

## C835270 ; MAJOR URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

KEY WORD: DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES / MUKDAHAN / NORTHEASTERN REGION

JOMJAI SAVAN : DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR MUKDAHAN AND THE RELATED AREAS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSOC. PROF. KIAT CHIVAKUL, DR.ING., 229 pp. ISBN 974-332-372-4.

The objectives of this research are to (1) study and compare situations and development of various changes between Mukdahan province along with its sub-region and Northeastern Region ; and (2) analyze factors that are obstacles to development and affecting the potential of Mukdahan province along with its sub-region.

Mukdahan is a border town in the Northeastern Region, having high growth and expansion in terms of economic and population when compared to other provinces in the region. It has higher competitive economic and location advantages than other provinces in the region.

It is found out that factors that promote provincial development are as follow : of suitable location for international linkages, rich natural resources, low density human settlements, low land price and wages, surplus of electric city and energy supply, high potential for tourism development, and high economic development trend that will link Thai-Laos-and Vietnam in the future. These factors cause urban structural change, while infrastructure expansion cannot keep up with. It is recommended that Mukdahan province should expand and improve its basic infrastructure and network in order to meet urban growth. In addition, improvement should be made on communication and transportation network, investment promotion, trading and industrial development. Simultaneously, agricultural land reform should be promoted in order to increase size of land and productivity of farmers. This will help supply raw material for agro-industry in the province.

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