

ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Participation of Farmers Customers of the Bank for Agriculture and Agriculture Cooperatives in Community Master Planning : A Case Study of Tambon Khaokhram, Muang District, Krabi Province

Author : Mr.Ayut Khamhan

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The three objectives of the study were 1) to find out the degree of participation of farmer customers of the Bank for Agriculture and Agriculture Cooperatives (BAAC) in community master planning, 2) to identify the factors influencing their participation in community master planning, and 3) to point out the problems and obstacles to their participation and to make recommendations related to the customers' participation in community master planning.

In this survey, the data were collected in July 2001 from 320 farmers living in Tambon Khaokhram, Muang District, Krabi Province.

The findings were summed up below.

1. The farmers who were BAAC customers participate in community master planning at a moderate level.
2. The factors found to influence their participate in community master planning were their attitude toward community master planning, especially the determination of the community future, their participation in community master planning and their access to information about this from announcement boards, training courses and government officials.

The factors that tended to affect the bank customers' participation in community master planning were their attitude toward community master planning, age, income and land holding.

The factors found to have no influence on the customers' participation in community master planning were sex, education, family size, membership of a saving

group and a cremation group, undergoing training about the AIDS disease, receiving related news from the radio, newspapers and discussion with others.

Recommendations :

1. The Tambon Administrative Organization in Tambon Khaokhram should publicized the origin of community master planning and benefits farmers will receive from participating in setting a community master plan.
2. The Tambon Administrative Organization must be a core leader in guiding, advising and urging people, especially the wealthy, people with secondary to high school education, and people who were members of a social group, to participate in solving problems of their own community.
3. The Tambon Administrative Organization must disseminate news and information of the community, rank the problems in order of importance and the outcome of community master planning in solving community problems, and inform people of what to do next.
4. The Tambon Administrative Organization must coordinate with other agencies to develop people's skills and knowledge by means of providing training for them, especially the knowledge of community development and supplementary occupation, and literacy. The people should be taken for observation tours to places which are models of success in development. In so doing, people will have a better knowledge and will be more interested in participating in community development in the future.
5. The Tambon Administrative Organization should coordinate with the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives in explaining to people about participation in setting the community master plan. Focus should be on some important substances such as the concept of community master planning, urging people to be involved in analyzing, learning and solving the community problems together.