

Household Livelihood Survey of Coastal Fishing Communities in Thailand

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Introduction

The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) start a cooperative research project named “Coastal capability enhancement in Southeast Asia (CA)” in corporation with the SEAFDEC, EMDEC, Kasetsart University, and other related institutions/organizations. The CA Project composes of 6 components to study and develop the concept on “Area Capability” that can show how the ecosystem health can be harmonized with the welfare of the people who are directly and indirectly depend on the coastal fisheries resources. The household livelihood survey in coastal area is one part of the CA Project. This survey was therefore conducted in order to collect the baseline information of the fishing communities as well as to identify the status and structure of household livelihood in coastal area of Thailand. The sites of the survey are Rayong, Prachuap Khiri Khan and Chumphon Provinces. The household survey started from 2013 until 2014 by using the questionnaire that was developed and agreed by Socio-economic Section of SEAFDEC and RIHN. In 2015, social team is going to analyze the fishing household datasets.

Objectives;

1. To collect data and information for understanding the household livelihood of coastal fishing communities aspects; and
2. To identify the structures/aspects of fishers’ household livelihood in coastal area of Thailand.

Methodology

1. Develop a questionnaire;
2. Define the sample size;
3. Collect the data by using questionnaire in Rayong, Prachuap Khiri Khan and Chumphon Province;
4. Analyze the data collected by using Excel and R Program; and
5. Publication: academic paper, book or manual of data collection and evaluation.

Result

During 2013 - 2014, social team started to collect data and information in Rayong, Prachuap Khiri Khan and Chumphon Province by using the secondary data and questionnaire including fishing, aquaculture, agriculture, marketing, social capital, fisheries management, religion, general public view of life and general information by focusing on fishing groups, as well as the middlemen also were interviewed to find out the marine product distributions.

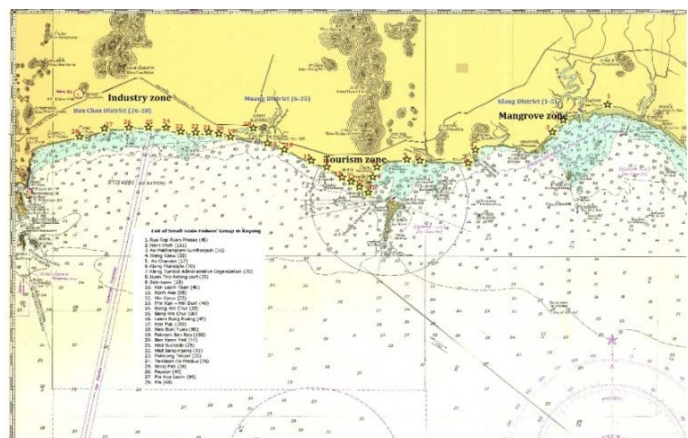


Fig. 1 Location of small-scale fishers group at Rayong Province

In Rayong Province, social team finished data collection with 297 samples in 28 coastal fishers' group (1,458 of total small-scale fishermen). There were three zones of coastal area based on area utilization namely; **industry zone**, **tourism zone** and **natural zone (mangrove area)**, as shown at *Fig. 1*.

For the marine products caught by fishers, it is supplied to not only the local market for a tourist and the local people but also urban market. It means the product is supplied for variety demands of local and national consumers (such as Chiang Mai Japanese Restaurant).

In Southern part of Thailand, The survey conducted at Prachuap Khiri Khan and Chumphon Province (*Fig. 2*), we plan to collect 274 samples of 14 fisheries communities, base on the number of small-scale fishing gear which registration with Fisheries Provincial. 222 samples have collected and remaining 55 samples which we try to finished in December 2014.

In 2015, Social team will be data analysis by using Excel and R Program, and draft the report, book or manual of data collection and evaluation for publication.

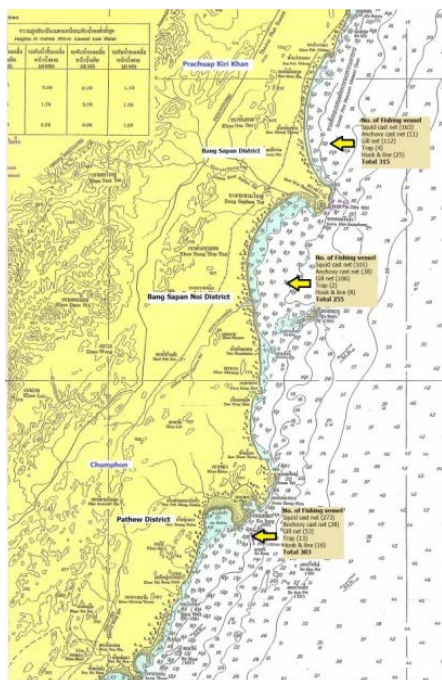


Fig. 2 Location of small-scale fishers, Number of small-scale fishing gear at 1)Pathew District, Chumphon Province, 2)Bang Sapan, and 3)Bang Sapan Noi Districts, Prachuap Khiri Khan Province

Conclusion

The household survey is fundamental information that can provide the suitable way for understanding the structures or aspects of the fishers' household livelihood who live along the coastal area. The outcome from this survey will be combined with other 5 components of Coastal capability enhancement in Southeast Asia Project to develop the "Area Capability Model" for harmonizing the biodiversity and productivity to achieve constructive linkage between local communities and ecosystems in coastal area of Thailand. Moreover, the data is also used full for the project planning and implementation in the future.

References

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