

Paisal Sreponpak 2008: Factors Affecting People Participation for Natural Resources Management : A Case Study of Upper Nan Watershed Management Project, Numhan Watershed Management Unit, Changwat Nan. Master of Science (Agriculture), Major Field: Agricultural Extension, Department of Agricultural Extension and Communication. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Somsre Pakcaratam, M.S. 125 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study the socio – economic background of the people in the Upper Nan Watershed Management Project, their participation for natural resource management, including their problems and suggestions. The studied people was 154 persons, using interview schedule as the instrument for collecting the data, and employing percentage, means and chi – square for data analysis.

The results of the study revealed that 79.2% were male, with the average age of 46.7% years, 61.0% having less than secondary educational level. Their average family members was 4.7 persons. For their electric appliances, it was found that 98.7% having radio and 97.4% having television. It was shown that 96.1% of them using commercial shampoo, and 92.9% using chemical fertilizer. Their household waste disposal was used by public services, but their waste water was discarded into the natural water sources. In their farm, 87.7% discarding the extra water by let it evaporated, 63.0% using microbiological materials for improving their soil fertility.

For their participation, it was shown then 100% of them participating in growing forest, 79.7% participating in analysis for planning, 79.2% participating in fire buffer making, 76.6% participating in non – agricultural training course, 73.4% participating in planning, 63.7% participating other training courses, 62.3% participating in monitoring and evaluation, 60.4 participating in check dam building , and 55.2% participating in forest surveillance. The results of hypotheses testing illustrated that people with different factors had some different participation for natural management preservation.

The recommendations proposed in this study were: the officers of the project should develop better participation with the people about building check dam activity and making fire buffer activity to be more efficient. In order to preserve forest and natural resources, and also efficient media should be developed for the people to understand and having better knowledge in order to utilize their natural resources for their families and community.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

