



Regional Workshop on Sampling for Agricultural Censuses and Surveys Bangkok, Thailand 13-18 May 2012

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. VENUE AND DATES

The workshop will be held in Bangkok, Thailand at Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Bangkok, a 4-star hotel in the city center.

Address:

Courtyard by Marriott
155/1 Soi Mahadlekluang 1
Rajdamri Road, Pathumwan
Bangkok 10330
Thailand
Tel: (66-2) 690-1888
Fax: (66-2) 690-1899
Website: <http://www.marriott.com/bkkcy>

2. WORKSHOP ARRANGEMENTS

The normal working hours of the Workshop will be 08.30 to 17.00 hours, unless specified by the Secretariat. The workshop timetable and detailed arrangements will be communicated directly to the accepted participants in due course.

Working Languages

The workshop will be conducted in English.

3. ACCOMODATION

FAO has secured accommodation bookings for all participants at Courtyard by Marriott Hotel. Accommodation is inclusive of daily breakfast plus special privileges for participants including unlimited use of wireless internet in their rooms.

Check-in/Check-out time:

Check-in 12 May 2012 after 14.00 hours
Check-out 19 May 2012 at 12.00 hours

4. REGISTRATION

Sunday, 13 May 2012 from 08.30 – 09.00 hours at the venue

5. LOGISTIC ARRANGEMENTS

FAO will cover air ticket costs (via the least costly and most direct route) for participants through the Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA). Participants are required to make an advance and purchase their own tickets with approval of cost by AFMA and will receive reimbursement upon registration at the workshop venue. In addition, the participants will receive a reduced Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for Bangkok, as some meals will be provided by the organizers, plus a flat sum for terminal expenses as per FAO regulations.

6. FORMALITIES FOR ENTRY INTO THAILAND

Please note that foreigners seeking entry into the Kingdom of Thailand must possess a passport or travel document with validity not less than 6 months. Visa is not required for participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia and Viet Nam. Those holding a diplomatic/official passport may enter Thailand without a visa. However, it is advised that participants should contact a Thai Embassy or Consulate-General at their point of origin for the most up-to-date information on visa requirements. For more information, please refer to the following websites:

<http://www.thaiembassy.org/> or <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/2637.php>

7. TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN SUWANNABHUMI AIRPORT AND THE HOTEL

Participants need to arrange their own transport between the airport and the hotel. Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK) is located approximately 45 minutes from the city and is primarily serviced by taxis.

Public Taxi

Taxis from the airport are readily available located on the 2nd level of the Arrival Hall of Suvarnabhumi International Airport. As most taxi drivers do not speak English, it is advisable to contact the taxi hiring station to assist you in communicating with the driver. The one-way fare from the airport to the city is approximately 350 - 400 Baht plus 50 Baht surcharge for the driver and highway toll charges are additional (around 25 - 45 Baht each).

8. CURRENCY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE SERVICES

The monetary unit of Thailand currency is the Thai Baht. The current exchange rate (1 Feb. 2012) is approximately: USD1 = Baht 31.17. All major credit cards are readily accepted in Thailand. US dollar traveller cheques can be conveniently cashed at the banks and authorized money changers. Exchange facilities are available at the Airport, at the banks and at exchange counters in many locations in Bangkok.

9. CLIMATE

Thailand has a tropical climate with 3 distinct seasons: summer from March – May, rainy season from June – October and cool season from November – February. The climate in May in Bangkok should be hot and humid with possible raining in the afternoon. Temperature ranges from 24°C to 35°C.

10. ELECTRICITY

The electricity current is 220 Volt AC (50 cycle) throughout the country. There are many types of plugs and sockets in use. Traveler with shavers, tape recorders and other appliances should carry a plug-adapter kit.

11. CONTACT

Correspondences concerning technical aspects of the workshop should be addressed to:

Mr. Jairo Castaño

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Economic, Social and Policy Assistance Group
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Bangkok 10200, Thailand
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Correspondences concerning logistic arrangements of the workshop should be addressed to:

Ms. Parijat Chuntaketta

Secretary
Economic, Social and Policy Assistance Group
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
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