

ABSTRACT

Abstract of dissertation submitted to the Graduate School of Maejo University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Rural Planning and Development

PLANNING COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT OF TAMBON ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN THAMUANG DISTRICT, KANCHANABURI PROVINCE, THAILAND

By

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The study on planning competency development of Tambon Administrative Organizations (TAOs) in Thamuang district, Kanchanaburi province was conducted with the following objectives:

1. To evaluate tambon development planning potential of TAOs' committees and people in Thamuang district, Kanchanaburi province on the dimensions of knowledge , attitudes and skills.

2. To develop their tambon development planning potential.

3. To evaluate their post-training tambon development planning potential.

The population and sample groups consisted of 171 persons in a controlled group i.e. committees of Tambon Thatakraw Administrative Organization, village committees, village-woman committees and family leaders in Thatakraw sub-district and 143 persons in an experimental group i.e. committees of Tambon Muangchum

Administrative Organization, village committees, village-woman committees and family leaders in Muangchum sub- adistrict.

The data were collected twice, during 3-16 April 2000 and 18-27 June 2000, by means of two sets of test and observation , and then analyzed by using the SPSS/PC⁺. The findings were as follows:

1. Before training, both groups of the respondents were not defferent in gender, age, position, knowledge, attitudes and skills in tambon development planning. They had a moderate level of knowledge, attitudes and skills in tambon development planning and they were not different in tambon development planning potential.

2. The use of the A-I-C technique focusing on learning by doing, a training course designed in accordance with tambon development planning and people's participation process, and study tours resulted in the respondents' high level of knowledge, proper attitudes, ability to carry out tombon development planning and greater confidence in working.

3. Knowledge and attitudes towards tambon development planning of the controlled group before and after training were different at a significance level of 0.05 but their pre- and post-training skills were not different, indicating that the hypothesis could be accepted. The pre- and post-training knowledge, attitudes and skills of the experimental group were different at a significance level of 0.01, indicating that the respondents in the experimental group had a higher level of knowledge, better attitudes and greater skills in tambon development planning.

The following recommendations were presented by the researcher: the Department of Local Administration should encourage and coordinate with villagers so that they will participate in all steps of tambon development planning ; training should be adjusted so that participants can make plans on their own; and more time should be given for the preparation of tambon development plans. For researchers interested in conducting further research, more attention should be paid on how efficient tambon development plans can affect rural development.