

May 2013

Management Report



Highlights of the monthly activities of the ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN CONFEDERATION OF CREDIT UNIONS



CULROC 50th YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED: ACCU President Simon Pereira (2nd from left), CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi (extreme left) and representatives from U Life Insurance Public Co. Ltd. Managing Director Sahaphon Sangmek (center) and Thapakon (extreme right) with the President of CULROC Walis Pelin, May 25 in Taipei, Taiwan ROC. Approximately 1,000 credit union leaders attended the celebration.

Attendance at CUCO's National CU Forum Hits 700



FORUM INAUGURATION: CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi (2nd from left) with CUCO President Romanus Woga (3rd from left) and CUCO General Manager Abat Elias (extreme right) with Dignitaries at the opening of the seminar.

Considered as the most attended national gathering of credit unions in Indonesia, the National Seminar and Forum on Building Information and Communication Systems to Improve the Quality of Service of Credit Unions was attended by more than 700 credit union leaders and professionals on May 17-18 in Bandung. The seminar was followed by the General Meeting of the Credit Union Central of Indonesia (CUCO) on May 18.

ACCU CEO Ranjith Hettiarachchi presented topic on leadership. His topic dealt on the ability of a leader to motivate and influence a team to achieve a specific target and goal. He also emphasized that leadership is all about creating a vision and comprises the power to convert the vision into reality. The theme of the seminar is one of the directions the movement will be focusing in the years ahead, thus effective leadership is crucial, according to the President Romanus Woga. CUCO holds an educational seminar annually in conjunction with its General Meeting.



HOST LEAGUE: *Some attendees from PFCCO Visayas League, the host for this year's Forum and AGM at the closing program of the forum in Bohol Island, Philippines.*

PFCCO Forum Recommends AgriFinance Promotion

The presentation on AgriFinance at PFCCO Educational Forum on May 31 in Bohol, Philippines discussed the need for cooperatives to adopt a program to help farmers get out of poverty. It was highlighted that farmers are becoming more vulnerable due to climate change causing natural calamities that directly affect farmers. The attending 300 leaders and professionals of PFCCO network recognized that coops must have programs for farmers besides credit facilities. The forum recommended adoption of the credit union business solution no. 20 – AgriFinance Methodology.

Mobilization of CU E-learning Tutors Commences

While the platform for the Asian Credit Union Institute (ACUI) is being developed, ACCU has started the mobilization of tutors. ACUI is a long distance learning program that will be offered by ACCU on a fee basis. Four competency courses will be offered: Directors, CEOs, Loan Officers and Audit Committee. The tutors will serve as coach for the learners. The tutors are mobilized from among the Development Educators who have undergone the classroom training on the four competency courses, with English proficiency in both oral and written and with extensive practical experience on the subjects. The meeting with PFCCO and NATCCO tutors was held on May 31 and June 6 respectively.

Keeping Eye on SCU Computerization in Laos



ACCU Management Trainee, Vivit Chareonsin and the Technical Team from Rajeeda reviewed the implementation of accounting software by the 6 Savings and Credit Unions in Lao PDR on March 28 to May 2. The computerization that began in August 2012 ensures updated and reliable financial information is produced by the registered SCUs. The Bank of Lao PDR, the regulatory body for SCUs requires that registered SCUs are computerized. The mission assisted the SCUs resolve technical issues on the system as well as plan for the regular monitoring by the SACUDIL staff.

ACCESS Coops Continue to Serve as Models

The CEO and Manager Member Services met with the ACCESS branding team of St. Martin Credit and Development Cooperative on June 1 and Board of Directors of Parish of the Holy Cross Savings and Credit Cooperatives on June 2. Both visits were to encourage the cooperatives in maintaining standards and serve as models for the Philippine cooperatives.

St. Martin is the first to get ACCESS certification under NATCCO network while Parish of the Holy Cross SCC, under PFCCO network commences its accreditation process starting July 2013. NATCCO is currently supporting 6 coops on its accreditation process, while PFCCO has two coops.



TESTING INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTH

The internal auditor and accountant of NATCCO rechecking the computation for Net Institutional Capital.

NATCCO ACCESS Results Encouraging

The review meeting on June 3 with NATCCO ACCESS team revealed an encouraging result, first on the applicability of the diagnostic tool and second on the achievements of the standards. NATCCO volunteered as the first to implement the standardization for federation or the federation's version of ACCESS standards. Federations being standardize is strategic to the promotion of ACCESS branding to credit unions. The experience of NATCCO will be shared to other members of ACCU. It is anticipated that an audit can be carried out in 2014. NATCCO has appointed its group heads as members of the branding team.

Deployment of AgriFinance Methodology Continues



MIND MAPPING: *Participants mind mapping the sustainable credit union. (above picture)*

AGRIFINANCE ALPHABET: *Participants writing down AgriFinance alphabet to recap previous day's session.*

The three days workshop for NATCCO on June 4-6 introduced the AgriFinance Methodology to NATCCO network. In attendance were Managers and Directors of farmers' cooperatives, 4 MICOOP area managers and 4 staff of the training and consulting team of NATCCO. The methodology has now been deployed in Bangladesh, Nepal, PFCCO – Philippines, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. The AgriFinance Methodology for Credit Unions is assigned as Business Solution No. The solution recognizes that farmers are still living in subsistence economy – means their income is sufficient or sometimes not even enough to meet the basic needs. Provision of additional skills on agriculture, linkages to market and suppliers, and financial literacy education, farmers would have more opportunity to increase income and build wealth.

Registration closes on

June 30, 2013

Asian Credit Union Forum 2013

Soaltee Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu, Nepal

- *September 9 to 11 - Pre-Forum Workshops: CEO, HRD, Women & Youth*
- *September 12 - Credit Union Visits*
- *September 13 to 14 - Asian Credit Union Forum*
- *September 15 - Annual General Meeting*

Host: Nepal Federation of Savings & Credit Cooperatives Ltd. (NEFSCUN)