



The Cooperative League of Thailand and its Role of Development for Women Involvement in Thai Cooperatives

Presented in
**First Meeting of Regional Women's
Committee for Asia and the Pacific
and ICA Regional Women's Forum**

25 - 26 October 1998
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Prepared by
Somporn Rodanant, M.D.
Board Member of the Cooperative League of Thailand
Chairman of Standing Committee
on Development of Women involvement in Cooperative in Thailand
October 1998, Bangkok

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Country Papers on the Role of the Cooperative League of Thailand for the Development of Women Involvement in Thai Cooperatives have been prepared in order to share experience on cooperatives development in Thailand in the meeting of Regional Women's Committee for Asia and the Pacific and ICA Regional Women's Forum will be organized in 25 October 1998, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the ICA, Regional Office for East for inviting me to participate in this meeting which is very important in the global economic crisis. The scene of huge industrializes have been erased. Many people were unemployed and returned back to their domiciles. The sufficient economy and self-reliance cooperative-based may be one of the best solutions for those people in the rural satellite remote villages especially in agricultural cooperative sector.

Since 1916, the government has accepted cooperative as a means of improving the economic and social situation of the country. There are two main organizations which are responsible for the promotion of the cooperative in the country ; the Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD) responsible for promotion and supervision of establishment the cooperative while the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) is an apex organization representing cooperative of all types throughout the country responsible for promotion activities, educational for staff and board members of the cooperatives. As this mentioning task of CPD and the CLT, are responsible to strengthening the cooperatives in the Kingdom, we have paid much attention to realize the important role and influence of women.

The information expressed in this papers aimed to share the experiences of Thai Cooperative Movement to the forum. It is expected that it will be, at least, starting point of fruit for thought to other countries.

Last, I feel gratitude to CLT staff who work very hard to prepare this papers and I would like to thank them for their assistance.

Somporn Rodanant, MD.
Board Member of the Cooperative League of Thailand
Chairman of Standing Committee
on Development of Women involvement in Cooperative in Thailand
October 1998, Bangkok

THAILAND. ... WOMEN AND COOPERATIVES AND SURVIVAL

The Formal System of admitting women into power positions in our Thai cooperatives is not working. It has not worked in the past. I wonder if it will work in the future. The men will not give up the formal power or positions. Right now we have 2 women and 44 men on our national board. This is not because we women do not care, the men control this almost totally.

These men control the policy and budget, and see no importance of we women. There is nothing in the men controlled budget which focuses directly on women's needs.

This does not mean in any way, shape or form that we women are losing the battle. Not at all. Not in the least. I will explain this shortly.

Outsiders say that our beloved Thailand is climbing out of the worst economic melt down in over 50 years – before World War II. That is what the bankers say. The men who think that they control Thailand and all the money. But they are blind. They have no idea of what is really happening in Thailand. They have no women's point of view – daily living – families – children – sickness – buying and selling in the fresh market – in short, they neither control, nor do they understand.

The worst that has happened recently in Thailand is because of these men – they think that our beloved country is a factory ... Not a home, not a place to live. They think our trees are to be cut down, our rivers and oceans to be polluted and fished to extinction – our Thailand is our home, not a dead object to be flaunted, exploited.

We women are changing. They do not allow us to change in the formal structure. That is not a problem. Our women with high education will not follow the men's rules in their personal lives' Our poorer women must fight the battle on a different level. War it is. Right now, they have taken everything away from us. They have taken our money, they have taken our homes, they have taken our children. Enough is enough. Our women through out Thailand are saying: Stop – there is nothing else you can take from us. You will not conquer. And do not fault us for what we do to survive. You have caused this. We will take care of our homes and our lives and our children. This is our honour and our dignity, our lives. We women are the custodians of our families and of our society. We must use all of our energy – our bodies – our minds- our hearts – all our strength for this.

When they do violence to us – even to destroying our lives with AIDS and our children's lives with AIDS.

Even at this, they still will not let us women rise, but rise we will. They think they control us. We will continue to struggle in the informal sector

We must find our own way to survive. Often this process is slow, but it will work. We will survive and flourish and those not with us may not be happy with the methods that we women use to survive, but survive we will. Our Cooperatives will survive.

The last person standing in Thailand will be a women and her child – with new life. A new Thailand – a new world.

Dr. Somporn MD

Thailand 24 Oct 1998

ABSTRACT

The Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) is the apex body of the national and non-governmental organization of all types of cooperatives in Thailand , presenting over 5,418 primary cooperative societies with its member of 6,642,584 households.

The CLT memberships consisted of six major types of cooperatives, namely Agriculture, Land Settlement, Fisheries, Thrift and Credit, Consumers' and Services cooperatives. The agricultural cooperatives sector constitutes the major part of the movement and plays a vital role in enhancing the socio-economic life of the people, especially, those in the rural areas.

The CLT was established in 1968 according to the Cooperative Society Act of 1968. The objectives of the League, in general, are to promote and develop the cooperative movement, to conduct research and training for the leadership within the cooperative movement, to build and expand cooperative activities and to serve as the representative of the cooperative in the Kingdom and International.

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The Cooperative League of Thailand and the Role of Development for Women Involvement in Thai Cooperatives



Information about Thailand

Country	: Kingdom of Thailand
Head of state	: His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the King Rama 9
Head of government	: Mr. Chuan Leekpai (Prime Minister)
Political System	: Constitutional Monarchy
Area	: 513,115 Sq. Kms. (198,114 Sq. Miles)
Capital	: Bangkok
Time different	: GMT + 7 hours
Population (1997)	: 61,278,319
Currency unit	: Baht
Exchange rate	: 36 Baht/US\$, as at 22 October 1998

Thailand its geography situated in the heart of Southeast Asia and gateway to Indochina, bordered by Laos PDR in the north and northeast; the Union of Myanmar in the north and west; the Andaman Sea in the west, Cambodia and the Gulf of Thailand in the east and Malaysia in the south. The total land area is 513,115 sq. kms. or approximately 200,000 sq. miles and extends about 1,620 kms. from north to south and 775 kms. from east to west.

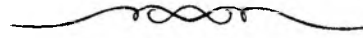
The climate is tropical with long hours of sunshine and high humidity. There are three seasons; hot from March to June; rainy from July to October; cool from November to February. The geographic and climate conditions make the country suitable for the cultivation of a wide range of tropical and semi-tropical agricultural crops.

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy. The monarch is King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who ascended the throne after his brother's death in 1946 and was crowned King in 1950. Constitutionally, power rests with the Prime Minister, a cabinet, and bicameral legislature (National Assembly) composed of an appointed senate and elected house of representatives.

For administrative purposes, the country is divided into provinces. All provinces except Bangkok, capital city, are headed by governors appointed by the Ministry of Interior. Bangkok is an exception because its governor is elected by the people in Bangkok and has higher status than provincial governors. Each province, except Bangkok, is divided into "Amphurs" (District) each of which is subdivided into "Tambol" (Communes) or group of villages. Each Tambol is divided into villages. In Bangkok, the subdivision is made into "Khet" and "Kwaeng" respectively.

The agricultural sector has an important role in conditions of economic growth. It has been a major source of food supply, farm workforce and employment generation. In agriculture, approximately 57% of the total arable land is used for rice cultivation. Rice farming is the main occupation of Thai farmers.

The Cooperative League of Thailand



Historical Background

In the Part 6 of the present Cooperative Society Act, enacted by His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej on 7 June 1968, Section 104 proclaim that there shall be an institution called the “Cooperative League of Thailand” consisting of members which are cooperative societies having the activities of every type of cooperative societies throughout the Kingdom without sharing profit of income.

The Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) represents as one of the national cooperative organization, on apex non-governmental organization. It is a nation wide confederation of the cooperative movement in Thailand and only organization dedicated entirely and exclusively to promotion of cooperatives in the country. The other cooperative organizations, which established under the present Act, were the Agricultural Cooperatives Federation of Thailand Ltd., the Federation of Thrift and Credit Cooperatives of Thailand Ltd. and the Consumer Cooperatives Federation of Thailand Ltd. These national cooperative organizations are different from the League, functioning mainly on business activities for the benefit of their member cooperatives respectively.

As of 31 May 1998, the League has affiliated of 5,418 cooperative societies, at all level, serving over 6.6 million members at the primary level cooperatives. There are three level federations affiliated to the League; 15 National Cooperative Federations with 1,600 member societies, 3 Regional Cooperative Federations with 33 member societies and 81 Provincial Cooperative Federations with 1,271 member societies.

Objectives of Establishment

The scope of its objects of establishment of the CLT are specified as followings;

1. Promoting and propagating the activities of cooperative societies as well as conducting research and compiling statistics concerning such activities.
2. Giving technical advice and assistance to cooperative societies and providing facilities in respect of the communication and coordination between cooperative societies and government agencies of other persons.
3. Providing technical study and training on the activities of cooperative societies.
4. Promoting relationship between cooperative societies, relationship with foreign cooperative league of organizations having similar objectives.
5. Purchasing, procuring, disposing of, holding ownership, possessing or executing a juristic act in respect of any property.
6. Doing other act in compliance with its objects of as entrusted by the government agencies.

Membership of the League

Under the provision of the Cooperative Societies Act 1968, the Cooperative League of Thailand consists of members which are the cooperative societies. Thus, all types of cooperative societies are members of the League. There are 6 types of members as follows;

- 1) Agricultural Cooperative
- 2) Fisheries Cooperative
- 3) Land Settlement Cooperative
- 4) Consumers' Cooperative
- 5) Services Cooperative
- 6) Thrift and Credit Cooperative

Illustrated the cooperative statistics of Thailand (As of May 31, 1998)

No	Type	No of Societies	No of Members
1	Agricultural Cooperative	3,250	3,876,582
2	Fisheries Cooperative	74	9,855
3	Land Settlement Cooperative	100	118,594
4	Consumers' Cooperative	365	725,433
5	Services Cooperative	369	116,247
6	Thrift and Credit Cooperative	1,260	1,795,873
	Total	5,418	6,642,584

National Cooperative Federations 15 with 1,600 Member Societies

Regional Cooperative Federations 3 with 33 Member Societies

Provincial Cooperative Federations 81 with 1,276 Member Societies

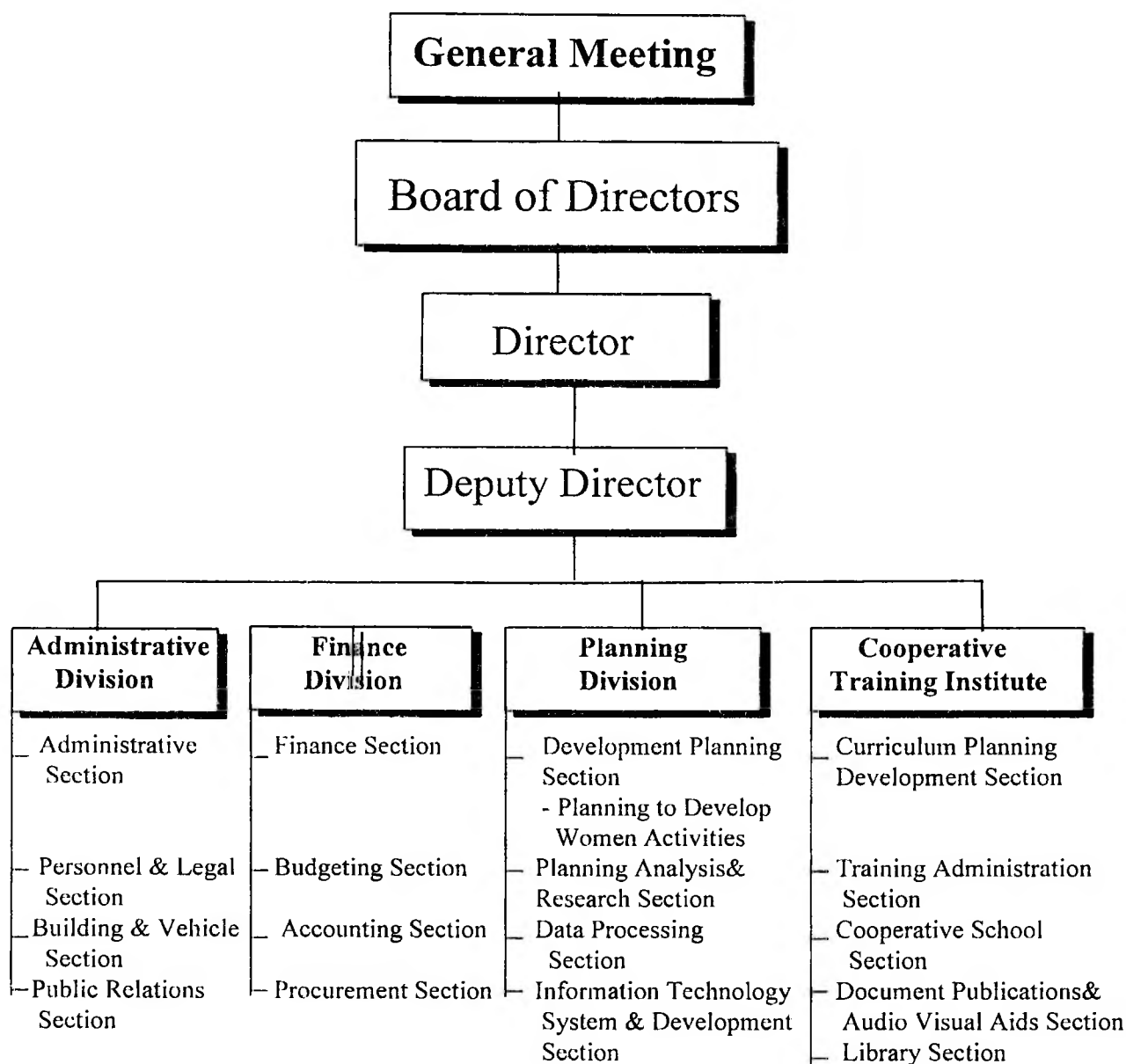
Organization Structure

As presenting an apex organization of the cooperative movement in Thailand, It is also nation wide confederation of cooperative organization of all types founded under the present Act of 1968. It is the only national cooperative organization dedicated entirely and exclusively to the promotion of cooperative throughout the country.

The organization structure of the League comprises of General Meeting, Board of Director, Director, Deputy Director and four Divisions, namely :

- 1) Administrative Division
- 2) Finance Division
- 3) Planning Division
- 4) Cooperative Training Institute

Organization Chart The Cooperative League of Thailand



Administration Structure

The administration of the Cooperative League of Thailand is governed by the annual general meeting composed of representatives from cooperative of all types throughout the country. The representative will be elected from cooperative of all types based on the number of cooperatives in each provinces. Each province will be entitled to have at least one representative. The number of representative in any province is in the ratio of 10 societies per 1 representative. The term of office of the representatives to the General Meeting is 2 years.

Board of Director : The Annual General Meeting of the League according to the present Act, will elect a Board of Directors which consist of not less than 12 representatives and not more than 5 persons appointed by the Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The term of office of the Board of Directors is 2 years. At present there are 46 Executive Board of the League. The board will elect a chairman and 1 or 2 vice chairmen. The Board also shall appoint a person whom it consider will be fit Director of the League. The Director shall be its ex-officio director and be office for a term of 4 years. A director may be re-appointed.

Now a new amendment Cooperative Society Act which is under the deliberation of House of Representatives, second stage. The overhaul of the new Act is the improvement of the Act of 1968. It must be approved by the parliament. The number of the CLT Board of Director would be reduced from 46 persons to not more than 15 persons and being in office for 4 years.

Services provided to members

In order to attain its objectives, the Cooperative League of Thailand shall carry out the services to the members as follows :

1. Promoting and propagating the activities of cooperative societies as well as conducting research and compiling statistics concerning such activities.
2. Giving technical advice and assistance to cooperative societies and providing facilities in respect of the communication and coordination between cooperative societies and government agencies or other persons.
3. Providing technical study and training on the activities of cooperative societies.
- 4) Promoting the relationship between cooperative societies within the country and the relationship with foreign cooperative leagues or organizations having similar objectives.

Financing of the organizational operations

The Cooperative League of Thailand may have income from the following sources :

- 1) Subscription to the CLT enforce by the Act
- 2) Government subsidies
- 3) Donations of money or property
- 4) Proceeds from sale of technical publications, cooperative documents or others document
- 5) Money or property received as remuneration for services rendered
- 6) Benefits derived from its property

The main part of the financial support of the League is made by the member societies as prescribed by the Act which states that up to 5% of the cooperative net profit but not exceeding 10,000 Baht must be paid to the League. The cooperative members also contribute to the activities of the League by bearing some part of the travel costs and their participation in the educational and the training activities conducted by the League.

Though the League may obtain income from many sources according the Act in practice the amount it receives is less than what the League really needs to perform its functions. The problems of the League with regard to income is that currently, about half of the cooperatives fail to pay their annual subscriptions which is mainly from of income for the League. They are obligated by the Act to pay these dues but there is no legal mechanism to enforce compliance. with the Act.

The League has proposed for a amendment to the Ministerial Regulation on the subscription fee to the League. According to the present Act, the cooperative members shall contribute 5% of its annual net profit but not exceeding 10,000 baht. The proposal suggested the calculation of the fee based on 5% of the net profit of the cooperatives and maximum amount shall not exceed 25,000 baht.

This year 1998, the CLT in collaboration with Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD) and Cooperative Auditing Department (CAD) as well as the provincial of the CPD and CAD are planning a subscription fee to motivate the cooperative members setting up their accounts on time for the annual subscription fee to be paid to the League.

Source of Income : Statistics 1994 - 1997

Unit : Million Baht

Source of Income	Fiscal Year as of 30 September			
	1994	1995	1996	1997
Subscription granted from coop members	19.20	15.90	17.51	16.19
Government subsidies from CPD	5.10	5.00	5.60	5.94
Interest of central fund of unlimited coops, CAD*	3.30	3.30	1.90	1.50
Remuneration for services rendered of training organized	2.60	3.02	3.21	2.27
Loan from CU Coop for training center constructing	-	52.74	38.20	9.00
Loan from the fund of coop school	-	39.56	2.65	-
Administrative profit of training center	-	-	0.50	4.05
Interest received from saving deposit	2.06	1.01	1.24	1.03
Other incomes**	0.49	1.32	1.10	0.69
Total	32.75	121.85	71.91	40.67

* The interest and increment of the central fund is empowered to pay to the League for its operation under Section 106 of the Act and this fund is controlled by CAD.

** Distribution of technical books or documents/donation received.

Current staff strength

From the staff analysis using theory of SWOT (Strengths-Weaknesses Opportunities-Threats) the key strengths of CLT staff are as follows :

(1) Staff has high competency and keen on training provide to members of cooperatives in Thailand and in the countries in South East Asia.

(2) The staff's vision of and concepts for the growth of cooperatives are leading to the progress and the development of the Thai cooperatives.

Future Outlook of the Organization

The Cooperative League of Thailand has its clear specific vision that in the year 2001 it will be the main center for the cooperative development for both in Thailand and for South East Asia in terms of :

- Credit advice and coordination.
- Marketing coordination and network establishment.
- Information Technology servicing
- Human Resource Development and Training in Cooperative (Cooperative Training Center for South East Asia: COTCSEA will be established)
- Emphasizing on cooperative activities development affiliate with the natural resources conservation.
- Empowerment of small cooperatives and strengthening their management capacity.
- Stimulation of government function and authorities to pay more attention to the cooperative movement.

An assessment of the organisation's contribution to overall cooperative development in the country

The Cooperative League of Thailand contributes and plays a vital role in providing technical support and training to the cooperative members for their management capacity improvement and development as well as in enhancing the socio-economic life of the people, especially, those in the remote areas and most of them are the cooperative members.

Training Programmes of the CLT provided for cooperative societies in 1998

No.	Programs	Target Group	Participants		Source of Fund (Baht)	
			No.	Period (day)	CLT	Government
1	Meeting, Board Member of Agri., Land Settlement and Fisheries Coop.	Member of the selected coops	215	4	43,100	479,200
2	Training, Manager of Agriculture Cooperative	Manager/ Assistant	50	5	48,300	132,000
3	Training, Accountant of Agri. Cooperative (Course #1)	Accountant	80 (40)	28 (14)	91,700	888,800
4	Training, Accountant of Agri. Cooperative (Course #1)	Accountant	80 (40)	14 (7)	77,700	421,200
5	Training, Credit staff of Agri. Cooperative (Course # 1)	Credit staff	80 (40)	28 (14)	91,700	908,000
6	Training, Credit staff of Agri. Cooperative (Course # 2)	Credit staff	80 (40)	14 (7)	77,700	441,200
7	Training, Marketing staff of Agri. Cooperative (Course # 1)	Marketing staff	80 (40)	28 (14)	91,700	908,000
8	Training, Marketing staff of Agri. Cooperative (Course # 2)	Marketing staff	80 (40)	14 (7)	77,700	441,200
9	Seminar, Board Member of Land Settlement Cooperative	Board Member	50	4	10,300	101,400
10	Seminar, Board Members and Manager of Fisheries Cooperative	Board & Manager	30	4	30,100	69,080
11	Seminar, Board Members of Thrift and Credit Cooperative	Boards	50	4	71,000	98,120
12	Seminar, Board Members of Credit Union Cooperative	Boards	50	4	10,600	101,700
13	Seminar, Auditor of Savings and Credit Cooperative	Auditors	50	4	71,000	98,120
14	Training, Financial staff of Savings and Credit Cooperative	Financial staff	100 (50)	8 (4)	89,100	201,000
15	Training, Accountant of Credit Union Cooperative	Accountant	35	5	14,200	98,400
16	Training, Accountant of Thrift and Credit Cooperative (Basic Level)	Operation staff	40	19	51,800	445,000
17	Training, Business Computer in Thrift and Credit Cooperative	Computer user	20	50	33,200	64,900
18	Seminar, Board Member of Thrift and Credit Cooperative	Board Members	100 (50)	8 (8)		426,500
19	Seminar, Manager of Thrift and Credit Cooperative	Manager	100 (50)	8 (4)		426,500
20	Seminar, Board Members of Consumer Cooperative	Board Members	50	4	45,300	101,400
21	Training, staff of Consumer Coop.	staff	35	5	10,600	96,600
22	Seminar, Board Members of Services Cooperative(Transportation Business)	Board Members	50	4	10,300	101,400
23	Training, Coop MINI MBA	Management staff of Coop	30	20		1,000,000

For the fiscal year of 1999, the board has proposed to organize 2 Projects of Women Seminar.

A description of the elements of the changing environment in terms of liberalization, democratization and decentralization and their impact on the cooperative movement

As the apex organization of the cooperative movement in Thailand, CLT provides technical support and training and other related development concerned to the cooperative members. Many major elements of the changing environment can be identified as follows :

- 1) Liberalization :
 - Improvement of the quality of life of cooperative household members
 - Increase in the number of cooperative household members
 - Expansion of business within and between the cooperatives
 - Coordination of the management and the business network among cooperative members
 - Increased profits
 - Establishment of cooperative master plan and the establishment of long-term and short term plans for the cooperatives
 - Chairmen of the cooperatives gain much experience on cooperative management
 - Accountants have more experience on auditing
- 2) Democratization :
 - Election of the president and cooperative committee
 - Household cooperative members know their rights and responsibilities to the cooperative
 - Members of the cooperative have more participation in the general assembly and activities
- 3) Decentralization :
 - Ad-hoc committee to draft the constitution for changing the management.
- 4) Impact on the Cooperative Movement :
 - Strength of management function of all cooperatives.

Relations with Government and other Cooperative Development support organizations



The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC) is responsible directly for policy and planning on cooperatives development in accordance with the National Social and Economic Development plan. Three Government Agencies within the MOAC perform a dominant role in the cooperatives development. The three agencies are as follows :

1. The Office for Development of Farmers Institutions

According to the Cooperative Society Act of 1968, the Cooperative Registrar is responsible for registration and controlling of cooperatives appointing of cooperative auditors and other works authorized by the Act. At present, the permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives is the Cooperative Registrar. The Office for the Development of the Farmers Institutions functions as secretariat office of the Cooperative Registrar.

2. Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD)

The Cooperative Promotion Department is in charge of supervising, regulating and promotion cooperatives society including provision of technical and financial assistance to cooperatives. The CPD is headed by a Director-General and three Deputy Director-Generals. There 10 Divisions with 53 Sub-division and Sections at head office which includes also the office of Cooperative Inspectors of 9 Regions and Internal Checking Office. Locally, there are 44 Land Settlement Cooperative Offices, 76 Provincial Cooperative Offices, 751 District Cooperative Offices, 9 Agricultural Cooperative Demonstration Centers and 10 Regional Cooperative Training Centers.

The Functions and Responsibilities of the CPD

- (1) To promote and disseminate the cooperative ideology, principles and practices to public as well as to produce publications and cooperatives magazines.
- (2) To study and conduct researches on cooperatives and to provide cooperatives education and training.
- (3) To guide and promote the organization and business operation of the cooperatives
- (4) To assist cooperative and corporate with other agencies in order that cooperatives will receive both technical and financial support as well as other necessary services so as to enable the cooperatives to be genuine self-reliant organization.
- (5) To consolidate and allot land to landless farmers following the cooperative practices.
- (6) To supervise the cooperatives to operate according to the Act, Regulation, By law and the Cooperative Registrar's Order.

3. Cooperative Auditing Department (CAD)

The Cooperative Auditing Department is in charge of auditing of both cooperative and farmer associations as well as providing advice and consultation in booking and accounting. CAD is only institution to audit all types of cooperative societies and farmers group in the Kingdom with free of charge in order to check and give a fair view of the financial situations of the cooperative. The CAD has established 12 Regional Auditing Center to supervise the activities of the Provincial Auditing Office which located in 76 provinces

The Functions and Responsibilities of the CAD

- (1) To provide auditing to all types of cooperative and farmers group/associations
- (2) To prescribe accounting system to cooperative institutions
- (3) To provide regularly advises in accounting and finance to cooperative institutions.
- (4) To provide training in accounting and finance to cooperative institution's members and officers
- (5) To perform as cooperative financial and accounting center
- (6) To analyze and evaluate cooperative institutions performance for audit reports

Other Related Agencies within the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

- (1) Department of Fisheries
- (2) Department of Livestock
- (3) Department of Agricultural
- (4) Department Agricultural Extension

These Departments are providing technical assistance related to their fields to agricultural cooperatives and their members.

As well, a substantial assistance in marketing business is given by Ministry of Commerce The assistance are made available to agricultural cooperatives into respects as follows :

- To purchase milled rice of primary cooperatives through the Government Purchase Program of Rice via Public Warehouse Organization a Agricultural Cooperative Federations of Thailand Ltd.
- To award quotas for the export of agricultural commodities to the Agricultural Cooperatives Federations of Thailand Ltd. for the commodities purchased by primary cooperatives.

Women involvement in Cooperative



Over the past decade, Thailand has found many socio-economic problems which need to be resolved. Slow economic recovery, income disparities, unbalanced population growth and unemployment, all these have had an impact on the socio-economic problems now facing Thailand. Currently, as you may be aware, the economic crisis in Thailand occurs in almost every business sectors.

Inequality in the standard of living and income distribution between rural and the urban population has resulted in massive migration to Bangkok and urban area.

To reverse this situation, the government is committed to support the rural poor as one of the priority target sectors by placing special emphasis on the development of those activities which will enhance the quality of life.

One of the most promising approaches for stimulating rural employment and assisting the poorer members of rural society has been in the development of small scale industries in rural areas, especially in handicraft and cottage industries by providing additional opportunities in the rural area they reduce the need for rural people to migrate long distances to obtain employment, particularly in the off-farm season thus reducing population pressures in the metropolitan areas, and at the same time increase income of the rural people including closing the income gap between those in rural and in urban areas as well as raising the standard of living of the rural people.

The development of rural industries especially handicrafts and cottage industries can be expected to have a major impact on the role of women in the society and the integration of women. In the rural areas women are active in many types of activities. As industrial opportunities are identified it can reasonably be expected that women will be major participants in organizing and operating these activities in large scale.

As mentioned already that the CPD and the CLT are responsible to strengthening cooperatives in the Kingdom. We have paid very much attention to realize the important role and influence of women. The CLT has played a major part in enhancing women's participation in cooperative activities. In every Year-Programme Training of the CLT provided to the cooperative societies were conducted for women who presented village leaders in country in order to give them better understanding of cooperative principles and practices.

On the other hand attempts have been made to promote their skill and knowledge by providing local material and marketing of their products. This aimed at the promotion of using local resources for economic purposes, creating a certain degree of employment within the village and to improve their income. Due to the lack of financial assistance to this event the CLT has its main responsibility in education and training of the cooperatives throughout the Kingdom. However, the CLT has allocated its budget for the promotion to establishing women's agricultural cooperatives by organized training course in order to train them in leadership.

As the CLT represents all types of the cooperative movement in Thailand and the steering committee on gender integration in the cooperative movement, it has a policy to promote gender integration as follows :

1. To conduct educational programmes to enhance women's participation in cooperatives and within income generating activities.
2. To disseminate the master plan for gender integration in the Thai cooperative movement.
3. To promote the production and marketing of the products from the women's income generating programmes.
4. To research studies related to the role of rural women in the agricultural cooperative development.
5. To promote the leadership qualities of the women.

Problem

1. The attitude of the Thai people towards that role of women hinders women's participation in cooperatives. The capacity of men is accepted above that of women.
2. The wages for women are lower than those for men.
3. The social status of women, and a lower level education as compared with that of man, has prevented women from gaining access to information that would allow for personal development.
4. The values and the traditions of women as well as some legal aspects hinders women's participants in cooperatives.
5. Programmes for the development of women have not been adequately planned.
6. Lack of supporting in women development.

Future Plan of the CLT to develop the role of women in the cooperatives

1. The educational activities for women will be emphasized on the development of women's role and leadership so as to enable them to be accepted in the society.
2. Public relations will be emphasized to enhance women's participation in the cooperatives.
3. **At the Provincial level**
The Women's Committee will consist of 2 women members from the Provincial Federation Board, the Provincial Cooperative Officer , and the District Cooperative Officers.
4. **At the District level**
A women's committee must be set up and will consist of a representative from each of the women's groups existing in the District.
5. To set up the information and marketing center for the women's products.

The Cooperative League of Thailand Training Center



SEMINAR/CONFERENCE/TRAINING
ARRANGEMENT



BOARD AND LODGING



SPECIAL CATERING SERVICE



To facilitate complete services to cooperative societies, the League has constructed the training center. The center comprised of 69 rooms of accommodations and conference rooms divided into a capacity of 30, 100 persons and up to 500 persons.

The rate of services are as following breakdown :

1. Accommodations, 69 standard twin sharing rooms is 550 Baht/night.
2. Conference rooms rates :
 - (1) Capacity up to 500 persons, first 3 hours is 3,000 Baht and additional rate of 500 Baht/hour.
 - (2) Capacity up to 100 persons, first 3 hours is 2,500 Baht and additional rate of 500 Baht/hour.

We are not only servicing to national cooperators, but also does international cooperatives. Please contact us to service you with cooperative service mind.



Annexes

Statistics of

Women's Activities in Cooperatives and other Concerns

1. Participation of Women in Credit Unions in some Countries in the World

Country	Percent
Bangladesh	27
Costa Rica	48
El Salvador	55
Ethiopia	32
Ghana	30
England	54
Korea	45
Malawi	28
Newzealand	44
Peru	22
Philippines	58
Russia	60
Singapore	09
Sri Lanka	51
Zambia	53
Thailand	55

2. Quantitative Participation of Women in the Credit Union Movement in Thailand

	(1991)		(1995)	
	Women %	Men %	Women %	Men %
Members	53.00	47.00	55.79	44.21
BOD at primary level	29.45	70.55	32.17	67.83
BOD at national league	25.00	75.00	04.54	95.46

**3. Qualitative Participation of Women
in the Credit Union Movement in Thailand**

Position	Percentage
Chairperson	12.69
Vice Chairperson	19.04
Secretary	44.44
Treasurer	39.68
Executive Committee	16.35
Education Committee	26.03
Loan/Credit Committee	25.07
Supervisory Committee	25.09

Figures as of January 1995

**4. Gender Participation
in Education and Training of the National League (1994-1996)**

Participants

Year	Total per 100	Women/per 100	Men/per 100	No.of Training
1994	521.00 100.00	252.00 48.37	269.00 51.63	14
1995	460.00 100.00	240.00 52.17	220.00 47.83	12
1996	454.00 100.00	250.00 55.07	204.00 44.93	14
Total	1,435.00 100.00	742.00 51.71	693.00 48.29	40

Figures as of May 1998

Source : CULT ET Dept.

5. Gender Participation in National Education and Training in 1994

Training Courses	Participants		
	Total per 100	Men per 100	Women per 100
Credit Union Book Keeping 3	55.00 100.00	32.00 58.18	23.00 41.82
Savings & Credit Cooperative Staff Training (Tripartite)	39.00 100.00	11.00 28.21	28.00 71.79
Auditor's Training No.4	20.00 100.00	10.00 50.00	10.00 50.00
Credit Union Management Course 1	44.00 100.00	21.00 47.73	23.00 52.27
Credit Union Management Course 2	45.00 100.00	25.00 55.56	20.00 44.44
Managers Training Batch 12	22.00 100.00	05.00 22.73	17.00 77.27
Credit Management Training	58.00 100.00	38.00 65.52	20.00 34.48
Credit Union Book Keeping 1-2	48.00 100.00	21.00 43.75	27.00 56.25
Credit Union Book Keeping 3	37.00 100.00	15.00 40.54	22.00 59.46
Seminar/Exposure Training Program	21.00 100.00	09.00 42.86	12.00 57.14
Saving and Credit Coop Financial Management 3	54.00 100.00	33.00 61.11	21.00 38.89
Credit Union Book Keeping 1-2	29.00 100.00	09.00 31.03	20.00 68.97
Credit Union Book Keeping 3	18.00 100.00	12.00 66.67	06.00 33.33
CU Chapter Board of Directors Training	31.00 100.00	28.00 90.32	03.00 09.68
Total	521.00 100.00	269.00 51.63	252.00 48.37

Figures as of May 1997

Source : CULT ET Dept.

6. Gender Participation in National Education and Training in 1995

Training Courses	Participants		
	Total per 100	Men per 100	Women per 100
Credit Union Planning and Budget	34.00 100.00	27.00 79.71	07.00 20.59
Annual General Meeting Organization	35.00 100.00	16.00 45.71	19.00 54.029
Credit Union Management 2	45.00 100.00	24.00 53.33	21.00 46.67
CU Board of Directors & Managers Training	59.00 100.00	35.00 59.32	24.00 40.68
Seminar and Exposure Program to Credit Unions	17.00 100.00	07.00 41.18	10.00 58.82
Credit Union Book Keeping 1-2	30.00 100.00	05.00 16.67	25.00 83.33
Credit Union Book Keeping 1-2	49.00 100.00	11.00 22.45	38.00 77.55
Credit Union Book Keeping 3	50.00 100.00	12.00 24.00	38.00 76.00
Professional Financial Management in CU	66.00 100.00	45.00 68.18	21.00 31.82
Credit Union Planning and Budget	23.00 100.00	09.00 39.13	14.00 60.87
Efficient Financial Management & Methodology in CU	29.00 100.00	21.00 72.41	08.00 27.59
Credit Union Accounting	23.00 100.00	08.00 34.78	15.00 65.22
Total	460.00 100.000	220.00 47.83	240.00 52.37

Figures as of May 1997

Source : CULT ET Dept.

7. Gender Participation at National Education and Training in 1996

Training Courses	Participants		
	Total per 100	Men pre 100	Women per 100
Credit Union Management	28.00 100.00	21.00 75.00	07.00 25.00
Impressive Management Technique in CU	48.00 100.00	10.00 20.87	38.00 79.17
Savings Mobilization Technique	34.00 100.00	15.00 44.12	19.00 55.88
Seminar on Legal Problems	27.00 100.00	20.74.07	07.00 25.93
Working Direction for New Board of Directors	23.00 100.00	17.00 73.91	06.00 26.09
Accounting System for CU Staff	18.00 100.00	08.00 44.44	10.00 55.56
Credit Union Book Keeping 1,2,3	50.00 100.00	15.00 30.000	35.00 70.00
Professional Financial Management in CU-2	29.00 100.00	19.00 65.52	10.00 34.48
Credit Union Bilk Keeping 1,2,3	26.00 100.00	06.00 23.08	20.00 76.92
Supervisory Committee Training	48.00 100.00	22.00 45.83	26.00 54.41
Management of CU Movement in Future	38.00 100.00	29.00 76.32	09.00 23.68
Credit Union Staff Training Batch 5	31.00 100.00	04.00 12.90	27.00 87.10
Computer Program Course 1	26.00 100.00	09.00 34.62	17.00 65.38
Credit Union Accounting	28.00 100.00	09.00 32.15	19.00 67.85
Total	454.00 100.00	204.00 44.93	250.00 55.07

Figures as of May 1997

Source : CULT ET Dept.

8. Numerical Presentation of Gender and Development Issues Thai Context

by : Assistant Prof. Nisa Chuto, Chulalongkorn University

A. Gender Participation in Labor Force in 1996

Unit : per 1,000

Professional Classification	Within Bangkok		Outside Bangkok		Total	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Employed	3,504	2,838	14,461	11,945	17,966	14,783
Unemployed	1,226	2,195	3,608	6,088	4,835	8,284
Less than 13 years old	1,250	1,226	5,934	5,763	7,185	6,990
Total	5,980	6,259	24,003	23,796	29,986	30,057

Source : National Statistics Bureau Labor Force Survey 1997

B. Gender Participation in Labor Force according to Profession in 1996

Unit : per 1,000

Profession/Occupation	Men	Women	Total
1. Vocational	714.3	815.5	1,529.8
2. Business Administration/Management	614.3	164.9	779.2
3. Clerk	561.4	658.5	1,219.9
4. Street Vendor	1,537.2	2,226.3	3,763.5
5. Farmers, Fishermen, Foresters, Miners	8,681.2	7,489.4	16,170.6
6. Communication and Transport	1,190.0	62.0	1,252.0
7. Manufacturing Industry	3,811.0	2,266.0	6,077.0
8. Service, Sports, Recreation	633.5	795.3	1,428.8
9. Others	1.4	8.2	9.6
Total	17,744.3	14,486.1	32,230.4

Source : National Statistics Bureau Labor Force Survey 1997

C. Gender Participation in Manufacturing Industry in 1996

Unit : per 1,000

Industry	Men	Women	Total
1. Farmers, Forestry, Hunting, Fisheries	8,660.8	7,466.2	16,127.0
2. Tin Mining and Quarrying	40.5	6.4	46.9
3. Home Industry	2,269.4	2,064.7	4,334.1
4. Construction, Maintenance Demolition	1,738.0	433.7	2,171.7
5. Infrastructure and Public Health	115.8	26.9	142.7
6. Commercial	2,010.1	2,240.1	4,250.2
7. Transport, Storage & Communication	885.8	97.8	983.6
8. Service	1,958.3	2,135.8	4,094.1
9. Others	4.8	14.4	19.2
Total	17,744.5	14,486.5	32,231.0

Source: National Statistics Bureau Labor Force Survey 1997

D. Gender Marital Status in 1996

Unit : %

Sex	Marital Status					Total
	Single	Married	Widow	Divorce	Separate	
Men	66.1	91.8	42.3	86.4	81.9	82.5
Women	58.6	74.6	37.1	80.1	75.7	66.9
Total	62.8	83.3	38.2	82.0	77.8	74.7

Source : National Statistics Bureau Labor Force Survey 1997

E Gender Participation in Employment Force in 1996

Unit : per 1,000

Employment Status	Men	Women	Total
Employer	652.2	161.1	813.3
Government Employees	1,441.6	858.9	2,300.5
Private Business Employees	5,752.6	4,097.9	9,850.5
Private Business	7,006.2	2,934.6	9,940.8
Family Business	2,892.5	6,434.3	9,326.8
Total	17,745.1	14,486.8	32,231.9

Source : National Statistics Bureau Labor Force Survey 1997

F Gender Participation in the Educational System in 1996

Unit : per 1,000

Employment level	Men	Women	Total
Below primary level	1,553.2	2,774.7	4,327.9
Primary level	14,913.4	15,023.9	29,937.3
Secondary level	3,955.3	2,111.7	7,067.0
Vocational level	1,432.4	1,134.5	2,566.9
Teacher training	292.1	380.8	672.9
University	642.0	634.0	1,276.0
Others	12.8	7.3	20.1
Total	22,801.8	23,067.6	45,869.4

G Gender Participation in National Election on 17 November 1996.

	Women		Men		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
Registered Voters	12,625,181	50.89	18,939,412	49.11	38,564,593
No. of vote casted	12,532,665	52.09	11,532,085	47.91	24,070,750

Source : Commission on Election, Ministry of Interior

G. Gender Participation in Provincial Parliamentary Government

No.	Date of Election	Number of candidates			Number of elected candidates		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
1.	29 May 1980	N.A	N.A	N.A	1,926	N.A	N.A
2.	25 August 1985	6,499	6,260	239	1,926	1,896	78
3.	20 October 1990	7,063	6,801	262	2,046	1,964	82
4.	24 December 1995	7,153	6,659	494	2,148	2,013	135

Source : Commission on Election, Ministry of Interior

I Gender Participation in District Election in 1995 and 1996

	Election on 21 May 1995	Election on 28 April 1996		
	Total	Total	Men	Women
No. of eligible voters	2,406,090	9,356,166	4,633,164	4,723,002
No. votes casted	1,227,664	5,525,718	2,669,363	2,856,355
No. of candidates	21,800	98,062	88,421	9,641
Elected candidates	11,919	42,729	39,339	3,390

Source : Commission on Election , Ministry of Interior

J Gender Participation in District Chiefs and Village Chiefs during 1989-1996

Year	District Chiefs			Village Chiefs		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
1989	6,640	33	6,673	55,180	418	55,598
%	99.51	0.49	-	99.25	0.75	-
1990	6,878	72	6,950	62,517	856	63,373
%	98.96	1.04	-	98.65	1.35	-
1995	7,059	102	7,161	58,860	1,074	59,934
%	98.58	1.42	-	98.21	1.79	-
1996	7,130	110	7,240	59,498	6,375	65,873
%	98.48	1.52	-	90.32	9.68	-

Source : Commission on Election, Ministry of Interior

K Gender Participation in Government Civil Service in 1996

Gov't Civil Servant	Number		
	Total	Women	Men
Central & Sub-regions			
1. Prime Ministers Office	10,736	5,670	5,066
2. Ministry of Finance	25,281	14,610	10,671
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,411	684	727
4. Ministry of Agriculture	49,843	14,589	35,254
5. Ministry of Communication	16,189	5,827	10,362
6. Ministry of Commerce	4,178	2,514	1,664
7. Ministry of Interior	286,654	30,997	255,657
8. Ministry of Justice	9,668	5,746	3,922
9. Ministry of Labor	10,185	6,100	4,085
10. Ministry of Science & Technology	2,687	1,422	1,265
11. Ministry of Education	551,960	323,299	228,661
12. Ministry of Health	143,698	108,770	34,923
13. Ministry of Industry	4,597	1,985	2,612
14. University Bureau	47,682	31,635	16,050
15. Freelance government civil servant*	8,791	4,544	4,247
Total	1,173,555	558,389s	615,166
Rural Areas	63,612	40,706	22,906
Grand Total	1,237,167	599,095	638,072

*Include Members of Parliament & Prosecutors

Source : Civil Service Commission

L. Gender Participation in Government Civil Service Post Classification in 1996

Post Classification	Total	Women	Men
C 11	31	2	29
C 10	464	49	415
C 09	1,642	341	1,301
C 08	9,177	2,676	6,501
C 07	32,662	15,458	17,204
C 06	58,101	28,776	29,325
C 05	100,234	58,291	41,943
C 04	69,833	41,463	28,370
C 03	64,872	36,123	28,749
C 02	30,427	21,070	9,357
C 01	6,119	4,066	2,053
Total	373,562	208,315	165,247

Source : Civil Service Commission 1997