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Organization of American States

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OAS-Royal Thai Government Professional Development Scholarship Opportunities

“Grassroots Economic Development Followed Sufficiency Economy Philosophy”

OAS/DHDEC/CIR.028/2010

1) ORGANIZED BY: Thailand International Development Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand in collaboration with Kasetsart University.

2) VENUE: Kasetsart University. Faculty of Economics. 50 Phaholyothin Rd. Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand. Tel: (66-2) 579-9579, Ext. 5602. Fax: (66-2) 579-2019, Ext. 5703. E-Mail: fecocho@ku.ac.th or osdknn@ku.ac.th

3) DATES: August 16th, to September 24th, 2010

4) COURSE DURATION: Six (6) Weeks

5) LANGUAGE: English

6) MODALITY: On site

**Vencimiento de Postulación en Uruguay
Organismo Nacional de Enlace
Oficina de Becas OPP**

6 de abril de 2010

6) OBJECTIVES: The Programme is designed to:

- Provide participants with basic concepts of community-based microfinance. OTOP¹ and its implementation.
- Explain to participants the roles of community-based microfinance in generating income for poverty reduction;
- Train participants in monitoring and evaluating a community-based poverty reduction microfinance programme;
- Share experiences among countries on microfinance, OTOP strategies and practices implemented;
- Provide participants with sufficiency economy philosophy and the supporting theory of microfinance and the OTOP program as well as the economic and social contexts in which it functions



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- Explain the operational framework and mechanisms of the microfinance and OTOP program;

¹ One Tambon One Product

- Provide participants opportunities to explore with multiple case studies which illustrate the principles of microfinance and OTOP in action, following the sufficiency economy philosophy
- Train participants in an attempt to identify the determinants of success and failure of microfinance and the OTOP program OTOP.

7) COURSE CONTENT:

Part one: Community-Based Micro-Finance and Income Generation Management

- Module 1: 1.1. Introduction to Sufficiency Economy Philosophy
 1.2. Economic and Rural Development Theoretical concepts
 1.3. Financial Performance and Investment Analysis of the SHG's
- Module 2: Community-Based Microfinance concept and Practices
 2.1. Community Development Theoretical concept
 2.2. Fundamental of Community-Based Microfinance and
 Development Frameworks
 2.3. Role of the Community Based microfinance in generating income
 for poverty reduction
 2.4. Monitoring and Evaluation of Community-Based Microfinance
 Program and Case Studies
 2.5. Problems and Recommendations to the Community-Based
 Microfinance.
- Module 3: Tools and Approaches for running a successful Microfinance Organization
 3.1. Microfinance Organization Structure
 3.2. Savings mobilizations activities
 3.3. Credit Policy (allocation decision, lending portfolio and pricing)
 3.4. Credit analysis and lending procedures
 3.5. Financial records and internal auditing
 3.6. Managing cost of funds, capital liquidity
 3.7. Performance evaluation
- Module 4: Project and Program Formulation, Monitoring and Evaluation
 4.1. Participatory approach
 4.2. Problem and objective analysis
 4.3. Stakeholders analysis
 4.4. Logical framework



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Module 5: Thailand's Practice and Lesson Learned (Field Case Study)

Part Two: Grassroots Economic Development with OTOP

Module 1: Introduction of Economic and Rural Development Theoretical concepts
OTOP and sufficient Economic Philosophy

Module 2: Role of OTOP Enterprises in the Economy
2.1. Role and Contribution of SME/OTOP in Grassroots Economic
Development in the Rural Economy
2.2. Types of SME's/OTOP Groups

Module 3: Development of OTOP Business Analysis
3.1. How to Develop OTOP Enterprises or Business
3.2. Choices of OTOP Enterprises
3.3. SWOT analysis for OTOP's Barings Development and Strategic
Planning
3.4. Overall strategy for OTOP business Development
3.5. Marketing Strategies for OTOP Business

Module 4: Key Issues for Successful OTOP Operation
4.1. Innovation and Product Development for OTOP Operation
4.2. Marketing for OTOP Products
4.3. Financial Planning for OTOP
4.4. Roles of Government and Private Sectors

Module 5: Case Study and Field Trip
5.1. Case Study of OTOP Development

Country Report:

Each participant is required to prepare and submit a country report on Micro finances practices or a related issue in her/his country. The full report including an abstract should be approximately 20 pages, following the provided format and should be submitted to Kasetsrt University (**Address:** Faculty of Economics. 50 Phaholyothin Rd. Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand). This assignment should be received at least one week before the commencement of the programme.

It's strongly suggested that participants should prepare the following issues for their respective countries as follows:

A) Economic and Social development in your country

History
Current Problems
Current Policies



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B) Provision of Credit /financial resources to micro-organizations in your country:

Government Policies

Formal Institutions

Informal Institutions

C) Establishment of OTOP (SME's) in your country

Government Policies

OTOP development

Issues related to OTOP

Present situation and performance of a Micro-finance organization/project and OTOP in your country. A case study:

- Introduction
- Name of the Micro-Finance Organization/Project and OTOP
- Location
- Purpose of the organization
- Organizational structure
- Savings mobilization activities
- Credit activities
- Other activities
- Financial performance records
- Summary

8) REQUIREMENTS:

- All applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of an OAS Member state.
- Be nominated by their respective Government
- Be University graduates or have an equivalent academic background in rural development or related fields.
- Have good command of English, with documentary evidence if the language of instruction is not the native language.
- Be in good health both physically and mentally, each participant should have a health certificate provided by an authorized physician. This form is also attached together with the Nomination Form.
- **Must have health and accident insurance coverage abroad.**
- Submit a duly completed request before the deadline established by the National Liaison Office (ONE)². **The candidate is responsible for finding out the deadline set by the ONE in his/her country of residence.**

² The deadline for presentation of applications to the (ONE) differs from country to country and should therefore be confirmed with the relevant ONE in the applicant's country of origin or permanent residence.



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9) SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA:

Scholarships shall be granted based on the following criteria:

- The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;
- The financial need of the candidate; and
- An extensive and equitable geographic distribution for the benefit of all member states and that takes into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies.

10) BENEFITS:

The Government of Thailand through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Community Development Department; will provide:

- Economy class, round trip airfare transportation from point of residence to study site
- Each participant will receive a living allowance of 500 baht per day to cover meals, local transportation and other personal daily expenses.
- Accommodation
- Transportation for the authorized field trips undertaken as part of the course
- Other expenses concerning training registration and tuition
- Minor medical treatment in case the applicant becomes ill

11) RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS:

- **It is suggested that each participant should bring some pocket money (US\$100.00 approximately) to cover the expenses before the allowance is paid.**
- The selected candidates must confirm their acceptance of the scholarship award to the OAS General Secretariat Office in their respective countries and through the ONE in order for the OAS to proceed with making the necessary arrangements or, if the scholarship is refused, to appoint another candidate.
- Upon selection, candidates must accept the scholarship by confirming their availability to follow the course during the period indicated and their acceptance of the duly provided conditions of study.



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- Selected scholarship recipients are responsible for obtaining the necessary visa(s) to enter the country of study and the corresponding transit(s). The OAS will not be responsible for any costs relating to obtaining visas or transfer documentation.
- Each scholarship recipient is responsible for arriving in time for the commencement of activities on the date established by the institution offering the course or program.
- If the scholarship recipient fails to travel on the scheduled dates, or change routes, after the travel ticket has been purchased, he/she will be responsible for paying the difference in ticket costs in order to arrive at the course site in time.

12) SUBMISSION OF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Please Notice: If you were awarded an OAS Professional Development Scholarship in the past twelve (12) months or if you currently hold an OAS Scholarship for Academic Studies, you are not eligible to apply for another Professional Development Scholarship.

The Thai Fellowship Application Form for this course may be obtained from the OAS offices of the General Secretariat in the Member states or via the fellowship application page using the following link: http://www.educoas.org/Portal/dhd/becas2007/Fellowship_Application_Form%20Thailand.pdf, including all documentation required. Applications must be forwarded to the Organization of American States through the official channels established by the government of each country (ONE). **This is a mandatory requirement.**

The following is the list of National Liaison Offices (ONEs) in the OAS Member states:

<http://www.educoas.org/portal/en/oasbecas/ones.aspx?culture=en&navid=282>

Please note that the official announcement is published in the language of instruction of the course and is available via the Educational Portal of the Americas Web page at: <http://www.educoas.org>.

Any questions regarding submission of applications for this course should be sent to: PDP@oas.org



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