

Thailand AERA 16th Quarterly Activities Report
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Accelerated Economic Recovery in Asia
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Business Advisory Center

The Business Advisory Center continued to work with the Federation of Thai Industry in phase II of the "Invigorating Thai Business" projects by accepting 7 projects. Two of these projects were of former clients for whom the BAC received Best ITB Projects and Best Consultants awards in ITB Phase I. Four former clients sought further assistance for American experts to help in various areas while BAC consultants were successful in attracting 3 new clients for exporting services, bringing the total number of projects started in the quarter to 14. One American expert project was completed this quarter. Meanwhile, the BAC worked with the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion to organize the prestigious APEC SMEs 2003 conference in Chiang Mai and won praise from the office for its successful work that is likely to lead to further cooperation between the two offices.

The BAC started to reorganize its structure to improve effectiveness in meeting the needs of small and medium sized enterprises. Three product teams -- International Marketing, Financial Advisory Services and Management Tools -- were created to develop product and industry specialization. All consultants were grouped into the 3 teams by their expertise and preferences. All the consultants were tasked with a dual role of developing their expertise and specializing in their individual product and selected industries while also consulting or managing government projects in various functional areas to earn revenue.

Business Support Organizations Partnership Program

In this quarter, two small-grant BSOP projects were approved and one large-grant partnership project was completed. Since the beginning of the BSOP program in October 1999, a total of twenty-nine large and small partnership projects have been approved and implemented under USAID-funded BSOP program.

Education

The projects carried out by the Education Program are focused on English teaching development and IT for education. The materials of English through Entertainment were distributed to provincial high schools nationwide. Teachers using the materials have been able to adapt the contents to fit their classes and local circumstances. For 2003 Chula Conference project, a name list and CVs of three US English Language Teaching (ELT) experts were submitted for KIA Asia review.

Border Action Against Malaria

During this quarter, major activities implemented under the BAAM Project included:

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- A BAAM partners meeting to review progress and facilitate exchange of information across the strategic components of the program;
- *In vitro* sensitivity monitoring and *in vivo* therapeutic efficacy study of currently used front line anti-malarial drugs in 9 border provinces;
- Training of trainers workshop for training teachers in 15 expansion sites on in-depth community malaria situation assessment under the Partnerships for a School-Based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria project;
- Pilot implementation of an integrated thematic curriculum unit on *Malaria* in grades 1-9 in 40 border area schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces;
- Implementation of GIS for malaria control in Chantaburi Province;
- Development of a community-based epidemiology information system focusing on malaria control in Trat Province;

Thailand Competitiveness Initiative

This quarter, TCI decided to focus on the following seven clusters for its second year: High-Value Agricultural Produce, Multi-Media, Gems, two clusters in Chiang Mai, silk and a new cluster (seafood). TCI will concentrate on implementing value-adding action plans.



PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

Business Advisory Center

SMEs Assistance Projects

Volunteer Expert for Manufacturer of Automotive Wheel Balance Weights

Mr. Henry A. Bakemeyer was recruited through Kenan Institute Washington to provide technical advice in the field of Die Casting to a major manufacturer of automotive wheel balance weights in the Bangkok area. Previously, lead was the metal used to manufacture automotive wheel balance weights; however recent environmental law changes will require an alternative metal to be used. Mr. Bakemeyer, a volunteer expert from the USA with over 30 years work experience in both custom and captive die casting environments, was personally requested by the manufacturer to assist in the facilities transition to a substitute metal. The manufacturer previously had the assistance of Mr. Bakemeyer and was certain his experience would enable them to be successful with their transition.

Mr. Bakemeyer specializes in problem solving of: casting and tooling design, process and machinery issues, and training from operator to engineer in the technology of die casting. He can provide casting, die and tool designs in CAD using Solidworks® and Autocad®. Additionally, he has extensive experience using computers to perform gating, metal flow, and heat flow analysis.

Beginning August 30th and concluding September 21st, Mr. Bakemeyer worked closely with the engineering team to produce automotive wheel balance weights made from a non-lead metal. Significant progress was made and the owner of the facility believes the project was a success. This manufacturer is the first in the world to successfully produce their product out of this alternative metal. By being a market innovator, the owner is confident they will position themselves for further success.

APEC SMES 2003 CONFERENCE

The BAC worked closely with the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP) to organize the APEC SMEs 2003 conference in Chiang Mai, northern Thailand during August 3-8, 2003. The agenda of the conference was based on the central theme of "Strengthening APEC Entrepreneurial Society" and included the three priority topics of:

- Capacity building to address impediments to SME exporters in the APEC region
- Entrepreneurship development
- Business creation, capital formation and financial access for SMEs and micro-enterprises.

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The event started with an Entrepreneurship Development seminar on August 3. The seminar was organized by the OSMEP on behalf of Thailand’s Ministry of Industry, in cooperation with the US Department of Commerce, Thai-US Business Council, US-Thai Business Council, and Kenan Institute Asia. A large team of BAC consultants and other Kenan Institute Asia staffs served as the seminar’s secretariat to manage, take notes and prepare press releases for the seminar. The team assumed the same role during the remaining of the event. The Institute also brought in the keynote speaker for the conference, Mr. Arthur Lipper, a well-known entrepreneur and financier of start-up companies.

The 17th meeting of the APEC SME working group meeting was held during August 4-6. The first meeting was of the SME sub-group on micro-enterprises on August 4. The group endorsed a micro-enterprise development action plan. The action plan identifies areas in which APEC economies are urged to work closely with micro-enterprises to build their capacity and allow them to benefit from the global economy. The outcomes from all the meetings were incorporated into the Ministerial Meeting later in the week.

The 10th APEC SME Ministers Meeting took place during August 7-8. The meeting was expected to further implement the APEC Leaders’ call for priority to be placed on developing micro-enterprises that comprises around 74% of all formal sector businesses registered in the APEC Region as well as many more that operate in the informal economy, particularly developing areas.

The meeting also included a session that involved an interactive dialogue with representatives from the SMEs Business Forum. The ministers also held a Joint Session with the APEC Business Advisory Council and the Women Leaders’ Network.

Indicator Tables

Intermediate Objective 1	Bank and Business Activity Restarted
Indicators	Total number of SMEs receiving AERA consulting assistance Increase in gross revenue
Unit of Measure	Number of firms assisted Average percentage change in gross revenue on the part of assisted firms.
Source	Company records and company reports to BAC



Indicator Description

Current GDP growth projections for Thailand are in the 2.5% range. SMEs receiving AERA assistance are expected to perform at least twice as well and a target of 5% growth in total revenue has been set. One year after assistance, firms' revenue for the most recent quarter will be compared to the same quarter the previous year.

Year	Target # of Assisted SMEs Cumulative	Actual # of Assisted SMEs Cumulative	Actual Average % Increase
2000	20	116*	31% ¹
2001	120	165	40% ²
2002	220	193	43% ³
2003	320	231	50% ⁴
2004	410		
2005	500		

* Including 40 for 1999

¹: 10 projects out of 32 respondents reported sales increase
16 projects reported no change in sales
3 projects reported sales decrease
3 projects did not reveal sales data

²: 2 projects out of 5 respondents reported sales increase
2 projects reported no change in sales
1 project did not reveal sales data

³: 16 projects out of 37 respondents reported sales increase
15 projects reported no change in sales
2 project reported sales decrease
4 projects did not reveal sales data

⁴: 2 projects out of 5 respondents reported sales increase
Q1&2 2 projects reported no change in sales
1 project did not reveal sales data

Q3 5 projects out of 9 respondents reported sales increase (1 project reported 10% increase, 1 reported 5% and the 3rd did not reveal figures)
2 projects reported no change in sales
2 projects did not reveal sales data

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Q4 3 projects out of 6 respondents reported sales increase (1 project reported more than 10% increase, 1 reported about 200% and 1 did not reveal % increase)
 1 project reported no change in sales
 2 projects did not reveal sales data

'03 total 10 projects out of 20 respondents reported sales increase
 5 projects reported no change in sales
 5 projects did not reveal sales data

Indicator Tables

Intermediate Objective 1 Bank and Business Activity Restarted

Indicator	Business plans or elements of business plans in use by SMEs receiving AERA assistance.
Unit of Measure	Percentage of SMEs with current business planning.
Source	Company follow-up reviews by BAC.
Indicator Description	Each SME receiving assistance will be encouraged where appropriate to use business planning methodologies. The percentage of firms that continue to maintain that planning one year after assistance is projected at 50%.

Year	Target	Actual
1999	0	Baseline - 0
2000	50%	100% *
2001	50%	100% *
2002	50%	97% **
2003	50%	100% ***
2004	50%	
2005	50%	

- * All of the 32 and 5 responded projects in year 2000 and 2001 respectively either have business plans newly created or have existing plans in place
- ** 36 of 37 respondents have business plans in place and 1 does not
- *** All of the 5 respondents for Q1&2, all 9 respondents for Q3 and all 6 respondents for Q4 reported having business plans in place



Business Support Organizations Partnership Program

New Small Grant Projects Approved

1. Workshop for bankers on negotiating and mediating NPL settlements effectively

On July 31, 2003, Kenan Institute Asia's Business Support Organization Partnerships program in collaboration with the Thai Bankers' Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Office, and the World Bank organized a one-day workshop entitled "Negotiating and Mediating NPL Settlements Effectively." The workshop was conducted by two U.S. experts from the American Bankruptcy Institute, Mr. Jacob Esher, Senior Mediator, JAMS, and Mr. George M. Kelakos, Special Counsel, Heller Ehrman Attorneys. The participants included 50 bankers and representatives from Thai Asset Management Corporation (TAMC) and the Corporate Debt Restructuring Advisory Committee (CDRAC) of the Bank of Thailand. The mediation will help facilitate the resolution of the large number of NPL disputes in the courts. The support of bankers is necessary if this type of facilitative mediation is to take root in Thailand. This activity is part of BSOP efforts to promote mediation to resolved financial cases in the courts in order to strengthen Thailand's financial and judiciary systems.

2. IP and Bio-entrepreneurship Training Workshops delivered

The BSOP organized a workshop on Intellectual Property on July 16, 2003. Two US experts, Dr. Mark Tang of World Technology Ventures, and Dr. Frances Toneguzzo, Director of Licensing, MGH, Harvard Medical School, traveled to Thailand to deliver an introductory training course on IP Management to BAC consultants. Subsequently, The Institute and Dr. Tanit Changthavorn of BIOTEC co-organized a full-day workshop on "Bioentrepreneurship" on July 18, as part of the BioThailand 2003 conference in Pattaya. The US experts joined Thai and international experts presented to 80 researchers, entrepreneurs, government and corporate participants. A series of follow-up training courses are planned.

Project Completed during this Quarter

1. Upgrading the Capabilities of Post and Telegraph Department's Staff for National Telecommunications Commission's Secretariat Office

Kenan Institute Asia's BSOP assisted the capacity building program for telecom regulators at Post and Telegraph Department (PTD). The course, entitled "Spectrum; Standards and Management" was organized internally by the PTD and held from August 18-20, 2003.

The project received technical assistance from Mr. Thomas Derenge, Chief-Spectrum Policy Branch, Office of Engineering Technology from the US Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and Mr. Jonathan Streeter, telecom consultant. A total of 57 officials

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from PTD's technical operations division, legal department and management attended the course. The training course presented a US model of spectrum management, rules and regulations and guidelines for international negotiation to the Thai PTD to assist in compliance with obligations under the WTO's agreement on Basic Telecommunications Services.

This project was the third training session that received technical assistance from FCC to assist PTD during the transition period to becoming the secretariat for the National Telecommunication Commission (NTC). The project was successfully completed.

Ongoing Activities

1. Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) - Trip #2

With financial support from USAID, Kenan Institute Asia's BSOP assisted TRIS Rating Co., Ltd. (TRIS) to upgrade the capabilities of TRIS analysts during June 30, 2003 to July 15, 2003. The project received technical assistance from Mr. Kenneth Pinkes, volunteer expert from Financial Services Volunteer Corps. (FSVC) in providing on-the-job training of rating techniques for corporate and financial institutions and rating of asset-back securitization, commercial paper from private and Government Related Entity. Mr. Pinkes also gave a presentation entitled "An Overview of the Credit Rating System" and share lesson-learned on credit rating in the US to the Institute staff and KIASIA's counterparts from Bank of Ayudhya, Stock Exchange of Thailand, and Thai Bond Dealing Center.

2. Building Capacity and Professional Standard for Property Valuation in Thailand

Kenan Institute Asia's BSOP program, in collaboration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) organized a session to release concept for property valuation in Thailand contained in a new draft profession standard. The event was held on September 24, 2003 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Royal Garden Jubilee building, Soi Soonvijai, Bangkok.

This session was organized as a springboard for further discussion among appraisal professionals including property appraisers, commercial bankers, and academics from both private and public sectors. The industry anticipates further practical and effective revisions to the current professional standards in Thailand. This program originated with a seminar for the concept release led by a Thai expert team nominated from the SEC's short list of valuation companies, which was followed by a discussion among industry delegates including The Valuers Association of Thailand (VAT), the Thai Valuers Association (TVA), and the Thai Banker Association (TBA). A total of 250 participants attended the seminar.



3. US Senior Judge and Court Executive share judicial development lessons-learned

With BSOP support, Judge D. Brock Hornby, US Chief District Judge from the District of Maine and Mr. James G. Woodward, US District Court Executive from the Eastern District of Missouri, delivered a series of roundtable discussions in Bangkok between August 25 - 29, 2003 to share US experiences in judicial development. Topics included the testimony recording system, case management, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and the audience included Thai judges, lawyers, and academics. During their trip to Bangkok, Judge Hornby and Mr. Woodward also joined with the Office of the Judiciary to deliver a seminar entitled "Testimony Recording System for Court and Arbitration" for approximately 300 participants, including judicial management committees, judges, court administrators, prosecutors, academics, and stakeholders. The seminar aimed to promote the use of new testimony recording technology for court arbitration. These activities were part of the "Capacity Building for Dispute Resolution Project," a partnership program between Thailand's Office of the Judiciary and the US Federal Judicial Center under BSOP support funded by USAID.

Regulatory Dialogue Program

BSOP and PADCO, a legal consultant work with a range of U.S. and Asian partners and donors are supporting country-led reform initiatives by facilitating access to international best practices that promote improved corporate and public governance. One dialogue project was approved by the Kenan Institute Asia Working Group Committee in this quarter. To date, three dialogue projects in Thailand have been approved and implemented under BSOP program support. Two dialogue projects in Vietnam have been approved and implemented. One dialogue project in Vietnam was completed during this quarter. In total, three large-grant projects were completed.

New Projects Approved

1. Strengthening Administrative Court Capacity: Case Management and Court Administration

The project was approved by the Institute Working Group Committee on September 22, 2003. The goal of this program is to enable the Administrative Court to develop its new court policy on case management, and to deepen the partnerships between the two courts, and the FJC and NCSC. Toward that end, the proposed program's objectives in support of this Thai-led initiative are to: (1) develop guidelines on a Court policy for case management and court administration; and (2) establish linkages between counterpart judges and court administrators to enable continued exchange on issues related to case management and court administration.

Beginning in November 2003, the program will consist of a series of integrated, cost-shared activities divided into three components and completed over a ten-month period:

- Consultation workshop: Developing a preliminary case management policy

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- Observational program to U.S.: Sharing experience and ideas
- Judges and court administrators workshop: Exchange on case management policy

Each component will achieve specific objectives aimed at supporting the Court in establishing a concrete policy for case tracking and court administration to improve access, ensure transparency, and speed in case processing throughout the system, and establishing linkages with U.S. partners, including the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, DC.

Projects Completed during this quarter

1. Regional Dialogue on Public Participation in Government Decision-making

With support from AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue program and The Asia Foundation, thirteen Vietnamese delegates, led by the Vice Chairman of Vietnam’s Office of the National Assembly, traveled to Bangkok between July 7 –11, 2003 to participate in a Thailand- Vietnam Forum on Public Participation. The program included an observational program and workshop on public participation. During the observational program, the Vietnamese delegation visited Thai organizations, including government agencies, business associations, NGOs, and academics associated with public participation to discuss and exchange views on public participation in agency decision making and legislative drafting process. Kenan Institute Asia hosted a Vietnam – Thailand Business Forum on Public Participation. The business forum brought representatives from U.S. and Thai business associations to meet with the Vietnamese delegation to exchange views on approaches and methods for business associations to provide input into the legislative process and government decision making.

To ensure a more complete understanding of public involvement methodologies, two U.S. experts, including Mr. Douglas Sarno and Mrs. Crystal Sarno from Perspectives group conducted a two-day Thailand- Vietnam Public Participation Workshop for the Vietnamese delegation and Thai participants from government agencies, NGOs, and academic. The workshop included presentations on international best practices, as well as interactive training and discussion sessions to facilitate the development of specific action agendas. The project was successfully completed.

Business Support Organization Partnerships Indicator Tables

Intermediate Objective 1 Corporate and Financial Governance Improved

Indicator	Policies, systems, or procedures adopted by participating partner organizations
Unit of Measure	Number of participating organizations implementing policies, systems, or procedures introduced or strengthened through the partnership fostered by the BSOP

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Year	Expected Measures Cumulative	Actual
1999	0	Baseline - 0
2000	2	7
2001	7	17
2002	10	23
2003*	15	25
2004	20	
2005	25	

* Q3 of Year 2003 (July – September 2003): In total, 25 policies and systems have been changed.

Intermediate Objective 2 Financial and Corporate Governance Improved

Indicator The number of long-term partnerships initiated and maintained

Unit of Measure Number of partnerships

Year	Expected Partnerships Cumulative	Actual
1999	0	Baseline - 0
2000	2	7
2001	4	16
2002	8	22
2003*	12	23
2004	10	
2005	8	

*Q3 of year 2003 (July – September): 23 partnerships between Thai and U.S. organizations are maintained.

Projects which partnerships are no longer existed were TRIS (one time consultant for technical assistance) and Institute for Management and Education for Thailand Foundation (IMET) (project ended).



IT for Education

- **English through Entertainment**

In August, representatives from Kenan Institute Asia and the Supervisory Unit, Ministry of Education, visited two high-schools in Ratchaburi province to observe their English classes. The team selected one middle-sized high school and one small-sized high school to compare and to observe how the provincial English teachers apply the materials of *English through Entertainment* to the classes. From the observation, the teachers were capable of adjusting and applying the lesson contents and materials to suit their locality. In the final step, the Supervisory Unit will be monitoring and evaluating the whole program and providing a written evaluation report to Kenan Institute Asia.

- **2003 Chula Conference**

As the 5th International Conference 2003 to be organized on December 15-17, 2003, Chulalongkorn University Language Center submitted KIAAsia a list and CVs of the three US guest speakers supported by AERA Program. The three speakers are as follows:

1. Deborah Healey, Ph.D. – Director and Technology Coordinator of Oregon State University's English Language Institute
2. James Dean Brown, Ph.D. – Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii
3. Kay Westerfield – Business Program Coordinator and Senior Instructor of American English Institute, University of Oregon and Director of the International Business Communication Program with the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business at the University of Oregon.



Border Action Against Malaria (BAAM)

The Border Action Against Malaria Project (BAAM) program is developing new models of cooperation and partnership, particularly with communities and the public health system, to monitor, understand, and respond to the threat that such resistant strains will spread, not only in Thailand, but also across the region. This is intended to contribute to decentralization and reform of the public health system, improving its effectiveness as well as empowering and enabling communities to become more self-reliant in malaria prevention and control. The purpose of the project is to improve the national capacity for surveillance and response to multi-drug resistant malaria.

Project Activities Implemented This Quarter

During the reporting period from July to September 2003, activities implemented included the following:

Surveillance of MDR Malaria

Sentinel site monitoring of anti-malarial drug resistance: *In vitro* sensitivity monitoring and *in vivo* study of therapeutic efficacy of the currently used front line anti-malarial drugs continued in 9 border provinces under the malaria sentinel surveillance drug resistance network initiative.

Study on drug use practices: Consultations were held with Olya Duzey from MSH, Dr. Jeeraphat from the Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases (MOPH), and BAAM management on planning the initial anti-malaria drug-use practices studies on the Thai-Cambodia border. A field trip was conducted to identify potential sites and collect epidemiological data as input into the process of formulating a proposal for a sub-grant from BAAM to BVBD for the first study in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces at the end of the December-January transmission peak. It is anticipated that a sub-grant will be awarded during the next quarter.

Drug quality control monitoring: BAAM management held consultations on drug quality control initiatives of US Pharmacopeia with WHO Mekong RBM, WHO Cambodia, WHO/WPRO, MSH, and the Thai Bureau of Drugs and Narcotics. BAAM will support incorporating the data flow from the drug testing in Thailand and results of drug use practices studies into the annual technical workshop on sentinel surveillance in 2004.

Response to MDR Malaria

Treatment policy for multi-drug resistant malaria: Following on last quarter's BAAM-sponsored national-level technical workshop to review results of sentinel surveillance and consider changes in the national treatment regimen policy for multi-drug resistant malaria, the Bureau of Vector-Borne Disease Control (BVBD) organized a meeting to

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decide upon provinces where the first-line regimen should be changed and the specific regimen of combination treatment. Results of this meeting are expected to be issued as new treatment guidelines during the next quarter.

Research and development of an affordable, reliable, locally-produced rapid test for malaria antigen: The Ministry of Public Health continued research on developing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection; research for cloning and expression of LDH and GAPDH enzymes from *P. falciparum* by genetic engineering method; and research and development for production of a dipstick kit utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection.

Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Subproject: The Life Skills Development Foundation organized implementation of the following activities:

- Support for implementation of community-generated malaria control projects in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces;
- Training of trainers workshop for training teachers in 15 expansion sites on in-depth community malaria situation assessment
- Community malaria situation assessments by students in 15 expansion sites;
- Pilot implementation of an integrated thematic curriculum unit on *Malaria* in grades 1-9 in 40 border area schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces;

Community-Based Malaria Control through Civic Partnerships along the Thai-Cambodia Border: Activities implemented by the Provincial Public Health Offices in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces included the following activities:

- Implementation of GIS for development of a community-based epidemiology information system for malaria control in Chantaburi Province;
- Development of a community-based epidemiology information system focusing on malaria control in Trat Province.

Coordination and Networking:

- BAAM organized a partners meeting with participation by Dr. Andrew Clements from USAID/Washington to review progress and facilitate exchange of information among key partners in the program;
- BAAM Deputy Manager James Hopkins presented the participatory learning and action process used in *Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria* to participants from 12 countries at the international training course conducted by the Asian Center of International Parasite Control (ACIPAC);
- BAAM Project management staff participated in the annual ACTMalaria Partners Meeting in Shanghai, China.

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Major Activities Planned for the Next Quarter

Major activities planned for the next quarter from October through December 2003 include the following:

- A BAAM partners meeting to facilitate learning exchange among key partners in the program and identify opportunities for collaboration on major special malaria projects in Thailand including the Global Fund malaria control component;
- *In vitro* sensitivity monitoring and *in vivo* therapeutic efficacy study of currently used front line anti-malarial drugs in 9 border provinces;
- Preparations for a community and provider drug use practices study in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces;
- Support for implementation of community-generated malaria control projects in Tak and Mae Hong Son Provinces;
- Analysis of feasible alternatives for community action against malaria based on situation assessments in 15 expansion sites under the Partnerships for a School-Based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria project;
- Pilot implementation of an integrated thematic curriculum unit on *Mosquito-Borne Diseases: Malaria* in grades 1-9 in 40 border area schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces;
- Support for community-based malaria control projects in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces;
- Implementation of GIS for malaria control in Chantaburi Province;
- Development of a community-based epidemiology information system focusing on malaria control in Trat Province;
- Continuation of research and development efforts on producing dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection.



Thailand Competitiveness Initiative

The Thailand Competitiveness Initiative (TCI) is a cooperative effort by Kenan Institute Asia and J.E. Austin Associates to undertake pilot cluster projects, change attitudes towards competitiveness and work on strategic and policy initiatives. TCI convenes cluster members, facilitates the cluster process, advises on strategy development and provides short-term technical assistance. The initiative in Thailand is closely linked with a regional initiative funded by USAID in Vietnam and Cambodia.

Preparatory Work

- Preparatory work this quarter included meetings with government officials and the media (as well as the cluster participants) for conferences in the silk and HVAP clusters and for the Chiang Mai and gem clusters (in July & August).
- TCI and Dr. Warner engaged with FTI to develop the agenda for the conference on the Global Competitiveness Report (to be held in November).

Workshops/Roundtables for Key Regional Stakeholders

- As part of a joint effort with VNCI to engage with key stakeholders, TCI Chief-of-Party made a presentation at the Hanoi School of Business Educators Workshop on “Clusters and Competition Catalyst for Vietnam’s Economic Development”.

The TCI Chief-of-Party then met with the growers and exporters of the Dragon Fruit cluster in Binh Thuan, the province with the major production of dragon fruit. He also had a meeting with government officials in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, with the Vice-Chairman of the People’s Committee of the Province of Binh Thuan and his directors in attendance.

- As part of a joint effort with VNCI to engage with key stakeholders, TCI Chief-of-Party made a presentation on August 27, entitled “Cooperation for Competitiveness” at the CIEM Workshop on Global Competitiveness Report.

The TCI Chief-of-Party then met with the officers of the Vina Fruit Association in HCMC to plan for a possible conference that will include the participation of one TCI Thai Senior Consultant who specializes in food safety and health standards for the High- Value Agricultural Produce cluster.



Mobilization of Competitiveness Advisors

- TCI hired a new cluster consultant on Aug. 20, at which time there was a reorganization of assignments. (Note that the cluster consultant in charge of multi-media resigned at the end of June).
- TCI hired another new cluster consultant on August 18. TCI now has two new consultants. One of them has marketing and logistics experience and will supervise future locally-contracted market research on clusters. The other is a PhD in Economics (University of Florida) who will assist Dr. Warner in developing the paper for Thailand in relation to the GCR, and who will assist Marcos Arocha in preparing and analyzing data on the clusters for the M&E. Dr. Andrew Warner met with the new consultant on Aug. 29, to discuss the content and research work need to develop the paper, scheduled for delivery in late October.

Country Orientation and Training of Local Counterparts

- As part of TCI training activities, during his M&E trip, Dr. Andrew Warner undertook a series of one-on-one training sessions with the TCI cluster consultants. Due to the cluster participants' limited language ability, the TCI team members would "transfer" and apply the lessons learned from Dr. Warner's sessions to their respective clusters.

An additional training component occurred when TCI prepared a workshop on M&E attended by executives and staff members from FTI, NESDB, and Kenan Institute Asia featuring Dr. Andrew Warner as the keynote speaker.

- Three training sessions were held for the TCI staff. The "standard" training approach is a continuous process every two weeks based on the following sequence: (1) A diagnostic tool is discussed. (2) Over a two-week period, the team applies it to their respective cluster. (3) At the next training session, each team member presents the results of applying the tool for discussion, and another tool is discussed, and the cycle continues.
- TCI staff also attended content-driven seminars on "Food Safety" and "Marketing Strategy" for the HVAP cluster, "Innovations in Asian Economies" and "E-Learning" for the multi-media cluster.
- TCI consultants undertook training in competitiveness with faculty of Kasetsart University. KU is the secretariat overseeing the sustainability of the HVAP cluster.



Industry Cluster Competitiveness Initiatives

Multi Media Cluster: Gaming, Animation, Web Portals

- Four members of the multi-media cluster went to San Diego to attend the annual conference of SIGGRAPH and to search for possible market connections and to seek possible expertise for STTA. This was an action in line with the cluster strategy of building closer links to US entertainment companies.
- The Multi-media cluster met with the ICT Minister who endorsed the TCI and Cluster initiated conference entitled “Thailand Animation and Multimedia 2004” for another year.
- The Multi-Media Cluster held an organizational meeting on September 23 to set up specific next steps and to develop linkages with the universities that represent a critical source of skilled labor. One of the next steps is to update the directory of firms in the cluster in order to sustain regular communications with members. Another task is to increase the participation of the firms in the cluster beyond the current group of firms that tend to dominate the meetings. The cluster is also preparing for the second Thailand Animation and Multimedia fair (scheduled in the early of January 2004).
- TCI, with the assistance of Mahidol University, developed a plan for an IT-design center that will be linked with the gem and multi-media clusters. Representatives from Mahidol University made a presentation of the preliminary feasibility study on August 21.

Phuket Tourism

The meeting with the Phuket Governor and members of the Patong tourism cluster for scheduled for July was postponed yet again. There appears to be insufficient interest on the part of the potential cluster participants to continue engagement on what they perceive to be strategies that are “too long-term”. As of end-September, TCI decided to disengage with Phuket and instead focus on the tourism cluster in Chiang Mai.

HVA (High Value Agricultural Product) Project

- The HVAP cluster is evaluating the possibility suggested by the cluster consultant of reducing their dependence on the export market by selling to the “higher-end” local supermarkets and is undertaking preliminary research on the potential to sell the cluster’s produce to “higher-end” local supermarkets.



- Meetings continue with the HVAP cluster with Kasetsart University and with the Ministry of Agriculture on food safety and good agricultural practices. The latter agreed to a TCI initiative for a wider dissemination of practices to apply not only to the contract growing farmers selling to the export markets but also to the much larger numbers of small farmers selling to the domestic market.

OTOP (One Product One Village) Project

There is a possibility that the relevant provincial government agency will secure funds to extend the OTOP project in Udon Thani.

However, as of end-September, TCI decided to reduce its engagement with OTOP since the villages are not coalescing into a cluster.

Gems and Jewelry: Chantaburi

- The PSFG work group met and agreed on the TCI plan for a gem branding and marketing consultant to carry out a short term technical assistance program.
- A two-day conference culminating in the signing of the MOU with the gem cluster in Chantaburi. At its peak, over the two days, almost 100 participants attended the sessions. Between 60-70 participants stayed through out the conference. Keynote speakers included the governor of the province, the director of the gemological institute, government officials from NESDB and the DEP, and members of the media. The report on the conference will be incorporated in the new website.
- The Chantaburi gem cluster opened a booth at the September gem and jewelry fair in Bangkok. The TCI Senior Consultant (Mr. Piyabutr Cholvijan) in charge of policy initiatives was the opening speaker and he boosted the image of the Chantaburi gem cluster by visiting its booth.

Chiang Mai

- The “launch” of the JAA office in Chiang Mai took place on August 6, in conjunction with a KIAAsia signing ceremony with the SME Network in Thailand. JAA on-site consultant Jack Kelly made a presentation (in Thai) to approximately 85 cluster participants and other guests. The conference proceedings appeared in his July 17-Aug. 15 report.
- The cluster consultant in Chiang Mai submitted his report. He is currently working on several product clusters—wood and furniture, woven materials and cloth

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products, traditional ceramics, and on both eco-tourism and “high-end” health-oriented tourism. He is expected to focus on two clusters as his permanent assignment—tourism and a handicraft product of NOHMEX starting in the next quarter.

Silk Cluster in Korat

- The consultant for the silk cluster is developing the organizational structure for the cluster and will seek STTA for this structural change.
- The charter for creating a silk secretariat and institute is with the legislature. Approval may occur in November. The silk cluster consultant is engaged in two parallel activities, working with the government on the complementary structure and with the private sector to transform key operations (growing and weaving) into a “quasi-industrial” process.
- The silk cluster is now holding regular meetings every Friday. At present, the government bureaus are more involved than the private sector because of the possibility for a “policy action initiative” on silk. However, private sector participation is increasing with each meeting.

Seafood: Songkla

- TCI prepared to engage with the seafood cluster in the south, a task that will involve cooperation with Prince of Songkla University (PSU), the largest institution serving the region which comprises provinces in southern Thailand that are adjacent to northern Malaysia. This report covers two meetings with the PSU President and with the TCC Operations Manager, during which time parts of the discussion were conducted in English.
- TCI briefed the President and his staff on the competitiveness project in Thailand and suggested that, together with TCI, PSU could undertake the following joint activities:
 - Provide research and develop case studies on issues affecting the seafood cluster.
 - Design courses for both the degree programs of PSU (such as for the MBA programs) and for shorter, continuing education seminars for the business community.
 - Act a secretariat for the meetings of the different stakeholders of the seafood cluster.
 - Since the seafood business by its very nature was not confined to Hat Yai & Songkla but included other areas in southern Thailand, it seemed more logical to develop a cluster that was more regional in scope.



- Furthermore, since the seafood business involved countries besides Thailand that shared the ocean where deep-sea fishing occurred, it seemed more logical to consider a “multi-country” cluster.
- TCI met with Tropical Canning Corporation, a relatively large canning company whose Malaysia joint venture partner provides marketing, and the company appears to be financially stable and up-to-date in its technology. However, the meeting with the TCC Operations Manager indicated that fish and labor supply and quality might be quite different issues, especially for the smaller operators— both fishermen and canning companies. Although labor is cheap, the canning firms compete with the rubber industry (when it hires labor to tap the rubber). And the small fishermen in particular cannot meet the export quality requirements.
- The discussion generated the following implications:
 - Since TCI has a deliverable on workforce productivity improvement and skill development, this deliverable might be attained by working with the seafood cluster on labor supply and quality.
 - Both the fishermen and the canning factories in the seafood cluster are located over a wide area, so that the seafood cluster might have to be a regional cluster covering several areas.
 - Although more meetings are needed in the near future, the initial exploration of the potential for the seafood cluster appears promising. There are areas for value-added activities, and for engaging the academe and assisting in labor development. There is a policy role for the local and provincial government. And the possibility of a regional and even a multi-country cluster is a new approach to cluster and competitiveness work.

Strategic Action Initiatives (SAIs)

The Strategic Action Initiative for the Gem Cluster in Chantaburi resulted in a request for STTA to assist the cluster in branding and market development.

Policy Benchmarking and Policy Action Initiatives (PAIs)

- The current Policy Action Initiative on GAP for HVAP continued with a conference with the newly appointed minister wherein he affirmed the applicability of the approach for improving health and safety standards for exported fresh fruits and vegetables of the cluster for other areas in Thailand.
- Dr. Warner and the TCI Senior Policy Advisor discussed the possibility of using a conference at which Dr. Warner would analyze Thailand’s position in the Global Competitiveness Report (to be held in November) as a vehicle for developing



private-sector led policy initiatives, by asking one or two key business leaders to prepare policy responses to Dr. Warner's presentation and analysis.

- The Prime Minister has rejected the notion of an independent National Competitiveness Council, which JAA consultant Howard Rosen had indicated in two trips to Bangkok in December 2002 and in January 2003 was a critical success factor for such a council.

Workforce Action Initiatives (WAIs)

As part of WAI, three members of the TCI team and two members from the Institute's Skill Development Unit visited Chantaburi and spoke with the PSFG and the DEP and the Provincial Governor and the local unit of the Ministry of Labor and Skill Development to begin discussions on a possible training initiatives for the gem cluster workers. There is some reluctance among the cluster participants to consider workforce initiatives, although preliminary exploration took place this month in gem cluster in Chantaburi.

Media and Academe Mindset Activities

- As part of Media and Academe Mindset Activities, TCI organized a workshop with journalists from the major English and Thai newspapers to meet Dr. Warner, who discussed competitiveness issues with them, and provided them with a preliminary analysis of the driving forces of Thailand's growth over the long term.
- Dr. Warner also met with the former Dean of Economics of Chulalongkorn University and the former Dean of the Development Studies of NIDA, and they discussed the factors accounting for Thailand's continued economic growth and whether new growth factors had to be considered for future growth.
- The Chantaburi gem conference in August received fairly extensive media coverage from both English and Thai newspapers and television media in both Bangkok and Chantaburi. The "formula" for engaging the media appears to require "feeding" them both figuratively, with news-worthy events, and literally, by inviting them to the conference and providing room and board during their out-of-town stay. This "formula" started with the ERA conference in June, and followed by interviews with Dr. Andrew Warner in July.
- In order to increase TCI's "reach", the TCI website went through a major reformatting. The final format for the TCI website was completed on Aug. 30.



- The revised website was launched in the last week of August. The current format of the revised version consists of a “front page” that will highlight important activities of TCI and will change twice each month.
 - The rest of the site provides descriptions of TCI activities by categories, such as cluster work and special events.
 - Since there is a danger that the website might “crash” with too much data, over time, the past activities of TCI will be deleted from the website. However, the materials to date are available on CD-Rom.
 - The address is www.kiasia.org/comp/.
- In addition to the trip to PSU, TCI discussed the potential for linkages between the gem cluster and Srinakarin University and Burapa University. The universities provide the supply of skilled labor and testing services for gems. However, the universities are not particularly “customer-oriented” and have not expanded their relationship with the Chantaburi firms.
- As per the budget item “Digital Event Capture/Electronic Training Materials”, TCI developed three short (10+ minutes) video clips using MS Movie Maker for inclusion in the website (and for compilation on CD-Rom after more videos are developed). The video clips are on Howard Rosen and Andre Warner on the topic of Thai competitiveness, and on the Cambodia Fishery Cluster.

Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E occurred in earnest with the arrival of Dr. Andrew Warner, who espoused a new approach focusing on value-adding deliverables instead of purely process outputs (MOUs, meetings, survey feedback forms, etc.).

Planned Activities for the Next Quarter

- Continue meetings with the Seafood Cluster & PSU.
- Coordinate with Roger Ford & Andre Warner on the competitiveness course curriculum.
- Conference with Martin Webber & Roger Ford on Cluster Evaluation
- Training sessions for TCI by Messrs. Webber & Ford.
- Trip by TCI CoP & Martin Webber to Cambodia (four conferences/meetings scheduled).
- Development of proposals for (local) market research contracts for five clusters.
- Design STTA for David Flood (for the new clusters, and expand STTAs for other clusters.
- Prepare to receive STTA consultants (gem, multi-media,silk).

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BAC Implementation Reports:

BAC Assists Gas Storage Tank Manufacturer Improve Manufacturing Technique

KIW Volunteer Expert, Dr. Robert Rudland trains PSA Chemtech to improve building Perlite cryogenic gas tanks and explores the option of producing super-insulated tanks

Completion: September 2002

BAC Consultants: Ronald Shields and Thanawat Pringwanich

Project Number: BAC02451

Client Company: PSA Chemtech (PSA) was founded in February 2001 to supply and provide repair and maintenance services for cryogenic tanks. PSA is the only company in Thailand that repairs cryogenic gas storage tanks. However, there are several companies that manufacture cryogenic tanks within Thailand. These are large organizations with well-known names. There are also local Thai competitors, at least two of which manufacture small tanks, both Perlite and Super Insulated.

Although PSA is a new company, the family has been in the air products business for nearly 50 years. They have a great deal of knowledge in every area of the industry. Industrial gas companies account for approximately 90 to 95% of PSA's current sales. Usually, the tank is sold to an industrial gas company, who then provides the tank to the customer. PSA believes customers will begin purchasing tanks themselves in the near future. PSA is finding it increasingly expensive and difficult to locate second-hand tanks from other countries (US, Japan). They feel that they can save considerable money by manufacturing the tanks themselves. While they have the knowledge and capability to manufacture Perlite tanks, they do not have the expertise to manufacture Super Insulated tanks.

Volunteer Expert: Dr. Robert Rudland was recruited by the Kenan Washington office for this assignment. His qualifications very strongly matched the needs of the assignment.

Goals of the Project: PSA wanted an engineer experienced in manufacturing Super Insulated cryogenic bulk gas storage tanks to help them set up a facility to manufacture them. They needed help in establishing the facility as well as setting the appropriate specifications of the tanks.

Areas of Assistance: Dr. Rudland worked with the client at the site from August 27 until September 20, 2002. He provided assistance to PSA in three areas. First he explained how to use their existing manufacturing facilities to produce new tanks insulated with Perlite lining. Next, he described the manufacturing changes required to convert to



super-insulated tank manufacturing. Third, he provided a list of suppliers of super-insulated equipment and materials along with their costs.

Dr. Rudland also provided technical details needed to determine the exact insulation design as charts and calculations for the tank thermal process. He also provided a list of tasks that had to be performed to convert PSA's existing manufacturing process to a super-insulation process. A chart of tasks and timelines could not be provided because more information from suppliers was needed before the project could begin

Impact of BAC Assistance: PSA learned to improve manufacturing efficiency for Perlite cryogenic gas tanks. They also learned the necessary requirement and technique to make super-insulated tanks. The next step will be for the company to embark on necessary preparation and manufacturing changes to add the new product line when they are ready.



BAC Assists Household Manufacturer Increase R&D Productivity

Volunteer Expert, Dr. William Wendel, helps Greenville Company Ltd. improve efficiency of its R&D department

Completion: May 2003

BAC Consultant: Ronald Shields

Project Number: BAC02539

Client Company: Greenville Company Ltd. was established in 1984 as a manufacturer of sanitary napkins. This privately held OEM has vastly expanded its product line and currently manufactures over 75 types of cosmetics, toiletries and household products for local (95%) and international (5%) clients. Greenville maintained its financial stability during the Asian economic crisis by sustaining their sales levels via a low cost strategy. Despite its financial soundness today, Greenville faces an “all eggs in one basket” dilemma as more than 90% of its business is derived from one large customer. To reduce its exposure to this and grow its business, Greenville realizes it must have a competitive advantage. To distinguish itself from its competitors, Greenville would like to be a leader in R&D. Not only would they like to be technologically astute, but would also like to reduce their “time-to-market” by adopting R&D procedures that make them quicker and more nimble. They would also like to improve their recently established R&D department so that it can produce higher value added products. This is becoming more important with the looming threat of China becoming a stronger player in the market for basic toiletry items.

Volunteer Expert: Dr. William Wendel was chosen as the Volunteer Expert (VE) for this project. Dr. Wendel has many years of experience in the private sector dealing in cosmetics and R&D development.

Goals of the Project: The project goals were as follows;

1. To increase the R&D efficiency with regard to developing new products proposed by customers. This may involve developing an entirely new process or simply improving the current process.
2. To increase the R&D efficiency with regard to developing new product ideas in-house. A spirit of creativity must be encouraged and a unique understanding of R&D procedures with regard to creating innovative higher value-added products must be fostered.

Greenville anticipated that increased R&D productivity would better allow them to increase and improve their product line. It would better allow the company to meet customer demands for new products and it would also better allow them to develop new

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higher value-added products to better compete in a more globally competitive industry. Overall sales should increase as a result.

Areas of Assistance: During the first 3 weeks in May 2003 Dr. Wendel worked closely with the R&D team and made several recommendations. First he suggested that Greenville reconfigure its sample inventory. Existing personnel are acquainted with their current system however; new personnel or outside consultants would find it very confusing. Dr. Wendel suggested that the list should be showing first the International Nomenclature Cosmetic Ingredient (INCI) name, followed by one or more Chemical or Trade Names and the names of the supplier. In addition, both categories should be placed in alphabetical order.

Next Dr. Wendel made suggestions with regard to relevance of current documentary volumes. Current editions of the Cosmetic Toiletries & Fragrance Association (CTFA) Ingredient Dictionary, 9th edition, should be purchased to replace the existing 5th edition which is completely out of date. As many as 60% of the specialty chemical suppliers listed in the 5th edition have either been acquired or have acquired another like firm with an accompanying name change, several have gone out of business, while most importantly, the product name has changed or has been deleted from the listing. Consequently, the practicing cosmetic chemist is working in the dark. Similarly, a current edition of the CTFA International Buyers Guide, published annually should be replaced.

Next, Dr. Wendel provided very specific and detailed advice on how to properly approach the problem of formulating an existing product. When a potential client approaches requesting duplication of an existing commercial product manufactured in Asia, it is virtually impossible to successfully characterize the product without the use of specialized and highly sophisticated analytical equipment and probably at significant cost. Dr. Wendel provided step-by-step guidelines based on his experience.

Dr. Wendel subscribed 2 new technical journals for Greenville [Free copies] and recommended that they become a member of a packing organization.

Impact of BAC Assistance: Since the project, Greenville has completed the formulation of 2 simple products. As for the remainder, Greenville does not currently have enough raw materials for trial although Dr. Wendel requested more than 100 items by himself from the International supplier before he came to Thailand. These products will be formulated once the supplies arrive. With regard to training, Dr. Wendell's teachings with respect to new technical "Encapsulation" will be of more benefit in the future.



BAC Assists National Food Testing Laboratory Increase Testing Proficiency

ACDI/VOCA Volunteer Expert, Dr. Keh-Chuh (KC) Ting, helps train National Food Institute's scientists to gain proficiency in laboratory testing

Completion: February 2003

BAC Consultants: Ronald Shields and Duangrat Yaiphairoj

Project Number: BAC02465

Client Company: The National Food Institute (NFI), a publicly funded organization, performs research for both the public and private sector to promote the Thai foods industry. NFI's principal activities include:

- Improve food production and meet International standards through implementation of food quality systems such as GMP, ISO Guide-25/17025, HACCP or "Halal-HACCP".
- Promote SME development by cooperating with the National Science and Technology Development Agency and other relevant agencies in developing the standards of Thai traditional food products for export
- Coordinate with government agencies and the private sector in solving problems affecting food exports and to consistently boost the country's exports
- Recognized and referred upon by government agencies and policy makers on policy research and relevant information.

The NFI is continuously looking to expand its services into more areas that will be helpful in fostering the Thai food industry. Their Laboratory Services Division offers a wide range of chemical, microbiological and physical tests to help food industries comply with the international standards or specific requirements of their respective markets. Its services include tests for:

- Nutritional food composition
- Agricultural contaminants
- Heavy metals and food additives
- Microbiological tests for Salmonella, Clostridium, E. Coli, and others
- Visual and sensory tests

Volunteer Expert: Dr. Keh-Chuh (KC) Ting of the California Department of Food and Agriculture was located by ACDI/VOCA. He is a laboratory supervisor at the department with a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and a life-long experience in laboratory testing.

Goals of the Project: The NFI hopes that once the VE has completed the assignment, the Laboratory Services Division should be comfortable with all areas of Pesticide Residue Analysis, Proficiency Testing, and the testing of the most common edible oils. In



addition, the ultimate goal of this project is to become accredited as a Proficiency Testing Organizer. This means attaining an ISO 43 certification.

Areas of Assistance: Nine seminars were conducted for five staff chemists and one laboratory Assistant Director in February 2003. Subjects covered in the seminars included 1) sample preparation, 2) matrix cleanup 3) organohelogen analyses by gas chromatographic unit with electron capture detector, 4) organophosphorus analyses by gas chromatographic unit with flame photometric detector, 5) Nitrogenous analyses by gas chromatographic unit with thermionic nitrogen detector 6) N-Methylcarbamate analysis by high pressure liquid chromatographic unit with post-column derivatization system and mass selective detector, 8) Proficiency Testing Program (Homogeneity, Stability, and Statistical Interpretation, and 9) other analytical methods (PCB, 2,4-D, Benomyl Dithiocabamates - - etc.)

The majority of the seminars included hands-on demonstrations and participation by the NFI scientists to ensure the understanding of the techniques and operations. Due to the thermionic nitrogen detector was not available, the procedures, techniques, and data processing of the nitrogenous pesticide analyses could only be presented for future consideration.

The following recommendations were presented to the NFI:

- 1) Establish a pesticide usage databank to collect and provide information on all pesticide sales, distributions, crop usage, usage amounts, usage locations, and fields in the nation.
- 2) Establish a reputable food testing laboratory with trained personnel and state of the art analytical instruments.
- 3) Due to the perishable nature of food crops, the NFI laboratory needs to develop and/or adapt an efficient and effective analytical method for analyzing many more pesticides than their current method. The above seminars used the CDFA-MRS method as an example due to its capability to scan approximately 161 different pesticide residues on 12 fruits and vegetables in a short time frame
- 4) Designate a QA/QC team with chemistry backgrounds and laboratory experience directly under the NFI Director. This team will have the authority and responsibility in guiding the laboratory operation to perform the Proficiency Testing Program. Furthermore, this team may become the core scientific team that will lead the entire organization in obtaining an ISO 43 certification and then become a Proficiency Testing Organization, the ultimate goal of the NFI.

Impact of BAC Assistance: Overall the NFI scientists were eager to learn the California Department of Foods and Agriculture multi-residue scan (MRS) methods and participate in the hands-on seminars. This project provided fundamental information to the NFI in developing analytical methods suitable to Thailand's food industry. Furthermore, the NFI staff scientists gained the basic skills necessary to tackle the Proficiency Testing Program and to lead the Institute in becoming a certified Proficiency Testing Organization.

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Business Support Organizations Program Quarterly Activities Report (July to September 2003)

<i>BSOP Project Matrix – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Standards of Practice Handbook: Certified Investment and Securities Analyst Program / Financial Governance	The Association for Investment Management and Research (AIMR) and the Securities Analysts Association (SAA) promoted 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 project was completed in September 2001.
Support programs related to the Chartered Financial Analyst Designation/ Financial Governance	AIMR experts traveled to Bangkok to conduct a workshop on Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS). In addition , the 10-day review sessions in tutorial classes were delivered to prepare CISA/CFA candidates for level 1 and level 2, year 2002 exam, using Schweser materials.	to raise the quality of Thai practitioners in finance and capital markets.	SAA (Thai), AIMR (US), Schweser (US)	The project was completed in May 2002.
Upgrading the Capability of Accounting Instructors / Financial Governance	The Institute for Certified Auditors and Accountants of Thailand (ICAAT) developed 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	The project was completed in December 2002.
Comparative Study on Thailand's Savings and Investment Tax Policy / Financial Governance	The study was 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 project was completed in September 2001.

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/outcomes	Partners	Status
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part I / <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	The American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) has provided 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.)	The project was completed in March 2002
Bankruptcy Court Administration Program Part II / <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</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. With BSOP support, the videoconferencing equipment was also installed at the CBC to connect with the Office of the Judiciary.	To increase the capabilities of CBC in handling bankruptcy cases.	CBC (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The last training component in Thailand is pending.
Thai Bankers Handbook / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	Under a licensing agreement with the American Bankers Association (ABA), the Thai Institution for Banking and Finance Association (TIBFA) develops a handbook for all Thai Bankers by adopting ABA materials.	Completion and use of handbook throughout Thailand	TIBFA (Thai) ABA (U.S.)	TIBFA introduced a Thai Bankers' Handbook to 130 financial sector professionals and the media on March 14, 2003. The project was already completed.
Establishing TLAPS Linkage with APICS/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	To continue its effort to establish a sustainable relationship with APICS, TLAPS will deliver a pilot training program for APICS certification. APICS CPIM certification consists of five modules. The pilot program includes five review courses to cover the CPIM's five modules. The results of the pilot program will determine future support for subsequent training programs.	To establish a sustainable relationship with APICS	TLAPS (Thai) APICS (U.S.)	The second review on Master Planning of Resources, the second module of CPIM, was held between June 20 - 22. The review course is scheduled for November 20 - 22.



<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Performance Audit Workshop / <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The training program was 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 Office of the Auditor General's auditors throughout the country.	To improve the capability of the OAG's auditors in performance auditing	OAG (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	The project was completed in April 2001.
Development and Implementation of the Strategic Framework and operational plan./ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The US General Accounting Office and the Office of Inspector General, Department of Transportation (OIG/DOT) is providing technical assistance to increase the capabilities of the Office of the Auditor General of Thailand (OAG) and its officials in developing and implementing a new strategic framework and operational plan for OAG.	To devise the strategic framework and operational plan for OAG	OAG (Thai) GAO, OIG/DOT (U.S.)	Four delegates from OAG visited the U.S. organizations associated with state auditing between July 7 – 11, 2003 to learn more about best practices of the U.S. state auditing system. Ms. Suzanne Murrin, Director of Audit Planning and Technical Support, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Transportation, joined with the Thai experts to deliver the second workshop on OAG's Strategic Framework. The workshop was held between July 23 – 25 in Pattaya. The OAG strategic framework working group is working with the Thai expert team to finalize the strategic framework.



<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/outcomes	Partners	Status
Building Capacity and Professional Standard for Property Valuation in Thailand / <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Appraisal Foundation (TAF) is providing 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.)	SEC organized a public hearing session to release concept for property valuation in Thailand contained in a new draft profession standard. The session was held September 24, 2003. After the public hearing, SEC is working to finalize the professional standard for property valuation in Thailand.
ABIH Certified Industrial Hygienist Program / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Occupational Health and Safety at Work Association (OHSWA) of Thailand joined with 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.)	The project was completed in September 2001.
Public Education Program on Credit Bureaus/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	The Fiscal Policy Office (FPO), and the Bank of Thailand (BOT) partnered with the U.S. Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA), the Federal Trade Commission, and the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) to exchange knowledge and information on credit bureaus through public education programs.	To increase the awareness of credit information, credit reporting, credit bureaus, and the establishment and use of credit among the public, including private and government sectors	FPO, BOT (Thai) CDIA (U.S.)	The project was already completed.

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Large Grants				
Project Name / Objective	<i>Description</i>	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	<i>Status</i>
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, has provided the TSI with curriculum, education materials, and expert technical and training.	To promote the long-term development of the capital market and stock market in Thailand	SET-TSI (Thai) JAI (U.S.)	The training is ongoing. the translation of JAI materials has been completed.
The Bond Market Development/ <i>Financial Governance</i>	The co-operation between Thai BDC and TBMA was 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 aim at developing bond market in Thailand.	To develop the bond market in Thailand	Thai BDC TBMA (U.S.)	The project was already completed in September 2002.
Secured Transaction Law Development and Implementation/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) provided technical assistance to the Office of the Judiciary (OJ) 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 was already completed in September 2002.
Community Leadership Training Program/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	The Institute for Management Education for Thailand foundation (IMET) joined 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 was completed in September 2002

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Mediation Center for Financial Disputes Program/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	American Bankruptcy Institution (ABI) provided 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 was successfully completed in September 2002
Organic Inspection Training Program/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) provided 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 was completed in June 2002.
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 pending.
Upgrading the Capabilities of Post and Telegraph Department's Staff for National Telecommunications Commission's Secretariat Office/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>	This training and technical assistance program is to upgrade the capabilities of the officials of the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD) in the preparation of the organization to be transformed into the Secretariat of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) which is to operate as an independent regulator regulating telecommunications, and promoting competition and liberalization.	To upgrade the capabilities of PTD's officials	PTD (Thai) FCC (U.S.)	Two U.S. experts traveled to Bangkok to conduct the third training session on "Spectrum; Standards and Management" for PTD officials. The training was held between August 18 – 20. The project was successfully completed.

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
<i>Large Grants</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Judicial Reform Project/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	The Office of the Judiciary (OJ), the Federal Judicial Center (FJC), and the American Bar Association (ABA) have joined together to exchange knowledge and information on judicial reform issue. This training and technical assistance program aims to promote the application of new measures in the Thai courts in order to eliminate unnecessary delays and to improve efficiency in the court proceedings of economic cases.	To improve efficiency in the court proceedings	OCJ (Thai) FJC (U.S.) ABA (U.S.)	Two U.S. experts, including judge and court administrator traveled to Bangkok between August 25 – 29 to deliver a series of roundtable discussions to share the US experiences in judicial development. During their trip, they also joined with Thai judges to deliver a seminar on “Testimony Recording System for Court and Arbitration” for 300 participants, including judges, lawyers, and stakeholders.
USFDA-Approved Better Process Control Scholl (BPCS) in Thailand Year II and III/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	The National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) has provided the assistance to King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) to establish USFDA approved BPCS in Thailand. BPCS is the first ever school in Thailand which aims to assist Thai food exporters of low-acid canned food (LACF) and acidified foods (AF) in exporting to foreign markets.	To establish a USFDA certified BPCS in Thailand	BIOTEC, KMUTT (Thai) Purdue Univ. (U.S.)	The project was already completed.
Internal Audit Quality Assessment – Professional Practices and Training on Quality Assurance Review Program/ <i>Corporate Governance</i>		To provide KTB with quality QAR services that will help improve its good governance.	KTB, IIAT (Thai) IIA-US (U.S.)	The project was completed in November 2002



<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) / Financial Governance	Mr. Reed C. Parker, Volunteer Executive from IESC, had spent one month in Bangkok to provide technical assistance to TRIS in the area of credit rating from January 17 - February 11, 2000.	To strengthen Thai corporations' abilities to raise funds by improving the capabilities of TRIS in bond rating.	TRIS (Thai), IESC (US)	The project was completed in February 2000.
Technical Assistance for Thailand Rating Information Services (TRIS) - Trip # 2/ Financial governance	An expert from Financial Services Volunteer Corps (FSVC) is providing technical assistance and training on traditional credit rating methodology to TRIS analysts. The program will also include the on-the-job training on specific cases to be rated.	To strengthen the capabilities of TRIS in credit rating methodologies and procedures, securitization	TRIS (Thai), FSVC (US)	Mr. Kenneth J.H. Pinkes, a volunteer expert from FSVC, traveled to Bangkok between June 30 - July 15 to conduct a two-week training program for TRIS staff.
APICS-TLAPS Partnership / International Competitiveness	With BSOP Support, Mr. Richard Welch, former President of APICS to travel to Bangkok to attend the TLAPS conference and to build the relationship with TLAPS in May 2000. TLAPS President and Advisor also attended APICS conference held in October 2001 under BSOP support.	To establish long-term cooperation between TLAPS and APICS	TLAPS (Thai), APICS (US)	The project was already completed.

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants	Description			
Project Name / Objective		Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
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. Mr. James Park, Director of Research and Technical Issues from the Appraisal Foundation (TAF) came over to hold talks with key Thai organizations involved in the land assessment in late August.	To improve the capabilities of the OAG staff and develop a relationship between OAG and GAO	OAG (Thai) GAO (U.S.)	Mr. Phaisarn Vorasetsiri, the 2000 GAO Fellow, was selected to participate in the on-the-job training at GAO's field office in Chicago. The program was already completed.
Land Assessors' standard and procedures / <i>Financial Governance</i>	BSOP provided 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	Improve knowledge of assessors in Thai assessment organizations	Association of Thai Assessors, TAF (U.S.)	The program was completed in August 2000.
Certificate for Occupational Health and Safety / <i>International Competitiveness</i>	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 initiate training programs and establish a certificate program to comply with the new Labour ACT.	OHSWA (Thai), ABIH (U.S.)	The program was already completed.
SET Derivatives Program / <i>Financial Governance</i>	With BSOP support, the executives from the Central Credit Information Services Co., Ltd. (CCIS) and the Thai Credit Bureau Co., Ltd., attended The Credit Reporting World Conference held by the US Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA) in 2000 and 2002.	To prepare the SET's staff for delivering of new derivatives products.	SET (Thai), U.S. partner	The program was completed.

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Thai Credit Bureau / Financial Governance	With BSOP support, the executives from the Central Credit Information Services Co., Ltd. (CCIS) and the Thai Credit Bureau Co., Ltd., attended The Credit Reporting World Conference held by the US Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA) in 2000 and 2002.	Better knowledge on credit bureaus	CCIS, TCB (Thai), CDIA (US)	The program was completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Project Name / Objective	Mr. Michael Decker, Vice President of Research and Policy Analysis at the Bond Market Association (TBMA) held 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.			
BMA – Thai BDC Partnership/ Financial Governance	Three US. experts from Pacific Pension Institute (PPI) provided technical assistance to Government Pension Fund (GPF) of Thailand and gave their presentations at the "World Class Fund Management" conference held by GPF.	To build the partnership between Thai BDC and TBMA	Thai BDC, TBMA (U.S.)	The trip has been completed
International Pension Exchange Program/ Financial Governance	With BSOP support, Dr. Thammanoon Phitayaporn, to attend the International Colloquium on Secured Transactions to discuss the first preliminary draft Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions prepared by the Secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)	To educate GPF staff on pension fund management	GPF (Thai), PPI (U.S.)	The project was completed in May 2001.
Secured Transaction Law Development	Under BSOP support to the Post and Telegraph	To share Thailand's	OJ (Thai)	The project was completed.

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and Implementation/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	Department (PTD), the Communication Authority of Thailand (CAT) and the Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) sent 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).	views on Secured Transactions Law with international communities	UNCITRAL	
Thai Telecommunication Development/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>	Under BSOP support to the Post and Telegraph Department (PTD), the Communication Authority of Thailand (CAT) and the Telephone Organization of Thailand (TOT) sent 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 project was completed.
<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants	Description			
Project Name / Objective	Mr. George M. Kelakos made his preliminary trip to Bangkok to discuss the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI)'s technical assistance in the issues related to bankruptcy law reform with the Council of State (COS).	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Bankruptcy Law Reform Project/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	With BSOP support, the Supreme Court of Thailand sent two judges to participate in Judicial Administration and Reform Course held in Sydney, Australia between June 2 – 21, 2002. The course was organized by the International Development Law	To promote bankruptcy law reform in Thailand	COS (Thai) ABI (U.S.)	The project was completed in April 2002.

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	Institute (IDLI) to review international and regional initiatives in the field of judicial administration and governance, and to provide forum for discussion of judicial reform issues arising in the Asia-Pacific region.			
Judicial Administration and Reform Course/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	Three senior judges from the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court participated in the conference on Judicial Capacity regarding Intellectual Property – Enforcement and Dispute Settlement held in Washington D.C., U.S. between September 12 – 13, 2002. The conference is organized by the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) and the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIFI) to provide a forum for participants from developed and developing countries to share their experiences in Intellectual Property Enforcement and Dispute Settlement.	To promote judicial administration and reform	The Supreme Court (Thai), IDLI	The project was completed.
Judicial Capacity regarding Intellectual Property – Enforcement and Dispute Settlement/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	Three senior judges from the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court participated in the conference on Judicial Capacity regarding Intellectual Property – Enforcement and Dispute Settlement held in Washington D.C., U.S. between September 12 – 13, 2002. The conference is organized by the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office (USPTO) and the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIFI) to provide a forum for participants from developed and developing countries to share their experiences in Intellectual Property Enforcement and Dispute Settlement.	To share Thailand’s experiences on IPR with international	IP&IT court (Thai), IIFI (U.S.)	The project was completed in September 2002

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<i>Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Small Grants	Description			
Project Name / Objective		Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
	BSOP provided partial support for the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court to organize the 5 th Annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law: New Dimension in Present and Future. The symposium was held between December 2 – 3 in Bangkok.			
The 5 th Annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law: New Dimension in Present and Future/ <i>Legislative and Judicial Reforms</i>	The BSOP in collaboration with the Thai Bankers' Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Office, and the World Bank organized a one-day workshop entitled "Negotiating and Mediating NPL Settlements Effectively." The workshop was conducted by two U.S. experts from the American Bankruptcy Institute, Mr. Jacob Esher, Senior Mediator, JAMS, and Mr. George M. Kelakos, Special Counsel, Heller Ehrman Attorneys. The participants included 50 bankers and representatives from Thai Asset Management Corporation (TAMC) and the Corporate Debt Restructuring Advisory Committee (CDRAC) of the Bank of Thailand.	To expose Thai public to international practices of IPR	IP&IT court (Thai), IPI (U.S.)	The project was completed.
Workshop for bankers on negotiating and mediating NPL settlements effectively/ <i>Financial and Corporate Governance</i>	Two US experts, Dr. Mark Tang of World Technology Ventures, and Dr. Frances Toneguzzo, Director of Licensing, MGH, Harvard Medical School, traveled to Thailand to deliver an introductory training course on IP Management to BAC consultants. Subsequently, KIA Asia and BIOTEC co-organized a full-day workshop on "Bioentrepreneurship" on July 18, as part of the BioThailand 2003 conference in Pattaya. The US	to promote mediation to resolved financial cases in the courts in order to strengthen Thailand's financial and judiciary systems	TBA, ADR (Thai), ABI (U.S.), World Bank	The activity was completed.

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	experts joined Thai and international experts presented to 80 researchers, entrepreneurs, government and corporate participants.			
IP and Bioentrepreneurship Training Workshops/ <i>International Competitiveness</i>		To raise the awareness concerning bioentrepreneurship in Thailand	KIAsia, BIOTEC (Thai), IPI (U.S.)	The activities were completed. A series of follow-up training courses are planned.

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AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program Quarterly Activities Report (July – September 2003)

<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Thailand				
Strengthening Administrative Court Capacity: Judge Forum on Administrative Contracts	The experts from the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and other U.S. organizations will provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of the Thai Administrative Courts in hearing administrative contract disputes	To develop court policy guidelines on Administrative Contracts	OAC (Thai), U.S. CFC	The project was already completed in March 2003
Strengthening Administrative Court Capacity: Case Management and Court Administration	PADCO and KIAAsia is Facilitating a partnership between the Thai Administrative Courts and the U.S. Federal Judicial Center to strengthen the capacity of the Thai Administrative Courts in managing cases by raising awareness of senior judges on U.S. best practices and developing an action plan for implementing a recent assessment of the Court's case management capabilities by AusAID.	To develop guidelines on a Court policy for case management and court administration	OAC (Thai), U.S. CFC, FJC (U.S.)	The project was approved by the KIAAsia Working Group on September 22, 2003.
Developing a Thai Class Action Law	The American Bar Association (ABA) is providing expert assistance to work with the Council of State (CoS), the Class Action Research Team, and the Class Action Subcommittee in developing the new Thai Class Action Law.	To develop the Thai Class Action Law	CoS (Thai), ABA (U.S.)	The project was successfully completed.
<i>AERA Regional Regulatory Dialogue Program – Projects Approved for Funding</i>				

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Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ outcomes	Partners	Status
Dialogue projects in Vietnam				
Supporting Development of an IP Court in Vietnam	In partnership with the USAID's Support for Trade Acceleration (STAR) project, PADCO is facilitating dialogue between Vietnamese and Thai judges and other counterpart agencies and organization to support the development of a specialized court or bench within the Vietnam Supreme People's Court to enable implementation of the U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA). This program will include a series of integrated activities planned and implemented in cooperation with the STAR program.	To develop an Intellectual Property Court in Vietnam	Vietnam Supreme People's Court; Thai Central Intellectual Property and International Trade (CIPIT) Court	Two Thai judges from the Central Intellectual Property Court traveled to Hanoi, Vietnam to participate in and share legal experiences related to intellectual property at two seminars on IPR disputes held between June 23 - 27. The seminars, organized by the Supreme People's Court of Vietnam, aimed aim to address the aspects of Vietnam's intellectual property obligations under the Vietnam-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement and TRIPS.
Regional Dialogue on Public Participation in Government Decision Making	PADCO, KIAAsia and The Asia Foundation is to facilitate linkages between Vietnam and Thailand on public participation related to their on-going efforts to develop new legal frameworks, and in addition will launch a regional forum on public participation. Activities will include: (1) focused exchange between Vietnam and Thailand, and (2) a linked regional seminar in Bangkok. Participants will include legislators, agency officials and civil society leaders from Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.	To promote public participation in Vietnam	Vietnam Office of the National Assembly; Thai Council of State, the Asia Foundation	The Vietnamese delegation from the Office of National Assembly planed to travel to Bangkok for the observational program and workshop on public participation between July 7 – 11, 2003.

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Border Action Against Malaria

BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Strengthening of Sentinel Surveillance System for Anti-malarial Drug Resistance in Thailand / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i>	<p>With the Malaria Group of the Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases (MOPH) as focal point, the ADR surveillance network comprises malaria clinics under responsibility of regional Vector Borne Disease Control Offices 1-5, provincial and district community hospitals, and academic field research stations. Nine border provinces with high malaria incidence are selected as sentinel sites, <i>i.e.</i>, Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son, Tak, Kanchanaburi, Ranong, Ratchaburi, Ubon Ratchathani, Chanthaburi, and Trat. Main activities are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training on <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment and <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study; 2. <i>In vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy assessment of the first line treatment regimens; 3. <i>In vitro</i> sensitivity study of the currently used anti-malarial drugs; 4. Establishment of an information center for ADR network at the Malaria Division. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish a network of sentinel surveillance sites for monitoring anti-malarial drug resistance in Thailand 2. To study the current situation of anti-malarial drugs in Thailand both <i>in vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> 3. To strengthen the cooperation among sentinel sites in country and among neighboring countries towards sharing anti-malarial drug resistance information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Malaria Group, Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases 2. Provincial and district hospitals 3. Mahidol University 4. Siriraja Hospital 5. Thammasat University 6. The Royal Thai Armed Forces Research Institute for Medical Science 7. WHO 	<p>Initial training completed; sentinel surveillance by <i>in vivo</i> therapeutic efficacy study and <i>in vitro</i> sensitivity study of the currently used anti-malarial drugs is ongoing in 9 sentinel sites.</p> <p>Results of monitoring drug resistance in were analyzed at national technical workshops in 2002 and 2003. Revisions to sites where combination therapy is recommended as first-line therapy and revised treatment regimen is being finalized. The national malaria drug policy committee is revising manuals on treatment guidelines for physicians and health workers.</p>

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Community-Based Malaria Control Along the Thai-Cambodia Border Through Civic Partnerships in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces / Health System Reform –Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models</p>	<p>The main concept of the project is to strengthen community involvement in malaria control and toward self-reliance in the long run through the process of standardized method of working for prevention, cure, and control, by community-based work to improve the potential of community and local agencies to address the malaria problem by themselves with support by related health personnel and other multi-disciplinary teams.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To initiate malaria epidemiology information center in the community. 2) To improve prevention in high-risk groups. 3) To promote community participation in solving problem of prevention in high-risk groups, and promote use of dipstick test for early diagnosis. 4) To promote community participation to address malaria with support by government organizations 5) To build capacity of health personnel and volunteers, including health personnel from Cambodia border areas if requested to create a network for disease control by communities themselves in the long run. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi and Trat Provincial Public Health Offices • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Schools • High-risk groups • Village health volunteers • Government agencies • Community leaders 	<p>Orientation workshops on conducted, community civil-society forums on malaria problem, analysis, and action planning conducted in Chantaburi and Trat Provinces.</p> <p>Training on use of GIS for malaria control conducted in Chantaburi Province.</p> <p>Workshop conducted on community epidemiology for multi-sectoral local malaria control core participants in Trat Province, and training held on improved diagnosis and treatment of malaria in Trat Province.</p> <p>Community malaria core teams established and trained; stakeholder awareness and planning sessions conducted for community-based control projects..</p>

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Developing and producing dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection / Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment</p>	<p>Preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies, followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both <i>P. falciparum</i> and non-<i>P. falciparum</i>.</p> <p><i>General objective: To locally produce a rapid, simplified, reliable and maximized sensitivity dipstick dye immunoassay utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibody against pLDH and pGAPDH for detecting malaria antigens of falciparum and non-falciparum malaria in human blood by using our national resources.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To raise/characterize MAbs against pLDH and pGAPDH, maximize test sensitivity, genetic diversity to the <i>P. f.</i> parasite population, and not react to non-malaria antigen. 2. To develop a rapid, simplified, sensitive, and specific dipstick assay to detect asexual erythrocytic stage of <i>P.f.</i> and non-<i>P.f.</i> 3. To increase sensitivity, aiming at 100% for densities of >100 parasites per μl blood in four species. 4. To improve readability of tests (better signal intensity & avoidance of mix-ups). 5. To evaluate relative sensitivity/specificity of the antigen detection dipstick method for <i>P. f.</i> malaria field diagnosis compared to microscopy. 6. To set up a quality control system for sensitivity and specificity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bureau of Vector-Borne Diseases, Department of Disease Control, MOPH 2. National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	<p>Cloning and expression of pLDH in <i>E. coli</i> by genetic engineering obtained expressed fusion protein. By affinity purification, the protein obtained had high purity and good yield, and these proteins show the pLDH enzyme activity; Pre-immunized sera of rabbits were determined for the reactivity with pLDH and GST proteins by western blot analysis. Reactivity of the immunize sera was characterized by western blot analysis, followed by standardization of ELISA assay, determination of appropriate blocking solution in ELISA assay, and titration of polysera, which showed that the titer of reactivity with GST was lower than pLDH about 10-100 fold, indicating that the sera could react with pLDH with more specificity than GST.</p>

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Large Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>The project builds partnerships to develop a model for a school-based approach to community action against malaria as a strategy for developing knowledge, attitudes, skills and behavior necessary for community-based self-reliant action against malaria in highly endemic border. The model comprises the following key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A process for participatory learning and action against malaria by the school and community; • Use of case study approach on a whole school basis to study the local malaria situation and identify alternative solutions; • Use of life skills education methods to enhance the case study approach and develop/change behavior to prevent and reduce malaria; • Development of learning materials to support discovery learning; • Mobilization of communities for self-reliant action against malaria; • Provision of technical support to schools and communities; • Leveraging resources from local sub-district councils to support community malaria prevention and control plans and projects <p>Phase II (replication trials) began in October 2002 with expansion to include 40 schools in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, and Trat Provinces.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To strengthen capacity of schools and teachers to facilitate participatory learning and action by students and communities to prevent and control malaria. 2. To raise awareness and mobilize community action to prevent and control malaria. 3. To set up an example of a working model with multi-sectoral organizations collaborating as equal stakeholders. 4. To build on lessons learned and best practices for expansion of coverage to other endemic border areas facing increasingly multi-drug resistant malaria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education - Office of National Primary Education Commission: Office of Special Projects, Office of Supervision and Standards, Offices Provincial Primary Education Commissions in Tak, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Chantaburi, Trat • Health Behavior Development Group, Malaria Division • Regional Disease Control Offices, Vector Borne Disease Control Centers and Units • The Life Skills Development Foundation • Rajabhat Institute Chiang Mai • Border Patrol Police Bureau 	<p>Phase I (model-building): 200 teachers, principals, education supervisors from 25 schools in 4 districts received 25 days of training in 5 workshops. Students completed community malaria situation assessments, analyzed alternatives, and shared with community leaders in consultation workshops to reach consensus on action plans and projects. Community-generated malaria control projects were screened and approved for funding support. A participatory process evaluation was conducted in August 2002</p> <p>109 grade 4-9 teachers and supervisors from 15 expansion schools received 10 days of training, conducted surveys of community health problems and malaria KAP, teachers trained on in-depth malaria situation analysis; situation assessments completed in 15 expansion communities.</p>

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Thailand Roll Back Malaria Strategic Planning Workshop / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a multi-agency gathering of key stakeholders in malaria control. Working group sessions were held to obtain input on key strategies for renewed joint efforts to control malaria with special focus on border areas and multi-drug resistant malaria. Deliberations focused on the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis, treatment, case management • Community/household prevention • Epidemiology, surveillance, mapping, GIS • Decentralization, health system reform, responsibilities, and processes for community participation • Staff capacity building and training methodologies • Participatory learning processes, and prototypes for action in target communities • International organizations/agencies and their contribution to Thailand Roll Back Malaria <p>The thematic working groups presented results of their discussions in the form of recommended strategies, activities, support needed, and potential partner agencies for comments and plenary discussion.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To seek approaches and mechanisms for mutual cooperation for more successful malaria control. 2. To provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to present experience and share ideas to move toward formulation of key joint strategies for collaboration in systematically advancing as appropriate and necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH • Mahidol University • Thai and US AFRIMS • Royal Project Bureau • Royal Thai Army • Border Patrol Police Bureau • Hilltribe Welfare Division, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare • Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board • Office of the National Primary Education Commission • The Life Skills Dev. Foundation • IMPECT • IRC • ACTMalaria • MSF • PATH Canada • UNICEF • WHO • USAID 	<p>Workshop completed in July 2000. Participants from the wide range of organizations involved in anti-malaria efforts in Thailand were able to achieve a considerable degree of consensus on four principal strategies for rolling back malaria in Thailand.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surveillance and response: epidemic preparedness, prevention and control 2. Early diagnosis, prompt and effective treatment 3. Household and community prevention 4. Health system reform and decentralization to support local self-reliance in malaria control 5. Collaboration and coordination with equal partnerships among local implementing agencies <p>Program strategies, operational strategies, and potential partner agencies were compiled into a national strategic framework for Roll Back Malaria in Thailand.</p>

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
Participatory action research planning workshop in Chantaburi Province / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	Following on focus group discussions conducted with more than 200 malaria high-risk villagers in Chantaburi Province, MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized a planning workshop with local government officials, informal employers and high-risk forest-related occupation groups from Pong Nam Ron and Soi Dao Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 2. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 3. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Marines • Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshop completed in August 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002.
Participatory action research planning workshops in Trat Province / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i>	MOPH Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 organized two planning workshops in Trat Province, with local government officials, informal employers, subdistrict council members, and high-risk forest-related occupation groups from Bo Rai, Muang, and Klong Yai Districts. Working groups provided input into formulation of proposals for subgrants to support development of appropriate interventions for a community-based approach to malaria control in Thai-Cambodian border areas. These workshops were followed by consultations with key officials of Vector Borne Disease Control Office No. 5 on formulating a proposal for subgrant support from BAAM.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. To review results of focus group discussions with malaria high-risk groups. 5. To generate input on interventions emphasizing self-reliance. 6. To identify collaborating partners and their potential roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • , MOPH VBDO No. 5, VBDC, VDDUs • Chantaburi Provincial Public Health Office • District Health Offices and Health Centers • Border Patrol Police • Royal Thai Army and Marines • School Principals and teachers • Informal employers • High-risk groups • Village health vols. 	Workshops completed in November 2001. Input used to formulate action research proposal planned for funding in FY 2002.

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BAAM Projects Approved for Funding

Small Grants

Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>USAID Roll Back Malaria Partners' Meeting: Informal Consultation on Monitoring Anti-malarial Drug Quality and Use Practices / <i>Surveillance of MDR Malaria</i></p>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit organized a series of meetings from September 12-14, 2001 for consultations on monitoring drug quality and use practices among representatives of USAID Roll Back Malaria partners in Thailand, Cambodia, the U.S.A, and WHO.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify important issues related to drug quality control and drug use practices in border areas; 2. To identify priority actions needed to initiate study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices as components of sentinel surveillance; 3. To identify potential implementing actors in study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices; 4. To identify opportunities for technical cooperation, and support needed to implement study and monitoring of drug quality and use practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAID • WHO • Royal Thai Government Ministry of Public Health • Cambodian Ministry of Health • US Pharmacopeia • Management Sciences for Health • ACTMalaria • KIAAsia - BAAM PCU 	<p>The consultation meetings are completed. The consultations resulted in identification of important issues and priority actions needed to initiate/implement study and monitoring of drug quality and drug use practices as integral components of sentinel surveillance of anti-malarial drug resistance with a focus on Thailand and Cambodia.</p>

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<p>Training of village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members / <i>Health System Reform – Decentralized Response Strategies and Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with VBDO Nos. 1 and 2 to organize 2 training workshops for village health/malaria volunteers and sub-district council members on in-depth community malaria situation analysis; prevention, control and treatment of malaria; and coordinating planning for community action against malaria.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase knowledge, attitudes and behavior related to malaria. 2. To understand analysis of risk and community malaria epidemiological situation. 3. To prepare for collaboration with schools in analyzing alternative actions and formulating community malaria action plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VBDO No. 1 and 2, VBDCs and VBDOs • Village health/malaria volunteers • Sub-district council members • Provincial Primary Education Offices • The Life Skills Development Foundation • BAAM PCU 	<p>Training workshops were completed in February 2002. Volunteers and sub-district council members from communities served by 25 schools in 4 districts have increased knowledge about malaria, situation/risk analysis, and are prepared to collaborate in school-community malaria action planning workshops in July 2002.</p>
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<p><i>BAAM Projects Approved for Funding</i></p>				
<p>Small Grants</p>				
Project Name / Objective	Description	Objectives/ Outcomes	Partners	Status
<p>Write shop to summarize one year implementation of the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project / <i>Effective Partnership Models</i></p>	<p>BAAM Project Coordinating Unit collaborated with the Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission to organize a write shop to summarize implementation at the whole-school level and at each grade level from kindergarten to grade 9 under the Partnerships for a School-based Approach to Community Action Against Malaria Project.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To summarize results of first year implementation including learning processes, curriculum linkages, and teaching plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Projects Office of the Office of the National Primary Education Commission • Provincial and District Offices of Primary Education • The Life Skills Development Foundation • BAAM PCU 	<p>Write shop completed in April 2002. Representatives of 25 schools in 4 districts summarized implementation, learning processes, content, life skills, problems, and solutions.</p>

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<p>Transfer of technology training on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies / <i>Increased Access to Rapid Parasitological Diagnosis and Effective Treatment</i></p>	<p>Dr. Pongwit Bualombai of the Malaria Division was sent to the University of Manchester to participate in a short training course on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies. If this is successful, it will be followed by research and development to determine the feasibility of local production of dipstick dye immunoassays utilizing dye particle-linked monoclonal antibodies developed against pLDH and pGAPDH for malaria antigen detection of both <i>P. falciparum</i> and non-<i>P. falciparum</i>.</p>	<p>1. Transfer of technology on preparing and purifying pLDH and pGAPDH for raising monoclonal antibodies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaria Division, Department of Communicable Disease Control, MOPH • National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences, MOPH 	<p>Dr. Pongwit Bualombai is undergoing training at the Department of Molecular Biology, University of Manchester, and will return in July.</p>
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