

Thesis Title A Study of Factors Related to
 The Awareness of Problems of Local Water
 Resources Among Tambon Council Members in
 Sungnoen District Nakornrajsrima Province
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/ ABSTRACT

Tambon Council is considered as an important organization or organ for local government, or in other words, for self - autonomy. Many problems in the community level can be solved or tackled by this grass-root organization. However, as we all know very well that any problems will be solved or managed only when we are aware of such problems or perceive them as problems or as issues that prevent us from maintaining good living.

Many empirical evidences in Sungnoen District reveal that water resources in this District are seriously affected. How Tambon Council members perceive this phenomena ? How much are they aware of this problem ? What have they been attempting or doing to cope with the problem ? And what factors are involved with the awareness of the problem ? All of these questions are the main focus of the study.

The number of population under study is 206.

Structured questionnaire was used as instrument to collect data between 1 December 1992 to 15 January 1993. Descriptive statistics such as percentage, mean, median are used to describe the characteristics of population under investigation as well as their level of awareness while Analysis of Variance (Anova) and Multiple Classification Analysis (MCA) are used to analyze the relationships between independent variables and dependent variables.

The results of the study show that the majority of population under investigation are above 40 years (77.2 %). Most of them (80.1 %) have been living in the area for more than 30 years. However, most are formally low-educated and having only one occupation (farming). Almost 60 % own a big plot of land (20 rai and above) and about half of these Tambon Council members are appointed or are automatically gained the status through their position i.e. the head of the village etc.

It is found out that only 4 independent variables (type of position, size of owned land, access to information and perception of problems) have the relationships or influence over the level of awareness of water resources management which is significance at .05 . However, the level of relationships is quite low. When considering the awareness of water shortage and of water pollution, only one variable (type of position) has the relationships with these two issues which is significance at .05 . The level of relationship is, however, again low.