

NACCUG Capacitates Community Credit Union Staff on Record Keeping

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As part of its mandate to provide capacity building for all credit union personnel in the country, the National Association of Cooperative Credit Union (NACCUG), recently held a four-day training on record keeping for bookkeepers in Brikama and Bwiam chapters.

The training, held at the Samasang Federation Office in Brikama, was organised in collaboration with Sparkassenstiftung Fur International Kooperation Isavings Banks Foundation for International Cooperation (SBFIC), and aimed at ensuring efficient record keeping in the community credit unions of the two chapters.

Speaking to this reporter, Yankuba K Touray, the Programme Manager of NACCUG, said the four-day training targeted all the 32 bookkeepers in Brikama and Bwiam chapters, who were divided into two groups of 16 participants per batch for 2 days.

He noted that NACCUG's objective is to ensure that the inefficiency in terms of record keeping is addressed because the training is practically structured in a way that participants will be put through all the record keeping materials they use.

Touray indicated that NACCUG wants to ensure that members' funds are protected. He however recognised that record keeping remains a challenge, but was quick to point out that this issue is only within the community credit unions and not institutional credit unions, which he said, are safe and sound.

"I want the participants to make good use of the training and the knowledge gained, because we wish to see the impact of this training in the safety and soundness terms of record keeping in their credit unions. Credit union is geared towards financial independence of communities for cheaper and affordable financial services," he remarked.

For his part, Yaya Colley, the Marketing and Promotion Officer at NACCUG, said capacity building is very relevant but applying what is learnt is far more important as they (NACCUG) have realised through their

field assistants that when there are record deficiencies collecting timely statistics becomes difficult.

Colley maintained that when records are not up to date getting the financial report, which is required every month, becomes another problem and for the board to be able to take an informed decision in terms of providing services to members in terms of loans, book keepers, who are the front line staff, need to know their financial status at any given moment.

Dembo Bojang, a NACCUG board member, who also represented the Brikama chapter, expressed similar sentiments.

by Fatou Sowe

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