

FACTSHEET

Project No: THA/MFFSGF/09/05

Project Title: Raising Awareness and Promoting Local Knowledge in Coastal Resource Management with People's Participation

Overview

Implementing NGO/CBO: Andaman Project for Participatory Restoration of Natural Resources (ARR) Operational since 1995, ARR aims at promoting sectoral participation to address issues threatening fishing communities and coastal resources by focusing on building capacity of communities through learning and practicing process and on collaboration with both public and private sectors to ensure participation of coastal communities in integrated coastal management.

Location of project: Five coastal villages around lower part of Phangnga Bay in Muang District, Phangnga province with specific ecosystems interconnected by four creeks. The location was regarded as one of the richest spot in the countries, with seagrass and coral reef. There are several endangered species depending upon these habitats.

Target Population: 290 from the entire 1,327 households directly participated in the project majority of which earn their living through small scale fishery and depend upon the provisions of marine and coastal ecosystems. Per capita income is THB: 60,000.

Long-term objectives to support national coastal resources policy: To promote learning process by compiling and upgrading local knowledge base on conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources to be referred to in development planning and evaluation.

MFF SGF approved budget: Baht 377,000; US\$ 11,065.45

Non-MFF resources: Baht 936,437 from major stakeholders as follows:

Sources	In cash	In kind
Andaman Project for Participatory Restoration of Natural Resources	517,737	418,700
Andaman Foundation		
Restoration Project for Small-Scale Fishery in Andaman Coast		
Communities		
Total (Baht)	517,737	418,700

Main Activities	Main Anticipated Result
1. Enhancing community learning and knowledge management of mangrove and coastal resources 2. Strengthening participatory coastal resources management 3. Launching the publications and media for sharing knowledge and experiences	1. Emergence of cooperation among various relevant sectors 2. Evinced participation from various groups within project locations to collectively formulate effective action plans by applying local experience 3. Appropriate dissemination of project experience to other communities and modification for use within target communities 4. Witnessed rehabilitated mangrove, increase of water species and community income Indicators: 1. Approximately 715 ha of mangrove being clearly demarcated and under participatory management 2. Dissemination materials being used in community learning centres and schools

Major stakeholders:

1. Department of Marine and Coastal Resources / Mangrove Management Project
2. Andaman Foundation
3. Restoration Project for Small-Scale Fishery in Andaman Coast

Implementation Report

I. Progress report (Received: March 24, 2010, four -page write-up and six photos)

Undertaken activities	Result and indicators
1. Enhancing community learning and knowledge management of mangrove and coastal resources 2. Strengthening participatory coastal resources management 3. Launching the publications and media for sharing knowledge and experiences	1. Increased awareness ,capacity and mutual understanding of participants re: local knowledge & practice on natural resources management, and current situation & status of local environment 2. Initiated cooperation in natural resources and environment management 3. Evinced more systematic analysis among youth group with initiative and goal to contribute to community development 4. Compilation of resources inventory and status of exploitation, with maps and successive plan for sustainable management 5. Emergence of dissemination board telling community context for easy communication with outsiders 6. Evinced holistic management of the project , i.e. between project management staff and community members

Project communication: The project was made more visible by notification to participants about MFF SGF and through www.wetlandthai.org

Experience, lessons Learnt, problem and issue:

The project referred to the followings:

1. There were some community members who were not well aware of project activities which required additional discourse.
2. Some activities was planned to take longer time and was not consistent with community availability. Adjustment was thus required to ensure optimal result.
3. Holistic management was not always easy since concerned public agencies did not possess detailed community data & information. There were discussions to address this issue which appeared now on the right step.

Project Expense: The project reported the expense of THB: 113,147 out of the first disbursement of THB: 113,100.





II. Monitoring Visit (January 20, 2011)

At Baan (village) Koh Kham, one of five target communities surrounded by land forest of coconut, para-rubber, etc, on one side, and coastal ecosystems of mangrove on the other, the visiting team interacted with about 20 project leaders representing project members from other target villages. The leader comprised both man and woman. One youth member was seen attentive and active in the discussion.

Four project leaders took turn to explain environment development backgrounds and progress of activities in their own location. It was found that nearly all location were rated as fairly successful, after a few years under CHARM and under this MFF intervention. Undertaken activities included setting up a volunteer group to conserve coastal resources, checking the expansion of shrimp farms, declaring seven plots of mangrove as community forests, establishing mangrove learning centres, etc. One community was awarded “Forest Protection Flag” from Her Majesty the Queen. In the briefing, every leaders displayed capacity to use maps and charts in an orderly manner.

The project had successfully involved women’s group in conservation activities. During the interaction, woman leader and member of youth group displayed some result of their work on making use of local natural resources to reduce their daily expense.

While mangroves of total area more than 200 ha in one village had been recognized by the authority as community forest, the ones in other four villages were still awaiting such recognition. The project had reached out to other networks in Phuket, Phangnga and Krabi Province and would plan to cover as far as Ranong Province.



Baan (village) Koh Kham is a Muslim village between mangrove and landed forest. Looming in the background is one plot of community forest.



One of community elders who experience ecosystems degradation during the past decades related the development history of the his villages using the map and chart as shown. His village currently takes care of about 200 ha of mangrove.



Representatives of women's group in each participating village proudly presented their product made from natural resources of their protection. Sets of photos on the wall depict undertaken activities and respective results of each project location.



One woman leader and a member of youth group explain her product made from a species in mangrove. The product is used as shampoo.



Mangroves at both sides of the canal in Baan Koh Kham are established as community forest. The conservation effort bear its fruits. Biological diversity is rehabilitated making aqua culture of community more fruitful.

III. Final Report (March 18, 2011)

Date of Participatory Evaluation	10-11 August 2010		
Number of Beneficiaries/ Participating personnel	Women:	150	
	Men:	200	
	Children:	50	
Number of persons trained/ attending seminars, joining study tours	Women:	115	
	Men:	240	
	Children:	25	
Expense	Amount received from MFF SGF (2 disbursements): THB: 339,300		
	Total amount spent out of MFF SGF budget: THB: 377,160		
	Balance: THB : (-37,860)		
	Amount authorized for the final payment: THB: 37,700		
	Amount of co-financing as follows:		
	Sources	In cash, THB	In kind, THB
	Community	-	183,900
	Andaman Project for Participatory Restoration of Natural Resources (ARR)	150,507	602,030
	Total	150,507	785,930

Activities carried out	Results and Indicators
1. Enhancing community learning and knowledge management of mangrove and coastal resources 2. Strengthening participatory coastal resources management 3. Launching the publications and media for sharing knowledge and experiences	1. Increased capacity, awareness, and cooperation among participating communities witnessed through ability to articulate environmental and livelihood concerns and apply what being learnt in specific context 2. Youth group displaying increased capacity in planning future activities 3. Compiled primary data & information on resources and their consumption with maps 4. Emergence of dissemination materials and media containing data & information, history, community livelihood, etc, 5. Established two community learning centres 6. Witnessed rehabilitated mangrove, increase of water species and community income

Project Communication:

The project has been made more visible through project activities and produced dissemination & media.

Plans and Activities for Sustainability:

The project would keep on with activities, establish more community learning centres, working group of the network at provincial level, coastal resources conservation, especially degraded mangrove.

Experience , Lessons Learnt , Problems and Issues:

1. The project was not able to reach out to all groups in project location resulting in additional time and effort to include them in project activities for optimal project result.
2. Planning activities must be consistent with availability of target population. There were several activities being carried out during nighttime.
3. Cooperation among various donors/agencies prior to launching projects was a “must” if smooth operation and optimal results were to be expected.