

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : Legislation in Community Forestry and Rural Development

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Forest as the natural resources have been considered as the national common properties. The government has played the great role solely in all forest management activities. As there has been no real local participation in those forest management activities, it found the unsuccessful in the government forest management projects. The forest land were encroached and reduced at the enormous rate. The impact of the deforestation has been the critical hazards to the national environment. As the contradiction, those forest closed to the local communities so called "community forest" have been well protected as the normal forest. The practice of the "community forest" has been regarded illegal ducing to the lack of supporting law.

It is found from the study. The successful way of forest management need

the people participation from the local communities. Those local people and communities should obtain some benefits from the wood and non wood products from those "community forest". There should be the legislation for supporting the community rights and the customary law in managing and protecting the "community forest". The support of the "community forest" will in turn support the accelerated rural development. The forest resources provide the direct and indirect benefits to support the self-reliance of the rural community. The rural community should be reoriented to fit with the natural forest management scheme both national and local level.