

**The New Experience of Sub-district Administrative Organization in Coastal
Resource Management: the case of Chumphon Province, Thailand**

By

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**The Integrated Coastal Resource Management Project in Pathew District, Chumphon
Province, Thailand (ICRM-PD)**

The Collaborative Project between SEAFDEC/TD

And

The Department of Fisheries, Thailand



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Foreword

Under ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Scheme, the Department of Fisheries (DOF) Thailand takes duty as the lead country among ASEAN member countries and the Training Department (TD) takes as a lead department of SEAFDEC to implement the coastal resource management program. This program is mainly supported by Japanese Trust Funds.

Under the coastal resource management program, the TD and the DOF collaborated in formulating and planning the integrated coastal resource management in Pathew District project (ICRM-PD), Chumphon province. The goal of the project is to promote poverty alleviation and to achieve sustainable use of coastal fisheries resources. An accumulated knowledge, lesson learned and experience gained from the ICRM-PD should be basic and useful information to stakeholders such policy maker and project planning manager. The stakeholders may make use of this information to promote a sustainability of coastal fisheries resource in the Southeast Asian region.



Siri Ekmaharaja, Ph.D.
Secretary-General

Preface

The integrated coastal resource management in Pathew District (ICRM-PD), project, Chumphon Province, Thailand has placed a great emphasis on the practice of community-based fisheries management (CBFM) and co-management (CO) approaches. The SEAFDEC/TD, CMDEC, and the Chumphon provincial office of fisheries are main counterparts to facilitate the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization (Ao.Bo.To.) to practice using the CBFM and CO approaches. The main three counterparts have given a suggestion to the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. based on its function and responsibility in coastal resource management.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council newly established in July, 2001. Similarly, the ICRM-PD was implemented in the Pakklong Sub-district, Pathew District, Chumphon province in the same year. This study conducted after the ICRM-PD project finished phase I (2001-2003). The study has an objective to recognize how the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council functioned in community development and coastal resource management through the ICRM-PD project. The finding of the study is vital information to clarify how the Ao.Bo.To. Council enrolled in community development. Therefore, the study also clarifies the Ao.Bo.To. Council participated in coastal resource management project.

The gained result of the study is anticipated to help policy-maker and project planner to formulate appropriate activities and training course to institutionize and develop the local government organization at local level. This institution and development of the local government organization is workable to support initial self-management and governance on coastal resources on its own jurisdiction to obtain a sustainability of the resources.

Phattareeya Suanrattanachai
December 18th, 2006

Acknowledgement

I should like to present my deepest gratitude to the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization (Ao.Bo.To.) Council, who particularly took in charge during 2001-2005 for your helps and hospitably participated in the conduct of this study. All the council members have given their unstinting encouragement to finish the study. Finally, I should like to present my deepest gratitude to all colleagues who directly and indirectly have helped me to complete this study. All of you have my profound respect.

Phattareeya Suanrattanachai
December 18th, 2006

Contents

	Page
Abstract	1
Introduction	3
The objectives and methodology of the study	4
<i>Objectives</i>	4
<i>Methodology</i>	4
<i>Envisage</i>	4
Background of the Pakklong Sub-district administrative organization	5
Governance structure and function	5
The community development plan and priority	8
An implementing entity in coastal resource management	13
The implementation of the locally based coastal resource management project	13
The Ao.Bo.To. Council participated in the project	14
Recognized on the project rationale	15
Perception of the project implementing agencies	15
Participation in the project components	16
The Ao.Bo.To. Council identified the activity of the project	20
The opinion of the Ao.Bo.To. Council on the LBCRM project	23
The future plan after the termination of the LBCRM project	24
Conclusion	25
References	26
Annex-1	27

Contents of Table and Figure

		Page
Table 1	General Profile of Pakklong Sub-district, Pathew District, Chumphon Province	5
Table 2	The revenue of Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization, 2003-2005	7
Table 3	Legislative function of Sub-district Administrative Organization	8
Table 4	The Council's evaluation and explanation on the LBCRM project implementation	24
Table 5	The future plan of the Ao.Bo.To. Council after the LBCRM project termination	24
Fig.1	The map of Pakklong Sub-district, Pathew District, Chumphon province	5
Fig. 2	The governance structure of the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization during 2002-2005	6
Fig. 3	The structure of parliament of the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization	7
Fig. 4	Infrastructure development	9
Fig. 5	Educational development	9
Fig. 6	People's skill and job development	9
Fig. 7	People's group development	10
Fig. 8	Environment and resource management	10
Fig. 9	Capacity building of local people	10
Fig. 10	Social welfare development	11
Fig. 11	Sanitary and health management	11
Fig. 12	Tourism development	11
Fig. 13	The six main activities of the locally based coastal resource management project	14
Fig. 14	The Ao.Bo.To. Council recognized the project rationale	15
Fig. 15	Project implementing agencies	16
Fig. 16	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's frequently participation in the activity 1	16
Fig. 17	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 2	17
Fig. 18	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 3	18
Fig. 19	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 4	18
Fig. 20	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 5	19
Fig. 21	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 6	19
Fig. 22	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's recognition of the coastal zone demarcation	20
Fig. 23	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's conception of the zoning management for aquaculture and fishing	21
Fig. 24	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's perception of the enlargement of mesh size of collapsible crab trap	21
Fig. 25	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's realization of the fish processing activity of the women's group	21
Fig. 26	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's recognition of the revolving loan activity	22
Fig. 27	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's realization of the coastal season for spawning season	22
Fig. 28	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's discernment the village group	23
Fig. 29	The Ao.Bo.To. Council's evaluation on the LBCRM project implementation	23

The New Experience of Sub-district Administrative Organization in Coastal Resource Management: the case of Chumphon Province, Thailand

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and Jirapa Kamhongsa³**

Abstract

The Thai government promulgated the Sub-district administrative organization (Ao.Bo.To.) Act in 1994, which legally made Ao.Bo.To. a local government organization. The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. in Chumphon Province was established in 1997 with its council taking up two main responsibilities. One is to develop the community and to manage budget and financial support by itself; the other is to adopt the community development and coastal resource management project formulated by the central government and the higher level offices. Considering its function in the community development plan, the council placed the infrastructure development as the first priority of the activity plan. But it placed the environment and resource management activity on the fifth priority. It was estimated that 72% of council members had good understanding on the rationale and positive perception on the locally based coastal resource management project. However, the members only participated occasionally in the main six activities of the locally based coastal resource management project. The project was rated as excellent by 73% of the council members, good 18% and poor 9%. The Ao.Bo.To. Council was regarded as a leading body to take function in the coastal resource management project. The council purposes its future plan to implement the coastal resource management project after the project terminated in December, 2006. It focuses on local people and community development work on one hand; emphasizes extension work to disseminate information concerned community development and coastal resource management on the other.

Keywords: Sub-district administrative organization, the locally based coastal resource management, community development, the Ao.Bo.To. Council

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The New Experience of Sub-district Administrative Organization in Coastal Resource Management: the case of Chumphon Province, Thailand

Introduction

The last three national economic and social development plans of Thailand were the Seventh (1992-1996), the Eighth (1997-2001) and the Ninth (2002-2006). These three plans placed the development of human resource and environment and natural resource management on high priority [1], with focus on local people and community to share responsibility and participation in environment and resource management. The Department of Fisheries (DOF) in Thailand has taken a leading role to implement a sustainable coastal resource management. This government agency formulated an action plan of coastal resource management which was under the framework of national plan started in the Seventh plan. The DOF actively adopted community-based fisheries management (CBFM) in its action plan. The CBFM approach is an important practice for the government to manage resource allocation [2]. The CBFM, therefore, empowers fishers to institutionalize fishers' organization to assume leadership in sustainable coastal resource management. The DOF implemented the action plan with CBFM in fishing community throughout the country.

The DOF encouraged new fishers' group to get involved and gain experience in financial and resource management. Then, the fishers' group applied its managerial experience to create activities in coastal resource management. In addition, the fishers' group was expected to lead the local community. The group takes major role to head other stakeholders to manage coastal resources in self-resource management and self-enforcement. This practice helps reduction of irresponsible exploitation of aquatic resources and fish habitats [3].

A workable fishers' group can manage well coastal resources such as mangrove reforestation, fish fingerling releasing and using responsible fishing gears. The fishers' group, however, has only an empowerment to self-manage coastal resource on its owned village with traditional knowledge and custom. The self-resource management is active without any government's legislative approval. To strengthen the fishers' self-resource management, the central government decentralized its authority on coastal resource management to local level on participatory basis [4].

In 1994, the Thai government promulgated the Sub-district Administrative Organization (Ao.Bo.To.) Act (1994) [5], which was effective in 1995 until present. Ao.Bo.To. is a local governmental organization as a key mechanism to promote the decentralization of authority. The central government devolves two basic authorities to the Ao.Bo.To.. One is a functional authority on developing and managing health and sanitation, education, social welfare, infrastructure and local natural resource management within its owned boundary area. The other is financial

management authority. The Ao.Bo.To. can manage its own annual revenue and budget supported by the state. Under the recent decentralization of authority policy, the central government transfers a responsibility and function on environment and resource management to Ao.Bo.To. [6].

In 1997, the Thai government amended the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand (1997) by placing people's participatory approach in democratic process as the top priority. Both the Ao.Bo.To. Act (1994) and the constitution (1997) are legislative apparatus to engage people's participation to decentralize authority on environment and resource management. The constitution empowers people's organization and institution to participate in local natural resource management. The Ao.Bo.To. Act legally strengthens local governmental organization to safeguard and wisely develop local resource within its jurisdiction.

The content of this manuscript describes basic function and responsibility of Ao.Bo.To. as administrator and planner to implement a five-year annual community development plan. It carries out plans and projects designed and assigned by higher governmental agencies. The function is described with information collected by interviewing the council members of Pakklong Ao.Bo.To, and its roll in coastal resource management and community development. The Ao.Bo.To.council adopted and participated in the locally based coastal resource management (LBCRM) project designed by the DOF in collaboration with Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/ Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD).

The objectives and methodology of the study

Objectives

1. To understand how the Ao.Bo.To. Council places the priority of community development and resource management activities in the five year development plan.
2. To identify the Ao.Bo.To. Council's performances concerning the locally based coastal resource management project and its objectives.
3. To identify the source of information obtained by the Ao.Bo.To. Council on access and participation in the locally based coastal resource management project.
4. To solicit the Ao.Bo.To. Council's opinion on the implementation of the locally based coastal resource management project.

Methodology

1. Design a questionnaire based on the four objectives and the basic function of the Ao.Bo.To. Council worked for five-year annual community development plan
2. Interview with the Ao.Bo.To. Council who are target respondents
3. Input and analyze data by descriptive analysis.
4. Illustrate the result of the survey by chart and table with explanation

Table 1 General profile of Pakklong Sub-district, Pathew District, Chumphon Province

Items	Figures
1. area	117 km ²
2. population	
- total	4,228 persons
- male	2,096 persons
- female	2,132 persons
- density of population	36 persons per km ²
3. occupation	- agriculture (palm trees, rubber trees) - fisheries - poultry - labor
4. local natural resources	- the island of bird net concession: the Rang Nok island and the Sikong island - mangrove forests - national park

Source: The Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization's strategic plan, 2003

The Pakklong Sub-district administrative organization (Ao.Bo.To.) was established in 1997 from the sub-district (Tambol, in *Thai*) parliament as the Pakklong Sub-district Organization. This change of governance structure was according to the proclamation of the Ao.Bo.To. Act in 1994. Fig. 2 is the governance structure of the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. established during 2002-2005.

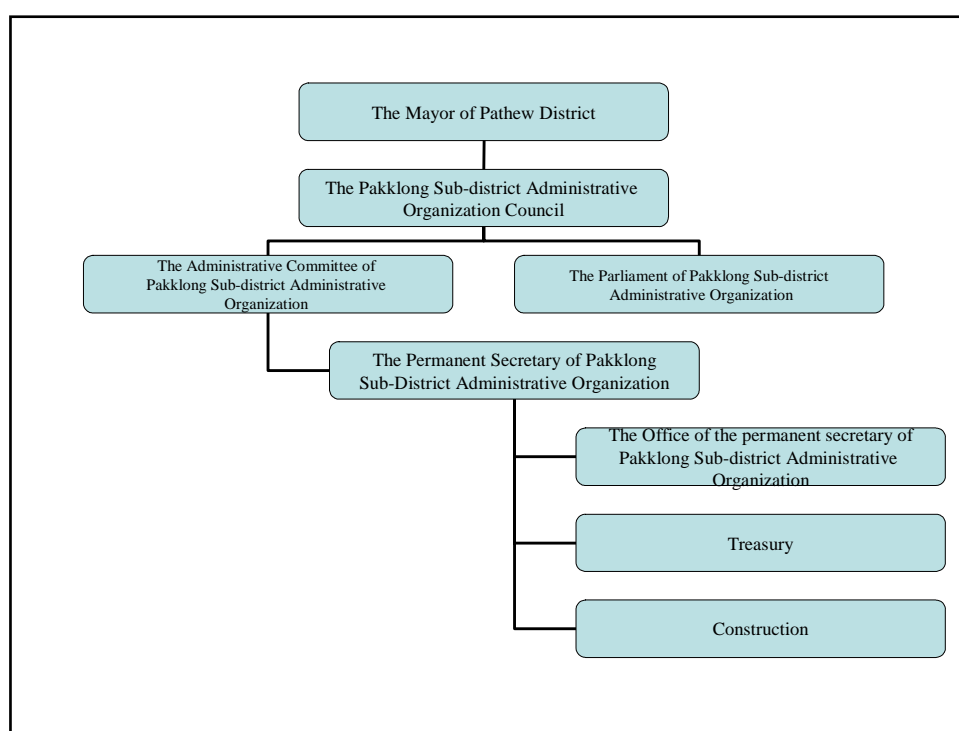


Fig. 2 The governance structure of the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization during 2002-2005

Source: [7]

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council works under the supervision of the mayor of Pathew district. The Ao.Bo.To. Council itself divided into two main sub-sectors. One is the administrative committee and the other is the parliament. Each sub-sector has its owned function to support the Ao.Bo.To.Council. The administrative committee takes responsibilities to 1) formulate the sub-district development plan with annual budget arrangement and allocation; 2) implement the sub-district development plan following the Ao.Bo.To. regulations; 3) present the report of implementation plan to the Ao.Bo.To. Council twice a year at least; 4) implement other official work according to instructions of central government or higher level office [7]. The administrative committee of Pakklong Sub-district administrative organization implements the Ao.Bo.To.'s work plan with assistance of permanent secretary. This permanent secretary heads three basic units responsible to the Ao.Bo.To. Council. The three basic units are the office of the permanent secretary., treasury and construction.

Fig. 3 illustrates the parliament of Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization structure. The parliament consists of chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and members of the parliament. The parliament of Ao.Bo.To. takes responsibilities to 1) make agreement on the sub-district development plan; 2) consider and make agreement on the draft of sub-district regulation and the a draft of annual budget arrangement and allocation; 3) supervise and monitor the administrative committee to implement the Ao.Bo.To. Council policy and the sub-district development plan.

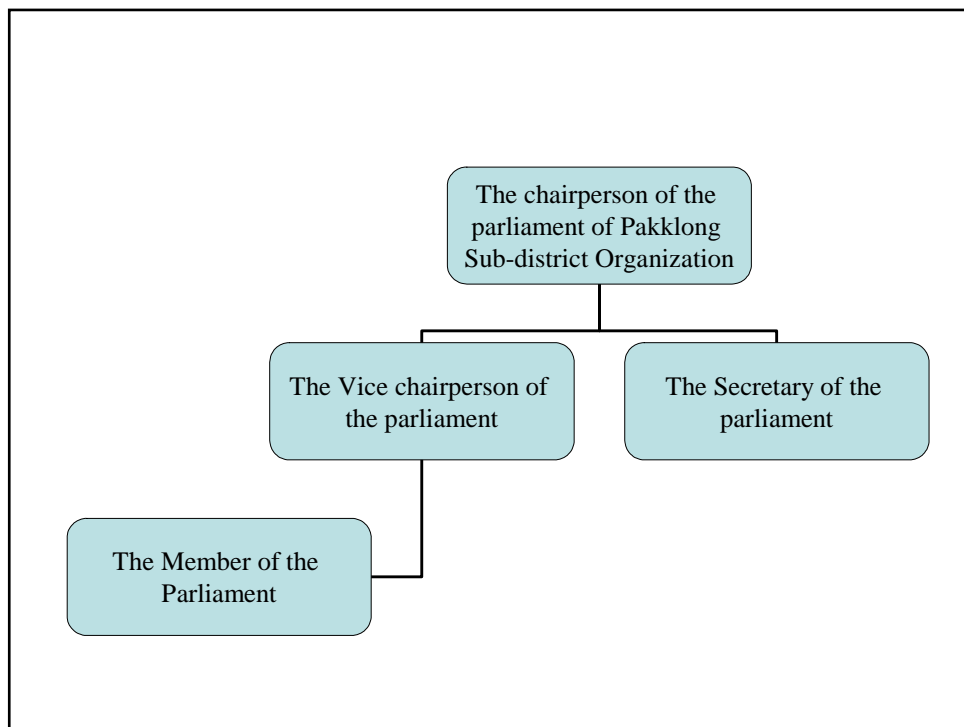


Fig. 3 The structure of parliament of Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization
Source: [7]

The Ao.Bo.To. Council itself is also mainly in charge of administration and management of annual budget. The source of annual budget comes from two basic sources. The first source is the revenue received from local taxes which are collected by the Ao.Bo.To. Council. The second source is the revenue from the government agencies. Table 2 illustrates the revenue of Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization in 2003-2005.

Table 2 The revenue of Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization, 2003-2005

Items	Fiscal budget		
	Year 2003 (1 Oct. 2002 – 30 Sep. 2003)	Year 2004 (1 Oct.2003 – 30 Sep.2004)	Year 2005 (1 Oct. 2004 – 30 Sep. 2005)
1. the revenue received from taxes collected by the Ao.Bo.To. Council	6,621,979 baht	55,036,704 baht	79,262,475 baht
2. the revenue received from the government agencies	4,257,594 baht	4,878,043 baht	4,820,710 baht
Total	10,879,573 baht	59,914,747 baht	84,083,185

Source: The Pakklong Administrative Organization's strategic plan, 2006

The community development plan and priority

The Ao.Bo.To. Act in 1994 has assigned two basic functions to the Ao.Bo.To. Council. One is as creative planner and the other as practitioner with discipline and instruction of the central government. The Act has designed basic description of Ao.Bo.To.'s function and responsibility. The Ao.Bo.To. Council takes a role of creative planner towards the obligatory function as seen in Table 3. The Ao.Bo.To. Council has to formulate a plan for community development and resource management which is relied on the assigned functions. In practice, the Council applies its function to solve problems in community development and resource management.

Table 3 Legislative function of Sub-district Administrative Organization

Obligatory functions	Practical concerns
1. Infrastructure development and maintenance	Maintenance and development of water and land transportation
2. Public facility and management	Roads, walkways, waterways, waste disposal
3. Sanitation and health	Prevention and eradication of diseases
4. Public safety	The surveillance of public security
5. Educational and cultural promotion	Contribution to education, religious and cultural activities
6. Promotion and development of issues on women, children, youth, elderly and disable people	Contribution to facilitate the development of women, youth, children, elderly and handicap people
7. Management of environment and natural resource	Protection of environment and natural resources
8. Adoption and implement the assignment from higher authority of government agencies	Implement plan and project assigned by government agencies

Source: [5]

In Pakklong sub-district, the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council is a key body to formulate the community development and resource management according to the Ao.Bo.To. Act, 1994. This Ao.Bo.To. Council is elected to work for the community and it has to learn new experience on the community development. The member of the Ao.Bo.To council was target respondent. This respondent was interviewed to know their opinion and performance on the community development and the LBCRM project.

The survey results show that on infrastructure development, 73 % of the Ao.Bo.To. Council members put this task at first priority (Fig.4) and 45%, placed the educational development task on priority-2 (Fig 5);

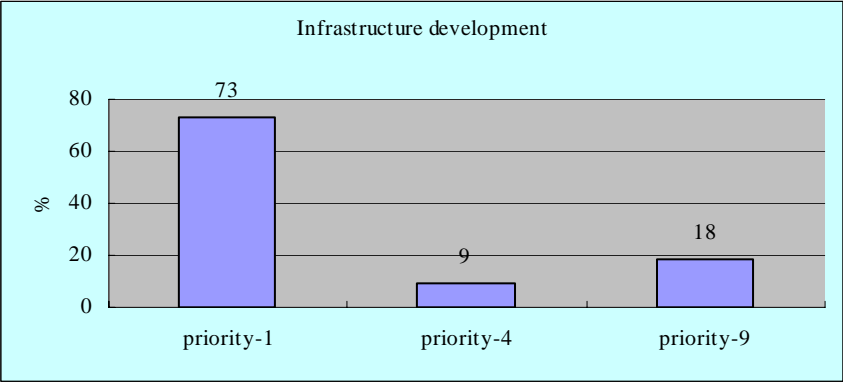


Fig. 4 Infrastructure development

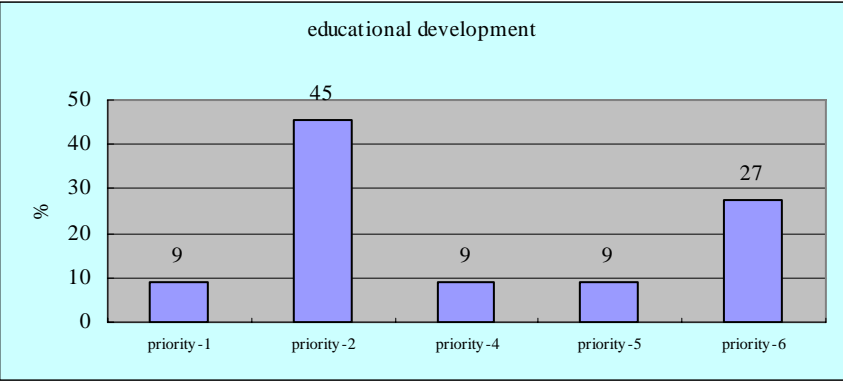


Fig.5 Educational development

the development of people’s skill and job task is ranked as priority-3 (Fig.6); 45% of the member agreed with this ranking. The task of people’s group development is ranked from priority-2 to priority-9 and 27% ranked this task on priority-4 (Fig.7).

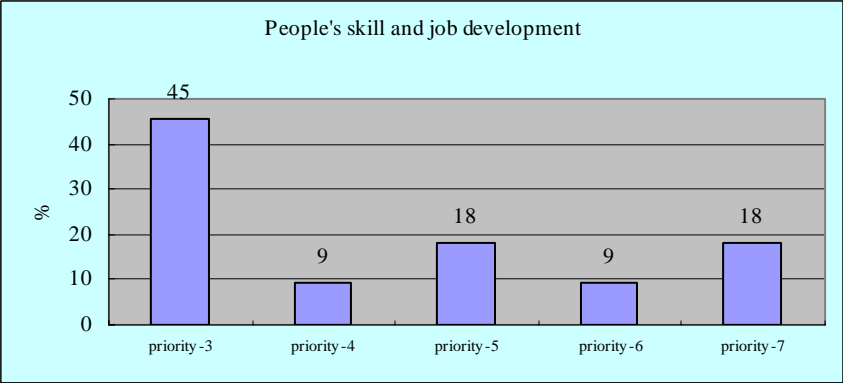


Fig.6 People’s skill and job development

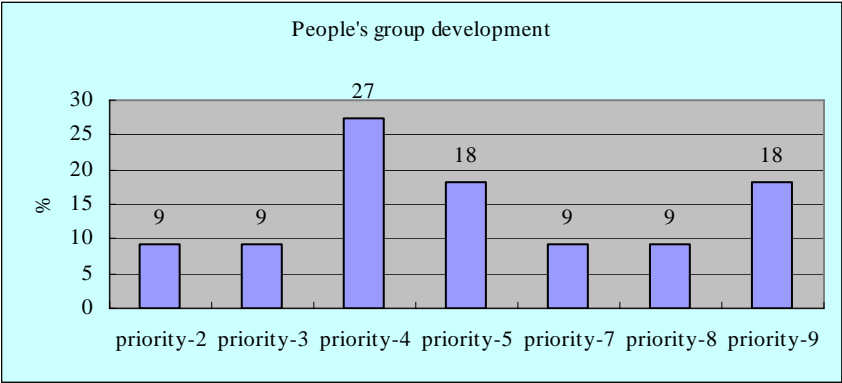


Fig.7 People’s group development

The data (Fig. 8) shows 18% of the Ao.Bo.To. Council put the environment and resource management on priorities 4 and 5. Similarly, 18 % placed the capacity building of local people on the priority-5 (Fig.9). The social welfare development was placed on priority-7 (Fig.10). 27% of the Ao.Bo.To. Council agreed with this ranking. The sanitary and health management is placed on priority-8 which 36% of the Council made a rank (see Fig. 11). The task of tourism development was put at the last priority or priority-9 which was determined by 45% of the Ao.Bo.To. Council (Fig.12).

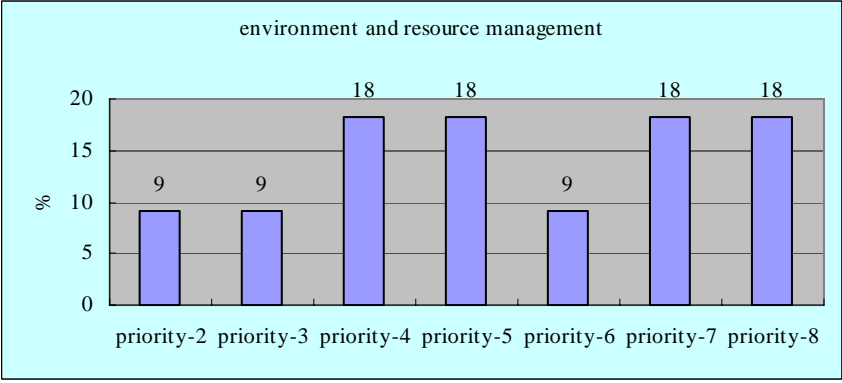


Fig.8 Environment and resource management

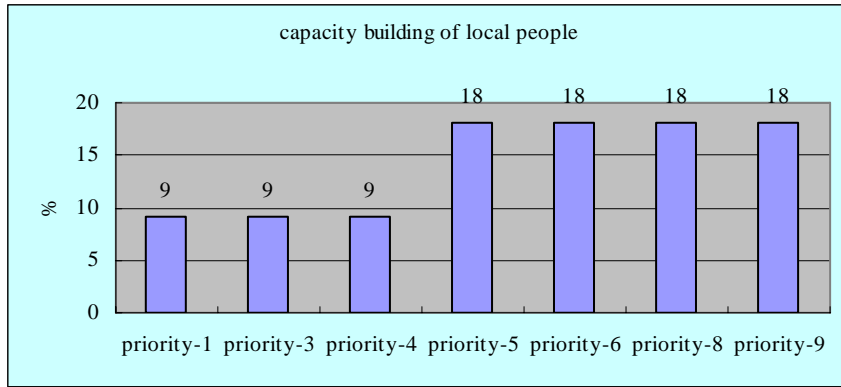


Fig. 9 Capacity building of local people

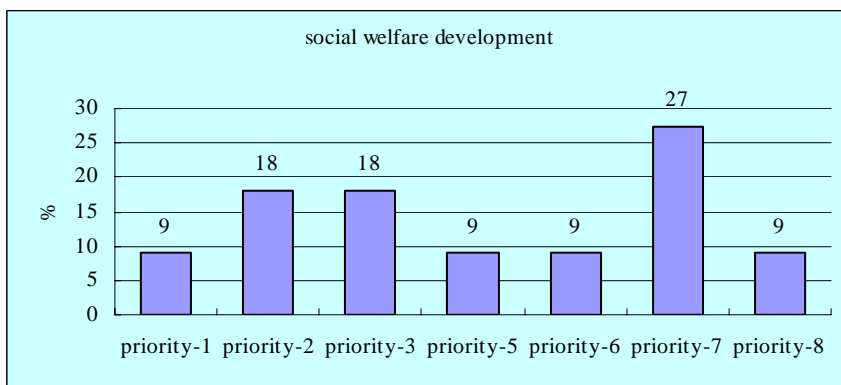


Fig.10 Social welfare development

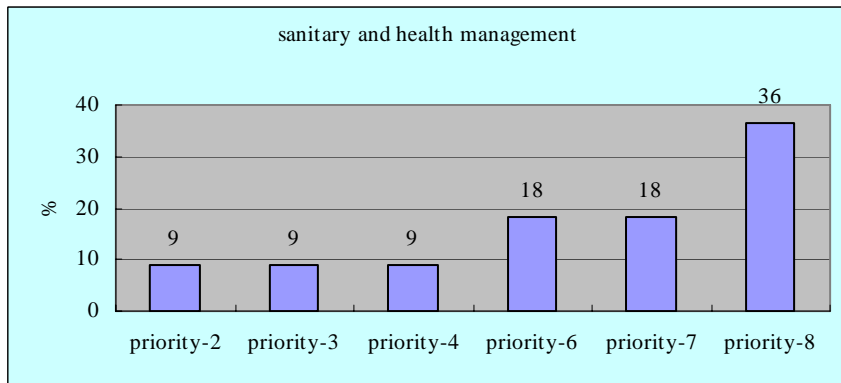


Fig.11 Sanitary and health management

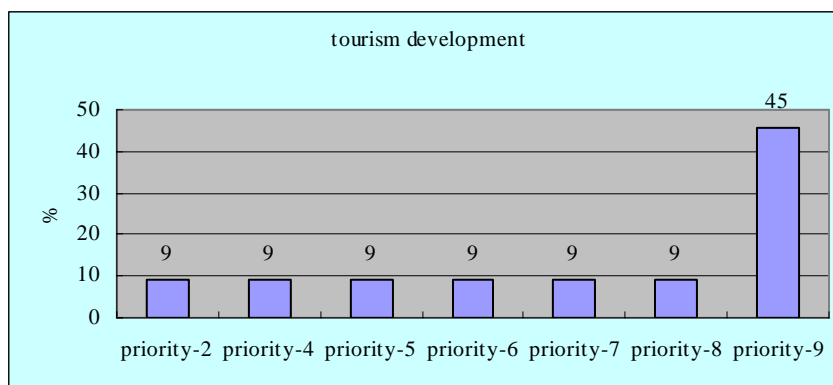


Fig. 12 Tourism development

The findings of the survey based upon interviewing with the Ao.Bo.To. Council members are not different from the result found in other community in other parts of Thailand. The Ao.Bo.To. Council places the infrastructure development on the top priority [7]. This is because the implication result of this task can be concretely seen [4]. In general, the Ao.Bo.To. Council ranks the importance of human resource development on priorities-2, 3 and 4. This means the Ao.Bo.To. Council promoted educational development and individual people's skill and people's group development. Skillful people and workable people's group empower and strengthen the economic development in the community.

The importance of environment and resource management was ranked as priority-4 and priority-5. Such low ranking by the Ao.Bo.To. Council might attribute to three reasons. The first is that the environment and resource management had low public demand for management and disincentive to the Council [7]; the second was that the environment and resource were regarded as common resources, particularly the marine resource is defined as the Thai government property with the Act Governing the Right to Fish in Thai water in 1939 [3]. Resource users freely access and exploit marine resources throughout the country. The last is that the Ao.Bo.To. Council did not recognize the problems in environment and resource management under its jurisdiction. The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council is made up with 14 % fishers. However, these members have low empowerment to induce other the Council members to pay attention on environment and resource management.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council provides a good trend for its community development. This Council places the importance of local human resource development through education, people's skill and job and people's group. On educational development, the Ao.Bo.To. Council allocated budget for school children in its community. The Pakklong primary school received a financial support from the Council to provide mangrove reforestation and conservation activity for children.

On supporting people's skill and job development, the Ao.Bo.To. Council just made a plan; on

implementing people's group development, the Ao.Bo.To. Council mainly encouraged former and newly established local people's groups. The Council lent financial support to those local people's groups. It lent to a small-scale fishers' group revolving operational loan to group members, to the women's group for establishing business in fish processing.

On capacity building of local people, the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council gave first priority to its member. The Council supported its members to observe another successful Ao.Bo.To. Council. This is to learn from those successful Ao.Bo.To. Council's experiences and technique concerned community development. The Ao.Bo.To. Council welcomed training courses and extension works arranged by government agencies and non-governmental organization. The Ao.Bo.To. Council handled social welfare development towards a contribution to elderly people, particularly to those sick and disable people. For sanitary and health management, the Ao.Bo.To. Council worked closely with community sanitary official. They implemented by following the policy come from the Ministry of Health to watchdog and monitor infectious diseases.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council recognized attractive tourism place, a Sand Dune area located in Ban Nam Pru village (village no.5). It received revenues by collecting tax from the resort and bungalow owners.. The Ao.Bo.To. Council needs more knowledge and skill in tourism and facilities management to promote such Eco-tourism and tourism in the community.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council has been actively engaged in administrative functions to develop the community. The Ao.Bo.To. Council seems to take on the job training. It has to practice and learn new things according to the Ao.Bo.To. Act, 1994. In addition, it has to apply its administrative function to solve the problems found in the community. Moreover, it has to develop the community based on local people's demand and provide them with basic needs in community development. The practice of the Ao.Bo.To. Council on community development is only managerial duty that the central government devolves responsibility to the Council.

An implementing entity in coastal resource management

The Pakklong sub-district administrative organization has to take a role as a project implementing entity. This role is assigned in the Ao.Bo.To. Act 1994 seen in Table 3. The Department of Fisheries collaborated with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/ Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD) launched a five-year project on locally-based coastal resource management (LBCRM) in Pakklong sub-district. The project started in 2001. The conceptual framework of the project consisted of two core approaches [8]. One was community-based fisheries management (CBFM) approach; the other was co-management (CM) approach. The CBFM approach is an apparatus to organize local people, particularly fishers, to participate in

establishment and institution of fishers' group, which is anticipated to take a leading role to progress coastal resource management. The CM approach is defined as the government agency shares responsibility and/or function with certain authority to manage coastal resources [9]. People's participatory approach is a fundamental strategy to contribute to both core approaches.

Fishers' group together with active fishers' participation would empower the group to work on coastal resource management. The fishers' group is supposed to be community-based management unit (CBMU) which functions as the primary task force unit at village level [10]. The CBMU helps the Ao.Bo.To. Council to manage and conserve coastal resource sustainability. In the meantime, the Ao.Bo.To. Council can orientate the decentralized authority towards the legitimacy of resource users' consensus and agreement. In legislative terms, the Ao.Bo.To. Council enables to regulate and enforce rules and regulations concerned coastal resource management.

The implementation of the locally based coastal resource management project⁴

The three main objectives of the project are : 1) to establish management entity at the local level for sustainable use of coastal resource; 2) to rehabilitate coastal resources; 3) to alleviate poverty in coastal fishing community [8]. The project is comprised of six workable activities (see Fig.13).

⁴ The locally-based coastal resource management project was funded by the Japanese Trust Fund I (year 2001-2004). The project was renamed as the integrated coastal resource management. This renamed project was funded by the Japanese Trust Fund IV (year 2005-2009).

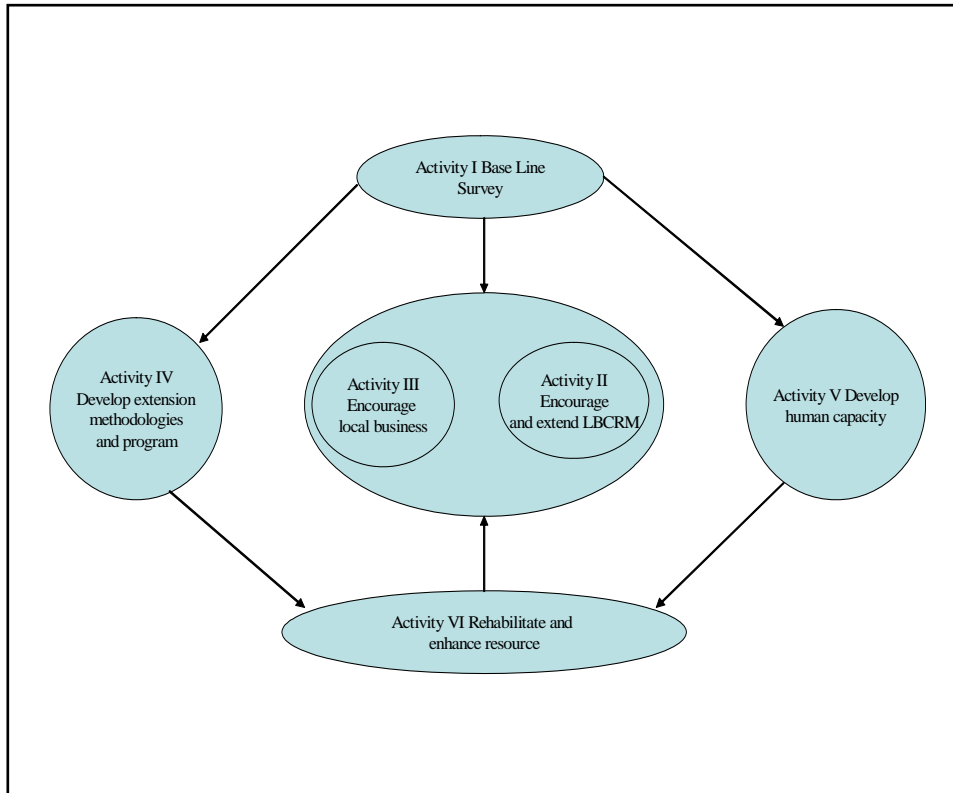


Fig. 13 The six main activities of the locally based coastal resource management project

Activity II and Activity III are core project components. These activities are strategic tools to achieve sustainable use of coastal resource and poverty alleviation of the coastal fishing community. In addition, these two activities are key mechanisms to practice fishers' participation in coastal resource management and community economic development. Particularly, the Activity II promotes CBFM's competence in resource management. Then, the Ao.Bo.To. Council is expected to officially contribute to the CFBM in resource management. Other four activities are supportive to strongly encourage the demonstration of Activity II and Activity III.

Activity I is to conduct baseline survey. This activity has fundamental practice to conduct research and survey based on certain criteria of biological, ecological, socio-economic aspects. Activity IV and Activity V place emphasis on capacity building of local people through training courses and extension program. Activity VI concerns rehabilitation and enhancement of coastal resources with releasing fish fingerlings. The six main activities have been carried out since 2001 with the participation of fishers, local people and other stakeholders. Both the Ao.Bo.To. Council and the project were new. The project staff from the Chumphon Marine Fisheries Research, Development Center (CMDEC) and SEAFDEC/TD agreed to work closely with the Ao.Bo.To. Council. The project staff provided a questionnaire to get information from the Council on their opinions and notification concerning the project implementation.

The Ao.Bo.To. Council participated in the project

The project staff of both the DOF and SEAFDEC/TD worked closely with the Ao.Bo.To. Council. The project staff tried to alleviate a gap between the Ao.Bo.To. Council and themselves. The project staff interviewed the Ao.Bo.To. Council in order to understand how did the Council recognize and concerned the project implementation. The findings were useful to the project staff to adjust the strategy and approach of the project to work with the Ao.Bo.To. Council.

Recognized on the project rationale

The Ao.Bo.To. Council gave opinions on the extent of their understanding the rationale of the project implementation. Fig.14 shows the Ao.Bo.To. Council's understanding of the project rationale: 27% of the Council members indicated the decline of marine resources; 18% expressed the rationale of the project supported the resource conservation and management; similarly, other 18% said that the project trained community people to resource manager; 9% expressed that there was a lack of official concerned in management. However, 28% revealed that they did not know about the rationale of the project. According to those feedbacks, the project should pay more attention to keep frequent contact with and disseminate more information. to them

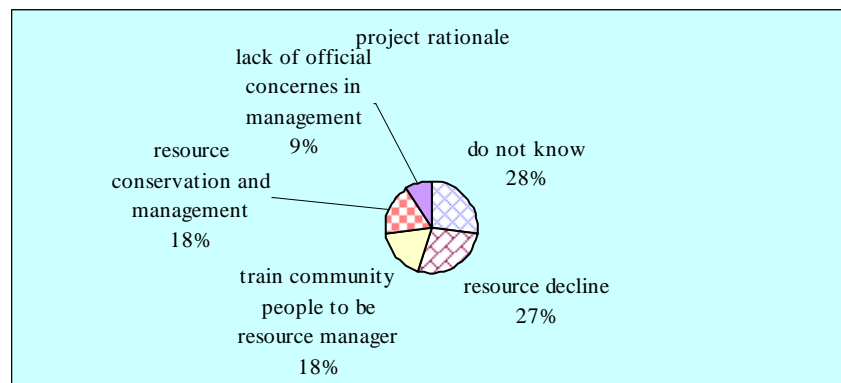


Fig. 14 The Ao.Bo.To. Council recognized the project rationale

Perception of the project implementing agencies

The Ao.Bo.To. Council was interviewed with whom they worked to implement the project (Fig.15). The findings found that 28% of the total recognized the concerned agencies were the Department of Fisheries and the Council; 18% the Department of Fisheries alone, and the Department of Fisheries collaborated with the community. 9% of four groups of the Council member equally realized that the project implementing agency was the Ao.Bo.To. Council, the Department of Fisheries & SEAFDEC/TD, SEAFDEC/TD, Government and the private sector.

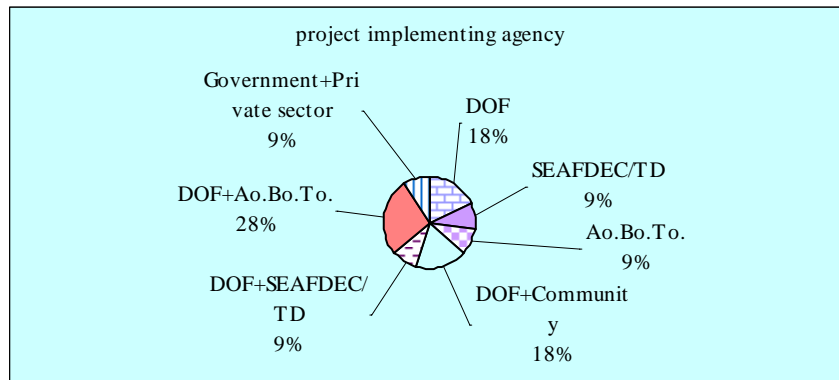


Fig. 15 Project implementing agencies

This finding affirms that the Department of Fisheries is well-known to the local people. But the SEAFDEC/TD should work hard to distribute information to the local people in order to introduce itself and its functions.

Participation in the project components

The Ao.Bo.To. Council has to take the legislative responsibility as project coordinator designated by government agency according to the 1994 Ao.Bo.To. Act. A series of questionnaire was designed to assess how the Ao.Bo.To. Council participated in the designated project implementation. The Ao.Bo.To. Council’s participation in the LBCRM project was simply recognized by the frequency of the Council’s participation. The frequency was grouped into three sub-categories - every time, sometimes and never joined. Six main activities of the project attached with those sub-categories are shown in Annex 1 page 2.

Activity 1 is to conduct baseline survey. The finding of the survey shows that 82% of Council member sometimes participated in the activity (Fig. 16) 9% participated every time the other 9% did not reply. This means they did not practice in the activity, moreover, they did not know the activity.



Fig.16 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's frequently participation in the activity 1

This activity is implemented mainly to promote competence in technical and specialized skill in data collection and analysis. The project staff should provide training course on technical skill of data collection for the Ao.Bo.To. Council. In addition, the project staff should describe to the Ao.Bo.To. Council on the importance of data collection and management for the community development and resource management.

Activity 2 is to encourage and extend the LBCRM. The Ao.Bo.To. Council is a key local body to support local people participated in community-based fisheries management. It amounted to 91% of the The Ao.Bo.To. Council expressed that they sometimes participated in the activity (see Fig. 17). The other 9% of the total cited that they never joined the activity.



Fig. 17 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 2

The practices of activity 2 were on the coastal zone demarcation and the zoning management for capture and aquaculture fisheries. The Council and local stakeholders took consensus on these two practices. The Ao.Bo.To. Council used its legislative function to safeguard coastal resource in its jurisdiction. In addition, the Council authorized to manage coastal zone for engaging capture and aquaculture fisheries.

Activity 3 is to encourage local business. The Ao.Bo.To. Council is expected to take action in developing local business. It should contribute to local people's group working on business basis. This Council followed the policy of the Ministry of Interior to promote the One-tambol, One-product (OTOP) program. The project staff recommended women in the community to establish a women's group for fish processing. The staff initially assisted the group to learn experience from successful women's groups in another province such as Rayong province. The representatives of the group observed how to prepare products such as seasoned dry anchovy fish (plakatak samros, in *Thai*) and streamed minch-fish bar (pla-yor, in *Thai*).

The women' group on fish processing in Pakklong Sub-district prepared a proposal of fish processing product and presented it to the Ao.Bo.To. Council to get a grant or financial support. Fig. 18 shows the attendance frequency of Ao.Bo.To. Council in the implementation of the activity 3, with 82% sometimes supporting to promote local business and 18% every time.

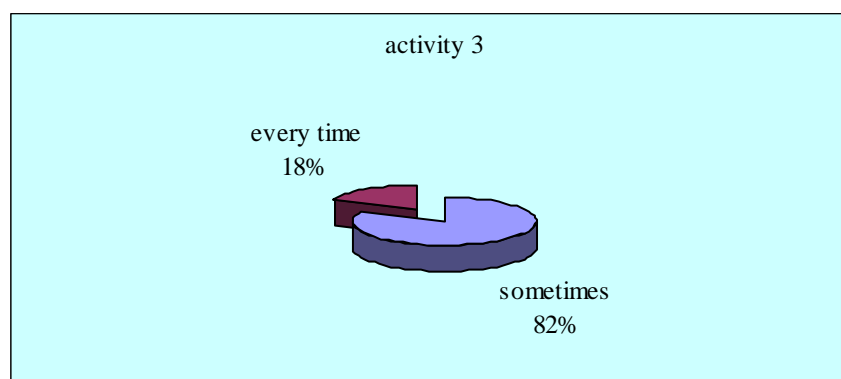


Fig. 18 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 3

Two women's groups were established. One was in village no. 4 and the other in village no.6. These two groups' activity mainly concern business, but they are facing deficient finance to operate the groups' activity. They also try to approach the Ao.Bo.To. Council for financial assistance to develop and manage their groups.

Activity 4 is to develop extension methodologies and program. The project staff produced varieties of printed materials such as posters, brochures to promote the project implementation of coastal resource management. The staff distributed all types of printed matters to the Ao.Bo.To. Council and directly brought to local villagers. The Council sometimes helped to distribute the printed matters to local villagers. The survey shows that 73% of Council helped sometimes and 9% never did (Fig.19).

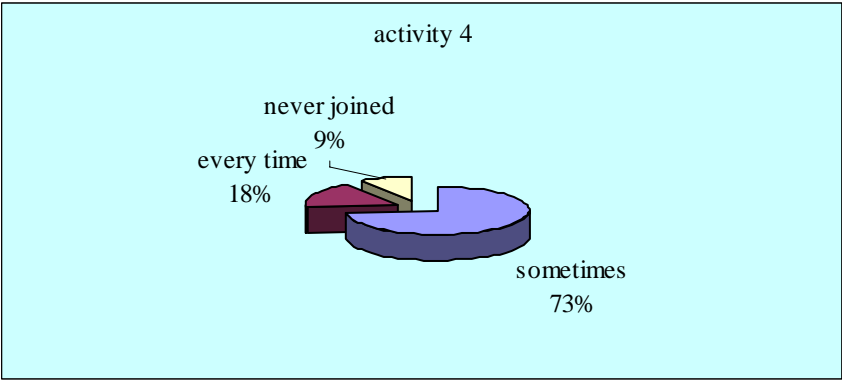


Fig. 19 The Ao.Bo.To. Council’s participation in the activity 4

Activity 5 is to develop human capacity. This activity was executed through training courses which were arranged for every level of the community such as children, women, fishers and farmers, as well as the Ao.Bo.To. Council. The content of the training course was arranged depending on the target group. For example, training course arranged for the school children emphasized on awareness building of coastal resource management and mangrove reforestation; for women it mainly concerned skill development on fish processing, food preservation, marketing and accounting management; for fishers and farmers it placed on group institution, community development and resource management.

Fig. 20 displays that 64% of the Council sometimes joined training course, 18% participated training course every time. However, 18% never attended training course.

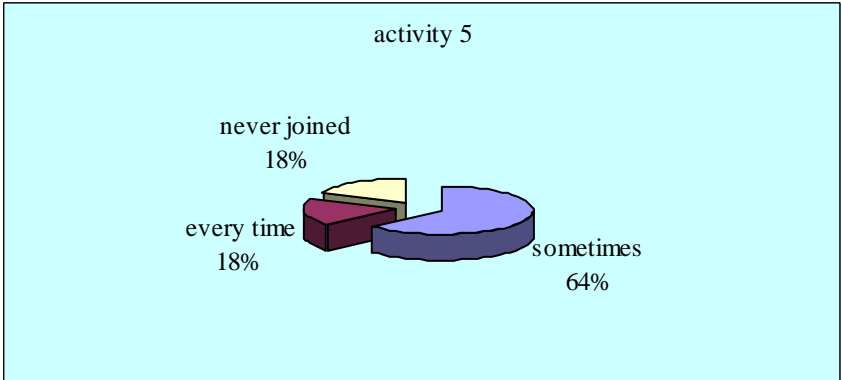


Fig.20 The Ao.Bo.To. Council’s participation in the activity 5

Activity 6 is to enhance coastal resource through fish releasing and artificial reef installation. The DOF is the leading agency to implement this activity. This agency provides budget to construct and deploy artificial reefs into coastal areas. This deployment was to increase fish habitats for fish assembly on one hand and to safeguard against the encroachment of trawlers in the coastal areas

on the other. The DOF always leads to conduct fish releasing activity. It requests fish fingerlings from DOF's fish breeding and nursing stations at coastal aquaculture station in Chumphon province. Regularly, fish releasing is conducted on national holidays such on King and Queen's birthday.

Fig. 21 indicates number of the Council participated in this activity. The Council members amounted to 82% of the total sometimes joined this activity; 9% contributed to this activity every time. Similarly, other 9% never joined this activity.

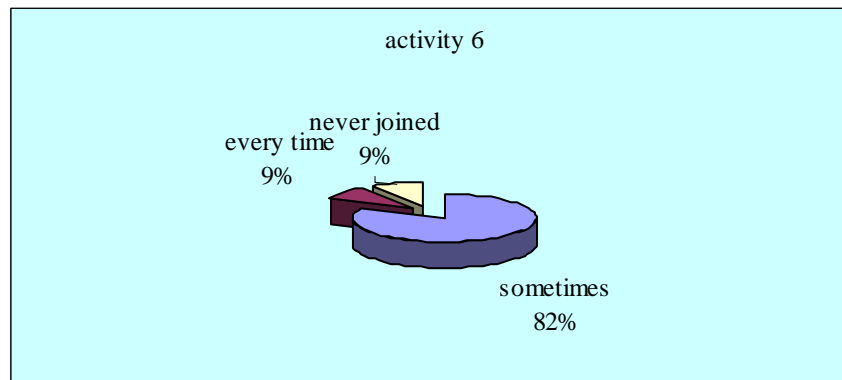


Fig. 21 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the activity 6

On average, more than 80% of the Council, sometimes participated in each activity. Probably, the Council has low experience to practice in each activity. In addition, they may not understand well the objectives of the project and activities. Then, these reasons discourage the Council paid less attention to participate in the project. To reduce the collaborative gap between the project staff and the Ao.Bo.To. Council, the project staff should make frequent contact with the Council. The staff should try to collaborate with the Council to implement the project's activities for community development. The staff should distribute short report on activity implementation to the Council.

The Ao.Bo.To. Council identified the activity of the project

The project staff designed a questionnaire to confirm the Council's participation in each activity. This questionnaire is supposed to be an evidence of the Council's participation according to the information shown in Figs. 16 - 21. The questionnaire focused on activities 2 and 3. The activity included the coastal zone demarcation, zoning, management for aquaculture and fishing area management, the enlargement of crab trap mesh size, which was indicated in the implementation of the activity 2. Similarly, the activity 3 was also examined the fish process activity in women's group. Active activities revolved loan, closed season and village group fund.

The finding of the survey shows that 100% of the Ao.Bo.To. Council recognized and responded on each activity the activities 2 and 3 (Figs.22, 23 and 24). This means that the Council knows the

coastal zone demarcation, the zoning management for aquaculture and fishing, the enlargement of the mesh size of collapsible crab trap implemented by the LBCRM project.



Fig.22 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's recognition of the coastal zone demarcation

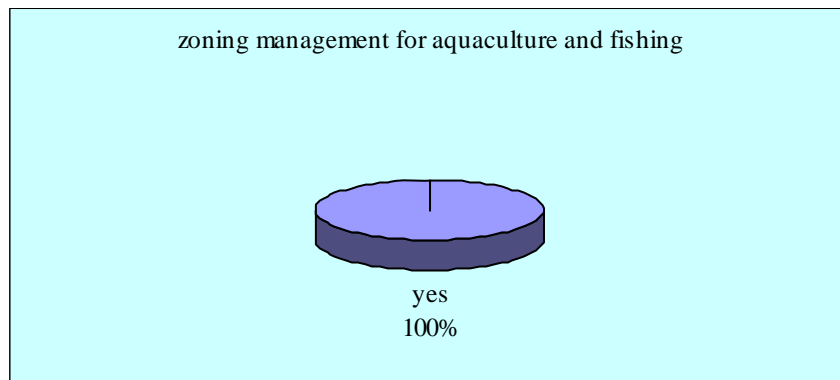


Fig.23 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's conception on the zoning management for aquaculture and fishing

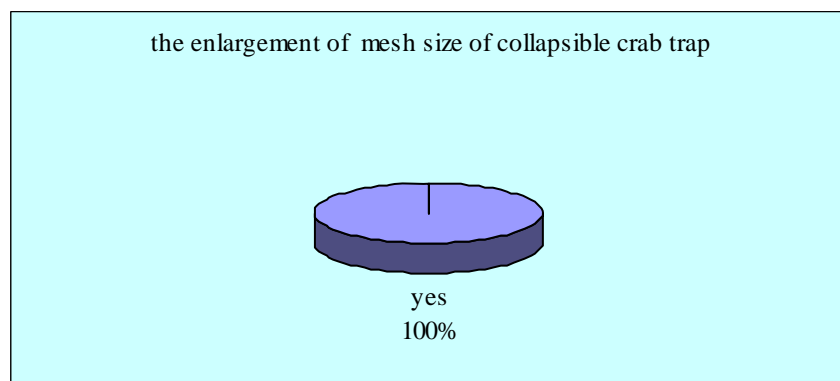


Fig.24 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's perception of the enlargement of mesh size of collapsible crab trap

The Council, accounted for 91% of the total, realized that the fish processing activity of the women's group was supported by the LBCRM project (see Fig. 25). However, 9% of them did not know where the activity came from.

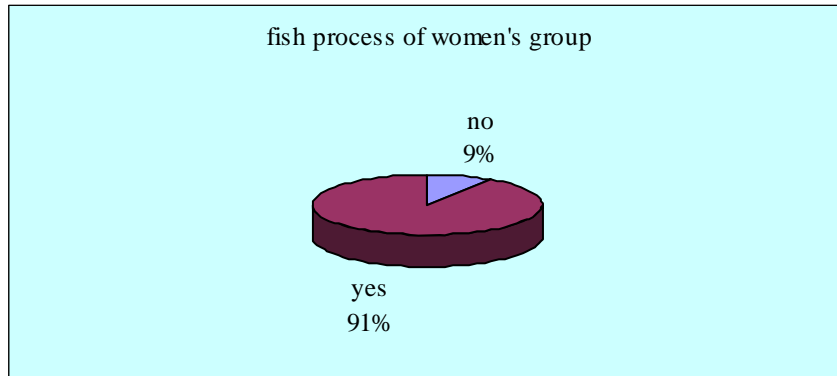


Fig.25 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's realization of the fish processing activity of the women's group

Fig. 26 shows the status of Council responding to the revolving loan activity. This figure shows that 18% of the council understood the activity as one activity of the LBCRM project; 46% answered that the revolving loan activity was not implemented in the LBCRM project; 36% did not answer the questionnaire.

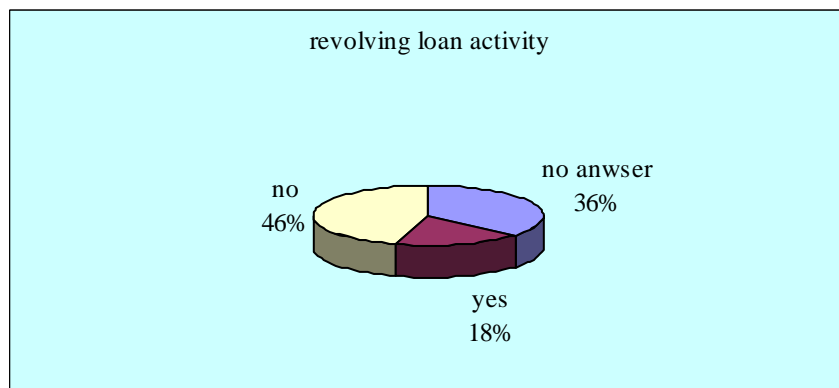


Fig.26 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's recognition of the revolving loan activity

Fig. 27 indicates the Council realizes the closed season for spawning season. High number of the Council is amounted to 82% of the total affirmed the closed season for spawning season as an activity of the LBCRM project. Other 18% of the total replies this activity is not a component of the LBCRM project.

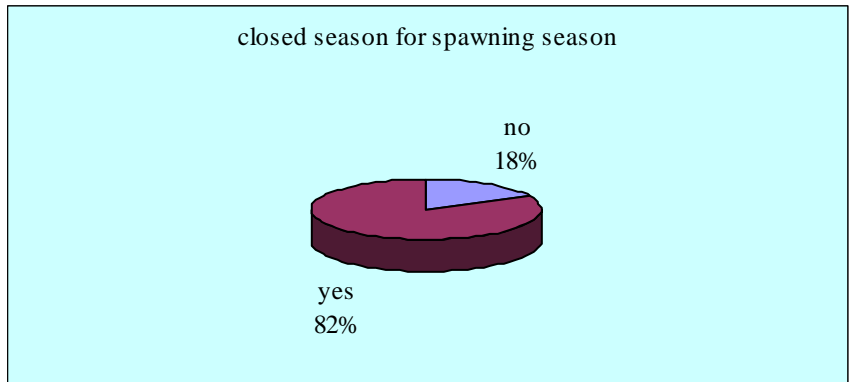


Fig. 27 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's realization of the coastal season for spawning season

Fig.28 illustrates the Council discernment of the village fund group. The figure reveals that 55% of the total Council understands the village fund group handled by the LBCRM project; 45% knew that the village fund group was not established by the LBCRM project.

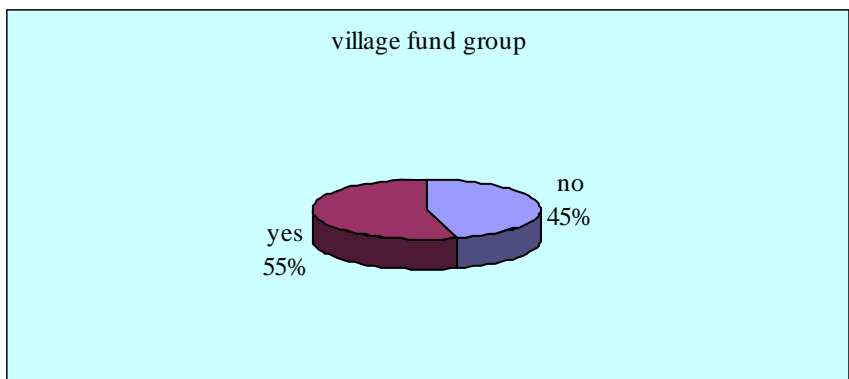


Fig.28 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's discernment of the village group

The results of the survey, as shown in Figs. 19-25, show the positive implication of the Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in community development and resource management. However, Figs.26-28, show that the Ao.Bo.To. Council did not even identify clearly the source of the activities, but the Council knew every activity implemented in its community.

The opinion of the Ao.Bo.To. Council on the LBCRM project

The project staff are eagerly to know how the Ao.Bo.To. Council was thinking about the LBCRM project implementation. Fig. 29 indicates the result of the Council's evaluation on the project implementation - 73% of the Council regarded the project was excellent, 18% good and 9% poor.

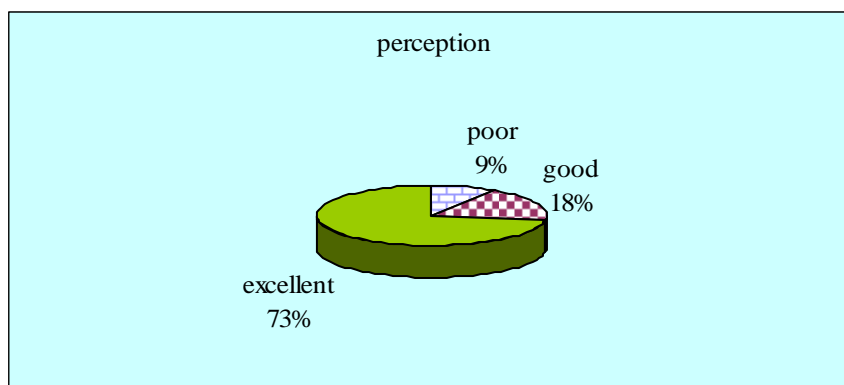


Fig. 29 The Ao.Bo.To. Council's evaluation on the LBCRM project implementation

The Ao.Bo.To. Council gave more explanation on each level of their opinions on the project implementation as shown in Table 4, which contains reasons for their evaluation of the project as excellent, good and poor.

Table 4 The Council's evaluation and explanation on the LBCRM project implementation

Excellent	Good	Poor
1. help to increase of local people aware of wise use of coastal resources		1. an inactive local people's group caused the collapse of the coastal resource management.
2. enhance the abundance of the coastal resources.		-
3. promote local people's participation in coastal resource management		-
4. educate local people to continue and progress coastal resource conservation and management		-
5. instruct local people to follow regulations or rules on coastal resource management		-

Source: the result of the survey

At the excellent and good rankings, the Ao.Bo.To. Council gave five reasons. The Council considered that the project helped increasing local people to be aware of wise use of coastal resources. The Council added more reason that the project also enhances the abundance of the coastal resources. The project helped promoting local participation in coastal resource management. Furthermore, the Council appreciated that the project provided a mechanism to educate local people to make continuous progress in coastal resource conservation and management. The last reason was that the project was useful to instruct local people to follow regulations or rules on coastal resource management. However, 9% of the council considered that the project might not exist if the local people's group was inactive to make progress in the coastal resource management.

The future plan after the termination of the LBCRM project

The Ao.Bo.To. Council is a key and leading body to take responsibility in progressing the coastal resource management project. The Council proposed its future plan, as shown in Table 5, to be implemented for the coastal resource management after the project terminates in December, 2006.

Table 5 The Future plan proposed by the Ao.Bo.To. Council after the LBCRM project termination

Development work	Extension work
1. contribute to local people' s group establishment and institution	1. arrange frequent meetings in the community to disseminate information concerned community development and coastal resource management
2. regulate community rules for controlling fishing operation in the community	2. promote local people to participate in coastal resource management
3. seek budget and financial support to progress the coastal resource management	-
4. allocate budget to develop local people's group institution	-
5. require technical assistance and consultation from higher level governmental agencies	-
6. establish a voluntary patrol unit to monitor and watch dog on illegal fishing in the coastal zone of the community	-

Source: the result of the survey

To implement the development work, the Ao.Bo.To. Council plans to work on six fundamental items - first, to contribute to local people's group establishment and institution; second, to regulate community rules for controlling fishing operation in the community; third, to seek budget and financial support to progress the coastal resource management; fourth, to allocate budget to develop local people's group institution; fifth, to acquire technical assistance and consultation from higher level governmental agencies. Finally, the Ao.Bo.To. Council plans to establish a voluntary patrol unit to monitor and watchdog illegal fishing in the coastal zone of the community. The Council also wishes to set up a future plan mainly concerning extension work with particular focus on information dissemination and promotion of local people's participation in coastal resource management.

Conclusions:

The Pakklong sub-district administrative organization (Ao.Bo.To.) Council was the second one elected after the termination of the first Ao.Bo.To. Council 1997-2001. The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council tried hard to practice in developing and managing its owned community. The Ao.Bo.To. Council took responsibility based on the mandate of the Ao.Bo.To. Act, 1994. The Ao.Bo.To. Council has to formulate a community development plan by itself. Moreover, it has to collect, manage and allocate all revenue and financial support which are important source of budget for its owned needs.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council placed the top four activities as priority under the community development plan. The Ao.Bo.To. Council put the infrastructure development activity as the first priority among nine activities; the educational development at the second priority; the people's skill and job development activity at third priority; the people's group development on the fourth priority; the environment and resource management activity at fifth ranked priority. This might mean that the Ao.Bo.To. Council placed the local people and community welfare at the center of the community development plan.

The mandate of the Ao.Bo.To. Act, 1994 assigned that the Ao.Bo.To. Council had to take responsibility as the project implementing body. It has to generally adopt coastal resource management project formulated by the central government and higher ranking offices. The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council adopted the five-year collaborative project, namely the locally based coastal resource management project in Pathew District, Chumphon Province. The Department of Fisheries and SEAFDEC/TD were the leading agencies to implement the project. However, the Ao.Bo.To. Council consists of two groups. One group amounted to 72% of the Council said that they understood the rationale of the project implementation. This group clearly explained the rationale of the project regarding issues on resource decline, resource conservation and management, training course for community people to be resource manager and the lack of official concerned in management. Other group amounted to 28% of the Council said that they did not know the rationale of the project implementation.

The locally based coastal resource management project composed of six main activities. These activities were instrumental to approach working with the Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council and the frequency of the Ao.Bo.To. Council's participation in the six activities was clarified. It shows that more than 64% of the Council sometimes participated in the project activities. The Ao.Bo.To. Council satisfied with the project. The Ao.Bo.To. Council numbered 73%, 18% and 9% considered that the project was excellent, good and poor, respectively. The Ao.Bo.To. Council, who ranked the project at excellent and good levels, described their supportive reasons. The Ao.Bo.To. Council said that the project was a tool to help local people to increase their awareness of proper use of coastal resources. In addition, the Ao.Bo.To. Council cited the project helped to promote local people's participation in coastal resource management.

The Pakklong Ao.Bo.To. Council has its own future plan to implement the coastal resource management after the project terminated in December, 2006. The Ao.Bo.To. Council set up two main works. One work places a great emphasis on the development for local people and coastal resource management. The other focuses on the extension work to disseminate information concerning community development and coastal resource management to local people.

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Annex -1

The questionnaire on the evaluation of the sub-district administrative organization member's common understanding on the locally based coastal resource management project in Pathew District, Chumphon Province

1. Please make priority on the importance of the sub-district administrative organization member's duty and responsibility
 - provide basic infrastructure likes village road, water pipeline, electricity
 - promote a capacity building of local residence in the community likes sport
 - pay much attention on social problems likes crimination, drug.
 - provide sanitary welfare for the community
 - develop tourism
 - develop local people's skill on fisheries and agriculture
 - establish local people's group working on business basis and participation in coastal resource management
2. Who does implement the locally based coastal resource management project?
3. Do you know why the locally based coastal resource management project is implemented?
4. What is activity of the locally based coastal resource management project and how do you participate in the project's activity?

Frequency of local people's participation in the project's activity	Every time	Sometimes	Never
Base line survey on fishers' socio-economic status and environment			
Explain and disseminate knowledge on coastal resource management			
Promote local business such fish processing product produced by the women's group			
Arrange training course			
Participate in creating printed matter likes poster, pamphlet to promote the project			
Fish releasing			
Revolving loan			

5. What activity has been promoted or contributed by the locally based coastal resource management project?
 - Fish processing product produced by women's group
 - Coastal zone demarcation marked from the Bangbird Mt. to Khao Bangyai Mt.
 - Closed areas for spawning season
 - Village fund group
 - An approval on aquaculture zone management for fish cage and shellfish cultures
 - The enlargement of crab trap's bottom net mesh size
6. How do think about the locally based coastal resource management project?
7. How do know about the progress work of the locally based coastal resource management project and from where?

8. How do you prepare if the Pakklong Sub-district Administrative Organization has to take responsibility to manage and participate in coastal resource management coordinated with local people after the project terminated?