called 'SANASA Clinic' at Narendra Singha SANASA. Using COOP-RUPEES as tool, SANASA conducts health diagnosis of the credit union and provides recommendations for improvement. ACCU CEO trained the technical staff of SANASA who will run the 'SANASA Clinic' service.

The CUMI review meeting on December 16 participated by 5 technical staff of SANASA recommended financial literacy training for the members.

Crowne Plaza Galeria Manila: the venue for the Asian Credit Union forum 2012

The venue of the Asian Credit Union Forum 2012 in the Philippines has been finalized in consultation with two hosts: Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives (PFCCO) and National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO). The venue of the conference is at Crowne Plaza Galeria Manila and the participants will be accommodated at the Holiday Inn Galeria Manila. The venues are at convenient location also makes it easy to fit quality leisure time. Centrally located in the vibrant Ortigas commercial hub, the hotel is just minutes away from the Makati business district and 15 kilometers away from Ninoy Aquino International Airport. It is a short walk to the Asian Development Bank and SM Mega Mall. With the hotel's direct access to one of the most modern shopping centers in Metro Manila, Robinsons' Galleria, exciting dining and entertainment venues are right at the Forum participants' doorstep. The brochure will be released by February 2012.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- September 3-5, 2012 – Pre-Forum Workshops for CEOs, HRD, Youth and Women
- September 6-8, 2012 – Asian Credit Union Forum and International Year of Cooperatives celebration.
- September 9 - ACCU Annual General Meeting

Credit Unions Endure Effect of the Philippine Flash Flood



According to NATCCO and PFCCO, credit union members, officers and employees were among those who were badly affected by the December 17 flash flood in the Southern Philippines.

The flood in Cagayan de Oro City and Iligan City in the southern Philippines had left the entire areas completely flattened; only a few sturdy buildings remain standing, and these had sustained a lot of damage. Debris from houses, buildings and other structures that had been destroyed by the storm was all swept out to the sea, leaving huge areas devoid of all traces of habitation. As of December 22, 2012, more than 1,060 people are dead or missing and 28,030 homes have been damaged or destroyed, according to the Government. More than 43,600 people are taking shelter in 51 evacuation centers and another 266,000 people are staying with relatives or in makeshift structures. These figures are expected to rise as more information becomes available.

The two regular members in the Philippines: Philippine Federation of Credit Cooperatives (PFCCO) and National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) and Affiliate member: CARD – MRI have appealed for help to support their relief and rehabilitation efforts to save and rebuild lives of the surviving victims - credit union members, officers and staff. Help given include cash, used clothing, food, medicines, water and cooking equipment.

The National Association of Labour Banks in Japan contributed US\$ 6,326.72 for the flood victims in Asian countries. US\$ 5,300 was sent to Philippines plus US\$ 3,000 from ACCU Asia Fund for Credit Union Rehabilitation. Donations can also be sent directly to ACCU members in the Philippines.

The solidarity and cooperation of credit unions in Asia is very much needed in these trying times in the Philippines. PFCCO, NATCCO and CARD-MRI are continuing their efforts to rebuild lives of their members, staff and leaders alike. Cash donation would be very much appreciated. On how you can help – e mail: accumail@aaccu.coop.