

# **A Study of the Processes of Natural Resources and Community Organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province**

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## **Abstract**

The objectives of this research were to study the participatory management process and procedure in natural resource conservation and environment management in relation to community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province. The process used was qualitative research by studying three target groups in the Province including Mae Moon Man Yuen group, Hua Hew village, Tambon Khongchiam, Khongchiam district and the other two community forest conservation groups at Koo Khad village, Tambon Nonglao and Tahlad village, Tambon Koh-ae, Khueangnai district. Data were collected from the three groups by the methods of non-participatory observation and informal interview with fifteen laymen and monks who were selected from the members of each group.

The research findings revealed that the process of local community organization culture management included the participation in community work, attachment of an ideology, working plan, giving an opportunity for expression, having common vision, and transferring and exchanging work experiences. The aspects of participation were the exchange of views and learning from experiences with various groups together with collaboratively seeking the ways of coping with problems through a right understanding of ecological system. The developmental approaches of community organization culture were teamwork, creativity, enhancement of members' capacity and efficiency of organization administration, learning and opening for other applicable organization culture and behavioral reinforcement which will sustainably help solve the problems of natural resources and environmental management in the long run.

**Keywords:** Processes of Natural Resources, Community Organization culture Management

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## Introduction

Ubonratchathani Province is one of the province that have a problem of resources destruction and lack of taking care, Since community organization which have to responsible for it, is lack of knowledge and understanding of the right way to take care of environment<sup>2</sup> including government sector cannot take care cover all the area. Moreover, some of area is lack of water sources especially water for agriculture, even though dam department try to assist and developing but it is not enough for people including the problem of tourism. Since there is a lack of planning in term of environment management and land management for tourism including there is a lack of plan or framework for resources conservation therefore some of historical and valuable objects or places are destroy from tourism.

Therefore the applying of community organization culture to solve the problems and community development such as using relative relationship system, building trust to create collaboration in term of information exchanges and problem resolving including developing of social network and community learning. Community organization culture is an important social capital because social network is the relationship between person and person, community and community. The existence relationship that exists from the history until present is relative relationship and ancestor respect. Since there isn't anyone to be alone especially in the time of natural disaster and sickness, in that time people has to be rely on each other. It is a link to connect people together and desire to do well and be a good person including integrate to moral from Buddhist.

Community organization culture development to raise awareness to community people in term of solving resources problem and resources rehabilitation since those problems cannot solves by the government system. According to the problems which mentioned above, researcher is interested in study the participatory in natural resource conservation and environment management of community organization culture and knowledge and learning process in term of problem resolving in Ubonratchathani Province so that it can be useful to community development in term of systematic network.

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<sup>2</sup> Office of national environment board, **Thailand environment quality report in 2007-2011**. Bangkok: Office of national environment board, 2011.

## **Research Objectives**

1. To study on the Processes of Natural Resources and Community Organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province
2. To study the participatory in natural resource conservation and environment management of community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province.
3. To recommend the direction of natural resources management community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province.

## **Research Methodology**

This research is quality research and the sampling is Mae Moon Man Yuen group from Baan Huaheew, Khongchiam sub-district, Khongchiam district in Ubonratchathani Province, a group of Baan Koo Khad community forest conservation, Nonglao sub-district, Khueangnai district in Ubonratchathani Province and a group of Baan Tahlad community forest conservation, Koh-ae sub-district, Khueangnai district in Ubonratchathani Province. Since the implementation of those groups has an impacts to local and national social. As this research aims to describe to management process and recommendation on direction of natural resources and community organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province including study on participatory in natural resource conservation and environment management of community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province through field interview and analysis and synthesis the information. Moreover, this research also aims to provide alternative direction to Ubonratchathani Province in term of policy determining on natural resources and community organization culture systematic Management for local community in Ubonratchathani Province. The research process is following;

1. Target group/Research methodology

To accomplish and meet objectives of this research, the researcher defines research process as follow;

## **Research process**

A. Documentary Research is the first step for literature reviews from book and related documents such as natural resources conservation, organization culture, and documents regarding to field survey and field interview.

B. Research Population is Natural resources conservation groups in Ubonratchathani Province

C. Research tool for data collecting; this research used-Non -Structured interview and In-depth Interview method to collect data which has deep details and flexible together with quality tools such as notebook, camera and sound recording. The question issues are categorized in advance so that it is easy for data analysis.

D. Research sampling is selected from community groups which have work and function is related to natural resources and community organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province. Research sampling is categorized into 3 groups which are group 1 community leaders, group 2 monks and community people who have used conservation area both in female and male, and group 3 natural resources management officers in area 7. Total of sample is 15 people.

## **Data analysis**

Data analysis of the research is divided into 2 categories which is Primary information: as the research characteristic is a descriptive research on knowledge and perspectives from data interview.

Secondary information: is related information such as community background and history, group performances, organization regulation and rules and related research including internet data.

## **Research Results**

The research results of “the Processes of Natural Resources and Community Organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province” are divided into 2 issues as follow;

**The first issue:** the Processes of Natural Resources and

Community Organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province has organization culture pattern as below;

1) Community Organization in Ubonratchathani Province which is considered as change agents and be accepted as a leading in Thailand is Mae Moon Man Yuen group from Baan Huaheew, Khongchiam sub-district, Khongchiam district, the group is formed by a group of people who get the impacts from government activities and has a key role in term of cooperate between Pak moon community network and other groups to demand for justice from government. As the effectiveness of group working, the group officially set up “Assembly of the poor” which aims to be a center of each network in term of mobilizing for justice requests. Nowadays the group involved in 16 cases such as a network of dam problem and forest network.

2) Organization culture and natural resources management of community organization in Ubonratchathani Province has visible issue in term of dress-up and organization pattern, invisible issue is organization characteristic, organization participation, Ideology, work planning, opinion opening, vision and experiences sharing and exchanging.

3) The participatory in natural resource conservation and environment management of community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province is divided as;

(1) Working participation of community organization in Ubonratchathani Province found that there is a separating a task and clearly assign to each groups and there is a team work, each person has their own responsibility and role but has to coordinate with other members. Community leader will control and assist member’s work to meet organization objectives.

(2) Ideology following; community organization in Ubonratchathani Province has the clear regulation and vision for member to follow. Moreover, community organization also emphasize on integrity,

(3) Work planning; there is a determining a year plan to set objective and goal in each year including define indicators to measure the performance results and compare to goal and objectives regarding to planed.

(4) Vision; the vision of community organization in Ubonratchathani Province is natural resources conservation. To achieve the goal, community organization in Ubonratchathani Province has various measurement for members to see and aware of natural resources.

(5) Experiences sharing and exchanging; community organization in Ubonratchathani Province has experiences sharing and exchanging in term of working knowledge among members and other community organization such as schools and temple.

According to research results found that the process of forest management in Ubonratchathani Province is related to situation of government policy. Community perspectives and ideas including facing problem are determining the forest management objectives and goal that appropriate, realistic and practical then set management framework which is ultimate useful and sustainable

**Second issue:** The direction of natural resources management community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province.

Since community organization in Ubonratchathani Province is a big organization which has many members and each individual has their own perspective and belief therefore conflict is easily arisen. This research has collected various concepts and ideas to be as direction of natural resources management community organization culture in Ubonratchathani Province as follow;

1) Team Work ensuring ; to work as a group, members have to share information to make a decision together, each member has their own responsibility and task but have to cooperate together and link and share all resources to create positive effectiveness which lead to work .Work teams should have positive supporting and work together.

2) Creative; community organization in Ubonratchathani Province is a private organization that focus on natural conservation, therefore there are many regulations and rules to follow which might impacts to the creation of member therefore community leaders has plays the key role to catalyze and encourage member to create a new ideas including opening and learning a new things.

3) Increase organization members' capacity; according to

the study on community culture development in Ubonratchathani Province found that organization has effectiveness to implement the function and activities because of the behavior of member who share the same understanding and attitude which meet to organization culture. However, organization should more train members in term of knowledge and skill of working.

4) Increase organization capacity; according to the study on community culture development in Ubonratchathani Province found that organization members has a problem on communication and there are many rule and regulation which effects to member work. since member is tendency to follow the rules and regulation and finishing their own job or acts as routine officer that impact to organization in term of creative and work improvement.

5) Opening and learning organization culture found that community organization in Ubonratchathani Province has various age, education and background of member<sup>3</sup> therefore community leaders have to held activity through study trip in/ out of community to increase member capacity to present their ideas including equip their skill and knowledge for working.

6) Behavior empowerment from local administration and government is ensuring members to behave in the good way. Therefore local administration and government should support and encourage organization through giving a reward to the best organization and be accepted from other members or organization; however government should aware that the award will not stick to the old culture framework. The direction of natural resources management is shown as s diagram 2 below;

## Discussion

Under natural resources management and environment conservation principal has framework and direction that support to economic and social development which assist the country development to be sustainable and increase quality of life of population. according to constitution

<sup>3</sup> Sodsai Sawangkrok. "Community life style changes after Pak Moon electric dam: case study on Pak Moon community, Khongchiam district in Ubonratchathani Province" ".Research, Ubonratchathani: development foundation Ubonratchathani Province, 1998.

in 2007 in term of power distributing to local and the Act of plan and procedure of local administration office in 2010 which is considered as a new phenomenal in administration especially in local context that emphasize local organization to participate in resolving a local problem such as environment management therefore Science and Technology ministry set up the framework for national environment management<sup>4</sup> for the year 2011- 2019 to be a direction for national environment management and direction for local office to adopt

According to the study found that Processes of Natural Resources and Community Organization culture Management in Ubonratchathani Province is effective in term of defining indicator and planning, opening and sharing ideas, vision and experiences sharing. The issue of participatory of organization is team work, creative, potential of community leaders and members, open and learning of organization culture and behavior empowerment. Community leaders have to have capacity to train, and catalyze including control all members to do their work and meet the objectives or goal of organization which related to research of Chop Chopcheurnchom<sup>5</sup> and Naritpong Chaiyawong<sup>6</sup> which mentioned that community forest information receiving from community leaders will impact to community forest management readiness. However, community leaders have to characteristic of fighter and able to call for justice from government including providing the equality to all the members because as the administrators, they have to determine the rules and regulations for members including control all regulations have been followed. However, there are a lot of members in a big organization who have communication problem therefore they have to adjust their self through using organization culture rather than use stick rules.

The direction for organization culture development in Ubonratchathani Province can be summarized into 4 issues as below;

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<sup>4</sup> TawatchaiJarukat, Forest and land measurement and direction (forest conservation by laws and by the secretariat cabinet .), (Forest department : Bangkok, 2010), page 23-24.

<sup>5</sup> Chop Chopcheurnchom, "Knowledge and awareness of community development volunteer and local environment problem in Chantaburi province", Research, (The graduate school: MahidolUniversity,2010), page 104-113.

<sup>6</sup> NaritpongChaiyawong, " Forest management readiness case study community committee in Pua district", Nan province Research, (The graduate school: MahidolUniversity,2010), page 73-74.