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KEY WORD : READINESS/ SUBDISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/ WATER POLLUTION PROBLEM SOLVING
SOMKAIT YUTITHAM: READINESS OF THE SUBDISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON WATER POLLUTION PROBLEM SOLVING: A CASE STUDY IN RATCHABURI PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR: SIRICHA CHINATANGKUL, Ph.D., VINAI VEERAVATNANOND, Ph.D., SUBPHACHAI SUKARAWAN, M.S. (Applied Statistics), 189 p. ISBN 974-589-438-9

The main objective of this research was to study the readiness, role perception, knowledge, attitude and the 8 variables that related to readiness in solving the water pollution problem of subdistrict administrative organization executive committee in Ratchaburi Province. The methodology used in this research was survey research. Self administered questionnaires were sent to 105 executive committee members who had worked in 15 subdistrict administrative organizations which are situated by the Mae Klong River. There were 105 complete questionnaires returned for analysis by Chi-square test using the SPSS/PC⁺ program.

The result of the analysis indicated that 76.2 percent of committee members had readiness in solving water pollution problem at middle level and 23.8 percent had inadequate readiness. The readiness was significantly related to variables as follow: education level related to the readiness in knowledge and attitude ($p < 0.05$), and access to information related to the readiness in knowledge ($p < 0.05$). The main problems affecting the readiness in solving water pollution problems were shortage of budget, government regulations, lack of people cooperation, and lack of problem-solving knowledge, respectively. They also needed the support and participation from people, support in budget and instrument from the government and private sectors, and there should be a wide spread media campaign. It is recommended from this study that the authority should provide committee members with special training on water pollution problem solving. The government should make available more education opportunities, and disseminate information by all means of media accessible in the area. Finally, the government should declare a clear policy to establish joint organizations comprised of government agencies, private sectors and local inhabitants to be the coordinators at the local level.