

**Integration Research Program for Developing Community  
Sufficiency Economy of Learning Center, Ban Butai, Bauyai  
District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province**

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— *Review of* —  
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### **ABSTRACT**

The research was objected to 1) study the continuity of the Community Sufficiency economy Learning Center management at Ban Butai for local scholars and networks by the participation action research 2) develop the community learning center in supporting information system, the management, the service and the officials, under the sufficiency economy philosophy. The result was found that

1). The community at Ban Buthai Learning Center can develop the knowledge in the evaluation analysis, the geographic information system and the training service system. 2) There was a strengthening in management efficiency in Ban Butai community learning center as a source of the other learning center networks in local scholars, local leaders and people who began to apply the sufficiency economy philosophy to their lives. And 3) The center was a model of the knowledge usage, the operation, the network and the integration of the development networks.

### **Keywords**

Developing Community, Sufficiency economy, Learning Center

### **1. Introduction**

In development of the quality of life according to the philosophy of sufficiency economy, the main purpose is to build the knowledge and understanding about the sufficiency. Strategies for driving sufficiency economy will be conducted explicitly in stage. The scope of this work contains four parts including the network of learning sufficiency economy, academic development and research, curriculum and learning process development, as well as public relations.

Ban Butai Community, Huay Yang Sub-district, Bauyai District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province is a community that has learned to develop themselves as the learning center of sufficient economy. This community has been successful on implementation of both individual and household levels of community members according to the philosophy of sufficiency economy.

Current environmental activities of Ban Butai learning center includes rice bank, garbage bank, candy making, fertilizer producing, fish raising, basketry, and silk weaving. The knowledge about activity development is an important factor to explain cognition in philosophy, especially in terms of knowledge and virtue that have been recorded and analyzed with honesty and integrity. This knowledge leads to manage learning with reasonableness, moderation, and self-immunity. Research mechanism on the basis of participation action and development partnership are essential on the application of various methods and options under the collaboration of the parties. Also, local scholars and community leaders are all experienced in operating activities to better learning. But when reviewing and self-searching of the community, it must be stopped to thinking, reviewing, and learning with evaluation process oriented learning system that must be integrated researchers from different institutions, research associate at both public and private sectors leading to development. The appropriate model for sustainable development and quality of life of Ban Butai community and other community that continue using services should be improved.

## **2. Objectives**

1. To study, analyze, expand, and create continuity in the management of Ban Butai learning center of sufficiency economy with research process focusing on the participation.

2. To study and develop the learning center in planning the learning center's development, building data systems, supporting their operations, management, services, and the development of the learning center. Officials can learn and have self-reliance on the concept of sufficiency economy.

## **3. Materials and Method**

### **3.1 Study Area**

Ban Butai Community, Huay Yang Sub-district, Bauyai District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province

### **3.2 Data and Processing**

This project was consisted of integrating the activities performed by the research methodology. The guidelines are followed.

1. The planning before the monthly cooperating research activities, before attending the workshop and review lessons after the operation and implementation plan for the next stage, respectively.

2. Training missions to prepare the researchers for the research projects.
3. Coordination action and field study of the researchers.
4. Setting up the community for tracking, regulating, controlling, and making decisions in the management of research projects.

Implementation plans are

1). The researchers study, understand, and communicate with the target group by building relationships with community, surveying community, and preparation of the educational community and network cooperation.

Study process by understanding and communicating with target group will use survey research to collect primary data through questionnaire of community members and learning centers in the management of operations to be analyzed as the basic data for support research projects.

2). Implementation research is the study and analysis of community issues, the appropriate consideration, the determination of project plans and management, and program practices.

- Study and analysis of learning center issues will use data collection tool consisted of interviews, observation, focus group discussion to analyze and synthesize the current state of content, problems, and guides the development of research projects .

- Considering and determining the appropriate project plan and management of the learning center by using data collection tool from brainstorming model in the data recovery stage.

- The implementation of the project of the Learning Center by using data collection tool from the lessons staging form during operations in research activities.

3). Monitoring and evaluating the projects consists of lessons summarizing workshop during and after operating in research activities, checking accuracy, reporting the findings through data recovery stage, suggestions for improvement and development together and preparation of research reports.

#### **4. Results and Discussion**

Ban Butai, Moo 8, Huay Yang Sub-district, Nakhon Ratchasima Province covers an area of 1,500 acres upland. The soil is sandy clay having much amount of groundwater which can be used for utilizing. Almost all areas are used for farming. Weather is generally hot and dry weather.

##### **4.1 Community Learning Center of Ban Butai**

Community Learning Center of Ban Butai is established in 2007 by the Community Development Department, Ministry of Interior. The missions of the Community Learning Center of Ban Butai are as follows.

- Source of learning activities and knowledge of the community
- Source of culture continuing, local knowledge and various sources of knowledge
- Center of data and information storage, collection, and services.

- Center of coordination and integrated working between the public sector, including leadership, group/corporate, network, and private sector partner.

Community Learning Center of Ban Butai is also a place of learning exchange by setting up the stage for the learning activities within the community. These activities include 1). fund 2). saving group for production 3). rice bank fund 4). garbage fund 5). silk weaving group 6). candy making group 7). village welfare assistance center fund 8). village cremation fund 9). fertilizer group 10). fish raising group 11). Miyazawa Fund 12). weaving group 13). SML cattle group 14). water supply group 15). mother of earth fund 16) welfare fund.

4.2 Results of Ban Butai community development as community of economic self-sufficiency are followed.

#### 4.2.1 Decreasing household expenditure

1) Household gardened by using the space around the house for planting vegetable such as lettuce, cilantro, swamp morning glory, cabbage, lemongrass, and galangal etc. with a total of 85 households from 85 households of all households (representing 100 %).

2) Household had non-vices such as reducing, abandoning, and quitting vices, and the project of "temple of free alcohols" which reduced alcohols in religious traditions, by a total of 70 households from 85 households of all households (representing 59 %).

#### 4.2.2. Increasing of income

1) Household had a second career such as cattle ranching, employment, cassava farming, sugar cane farming and vegetable gardening, trading, and silk weaving, etc. by a total of 85 households out of 85 households of all households (representing 100 %)

2) Household used of appropriate technologies, such as bio-organic fertilizer utilization instead of chemical fertilizers, plowing rice straw, mixed farming, and integrated farming without pesticides, etc. by 78 of 85 households of all households (representing 66.33 %).

#### 4.2.3. Economy

Household had savings, such as the establishment of savings groups to manufacturing, daily one Baht fund, and village fund, by 83 households out of 85 households (Representing 70 %).

#### 4.2.4 Learning

1) The community inherited and used folk wisdom such as folk singing, weaving, basketry, blessing ceremony priest, holy water priest, mixed farming and herbal doctor, etc., and having networks of learning and exchange of experience and learning networks in the level of village, sub-district and district.

2) Households learned the philosophy of sufficiency economy in everyday life, such as learning how to make liquid dishwashing soap, shampoo, conditioner detergents, household accounting and making organic fertilizer.

#### 4.2.5 The conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

1) Community used sustainable raw materials in common occupations, such as participating in environmental conservation one time per month, establishing garbage bank, etc., which are attended by 85 households out of 85 households (or 100 %).

2) Community planted a community garden such as trees were planted four times a year in the area of 3 hectares of community forest villages and also on farmland and plantation of the local people.

#### 4.2.6 The generosity of each other.

1) Community assisted the poor, disadvantaged people and people who suffered from problems such as funds of village and savings groups to manufacturing, also granted scholarships to poor children and gave bags to seniors, and donated subsistence allowance to the elderly and disabled people aged over 60 years old. And also the village welfare assistance center was created to help people when in trouble by a total of 85 households out of 85 households (or 100%) of people / disadvantaged people / person who has the problem.

2) Community concerned on "unity" like some cleaning around the village, roads are repaired, security guard on duty, home police established.

People in the village are mostly Buddhists. There are some Christians. Common activities included making a merit and giving food to the monks in various important events, going to the temple on Buddhist holy day, listening to the sermons, respect for salutes, not hurting others, love and harmony with each other at least 5 times / year, and behaving with Thai culture, traditions and manners such as do not tell a lie, non-detachable misconduct proceed, not steal, and not insult the inferior. People have a confidence in the philosophy of sufficiency economy and understand that the economic self-sufficiency is modesty, a walk in the middle, not too much, not too little and involve with reasonable mind, immune knowledge. Finally, moral lifestyle includes vegetables gardening, dishwashing liquid and shampoo making, fish farming in cement pond, household accounting, savings promotion, and silk weaving group and waste bank establishing and so on.

#### 4.3 Factors that lead to successful community development.

4.3.1. Leaders have community harmony, not in conflict with a rational consensus, mutual recognition, sacrifice, moral, and democracy.

4.3.2. Villagers participate in collaborative efforts with love and cherish the unity of the various groups in the community.

4.3.3. Units support from external sectors including 1) District Community Development office supports the learning process in the community as well as coordinate and provide guidance in the preparation of village fund management data, provides knowledge of sufficiency economy and trains to the other knowledge, 2) Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives promotes the implementation scheme of Baht per day, 3) non-formal and informal education with

replete household project promotes non-formal education and vocational training, 4) Sub-district Administrative Organization support budget, 5) District livestock office provides vaccinations to pets, 6) District Agricultural Extension Office promotes the cultivation of vegetables, using compost fertilizers, 7) District Fisheries Office supports in terms of fish species, food processing from fish, 8) District Administration supports projects of SML, mother of earth, and wellbeing strategy, 9) Social Development Center Nakhon Ratchasima promotes savings, and 10) Non-governmental organization (NGO) supports community plan and budget.

Discussion of the study and data analysis is descriptive to describe the purpose of the research for studying, analyzing, evaluating, leveraging, extending, and creating continuity in the management of learning center prototype by learning together with the common folk and the network in view of the philosophy of Sufficiency Economy 3 Rings 2 conditions with the integrated research and development process focused on engaging diversely. The research conducted to develop Community Learning Center of Ban Butai in planning of the Learning Center development, building data systems to support their operations, managements, services and developing to be learning center. In addition, personnel can learn self-reliance on the concept of sufficiency economy. Results from the previous development will confirm the analysis of this research. Although Ban Butai community is a good model and has had success in the past, pursuit of development approach for sustainable future is needed to support the external changing of unclearly expectation. It will prepare the appropriate immune system for maintaining the model community of sufficiency economy, and be the educational example and the further development of other learning centers.

Results of the research implementation not only used to develop the overall development of Ban Butai community, it also can be used to set up guidelines for developing a learning center. The basic development plan had emerged to meet the information systems developing to support their operations, management, services that take advantage of the research and preparation of self-reliance as well as the learning and development to strengthen the learning personnel for self-reliance on the concept of sufficiency economy. It can be the organization of learning on the basis of each group personnel directors. They have a learning experience and a common practice in all aspects of research projects gaining the learning skills. Therefore, they can perform manually and continues with the development network of participants. In particular, personnel who have the main basis of the philosophy of economic sufficiency can perform with a commitment unconsciously to identify the features and conditions clearly. However, they learned to distinguish it during research satisfyingly and believe that it will be useful to have a profound act conveying to farmers clearer than ever resulting in the learning center.

## **5. Conclusion**

Because Ban Butai is a village of sufficiency economy, the learning center is the whole village and distributes resources to the various groups in the village. Village hall is the center point of learning. Ban Butai community has been developed of learning from the agricultural occupation of a farmer experiencing the crisis of life and high cost of investing in low-yield agriculture. The headman of the village is a leader of learning from the crisis. It strengthened to life with a combination of farming by using the wisdom and principles to life in the form of self-sufficiency. This action led to the establishment of a network of groups and communities to develop self-reliance, and increase in the acceptance and support of the implementation of the learning center development which giving services to the participants continuously. In addition, other community agencies requested to observe or participate in learning of Ban Butai community activity unceasingly.

Management and operation data of Ban Butai Learning Center are summarized according to the philosophy dimension of sufficiency economy in developing a learning center with moderate and appropriate level. From the use of the occupational space as a learning center to reduce some space without suffering from the loss of residential and farming areas, it is contributed to the reason in the appropriate level with the data, the rational analysis, and the impact prediction. This helps making the decision to accept or refuse the collaborating from outside vigorously, not misguide or greedy, due to being ready for facing impact, and changing of various basic features. The basic property of knowledge pursuit is not sufficient to sustainability. Therefore, learning improvement of the Learning Center is a major factor in creating the conditions strengthened to hold the Learning Center of Sufficiency Economy. The Center also recognized of merits, honesty, tolerance, diligence, wisdom in the management and operation of the Learning Center of members of Ban Butai community.

Learning center development to a learning organization is assessed from 11 components;

1) The suitable structure. Development of management structure of learning center which has been adjusted is still having a short command, although level and group management increase, it is organized effectively and promotes the personal development of each function better.

2) There is a culture of learning within the organization. The research is designed to create a wide range of participation and encourage the community to participate in the learning process of research in the context of their own operations. Learning within the organization is the basis of a common set of guidelines for facts and common development.

3) Empowerment to members. Activities to promote learning and developing themselves will operate additional power as a part of the introduction to the achievement of organizational development according to learning organization approach.

4) The environment monitoring. Environment analysis of Learning Management Center is a part of the research to support the development of community to be learning center corresponding to this condition as well.

5) The creation of knowledge. The activities of the research is focused on engaging approach to support the knowledge creative between the community and researchers as well as those interested in learning from the research.

6) The technology to support learning. Learning Center provides a computer and the Internet for communication and data collection by personnel who having knowledge of computers for supporting routine works and extending the developed results.

7) Focusing on quality. The approval of research gives fashionable and reliable information with development approach of service of learning center as well as knowledge and academic skills. The members of each group can learn to next step development.

8) Emphasizing on strategies. Environmental analysis of Ban Butai Learning Center has been using the strategic idea supporting seamlessly with the development vision of Learning Center.

9) Providing the supporting environment. Research process of participation action is a key element of the foundation to create an atmosphere that supports learning during the implementation of the regular activities of the Center and the way of being farmer.

10) Working as a team and network. Officers and directors have cooperated for long time and support the cooperation between network parallel to internal activities.

11) Members having a shared vision. The members of learning center are supported to have the opportunity to learn, synthesize data, and review goals together.

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