

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The development of ACPP for conflict resolution in the Kon watershed management model can be a generalized platform that can bring to practice. An important issue is to use the ACPP systematically since the participation process is sensitive and involves in sharing benefits with various stakeholders. If the researcher has lack of consideration on the application, the conflict in the Kon watershed may not be resolved.

The principal of ACPP model is the development of Core Planning Team (CPT), which is a major mechanism for different levels and different stakeholder groups to accept. The ACPP model contributes to build cooperation of diverse levels including CPT at a provincial level, CPT at a district level, and CPT at a sub-watershed level. Also CPT should have its role to promote participation process, to analyze problems, identify vision, goals, objectives, land use zoning, guideline management, and project framework, as well as practical action and action plan to the target site. This results the community capacity enhancement for the project implementation to accept and enable the community to administrate the project plan by themselves.

The evaluation of model validity of ACPP throughout the process is based on different techniques e.g., focus group meeting, in-depth interview and lesson learning from the CPT and PP. The researcher has indicated and assessed the ACPP accuracy through adapting Mills's Theory (2000). The results show that, according to the CPT and PP discussion, ACPP model is an efficient mechanism to support conflict resolution in the Kon watershed because the approach helps organizations including governmental agency in provincial and district levels, local administrative organization, and the community leadership work closely together. Furthermore, ACPP model can contribute deliberative consensus completed by researchers.

In addition, the effectiveness of the ACPP process achievement must be dependent on long term. It is noted that the ACPP research study in Kon watershed spent almost at least 3 years to make the community to comprehend for the significance of conflict resolution in the watershed region in harmony with the pilot project. These activities undertaken with the action plan are suit to each local context and SWOT analysis. ACPP model is then a guideline that can adjust in others watershed case studies. The actual usage should start off at a small watershed, and the geographic as well as socio-economic characteristics should be taken into the consideration for a primary database in the project procedure. The most importantly, a clear policy by government sector should be added in the ACPP application in order to resolve conflicts in the watershed regions.

The research results have been listed in the following:

1) The pattern of ACPP model to resolve conflicts in Kon watershed can be accomplished. In particular, the results showed that stakeholders of the Kon watershed region have understood the concept of conservation and natural resources management in the watershed region and as a result allocated land use zoning to protected and preservation zones, and utilization zones. In addition, action plan of watershed resolution can be created. Consequently, the communities located in up stream and down stream have not faced any conflict in cultivating in the upper areas.

2) The stakeholders identified as the CPT and PP in the Kon watershed have realized in the necessity of preservation of natural resources in the watershed and the sustainable development philosophy, ecological system management and principle policy in relevant.

3) Database related to natural resources, socio-economic in the Kon watershed can be obtained. This data would make use in planning strategic management taken for community development by local administrative organization.

4) The CPT for the Kon watershed is constructed by Nan provincial governor and the CPT of Chiang Klang. The CPT is a key actor of presenting action plan and bring it toward to actual practice to fit in an appropriate situation, as well as cooperate with various organizations and sectors in Kon watershed to establishing the watershed management network.

5) Guideline of ACPP management is a part of decentralization process-transformations of top-down administration controlled by governmental authority agency moving toward to promote co-management and participation process among several stakeholders. As a result, cooperation emerges different solution guidelines and forms the stakeholder acceptance.

Recommendations

1) Land use criteria should be set in line with geographical and social factors in each area. Different set of data is required.

2) Because this appropriate community participation process is specifically for the Kon watershed area where its major area is headwater and falls within forest regulations and national watershed classification and quality management. Hence, the area is mainly protected area, although in fact the area has been used by communities for such a long time. Therefore, land use zoning must be considered this as well. In accordingly, if this process will be magnified in other areas, it's suggested that present land possession and concession should be considered. For example, if major of the land is private own, appropriate management must be adopted.

3) The time frame used in implementing the participatory action research must not impact the occupation of the people. In addition, the readiness of the people in the area must be considered.

4) The cooperation of the various government authorities in the area is very important, most especially the support of local government organizations in the form of the core planning team. If continuous and sincere importance is not given to the project, this could have adverse impacts on the workshops and decision-making processes concerning each individual issue.

5) The participatory action research, which is made mostly of workshops and participatory meetings with the people, need continuous interest from stakeholders. Therefore, there must be motivating factors that would ensure their continued interest.

6) It must be advised that, because of the illiteracy of some of the stakeholders (which include a diverse group of people living in the watershed area) who are representatives of the people, there may sometimes be problems in creating equal understanding among everyone and thus may create threats in regards to local cultural aspects.

7) The confidence and faith of the people in the area towards the government in various processes, most especially in the development of better quality of living for them, would lead to cooperation with the government to solve problems inherent in the area. Confidence also leads to participation in the planning and implementation of various processes in a concrete way.

8) To introduce and expand the model of community participation for other watershed areas, flexibility is necessary in considering its consistency with the condition of the area and the demographics of the people living in the watershed locale. The flexibility of the process may be changed depending on the time period expected to be utilized in the process, the criticalness of the problem, the diversity of the core planning team, and the people's interest in participating in the process.

9) To set plan for Kon watershed management, it should also consider forest restoration, soil resources and land, water resources and other resources which in use of local people. Particularly, forest restoration should be compatible with the Master Plan on Natural Resource Rehabilitation which is designed by Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. This master plan provides guideline for dispute resolution in forest area. If the area is suitable for agricultural practices, then it must be undertaken in accordance with governmental land reform policy. Otherwise, local people are allowed to take participatory action for its management. Additional protected areas must be implemented based upon the ministerial decision on actual geographical context (MoNRE, 2003). Therefore, forest restoration in watershed areas should also include forest restoration in protected areas, economic forest and community forest.