

Annual International Training Courses 2014

1. COURSE TITLE

Sufficiency Economy in the Context of Agricultural Development

2. DURATION

9 days (September 21 – 30, 2014)

Closing Date for Applications: June 30, 2014

3. RATIONALE

Recent economic and financial crises that occurred in many parts of the world have prompted academics, policy makers and practitioners alike to focus their developmental efforts on a sustainable outcome rather than high growth. This concept, however, is not new as the Thais have already become familiarized with it through His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy and its application in various royally-initiated rural developmental projects, which utilize methods and technologies that are simple, affordable and practical, thereby ensuring that the people can successfully implement them to improve their livelihoods and lead their lives self-sufficiency.

Given that Thailand's strength is in agriculture and the majority of the Thais reside in rural parts of the country, a number of royally-initiated projects implemented by the Chaipattana Foundation, established by His Majesty in 1988, have focused on agricultural development to support farmers who are the country's backbone. This implementation has yielded positive results by providing Thai farmers with needed skills and practical technology to uplift their wellbeing. Moreover, practical knowledge accumulated during the Chaipattana Foundation's extensive implementation of royally-initiated projects can be adopted to benefit not only Thailand's rural community but also other developing and primarily agricultural countries. In particular, dissemination of such knowledge and technology to other ASEAN economies together with experience sharing among experts will greatly foster overall regional development consistent with the goal of the upcoming establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015.

Experiences with prior educational visits to the projects implemented by the Chaipattana Foundation have suggested that agricultural concepts and approaches in accordance with His Majesty the King's initiatives are well-received and gain high attention among foreigners. To enhance the opportunity to benefit from these valuable approaches, a training course which combines classroom-style lectures and practical hands-on experiences will provide an ideal learning platform for participants. Course content will focus on concepts and applications of His Majesty's Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy. At the same time, emphasis will also be placed on the application of Sufficiency Economy in non-agricultural areas such as natural resources development, social development and cultural conservation, which are all important foundations for sustainable development.

4. OBJECTIVES

- To promote understanding of His Majesty's Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy which has been translated to various developmental concepts and work under His Majesty's initiatives among the ASEAN community
- To foster the advancement and diffusion of technologies and knowledge as well as strengthen the long-standing friendship among ASEAN countries in line with the underlying goal of the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015

- To promote the Thais' way of life and local wisdom and expertise as reflected by His Majesty's developmental principles among the ASEAN community
- To enhance the knowledge and capability of the Chaipattana Foundation's staff in the areas of development and international collaboration

5. METHODOLOGY AND CONTENT

The training course will offer interactive, classroom-style lectures, hands-on field exercises and educational visits to the royally-initiated development projects implemented by the Chaipattana Foundation. All lectures will be conducted in English language by well-established local and international academics and experts in agricultural development studies and relevant fields.

5.1 Lectures

Lectures will be held in Bangkok on the following topics

- Royal Development Projects and the Chaipattana Foundation
- Concepts of Sufficiency Economy and Sustainable Development
- His Majesty's Agricultural Development for Sustainability through the work of the Chaipattana Foundation, including the Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy and the New Theory, agricultural technology for natural resources management based on local wisdom, and alternative energy

5.2 Hands-on Field Activities and Project Visits

Participants will be accompanied to development projects implemented by the Chaipattana Foundation. Located out of Bangkok, these key projects will demonstrate the practicality of applying His Majesty's developmental concepts to improve rural agriculture and the environment, and support self-sufficiency in rural development. They will help to promote Thailand's local wisdom and support cultural conservation. To enhance participants learning and understanding, they will also have a chance to put the knowledge gained in lectures to practice through various hands-on field activities guided by local experts. Selected project sites include:

- Ampawa-Chaipattananurak Conservation Project, Samut Songkhram
- Laem Phak Bia Environmental Research and Development Project, Phetchaburi
- Late Princess Mother's Garden Project, Phetchaburi
- Huay Sai Royal Development Study Center, Phetchaburi
- Sirindhorn International Environmental Park, Phetchaburi
- Vegetable Oil Refining and Bio-Diesel Integrated Production Plant, Phetchaburi

5.3 Country Presentations

Participants are expected to prepare a 20 minute presentation on their respective country, comprising of topics such as the country's geography, demography, culture, economy as well as other topics of interest. Style is not fixed and participants are encouraged to make their presentation light and entertaining.

6. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Twenty (20) persons from ASEAN member country and Jordan

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPANTS

- Interested agricultural practitioners, academics, key workers of rural businesses, and government officials and policy makers in relevant fields from ASEAN countries
- Ages between 25 – 50 years old
- Graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Agricultural Studies, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Management, Development Studies or related fields
- At least five years of work experience in related areas
- Good command of spoken and written English (preference will be given to participants with satisfactory English Proficiency Test Scores)

8. PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Participating countries will comprise of ten ASEAN Countries and Jordan

9. TRAINING LOCATION

Bangkok and various project sites outside Bangkok

10. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

In line with the aforementioned objectives, the expected outcomes are as follows:

- Understanding of the Chaipattana Foundation's theoretical concepts and practical knowledge of agricultural development and technology based on His Majesty's Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy
- The ability or interest to apply the concepts and practical knowledge to benefit the participants and their communities
- Successful networking among participants which will potentially lead to future regional collaboration
- Accumulation of new knowledge on agricultural development for Chaipattana Foundation's staff and Thai participants through interactions with international participants
- An opportunity for interesting and mind-broadening cultural exchanges among ASEAN participants which will lead to strengthened friendship and enhanced understanding of the regional community
- Increased recognition of the Chaipattana Foundation as a center for learning about agricultural development as well as cultural and environmental conservation
- Development of local communities around project sites

11. ASSESSMENT

The organizer will take note of continuous attendance of the lectures, stimulating discussions and participation in hands-on field exercises to determine the success of the training. Questionnaires will be given to each participant on the last day of the training and upon returning to Bangkok from the project visits.

Fellowship Arrangements:

1. Application Procedures

- Applicants interested in participating in the course must be nominated by their government and must submit three (3) completed nomination forms to the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate in their respective countries before the closing date of application.
- In general, each country may nominate up to four (4) nominees for the course. However, nomination for certain courses may be limited to one or two nominees from each country due to limited seat available for participation.
- The Royal Thai Government will inform the nominating government (or relevant authority) whether or not nominee(s) have been accepted for the course, normally three weeks before the course starts.
- Further information about training courses held under AITC can be obtained from TICA's website: <http://www.tica.thaigov.net/main>

2. Allowances and Expenses

The Royal Thai Government will be responsible for the following allowances and expenses:

- An economy class electronic ticket (e-ticket) will be issued to each participant via email. Each of the participants is not allowed to change the flights route and schedules. Participants should not buy air tickets by themselves and should be advised that if they do so, the cost cannot be reimbursed from the Royal Thai Government. The Royal Thai Government will also arrange the domestic flight in Thailand for participants, if any.
- Each participant will receive a living allowance of 500 Baht (US\$17) per day to cover meals, local transportation and other personal daily expenses. Accommodation will be arranged by the Royal Thai Government and all participants will stay at the same place. It is suggested that each participant should bring some pocket money approximately US\$100 to cover the expenses before the allowance is paid.
- Minor medical treatment will be provided for participants who become ill during their stay in Thailand.
- The Royal Thai Government will provide transportation for the authorized field trips undertaken as part of the course.

3. Regulations

Participants are required to observe the following regulations:

- Participants must only stay at the places designated by the Royal Thai Government.
- Participants must strictly attend classes as scheduled and should not change their training subjects.
- Participants must not extend the training period.
- Participants must not bring any family members with them to Thailand.
- Participants must return to their home countries after the course completion (at the date as scheduled by the Royal Thai Government).
- Participants are required to travel only on the route designated by the Royal Thai Government and must not make any alterations. Please also be informed that the maximum allowable baggage that can be loaded on flights is 20 kilograms. Participants will be responsible for any cost incurred in exceeding this limit.
- Participants must observe rules and regulations of training institute(s).
- Participants must refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain.

4. Visa Procedures

Prior to departure from their home country to Thailand, all participants must first obtain the appropriate visa from the Royal Thai Embassy or Consular representative in their countries. Presentation of the acceptance letter is required when applying for VISA. A maximum of 2,000 Baht VISA fee (approximately US\$ 60) must be paid by a participant to the Royal Thai Embassy or Consular representative. Participants must request for the original receipt which could be later on reimbursed from the Royal Thai Government upon presenting the original receipt.

Further relevant information is available at the following addresses:

Human Resource Development Bureau (HRD Branch 2)

Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency
The Government Complex
Building B (South Zone) 8th Floor,
Chaengwattana Road, Lak Si, Bangkok 10210
Tel (662)203-5000 ext 43305
E-mail: tica@mfa.go.th
Website: <http://www.tica.thaigov.net/main>

Institute

The course will be conducted by:

Office of the Chaipattana Foundation
2012 Arun Amarin Road, Bang Yikan, Bang Plad, Bangkok 10700
Tel (662) 4478585-8 Fax (662) 4478574
Contact person: Vararat Khemangkorn
Email: vararat1978@gmail.com

**An International Training Course on
“Sufficiency Economy in the Context of Agricultural Development”
21 - 30 September, 2014, Thailand**

**Organized by the Chaipattana Foundation in collaboration with
Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Day		Activities	Venue	Province
21 Sep (Sun)		Arrival and check in at hotel		Bangkok
22 Sep (Mon)	09.00-09.15	Opening remarks by Dr. Sumet Tantivejkul, Secretary-General of the Chaipattana Foundation	Hotel (indoor)	Bangkok
	09.15-09.30	Keynote speech by Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency		
	09.30-10.00	Program introduction		
	10.00-12.00	Ice-breaking activities (Break included)		
	12.00-13.00	Lunch		
	13.30-14.30	His Majesty’s Development Works and Introduction to the Chaipattana Foundation		
	14.30-14.45	Break		
14.45-15.15	Activities: Show and Tell* (2 Thai participants)			
	15.15-15.30	Wrap up and discussion		
	19.00	Welcome dinner		
23 Sep (Tue)	09.00-09.30	Day introduction	Hotel (indoor)	Bangkok
	09.30-10.30	ASEAN Context of Sustainable Development		
	10.30-10.45	Break		
	10.45-11.45	Sufficiency Economy: the Philosophy		
	11.45-13.00	Lunch		
	13.30-14.30	Show and Tell (4 participants, 2 countries)		
	14.30-14.45	Break		
14.45-15.45	Show and Tell (4 participants, 2 countries)			
	15.45-16.00	Wrap up and discussion		
24 Sep (Wed)	08.00-09.00	Check-out from hotel	Hotel (indoor)	Bangkok (Overnight in Phetchaburi)
	09.00-09.30	Day introduction		
	09.30-10.30	Sufficiency Economy: Putting the Philosophy into Practice		
	10.30-10.45	Break		
	10.45-11.45	Show and Tell (4 participants, 2 countries)		
	11.45-13.00	Lunch		
	13.00-14.30	Show and Tell (6 participants, 3 countries)		
	14.30-14.45	Wrap up and discussion		
15.00-18.00	Travel to Phetchaburi Province (Break included)			
	18.00-19.30	Dinner at Chao Lay or Pla Too restaurant		
	20.00	Check-in at hotel		
25 Sep (Thu)	09.00-10.00	Travel to the Laem Phak Bia Environmental Research and Development Project (LERD)	Laem Phak Bia Environmental Research and Development Project (outdoor)	Phetchaburi
	10.00-11.30	Introduction to LERD and Briefing on Water Resource Management (Break included)		
	11.30-12.30	Lunch		
	13.00-15.30	Tour of the project and hands-on activities on waste water treatment and garbage recycling		
	15.30-15.45	Break		
	15.45-16.00	Wrap up and discussion		
	18.00	Visit Hua Hin Night Market (optional)		

Day		Activities	Venue	Province
26 Sep (Fri)	09.00-10.00	Travel to the Huay Sai Royal Development Study Center	Huay Sai Royal Development Study Center (outdoor)	Phetchaburi
	10.00-11.00	Briefing on using Vetiver Grass to Improve Soil Quality		
	11.00-11.15	Break		
	11.15-12.15	Tour of demonstration plots		
	12.15-13.00	Lunch		
	13.00-13.30	Travel to Farmer's Learning Centers	(outdoor)	
	13.30-15.00	Briefing and on-site activities (Break included)		
	15.00-15.15	Wrap up and discussion		
	17.00	Visit Hua Hin Floating Market (optional)		
27 Sep (Sat)	09.00-10.00	Travel to the Chaipattana Vegetable Oil Refining and Bio-Diesel Integrated Production Plant	Chaipattana Vegetable Oil Refining and Bio-Diesel Integrated Production Plant (outdoor)	Phetchaburi
	10.00-11.00	Briefing on Renewable Energy Development		
	11.00-11.15	Break		
	11.15-12.15	Activities on bio-diesel oil and soap making		
	12.30-13.30	Lunch		
	14.00-15.30	Visit the Mrigadayavan Palace (former Royal Residence and tourist attraction) (Break included)		
	15.30-18.00	Travel back to the hotel, short wrap up & free time		
	18.00	Visit Plearn Wan – an outdoor shopping mall with a theme of olden days' lifestyles (optional)		
28 Sep (Sun)	07.30-08.30	Check-out from hotel	Ampawa-Chaipattananurak Conservation Project (outdoor)	Samut Songkhram (Overnight in Bangkok)
	08.30-10.00	Travel to the Ampawa-Chaipattananurak Conservation Project, Samut Songkhram Province		
	10.00-11.00	Briefing on Cultural Conservation		
	11.00-11.15	Break		
	11.15-12.15	Activities on cultural conservation e.g. Thai dessert making and Thai traditional toy making from natural materials		
	12.15-14.30	Lunch & shopping		
	13.40-16.30	Travel back to Bangkok (Break included)		
	16.30	Check-in at hotel & free time		
29 Sep (Mon)	09.00-10.30	Closing ceremony and presentation of certificates	Hotel (indoor)	Bangkok
	10.30-11.00	Break		
	11.00-12.00	Travel to the old area of Bangkok for a city tour		
	12.00-13.00	Lunch		
	13.30-15.30	Bangkok Sightseeing: Visit the Grand Palace		
	15.30	Travel back to the hotel & free time (Break included)		
30 Sep (Tue)	08.00-09.00	Check-out from hotel		Bangkok
	09.00-12.00	Bangkok Sightseeing: Visit Museum Siam (Break included)		
	12.00-13.00	Lunch		
	13.00	Travel back to the hotel for luggage pick-up and departure		

***Note:** During “Show and Tell”, participants are expected to prepare a 10-15 minute talk or performance for fellow classmates. The idea is for you to share something about yourself or your country and culture with your new friends. It can be any topic that you think is interesting and will help you get to know each other. Examples: a talk about your job or your most memorable experience, a dance, a language lesson, a short presentation about your local food or interesting tourist destination etc.

Requirements for participants

Since there are a number of outdoor physical activities and the weather can be quite hot and humid with possibly some rain, participants are expected to:

- be physically fit and healthy
- wear suitable clothing and comfortable shoes
- bring sun protection gears e.g. hats, umbrellas, sunglasses and sunscreen lotion