

An International Training Program for Trainers on

“From Sufficiency Economy to Wealthiness of the Nation”

1 – 29 September 2016

Organized by

Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand in collaboration with

Extension and Training Office, Kasetsart University, Bangkok THAILAND

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

“Sufficiency Economy” is a philosophy conceived and developed by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand over 60 years of tireless development work to improve the lives of the Thai people and bring them a genuine and lasting happiness. The goal of implementing the Sufficiency Economy is to create a balanced and stable development, at all levels, from the individual, family and community to society at large by developing the ability to cope appropriately with the critical challenges arising from extensive and rapid changes (i.e. globalization) in the socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural conditions of the world. Sufficiency Economy, however, does not reject either economic theory or economic progress. Neither does it denounce globalization, it just points the way for recovery crisis that will lead to a more resilient and sustainable economy. It is evident from the Thailand’s long experience that the Sufficiency Economy provides guidance on appropriate conduct by the populace at all levels as well as the nation in development and administration covering numerous aspects of life leading to happiness, security and stability. His Majesty’s wisdom has earned not only respect and admiration within Thailand, but also throughout the international community, where the Sufficiency Economy has been recognized as an effective approach towards sustainable development. In recent years, many developing countries have sent delegations to study His Majesty’s royal projects on alternative development to see first-hand how the philosophy can be applied.

To support the developing countries, the Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with the Extension and Training Office (ETO), Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand organize an international training program for trainers from Asia, Pacific, Africa, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean to assist developing a clear understanding of the Sufficiency Economy and the mobilization of the Sufficiency Economy to achieve sustainable development. In consequence, the participants will be able to apply the Sufficiency Economy for sustainable development in their respective countries.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the training program is to develop the capacities of the trainers from developing countries in designing the action plan for conducting training and capacity strengthening projects and activities for the personnel in the respective countries on Sufficiency Economy philosophy and the mobilization to achieve sustainable development. Specifically, at the end of the course, the participants will be able to:

1. develop a clear understanding of concepts of sustainable development and sustainable agricultural development;
2. identify the indicators to measure the sustainable development and sustainable agricultural development;
3. explain basic concept and principles of the Sufficiency Economy philosophy and its mobilization to achieve sustainable development;

4. formulate the action plan to disseminate information on Sufficiency Economy philosophy and conduct training and capacity strengthening projects and activities for the personnel in respective countries to incorporate Sufficiency Economy philosophy in the communities for sustainable development.

OUTPUTS

1. A number of trainers from FEALAC member countries on Sufficiency Economy for sustainable development;
2. A number of action plans by the participants to incorporate Sufficiency Economy philosophy in the communities for sustainable development.

TRAINING METHODOLOGIES

The course uses a variety of learning methods that facilitate the participants to prepare themselves to be trainers and information providers on the Sufficiency Economy philosophy and its mobilization for sustainable development. The interactive learning environment will be emphasized to encourage an open-minded and active participation among participants in order to develop their understanding, thinking and attitudes in incorporating Sufficiency Economy philosophy in the community for sustainable development. The methods include lecture, discussion, case study, brainstorming, group process, study visit and workshop. The participants from each country will be assigned to prepare the action plan that incorporates Sufficiency Economy philosophy in the community development and make a presentation for criticism and recommendations.

The course will be conducted in English language.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants are from FEALAC member countries. They are seniors or middle-level government officials and managers of state-owned agencies involved in poverty alleviation and sustainable development. The participants should be/have:

- a senior or middle-level government official or senior managers/executives of state-owned agencies or academics, practitioners or those preparing for managerial jobs in the near future;
- an educational background in agriculture, economics, rural development, social, environment and public policy or other relevant disciplinary areas with five (5) years of related work experience;
- functional level of written and spoken English;
- in good health to be able to attend the whole course.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

A total number of participants is 25

DURATION AND VENUE

From 1 – 29 September 2016 (29 days). The venue is the Extension and Training Office (ETO), Kasetsart University, Bangkok, THAILAND. The study visits will be at the provinces in Central, Eastern and Western Thailand.

FUNDING SOURCE

Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangkok, THAILAND

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TRAINING MODULE

There are 5 modules in this course:

- Module 1: Overview of Sustainable Development
- Module 2: Introduction to Sufficiency Economy (SE)
- Module 3: Mobilization of Sufficiency Economy to Achieve Sustainable Development
- Module 4: Study Visits and Workshop on the SE-oriented Agricultural Development
- Module 5: Action Plans by the Participants to incorporate SE-oriented Approach in the Community Development

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING MODULE

Module 1: Overview of Sustainable Development

Module 1 aims to increase knowledge of the participants in the impacts from past development and globalization to the developing countries, especially to the rural poor and smallholders. The module covers concepts of sustainable development, sustainable agricultural development and wealthiness of the nation including the indicators to measure the success of these developments. At the end of this module, the participants will be able to define what the sustainable development and sustainable agricultural development are, and which indicators to be used for measuring the success of sustainable development and sustainable agricultural development.

Module 2: Introduction to Sufficiency Economy (SE)

Module 2 aims to develop a clear understanding of the participants in the basic concept and principles of the SE philosophy which is conceived and developed by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand. The module covers a keynote address on H.M. King Bhumibol and Thais by a Privy Councilor, national economy and SE-oriented agricultural development, Royal projects and the impacts to rural and agricultural development, concepts and principles of SE approach, Thailand's experiences in conducting SE approach at the community level for sustainable development, and case studies of the effective community development in Thailand including the empowerment of farmer groups and strengthening community enterprises for rural economic development. At the end of this module, the participants will be able to explain concepts and principles of SE and the application for sustainable development.

Module 3: Mobilization of Sufficiency Economy to Achieve Sustainable Development

Module 3 aims to develop understanding and ideas of the participants in moving forward the SE approach to achieve sustainable development especially at the community level. The module covers mobilization of SE-oriented agricultural development, H. M. the King's New Theory, selective farming systems for sustainable agriculture, the role of agricultural extension and advisory systems to enhance the SE-oriented agricultural development, integration of innovation and local wisdom for sustainable agricultural development, leadership and human resource development, and the use of participatory approach in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the SE-oriented agricultural development programs and activities. At the end of this module, the participants will be able to explain how to apply the SE as a potential approach to the community development for sustainable development.

Module 4: Study Visits and Workshop on the SE-oriented Agricultural Development

Module 4 aims to facilitate learning experiences of the participants in the community development using SE as an alternative approach to sustainable development. The module encourages direct observations and discussions/dialogues between participants and resource persons and also field staff with open-minded and initiatives. Lessons learned from the organizational and field visits will be discussed, analyzed and synthesized in the workshop sessions for the appropriate application and extension of the SE-oriented development approach in the real circumstances of the villages/communities in the participants' countries. At the end of this module, the participants will be able to describe their ideas and intention to incorporate SE as a potential development approach in the community development and human resource development for productive and sustainable development.

Module 5: Action Plans by the Participants to incorporate SE-oriented Approach in the Community Development

Module 5 aims to motivate the participants in putting theory, concepts and principles of SE into practice for productive and sustainable development. The module covers a workshop for the participants to formulate action plans to incorporate SE-oriented approach in the community development in respective country with supervision and support from the resource persons. The plan can be in 2 possible strategies:

- (1) Train the trainers strategy: empowering the national/local personnel in concepts and principles of SE and the modification for sustainable development in order to promote widespread acceptance of SE as an alternative approach to sustainable development;
- (2) Community development strategy: incorporating SE-oriented approach in the community development projects and activities for productive and sustainable development. This includes the empowerment of male, female and young community members including farmer groups and networks to accomplish their goals and preferences through the integration of SE-oriented approach and local wisdom.

The participants can prepare the action plans by using one of the two mentioned strategies or both. Their action plans will be presented for discussion, comments and suggestions from the attendants and resource persons for effective performance and success. At the end of this module, the participants will have the action plans for their further action upon the completion of this training program.