



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
DECS Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines



*Sama-Sama
sa DECS*

*Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary*

August 9, 1999

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 324, s. 1999

**1999 ANNUAL UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) HUMAN RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT (HRD) AWARD**

To: Bureau/Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Private Elementary and Secondary School Principals

1. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) announces the 1999 ESCAP Human Resources Development (HRD) Award to be presented in Bangkok, Thailand on the first day of the Ministerial Segment of the 2000 Session in April 2000.
2. The year's theme of the ESCAP HRD session is "HRD for Youth Empowerment."
3. Enjoined to participate are individuals (resident nationals), organizations and institutions in both the government and nongovernmental sectors in developing and transitional countries and areas of the ESCAP region who/which have undertaken practical research, training or other innovative HRD work relating to youth empowerment. (No application sent by electronic mail will be accepted.)
4. Inclosed are the HRD aspects of youth empowerment, criteria for selection of award winners, format for project proposal and application procedure.
5. For further information, please contact the Chief, Human Resources Development Section, Social Development Division, ESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajdamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200 Thailand, at Telephone Number (662) 288-1502 or Fax Number (662) 288-3031. More information can be downloaded on the ESCAP HRD website: www.escap-hrd.org.
6. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


ANDREW GONZALEZ, FSC
Secretary

Incls.: As stated
Reference: None
Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

ORGANIZATIONS PRIZES or AWARDS UNITED NATIONS

1999 ESCAP HRD Award

Theme: HRD for Youth Empowerment

Background

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) established the ESCAP HRD Award in 1990. The Award is presented annually in recognition of exemplary work in the field of human resources development (HRD).

The ESCAP HRD Award is administered in pursuance of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. That Plan provides guidelines for transforming the principles of HRD into practice. It constitutes a policy framework within which Governments, with the support of regional and international organizations and other agents of development, formulate and execute policies and programmes to address the particular needs, and respond to the individual priorities, of countries.

One of the major concerns of the Jakarta Plan of Action is to promote research and training on key HRD issues as a basis for national policy-making. In response to this concern, the ESCAP HRD Award was established as a means of encouraging exemplary research, training and other innovative achievement in the field of HRD.

Earlier rounds and winners of the ESCAP HRD Award

Year	Theme	Winner
1990	HRD aspects of the environment	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Philippines
1992	HRD aspects of drug abuse demand reduction	Dr. Wan Weipeng, Yunnan Mental Hospital, Kunming, China
1994	HRD for women in extreme poverty	Dhaka Ahsanua Mission, Bangladesh
1995	HRD for productive employment for youth	Social Work and Research Centre (Barefoot College), India
1996	HRD for people's participation in community development	Sungi Development Foundation, Pakistan
1997	HRD for empowering the urban poor	Human Development Centre, Thailand
1998	HRD through adult education	Department of Non-formal Education, Thailand

HRD for Youth Empowerment - Theme of the 1999 ESCAP HRD Award

Youth, defined by the United Nations as the age range of 15 to 24 years, form a significant proportion of the population of Asian and Pacific countries (about 20 per cent). In the region, the special circumstances of young people need to be addressed. Youth bear a disproportionate burden of unemployment, with young women, school leavers and drop-outs, being particularly vulnerable. In many countries, especially in the rural areas, young people do not have access to safe drinking water, nutrition, sanitation or adequate health services, including reproductive health care and HIV/AIDS prevention. A major proportion of young people, particularly those in South Asia, still lack access to basic education and other skills.

The impact of the regional financial crisis in East/Southeast Asia has hit youth hardest, in terms of record unemployment rates and rising cost of living. Recent events in Southeast Asia have proven that, if governments do not address youth concerns, political and social unrest will prevail.

Youth empowerment is predicated on the belief that young people are themselves the best resource for promoting their development. Empowering young people means creating and supporting conditions under which young people can contribute to the economic, social and cultural advancement of their societies and gain self fulfilment. Within the HRD context, enabling conditions for youth empowerment include education, knowledge, information and skills, access to health and other social services, and employment opportunities. Much work is underway in the region by youth ministries and organizations to empower young people. The 1999 ESCAP HRD Award aims to support these initiatives through recognition of innovative achievement by government, NGOs and the private sector.

Criteria for Selection of the Award Winner

- ✓ Degree of HRD commitment
- ✓ Responsiveness to the needs of the target group
- ✓ Innovativeness of the approach
- ✓ Impact
- ✓ Sustainability of the activity

Prize

The Award-winner will receive a prize of US\$ 30,000 in the form of a grant in support of further work for youth empowerment. The 1999 HRD Award has been made possible through the financial support of the Government of Australia.

Administration of the Award

The 1999 Award process will be administered by the ESCAP secretariat in consultation with the Government of Australia. ESCAP will verify the authenticity of the applications through a team of advisers. An independent international jury of experts will be established to review the nominations and select the Award-winner. The Jury may also confer honourable mention of selected candidates.

The Award Presentation Ceremony

The winner will be invited to Bangkok to receive the Award at a ceremony to be held on the first day of the Ministerial segment of the 2000 session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (around April 2000). The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and a senior representative of the Government of Australia will preside at that ceremony. A short film on the work of the winner of the Award will be shown at the ceremony. The film will be produced by ESCAP.

Eligibility

The Award is open to individuals (resident nationals), organizations and institutions in both the government and non-governmental sectors in developing and transitional countries and areas of the ESCAP region who/which have undertaken practical research, training or other innovative HRD work relating to youth empowerment. Organizations and individuals engaged in the following HRD aspects of youth empowerment may apply for the Award:

- ✓ Youth education
- ✓ Skills development for youth
- ✓ Health and social services for youth
- ✓ Youth employment
- ✓ Promotion of youth rights

Application Procedure

Applications for the Award should be in English, and should contain the following information.

A. Summary of activities related to the theme of HRD for Youth Empowerment, including:

1. Name of applying individual or organization
2. Address, including fax, cable, telex, e-mail and/or telephone numbers
3. Summary of the applicant's HRD work, focusing on the following five elements:
 - * Degree of HRD commitment
 - * Responsiveness to the needs of the target group (youth)
 - * Innovativeness
 - * Impact
 - * Sustainability

The summary should be no more than 10 pages in length (A4 size paper).

B. Letters from two independent referees

The application should be accompanied by letters from two independent and reputable referees in support of the application and should indicate their contact addresses.

C. Project Proposal

A project proposal for use of the US\$ 30,000 grant for further work to promote youth empowerment, which should include:

1. Name of individual or organization
2. Address, including fax, cable, telex and/or telephone numbers
3. Project title
4. Problem addressed
5. Project activities
6. Expected impact
7. Time schedule
8. Itemized budget

The project proposal should be no more than 5 pages in length (A4 size paper).

D. Supplementary information

Evidence in support of the application, such as publications, photographs, blueprints, video cassettes (optional).

Resident nationals and organizations in the following countries and areas of the ESCAP region are eligible for the Award:

Afghanistan
American Samoa
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Cook Islands
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Federated States of Micronesia
Fiji
French Polynesia
Guam
Hong Kong, China
India
Indonesia
Islamic Republic of Iran
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Macau
Malaysia
Maldives

Marshall Islands
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
New Caledonia
Niue
Northern Mariana Islands
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Viet Nam

Applications should be sent by 30 November 1999 to:

Chief
Human Resources Development Section
Social Development Division
ESCAP, United Nations Building
Rajdamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Thailand
Fax: (662) 288-3031
Telephone: (662) 288-1502

The information in this brochure can also be found on the ESCAP HRD website: www.escap-hrd.org. Please note that no applications sent by electronic mail will be accepted.