



*The Asian Health Institute Foundation*

**2014 International Course on  
Leadership for Community Health and Development**

Theme: ***People's Participation in  
Local Governance in Health***

Dates: ***September 7 (Sun), 2014 - October 13 (Mon), 2014***

Venue: ***AHI, Nagoya, Japan***

The Asian Health Institute (AHI), founded in 1980, is a Japanese non-governmental voluntary organization (NGO) committed to supporting the development of well-being and well-doing of the marginalized in Asia. Since its establishment, AHI has been working for human resource development through participatory training programs, based on its philosophy of "Sharing for Self-Help". These training programs offer opportunities throughout Asia for middle-level community-based health and development workers to enhance their capabilities as:

- 1) community organizers and trainers in health and development issues;
  - 2) facilitators for people's organizations (POs) and local governments (GO) towards participatory local governance; and
  - 3) middle-level managers to empower their own organizations through participatory management.
- Moreover, AHI promotes ongoing networking among former participants and their organizations to strengthen overall NGO effectiveness in responding to the health needs of the people.

AHI offers one international training course in Japan for 2014 described in detail below.

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## **COURSE OUTLINE**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Health is the fundamental right of all people. However, in reality, health and health care is, to a large extent, a privilege of the rich. Rather than "Health is Wealth," it is "Wealth is Health."

With regard to health as well as other sectors, recent trends in globalization and governance have created both new threats and new opportunities for the poor. In Asia and elsewhere, neo-liberal economic globalization, which has accelerated since the 1990s, has made survival even harder. On the other hand, another global trend, decentralization, provides a new space for the poor to take part in decision making at the local level on issues and policies affecting their lives – in

theory. Nevertheless, in reality, the poor are often still excluded from genuine opportunities to participate.

In order to effectively respond to current and emerging health and development challenges, community-based health and development workers must review their roles, and explore new strategies with wider perspectives. Middle-level workers, in touch with both grassroots and global realities, can play a key role in achieving health for/by/with the poor. They can facilitate in forming people's organizations (PO) and in building their capability to actively participate in local governance. At the same time, these middle-level workers can also support local governments and other partners in embracing participatory local governance.

## **2014 COURSE FOCUS**

The 2014 course will focus on strategies to promote people's participation and collaboration in local governance. We will consider the following questions. Based on PO formation and strong capability building work, how can people's community-based actions and active participation in local governance be promoted? How can such people's initiatives and participation experiences in the health sector be extended to other development issues? Vice versa, how can experiences in other sectors be applied in health? Participants are expected to bring case studies of concrete field experiences of forming and strengthening POs and of promoting people's participation in health (or in other development sectors) in collaboration with other partners. In addition to this case sharing, participants are to lead sessions as resource persons on topics in which they have expertise.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The course aims to enhance the leadership quality of the participants so they can effectively facilitate the empowerment of people's organizations through partnership and collaboration among NGOs, POs, GOs and other partners in health.

During the course, the participants will be able to:

- brush up analytical skills around health and development issues at the local and global levels
- discuss the effects of global and macro trends such as globalization, decentralization, and health sector reform on the poor and the vulnerable
- clarify key terms in health and development such as primary health care, health promotion, decentralization, local governance, etc.
- seek alternative development perspectives and the role of NGOs, POs, and GOs
- revisit the principles of people's organization formation and find effective approaches for capability building
- explore effective strategies to promote people's participation in local governance and applications to health
- discuss potential roles of the health sector in conflict prevention and peace building
- enhance their own participatory concepts and skills in field activities, training, and organizational management
- and enhance their own attitudes and values to become more effective community health and development workers

- formulate their own plans of action, incorporating their learning and insights from the course

The above are tentative objectives. Specific objectives and schedules will be developed and finalized collectively by the participants during the course.

## **PRINCIPLES AND METHODS**

AHI's basic philosophy is "Sharing for Self-Help". The course will be conducted applying AHI's participatory principles and methods. Participants are responsible for their own learning and others' learning. The course process becomes its content, and learning is most powerful when thinking, feeling, and action converge together. Participants will share their own ideas and experiences and learn from each other to build the course together. By sharing and working collectively, the course serves to facilitate self and mutual-reflection by the participants. The process enables them to grow and become more effective workers capable of empowering and motivating people to think, feel and act for themselves while continuously learning from and being empowered by the people and others. **AHI expects prospective applicants to understand the basic characteristics of the course as below:**

### **1. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT THROUGH GROUP PROCESS**

This is **NOT** a technical or theoretical course led by experts on how to become a higher level leader or manager. Rather, this course provides opportunities for participants to reflect, discover, and develop basic leadership qualities as health and development workers through a group process. Primarily, participants will learn through working together on case studies, demonstrations, workshops, learning exercises, dialogues, small group discussions, role plays, exposure visits and cultural programs. Moderating, reporting, and reflecting on activities are also important components of the course.

Therefore, participants are expected to open themselves and be willing to participate in various group tasks in and out of session time.

### **2. PARTICIPANTS AS RESOURCE PERSONS**

There will be no fixed course schedule made by AHI with a list of external lecturers. Within the main theme of the course, details of the course schedule, contents, and methods will be planned by the participants with AHI facilitators. The bulk of the course input will be formed by the participants' ideas, skills and experiences. No "specialists" come from outside to give participants answers what to do. Participants are expected to make presentations, design and lead sessions as resource persons on their own areas of expertise. Participants become teachers and advisers as well as learners.

Therefore, participants should be clear what they want to learn and what they can contribute as resource persons for others.

### **3. LIVE-IN STYLE TRAINING IN INTER-CULTURAL SETTING**

Participants will live together in the dormitory with shared rooms within the AHI building. Learning through living together in the dormitory accommodation, including sharing daily living tasks such as cooking breakfast, washing dishes and cleaning dormitory facilities, offers opportunities for participants to work with others with different cultural backgrounds.

Non-session time is an important integral part of the course, when participants have rich opportunity to share and discuss informally among themselves.

Therefore, AHI expects the participants to minimize the work commitments they bring from home and avoid being heavily occupied by internet communication with back home during the course period.

## **SENDING ORGANIZATIONS**

The sending organization must have experience in PO formation and strengthening, multi-sector collaboration, and human development as major strategies in their work rather than just for service delivery in health and development. Primary participants are NGO workers. However, a team application of an NGO worker with a partner PO leader is welcomed. NGO applicants may invite qualified PO leaders who have been working in the same area toward a common goal and can present their concrete experiences on PO formation and participation in local governance in health in English.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Twelve (12) persons from various Asian countries.

The participants should meet all of the following criteria:

- Have at least 5 years of field experience working in community-based health and development programs in rural and marginalized areas
- Have extensive experience in community organizing/PO formation and capability building
- Have experience in multi-sector collaboration toward participatory local governance in health or plan to extend into health from other sectors/issues in a specific locality
- Currently hold middle-level leadership positions where they can implement plans and influence organizational changes
- Be able to articulate their ideas clearly in English, which is the common language used in this course
- Be cooperative and responsible in group work
- Be around 27 to 50 years of age, and in good health
- Have strong commitment and support from her/his sending organization to fully utilize the learning and techniques acquired from the course
- Be committed to continue working in the sending organization for minimum 2 years after completion of this course

We will also consider the following points in selecting participants when there are many applications:

- Variety of countries
- Gender balance
- Working with the current organization for more than 3 years
- Priority given to applicants with no/less experience in training/study abroad, especially in economically advanced countries including Japan

## **FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

In line with our standard financial sharing policy, **AHI will be responsible for:**

- Training expenses
- Board and lodging during the course period
- Domestic transportation expenses incurred within Japan
- Half of the airfare (domestic and international) to and from Nagoya, Japan using the most economic direct route with minimum transit expenses and the airport tax(es).

AHI requests the **sending organization to take responsibility for:**

- The remaining half of the domestic and international airfare\*
- Domestic transportation expenses within your country
- Other expenses incurred by travel preparations such as obtaining a passport and visa, within your country

\*For PO leaders, a different international airfare sharing could be considered according to the financial situation of the POs and their partner NGOs. Please consult with us as needed.

\*Regarding sending organizations in Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore, and the field offices or counterpart organizations of Japanese NGOs, AHI requests that you pay the full amount of the international airfare and part of the training expenses. Please contact us for further details.

## **COURSE PERIOD**

September 7 (Sun), 2014 - October 13 (Mon), 2014

\* required to arrive at AHI on Sep. 6 evening or Sep. 7 morning and depart from Japan on Oct. 14

## **VENUE**

Asian Health Institute (AHI)

987-30 Minamiyama, Nisshin, Aichi, 470-0111 JAPAN

## **CONTACT PERSON**

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**\* You can download the course outline and application form from our website listed above, or request AHI to send these documents through the mail.**

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE and DEADLINE**

1. Complete and submit the following documents through e-mail or post mail before :

**April 25, 2014**

a) **AHI OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM with** the applicant's I.D. photo (face photo) attached.

For PO applicants recommended by NGOs, **the ENDORSEMENT sheet should be filled out by the authorized personnel of their partner NGO** and attached to the application.

b) **STATEMENT OF APPLICATION** with signatures of the applicant and his/her organization's representative

c) **Copy of your passport page with your name and birth date**  
If the applicant does not have a passport yet, please send it later.

d) **Brochure and annual activity report in English**  
If English versions are not available, attach an English summary to the original documents.

\*If the applicant submits by e-mail, please send twice at different times to avoid mail failures. AHI will send an acknowledgement of the receipt.

\*I.D. photo (face photo) and signatures in each document are absolutely mandatory.  
If the applicant cannot attach them on the documents, please scan and send these pages by e-mail or send the hard copies by post.

\*AHI may ask the applicant to revise or send additional information after checking the documents.

2. All applicants will be informed of the selection results approximately one month after the application deadline. Successful applicants will receive further information and documents necessary for travel and course preparation.

3. Please note that application documents submitted to AHI will NOT be returned to the applicants, but AHI will make sure the individual information will be carefully treated and/or disposed of to ensure confidentiality.

**If you have any questions or need further information, please contact us anytime.**