

ABSTRACT

Title of Thesis	The Community Participation in Watershed Management: A Case Study of Huay Thap Than Watershed, Si Saket Province
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The main objectives of the study were 1) to study the model of the Huay Thap Than watershed management in Si Saket province 2) to study of the community participation in the watershed management and 3) to investigate the achievement of the Huay Thap Than watershed management in Si Saket Province

The framework of the study was divided into three aspects as followed 1) the prospects of the watershed management in three sectors; that is, the relevant governmental offices, local administration organization, and the community in the area 2) the process of community participation; that is, the community study, watershed management's planning, implementation, benefit sharing, monitoring and evaluation 3) the achievement of the watershed management in economic, social, natural resources and environmental aspects.

This research is based on qualitative research and is supported by quantitative research. Researcher selecting three Subdistricts in Huay Thap Than Watershed in Si Saket Province as the case study. The data collection was the in-depth interview of three target group; that is, the heads of the government agencies related, executive leaders of local administration organization and the leader in the community. In the quantitative study of the participatory level, the questionnaires were used to collect the data from the subjects of 394 local people from three subdistricts in Huay Thap Than area.

It is found that the structure of the administration in watershed management consisted of varied sectors and organizations; however, there was no particular sector directly responsible for

the administration and management. As a result, it lacked the unity and integration in implementing the project as a whole. The government sectors still played a key role due to a large amount of budget spent in each project, including utilizing the high technology, specialized expertise. The implementation of each subdistrict was distinctively different; however, two similarities were 1) conduct the campaign in the natural conservation of soil, water resource and forest, and 2) the leader in each community should play a key role in the watershed management.

The participatory level of watershed management was 41.03 % in average which was found to be moderate. However, if considering the participatory level in each process, it is found that the highest was 65.33% of the implementation, 62.54% of the benefit sharing, 30.10% of planning, 23.65% of monitoring and evaluation, and 23.55% of the community study respectively. The qualitative study of the participatory aspect in each community was consistent with the quantitative study because each community still had no opportunity to fully participate in all process.

In general, the successful study of the watershed management Huay Thap Than area in Si Saket Province was not successful. Considering the key index of nine aspects, it is found that only four aspects were successful; that is, the amount of agricultural productivity, understanding of sustainable benefit sharing from watershed resources, the conservation of forest area in the watershed and the decreasing invasion of natural resources and public area.

The implementation of the watershed management should be improved by employing the model of “Watershed Management Development Project” by selecting the Huay Thap Than as the target area in developing and formulating the organization as the committee of the project management in all sectors for the fully-integrated watershed management with in Huay Thap Than area. In addition, the network or the local community should be strengthened to develop Huay Thap Than area as the center of the community and raise the higher participatory level among the local people in the area. In terms of policy making, the governmental sector should formulate the explicit and practical policy in using the small watershed as the target of the natural resources and environment conservation. In addition, the government sector should decentralize the authority to Local Administration Organization and other community organizations to act as a key role in the watershed management, and change the role of governmental agencies to act as the supporter in academics, technology and budget.