

IV. ACTIVITIES

Programme Design

To ensure that the programme of activities is relevant to the current needs and interest of member central banks, The SEACEN Centre has been formulating its proposed programme in close collaboration with the member central banks. In recent years as The SEACEN Centre expanded its collaboration with international and regional financial institutions and other reputable training providers, the planning process has also included consultations with these strategic collaborators. The following section outlines the sources of inputs, basis for selecting the proposed activities and approximate time periods of the planning stages.

Chart 3 PROGRAMME DESIGN presents the planning cycle of The SEACEN Centre. As seen in this Chart, the inputs into the proposed annual programme are drawn from the following sources:

1. The approved Strategic Plan, decisions and suggestions of the BOG and EXCO.
2. Member banks, in particular Directors of Research and Training (DORT), with additional inputs from Directors of Supervision, and Directors of Payment and Settlement Systems. The inputs include suggestions on research and training topics, and indication of readiness to host the events as well as seconding their staff to conduct the research projects at the Centre.
3. Collaborating institutions provide information on the areas of technical assistance, funding, and scheduling of the events. Table 3 INSTITUTIONS AND AREAS OF COLLABORATION IN TRAINING ACTIVITIES presents details on the name of institutions and the areas of collaboration.
4. The SEACEN Centre and other sources.

The inputs from the foregoing sources are normally obtained in the months of September, October, and November. Out of the numerous proposals received from these sources, a proposed programme is drawn up on the basis of the following criteria:

1. The activity is aligned with The SEACEN Centre's Approved Strategic Direction and 5-year Implementation Plan;
2. The activity is related to key central banking functions, viz., macroeconomic and monetary policy, financial stability and supervision, payment and settlement system, leadership and central bank governance (realising the importance of structured and customised learning programmes to meet needs of SEACEN members, the Centre worked with international subject matter experts and relevant directors of member banks to establish 3 blocks of central bank knowledge, viz. macroeconomic and monetary policy management; financial stability and supervision; and payment and settlement systems. The Centre also developed the SEACEN's leadership competency model based on a leadership needs survey among member central banks);
3. The activity is of interest to the majority of the SEACEN member banks and,
4. The availability of resources (funding, in-house expertise, possible technical assistance) to conduct the activity.

Focus of Activities of The SEACEN Centre

At the 20th BOG Meeting in Singapore on 1 June 2001, the BOG agreed in principle to the recommendations put forth by the team of external consultants led by Prof. Dr. Adrianus Mooy on the SEACEN Strategic Review to realign and give greater focus to the Centre's activities, organisation structure and financing. Specifically, the decisions agreed upon are as follows:

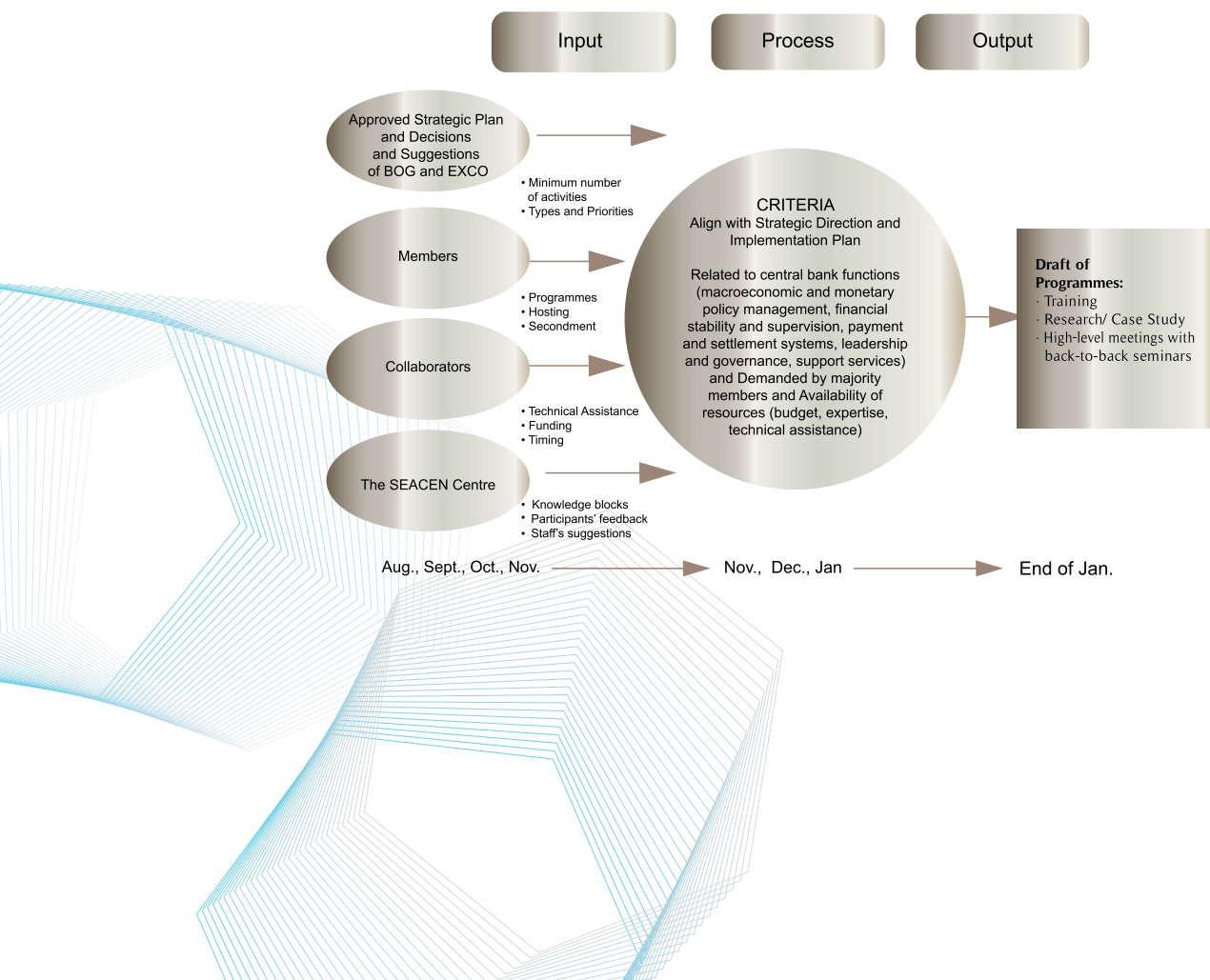
1. Training should be the principal activity of The SEACEN Centre and it should focus on areas that have practical applications in central banking functions, viz., macroeconomic and monetary policy, financial stability and banking supervision, and payment and settlement system.
2. In the area of research, The SEACEN Centre should act as network provider or clearing house, rather than originator of research. Research would also focus on areas of practical applications in central banking and be linked to training activities. The Research Department will develop case studies to support training activities. In addition, research papers will be presented and discussed in the relevant training event.

Programme of Activities for Operating Year 2010/11

In line with the BOG's decisions to refocus SEACEN activities, the programme for OY 2002/03 onwards emphasised training activities. Efforts have also been made to link the Centre's research activities to its training activities in such a way that the research findings are utilised for appropriate training events. For OY 2010/11, the Programme was formulated in close consultation with member central banks/monetary authorities and strategic collaborators.

The programme of activities for OY 2010/11 consists of 28 training events, 5 research projects, 9 case studies, and 6 meetings. The SEACEN EXCO also decided in its meeting in January 2010, to give more flexibility to the Centre to modify the approved training events or research projects to enable a timely response to the rapidly changing environment. In addition, additional training events or research projects could be considered if necessary.

Chart 3 PROGRAMME DESIGN



**Table 3 INSTITUTIONS AND AREAS OF COLLABORATION IN TRAINING ACTIVITIES
(As of July 2010)**

Institutions	Monetary Policy/ Macro-economic Management	Financial Stability/ Banking Supervision	Payment and Settlement Systems	Central Bank Governance/ Others
APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)		◆		
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	◆	◆		
ADB Institute		◆		◆
APEC Training Initiative		◆		
Bank For International Settlements (BIS)	◆	◆		◆
				(Legal;IT)
Centre for Central Banking Studies, Bank of England	◆			
Bank of Japan	◆		◆	
Committee for Payment & Settlement Systems (CPSS)/BIS			◆	
Deutsche Bundesbank		◆		
Federal Reserve System, U.S.A.	◆	◆		
Financial Stability Institute (FSI)/BIS		◆		
International Centre for Leadership in Finance (ICLIF)				◆
				(Leadership)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	◆			
IMF Institute	◆	◆		
Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics	◆			
Islamic Development Bank (IDB)		◆		
US Office of Comptroller of the Currency (OCC)		◆		
Office of Superintendent of Fin. Institutions (OSFI), Canada		◆		
Toronto International Leadership Centre		◆		
		(Leadership)		
World Bank (WB)	◆	◆		
World Bank Institute	◆	◆		
World Bank Treasury				◆
				(Reserve Management)
Harvard Club of Malaysia & Charles River Centre				◆
				(Leadership)
International Association of Deposit Insurers (IADI)	◆			
	(Deposit Insurance)			
Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)	◆			
	(Microfinance, Access to Finance)			

The SEACEN training programme for OY 2010/11 comprises 18 training courses, 7 seminars (include 1 “Just-In-Time”) and 3 workshops. The number of activities for OY 2010/11 compared to OY 2009/10 is as follows:

Activity	OY 2009/10	OY 2010/11
(i) Training Activities	28	28
• Courses	(14)	(18)
• Seminars	(7)	(6)
• Workshops	(6)	(3)
• Just-in-Time	(1)	(1)
(ii) Meetings	6	6
(ii) Research Activities	10	14
• Research Projects	(4)	(5)
• Case Studies	(6)	(9)

Training Activities

Programme of Training Events

The Programme of Training evolves out of the 5-year implementation plan of the approved Strategic Direction of the Centre, proposals and priorities identified by the BOG, EXCO, Directors of Research and Training, the Directors of Supervision, Directors of Payment and Settlement Systems, and The SEACEN Centre. The learning activities focus on developing skills, knowledge and competency of central bank staff in the region.

The programme of training comprises courses, seminars and workshops. A training course is an interactive learning event to enhance the capacity building of member central banks. It is generally of longer duration, usually more than three days, comprising several related modules. A seminar is an event where the topic is of current interest and the discussions are exploratory and policy-oriented in nature. A workshop is an event where the topic is generally technical in nature and involves hands-on practical sessions.

In addition to having resource speakers from collaborating institutions, as shown in Table 3 INSTITUTIONS AND AREAS OF COLLABORATION IN TRAINING ACTIVITIES, The SEACEN Centre also invites speakers from its member and invitee central banks and monetary authorities to lend a ‘SEACEN flavour’ to the content of its activities. Speakers from the private sector are also sometimes invited to cover specific areas of specialisation.

Participations in the training activity are by invitation only. There are 35 central banks/monetary authorities in the Asia-Pacific region that are invited to the training events. They include the 16 SEACEN members, 2 SEACEN observers and 17 invitees, as shown in Table 4 TUITION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEACEN TRAINING ACTIVITIES. On a case-by-case basis, the collaborative institutions, particularly those that have members in the Asia-Pacific region such as the ADB, APEC, BIS, FSI, IMF and World Bank may invite other central banks/monetary authorities in addition to the regular SEACEN list of 35 central bank/monetary authority participants.

Course Fees

Based on the decision at the 17th Meeting of the BOG of The SEACEN Centre in 1998 in Bali, Indonesia, the fee schedule for non-SEACEN members is as follows:

Duration of Training Events	Course Fees
1 – 3 days	US\$ 1,300
4 – 5 days	US\$ 1,500
More than 5 days	US\$ 2,500

In response to increasing demand for SEACEN training courses, and in consideration of limited resources of The SEACEN Centre as well as the need to have a balance between cross subsidy of members' resources and assistance to the deserving neighbouring central banks, the SEACEN BOG decided at the 24th Meeting in Nadi, Fiji on 2 June 2005, on the tuition fees for participation in SEACEN training activities as follows:

1. All SEACEN member banks will be exempted from tuition fees. For non-central bank institutions in the member countries, to pay 50% if the country's per capita GDP is more than US\$1,000, otherwise fee waiver.
2. For observer members, to pay in full if the country's per capita GDP is more than US\$1,000, otherwise fee waiver for the first participant, and 50% for each subsequent participant. This tuition fee applies to all training activities.
3. For invitees, to pay in full if the country's per capita GDP is more than US\$1,000, otherwise 50% of tuition fee.

At the 25th Meeting in Brunei Darussalam on 5 March 2006, the SEACEN BOG decided to modify the existing fee applications as follows:

1. For collaborated/funded by international financial organisations, e.g., IMF, World Bank, BIS, FSI, CPSS: Fee waiver for first participant from SEACEN observers and invitees. Subsequent participants to impose fee as earlier decision.
2. For course collaborated/funded by advanced central banks, e.g., Bank of Japan, Reserve Bank of Australia: Fee waiver for participants from collaborating central banks. Other participants to pay fee as decided earlier.

At the 26th Meeting in Bangkok on 29 July 2007, the BOG decided that participants from commercial banks/ private sector attending the SEACEN/ABAC/ABA/PECC Public-Private Dialogue be charged a fee of US\$ 250 per participant to partially defray the administration cost of conducting the Dialogue.

Table 4 TUITION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEACEN TRAINING ACTIVITIES gives the details on the institutions to be invited for training, basis of their participation, and corresponding tuition fees. Table 5 PERCENT OF TUITION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEACEN TRAINING ACTIVITIES lists these institutions according to the tuition fee application, and the percentage of tuition fees that would be applied to them.

Course Participants

The number of training activities has been increasing. Up to March 2010, The SEACEN Centre has organised cumulative training activities comprising 184 courses, 144 seminars and 69 workshops. The number of participants has also increased, i.e., as at end-March 2010, 10888 officers have participated in the SEACEN training activities including those coming from invited non-member countries. Chart 4 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND INSTITUTIONS represents the number of participants from different central banks/monetary authorities.

To make training activities effective, the number of participants is limited to a range of 20 to 40 persons. If the applications are beyond 40 persons, The SEACEN Centre will select the participants based on the following priority.

Priority	Participants from
First	Central bank/monetary authority of the SEACEN members
Second	Institutions nominated by SEACEN members
Third	Paying institutions
Fourth	Non-paying institutions

Measurement of Impact of Learning Events

To improve the effectiveness of training and to demonstrate its results, The SEACEN Centre currently conducts Level-1 for all events and Level - 3 evaluations for selected events, and has introduced Level-2 evaluation for certain learning events. Level-1 evaluation seeks input on participants' reactions – whether they found the course beneficial, and whether it is effectively implemented in terms of course design, contents, speakers and organisational aspects. Level-2 evaluation aims to measure whether participants gain knowledge and skills embodied in the learning objectives of the learning event and is conducted by assessing entry knowledge and exit knowledge (through either pre- and post-tests by participants or observations by facilitators during quizzes, presentations and class discussions). Level - 3 feedback, which measures transfer of knowledge gained in the work place, has been conducted 6 months after participants returned to their jobs. Under the new strategic direction, the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which became effective from OY 2006/07, are for the Centre to deliver at least 18 training events per year with a minimum average rating of 4 on a scale of 1 (least effective) to 5 (most effective) from participants for Level-1 evaluation.

**Table 4 TUITION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEACEN TRAINING ACTIVITIES
(As of July 2010)**

Tuition Fees: 1 - 3 days US\$1,300 4 - 5 days US\$1,500 > 5 days US\$2,500					
Institutions to be Invited for Training	Based on Decision by	SEANZA Members	Tuition Fees (%)		
			Central Banks ***		Non-Central Banks*
			First Participant	Subsequent Participants	
Members					
1 Brunei Darussalam	Member 2003		-	-	50
2 Cambodia	Member 2006		-	-	-
3 Fiji	Member 2004		-	-	50
4 Indonesia	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
5 Korea	Member 1990	Y	-	-	50
6 Malaysia	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
7 Mongolia	Member 1999	Y	-	-	50
8 Myanmar	Member 1982		-	-	-
9 Nepal	Member 1982	Y	-	-	-
10 Papua New Guinea	Member 2005	Y	-	-	-
11 Philippines	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
12 Singapore	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
13 Sri Lanka	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
14 Taiwan	Member 1992		-	-	50
15 Thailand	Member 1982	Y	-	-	50
16 Vietnam	Member 2006		-	-	-
Observers, per capita GDP > US\$1,000					
17 Tonga	BOG 1998		100	100	100
Observers, per capita GDP ≤ US\$1,000					
18 Laos, PDR	BOG 1998		-	50	50
Invitees, per capita GDP > US\$1,000					
19 Australia	BOG 1998	Y	- ****	- ****	100
20 China, P.R.	BOG 2005	Y	100	100	100
21 Hong Kong	BOG 1998		100	100	100
22 Iran	BOG 2000	Y	100	100	100
23 Japan	BOG 1998	Y	- ****	- ****	100
24 Macao	BOG 2005		100	100	100
25 Maldives	BOG 2007		100	100	100
26 New Zealand	BOG 1998	Y	100	100	100
27 Samoa	BOG 2006		100	100	100
28 Solomon Islands	BOG 1998		100	100	100
29 Vanuatu	BOG 2005		100	100	100

Institutions to be Invited for Training	Based on Decision by	SEANZA Members	Tuition Fees (%)		
			Central Banks ***		Non-Central Banks*
			First Participant	Subsequent Participants	
Invitees, per capita GDP ≤ US\$1,000					
30 Afghanistan	BOG 2006		50	50	50
31 Bangladesh	BOG 2005	Y	50	50	50
32 Bhutan	BOG 1998		50	50	50
33 India	BOG 2005	Y	50	50	50
34 Pakistan	BOG 2001	Y	50	50	50
35 Timor-Leste	BOG 2004		..**	..**	..**

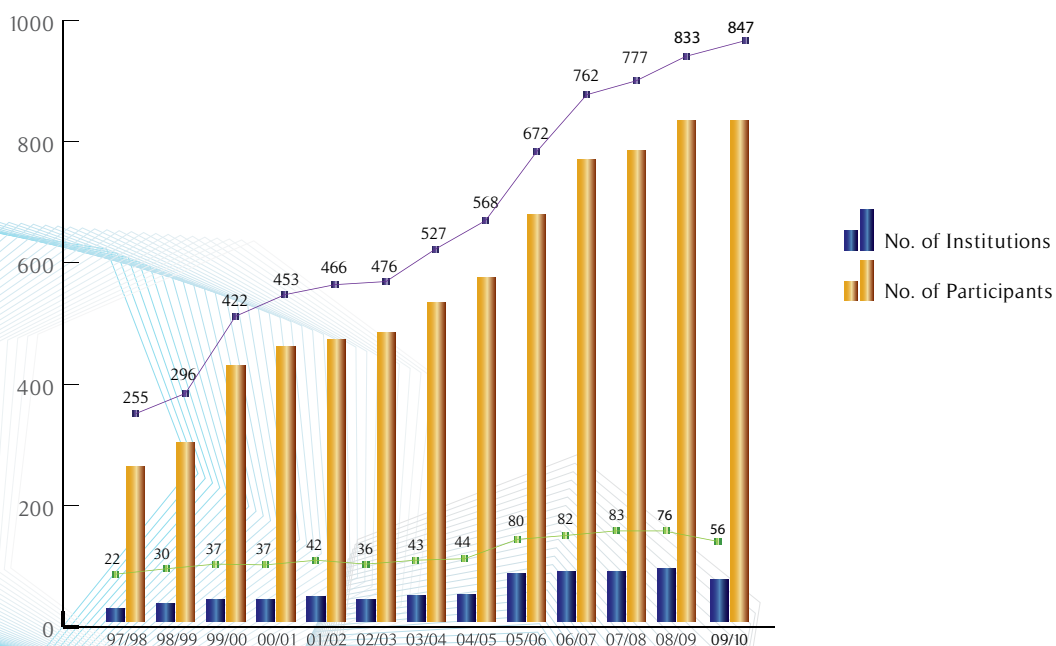
- * Excluding self-financing Basel II training courses and the SEACEN/ABAC/ABA/PECC Public-Private Dialogue. For self-financing Basel II training course, commercial bank participants pay 100% tuition fee. For the Public-Private Dialogue, a fee of US\$ 250 is imposed on participants from commercial banks/private sector.
- ** Waived for participants from Banking and Payment Authority (BPA) until 2006/07 (BOG decision in 2004) and extended for another 3 years until 2009/10 (BOG decision in 2007).
- *** Courses collaborated/funded by IFIs, e.g., IMF, WB, BIS, FSI, CPSS, IDB: Fee Waived for 1st Participants from SEACEN Observers and Invitees; subsequent participants' fees as decided by BOG (BOG decision in 2006).
- **** Courses collaborated/funded by advanced central banks, e.g., BOJ, RBA: fee waived for participants from collaborating central banks; other participants' fees as decided by BOG (BOG decision in 2006).

Table 5 PERCENT OF TUITION FEES FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEACEN TRAINING ACTIVITIES *

Tuition Fees: 1 - 3 days** US\$1,300 4 - 5 days** US\$1,500 > 5 days** US\$2,500			
	Percent of Tuition Fees for Participants		
	From Central Bank		From Non-Central Bank***
	Collaboration with IMF,WB,BIS,FSI,CPSS,IDB	Other Arrangements	
Group A			
Brunei, Fiji, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand	0	0	50
Group B			
Cambodia, Myanmar,Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste****, Vietnam	0	0	0
Group C			
Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan	1st Participant: 0 Next Participant: 50	50	50
Group D			
Australia*****, China PR,Hong Kong, Iran, Japan*****, Macao, Maldives, New Zealand, Samoa,Solomon Is.,Tonga, Vanuatu	1st Participant: 0 Next Participant: 50	100	100
Group E			
Laos PDR	1st Participant: 0 Next Participant: 50		50

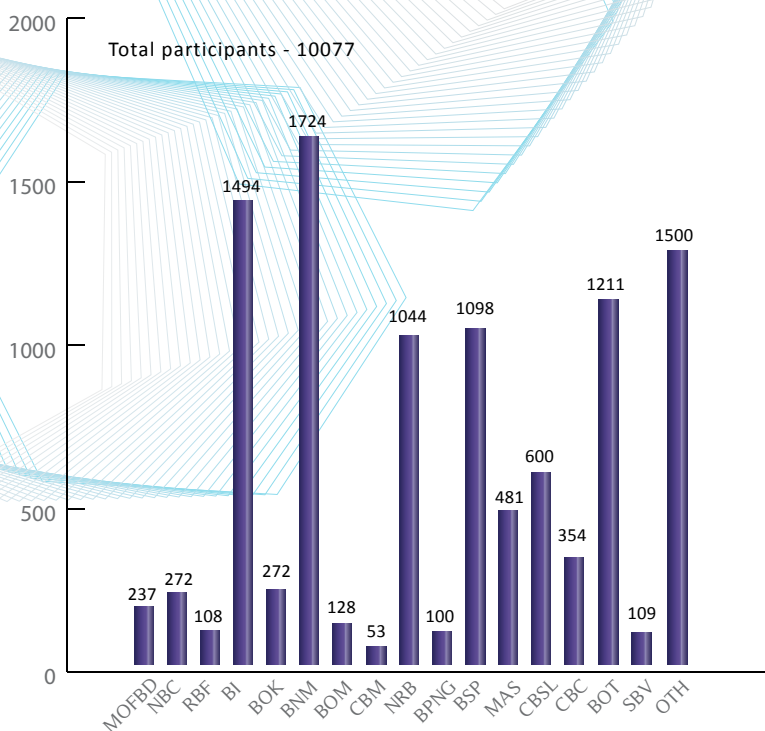
- * Training activities comprise Course, Seminar and Workshop; Conference and Meeting are excluded.
- ** Training duration excludes pre/post training programme.
- *** Excluding self-financing Basel II training courses and the SEACEN/ABAC/ABA/PECC Public-Private Dialogue. For self-financing Basel II training course, commercial bank participants pay 100% tuition fee. For the Public-Private Dialogue, a fee of US\$ 250 is imposed on participants from commercial banks/private sector.
- **** Waived for participants from Banking and Payment Authority (BPA) until 2006/07 (BOG decision in 2004) and extended for another 3 years until 2009/10 (BOG decision in 2007).
- ***** BOG decision in 2006 as noted in Table 4.

**Chart 4 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS* AND INSTITUTIONS
OY 1996/97 to OY 2009/10**



* Participants of training courses, seminars, workshops, excluding meetings

**PARTICIPANTS IN TRAINING EVENTS BY MEMBERS
1972- March 2010**



MOFBD - Ministry of Finance, Brunei Darussalam; NBC - National Bank of Cambodia; RBF - Reserve Bank of Fiji; BI - Bank Indonesia; BOK - The Bank of Korea; BNM - Bank Negara Malaysia; BOM - The Bank of Mongolia; CBM - Central Bank of Myanmar; NRB - Nepal Rastra Bank; BPNG - Bank of Papua New Guinea; BSP - Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas; MAS - Monetary Authority of Singapore; CBSL - Central Bank of Sri Lanka; CBC - Central Bank of the Republic of China (Taiwan); BOT - Bank of Thailand; SBV - State Bank of Vietnam; OTH - Others

Research Activities

Programme of Research

In line with the strategic direction, emphasis of the SEACEN research activities has been placed on issues of regional importance to central banks and relevant to learning programmes. The research output has been used as learning content and, where appropriate, modified as case studies to enhance the effectiveness of learning programmes. Promoting networking and collaboration among the SEACEN members and other renowned international financial institutions on issues of common concern is another key research activity. To this end, some of the SEACEN research projects are conducted in collaboration with researchers from member central banks/monetary authorities. In some cases, such collaboration extends to other international institutions such as the BIS, IMF and the World Bank. The SEACEN Centre's research workshops also provide ample opportunities for researchers from the region to share country experiences and interact with experts who provide multi-dimensional viewpoints.

With the implementation of the Strategic Direction of The SEACEN Centre, the Research and Learning Contents Department will assist the Learning Design and Development Department in developing case studies to be used mainly in flagship/modular courses.

For the OY 2010/11, the five research projects/studies are:

- (R1) Addressing Risks in Promoting Financial Stability
- (R2) Relative Effectiveness of Policy Choices during Financial Crisis
- (R3) Propagation of Real Shocks in the SEACEN Countries
- (R4) International and Cross-Border Bank Lending and Implications in SEACEN Countries: Balance Sheet Perspectives
- (R5) New Financial Products and Challenges for Central Banks

Evaluation of Research Projects

Under the new Strategic Direction, in addition to clearing by member banks and external reviewers, the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which became effective from OY 2006/07, are for the Centre to deliver at least 4 research papers per year with a minimum average rating of 4 in a scale of 1 (least effective) to 5 (most effective) from relevant directors of member central banks/monetary authorities.

In light of this, as of OY 2006/07, the Centre has prepared an evaluation system for research projects which is based on a questionnaire sent to the Directors of Research of the SEACEN member banks/monetary authorities for both "in-house" and "collaborative" research projects so as to obtain a comprehensive range of quantifiable performance indicators to assess research performance.

Both the "in-house" and "collaborative" research projects are evaluated based on the coverage, presentation and usefulness of the research. In the case of "collaborative" research projects, the presentation of the integrative report (authored by the project leader) and country research reports (authored by country researchers of SEACEN member banks) are evaluated separately. For each category of the criteria, the rating range from 1 (least effective) to 5 (most effective).

Case Studies

In line with the Five Year Plan of The SEACEN Centre to support training activities, the Research Department aims to prepare 9 case studies: 5 case studies based on research topics (R1), (R2), (R3), (R4) and (R5) and 4 case studies as required for the proposed training events for OY 2010/11, to be developed in collaboration with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).

The Centre has formulated the Guidelines for SEACEN Case Study Development. The strategy consists of two parts, with Part I being the strategic plan and Part II, the basic guidelines for case study development. The purpose and long-term vision of the case study strategy is to meet the training needs through the provision of training materials and competent speakers; make available cases to member banks for their training needs; and, publish the central banking case study series to support the long- run vision of The SEACEN Centre being the centre of excellence for regional central banking case studies.

Two “Train-the-Trainers” workshops on case writing and case facilitation were conducted in OY 2009/10 as a step towards building the capacity of staff of both The SEACEN Centre and member central banks/monetary authorities in case studies.

Other Research Publications

SEACEN Occasional Papers

These are papers prepared by resource persons for SEACEN seminar and training events. In addition, the occasional papers could be studies on SEACEN member countries by subject matter experts outside the SEACEN countries on central banking issues which are of current interest to the SEACEN member central banks. Starting from OY 2010/11, as part of the Centre’s strategic research initiatives to widen the dissemination of SEACEN research output and facilitate the sharing of knowledge among SEACEN member central banks and the public, researchers/economists/analysts from member banks/monetary authorities will be invited to submit research or working papers to be published as occasional papers of The SEACEN Centre.

SEACEN Staff Papers

These are papers prepared by the staff of The SEACEN Centre. The papers focus on current issues of interest to central banks, and are prepared in addition to the approved research projects.

Guide to SEACENBank Watch

The annual SEACENBank Watch provides current information about the SEACEN member central banks on recent changes in the organization structure, including movements of senior officers as well as information on the mode of monetary management, financial stability, policy signals and other useful information.

SEACEN Background Papers

The background papers are prepared to facilitate discussions at high level meetings such as the Meetings of the SEACEN Executive Committee (EXCO) and SEACEN Board of Governors (BOG). The background papers also presents key economic data of SEACEN member central banks and monetary authorities.

Dissemination of SEACEN Research Papers

The Centre publishes and disseminates in print form its research publications to all its member central banks and monetary authorities. The on line publication of SEACEN research papers had already been implemented as approved by the EXCO. The Research Reports, Staff Papers, Occasional Papers and Institutional Publications are available for downloading from the Centre’s website at <http://www.seacen.org>.

Research Facilities

Library and Information Services

The collection of the Library and Information Services Unit of the Centre has been merged with the resources of the Knowledge Management Centre (KMC) of Bank Negara Malaysia at Sasana Kijang. This merger with the KMC augurs well for the Centre as it would ensure a cost effective transition for the Centre to be a knowledge based organisation. The resources and technology available at the KMC would offer opportunities for both staff and participants of learning and research events of the Centre to engage in continuous learning for both personal and professional growth.

Information Technology Solutions

Information technology (IT) solutions in SEACEN are continually being aligned with the goals and strategies of the Centre to become a premier regional training centre and provider of excellent training in the Asia-Pacific region. In light of this, the Centre launched the SEACEN Web Forum in Operating Year 2007/08 to provide staff of the SEACEN member banks, opportunities to discuss areas pertaining to learning, research and the SEACEN Expert Group (SEG) on Capital Flows. The Centre also leveraged on technology to deliver “self learning materials” to course participants via its website during the operating year. During the year, the Financial Stability Institute offered accessibility to the Centre’s staff to the e-learning modules on financial stability areas under FSI Connect.

To leverage on Bank Negara Malaysia’s Sasana Kijang (SK) and Knowledge Management Centre (KMC) technology for critical on-line business processes, information and knowledge assets, proper integration of ICT applications with SK and KMC is required. Thus, the Centre sought the technical assistance of the IT Department of Bank Negara Malaysia to formulate an ICT Strategy Plan for The SEACEN Centre going forward in the next three years.

SEACEN Expert Group on Capital Flows

Background

The SEACEN Expert Group (SEG) on Capital Flows was established by The SEACEN Centre in May 2000, in response to the concern expressed by the SEACEN Governors at their January 2000 Conference in Kuala Lumpur over the need to manage capital flows to ensure stability in regional financial markets. At the 20th Meeting in Singapore on 1 June 2001, the Board of Governors (BOG) also approved the proposal by the SEG to set up an electronic data exchange facility at The SEACEN Centre.

Objectives

The main objectives of the SEG are:

1. To develop a regional framework to promote information sharing on capital flows among members; and,
2. To draw up concrete and practical proposals that members can implement individually or collectively to enhance the management of capital flows.

Membership

The SEG comprises 19 member central banks, viz., the 16 SEACEN member central banks, and three SEACEN observers, viz., the Reserve Bank of Australia, Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Bank of Japan. The SEG is co-chaired by Bank Negara Malaysia and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The SEACEN Centre serves as the secretariat to the SEG. Its main role is to assist the SEG in implementing the work programme as decided by the SEG, such as providing data exchange facility, processing and analysing capital flows data as reported by members, as well as providing secretariat support to the SEG meetings and teleconferencing calls.

3. Teleconferencing Exchange

In addition to the exchange of data templates, the SEG also holds teleconferencing exchange as and when necessary to discuss trends, developments and issues of concern arising from the SEG data analysis report. Other related issues of current interest are also discussed.

4. Capacity-building in SEACEN Member Banks

To promote capacity building and exchange of views and experiences, the SEG meeting agenda normally includes dialogues with international experts on topical issues relating to capital flows. In addition, several workshops have been organised to enhance expertise in the areas of compilation and usage of international finance statistics, risk management of capital flows and development of early warning systems. Experts in these areas from the Ministry of Finance of Japan, Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and international bankers have been invited to share their knowledge and experiences, as well as providing guidance to the SEG members. There are also meetings and workshops for technical staff to enhance data collection capacity.

5. Assessment of Capital Flows

The SEACEN SEG Secretariat prepares brief reports twice a year on capital flows entitled “A Monitoring Note on Capital Flows of SEG Members” to be circulated to members. The first issue of the report was released in December 2008 in conjunction with the 7th SEG Meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The second report was issued in August 2009 in tandem with the 8th SEG Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The third report was published in May 2010 in conjunction with the SEG Technical Meeting while the fourth will be issued in December 2010.

Institutional and Website Publications

The SEACEN Centre also publishes the SEACEN Newsletter (quarterly), as well as the annual SEACEN Programme, SEACEN Profile, and other brochures. The Centre distributes its publications to its members free of charge and to non-member institutions and individuals at cost.

The SEACEN Centre publishes its research studies, staff and occasional papers and institutional publications, downloadable in full, on the SEACEN Website.

Chart 5 EXCHANGE OF DATA ON CAPITAL FLOWS

