

Suvicha Dheravijaranayankul 2010: The Application of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) in School Management : A Case Study of SEP Networking Schools. Doctor of Education (Educational Administration), Major Field: Educational Administration, Department of Education. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Suchada Nanthachai, Ph.D. 315 pages.

The objectives of this research were 1) to study the administration of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) Networking Schools and 2) to provide guidelines for applying SEP in school management. The qualitative approach was employed to obtain in-depth data in the research. Research procedures consisted of a literature review to identify the scope for this research, a field study to collect qualitative data in the SEP Networking Schools, content analysis, the guideline's draft, evaluation and presentation as well as the research validation using triangulation method and data synthesis. The population in this study were the nine Sufficiency Economy Philosophy Networking Schools, which were appointed by Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, represented nine sub-regions of the country. The informants in this study were school administrators, teachers, students and people in communities. Total number of the informants were 127 persons. Research instruments were semi-structured interview outline, observation guidelines and evaluation form for field experts.

The findings indicated that 1) All nine SEP Networking Schools had well integrated SEP in their administration with their continued effort and activities. It was also found that all the schools had long implemented SEP in their operation even before being a part of the SEP Network. Regarding academic affairs, SEP projects were clearly present in the curriculum, teaching and learning. The emphasis was given on sharing and establishing proper SEP knowledge and applying it appropriately to the social environment of the communities. For personnel administration aspect, most of the teachers and staffs in all SEP schools had a very high awareness and faith in SEP. It was clear that they had all sacrificed, devoted and taken key responsibility in conducting the SEP projects in their schools. Cooperation and strong teamwork were widely observed. The schools gave a lot of emphasis on extensive training and knowledge sharing among teachers, people in communities and outside networks. With reference to the financial administration area, every SEP Networking Schools successfully sought cooperation from parties concerned in driving the projects forward in accordance with SEP so the projects could gradually proceed, resulting in less funding requirement. For general administration affairs, the schools put their social environment into consideration and aimed to strengthen their healthy relationship with the communities while establishing working networks. 2) Guidelines to apply SEP consisted of three main components: introduction, guidelines for application of Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) to school management and keys to success.

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Thesis Advisor's signature