

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS IN
THE CENTRAL REGION AS PERCEIVED BY DISTRICT OFFICERS
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICIANS

AN ABSTRACT

BY

SAKSIT SARACHEEP

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Title : THE CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS
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DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICIANS

Researcher : Mr. Saksit Saracheep

Adviser : Assist. Prof. Dr. Prachaksha Saisang,
Assist. Prof. Supot Pruksawan,
Assist. Prof. Dr. Yuthapan Wichasin

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This study aimed to investigate and compare the actual and expected characteristics of community development workers in the central region as perceived by district community development officers and community development technicians in these four aspects: knowledge, skills, traits, and physical character. The sample included 130 district community development officers and community development technicians, selected through a stratified random sampling method according to the number compared with the table of population designed by Krejcie and Morgan. The instrument used for collecting data was a researcher-constructed rating scale questionnaire on perceptions concerning the actual and expected characteristics of community development workers, comprising 77 items with a reliability of 0.98. The collected data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, and t-test for testing the hypotheses.

The findings of the study were as follows:

1. The actual characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers and community development technicians as a whole were at a medium level. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the actual characteristics in knowledge, skills, and traits were at a medium level while for physical character the actual characteristics were at a high level.

2. The expected characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers and community development technicians as a whole were at a high level. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the expected characteristics were at a high level in every aspect.

3. The actual characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers as a whole were at a medium level. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the actual characteristics in knowledge and skills were at a medium level while the actual characteristics in traits and physical character were at a high level. That was, the actual characteristics had to consist of good health, good physique, good manners and pleasing personalities.

4. The expected characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers as a whole were at a high level. When each aspect was considered, it

was found that the expected characteristics were at a high level in every aspect.

5. The actual characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the community development technicians as a whole were at a medium level. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the actual characteristics were at a medium level in every aspect.

6. The expected characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the community development technicians as a whole were at a high level. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the expected characteristics were at a high level in every aspect.

7. The actual characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers and community development technicians as a whole were statistically different at the .05 level of significance. The community development workers gave higher ratings than did the community development technicians. When each aspect was considered, it was found that the actual characteristics in skills and traits were statistically different at the .01 level of significance, and the physical characteristics were statistically different at the .05 level of significance. The community development workers gave higher ratings than did the community development technicians, while the actual characteristics in knowledge were not statistically different.

8. The expected characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers and community development technicians as a whole were not statistically different. When each aspect was considered, it was found that there were no statistically difference in any aspect either.

9. The expected characteristics of the community development workers as perceived by the district community development officers and community development technicians were statistically higher than the actual characteristics at the .01 level of significance both in each aspect and as a whole.

The findings of this study indicate that the actual characteristics of the community development workers still need improvements as expected by the district community development officers and community development technicians.