

Thesis Title Socio-Economic Change Resulting from
Promotion of Gem-Cutting in the Northeast
Region: A Case Study of Khon-Kaen Province

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of the study are to investigate socio-economic change resulting from promotion of gem-cutting occupation in Khon-kaen province and examine factors affecting acceptability of gem-cutting occupation, annual net gem-cutting income and annual net household income. Regarding the methodology of this study, data is conducted by survey and interviewing. Three hundred and seventy nine households in the area of promotion of gem-cutting occupation have been selected for sampling. They are divided into 163 households in gem-cutting group and 216 households in the non gem-cutting group respectively.

The result of the social conditions is shown that there is not much difference were found in both groups. While households in gem-cutting group have significantly lower out-migration of members of households, lower sickness condition and better housing condition than those in the non gem-cutting group.

Regarding economic conditions, it was found that households in gem-cutting group have relatively lower land utilization, crop yield and annual net agricultural income than those in the non gem-cutting group. However, the households in gem-cutting group can also earn more income from their gem-cutting activities for household industry. This implies that households in gem-cutting group have significantly higher annual net household income than those in the non gem-cutting group. Thus, it can be concluded that households in gem-cutting group have better economic conditions than those in the non gem-cutting group.

There are 3 models of selected significant variables, the results of Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis are shown that factors affecting acceptability of gem-cutting occupation were: main occupation in agriculture, annual net agricultural income and working-age members of household. The factors affecting annual net gem-cutting income were: the acceptability of gem-cutting occupation and number of female members of household. The factor affecting annual net household income were found to be annual net gem-cutting income, main occupation in agriculture and working-age members of household respectively.