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 secondee from Lao PDR from May to October
  - One secondee 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributors</th>
<th>Date of MoU Signing</th>
<th>Contribution Amount (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>May 24, 2016</td>
<td>1.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>June 29, 2016</td>
<td>3 million for four years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>July 12, 2016</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.