

## Abstract

The objectives of this research are to synthesize the process and characteristics of the research conducted by people for solving their economic problems in communities, to synthesize learning process and knowledge management the people created from their researches, and to synthesize the methods people used for solving economic problems in communities, and the knowledge gained will be used as a guide to solve the economic problems in community and poverty in Thai society.

The research questions are: (1) What is the process of people research? (2) How does it lead to learning and knowledge management processes of the community? (3) How do learning and knowledge management processes lead to the solution of economic problem in community?

The methodology – qualitative Metasynthesis method was used for 133 researches conducted by people in communities during the year 1987-2006 by using meta-study approach; with 3 steps: meta-data, meta-method, and meta-theory analyses, then metasynthesis of all the findings.

The result of meta-method showed the characteristic modes of the people research as followings (1) Mode of Consciousness Raising and empowerment (2) Mode of Knowledge Management (3) Mode of Practice. The process of people research focuses on practicality.

The epistemology of people research is integral epistemology derived from local, positivism and post positivism epistemology, which creates integral methodology and integral content.

The synthesis of the learning process and the knowledge management from the people research showed that (1) The process of learning and knowledge management of the people are the process activated from people's adaptation to the problem and conflict situation they confronted with, (2) The learning process of people in communities are actually learning by practice, (3) The knowledge that people gained from doing research are both tacit knowledge and explicit knowledge, (4) The process

of people research created 4 styles of knowledge management which are: socialization, externalization, combination and internalization, (5) People research built social networks which facilitate learning and knowledge management through social interaction in the household, community, and inter-community levels, (6) The people research is both new ways of 'knowledge building process' and 'knowledge searching method' for the community.

The synthesis of the community economy solution are created by the ways of (1) Integrating local and global knowledge. (2) Using knowledge management in production, distribution and consumption. (3) Building people organization and networks (4) Creating people development model based on community's capital.

The value and meaning of people research are rehabilitation and development of local wisdom, bargaining for power and political struggle, presentation of new mode of "knowledge" to the people and society, and the creation of new body of knowledge in economic crisis and the strengthening of Thai society in the future.