

Chanchanok Kompunthong 2011: Evaluation of Government Natural Resources Conservation Projects in Mae Sa Watershed Area, Chiang Mai Province. Master of Science (Resource Management), Major Field: Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Nuchanata Mungkung, Ph.D. 128 pages.

The objective of this study was to evaluate the government natural resources conversation project in Mae Sa Watershed Area, Chiang Mai Province during the period of 2006 – 2010. The data was collected with interviews of 178 respondents, which comprised of 109 Thai and 69 Hmong households. The collective data was analyzed with the application of statistical methods which percentage, mean, maximum and minimum, along with the cost – benefit analysis of the project.

The results show that the government natural resources conversation project in Mae Sa Watershed Area consists of a total of 50 projects, which comprises of 35 forest projects, 2 water projects, 1 soil project, 6 environment projects and 6 waste management projects. The average number of community participation in the natural resources conservation project was 6.52 time per year, which averages 6.43 and 6.68 times per Thai and Hmong households, respectively.

Meanwhile, the analysis of the project revealed it to be economically sustainable. The analysis of the project costs during the period of 2006 – 2009 applied the application of the producer price index of Thailand, and the analysis of project benefits in the period of 2006 – 2009 was performed with the consideration of both the consumer price index and cost – benefit analysis project in 2010 at a discount rate of 6.15 percent. The net present value and the benefit – cost ratio, were established at 36,638,348.67 bath and 2.26, respectively. With increased costs of 23 percent and a decreased benefit of 23 percent, the sensitivity analysis revealed the net present value to equal zero and the benefit – cost ration in excess of one. Therefore, the government ought to proceed with the government natural resources conversation project in Mae Sa watershed area to create a balance of nature and the environment sustainability.

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Thesis Advisor's signature