

**Thailand AERA Quarterly Activities Report #7**  
**April – June, 2001**  
 July 15, 2001  
**Accelerating Economic Recovery in Asia (AERA)**  
**A US Government Funded Program**  
**through the**  
**US Agency for International Development**  
**(USAID)**  
 Compiled by Paul Wedel KIASIA Coordinator for AERA  
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Cooperative Agreement #442-A-00-99-00072-00 ANE to Kenan Foundation Asia



## Executive Summary

### **Business Advisory Center and Thailand Volunteer Consulting Service**

By the end of the quarter, the BAC worked on more than 200 projects with over half now successfully completed with consultants from the BAC, from the TVCS and from American private voluntary organizations.

An improved project follow-up process was initiated to better track project outcomes. Initial results of these follow-up contacts three months and six months after project completion indicate that BAC clients are experiencing good results.

Internal reorganization was undertaken to improve marketing and team performance.

### **Bank Training Program**

During this quarter, the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives training program on “Responsibility Accounting” was underway. This project is expected to be completed by September.

Four new proposals were approved by the Working Committee. Requests for proposals on these four plus Krung Thai Bank were issued to 19 vendors and bids are being received. Awards are expected to be made and contracts completed by the end of August.

An outside survey of BTP customers gave high ratings for both training programs and staff coordination.

### **Business Support Organizations Partnerships Program**

In this quarter, the AERA Working Group Committee approved seven new large grant projects. Three small grant projects were also approved during the quarter. The new large grant projects include:

- (1) *Building Capacity and Professional Standard for Property Valuation in Thailand* – to develop a single standard, code of ethics and its audit manual for Thai valuation profession;
- (2) *Thai Bond Market Development* – to develop the bond market in Thailand;
- (3) *Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation* – to promote a new Business Secured Transaction Law and to prepare the establishment of a Registry Office in Thailand;
- (4) *Community Leadership Training Program* – to promote good community leadership throughout Thailand;
- (5) *Mediation Center for Financial Disputes Program* – to enhance the capabilities of mediators, financial advisors, and staff of a new Mediation Center for Financial Disputes;
- (6) *Organic Inspection Training Program* – to develop the organic crops inspection process in Thailand; and

- (7) *Productivity and Workplace Improvements* – to improve the professional skills of the regional officers of the National Institute for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment (NICE)

Three small-grant projects include:

- (1) *BMA – Thai BDC Partnership* – to build partnership between Thai Bond Dealing Centre and the Bond Market Association in the U.S.
- (2) *International Pension Exchange Program* – to educate the Government Pension Fund of Thailand on pension fund management
- (3) *Thai Telecommunication Development* – to set up regulatory procedures for Thai National Telecommunications Commission.

Accordingly, a total of twenty-one projects have now been approved for AERA funding.

### **Border Action Against Malaria**

During the reporting period from April to June 2001, major activities implemented included:

- A planning workshop and initial teacher training workshops for 131 primary education officials (teachers, principals, provincial and district primary school education supervisors) from 22 schools in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces participating in the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject.
- Implementation of a Life skills Measurement Tool to determine the baseline status of basic psycho-social competencies for primary school pupils in grades 4-9 in 22 schools in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces participating in the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject.
- Focus group discussion workshops in Chantaburi Province to study the malaria transmission situation among high-risk forest-related occupation groups in Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts as input into formulation of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach for malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.
- Consultations with public health officials in Chantaburi Province regarding potential collaboration for capacity building of Cambodian public health officials and volunteers to enhance control of malaria and other infectious diseases on the Thai-Cambodian border.
- Training on microscopic diagnosis of malaria parasite and *in vitro* sensitivity study for 35 laboratory staff from border hospitals, laboratory and technical staff from the Malaria Division and Vector Borne Disease Control Offices 1-5.
- Implementation of a study on *in vitro* sensitivity for the currently used antimalarial drugs in 9 border provinces under the national malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative.
- Consultations to explore the potential for local commercial production of rapid diagnostic tests with the Malaria Division, Mahidol University, AFRIMS, and WHO.
- Consultations with the Border Patrol Police Command Center regarding replication and expansion of a WHO-funded pilot project to provide rapid diagnosis and

treatment to populations in remote villages located in highly malarial border areas along the Thai-Burma border.

- Site visits along the Thai-Burma border from Mae Hong Son to upper Chiang Mai District to identify potential sites for expanded coverage of community-based interventions focused on cross-border movement of high-risk populations.
- Participation in Asian Collaborative Network for Training on Malaria annual Partners' Meeting and WHO Mekong Roll Back Malaria Initiative meeting by BAAM Project Director Dr. Damrong Boonyoen and Project Coordinator James Hopkins.
- Consultations regarding future directions of BAAM with officials of USAID/Washington and representatives of U.S. Pharmacopeia, Medical Sciences for Health, the Millenium Alliance (INMED), and the Kenan Institute in Washington.

### **Labor Standards Development Project**

The Labor Standards Development Project set up a comprehensive database for further training, dissemination of information and workshops. The Project provided presentations on social auditing principles, held a training course on occupational health and safety, and participated in two factory audits of Labor Standards.

The LSDP prepared applications for certification as an approved auditor of one Labor Standard and one Code of Conduct.

### **Constitutional Education for Citizens Active Participation Project**

The American Center for Labor Solidarity reports that since the CE-CAP project began in August, 2000 all preparation stages have been completed and constitutional education sessions have begun. Preparation included:

- 1) hiring staff and setting up the project office
- 2) holding consultation with prominent citizens and experts in the North, the Northeast and the East regions
- 3) holding launch seminars on the project in those three regions and then a national launch seminar in Bangkok
- 4) contracting research on the base line of constitutional knowledge which showed that the level of knowledge was low among all surveyed groups
- 5) conducting focus sessions to explore constitutional knowledge issues more deeply
- 6) drafting the Constitutional Education curriculum
- 7) training the trainers for the project

With these preparations successfully completed, CE-CAP the first 12 two-day training sessions of a total of 80 sessions planned for the project.

### **Promoting Good Governance Project**

During this reporting period, sub-grantees of The Asia Foundation implemented their various sub-projects. In several cases, initial optimism by sub-grantees on their capacity

to implement counter corruption activities have been tempered by a variety of obstacles. In all cases, however, in consultation with the Foundation, sub-grantees have refined their strategies and work plans to address unforeseen difficulties, as well as pursue unforeseen opportunities. As a result, all projects are working toward achievement of their fundamental goals and objectives. Almost all project funds have been obligated and all major project activities for this 18-month project are underway. The Foundation has earmarked funds for two workshops which will be held during the second project year to disseminate the results of two major research projects coordinated by the National Counter Corruption Commission. A small reserve will be used to enhance another research project.



## **Business Advisory Center and Thai Volunteer Consulting Service**

### **Marketing Activities**

The Business Advisory Center (BAC) presented the Country Competitiveness concept utilizing a Cluster Approach to a large group of “Bangmod” alumni during an annual homecoming event at the King Mongkut Institute-Thonburi campus in April. We also presented our services to these engineers, some of whom are SMEs business owners. The presentation successfully produced a good number of applications for assistance.

An interested alumnus invited us to give a presentation on “How to Plan Your Business like a Professional” to a group of Concrete Product Manufacturer Association members in May. We presented a concise version of Business Plan Writing to the group of approximately 25 SMEs business owners. Nearly half of the businessmen applied for our assistance. We were also requested to conduct a full-scale training workshop on Business Plan Writing to the same group at a later date.

### **Seminars/Workshops/Presentations**

Although the primary purpose of seminars and training workshops is to educate Thai SMEs on various business topics fundamental to their ability to manage their businesses successfully and competitively a secondary purpose is to attract new clients. This worked very well with the seminars we organized during the quarter.

A 3-day workshop on financial management was successfully organized for SMEs owners on three consecutive Fridays in May (11, 18, and 25). The course covered financial statement analysis, cash flow analysis, working capital management, and long term financial planning. The highly qualified speakers included Dr. Angkarat Priebjriwat of NIDA, Deputy Professor Pongchitima Hintao of Thammasat University, Khun Yuth Vorachathan of MAI, and Khun Vudhinanda Kumpong of the Bank of Thailand.

The BAC and the Mall Asia Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the C.P. Group, which operates the Giant Mall in Shanghai, China, organized a seminar titled "China - Golden Opportunities and Penetration Strategies for Thai SMEs" on June 26. The seminar was designed to educate Thai SMEs on new business opportunities in the Chinese market, how to penetrate the market, and appropriate strategies for entering the market.

Both seminars were successful in attracting new clients for consulting projects.

### **Projects**

At the end of the seventh quarter of operations, the BAC has developed approximately 200 projects representing approximately 180 companies in all industries. Of these, 109 projects have been successfully completed. A total of 68 projects benefited from the services of American volunteer experts while 27 projects utilized Thai volunteer experts. In addition to developing, facilitating and tracking the above projects, BAC staff consultants provided consulting services on their own to 58 in-house projects.

Approximately 55% of our clients are medium sized, 40% small enterprises and 5% larger entities. The majority of them (over 80%) are located in Bangkok and the vicinity while the remaining are from upcountry. Most SMEs who required assistance from American VEs needed help with operations (55%) and international marketing (18%) while Thai experts are also required in the area of operations (27%), when language does become an issue, and also in accounting (18%). BAC consultants, on the other hand, find their skills to be more useful to the clients in marketing (26%) and IT (19%). Although these SMEs come from almost every industry we find them to represent more manufacturing firms (almost 20%), services companies (16%) and food/beverages enterprises (12%).

## **Cluster Development**

The BAC met with UNIDO staff in Bangkok in May to exchange ideas about cluster development and seek cooperation. As a United Nation agency, UNIDO is actively involved in cluster formation projects in developing countries around the World. They agreed to help arrange a trip for key BAC staff to India to observe active industrial clusters. The trip should prove very useful to the BAC to learn first hand how clusters are developed and fostered in a developing country. We plan to use this experience to improve our approach to developing similar industrial clusters in Thailand.

In late May, key cluster project staff traveled to Chiang Mai to attend a series of cluster kick-off meetings organized jointly by C4C, a partner who worked closely with the BAC and JE Austin during the initial cluster concept presentations, and the Chiang Mai Chamber of Commerce for ceramic product, food processing and tourism SMEs. The meetings were led by Mr. David Flood, JE Austin's cluster project leader in Sri Lanka. The participants were led to identify their industry's megatrends, key success factors contributing to the success of the World's leading competitors. They then rated themselves against the identified top competitors in each of these megatrends. In the actual cluster workshops these exercises were to be based on actual market research and benchmarking data. The discussion leader then worked with the group to break down the megatrends into workable components for the participating firms to work on improving the group's strategy. The BAC will work closely with these potential clusters to fulfil their dream of creating a Lanna (Northern Thai) cluster.

## **Internal Processes**

The BAC reorganized its structure in June to increase capability both to recruit clients and to handle more consulting projects and training workshops. An Assistant Marketing Consultant position was added to provide the Marketing Consultant with required support to carry out the planned marketing activities. The consulting teams were redesigned to increase capability. The Senior Consultant title was changed to Team Leader to reflect team management responsibility of the position while the Senior Consultant title is now used for a consultant with more seniority and experience. Another Consultant position was added to each team to bring each team's capacity to 1 Team Leader, 1 Senior Consultant and 6 Consultants. A special project team comprising

a Project Leader and a Consultant was created to manage the cluster development project.

In our effort to continuously improve our consultants' skills, we organized an in-house training on Quality Management in June with cooperation from Anand Rathi Advisors (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and its strategic alliances, Moody International (Thailand) Co., Ltd., Bisman International Co., Ltd., and Techno Solutions (India) Co., Ltd. The training focused on quality management issues relating to the SMEs to provide background information for our consultants to better work with our clients with problems in this area.

To put in place a mechanism to measure our project success, the BAC implemented a three and six-month follow-up program. The first results of this program have been arriving and are showing that many companies are showing significant benefits from BAC services. One such company is a manufacturer of plastic bags. The production manager writes, "I now have confidence that I can increase production output from our existing machinery. Output has increased from 130 tons per machine to 150 tons per machine and we have been able to reduce inventory from 90 tons to 80 tons. We have begun utilizing a computer program to reduce bottlenecks in production and now control every product part with a production number, resulting in 100% work-in-process accuracy and a 50% reduction in work-order processing time. Other measurable results include a reduction in cost/unit of 4%, a 70% reduction in backlogged orders, a 6% increase in sales/employee, and a 15% improvement in units produces/employee." The client rated our assistance as 'outstanding' in a number of areas. The BAC hopes that this follow-up program will improve consultants' ability to both market successes and improve on existing services.

We have been able to provide direct consulting assistance to roughly 100 SMEs a year and provide management knowledge through 12 seminars and training workshops for approximately 1,300 SME executives and owners since our inception. With only about 100 completed consulting projects toward the end of our 2<sup>nd</sup> year in operations, the reach and the impact of our program cannot yet be considered substantial.

Our joint research effort with Thammasat University at the end of year 2000 found Thai SMEs need most assistance in the areas of financing and management assistance in all functional areas. While the BAC cannot provide financing itself, it can help companies prepare business plans, improve operations and upgrade accounting systems so they qualify for financing from other sources. BAC is working to develop agreements with financing sources that will enable BAC to be more helpful to clients in need of financing.

## **Bank Training Program**

### **Ongoing Projects**

DAI was awarded the contract for training the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives on the topic of “ Responsibility Accounting”. The program was delayed due to a scheduling conflict; the actual starting date was postponed to May and is expected to be completed by September. Participants in the program comprise 20 senior executives, 60 branch vice presidents, and 300 branch managers. The sessions will include both managerial and financial accounting system.

### **Approved Projects**

Four proposals were submitted by the commercial banks and all were approved by the AERA Working Committee:

- “Risk Management Implementation” by the Bank of Ayudhaya
- “Control Self Assessment” by the Thai Military Bank
- “Debt Restructuring” by the Thai Bank
- “Risk Management for Executive” by the Siam Commercial Bank

### **Bidding Process**

KIAsia is managing the vendor selection process itself in the Year 2 program. Krung Thai Bank's proposal, which was approved last November, will also be included for vendor selection as well. Five requests for proposals (RFPs) were distributed to 19 vendors. The vendors include local firms, local firms with U.S. partners and the firms in USAID’s SEGIR indefinite quantity supplier program. The Selection Committee is made up of the President and Associate Director of KIAsia, a BTP Project Manager and Bank representatives. It will select and notify the workshop providers by the end of August. This means that the BTP training process will be commencing from September onward.

### **Project Assessment**

KIAsia contracted an outside evaluator to survey AERA clients to assess the technical services provided under AERA program. The objective of this client survey is to provide feedback to the project managers in order to incorporate the necessary adjustments and improvements that will enable the program to achieve its goals. The overall assessment of the bank training programs by 32 respondents rated 53 % of the training as “good” and 34% gave it an “acceptable” rating . The BTP coordinator received high rating for its coordination and support activities from the nine respondents.

## Business Support Organizations Program

### Projects Approved for Funding

The BSOP has been concentrating on projects which develop and promote good governance, transparency, business structural reform, ethics, deepening of financial reform, and international competitiveness. The AERA Working Group Committee has approved seven new large grant projects on May 29, 2001. Three small grant projects have been also approved. Totally, twenty- one large and small grant projects have been approved and are underway.

### New Large-Grant Projects Approved

1. *Building Capacity and Professional Standards for Property Valuation in Thailand (\$78,000)*

The Appraisal Foundation of the United States will provide technical assistance to Thailand's Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) to develop a single standard code of ethics and an audit manual for Thai valuation profession. A single, neutral standard code of ethics and audit manual for supervision will improve the transparency and accuracy of appraisals and will have a positive impact on financial and capital markets sector. The project will help enhance Thailand's financial governance in long term.

2. *Thai Bond Market Development (\$30,334)*

The Bond Market Association (TBMA) of the United States will provide technical assistance to the Thai Bond Dealing Centre (Thai BDC) to develop the bond market in Thailand. The program includes four components as follows:

- (1) Visiting program – Three Thai BDC staff will visit TBMA in the U.S. to learn more about how TBMA services its members and to develop a long-term relationship with TBMA.
- (2) Development of the Repurchase Agreement (Repo) market – the U.S. expert from TBMA will provide technical assistance to develop Repo market in Thailand, especially at the implementation level.
- (3) Translation and adaptation of materials – TBMA will provide the pamphlets on investor's guide to the Thai BDC to translate and adapt into the Thai context.
- (4) Conference on Securitization – a conference on securitization led by a TBMA expert will be delivered to educate bankers, dealers, regulators, investors, and corporate issuers to gain more knowledge on various choices for fund raising alternatives.

3. *Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation (\$52,196)*

This program aims to promote the implementation of the new Secured Transaction Law among Thai judges, lawyers, business people, administrators and related persons to have a better understanding of the law and the system of operating the Registry Office. The program will include two components: (1) Education component, and (2) Visiting component. US experts from the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) will provide technical assistance to the Office of the Court of Justice

(OCJ) to promote the law and to deliver a seminar on Business Secured Transaction Law in Thailand. In addition, four Thai senior officials and judges who are involved in establishment of the Registry Office will visit the Registry Offices in the U.S. to have a better understanding of the system and procedures of the Registry Offices in the U.S., which can be adopted to the Thai context.

4. *Community Leadership Training Program (\$55,754)*

The Community Leadership Association (CLA) will join with the Institute for Management Education for Thailand Foundation (IMET) to conduct a train-the-trainer program on community leadership in Thailand. The train-the-trainer program aims to introduce IMET's volunteers to the idea of community leadership and the methods to educate provincial businessmen and local leaders to be good leaders in their communities. The training materials provided by the CLA will be adapted to the Thai context. On completion of the-train-the trainer component, the pilot training programs on community leadership will be delivered through the provincial Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) and the Thai Chamber of Commerce (TCC) in the Nation's four regions.

5. *Mediation Center for Financial Disputes Program (\$71,847)*

The American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) will provide technical assistance and training to enhance the efficiency and capabilities of a new-established Mediation Center for Financial Disputes (MCFD), including its mediators, financial advisors, and staff. The program will include three components:

- (1) Training for Mediators and Financial Advisors – The ABI training team will conduct two three-day training courses for a total of 100 mediators and financial advisors to give them a better understanding of the role of MCFD and specific mediation skills. The training materials provided by ABI will be adapted to the Thai context.
- (2) Train-the-trainers Component – Twenty of the trained mediators and financial advisors from the first training course will be selected by the instructor's evaluation to participate in a three-day train-the-trainers component to become trainers for MCFD. These trainers are to pass on their newly acquired knowledge on financial disputes to mediators throughout the country.
- (3) Mediation Mentorship on the U.S. – Four MCFD officials will receive two-week on-the-job training in the U.S. organized by the ABI. The MCFD official will learn options for administering and managing the Center.

6. *Organic Inspection Training Program (\$25,600)*

The Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) will join with the Department of Agriculture (Thai DOA) to develop the organic crops inspection process in Thailand, and to conduct a training program for Thai government officers to learn the methodologies to inspect organic crops in accordance with the international best practices. In addition, a one-day seminar will be delivered to provide the information on organic crops principles, to introduce international organic crops standards and the Thai standard, and to review market trends of organic crops in international markets.

7. *Productivity and Workplace Improvements (\$30,510)*  
With BSOP support, U.S. experts from the Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) and the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) will come to Thailand to conduct a specialized train-the-trainer program on “Productivity and Workplace Improvements” to improve the skills of the regional officers of the National Institute for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment (NICE).

## **II. New Small-Grant Project Approved**

1. *BMA – Thai BDC Partnership*

Under the BSOP support, Mr. Michael Decker, Vice President of The Bond Market Association (TBMA) of the United States, visited Bangkok between April 1- 6, 2001 to meet with the Thai Bond Dealing Centre (Thai BDC), regulators, and dealers in the Thai bond market. The purpose of his trip was to begin building a sustainable partnership with the Thai BDC. Mr. Decker's consultation also gave Thai BDC and other players in the Thai bond market a better understanding of current international practices for bond market development.

2. *International Pension Exchange Program*

The BSOP provided financial support to the U.S. experts from leading U.S. Fund Institutions to conduct a public seminar for 200 Thai government and private sector managers on "World Class Fund Management" in Bangkok, and to advise the Thai Government Pension Funds (GPF) on fiduciary duties and operational procedures. The U.S. delegates included Mr. Robert Maynard, Chief Investment Officer of the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho, Ms. Diane Mayers, Executive Director of the Pacific Pension Institute, and Ms. Maureen Westgard, Deputy Director of the Washington State Department of Retirement.

3. *Thai Telecommunication Development Project*

The BSOP provided financial support to five telecommunications officials from the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD), Communication Authority of Thailand (CAT) and Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) attended the Asia Telecom Policy Workshop in Jakarta between June 18-21, 2001. The workshop aimed to promote the sharing of information and experiences among regulatory and policy officials, and telecommunication technical experts in Southern Asia through panel discussions and workshop. In addition, with the BSOP support, Mr. William Garrison, a U.S. telecommunication expert, came to Thailand to provide technical assistance to PTD to develop project to set up regulatory procedures for Thai National Telecommunications Commission. This is seen as a first step in a program to help with the regulation and privatization of the Thai telecommunications center through partnerships with relevant US organizations.

Ongoing Activities: please see the attached BSOP matrix.

## Border Action Against Malaria

The Border Action Against Malaria Project (BAAM) works with a broad national coalition to slow the emergence and spread of multi-drug resistant malaria in Thailand's border areas. The program is developing new models of cooperation and partnership, particularly with community organizations, to monitor and respond to the threat that such resistant strains will spread, not only in Thailand, but also across the region.

### Project Activities During the Reporting Period

This quarter marked the shift from the *pre-implementation phase* (awarding of subgrants and provincial orientations) to the *operational phase* -- initiation of full implementation of interventions in sites selected for initial pilot work. Major activities implemented included the following:

**Planning workshop and initial teacher training workshops on the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject:** 131

primary education officials (teachers, principals, provincial and district primary school education supervisors) from 22 schools in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces participating in the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject received initial training on studying communities, conducting a participatory baseline assessment of indigenous knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to malaria, case study approach for discovery learning, life skills education for behavior change, curriculum analysis for using a thematic integration approach, and developing teaching plans for a local curriculum unit on malaria education.

**Implementation of a Life skills Measurement Tool:** With technical support and teacher training provided by the Northern Regional Health Promotion Center No. 10, pre-test surveys were conducted to determine the baseline status of basic psycho-social competencies for primary school pupils in grades 4-9 in 22 schools in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces participating in the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject.

**Focus group discussion workshops:** Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 conducted FGDs with more than 200 villagers in Chantaburi Province to study the malaria transmission situation among high-risk forest-related occupation groups in Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts as input into formulation of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach for malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.

**Training on microscopic diagnosis of malaria parasite and in vitro sensitivity study:**

The Malaria Division conducted training for 35 laboratory staff from border province hospitals, laboratory and technical staff from the Malaria Division and Vector Borne Disease Control Offices 1-5 on microscopic diagnosis of malaria parasites and in vitro study protocol procedures for implementation of the *in vitro* sensitivity study of resistance to antimalarial drug treatment regimens.

**Implementation of study on in vitro sensitivity:** Under the BAAM supported national malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative, study of *in vitro*

sensitivity to the currently used antimalarial drugs treatment regimens began in 9 border provinces.

**Consultations to explore the potential for local commercial production of rapid diagnostic tests:** BAAM organized consultations with the Malaria Division, Mahidol University, AFRIMS, and WHO regarding promotion of local commercial production of malaria dipstick tests for use in the Mekong subregion.

**Consultations with the Border Patrol Police Command Center:** BAAM held consultations with the Border Patrol Police regarding replication and expansion of a WHO-funded pilot project to provide rapid diagnosis and treatment to populations in remote villages located in highly malarious border areas along the Thai-Burma border by BPP teachers. It was agreed to proceed with a planning workshop in the next quarter.

**Exploration of potential sites for expanded coverage of community-based interventions:** Project Coordinator James Hopkins accompanied a WHO-Ministry of Public Health team on site visits along the Thai-Burma border from Mae Hong Son to upper Chiang Mai Province to identify sites for expanded coverage of community-based interventions focused on cross-border movement of high-risk populations.

**Partnering and Collaboration:**

- BAAM Project Director Dr. Damrong Boonyoen and Project Coordinator James Hopkins participated in the Asian Collaborative Network for Training on Malaria annual Partners' Meeting and the Mekong Roll Back Malaria Initiative meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in May 2001.
- Project Coordinator James Hopkins held consultations regarding future directions of BAAM with officials of USAID/Washington and representatives of U.S. Pharmacopeia, Medical Sciences for Health, the Millenium Alliance (INMED), and the Kenan Institute in Washington.

**Major Activities Planned for the Next Quarter**

Major activities planned for the next quarter from July to September 2001 include the following:

- Training on *in vivo* therapeutic efficacy assessment of antimalarial drugs for medical doctors and responsible staff at selected hospitals, malaria staff in Malaria Division and VBDOs 1-5 at 9 provincial border study sites.
- Implementation of study on *in vivo* therapeutic efficacy assessment for first line treatment regimens of antimalarial drugs at 9 provincial border study sites.
- Implementation of a study on *in vitro* sensitivity for the currently used antimalarial drugs in 9 border provinces under the national malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative.
- Teacher training workshops on data collection regarding malaria knowledge, attitudes, and practices under the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria subproject.
- Participatory action research planning workshop in Chantaburi Province to test interventions for malaria control among high-risk forest-related occupation groups

in Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts for a community-based approach for malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.

- Planning workshop with Border Patrol Police on lessons learned for replication and expansion of the WHO-funded pilot project to provide rapid diagnosis and treatment to populations in remote villages located in highly malarious border areas along the Thai-Burma border by BPP teachers.
- Consultations on key issues and potential BAAM support for interventions/studies on drug quality and drug use practices as an expanded function of the national malaria drug resistance sentinel surveillance network.





## Labor Standards Development Project

The Labor Standards Development Project has built upon the linkages created during recent seminars and workshops by establishing a comprehensive database. This database will serve a series of follow-on projects related to the development of labor standards in Thai SMEs. These programs will be supported by the skills acquired by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare in the first year of the program. In its next phase, the LSDP will focus on providing occupational health/safety labor standard consulting to SME factories. In addition, we are sponsoring further training and workshops for government officials, industry associations and universities.

The following activities were conducted in the quarter:

- 1) The Deputy Project Manager of the LSDP spoke at the SA8000 Compliance Conference in Shenzhen, China at the invitation of Social Accountability International (SA8000). The LSDP presentation was based on social auditing principles for the manufacturing sector developed by KIAAsia with support from the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise in Washington.
- 2) Industrial hygiene experts Dr. Lori Todd, Perry Logan and Nelson Couch provided an intensive training course in occupational health and safety to representatives from the Thai Garment Manufacturers Association, US buyers and Mahidol University. This program provided beneficial information to stakeholders and stimulated discussion between the US buyers and Thai manufacturers. The seminar had over 50 participants in attendance.
- 3) In an effort to establish stronger ties with students, academics and executives in the Northeast Region, Ambassador William Itoh and William Garrison of the Kenan Institute in Washington were guest lecturers at the Executive MBA Program at Khon Kaen University, School of Business. The Deputy Project Manager of the LSDP presented information on labor standards and export markets. The Kenan representatives discussed future links with top university officials. We hope to establish strong ties with the university in order to involve them in auditing efforts to upgrade working conditions in the Northeast region.
- 4) The LSDP Support Team participated in two SA8000 factory audits as observers in cooperation with Bureau Veritas Quality International (BVQI). The presence of KIAAsia staff reinforced the quality of the audits and provided valuable experience for our team members. KIAAsia is utilizing the experience gained to launch a subsidized consulting service to SMEs.

## **Constitutional Education for Citizens Active Participation Project** (Report by the American Center for Labor Solidarity)

The American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) initiated its Constitutional Education for Citizens Active Participation (CE-CAP) project on August 2, 2000. The first month was spent setting up the office<sup>1</sup>, hiring the full complement of staff to assist CE-CAP Program Director Bunjong Siri, and finalizing the board of advisors to the project. The first meeting of the CE-CAP Advisory Committee was held on September 17, 2001, at the offices of the Election Commission of Thailand (ECT). Broad support for the project was voiced by committee members including the representative of the Civil Service Commission, academic advisors, NGO leaders, and trade union representatives. Later during the quarter, a representative of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare was added at the initiative of CE-CAP.

During the second half of September, ACILS/CE-CAP conducted internal planning to develop the yearly action plan required by USAID as part of the grant agreement. This planning exercise helped orient the staff to the task ahead, and prioritize objectives and activities accordingly. The action plan was sent to the CE-CAP Advisory Committee, and comments were received from several members which were helpful and incorporated into the plan. Outreach efforts began immediately to key representatives of the four target groups to be reached by the project: labor, women's organizations, community organizations/NGOs, and farmers/agricultural cooperatives groups

### **Consultation Meetings**

The project then initiated its round of consultation meetings. The first consultation meeting was held in Chiang Mai on October 17, 2000, and was attended by 41 persons (24 men, 17 women). The seminar was opened by Senator Police General Sawat Amornwiwat (Chiang Mai), who spoke at length about the importance of popular education for citizens on the Constitution and laws. ACILS country representative Philip Robertson explained the project and its goals. Following the morning break, a panel of representatives composed of representatives from each of the four target groups spoke about their issues, ideas, and problems, and related this to how the Constitution of 1997 could assist them. The panel consisted of Mr. Sommai Onumpai, Vice-President of the EGAT Workers Union based in Lampang (labor); Ms. Seenouan Dengkamda, President of the Women & Children Project in Lamphun (women); Mr. Samart Pudtha, President of the Lampang Community Savings Group (community), and Mr. Sanguan Pongmanee, a former Constitutional Drafting Assembly member from Lampang. Independent academic and activist Ms. Yupa Poosa-aht facilitated the panel's presentation and the lively engagement with the participants that followed. In the afternoon, representatives from each of the groups broke into small work groups to discuss the problems that their constituents faced, and the role that the Constitution of

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<sup>1</sup> CE-CAP's address is Kasemkij Building, 120 Silom Road, Suite 706, Bang Rak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand. Tel: (66-2) 237-2590-2, fax 237-2592.

1997 could possibly have helped solve those problems. The groups then developed suggestions for the project drawn from their experience about which sections of the Constitution should be incorporated into the basic Constitutional Education (CE) curriculum, and what methods for education would be most effective in reaching the groups that they represent.

The consultation seminar for the Northeast region occurred on October 24, 2000 in Nakorn Ratchasima. A total of 39 persons (25 men, 14 women) attended. Senator Sawai Pramane, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor & Social Welfare, opened the session and recalled the efforts of the CDA and the passage of the Constitution. He talked about the role of the Senate in ensuring accountability in all levels of government, and offered his committee as a 'platform' for citizens seeking justice and accountability. He added that he was always available to participate in these kind of seminars, which helped spread the concept of participation down to the grass-roots. ACILS country representative Philip Robertson explained about the origin and objectives of the project, and then, as in Chiang Mai, was followed by a panel of representatives of the four target networks/groups. Speakers included Ms. Rabieb Madukamjan, the head of the Buriram Womens' Network (women); Mr. Suphoj Jarawanbamrung, President of the Petroleum and Chemical Workers Federation of Thailand (labor); Ms. Malee-on Zongsuwan, President of the Khon Kaen Community Savings Group (community); and Mr. Bundit Beeya-sin, representative of the NGO Alternative Farmers Network of the Northeast. The moderator of the discussion was Mr. Sanae Wichaiwong, head of the Northeast branch of NGO-Cord. Participants in the audience included a number of ECT members from many NE provinces, such as Mr. Komglid Sertnuansang (ECT/Nakorn Ratchasima), who stayed for the majority of the seminar and offered his views. As in Chiang Mai, afternoon working group sessions provided important recommendations for the project, and helped build understanding among the groups about how many of their problems are actually much more inter-connected than they realized.

The third and final consultation seminar occurred in the Eastern region on October 31, in Chonburi. It was attended by 38 persons (22 men, 16 women) from provinces all over the Eastern region. Senator Wiroj Amatakulchai (Chonburi)<sup>2</sup>, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Economics, Commerce and Industry, opened the seminar. He was very impressed with the project's determination to conduct popular education on the Constitution, and noted that "I've never seen a project like this before, this work is very important to educate the Thai people, and I'm willing to do whatever needed to help the project advance." After ACILS representative Philip Robertson explained about the origin and the objectives of the project, a panel of representatives spoke. They included Mr. Sermrat Wongyoo, community activist in Rayong and guest columnist in the *Thai Rath* newspaper (community); Ms. Tippawan Sithirangsan, Coordinator at the Center for Career Development in Agriculture, Chonburi province (farmers); Mr. Chiewchan Sae-lee, President of the Thai Oil Union and President of the Eastern Seaboard Union Area Group (labor); and Mrs. Tusanee Rattanakul, representing the Credit Union Network of Chantaburi province (community). The panel was moderated by Professor Watsuthorn Tonwattanakul of Burapha University, who is also a leading member in the P-NET election monitoring network in Chonburi.

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<sup>2</sup> Senator Wiroj also holds the positions of Secretary-General of the Board of Trade of Thailand, and Director of the Executive Board of the Thai Chamber of Commerce.

Among the participants were Vuthipong Chaisaeng, former CDA from Chachoengsao province and younger brother of the current PM's Office Minister, Chaturon Chaisaeng. Vuthipong has now also been elected as an MP in his own right.

### **Project Launch Seminars**

Following the round of consultation seminars which initiated the project in three of the target regions (North, Northeast and East), CE-CAP then moved to formally launch the project with a series of major seminars which introduced the project and its objectives to a much wider audience. On November 14, the first launch seminar was held in the North, in Chiang Mai, and 44 participants (23 men, 21 women) attended. Senator Tuenjai Deetes (Chiang Rai) opened the seminar, and implored that the project make sure to reach out to include hill tribe populations in the North that have traditionally been cut off from access to justice by discrimination and a lack of legal status. ACILS representative Philip Robertson followed, and outlined the need for popular constitutional education to ensure that the Constitution of 1997 becomes the bedrock of governance in the country. Dr. Chantana Sutheejaree of the Political Science Faculty of Chiang Mai University discussed social aspects involved in promoting wider participation in governance and politics. Dr. Chaiyan Wantanabuddhi, from the Social Science Faculty of Chiang Mai University, also presented his views on ways to increase citizens' understanding of the Constitution, and reach out through established NGO networks to help accomplish this important task.

The seminar then proceeded with exchange and debate between a panel of community experts and members of the audience on how to best build understanding of the constitution, and promote popular participation in governance. The panel was composed of Mr. Sawing Tang-ut (North chapter, NGO-Cord), Mrs. Thongdee Poteeyong (Lanna Women's Network), Professor Laddawan Intajak (Chiang Mai University, Public Communications Faculty, National Thai Radio reporter), and Mr. Charupong Sathunol, leader of the EGAT Workers Union section at the Mae Moh electricity generating plant.

The CE-CAP project then traveled to the Northeast on November 22 to launch the project in Khon Kaen. Seventy persons (55 men, 15 women) from Khon Kaen and surrounding provinces, all active in citizen networks came to hear Senator Thongbai Thongbao (Mahasarakham) discuss the important rights contained in the Constitution, and his experiences in village-based education on human rights topics in Mahasarakham. ACILS representative Philip Robertson added his views on the importance of educating networks of citizens about the Constitution in order to ensure that the document becomes a 'living document' akin to the US Constitution, which Robertson noted has been thoroughly incorporated into all aspects of the political culture of the US. Senator Rabiebrat Pongpanit (Khon Kaen) then addressed the group, and helped put in perspective the efforts on popular participation in Khon Kaen province. She was followed by a panel composed of Mr. Deecha Premreudeelert (NGO Cord Northeast and advisor to the Local Development Institute), Mr. Salanyu Woragoon (EGAT Workers Union, Khon Kaen branch), and Mr. Mechai Poowaranon, a respected village elder and popular community leader in the province.

Bringing popular participation to the doorstep of the seminar, a group of NGO activists and farmer leaders, lead by the NGO Cord, presented a petition to Senators Thonbao and Pongpanit protesting against the burning of the Mae Mun Man Yeun village on the evening of November 19-20 by persons allegedly opposed to the Pak Mun dam protestors. The petitioners called for a thorough investigation of the incident to find the perpetrators, and the Senators vowed they would immediately taken this up when they returned to Bangkok. Television and print reporters conducted interviews with the petitioners and the Senators, ensuring national media coverage of the issues, and the seminar.

The CE-CAP project traveled on November 28 to the Muang district of Rayong to hold the project launch seminar for the Eastern region. A total of 52 persons (35 men, 17 women) participated in the seminar, and heard Senator Niwat Poncheua (Rayong) open the proceedings with a review of the Constitutional development process, starting with the CDA, and how citizen participation was critical in that process. ACILS representative Philip Robertson introduced the objectives behind the project, and compared the US experience with its constitution to that of Thailand and the new Constitution of 1997. Following the opening, a panel of representatives from the four networks spoke about the Constitution, and the future role of CE in the Eastern region. The panelists included a number of distinguished individuals, including Dr. Praphat Bintokdaeng, a professor from the Faculty of Business at Burapha University who was also serving in his capacity as a leading member of the King Prajadhipok's Institute's Chonburi office. Other panelists were Mr. Braphon Branitteetaam (Federation of Citizens for Environment and Development, Rayong chapter), Mr. Sermrat Wongyoo (writer from Rayong who also participated as a panelist at the Eastern consultation seminar), Professor Wasunthorn Watanakul (Burapha University), and Mr. Charin Duangdara (Federation of Citizens for Environment and Development, Chachoengsao chapter). There was a large number of farmers organizations, particularly those producing fresh fruit, and they were represented on the panel by Mr. Kasem Petnatee (the leader of a network of farmers' groups from Chachoengsao).

Finally, the CE-CAP conducted its major national project launch seminar in Bangkok at the Royal Hotel on December 3, 2000. A total of 120 participants (49 men, 71 women) attended. The seminar was opened by Senator Chumphol Silapa-archa (Bangkok), who spoke at length about the importance of public participation in reform. ACILS representative Philip Robertson discussed the origin of the project, and urged that the opportunities for greater public participation offered by the Constitution be seized by the citizens of Thailand.

A panel of speakers then expanded on these and other themes in increased transparent and democratic governance, where the rights of citizens are guaranteed under law. First was Senator Maleerat Kaewka (Sakon Nakhon), the Chairman of the Senate Committee overseeing women's and youth affairs. Then well-known human rights activist Professor Jaran Ditta-apichai (formerly President of the Union for Civil Liberties, now a member of the National Human Rights Commission/NHRC) spoke on the spirit of the 1997 Constitution and the need for strong and vigilant independent agencies, like the NHRC. Also speaking on the panel were Mr. Sarawut Bratumrat (a lawyer who works closely with Forum Asia, Coordinating Committee of Human Rights Organizations in Thailand (CCHROT), and the Union of Civil Liberties) and Dr. Pensri Phijaisanit, the Director of the Women in Politics Institute. Rounding out

the panel were Dr. Chawanat Trimat, a representative from the King Prajadhipok's Institute (KPI), and Mr. Wiboon Kemcharerm, a famous community leader from Chachoengsao province. Tom Elam, the Country Coordinator for Thailand from USAID, also attended the seminar.

Since the seminar was being held in the run-up to the elections for the lower house of Parliament, and there were new rules, regulations and procedures that ECT needed to explain, the seminar also invited Gen. Chalermphol Charoenying, chairman of the Bangkok ECT to speak as an unscheduled presenter. Gen. Chalermphol spoke at length about the new ECT rules, especially concerning new procedures for absentee voting, and received many questions from labor leaders interested in learning what to advise their union members who wanted to vote but did not want to incur the expenses of returning to their home province (where most have their official home registration) to exercise this right.

### **Research Component**

After the launch seminars of the project were completed, the CE-CAP staff immediately moved to contract out the research component of the project to examine the knowledge and attitudes of grass-roots community leaders, labor union leaders, and housewives/informal sector women's groups. After a search process, Professors Chaturong Boonyarattanasunthorn (Hua Chio University) and Professor Chitchiyang Yahmapai (Mahidol University) were selected to do the research and report. Starting in November, surveys on knowledge were held with housewives/farmer groups in rural areas of Khon Kaen province, and with rank and file workers who are members of labor unions in Saraburi and Chonburi provinces. Focus groups on knowledge and attitudes of workers towards the Constitution were conducted in December and January with the Port Authority of Thailand Workers Union, and with Thai Klinipro Union members (located in Samut Prakan, members of the Labor Congress of Thailand). Knowledge of the specific provisions of the Constitution were found to be very low in all surveyed groups, and the academic team recommended that each target group should receive attention equal to the other groups. This recommendation is particularly interesting, since many observers have theorized that labor leaders would be better informed about their rights than members of other groups. The academic team further recommended that target groups must be clearly defined and receive special attention on their issues/needs, that the facilitator for training must be process-oriented and skilled in order to ensure that training methodology is participatory and conveys the spirit of the Constitution, and that the final CE curriculum that was developed be thoroughly pre-tested before it is launched. One thousand (1000) copies of the report were produced and mailed to academics, policy makers, and other interested parties. Comments from the CE-CAP Advisory Board about the report were complimentary, and praised the project for developing this important base-line information. Mr. Sermrat Wongyoo, the Rayong-based writer and publicist, reported on the study and the CE-CAP project on his show on his morning radio show on FM 102.75 which reaches most of the Eastern seaboard provinces.

## **Starting Constitution Education Training**

The first Constitution Education (CE) training was conducted for state enterprise unions in the North and was held in Utradit from December 4-6. As a first test for CE, this training help pilot many of the participatory training techniques that were later incorporated into the core CE curriculum. A working committee, composed of the CE-CAP staff and active CE-CAP Advisory Committee members (including Professor Jaran Ditta-apichai, Laddawan Tantiwitayapitak, Biyachet Klaewklad, Broong Deesee, Sakool Zuesongdham, and others), helped develop a draft curriculum between December 2000 and February 2001, and reported back regularly (through mailings and other correspondence) with CE-CAP constituent organizations and other CE-CAP Advisory Board members. During February and March 2001, the CE-CAP team conducted three Training of Trainer (TOT) sessions at the TRRM Training Center in Chainat district. These training groups were composed of volunteers from women networks, farmer networks, the labor movement, and community groups who agreed to continue as Constitutional trainers once they received the intensive training from CE-CAP. These TOT sessions also helped serve to refine the curriculum, since there was constant feed-back on methods, materials, and content that the CE-CAP staff actively sought so as to make the core CE curriculum as stimulating, and immediately relevant to people's problems, as possible.

With networks of trainers now fully trained and in place, and a core curriculum developed in Thai, CE-CAP has now entered its intensive grass-roots education phase. Between now and the end of the project, the CE-CAP will conduct eighty (80) training workshops (each lasting two days). As of July 2001, 12 of these training sessions have taken place.

Respectfully submitted by Philip S. Robertson Jr., Country Representative to Thailand,  
American Center for International Labor Solidarity, (ACILS)

## **Promoting Good Governance Project**

(Report by The Asia Foundation)

### **Research on Enhancing the Efficiency of Assets and Liabilities Statement Examination**

In consultation with the Foundation, the NCCC entered into an agreement with a team led by the Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Political Science to conduct a 9-month study to map the legal and resource requirements for the NCCC to fully and fairly review the Asset and Liability Statements of officials, at various levels of intensity, volume, and subjectivity in order to develop an action plan for short- and long-term institutional and human resource development of the NCCC.

During the current quarter, the research team completed the first draft of their report and recommendations. After focus group discussions and appropriate revisions, the team is currently scheduled to present its findings on August 7, 2001 for initial review by the Commissioners of the National Counter Corruption Commission.

The team's draft study provides an overview of the process of asset and liability declaration and examination in Thailand since the concept was first introduced in 1964 to counter corruption among officials. Initially, Revolutionary Decree 17 had been used to examine the assets of senior officials and resulted in the confiscation of the unusual wealth of former Prime Ministers Field Marshall Sarit and Field Marshall Thanom, and senior officials Field Marshall Praphat, and General Narong. In 1975, the process was first regularized by law through the adoption of the Counter Corruption Act for Civil Servants; however, the act was not applicable to politicians or political appointees until amended in 1988. In 1991 the National Peace Keeping Council (1991 military coup group) established an assets examination committee to review and confiscate the wealth of numerous ministers in the Chatichai Choonhavan Administration. On appeal, the Supreme Court ruled in 1993 that the asset committee was extra-judicial and therefore its findings and confiscation orders were null and void. Finally, the October 11, 1997 Constitution established the National Counter Corruption Commission to examine asset and liability statements.

The research then provides a comprehensive comparison of the power and authority of the 1975 CCC and the 1997 NCCC. One of the most significant differences is the CCC was authorized to examine a statement only to determine if it demonstrated an unusual rise in wealth; in sharp contrast, the NCCC is required to actually verify the existence of all assets and liabilities reported, as well as determine if a submission is complete and accurate. Only after these steps have been taken does the NCCC make a determination if the statement reflects an unusual rise in wealth. The researchers then thoroughly map the procedures used by the NCCC to examine asset and liability statements at three distinct levels: 1) initial examination upon submission to ascertain if all appropriate documents are included and properly verified by the official submitting the statement; 2) examination of the official's marital/family status and comparison of data with the official's most recent income tax filing; and, 3) verification of the existence and accuracy of the official's reported assets and liabilities.

Based on this information, the research team conducted a series of interviews with NCCC officials to determine problems with effective implementation of the review process. To ascertain problems posed by the special circumstances of individual cases, the researchers develop seven (7) case studies based on the NCCC's seven indictments of officials which had been confirmed by the Constitutional Court. These cases are divided into two principle categories: those in which an official had failed to file a submission and those in which an official had filed a false or incomplete submission. The team also consulted with other agencies such as the Anti-Money Laundering Office, the Anti-Narcotics Office, the Department of Income Tax, and the Bank of Thailand, as well as private commercial banks. This analysis enabled the team to pinpoint a series of critical problems and to develop a set of recommendations for overcoming these problems.

After careful review of all recommendations, it became clear to the team that the majority of problems could be most effectively addressed if the NCCC were to institute an on-line Transaction Reporting System. The team leader therefore contracted Loxely Public Co., Ltd, one of the nation's major ISP and computer service agencies, to develop a pilot project to test the potential of an IT solution. This proposal will be submitted to the NCCC for consideration on August 7.

The research team anticipates its IT solution will meet with resistance among both commissioners and staff of the NCCC because of its stark departure from traditional operating procedures. Nevertheless, the NCCC is currently in violation of the 1997 Constitution, and it therefore may have no choice other than to adopt the IT solution. Specifically, the NCCC is charged with verify the existence of the assets and liabilities of "all" officials who are required to make a submission. Under current procedures, and current budget and personnel limitations, the NCCC is capable of verifying only a fraction of submissions.

### **Research on Enhancing Public Participation in Local Governance**

In consultation with the Foundation, the National Counter Corruption Commission (NCCC) entered an agreement with the Political Economy Center of Chulalongkorn University to conduct an 18-month field study to examine the social, cultural, economic and political factors that affect public participation in the Tambon Administrative Organizations (TAO -- township level of government); and to develop a set of recommendations for overcoming barriers created by these factors, or strengthening those factors which have a positive impact on participation, in order to increase efficiency in the delivery of public goods and services at the local level and thereby reduce corruption.

During the current quarter, the research team completed selection of 16 tambon (sub-districts) for in-depth study under this project, completed the research design, and began data collection. During the next quarter the team will make a preliminary analysis of the data and develop a preliminary set of theories for further testing and a series of recommendations. This will be followed by in-depth interviews with concerned officials and citizens, as well as focus groups, to further inform initial theories and recommendations.

The team experienced significant delays in the final selection of the 16 tambon to be studied. Initially, they had established a set of criteria to guide selection. However, they soon determined these carefully crafted criteria were both too academic and naive to scientifically select the target tambon. For example, the research design was premised on selecting four tambon in four provinces premised on data provided by the Ministry of Interior. However, the team quickly learned the quality of such data was suspect and, more importantly, the data failed to correlate with assumptions. Specifically, two tambon selected in each of four provinces were to be “good” or effective tambon with a high rate of citizen participation and a low rate of corruption complaints; the other two tambon were to be “bad” or inefficient tambon with a low rate of citizen participation and a high rate of corruption complaints. Initial field surveys quickly demonstrated that the level of corruption complaints was a misleading indicator. Field observations suggested the lowest rates of corruption complaints appeared to actually have come from those tambon where governance was the worst because citizens feared to even file a complaint. Secondly, the level of public participation is not a good indicator because initial legal research by the team demonstrated that a number of laws were still in effect which prevented full public participation. Therefore, the provincial research teams in each of the four regions (Nakorn Rajasima in the Northeast, Songkhla in the South, Chiang Mai in the North, and Ayutthaya in the Central Plains) used interviews, observation, and professional instincts to select the target tambon. In addition, due to the assassinations of six activists over the past six months, the researchers decided to decrease risks to the research teams by excluding tambon known to be controlled by dark influences with a violent history.

Additional delay in selection was created by the refusal of local bureaucrats to provide basic demographic and fiscal data on tambon in a timely manner, even though such information is in the public domain and researchers carried letters from the President of the NCCC requesting official cooperation. The researchers noted this situation is a clear indicator that the Official Information Act is still not working effectively. Due to previous OIA decisions, officials are aware that they face potential difficulties if they refuse to divulge public information. Nevertheless, their culture of secrecy is so inbred that they have resorted to another tactic rather than outright refusal. They cheerfully (although sometimes begrudgingly) indicate the information will be released but they use numerous ruses to delay handing over the information in the hope that the person requesting the information will simply give up; secondly they provide only the very specific information requested in the hope that related information can be kept back. Such acts are clearly in violation of administrative law but the researchers determined they did not have time to file charges. Moreover, they found that by building personal relations with officials (by attending weddings, funerals, and other social functions) they could gain more prompt and comprehensive cooperation.

Project leadership discovered there was considerable confusion among team members concerning definitions and concepts of decentralization and the various forms of corruption because each of the provincial teams is intentionally composed of researchers from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds. Therefore, they prepared a paper to define fundamental concepts to ensure that all researchers had a common understanding of the issues to be examined under the research project. The project leadership, whose background is in economics and political economy, acknowledge that the paper requires further simplification if it is to be understood by even a highly

educated audience. Therefore, they will develop case studies arising from the research project to demonstrate the principles and concepts outlined in their working paper. Secondly, they will draw on the expertise of adult educators to refine (simplify) the language of the document to make it more comprehensible to the average citizen, to NCCC commissioners, and to policy-makers.

### **Research on the Concept of Conflict of Interest**

In February 2001, The Institute of Human Rights Protection and Development received a grant for a one-year project to analyze how local officials perceive conflict of interest and their perceptions of conflict of interest as defined in the new counter-corruption act. The research will assist the National Counter Corruption Commission to develop public information materials and training materials for officials to promote adherence to new procedures to prevent conflicts of interest from arising. It is anticipated the research will be completed in February 2002. In the interim, preliminary research findings will be discussed in a workshop planned for September or October 2001.

The research team is currently reorganizing its workplan because the Project Director and lead researcher was recently elected in June to serve as a Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission. Under provisions of the 1997 Constitution, Commissioners may engage in no other private or public endeavors. Otherwise, the project has proceeded on schedule. During this reporting period the team completed its research design and the development of two sets of questionnaires: one for local level civil servants and one for local elected officials and citizens. During late-May and June, the team collected field data in Udorn Thani, Nakorn Phanom, Phuket, Chiang Mai and Lopburi. All of the data for Udorn has been coded and a test computer program run to determine potential problems with the design. With a few minor problems resolved, the team will be coding remaining data during the fourth quarter.

### **Research Case Studies**

To promote research on specific forms of corruption, and to disseminate such information widely in the form of case studies which will serve as context for training modules, the Foundation issued a grant to Chulalongkorn University to publish "Corruption in the Procurement of Medical Supplies: A Case Study on the Public Health Ministry". Publication and dissemination of the research was anticipated in June 2001. However, the research team was able to identify an alternate source of support for this project. As a result, the team has requested permission from the Foundation to alter the topic of their research to the role of money in the recent general elections. During the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, the Foundation will amend its Letter of Agreement with Chulalongkorn to authorize this substantive change and to reorganize the budget line items.

### **Enhancing Citizen Participation in Suppressing Corruption**

The Asia Foundation entered into two agreements with Transparency Thailand (formerly Transparency International Thailand), and the Anti-Corruption Network of the Consumer Foundation of Thailand to experiment with different models of civil society organization with the potential to sustain political will to pursue ethical reform and good governance and to conduct activities which would strengthen civil society

oversight of government operations. Specifically, the Foundation made the sub-grant to Transparency Thailand to provide this organization with the capacity to hire professional staff to coordinate TT's volunteer programs, to organize policy-level seminars and workshops on good governance, and to initiate a program to create student counter-corruption clubs nationwide. TT is the domestic affiliate of Transparency International, and is organized around concerned individuals.

The Foundation made a sub-grant to the Anti-Corruption Network (ACN) to enable this organization to design a handbook and training program to assist network members and community organizations to more effectively monitor the procurement of public goods and services at the local level. The ACN is an outgrowth of efforts by the Foundation for Consumers to investigate a scandal in the Ministry of Health over the purchase of medicine and medical equipment. This movement led to the establishment of a network of 30 provincial-based associations and civil society groups seeking to enhance the capacity of citizens to monitor government projects.

During the initial stage of the ACN's project, the network has sought to engage three target groups: academics and national leaders in both the government and non-governmental sectors, coordinating organizations and agencies, and grassroots organizations and community groups. The ACN viewed these target groups as a potential base on which to build a nationwide constituency and as a source of information and strategies for countering corruption. The network sought engagement through a series of workshops and public fora. During the previous quarter programs were organized for the first two groups while workshops were completed with the third target group during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. After analysis of data derived from these forums, the ACN has revised its strategy and developed a plan of action for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> quarters of the project.

There were several significant findings from the early fora. For example, there was a consensus among academics and national leaders that neither the bureaucracy nor politicians had the capacity to resolve the problem of endemic corruption: they concluded corruption will be reduced only through the vigilance and efforts of citizens working on a common agenda to force change by bureaucrats and politicians. Secondly, coordinating agencies concluded that every government project, whether national or local, whether large or small, is the target of corrupt officials. The vast majority of citizens, however, are unaware of the tools and mechanisms available for oversight of government projects. Nevertheless, even in instances where citizens attempt to use these tools they are often thwarted by official refusal to divulge even the most basic details about a project.

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter the ACN organized fora for grassroots organizations and community groups in Khon Kaen, Surat Thani, and Yasothorn. The conclusions and recommendations reached by all three groups indicated no regional variation in the nature or problems of corruption nor the methods proposed for fighting corruption. Significant conclusions include the belief that corruption has become so ingrained in the lives of citizens that they often do not even realize one act or another is corruption. Therefore, citizens not only need to understand how various forms of corruption work, their values and attitudes towards such actions must be changed. Youth are the long-term resolution to this dilemma; they must enter the adult world with appropriate values and attitudes while other actions are being taken to change the perceptions of

adults. Secondly, rural citizens need mechanisms to which they can link to secure support in the form of information about monitoring techniques, legal interpretations, and technical advice (fiscal and scientific) in order that they can properly monitor government projects: simply being taught what tools and mechanisms are available and how to use them will be insufficient. Third, within Thailand's complex patron-client system, particularly in areas control by "dark" influences, any attempt to monitor corruption is a direct threat to the holders of power and therefore citizen activists face the threat of bodily harm and deadly force. The ACN is actively consulting with a broad range of partners to design a comprehensive strategy to address this serious problem.

Since the grassroots fora highlighted the role of youth, the ACN decided to organize a Youth Counter Corruption Camp, in cooperation with TT, for 30 young people representing each region of the nation. Although the youth were highly receptive to discussions and exhibited a high degree of interest in fighting corruption, the ACN team found that youth have a very low level of understanding of the complexities of corruption. Most only recognize vote buying and internal school problems as corrupt activities.

Based on all of the information derived from fora during the first three quarters, the ACN is now in the process of developing training curriculum which will be pilot tested during September through November 2001. Although the ACN's initial plan was to develop only one curriculum, it has decided to design two separate curriculum: one for adults and one for the special needs of youth. Both curriculum will be closely monitored during the pilot phase and after careful evaluation revised curriculum will be tested during 2002.

During the past two quarters, Transparency Thailand focused its efforts on building a national network of citizens to counter corruption and developing a youth counter-corruption program. At the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, the Board of TT decided to temporarily withdraw from building its national network. Although identifying network members had been proceeding smoothly, one influential faction directed its efforts to the creation of the People's Network Against Corruption and secured leadership of the network against the wishes of the TT Board. The TT Board decided that it had no option but to distance itself from the network because of disagreement over agenda and objectives. In the view of the TT Board, the rouge leadership of the network has a political agenda inappropriate for TT and an unsound strategy. Specifically, the network has a narrow bias in favor of an anti-foreign, anti-privatization approach to corruption. It is also too closely associated with elements seeking to exonerate the Prime Minister regardless of the decision of the Constitutional Court.

The TT Board believes that as the "People's" network begins to unfold its strategy, its unsound analysis of the causes of corruption will be revealed to the general public and the network's bias will be generally disregarded except for elements of society who have traditionally held these views. At that time, TT will start to rebuild its national network. In the interim, and to counter the network's strategy, TT is implementing a series of public relations exercises. First, it has prepared a series of two minute public service announcements on corruption to be aired on television and radio. Secondly, it has secured a weekly two-hour spot each Saturday afternoon from 12:30 to 2:30 on

Ruam Duay Chuai Kan (INN Radio) radio station. Ruam Duay is considered the CNN of Thai radio and is nationally popular. The program will be produced in cooperation with the Journalism Association of Thailand, which will provide hosts/moderators. TT Board members will serve as the guests.

Both of these media programs are an outgrowth of TT cooperation with the Crown Property Bureau to implement a series of training programs for radio announcers, the objective of which is to encourage announcers to cover more corruption stories on their programs. A similar program will be introduced in cooperation with the Journalism Association of Thailand during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter for print journalists, with particularly emphasis on provincial journalists.

As noted previously, TT partnered with the ACN to implement a youth anti-corruption camp. A primary goal of the camp was to inform both the TT and ACN on youth perceptions of corruption. While ACN will move forward in the development of a specialized counter-corruption training program for youth, the TT's strategy is to integrate good governance and counter-corruption issues into existing youth programs. Agreement already has been reached to develop a partnership with the Population and Development Association's rural youth development program and with the Stock Exchange of Thailand's Junior Achievement Program. TT plans to identify other partners during the remainder of the project.

TT also has engaged in a number of other activities not directly funded by USAID but which are assisted through USAID's support for TT's administrative staff structure. These include dissemination of Transparency International's annual Corruption Perception Index, the organization of a corruption panel for the Thailand Development Research Institute's annual year-end conference, and the production of a monthly newsletter. The Asia Foundation has provided TT with private funds to develop a national web site, and recruitment of full-time staff to maintain the web site is under way. Finally, with support from the Ford Foundation, TT conducted a national opinion survey on the issue of "unusual" wealth. The results of the survey are scheduled for public release in August 2001.

## **PROPOSED NEW PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

At this time, all project activities are underway and no new project activities are anticipated. The small reserve budget will be used to enhance the budget for the Chulalongkorn research project on the role of money in the 2001 General Elections.

## APPENDIX A

### BAC Project Characteristics

The BAC has reviewed 314 project applications (including 4 seminars). Characteristics of the companies applying for BAC assistance are:

#### Size

Small	39%
Medium	55%
Large	<u>6%</u>
Total	100%

Note: Small sized businesses have annual sales and fixed assets (excluding land holdings) less than 20 million Baht. Medium sized businesses have annual sales and fixed assets from 20 to 200 million Baht. Large sized businesses have annual sales and fixed assets in excess of 200 million Baht.

#### Location

Greater Bangkok	60%
Surrounding Provinces	20%
Upcountry Provinces	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Note: Greater Bangkok denotes all areas in Bangkok. Surrounding province denotes Nonthaburi, Pathumthani, Samutprakarn, Samutsakorn and Nakorn Pathom. Upcountry province denotes all areas except Bangkok and surrounding provinces.

#### Completed or active BAC Projects sorted by Type

- PVO: Private Volunteer Organizations (ADCI/VOCA, CDC, IESC, TVCS)
- In-House: Completed by BAC consultants
- Seminar: Given to Thai SME business community
- Refer/Reject/Close: Not conforming to BAC criteria
- Not Confirmed: Still in diagnostic stage

PVO	69	30%
In-House	59	26%
Seminar	13	6%
TVCS	30	13%
Not Yet Confirmed	<u>57</u>	<u>25%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>

In addition, 9 projects were rejected or referred, bringing the number of projects that were referred, rejected or closed was 140. The following are reasons why projects were rejected or closed per BAC consultants:

- No response or cooperation from clients
- Client requested services out-of-range (i.e. request financing, business start-up assistance, government program assistance)

- Client did not remember submitting application
- VE requested for time period greater than 6 months
- Company was too large (not an SME)
- Company was too small (did not fit our criteria)
- Client concerned about cultural differences of VE



**APPENDIX B: BSOP Projects Matrix**

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Standards of Practice Handbook: Certified Investment and Securities Analyst Program / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Association for Investment Management and Research (AIMR) and the Securities Analysts Association (SAA) are promoting a "code of ethics" for the Thai corporate sector by translating and adapting the AIMR's manual for the Thai environment.	To build up a strong ethics and professional standards program	SAA (Thai), AIMR (US)	The public hearing was conducted in April. The final draft has been completed.
Upgrading the Capability of Accounting Instructors / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Institute for Certified Auditors and Accountants of Thailand (ICAAT) is developing accounting instructional aids including video tapes, computer programs and teacher's manuals to use in higher education with assistance from a US counterpart university.	Improved accounting standards particularly outside of Bangkok.	ICAAT (Thai), U.S. University	Prof. Harold Sollenberger, Accounting Professor, Michigan State University, made his second trip to Bangkok on May 17 –29 to assist ICAAT in developing teaching materials.
Comparative Study on Thailand's Savings and Investment Tax Policy / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The study is to examine the impact of Thailand's present tax structure on the financial and capital markets from both the economic and administrative aspects. The Security Exchange Commission of Thailand (SEC) asked for the Thai Development Research Institute with assistance from U.S. experts to conduct the study.	More attractive tax provisions for investors.	Thai SEC, TDRI, U.S. Counterpart	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> work progress report has been completed. A brainstorming meeting will be held in July.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part I / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) is providing technical assistance to the Thai Central Bankruptcy Court (CBC) in training and establishing systems to deal under the revised laws with the backlog of corporate bankruptcies.	To improve the capabilities of the CBC and develop a relationship between CBC & ABI	CBC (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	After the permanent staff of CBC is in place, the mentorship program in the U.S. will begin.
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part II / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	As a result of ABI's recommendation in Part I of the program, additional technical assistance and training is to be given to CBC by the ABI-member team in area of IT	To improve the capabilities of the CBC and strengthen the relationship between CBC & ABI	CBC (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The draft contract between KIAAsia and CBC has been approved by the Office of the Court of Justice (OCJ). The OCJ set up a committee to bargain the price of videoconferencing equipment.
Thai Bankers Handbook / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The Thai Institution for Banking and Finance Association (TIBFA) under a licensing agreement with the American Bankers Association (ABA).	Completion and use of handbook throughout Thailand	TIBFA, ABA	The working team has been set up.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Performance Audit Workshop / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The training program will be delivered as a two-week workshop introducing the fundamental principals, concepts, and methods of performance auditing. This workshop includes a three-day module on instructional skill to improve the ability of participants to pass on their newly acquired knowledge and skills to the SAO's auditors throughout the country.	To improve the capability of the SAO's auditors in performance auditing	SAO (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	Dr. William Johnston, an ex-GAO employee, is in Bangkok to deliver training program to SAO's auditors from March 19 to April 11, 2001.
Building Capacity and Professional Standard for Property Valuation in Thailand / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Appraisal Foundation (TAF) will provide technical assistance to the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) to develop a single standard, code of ethics and its audit manual for Thai valuation profession. A single, neutral standard, code of ethics and audit manual for supervision will improve the transparency and accuracy of appraisals and will have a positive impact on financial and capital markets sector.	Single standard, code of ethics, and its audit manual for Thai valuation profession	SEC (Thai) TAF (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. TAF is looking for a U.S. expert to work on the project with SEC.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
ABIH Certified Industrial Hygienist Program / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association (OHSWA) of Thailand proposes to join the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) to provide training and establish a certificate program	To upgrade the professional skills of Thai health officials and strengthen the relationship between OHSWA and ABIH	OHSWA (Thai) ABIH (U.S.)	Dr. Lori Todd, an Associate Professor at UNC, came over to Bangkok for preparation course on May 21-25, 2001. Jimmy Perkins, ABIH's Chairman, will travel to Bangkok on July 29 for examination.
SET Junior Achievement Thailand / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The BSOP is providing support to the Thailand Securities Institutes (TSI) of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) to organize, develop and deliver economics education programs for Thai youth and to promote Thai capital markets. Junior Achievement International (JAI), an International arm of the well-known US economic education organization, will provide the TSI with curriculum, education materials, and expert technical and training assistance.	To promote the long-term development of the capital market and stock market in Thailand	SET-TSI (Thai) JAI (U.S.)	The first pilot course for Thai students in middle school was completely implemented. The JAI staff visited Thailand to evaluate the program in June.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Thai Bond Market Development/ <i>Capital Market Development</i>	The co-operation between Thai BDC and TBMA will be focused on the technical assistance and consultation, translation and adaptation of standards materials, as well as the introduction of an appropriate organizations in the U.S. to provide training course to the Thai BDC. This cooperative program is to develop bond market in Thailand	To develop the bond market in Thailand	Thai BDC TBMA (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. The Thai BDC and TBMA are planning to move forward implementing the project.
Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	American Bankruptcy Institution (ABI) is providing technical assistance to the Office of the Court of Justice (OCJ) to promote a new law on Business Secured Transaction in Thailand and to prepare the establishment of Registry Office.	To promote a new Business Secured Transaction Law and to prepare for the establishment of a Registry Office	OCJ (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. The ABI team will be formed to deliver a seminar in Bangkok.
Community Leadership Training Program/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The Institute for Management Education for Thailand foundation (IMET) is joining with The Community Leadership Association (CLA) to conduct a training on Community Leadership program to promote good community leadership throughout Thailand	To promote good community leadership throughout Thailand	IMET (Thai) CLA (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. The IMET and CLA are planning to move forward implementing the project.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Large Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Mediation Center for Financial Disputes Program/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	American Bankruptcy Institution (ABI) is providing technical assistance and training to enhance the efficiency and capabilities of a newly-established Mediation Centre for Financial Disputes (MCFD), including mediators, financial advisors, and staff.	To enhance the ability and creativity of mediators, financial advisors, and MCFD staff	DRO (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. The ABI has formed a team to conduct the training program in Thailand.
Organic Inspection Training Program/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) is providing technical assistance to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) to develop the organic crops inspection process in Thailand	To build Thai government officer's capabilities to inspect organic crops	DOA (Thai) IOIA (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. DAO has a plan to discuss with IOIA on a training course.
Productivity and Workplace Improvement/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA) and the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) are joining with the National Institute for the Improvement of Working Conditions and Environment (NICE) to deliver a train-the-trainer program on "Productivity and Workplace Improvements" in Thailand.	To upgrade the skills of regional NICE officers.	NICE (Thai) OSHA (U.S.) NIOSH (U.S.)	The project has been approved on May 29, 2001. KIAAsia is bringing together the expertise of the ILO and US – OSHA to support this project.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Small Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) / <i>Financial governance</i>	Technical assistance and training is to be given to TRIS by an expert sourced under the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) in the area of bond rating.	To strengthen Thai corporations' abilities to raise funds by improving the capabilities of TRIS in bond rating.	TRIS (Thai), IESC (US)	The project has been completed.
TRIS – Trip # 2	To provide expert assistance from a US Private Volunteers Organization (PVO) to help TRIS in the area of credit rating methodologies and procedures, securitization, and staff training	To strengthen Thai corporations' abilities to raise funds by improving the capabilities of TRIS in credit rating methodologies and procedures, securitization	TRIS (Thai), CDC (US)	The BSOP is contacting the CDC to find out the U.S. expert.
APICS-TLAPS Partnership #1 / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	To provide expert assistance from APICS to help the Thai Logistics And Production Society (TLAPS) in the area of logistics and supply chain management.	To establish long-term cooperation between TLAPS and APICS	TLAPS (Thai), APICS (US)	Mr. Richard Welch, the former President of APICS, attended TLAPS annual seminar in Thailand on May 5 – 22, 2000 with support under the BSOP fund. The project has been completed

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Small Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
APICS – TLAPS Partnership #2 / International Competitiveness	The BSOP has provided financial support to the President and advisor of the Thai Logistics And Production Society (TLAPS) to attend APICS conference in U.S.A.	To establish long-term cooperation between TLAPS and APICS		Dr. Pricha Pantumsinchai, TLAPS President, and Mr. Krizz Chantjiraporn, TLAPS Advisor attended the APICS International Conference & Exposition in Florida, U.S.A. The project has been completed
International Auditor Fellowship Program 2001 / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	To provide financial support to the Office of the State Audit of Thailand (SAO) to send its staff to attend The GAO Fellowship program, which supports the goal of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) to strengthen auditing and financial management practices and promotes the sharing of information and experiences among Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) throughout the world.	To improve the capabilities of the SAO staff and develop a relationship between SAO and GAO	SAO, General Accounting Office (GAO)	Mr. Karanee Butrameeboon has been selected to participate in the GAO Fellowship program 2001 between May 14 to September 21, 2001 at GAO in Washington D.C., U.S.A.
The International Auditor Fellowship Program's field office placement 2000 / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The program is a continuation of the International Auditor Fellowship program and is designed to provide the participant with training, which includes gaining practical experiences in designing and implementing audits.	To improve the capabilities of the SAO staff and develop a relationship between SAO and GAO	SAO (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	The program has been completed.

<b>Projects Approved for Funding</b>				
<b>Small Grants</b>				
<b>Project Name / Objective</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Objectives/ outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Status</b>
Land Assessors' standard and procedures/ <b><i>Financial Governance</i></b>	Mr. James Park, Director of Research and Technical Issues from the Appraisal Foundation came over to hold talks with key Thai organizations involved in the land assessment in late August.	Improve knowledge of assessors in Thai assessment organizations	Association of Thai Assessors, Appraisal Foundation (U.S.)	The program has been completed.
Certificate for Occupational Health and Safety / <b><i>International Competitiveness</i></b>	To provide financial support to Mr. Dan Agopsowicz, the Board Chair of the American Board of Industrial Hygiene to deliver a seminar to the Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association in Thailand	To initiate training programs and establish a certificate program to comply with the new Labour ACT.	OHSWA (Thai), ABIH (U.S.)	The program has been completed.
SET Derivatives Program / <b><i>Financial Governance</i></b>	Mr. Robert B. Gilmore, an expert consultant, came to provide technical assistance and training to the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) to improve SET's knowledge of derivatives and systems to offer derivatives products.	To prepare the SET's staff for delivering of new derivatives products.	SET (Thai), U.S. partner	The program has been completed.
Thai Credit Bureau / <b><i>Financial Governance</i></b>	To provide financial support to the Central Credit Information Services Co., Ltd. to send Mr. Samma Kitsin, Managing Director, to attend the Second Consumer Credit Reporting World Conference held by the Associated Credit Bureau in U.S.	Better knowledge on credit bureaus	Central Information System / US Partner	The program has been completed

BMA – Thai BDC Partnership/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	To provide expert assistance form the Bond Market Association (TBMA) to hold the meetings with the Thai Bond Dealing Centre (Thai BDC) and the Thai regulators in the area of bond market development in Thailand. This is the first step of building the partnership between Thai DBC and TBMA.	To build the partnership between Thai BDC and TBMA	Thai BDC, TBMA (U.S.)	The trip has been completed and the reimbursement is on the process.
International Pension Exchange Program/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	To provide support to the US. experts from Pacific Pension Institute (PPI) to provide assistance to Government Pension Fund (GPF) of Thailand and to give a presentation at the "World Class Fund Management" conference held by GPF.	To educate GPF staff on pension fund management	GPF (Thai), PPI (U.S.)	The trip has been completed and the reimbursement is on the process.
Thai Telecommunication Development/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	To provided financial support to the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD), the Communication Authority of Thailand (CAT) and the Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) to send the delegation to attend the "Southern Asian Telecommunications Regulatory Workshop" in Jakarta, Indonesia. In addition, the BSOP also has provided expert assistance to set up regulatory procedures for Thai National Telecommunications Commission. (NTC)	To develop regulatory procedures for Thai NTC.	PTD (Thai), CAT (Thai), TOT (Thai), U.S. expert	The trip has been completed.



For further information on  
AERA-Thailand, please contact:

Mr. Paul Wedel  
at  
Kenan Institute Asia  
Room 201 Queen Sirikit  
National Convention Center  
60 New Rachadapisek Road  
Bangkok 10110, Thailand  
Tel. 662-229-3131  
Fax: 662-229-3130  
E-mail: [PaulW@kiasia.org](mailto:PaulW@kiasia.org)

