

FACTSHEET

Project No: THA/MFFSGF/08/05

Project Title: Building Community Network for Management of Mangrove and Coastal Resources

Overview

Implementing NGO/CBO: Ao Phang-nga Coastal Fishing Community Food Security Project: Established in 2000 by local developers and educated youth groups in locality with aims to promote CBOs' participation in management of coastal resources, gender roles and economical self-reliance

Location of project: 19 communities in Phuket and Phang-nga Province situated mostly in middle portion of Phang-nga Bay who earn living through para rubber plantation, small-scale fishery, and general services in tourist industry.

Target Population: 600 out of 1,257 households in the project location

Long-term objectives to support national coastal resources policy: The project aims to rehabilitate and protect mangrove and coastal resources with applied participatory approaches from all sectors in society including promotion of community resources mobilization which contribute to supporting the 3 actions plans of MFF and national policy on marine and coastal resources

MFF SGF approved budget: Baht: 326,400 (งบจากกองทุนป่าชายเลนเพื่ออนาคต)

Non-MFF resources (งบสมทบจากแหล่งอื่น): Baht: 997,600 from major stakeholders as follows:

From (งบจาก):	In cash (เงินสด)	In kind (แรงงาน สิ่งของ เครื่องใช้ ที่ดิน ฯลฯ)
Communities	62,600	905,000
Mangrove Management Unit 22 in Phang-nga Province	-	30,000
Total	62,600	935,000

Main Activities: (กิจกรรม)	Main Anticipated Result: (ผลที่คาดว่าจะได้รับ)
1. Conducting capacity building activities on community network and mangrove and coastal resources management (กิจกรรม 1) 2. Conducting open forum to formulate action plans of the network (กิจกรรม 2) 3. Launching campaigns on community resources mobilization (กิจกรรม 3) 4. Launching re-forestation activities (กิจกรรม 4) 5. Producing dissemination materials (กิจกรรม 5)	1. Emergence of one coordinating network to manage mangrove and coastal resources with clear work plan and mechanism for operation 2. At least 10 communities being able to mobilize resources and establish an initial fund of at least THB: 50,000 3. Additional , at least, 3,000 mangroves thriving in project location 4. Increased understanding on coastal resources management among middle-class population in Phuket Province witnessed by at least 200 participants of events organized by the network

Major stakeholders:

1. Tambol Administrative Organizations in project location
2. Mangrove Management Unit 22 in Phang-nga Province
3. Mangrove and Coastal Resources Research & Development Institute (Andaman)
4. Phuket Provincial Administrative Organization
5. Phuket Artist Network

Implementation Report

I. Monitoring visit by the National Coordinator and NSC (August 28, 2009)

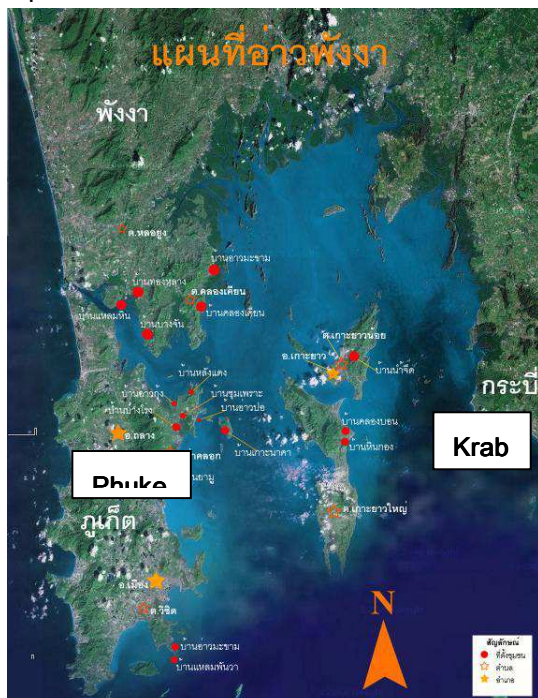
Findings and observation:

At a small public meeting place in Phang-nga Province's Baan (village) Laemhin of Tambol Loryong, one of the 19 participating villages, representatives of target population met with the visiting team sharing status of mangrove and land use in Ao (Bay) Phang-nga. About 85 % practicing Islam, the population earns their living through rubber plantation, small scale fishery and providing services to tourist sector. Based on the discussion and other evidence, institutional capacity of representatives were fairly remarkable with strengthened network, with environmental governance having been observed, to a certain degree, in the communities. Baan Laemhin Conservation Group, another network member, explained to the visiting team how the group managed to institutionally and legally secure about one acre of the beach and mangrove against private encroachment, with endorsement from civil society and the then governor of Phangnga Province. Similar result of activities was witnessed in a later meeting with representatives of Baan (village) Bangla, a network member in Phuket Province.

In term of environmental governance in coastal area, voices of communities are being heard publicly in both Phuket and Phang-nga Province. There were several cases where communities were able to establish community conservation area against unsuitable and mangrove -destroying infrastructure projects. These were attributed to both direct community involvement and influence of community good practice.

The visiting team was shown an excerpt from a local newspaper where one project leader gave an interview regarding complexity of mangrove conservation in Phuket Province. But the leader encouraged participation from all sectors to ensure food security of the province and ecological balance.

It is of utmost interesting to see how the 19 communities situated in coastal area of Phuket and Phang-nga Province as network members would join hands in advancing environmental governance in this coastal area. The visiting team, a few years back, had witness about 6 of these communities started working together as saving groups, then became closer after the Tsunami. Now, reaching out to 13 new communities would give some experience and lessons learnt. In fact, during the visit, representatives from these new communities had actively participated in the discussion.



After intervention of GEF SGP and MFF SGF, 19 coastal communities in Phangnga and Phuket have been reaching out to one another to ensure effective conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources in Phangnga Bay. These communities will share experience and put into practice both technically and institutionally.



A male network leader is relating a history of conservation group of Baan Laemhin and its forthcoming plan.



Men and women leaders are of equal numbers and working hands in hands. It seemed however, women leaders opened and talked more on hot issues the communities had been facing .



Some evinced result from the promotion of environmental governance in coastal area involved a legal measure to check illegal encroachment of mangrove area. The mangrove area seen had been destroyed by a private activity but was later reclaimed by the project with publicized endorsement by civil society on the signboard (right). In the background far away, congested landing port for yachts in Phuket area looms large.

II. Progress report (Received: 13 December 2009, three-page write-up)

Undertaken activities:	Result and indicators
<p>1. Conducting capacity building activities on community network and mangrove and coastal resources management through meeting by participatory brainstorming process to confirm consistencies of project implementation</p> <p>2. Launching re-forestation activities</p>	<p>1. Acquired confirmed integrated mangrove management plan with clearer activities as a main output of participation from 87 project members and one agreed-upon-plan for saving activities among 10 saving groups</p> <p>2. Increased institutional capacity of network members witnessed by ability to work with local government unit to check a less well planned infrastructure project in one location</p> <p>3. About 1,500 additional mangroves being added and thriving in Baan (village) Laemhin-making a community conserved area clearer</p> <p>4. About 200 ha- mangrove in Baan (village) Bangla being under close protection of project communities</p>

Project communication: The project disseminated mangrove protection plan of Baan Bangla Community through a magazine “ Documentary” , the October 2009 Issue.

Experience , lessons Learnt, problem and issue:

Project activities not only entail communities participation in mangrove protection but give opportunities for sharing experience in a variety of community contexts, leading to a close friendship and resulting in mutual moral support. As to planned activities, the communities agreed to postpone capacity building through study tour to 2010, to avoid a religious activity and give more time to three communities to deal with emerging issues.

Project Expense: The project reported the expense of THB: 115,650 out of the first disbursement of THB: 97,920.



Women's groups from target villages are seen actively participation in formulation and confirmation of plans for integrated management of their mangroves.



Nevertheless, men and youth's groups are playing equally important roles in conservation. Both traditional and modern events are used by the project to make its activities and goal more visible.



It would be fun for youth to plant mangrove in project location, demarcating their territories against would-be encroachers.



Of equal importance, project activities are made better understood among government officials. Project youth group shows one senior high-ranking provincial officer what they learn about their homeland during a visit to Phuket governor office.

III. Final Report (March 29, 2011)

Date of Participatory Evaluation	3 December 2010		
Number of Beneficiaries/ Participating personnel	Women:	1,500	
	Men:	1,200	
	Children:	1,800	
Number of persons trained/ attending seminars, joining study tours	Women:	167	
	Men:	132	
	Children:	204	
Expense	Amount received from MFF SGF (2 disbursements):THB: 293,760		
	Total amount spent out of MFF SGF budget: THB: 326,600		
	Balance: THB : (-32,840)		
	Amount authorized for the final payment: THB: 32,640		
	Amount of co-financing as follows:		
	Sources:	In cash, THB	In kind, THB
	Community & grantee	350,000	600,000
	Thai Health Promotion Foundation	400,000	-
	Total	750,000	600,000

Activities carried out	Results and Indicators
1. Conducting capacity building activities on community network and mangrove and coastal resources management 2. Conducting open forum to formulate action plans of the network 3. Launching campaigns on community resources mobilization 4. Launching re-forestation activities 5. Producing dissemination materials	1. Emergence of one coordinating network , as a mechanism, to manage mangrove and coastal resources with clear work plan for operation and annual event to commemorate mangrove protection on February 14 2. Formulation of action plan specifying strategies on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rehabilitation, surveillance , zoning, and species regeneration - involvement of youth group for wider learning and networking - empowerment of women's group focusing on local knowledge of food security vs. coastal management - empowerment of communities, e.g. training and study tours - sectoral networking 3. Established THB: 150,000 as community funds among 18 communities with 13 groups in operation 4. About 480-ha mangrove in three communities being under protection with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - additional 15,000 trees of mangrove - witnessed increased numbers of fishermen and returning threatened species - one demonstration plot for regeneration of "blue swimming crab" 5. Increased understanding on coastal resources management among middle-class population in Phuket Province witnessed by at least 5,000 participants of events organized by the network , where at least 600 applying for membership of the network

Plans and Activities for Sustainability:

There were two issues to ensure continuity of the project as follows:

1. The annual event of February 14 with rotating host among participating communities would be able to link ,update, and involve others for replication and up-scaling
2. The established community funds would be the main capital for future activities in protection of marine & coastal resources, without having to depend much upon outside fund.

Experience , Lessons Learnt , Problems and Issues:

Project activities were conditioned for both community participation in protection of ecosystems and mutual learning process. With common or similar contexts, communities had made more “relatives” who were mutually providing moral supports.