

Kamphane Silavy 2011: Community's Participation in Laongam Production Forest Management, Saravane Province, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Master of Science (Social Forestry), Major Field: Social Forestry, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Miss Nittaya Meanmit, Ph.D. 99 pages.

The objectives of the study were: to determine the socio-economic condition and forest resource utilization of people residing around productive forest and to determine the level of participation and factors affecting people participation in productive forest management. The 121 people living in Dongmon and Nongpho villages, Wapy district, Saravane province, Lao PDR were employed as the sample for the study. Data were collected using a questionnaire and processed using a computer program. The arithmetic mean, percentage, standard deviation and Chi-square were used as analytical statistics with a statistical significance level of 0.05.

The results of the study revealed that the majority of the respondents were male and had completed primary education with an average age of 43.20 y, and were married and living with their wife together as a couple with an average of six household members. Agriculture was the most common occupation and casual labor subsidized the annual household income of 26,357.02 baht per year and household expenditure 24,158.93 bahts per year. The average land holding was 18.88 rai per household and most of the land cultivated was used as paddy field. A problem relevant to land use was a shortage of irrigation water. Timber cutting for house building and household use averaged 4.45 m³ per year and the average amount of firewood used was 6 m³ per household per year. Moreover, the average amounts of bamboo shoots, mushrooms, Melientha suavis Pierre, wild fruits and edible insects collected annually per household were 38.77, 18.68, 14.76, 9.62 and 9.2 kg, respectively. Most respondents earned more income after participating in the project. Problems and obstacles identified were the decrease in forest area and reduction in non-timber forest products (NTFP) such as honey and rattan. In addition, villagers had no spare time to participate in the relevant productive forest management activities. A related recommendation was that extension conservation should be expanded and to conduct a public relations program on productive forest information. Based on the hypothesis test, gender and education level were highly significant ($P < 0.05$) factors relating to people participation in productive forest management.

The studying level of participation in production forest management found that 63.83 % participated in planning, 59.41 % participated in provided activities and 44.93 % participated in monitoring and evaluation.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature