

11. COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE: NIPA PALM SUGAR PROCESSING GROUP, PACKAGES OF CHANATARANGSEE PLANTATION

1. General Information and description of best practice/technology

Introduction

Khanap Nak sub-district, Pak Phanang district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province is 24 kilometers away from the Pak Phanang district office. Currently, Khanap Nak sub-district has an area of about 24,250 rai. It has 10 villages. It was found that the Khanap Nak community is characterized by having an area of a plain. The area is adjacent to the gulf of Thailand on the east. It is connected to Pak Phanang river on the west whereby the Pak Phanang river has carried soil sediments to pile up at the mouth of the river for a long time. In 2015, the Khanap Nak community had the area of nipa palm forests or plantation from occupations regarding nipa palm forests as high as 4,578 rai accounting for 476 households. Comparing the quantity of areas of nipa palm forests, way of life related to and depending on nipa palm forests both in Nakhon Si Thammarat province revealed that Khanap Nak sub-district has the most area of nipa palm forests. Currently, nipa palm honey has been made in the Khanap Nak community more. The products obtained can be processed as a variety of products with good prices. This has increased incomes for households.

Currently, government agencies come in the area to help promote utilization of space in order to restore the natural ecosystem to be fertile by developing deserted shrimp ponds to plant nipa palm forests. Besides conserving important natural resources, there must be conservation of way of life in conducting nipa palm farming and the process of making nipa palm honey. The reason for this is that without conservation and passing on this to the next generation, values and importance may be lost.

The nipa palm forest area or nipa palm plantation in the Khanap Nak community has a large-scale area. In other words, it is the natural forest area with the most remaining fertility in Thailand. It should be conserved in terms of natural resources and way of life of the community related to nipa palm forests. Moreover, eco-tourism is a sustainable form of tourism which has a major role to the economy, conservation of the environment and natural resources as well as ~~well~~ as helps promote life qualities of the local people living in tourist attractions and adjacent areas.

Therefore, conservation of the nipa palm forest resource can be conducted based on eco-tourism as an instrument in management and leading to conservation.

The establishment started in 2017 with members accounting for 10 people.

Operating facility Moo 2, Khanap Nak sub-district, Pak Phanang district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province

Land user Mr. Kovit Chantarangsee
Mrs. Utsanee Chantarangsee
Mr. Pongsak Somsuk

Geographical location

Latitude 100.28654. Longitude 13.04643

Operation Start Date

The operation started in 2017

Type of approach Traditional/ indigenous

2. Approach, aims, and enabling environment

Objectives of the approach

1. To transfer knowledge regarding nipa palm forest farming to farmers in Khanap Nak sub-district and sub-districts nearby
2. For processing, namely palm sugar, palm juice, powdered nipa palm sugar and nipa palm vinegar and basket making from the elderly in the sub-district
3. To collect products and buy products from members. Members in the community enterprising: nipa palm sugar processing group, packages of Chantarangsee plantation determine the selling price of the product. The profits obtained from selling are shared with the members at the end of the year.
4. To buy items from people in the community nearby (select only people who produce according to the determined standard in order to keep the standard of products)
5. To receive budget support from government agencies
6. To conduct community touring activities

Methods to be implemented

1. To survey problems in the sub-district, prepare data of local community problems, households in trouble, solutions to be used to plan problem-solving

2. Holding meetings to prepare development plans of solving local community problems by analyzing problem conditions, sub-district data, prepare plans of problem-solving within the sub-district so that the community will have plans of social, economic, natural resources and environmental development to implement and build concrete success from driving the work

3. Solving problems of local development by leading the plan developing local communities to problem-solving through organizing stages presenting the development plan to related member agencies. The objective is to connect and support problem-solving in the area so that activities can be conducted to be in line with contexts, way of life and cultures in balance.

4. Integrate and connect member agencies: Connecting working, organizations in the group at the level of sub-districts, districts, provinces. There is mutual integration with member agencies.

5. Monitor and summarize performances. The community organization council manages the mechanism of monitoring problem-solving regarding troubles under solving problems by the community organization council and connecting and coordinating with related agencies for problem-solving

Conditions favorable for implementing the technology under this approach

- Cooperation or coordination of practitioners due to having corresponding needs
- Conceptual framework in taking legal actions (land tenure, rights of using land and water)

due to the fact that every farmer has his own land

- Policies: Due to being consistent with the policy to keep the environment
- Market (inputs procurement, selling products) and prices: Due to the fact that being the area in the Royal Initiative Project, Pak Phanang river basin, there are high marketing opportunities.

Conditions hindering the implementation of the technology under this approach

- Market (inputs procurement, selling products) and prices are obstacles: The Covid situation makes the price fall.

3. Participation and roles of stakeholders involved

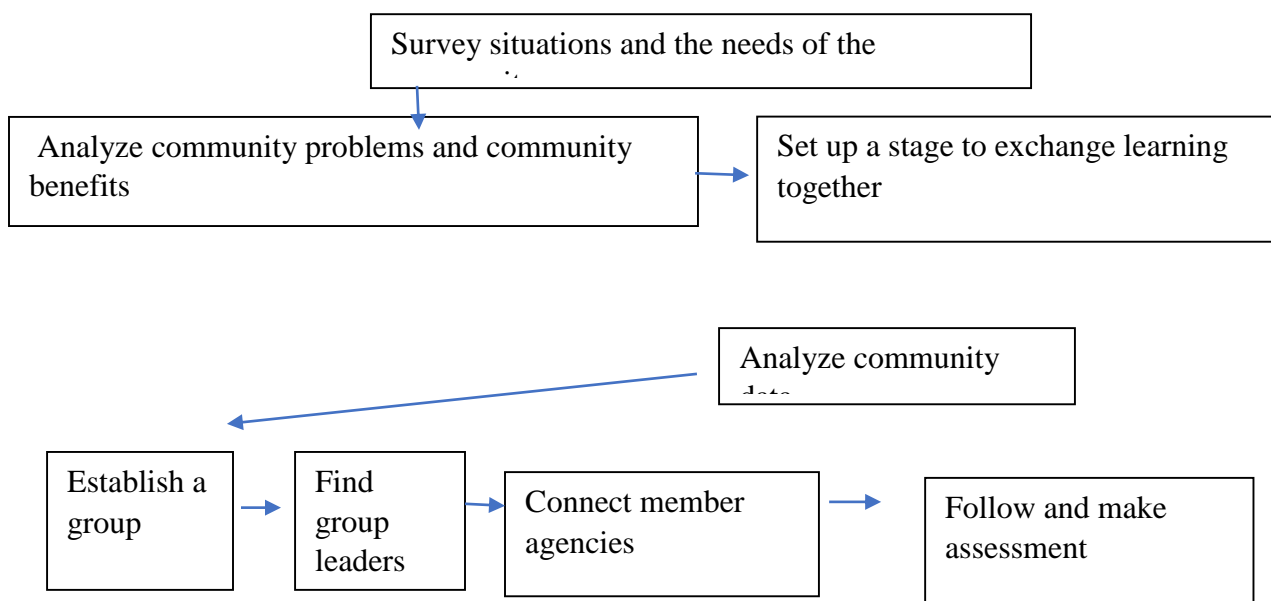
1. The stakeholders involving in this approach and the roles

Stakeholders or organizations involving with this approach	Identify stakeholders	Explain roles of stakeholders or organizations
Local land users or local community	Group members accounting for 10 people	Taking actions together to make the group become strong and have bargaining power
Researchers	Professor from Songkhla Nakarin University, Walailak university	Conduct research regarding following aspects: 1. Package development 2. The ecosystem and the environment 3. Tourism
Local government	Khanap Nak Sub-district Administrative Organization, Pak Phanang district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province	Participate and coordinate in establishing the group, procure markets and make public, support budget
The project of developing Pak Phanang river basin due to Royal Initiative	Officers of the project of developing Pak Phanang river basin due to Royal Initiative	Make public, procure markets

2. Involvement of local land users or local communities in phases of the approach

Phase of the approach	Involvement of local land users or local communities	Identify those involved and explain activities
Initiative or motivation	Mobilize forces by themselves	Government agencies, group members, universities transfer knowledge and take a study tour in order to implement learning and experiences in their own areas
Planning	Interaction and mobilize forces by themselves	Self operation
Operation	Interaction and mobilize forces by themselves	The member group determines group rules and regulations and goods standards together.
Monitoring or assessment	Interaction	Monitoring or assessment to bring about standards

Diagram shows procedures of working



Decision-making for selecting SLM technology Land users are the ones who are the main decision makers supported by SLM experts.

Decision-making is based on experiences.

4. Technical support, building capabilities and knowledge management

1. Training has been set up for land users or other stakeholders whereby there are forms of training, namely

- Go to see the actual place / farmers to farmers
- Use areas for demonstration

The training topic: Practicing making nipa palm and sugar nipa palm products

2. Consulting services: Land users access consulting services available providing plots of land users

3. Strengthening institutes (organizational development)

- Khanap Nak Sub-district Administrative Organization gives aid and support in terms of the meeting venue and facilitates coordination and budget.

4. Monitoring and assessment are part of the approach to bring about standards of the group.

5. Research: Professors from Songkhla Nakarin University conduct research on sociology, economics/marketing and ecology.

Impact analysis and summary

1. Impact of the approach

The approach	Given answers
helps land users implement SLM technology and maintain conditions or not	yes highly
mobilizes forces or improves financial sources access for SLM operation or not	yes moderately
builds or makes the institute become strong or brings about firm cooperation among stakeholders or not	yes highly
makes the underprivileged have social and economic power or not	yes moderately

promotes the youth or offspring of land users to participate in SLM or not	yes moderately
leads to food security or improves nutrition or not	yes moderately
improves market access or not	yes highly
leads to sustainable land use or energy sources or not	yes highly
leads to employment opportunities and incomes or not	yes highly

2. Main motivation of land users to implement SLM

- Land degradation decreases
- Risks of disasters decrease
- Joining the process, the project, the group, the network
- Ecological and Environmental conscious
- Aesthetic Improvement

3. Sustainability of approach activities

Land users can make things practiced based on this approach sustainable on the basis of having a strong group, cooperation honesty

4. Strong points / advantages of the approach

The community enterprise does not operate alone but cooperates with members giving support from several sectors such as: Khanap Nak Sub-district Administrative Organization which supports community tourism; Walailak University regarding research and developing the touring route leading to tourism and forest resources conservation from within the community and package development. Land Development Station supports factors of production in making compost. Display of products has been organized at Sufficiency Economy Center, Koh Tuad sub-district, Pak Phanang district, Nakhon Si Thammarat province. There are also activities of setting up booths distributing products at BOTA market at Walailak Botanic Park Walailak University. This is a channel for product distribution, including making public and releasing the products to be well-known among consumers as well as increasing sales volume to villagers in the community in another channel as well.

5. Weak points / disadvantages of the approach and solutions

The group still lack abilities in writing the project and business plans. It lacks abilities in finding markets. The group members do not know how to determine the marketing target group. Public relations have not been done much.

The approach to fix the problem is to place importance on leader development of the community enterprise group. There should be a policy in promoting finding markets and public relations to distribute goods especially for markets at the national level and exporting to foreign countries.

Activities picture



Fig.1 Meeting of the community enterprise group : The nipa palm sugar processing group, packages of Chantarangsee plantation

Fig.2 The group is observing the work on the study tour during the visit to see nipa palm sugar production.



Fig.3 describe beating nipa palm at the learning base

VDO LINK : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-ioLr6EMVY>