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**NISAPAT NUALKAMHAENG : THE STUDY OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION ON
LAMTAKONG DEVELOPMENT : A CASE STUDY OF TUNGSAWANG-SALALOY COMMUNITY,
MUANG DISTRICT, NAKHON RATCHASIMA PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS : SUCHART
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This study analyzes the need for participation and the participation level in developing Lamtakong water channel together with the factors which affected the cooperation of people in developing the Lamtakong water channel in order to suggest how to increase participation of the people in managing the water channel. The main factors in this study are personal factors and stimulating factors, which include the level of study, knowledge about water pollution, Lamtakong usage, length of time living in the area, membership in community groups, status, information about the reservation and development of water resources as well as participation in activities held by outside groups and organizations. Questionnaires were collected from 250 samples. The data were then analyzed by means of percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, analysis of variance and multiple classification analysis. Furthermore, indepth information was gathered thru interviews with the leaders of the community as well as some local officers.

The results of the study revealed that the need for participation level of most people in the community is at a moderate level and their participation level is low. In this regard the people were basically passive receivers. It is also found that factors affecting the need for participation and the participation level are: being members of community groups, status and information gathering about the reservation and development of the water channel as well as participating in activities held by the outside groups and organizations.

The suggestions from the results of this study are that government sectors should provide opportunity for people to participate in decisions about environmental projects as well as encourage the participation of the community by announcing information about water pollution effects in order to create consciousness and stimulate participation in developing Lamtakong, support local awareness in solving water pollution and develop cooperation in solving environmental problems among the government sectors, non-government organizations and communities as well.