

2016 Work Priorities

Providing TA for Regional Capacity Building



First discussed at the EC meeting in late 2013, the TA program was endorsed at the EC meeting in April 2016. Right after the endorsement, the program received financial contributions from three members, namely China, Japan, and Korea, with the total amount of approximately USD 5 million. The TA program aims to enhance the ASEAN+3 members' capacity in macroeconomic surveillance.

// I would like to express my sincere gratitude to AMRO for giving me a great opportunity to work at AMRO under the secondment program from May 3 to October 28, 2016.

During my six-month stay at AMRO, I was able to take part in some sub assignments which I sincerely felt were useful, and truly eye-opening. For instance, the annual consultation visit, which I had the honor to be involved in, enabled me to learn about the whole process – from engagement with authorities to preparation of questionnaires and conduct of professional performance check. I hope to translate the insights and knowledge gained from this valuable experience into my work when I return to my hometown. //

Thipsavanh Vongphranakhone

Bank of the Lao PDR

Overview of the TA Program

AMRO TA program aims to contribute towards improving macroeconomic surveillance capabilities of ASEAN+3 members. The program is designed and implemented in response to members' specific needs, taking into consideration each member's development stage and policy priorities.

Secondment Program

- **Purpose:** To provide on-the-job training opportunities to secondees from ASEAN+3 members, especially Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV).
- **Achievement in 2016:**
 - One seconded from Lao PDR from May to October
 - One seconded from China from August onward

Consultancy Program

- **Purpose:** To provide technical support to ASEAN+3 members to strengthen their macroeconomic surveillance capacity.
- **Achievement in 2016:** AMRO reviewed several requests from some members on consultancy projects.

Research and Training Program

- **Purpose:** To provide training programs targeted at ASEAN+3 members and AMRO staff through seminars, conferences, and joint training programs with other organizations.
- **Achievements in 2016:** AMRO held the *ATFF: East Asia in a Dynamic New World* in Guiyang, China, on December 10, 2016.

Trust Fund Implementation

AMRO secured contributions to the Trust Funds and signed agreements with the authorities of three members – China, Japan, and Korea.

The China TA Trust Fund supports the secondment, consultancy, and training programs to enhance ASEAN+3 members' capacity in macroeconomic surveillance, as well as AMRO's institutional capacity development.

The Japan Special Trust Fund focuses on supporting the secondment and consultancy programs with an emphasis on the CLMV countries. It will also finance AMRO's research activities, seminars and workshops.

As for Korea-AMRO TA Trust Fund, the details are still under discussion.

Contributors	Date of MoU Signing	Contribution Amount (USD)
Japan	May 24, 2016	1.9 million
China	June 29, 2016	3 million for four years
Korea	July 12, 2016	100,000

Collaboration with Other International Financial Institutions

During the year, AMRO explored collaboration opportunities with the IMF-Singapore Regional Training Institute (IMF-STI) on designing training programs related

to macroeconomic surveillance. We also discussed the development of our macroeconomic surveillance database with ADB.