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CHALERPORN CHOOSRI : THE SMALL-SCALE FISHERMEN PARTICIPATION IN  
CONSERVATION OF COASTAL RESOURCES : A CASE STUDY OF PATTANI BAY,PATTANI  
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The objective of this research was to study the participation levels of small-scale fishermen in coastal resource conservation and to identify the problems of the coastal resources conservation within Pattani Bay, Pattani Province. Two methodologies were used in this study ; a quantitative study using questionnaires collected from 330 residents, and a qualitative study which was carried out by in-depth interview with 22 key informants.

The study results showed that the majority of the small-scale fishermen's participation level in coastal resources conservation was low. It was found that the level of education was statistically significant factor affecting the small-scale fishermen's participation level in coastal resources conservation. Low income and the results of the deterioration of these resources such as decreasing numbers of fish and marine life have forced the fishermen to spend most of their time making a living. This problem left very little time for conservation activities. The other major problem was lack of education of the majority of the fishermen. This problem led to a limitation in Thai reading , writing and speaking skills. This limitations have caused a lack of understanding of participation activities promoted by the officials. It was also found that some areas of Pattani Bay have been occupied by influential group causing both conservation and fisheries problems.

Recommendations arising from this research are that ; the government and local organization should co-operate in setting natural resources conservation projects having small-scale fishermen participate in, a training in raising awareness for this conservation problems. This program should be organized for fishermen, funding support from government should be available and law enforcement must be strengthened to protect and solve the coastal resources problem. A particular problem which must be addressed by the government is protection of the small-scale fishermen rights from being invaded by the large-scale fishery industries using push nets and trawl nets in the areas less than 3,000 metres from seashore.