

APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN KON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT, NAN PROVINCE, NORTHERN THAILAND

INTRODUCTION

Most of national resources and environmental management in the area of watershed had concerned to some sector resource management. Because of the State policy to the point of solving problems, it was no lack of the planning for integrated management; they often solved and managed the problem only case by case. As in many areas, there always are the conflict between government and people or among people themselves. To take advantage of the natural resources utilization; land, water and forest resource is the main problem. The main cause of the problem is the State who did not give an opportunity to the local people in co-management for watershed management and planning. Then people often denied the enforcement from the State policy, the law or resolution.

So the government should persuade people to have a participation and find out for their problem solutions. Then all the problems will be implemented and take it to up and running.

Kon Watershed is the sub-watershed of Nan Watershed, the area of 223.66 km². There is a small watershed, covering the area of Thung-Chang district, Chiang Klang district and Pua district in Nan Province. Most area is slop complex. Some of the upper watersheds are in Doi Phu Ka National Park; there are 25 villages.

The main agriculture is shifting cultivation. Some areas are deforestation. The area of more 80% is divided to be watershed classification; class 1A. In the measure, the class 1A is not permitted for the human settlement but reserves for headwater supply. Anyway, this present area has still been disputed between the officer and local people. Moreover, forest fire, soil degradation, soil erosion, lack of water in dry season, including other environmental problems are the problems. There is no clear-cut to the efficiency of the watershed management.

However, the management of Kon Watershed for sustainable yield must manage in land-use planning, consisted by soil capability, conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources, as well as environmental pollution control. If we can process the three main issues, it will be useful for natural resource utilization.

Appropriate Community Participation Process (ACPP) for Dispute Resolution has a capability of building community from multi-stakeholders which consist of government sector, private sector, local administrative organization, and local people to represent their role to identify problems. They will be able to find out for appropriate management practices to meet the local people needs.

Objectives

The research of “Appropriate Community Participation Process for Dispute Resolution in Kon Watershed Management, Nan Province, Northern Thailand” is therefore;

1. To study existing conditions of natural resources and socio-economic, including problem analyzed in the Kon Watershed management.
2. To develop and modify the Appropriate Community Participation Process (ACPP) for dispute resolution in the Kon Watershed management.
3. To suggest the guideline and management for Kon Watershed.