

Annual International Training Course 2014

1. Course Title: Sufficiency Economy: Learning Organic Agriculture by Doing

2. Duration: November 3 – 25, 2014

Closing Date for Applications: July 22, 2014

3. Background Information and Rational

The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy “stresses the middle path as an overriding principle for appropriate conduct by the populace at all levels”. “Sufficiency” means moderation, reasonableness, and the need of self-immunity for sufficient protection from impact arising from internal and external changes. To achieve this, an application of knowledge with due consideration and prudence is essential. At the same time, it is essential to strengthen the moral of the nation so that everyone adheres to the principles of honesty and integrity.

Thus, it is a very opportune time to resort to organic agriculture and / or sufficiency agriculture that promotes Sufficiency Agriculture. The expansion of sufficiency agriculture in many communities in Thailand serves as the foundation for sustainable development of the country.

Maejo University (MJU) is one of most reputable agricultural institutions in Thailand that offer study programmes and deliver research innovations focused towards development that is sustainable, sufficient and environment friendly. MJU, an agricultural-based higher educational institute, is strategized to be a leading university especially in organic agriculture, and to creation the Organic Agriculture-based Knowledge and Innovation that connects with people, communities and countries in everyday life. Furthermore, MJU has established over 20 learning centers and research achievements by the faculty members that are considered as relevant wisdom. MJU receives at least 30,000 visitors each year that observed these learning centers and therefore has the capability of giving training courses at the international level.

Objectives

The programme is designed to:

- Allow participants to expand their knowledge in Sufficiency Economy
- Enable participants to develop their knowledge in Organic Agriculture for sufficiency agriculture.
- Enable participants to share their local knowledge, culture, belief, tradition, and values.
- Encourage participants to broaden and strengthen social networks of agri- graduates.

Number of Participants: 20 persons

Qualifications

Participants for this course should:

- be nominated by their respective government;
- hold master degree with at least two years demonstrated experiences relevant to the respective topics;
- have good ability in speaking, reading and writing English;
- be between 28-50 years of age;
- 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. Pregnancy is regarded as a disqualifying condition for participation in the course.

Eligible Countries:

Asia & Middle East: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Jordan, Maldives, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste

Oceania (Pacific Islands): Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Island, Marshall Island, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu

Africa: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Sudan

Latin America & others: Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Suriname

Course Content

I. Course Outline

1. Sufficiency Agriculture and New Theory
2. Sustainable Agriculture
 - 2.1 Sustainable Agriculture
 - 2.2 Organic Livestock
 - 2.3 Organic Integrated Pest Management
 - 2.4 Organic Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
3. Highland Agriculture
 - 3.1 Soil Conservation and Agroforestry System
4. Agricultural Farming System
 - 4.1 Organic Agriculture: Horticulture / Seeds / Mushrooms
 - 4.2 Organic Agriculture: Fruits
 - 4.3 Organic Agriculture and Standard Certification
 - 4.4 Conversion to Organic Farming-Strong Organic Farmer Networks
5. Organic Agriculture
 - 5.1 Renewable Energy Technologies for Organic Farming
 - 5.2 Organic Composting
 - 5.2.1 Agricultural Waste
 - 5.2.2 Human Waste
 - 5.2.3 Liquid Organic Fertilizer Production from Organic Waste
6. Country Report
 - 6.1 Preparation
 - 6.2 Presentation
7. Course Evaluation

II. Practices

Field practices are supportive by the lecturers

- The Royal Project
- The Royal Initiatives Project
- The New Theory Project
- Organic Farms and Marketing

III. Study Trips/ Field Trips

1. Field trips to important landmarks of Northern Thailand
2. Field trips to some related agricultural learning centers in Maejo University

IV. Advance Assignments

Participants are requested to prepare a country report pertaining to the sustainable agriculture and organic agriculture in their respective countries. The report should contain:

1. Introduction
2. General information of the country
3. Historical background of the subject related to the training course
4. Existing laws and regulations concerning the subject (if any)
5. Existing problem in the applicant's section
6. Future programme / project on related subject

The report should be approximately 10 pages of A4 size paper long. The typed country report should be submitted beforehand and subjected to add apply their learning experience during the training course to the training organization in duplicate or sent to the e-mail address

(See Further Information and Contacts section for details). Each participant will be allocated 10 minutes for presentation of his/her report and a few minutes for comment and discussion.

Fellowship Arrangements

1. Application Procedures

1.1 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.

1.2 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.

1.3 The Royal Thai Government will inform the nominating government (or relevant authority) whether or not nominee(s) have been accepted for the course, normally four weeks before the course starts.

1.4 Further information about training courses held under TICA can be obtained from TICA's website: <http://www.tica.thaigov.net>

2. Allowances and Expenses

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

2.1 An economy class electronic ticket from an appropriate international airport to Bangkok will be sent to each participant by a representative of the Thai Airways International, or through the National Airline Office in the participant's country. A return electronic ticket will be issued to each participant one week before the course ends and 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 for participants, if any.

However, those participants who are from Brunei Darussalam, Oman, Republic of Korea and Singapore, the round trip international travel cost will be responsible by their respective country.

2.2 Each participant will receive a living allowance of 500 baht 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.

2.3 Minor medical treatment will be provided for participants who become ill during their stay in Thailand.

2.4 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:

- 3.1 Participants must only stay at the places designated by the Royal Thai Government.
- 3.2 Participants must strictly attend classes as scheduled and should not change their training subjects.
- 3.3 Participants **must not** extend the training period
- 3.4 Participants **must not** bring any family members with them to Thailand
- 3.5 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 fly 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
- 3.6 Participants must observe the rules and regulations of training institute(s)
- 3.7 Participants must refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain
- 3.8 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\$ 58) 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:-

I. Human Resource Development Bureau (HRD Branch 2)

Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
 The Government Complex
 Building B (South Zone), 8th Floor,
 120 Moo 3 Chaengwattana Road, Laksi District,
 Bangkok 10210, Thailand
 Tel.: (662) 282 1302, 281 2747
 Fax: (662) 282 8798
 E-mail: tica@mfa.go.th
 Website: <http://www.tica.thaigov.net>

II. The course will be conducted by:

International Affairs Division,
 Maejo University
 Sansai, Chiang Mai 50290
 THAILAND
 Tel.: (66 53) 873188, 873118
 Fax: (66 53) 873181
 E-mail: inter-a@mju.ac.th
 Asst. Prof. Yongyooth Srigiofun, Ph.D.
 Website: <http://www.mju.ac.th>