



ASSOCIATION
OF ASIAN
CONFEDERATION
OF CREDIT UNIONS

Management Report March 2011



Credit Unions in Indonesia Sign Up for ACCESS Accreditation

Three credit unions signed up for ACCESS branding accreditation during the ACCESS Auditors Training held in Indonesia on March 27-30. The accreditation process entails an intensive technical assistance from the Credit Union Central of Indonesia (CUCO) which includes among others the training of Board and staff, deployment of business solutions, coaching, and documentation of policies and procedures. The three credit unions are now ready to invest their resources get the accreditation according to CUCO General Manager Abat Elias. Six credit unions commit to sign up at the May 2011 Annual General Meeting of CUCO.

Meanwhile, the Auditors Training prepared the technical team of CUCO as demand for accreditation and technical assistance is seen increasing in the future. In September 2010, ACCU has awarded ACCESS Bronze accreditation to three credit unions in the Philippines. Seven SACCOS (Savings and Credit Cooperatives) in Nepal are also under accreditation process.

Founding President gets tour of ACCU new Office

ACCU staff welcomed the founding President Andrew So on March 15 in the new office at U Tower building. While visiting the facility, Andrew expressed his admiration of ACCU new office. He also scanned the compilation of ACCUnews and minutes of meetings way back 1971. Adrew discussed with ACCU team his thoughts on the future of credit union development in mainland China. In 2010, Andrew facilitated the translation of the Credit Union Microfinance Innovation Training Manual in Chinese language – now sold in Chinese bookstores.



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Skills Development on CU Operation On-Going for SACUDIL Team

ACCU Chief Executive Officer and Program Assistant had a progress review and planning meeting with the team in Laos on March 20 – 23. The staff were trained on credit management that included topics on loan evaluation, delinquency control and interest calculation. At the end of the meeting, the staff came up with their annual activity plan which will serve as the basis of performance appraisal. ACCU CEO admitted that the achievements of the project would certainly depend on the project team. "Willingness to learn, work with people and seizing every opportunity to develop skills are 'must' attitude of the staff," according to the CEO. The project on the Savings and Credit Union Development in Laos (SACUDIL) supported by Agriterra has six-member team including a volunteer external advisor from the Netherlands, Caroline Mol. Starting 2011; Rabobank Foundation enters into partnership with ACCU in the project.

On the meeting with BOL on March 24, the Director of Financial Institution Supervision Department requested ACCU to train the Bank staff on credit unions and provide opportunity to learn the operations of credit unions in Thailand. Better understanding of the credit union nature would enable effective performance of the Bank's supervision staff of their role in SCUs development in Laos, according to the Director.

Agri-Finance, a Potential Collaboration between ACCU & AVRDC

The visit of Mr. Robert Holmer, Regional Director of AVRDC the 4th of March opened a window of opportunity for collaboration on Agri-Finance in line with the theme on poverty alleviation. Since AVRDC has expertise on vegetable production technologies and ACCU has credit union network with majority of its members as farmers, the two organizations have seen the potential to develop a new financial product called "Agri-Finance." AVRDC can introduce innovative vegetable farming technologies while ACCU develops the financial product. AVRDC's work can improve farmers production and develop new varieties.

AVRDC - World Vegetable Center is a nonprofit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices around the globe. AVRDC conducts research and development programs that contribute to improved incomes and diets in the developing world through increased production and consumption of nutritious and health promoting vegetables.

Updates of the 40th Anniversary Celebration

More than 350 participants from 21 countries are expected to join the celebration of the 40th year Anniversary of ACCU.

The ACCU 40th Anniversary Memoir have been completed. The book highlights the inspiring stories of ACCU and messages from Members and development partners.

Further, the preparation for the regulators conference that will be held prior to the Credit Union Convention and Anniversary (April 25-26) have been completed.

