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April 2019



Management Report

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

Institutionalizing BDS for Members to Start, Grow and Sustain Business





The Trainers Training of Business Development Services (BDS) for CUs was attended by 32 trainers from 9 countries including Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Organized by Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) and funded by National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK), the training aimed to institutionalize BDS at the national federations and credit unions to advise unemployed women and youth members on starting and growing their business by planning, operational improvement, and product or market development.

The training helped participants to understand the importance of promoting and supporting small business to create employment for members, consequently helping in uplifting members from poverty. It also allowed them to take away the tools in transforming business ideas into reality: Startups, Launching, Managing and Growing. The presentation of the One Tumbon One Product provided insights on the growth possibilities of women enterprises for as long as BDS is providing them the much-needed guidance and information.

The participants took with them the BDS training manual, operation guidelines and action plan to institutionalize BDS and pilot entrepreneurs with growth potential. ACCU will select three countries to be piloted under the NACUFOK BDS project.

ACCU Joined CULT's Annual General Meeting



On 27 April 2019, ACCU CTO Mr. Ranjith Hettiarachchi attended the annual general meeting of Credit Union League of Thailand. In this occasion, ACCU CTO discussed on the development issues and further collaboration with ACCU partners CULT Deputy General Manager Ms. Kruewan Chonlanai, FSCT General Manager Dr. Somnuk Boonyai and FORDEC President Dr. Amporn Wattanawong.

CULT is one of the two ACCU federation members in Thailand. It was registered in 1979 and played a vital role in promoting credit union system in Thailand for more than 40 years. At present, CULT has 1,186 credit unions and saving groups within its network with 1.2 million individual members.

NATCCO Members Recognize the need for BDS



On April 28, ACCU CEO Elenita San Roque presented the need to institutionalize the Business Development Services to help members start, grow and sustain their small businesses at the educational forum of NATCCO.

Small businesses play an important role in community development and poverty elimination. Credit unions can assist by investing into lagging areas and spread the benefits of economic growth to people and places too often left behind. Through their capital investments, small businesses and micro-enterprises create jobs for the owners and others. It can also create new opportunities that promote community building and social activities in the rural and small towns.

She emphasized the connection between small businesses, economic growth and the incidence of poverty, all of which is of vital importance. Credit unions can then appreciate the significance and embrace the need to promote and support businesses of members, particularly those who are unemployed women and youth.

PFCCO Rekindles Raiffeisen Ideologies at the Forum



PFCCO held its Educational Forum on May 2 to 3 in Cebu City with the theme: Rekindling Raiffeisen's Ideology in the Hearts of Every Credit Union. ACCU CEO Elenita San Roque set the tone of the forum with her presentation of Raiffeisen Ideologies that every cooperative leader must observed. The opening program was graced by retired Philippine Chief Justice Hon. Hilario Davide, Jr. who highlighted the reasons why cooperatives are instruments of peace.

Attended by more than 300 cooperative leaders and employees across the Philippines, the topics of the forum was aimed to ignite the commitment of everyone to demonstrate the differentiation of cooperatives – as an institution that improves lives of ordinary people. The

message of the forum was clear that the role of credit union is help members gain financial independence.

ACCU Engages with SANASA Federation on Integration

The Chief Technical Officer Ranjith Hettiarachchi offered support to the SANASA Federation Team in making significant progress on the integration of the credit union network in Sri Lanka. On April 11, the CTO had a brainstorming session with the SANASA team to look into the possibility of developing an online monitoring system, policy document to develop quality board of directors, and staff.

The CTO met Dr. P.A. Kiriwandeniya on April 18 for which they discussed the need for SANASA federation to monitor and supervise primary societies. SANASA has piloted the digitalization of financial services in 100 societies. According to Ranjith, it would be a good opportunity to incorporate the supervision part in the system.



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