

Thesis Title Population and Rural Development: An Analysis of Human
Ecology (A Case Study of Ban Pong Nam Tok and
Ban Pasangwiwat, Changwat Chiang Rai)

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Abstract

This study was designed to determine the factors that affect rural development in the Fifth National Economic and Social Development Plan.

Primary data and secondary data were used. The primary data were those gotten from interviewing heads of household in the area where the subjects live. The secondary data were those collected from professors and government officials.

The data were analysed by using frequency distribution, percentile rank orders, analysis of variance, multiple classification analysis, and regression analysis.

Results:

The potential of human ecology influenced the subjects' standard of living. The subjects' villages were Ban Pong Nam Tok (Village 1) and Ban Pasangwiwat (Village 2), Amphoe Muang, Changwat Chiang Rai.

The factors that influenced the standard of living of the people in Village 1 were as follows:

1. Human Potential : upgrading developmental skills, giving other people some development advice, and accepting developer's advice.

2. Environmental Potential : amount of land holdings, fertility of soil, sufficient quantity of land holding to support family, the size of land holding, other crops besides rice grown after farming, and source of water for other crops.

3. Government Officials : coordination between villagers and government officials from outside the village.

As for Village 2, the factors were as follows :

1. Human Potential : upgrading developmental skills, rights and freedom in socio-economic activities, illness, giving other people development advice, participation in religious activities, and rights in election of village leaders.

2. Environment Potential : extreme weather destroying crops, sufficient quantity of land to support family, and need for increasing soil fertility.

3. Government officials : difficulties in asking for outside government officials' help, and efficiency of village's leaders in helping villagers.

Suggestions:

The results mentioned above could be very useful in developing rural areas. The most important thing to keep in mind is that it is essential that the potential of the human ecology system be realised.