



## **Creating Enduring Families- A Life Story**

Regional workshop on adoption practice across Asia  
17 & 18 May 2017 / Cocoon Hotel - Quezon City, Philippines

### Introduction

Despite widespread use, adoption practice between countries varies. There are overarching common principles that govern practice as set out in the U.N Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, however at a practice level domestic and inter country adoption is subject to the socioeconomic, legal and cultural contexts of each country.

Whilst there is much research and literature on adoption, it is notably from a developed nation/Western perspective. This regional workshop aims to provide a localised platform for knowledge sharing specifically amongst adoption practitioners in South East Asia. The Workshop seeks to specifically facilitate discussion on similarities/commonalities and challenges in practice from a child-centred perspective. Focus will be on all stages of the adoption continuum, including why and how children become separated from family and come to need alternative care such as adoption and how adoptions arrangements are made in the different Asian countries represented.

Given the permanent nature of adoption it is imperative that decisions regarding its arrangement are made with the best interest of children at the centre. This workshop provides a unique opportunity for regional practitioners to come together and share on adoption practice as well as reflect on current existing capacities in providing other 'family-based alternatives' for a child.

The Workshop will provide an opportunity for skill-building and networking for representatives of the 11 countries considered (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong, South Korea & Japan). It is envisioned that the Workshop will provide the foundation for a localised Asia Care Network to champion family-based care options for children whilst calling on the de-institutionalization of residential care for children across the region.

Core Assets, supported by the Nippon Foundation and in collaboration with the Philippines Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW), Inter-Country Adoption Board and local adoption partners will host the Regional Workshop on Adoption Practice in Asia at the Cocoon Boutique Hotel / Quezon City, Philippines on 17 & 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The Programme is attached for reference.

Workshop Day 1	
Timing	Session
8.30 – 9.00am	<b>Registration</b>
9.00 – 9.10am	<b>Welcome + Introduction</b> (Khadijah Madihi / Core Assets & Eriko Takahashi / Nippon Foundation)
9.10 – 9.30am	<b>Roundtable Introduction – Who is Who</b>
9.30 – 10.15am	<b>Adoption Practice in the Philippines a Story</b> (Department of Social Welfare & Development) A short journey of the Philippines on how current adoption practice has evolved with an emphasis on pre-adoption practice principles
10.15 – 11am	<b>Where the Story Begins: Pre Adoption/Care stage: <u>Who are the children?</u></b> <u>Group activity</u> Snapshot of profiles and context of the children within country will be used for group discussion and sharing on practice differences and commonalities at this first stage of care. <b>Group sharing</b>
10.30 – 11.15am	<b>Tea Break</b>
11.15 – 11.45	<b>Child Placement Options: Perspective of a Child Caring and Placing Agency</b> (Katchie Dimaluluan / Executive Director, CRIBS Foundation, Inc)
11.45 – 12.30pm-	<u>Group activity</u> Participants to share on casework practice/ planning / processes for those children who enter an orphanage/ children's home Participants invited to prepare a <u>case plan</u> and share within the group. Include any legal/ judicial requirements. <b>Group sharing</b>
12.30 – 2pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
2 – 2.45pm	<b>Preparing Children and Families for Transition/Placement</b> (Anjali Prabhu – Lead Facilitator) <u>Discussion</u> Helping the children move to a permanent care arrangement – in-country/abroad i.e. seeing to the child's needs.
2.45 – 3.15pm	<b>Multiple Transitions</b> (Khadijah Madihi – Project Manager)
3.15 – 3.30pm	<b>Tea Break</b>
3.30 – 4.15pm	<b>Stories from the other side - Post Adoption Stories</b> (Inter-country Adoption Board –ICAB) Variations of post-adoption practice in domestic / intercountry
4.15 – 5pm	<u>Discussion</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Take-away &amp; Insights at the end of the day</li> <li>- Possible challenges in each country</li> <li>- Call for action</li> </ul>
5pm	<b>END</b>

Workshop Day 2	
Timing	Session
9.00 am	<b>Assemble at hotel lobby</b>
9.30 – 10.15am	<u>Site visit</u> <b>Kaisahang Buhay Foundation, Inc. (KBF)</b> Tour & presentation <b>(Marilyn Manuel / Executive Director)</b>
10.15 – 12.15pm	<b>Country Sharing –</b> Representatives are to share about respective country's adoption practice & experience (10 min each)
12.15 – 1.30pm	<b>Lunch at Kaisahang Buhay Foundation, Inc. (KBF)</b>
1.30pm	<b>Assemble for next site visit</b>
2 - 2.45pm	<u>Site visit</u> <b>Norfil Foundation Inc.</b> Tour & presentation <b>(Teresa R. Nuqui / Executive Director)</b>
2.45 - 3.30pm	<b>Networking Tea</b> Representatives from various Philippines governmental bodies/ agencies/NGOS
3.30 – 4.30pm	<b>Panel discussion &amp; Next Steps</b>
5pm	CLOSURE