Thailand’s Annual International Training Course (AITC) 2017

Sufficiency Economy Philosophy: Tool for Sustainable Rural Development

I. Course Title: Sufficiency Economy Philosophy: Tool for Sustainable Rural Development
   (Priority for CICA Member Countries)

II. Duration: 30 October – 17 November 2017

III. Closing Date for Applications: 18 August 2017

III. Background Information and Rational

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

In Thailand, an application of SEP in agriculture in many communities importantly serves as a strong foundation for the country’s sustainable development. Recently, an increasing number of communities apply sufficiency agriculture with a focus on organic agriculture.

Maejo University (MJU) is among the most reputable agricultural institutions in Thailand that offer study programmes and conduct research innovations focusing on development that is sustainable, sufficient and environmentally friendly. As an agricultural-based higher educational institution, MJU is aiming to be a leading university specialized in organic agriculture.

V. Objective: The programme is designed to;
   - provide participants with understanding on Sufficiency Economy Philosophy;
   - enable participants to apply their understanding on SEP in organic agriculture;
   - encourage participants to share their local knowledge, culture, belief, tradition, and values relevant to sustainable development and sufficiency agriculture.
VI. Course Content

Course Outline

6.1 Theory and Tools for applying the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy into Practice:

Agricultural and Rural Development
- Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy as a new ethical paradigm for sustainable development
- The common conduct of public’s recognized sufficiency persons and sufficiency economy for individuals and families
- Best practices on community development with the application of philosophy of sufficiency economy
- New Theory Agriculture: the distinct and concrete example of the application of the philosophy of sufficiency economy to an agricultural sector
- Participatory community analysis as a tool for transiting towards sufficiency economy societies
- Participatory resource analysis as a tool for strategic planning for the community development
- Sustainable Agro-tourism Development: Community Participatory Resource Analysis as a Tool for Community Development
- Huai Hong Khrai Royal Development Study Center: the basket of appropriate farming technologies for small farmers

6.2 Paragons of sufficiency communities and organizations
- Pa Phai Village, Doi Saket: The Best Sufficiency Economy Village in Northern Part of Thailand by Ministry of the Interior
- Ms. Pratum Suriya: National Outstanding Farmers, Thailand 1st runner-up His Majesty the King’s Sufficiency Economy award by Office of the Royal Development Project Board.
- Don Kaeo Sub-Distric: a nation-wided recognized as a best practice for Good Governance and Sufficiency Economy using a suburb community participatory administration
- Nithi Foods Co., Ltd. : the best practice on Sufficiency Economy Small Enterprise chosen by the RDPB
- Sustainable Highland Farming (Nong Hoi and Mae Sa Mai Royal Project)
- Agro-Tourism Community Model: Pong-Krai Orchard Reservation Community

6.3 MJU’ Best Practices in Supporting Small Farmers and Rural Communities’ Development

- Earthworm composting of organic garbage and organic composting human waste
- Composting of organic waste in Large Scale without Turning
- Animal Production in community
- Seed improving and multiplication for small farmers and community

Study Trips/Field Trips

The programme includes field trips to selected agricultural learning centers conducted by Maejo University

Advance Assignments

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

1. Introduction
2. General information of the country
3. Historical background of the subject related to the training course
4. Existing laws and regulations concerning the subject (if any)
5. Existing problem in the applicant’s section
6. Possible application of the SEP to their respective countries/territories

The report should be approximately 10 pages of A4 size paper long. The typed country report containing information (1-5) should be submitted before the beginning of the course. The addition of information on No.6 should be included to the report during the programme. Participants must prepare for a presentation of the report within approximately 10 minutes with a few minutes allocated for comment and discussion.

VI. Number of Participants: 20 persons (Priority for CICA Member Countries)
VII. Qualifications

Candidates must possess qualifications as specified in “Guideline for Thailand’s Annual International Training Course Programme” No. 2 “Qualifications.” Candidates with at least 5 years working experience in rural development area are preferred.

Apart from the AITC eligible countries/territories, nomination of candidates from the following CICA member countries is welcomed:

- Bahrain
- Israel
- South Korea
- Qatar
- Russia
- United Arab Emirates

Successful candidates from the AITC eligible countries/territories will be offered Economy air ticket and domestic cost, while successful candidates from the above-mentioned countries will be offered an award which covers only domestic cost (accommodation, allowance, social program, insurance and airport meeting service) during the period of training in Thailand.

VIII. Application

- Nomination must be made by central government agencies in charge of nomination of national candidates (such as Ministry of Foreign Affairs) or by relevant central government agencies for which the nominated candidates currently work. Nomination must be in line with relevant rules and regulations of the nominating countries/territories.
- Each eligible countries/territories are invited to nominate up to two (2) candidates per course.
- The application must be submitted to TICA through the Royal Thai Embassy/Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations/ Royal Thai Consulate-General accredited to eligible countries/territories. (See “List of Eligible Countries/Territories”)

For more information on qualifications, application forms, and application procedures, please visit our website at http://www.tica.thaigov.net/main/en/information/73803-Annual-International-Training-Course.html
IX. Venue and Training Institution:
International Affairs Division, Maejo University
Chiang Mai 50290 THAILAND

X. Contact
For more information, please contact;
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