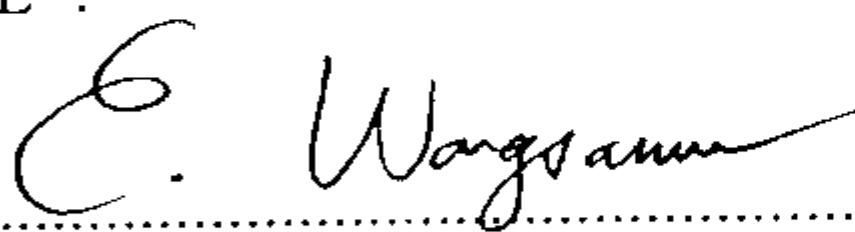
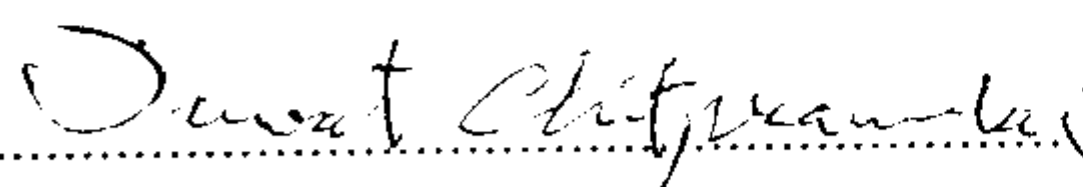



THESIS TITLE : A STUDY ON PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN VILLAGE FISH POND
PROJECT IN CHANGWAT UDON THANI

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ABSTRACT

The village fish pond project aims to promote villagers to consume more fish by improving local reservoirs and setting up implementation process to stimulate people participation in local reservoirs management and benefit allocation. The objectives of this research were to study 1) some socio-economic conditions of people participating in village fish pond project ; 2) implementation conditions and problems of the project ; 3) levels of people participation in implementation of such project ; and 4) comparison of participation levels of people with some different socio-economic backgrounds. The sample group were 150 householders or housewives living in 14 villages , started the project during 1982-1991 and continuously implemented until 1997 in Changwat Udon Thani through multiple random sampling. Data collection was done by means of interviews and statistics of data analysis were percentage, mean, standard deviation, minimum and maximum, t-test and F-test.

The findings were as follows : Most people were male, with an average age of 46.4 years and finished primary education. Each household consisted of 5.0 members,

with an average labour of 3.2 persons. Their major occupation was rice growing, with an average income of 29,166.67 baht per year, and with an average holding area of 21.6 rai ; 39.3% of villagers had a fish pond, but after the project, 44.7% of them went fishing in public water sources outside the village and 60.0% of them used to contact Fisheries authorities, with an average advice period of 2.3 times.

In implementation conditions on the project, more than half fish ponds were found to be adjacent to the village, with an average area of 43.5 rai ; every pond could store water all year round ; people were not allowed to catch fish in the pond except when fish - catching tickets were available during March-April ; Common Silver Barb (*Puntius gonionotus*) and Nile Tilapia (*Tilapia nilotica*) were the most common fish released into the pond. There was a sub-committee to take care of the pond but its service term was normally not assigned. On average, the fish yield of the previous year was 4,230.0 kilograms per pond, and income of 28,450.00 baht per pond. Problems in such implementation were : villagers found a little income from the project, conditions and site of the pond were not appropriate, Fisheries authorities did not support continuously, the yield was little and the released breeds were small size.

The study revealed that villagers participated in the project moderately. The activities they participated in were sacrificing labour for compost production, obtaining benefit from fish catching, joining in fish releasing and in scheduling of fish catching.

When comparing levels of people participation in 24 different aspects, it was found, statistically significant, in some aspects as follows: 1) Gender - males had higher participation than females in 19 aspects ; 2) Holding area - those with more than 25 rai had higher participation than others in 10 aspects ; 3) Owning Fish Pond - those with a pond had higher participation than those without one in 14 aspects ; 4) Training - those underwent training on fish culture had higher participation in 21 aspects ; 5) Group Membership - those joining group membership had higher participation in 16 aspects ; 6) Village Committee - those as committee members had higher participation in 21 aspects ; 7) Fisheries Authorities' Support - those with more than 4 times of such support had higher participation in 23 aspects ; 8) Opportunity in Opinion Expressing on Administration and Benefit Allocation - those with more than 2 times per year had higher participation in 22 aspects ; and 9) Opportunity in Assigned Performance from Fish Pond Sub-Committee - those with more than 2 times per year had higher participation in 23 aspects.

Suggestions from this research are as follows : 1) Related agencies should plan more promotions of advice giving and more visits to the villagers in the project and organize training groups for fish culture, 2) Sub-committee of the project should distribute responsible roles and duties for project implementation to reach all villagers by assigning the Village Committee as a stimulating core for people participation, 3) Promote more women participation, 4) Promote and support villagers to have more opportunity to share their opinion on administration and benefit allocation through the villager meeting at least twice a year, and 5) Related agencies should publicize the project and listen to people opinions prior to taking it to the village.