

Preawpan Pimput 2008: Assessment and Lesson Learned on Participatory Development for Phu Phaman National Park Management. Master of Science (Social Forestry), Major Field: Social Forestry, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Vipak Jintana, Ph.D. 117 pages.

This research aimed to study the participation patterns and assess the results from the Pilot Project on Participation Development for Phu Phaman National Park Management. Literature reviews, interviews of 261 sample households and group meeting within the project areas were conducted.

This project was initiated by the government sector to solve conflict on national park management by people participation approach. This approach was so-called the participation by persuasion. It comprised 19 activities of which 74% persuaded directly to individual. Others were persuasion to leader group and household representatives. Only one-fourth of the activities were implemented all the participation process, step 1 information communication, step 2 problem analysis and planning, step 3 implementation, and step 4 monitoring and evaluation. It was found from the survey that less than one fourth of the respondents participated in all the process. Sixty tree percent involved in the first step.

Assessment of the project revealed that 1) Social security: all the communities have established the community based organizations (CBOs) and drafted a regulation for resource utilization. Eighty percent accepted. For the administration of CBOs, 80% of the respondents viewed that they have capable resource person, 14% viewed that they have enough budget and materials. 2) Economic conditions and quality of life: 56% of the respondents have a better life quality, 56% have more opportunity to earn income from other sources, 72% indicated that they feel more secured regarding the land tenure. But only 3% considered that the project contributed in the increase of income. 3) Natural resource and environment: 33% practiced organic farming, 78% practiced environmental improvement activity: 56% constructed check dam for soil and water conservation, 90% did not change their land tenure, and 89% joined forest restoration activities.

Lesson learned from the project is that the respondents viewed various activities have helped a better relationship between them and the officers. However, they viewed unclear on the special use zone within the national park including the development quality of life and support good governance due to lack of long term policy and constraint of related laws.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

