

Kitichai Rattana 2007: Appropriate Community Participation Process for Dispute Resolution in Kon Watershed Management, Nan Province, Northern Thailand. Doctor of Philosophy (Forestry), Major Field: Forestry, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Wicha Niyom, Ph.D. 106 pages.

The research aims to develop Appropriate Community Participation Process (ACPP) for the conflict resolution in Kon Watershed management, Nan Province. The Participatory Action Research (PAR), which emphasizes the establishment of Core Planning Team (CPT) and the People's Party (PP), were used for the research methodology. The PAR provides a mechanism to build of the multi-stakeholders partnership, to take the role for identified problems and the land utilization in watershed regions.

The results showed that a community empowerment for the protection and conservation zone and the utilization zone for 72.89 % (163.02 km²) and 27.11% (60.64 km²), respectively. The planning and management for natural resource in the watershed region emphasizes in zoning for land utilization, forest and headwater restoration, forest fire protection, water resource development, and potentiality of the community career promotion had been clearly defined. In addition, the pilot project employing Geographic Information System (GIS) to flashflood and landslide warnings had drawn the CPT of Amphur Chiang Klang to yearn for more knowledge and skills, and finally led the Municipality for the continual actions.

The precision and accuracy testing of ACPP towards the CPT and PP found to be in consequence. It spent 2-3 years for the community readiness to accept the fact that the ACPP had been capable to dispute the conflicts in Kon Watershed. Nonetheless, socio-economic and culture characteristics as well as foregoing conflicts among the watershed community have limited the application of ACPP. As a result, should the ACPP be started at a small-scale watershed with the consideration of physical and socio-economic characteristics in harmony. It must be advised that not merely multi-stakeholders in the watershed area must be clearly specific, but also the delicacy of any single step of ACPP should be incorporated to the conduct of the study so that a concrete confidence of the people towards a researcher was constructed. Finally, the government plays a significant role in a proceeding of the ACPP adoption to the watershed management, in order to reduce conflicts in any other watershed regions.

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