

April 2013

Management Report



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



Left Photo: DID's Training & Organizational Dev't. Advisor Claude Marceau (2nd from left) discussing the e-learning platform while Emilie Morissette Grégoire (3rd from left) listens. Top Photo: DID Project Director Sylvain Barrette on his visit to ACCU.

ACCU and DID Partnership Making Headway

On April 2-3 visit to ACCU, Project Director Sylvain Barrette indicated DID's commitment to work in partnership with ACCU to promote the federated system for the credit union movements in Asia. Prior to the forum in Nepal on September 9-11, DID will conduct the governance seminar for the CEOs of member organizations.

On April 22-27, DID's Training and Organizational Development Advisor Claude Marceau worked with ACCU team to develop the concept framework of the E-learning platform. ACCU is underway in offering four competency courses on e-learning: CUDCC, CUCCC, Loan officers and Audit Committee.

Starting April 16, ACCU welcomes Emilie Morissette Grégoire as DID intern for 6 months. She is working on the integration of Social Performance indicators to the ACCESS branding. After the completion of Grégoire's internship, a new intern from DID is joining ACCU team in September 2013.

REGULATOR VISIT:

Sri Lankan Coop Registrar Mr. Karunaratna (6th from left) receives token from ACCU CEO during the study visit to Thailand on April 3. He is joined by the senior officers of the Cooperative Department. Karunaratna is a member of the Asian Credit Union/Cooperative Regulators Alliance (ACCRA).





ACCESS Upholds Financial Discipline



Capital adequacy or ideal level of institutional capital of at least 10% of the total assets is the main concern of the credit unions undergoing ACCESS accreditation in Nepal as revealed in the review meetings on April 22-23. Nepal ranks number one in terms of the numbers of credit unions enrolled – 36 SACCOS. The ACCESS SACCOS has instilled financial disciplines in their operation which can guarantee for its

safety and soundness. NEFSCUN sees its future establishing the Stabilization Fund as shared with more than 100 credit union leaders and managers at a seminar held in Kathmandu on April 20. ACCU made a presentation on the concept to the fund. The cooperative registrar who was present at the seminar agreed to support the initiative of the movement by making it mandatory for SACCOS to be part of the fund.

2 SANASA Districts to Implement Consolidation Strategies

The workshop conducted by ACCU for the Monoragala and Kalmuna SANASA (credit union) districts in Sri Lanka on April 5-7 concluded to adopt a policy requiring its member credit unions to reach at least 1,000 members for its sustainability. This would also mean consolidation of small societies. Majority of the districts' 800 primary SANASA members have less than 1,000 members. The workshop was in support to the action plan of the Monoragala SANASA District Executive Director R. M. K. B. Madawala who attended the regional training on AgriFinance in January 2013. "The three days workshop was a reawakening for us

leaders of SANASA," according to Madawala. We have realized that we should put our efforts to provide financial services that meet the real needs of members, added Madawala.

"The methodology is an appropriate approach for the societies to increase their members and help farmers improve lives. Currently, farmers are living in subsistence economy," said SANASA Federation General Manager L.B. Dasanayake. Finally, the workshop adopted the AgriFinance methodology since most of the credit union members are deriving their income from agriculture.

NATCCO Forum & AGM



More than 500 cooperative leaders from all over the country met at the SMX Convention Center in Davao City on April 13 for the Coop Leaders Congress. ACCU Manager Member Services was a panellist on the topic 'federated cooperative system.' She also participated at NATCCO's MICOOP (microfinance in cooperatives) annual forum on April 9 – 10 also in Davao where she delivered a keynote on the theme Raising Mission Driven Cooperatives. More than 200 cooperative leaders and staff attended the meeting to celebrate their achievements and plan for the following year's target. The MICOOP program has an outreach of more than 90,000 poor people. NATCCO AGM on April 14 elects its Board of Directors.

Coop Retreat Examines Faithfulness to Mission Strategies

The one day Board and Management retreat for Samulco MPC and Panabo MPC in Mindanao, Philippines on April 10 and 11 examined the coop's adherence to its mission. The board's role is to ensure that all decisions taken by them are anchored on its mission – improving the lives of their members. NATCCO's Training and Consultancy team felt that the one day seminar can be conducted for cooperative Board to recheck faithfulness of their mission.



Russian Credit Unions Host the Youth Internship Program 2013



FUTURE CREDIT UNION LEADERS: Participants of 2013 Internship: Patcharin Chindasai of U Life, Thailand (standing 2nd from left), Rolita Yecla Tiedra of Panabo Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Philippines (standing in red jacket), Clyjenee Solis Dairo of Tagum Cooperative (standing 5th from right) Philippines, and K.W.Udeepa Maduranga of SANASA Sri Lanka.

The Interregional Association of Credit Unions of the Far East and Zabaikalye hosts the 2nd Youth Internship Program on April 21 – May 5, 2013 in Khabarovsk, Russia. The Philippines was the host of the first internship for two Russian young managers last August 2012. The internship program will provide young managers and senior staff of credit unions with a unique

opportunity for professional development. ACCU member organization and their network serve as host for 15 days or two weeks overseas internship. In those 15 days, the interns become immersed in the credit union and community, receiving general leadership training and learning the ins-and-outs of day to day operations.

Welcome: New Members!



Board of Directors and Committee members of the Nepal's Coop Bank

The Board of Directors of ACCU on its meeting on March 12, 2013 approved the affiliate membership of the National Cooperative Bank Ltd. of Nepal. At least 5,000 cooperatives are members of the Bank, of which 50% are savings and credit cooperatives. ACCU also welcomes the following supporter members from the Philippines: Manatal Multi-Purpose Cooperative and Lamac Multi-Purpose Cooperative.

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)