



Royal Forest
Department



International Tropical
Timber Organization

Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forest Complex to
Promote Cooperation for Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation
between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Phase II)

Project PD 289/04 Rev. 1 (F)

Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant Technical Report

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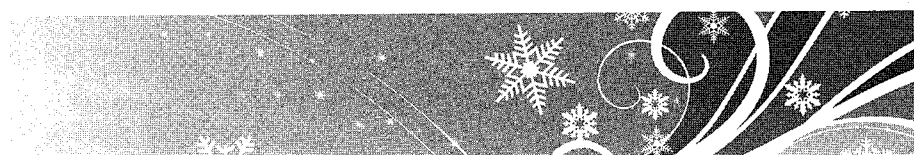
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&
International Tropical Timber Organization

**“Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forest
Complex to Promote Cooperation for Transboundary
Biodiversity Conservation between
Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Phase II)”**

PROJECT: PD 289/04 Rev. 1 (F)

Host Government:	Thailand
Executing Agency:	Royal Forest Department
Project Coordinator:	Mr. Sunan Arunnopparat
Starting Date:	1 March 2008
Project Duration:	24 Months



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ACRONYMS:

GO	: Governmental Organization
ICDP	: Integrated Conservation and Development Program
ITTO	: International Tropical Timber Organization
NGO	: Non Governmental Organization
NREM	: Natural Resource and Environment Management
PPFC	: Phatam Protected Forests Complex
RDI-KKU	: Research and Development Institute, Khon Kaen University
RFD	: Royal Forest Department
TAO	: Tambon (sub-district) Administrative Organization
TBCA	: Trans Boundary Biodiversity Conservation Area

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The Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex covers the adjoining forest areas along the tri-national borders between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos. The target pilot site under the Emerald Triangle forest area in Thailand is called Phatam Protected Forests Complex (PPFC) which is located in Ubon Ratchathani Province in northeastern part of Thailand. PPFC comprises of five protected areas namely the Phatam National Park, Kaeng Tana National Park, Phu Jong Nayoi National Park, Yot Dom Wildlife Sanctuary and Bun Thrik-Yot Mon Proposed Wildlife Sanctuary.

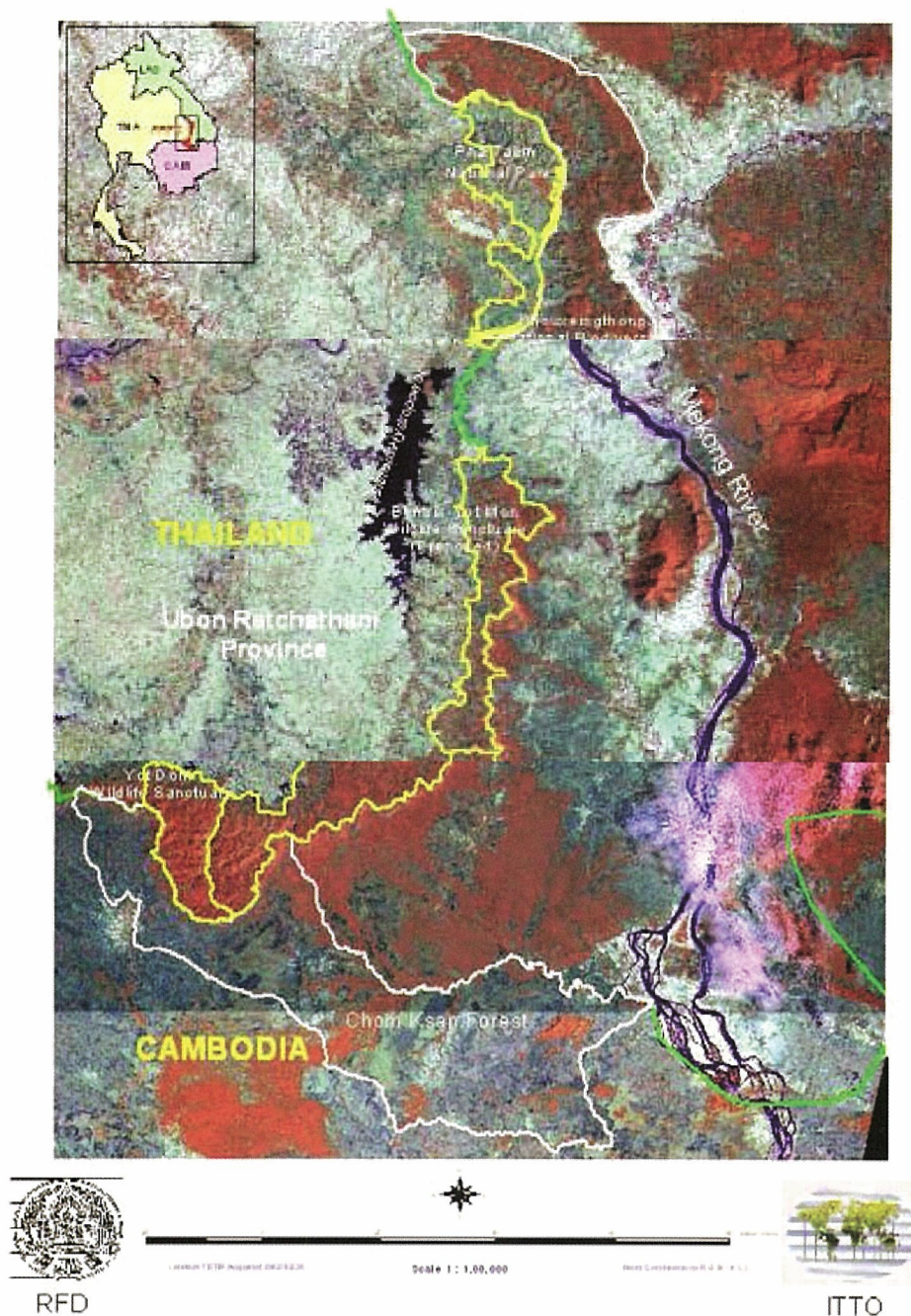


Figure 1: Map of PPFC Landsat -7 ETM + image band combination 4 5 3 – R G B

Summary

The on-going transformation of livelihoods in PPFC was facilitated by the combination of several factors: increased population pressure, the expansion of cash crop areas, the desire of the people to improve their economic situation through the tourism activities, the infrastructure development and, as a result, more encroachment into protected forests and higher demand of forest products.

The initiatives of the Management of PPFC Project Phase II aimed at the strengthening local participations in the rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources by means of the promotion of environmental safe occupation in particular the eco-tourism management. In support of this task a pilot fund for 6 villages of Baht 50,000 per each pilot village was arranged. This financial assistance shall be used as seed money for the start up of the pilot activities. Regarding the conclusion and suggestion of the Phase I Final Project Report emphasized the 6 promising ICDP pilot activities: 1 pilot project for handicraft from bamboo, 2 pilot projects for home-stay, 1 pilot project for food bank or fruit tree plantation and another 2 pilot projects for wild orchid tissue culture.

The RDI-KKU team, as a Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant, has conducted several community potential appraisal trips during the first few months in order to learn of up to date situation and needs for development of the target sites. Consultation interviews with representatives of related agencies and local authorities were also done to search for possible collaborations in development of eco-tourism and alternative occupations. The result of the community appraisal and key informant interviews were used in the designing of capability building training curriculum and in the selection of six pilot villages.

The Project Joint Task Force committee meeting was held on March 27, 2009 to consider on the selection of six target communities for ICDP pilot activities. The committee has developed the village selection criteria emphasizing 1) the continuous roles of the community in rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources and 2) the commitment by the community to exchange their experience with other communities. Finally, six villages were selected for the Project pilot fund namely:

2 Villages for wild orchid culture: 1.Tayoi village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district and 2. Nonsoong village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district.

- 2 villages for home-stay/ eco-tourism development: 1. Pa Chan, Samrong sub-district, Posai district 2. Tha Long, Huipai sub-district, Khong Jiam district.
- 1 village for integrated agricultural development: Suan Son village, Khamkuenkaew sub-district, Sirintorn district.
- 1 village for the development of handicraft from bamboo: Nong Rue village, Kholaen sub-district, Buntarik district.

After that, community meeting in each village was organized to inform of the selection result and to facilitate the participatory preparation of the pilot activity proposal for the pilot fund. The group management committee was also elected by community members. Later on, training programs on eco-tourism management and development of local products were provided for representatives of target communities. In addition, the workshop to facilitate the development of achievement indicators of each pilot activity by the representatives of group committee was managed. During implementation process of pilot activities, several informal monitoring visits were made by the project field staffs.

In December 2009, stakeholder workshops were organized in each village where the group members were facilitated to use the achievement indicators for the evaluation of the pilot activities by themselves. The members expressed their views after finishing the evaluation that they understood more about the meaning of achievement indicators and how it could be used as a tool for group development.

The evaluation result indicated that the group members were very honest in giving grades for each indicator. Very few indicators received full weight, as the members saw that the group was at the beginning stage. Though they have conducted most of activities according to the plan but the quality of the outcomes of some indicators were not yet good enough. Especially the documentation of lessons learnt, of the indigenous knowledge, and publication of the knowledge and lessons learnt. This may not be the capability of the majority members, but they saw the importance of this activity and willing to improve this aspect in the future by encouraging more involvement of the youths and younger members. Moreover, some activities such as wild orchid tissue culture, bamboo growing and expansion of agricultural integrated plots, required longer period of time to achieve the set task “ the reduction/ the elimination of the dependency on forest resources”. Though the villages became better known by publics and had more visitors but the quality of eco-tour management and home stay need a lot more improvements. The pilot groups have done a

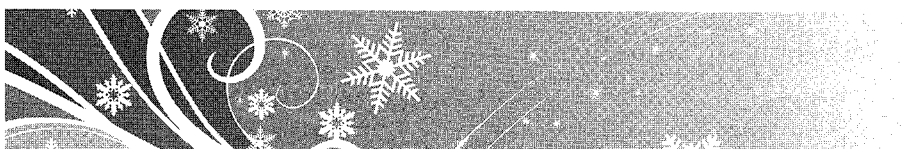
substantial progress within a short period of time, of around six months. However, these newly formulated groups need continuous supports for a sustainable development.

Recommendations

1. Some of the pilot villages have a strong potential for learning sites or development models to other communities within PPFC and to the trans-boundary conservation areas in the Mekong basin. However, these newly formulated groups should be provided with additional capability building supports to ensure the sustainable development such as the training on how to be a good learning site and necessary skills for knowledge transfer.
2. Appropriate project duration for different pilot activity should be considered. For example the wild orchid tissue culture and eco-tourism management which comprise of different related activities require longer than one year period of development.
3. Emphasis of the community development in the next phase should be given to the application of clustering approach in the expansion of cooperation between existing groups with neighboring communities and with other network organizations. The exchange of lessons and development experience between the groups doing similar activities shall be encouraged. The development of new groups and clusters with other potential resources in PPFC should be as well assisted.
4. The development approach by providing financial support as seed money for pilot activities is an effective tool. However, to make it more useful and suitable to different condition of groups and communities, the criteria for target group selection and amount of grants should be flexible and open for not only the request from a single village but also the request from cluster of groups or network organizations.
5. Assistance to the pilot groups in particular in setting up a practical system for accumulation of knowledge and lessons learnt is required. This activity will enable the target groups to uplift the level of learning mechanism of their own, which is an important capability for self adjustment in response to the rapid socio-economic transformation. Furthermore, the information gained can be published and

produced in various forms of media for dissemination to other communities in PPFC and wider public.

6. Diverse touring packages to suit the different demands of tourists should be designed. For example the packages for the short and long stay visitors, for the group of study tours, for trainees and students whereas the package for different topic of focus should also be developed i.e. on ethnic culture and way of life, on wild orchid tissue culture and on natural dyed cotton weaving activity etc. Coordination with provincial Tourist Office and private touring association in order to disseminate the information about the tour packages to be offered by the community should be done.
7. Participatory approach in the designing of project pilot activities and the development of achievement indicators shall be further applied. Assistance in the strengthening the target groups to use the indicators as a tool for monitoring and evaluation of group progress shall be provided.



1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

With the financial assistance from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Royal Forest Department (RFD) of Thailand has initiated trans-boundary biodiversity conservation area (TBCA) and selected the PPFC as a pilot project site because there was an increasing pressure on biodiversity from the trade in plants and animals across the border with Cambodia and Laos (ITTO/RFD 2000). The implementation period of the Management of PPFC Phase I was for three years (2001-2003).

After completion of the ITTO Project Phase I: PD 15/00 Rev.2 (F) in 2004 the governments of Thailand and Cambodia have prepared the Project Phase II Proposal (2005-2006) in response to the agreement in the 3rd PSC meeting held in Bangkok on November 23, 2003. The implementation plan of Phase II will promote the cooperation among the three countries on TBCA and capability building in biodiversity conservation and management, integrated conservation and development programs (ICDP) in the buffer zone and nature-based tourism packages to alleviate poverty and improve quality of livelihood of local residents. Despite some delay, ITTO had finally approved additional financial support for the Project Phase II which started its implementation in the year 2008. By implementing so, the Thai government foresees the gradual reduction in its people's poverty and eventually its people are able to enjoy the economic and social well-being in their areas where the ecosystem in the Emerald Triangle Protected FC will be better protected by local authorities with active participation of people in the adjacent communities. The specific activities to be undertaken under the ICDP in Thailand were not strictly defined but the emphasis has been given to the participatory selection process. However, based on the recommendations made in the first Phase Final Project Report, some notions on promising ICDP and related activities to be targeted for Phase II community development program were made as follows:

- Handicraft from bamboo : 1 pilot project
- Home-stay project : 2 pilot projects
- Food Bank: fruit tree plantation : 1 pilot project
- Wild Orchid Tissue Culture Project : 2 pilot projects

1.2 Objectives of the Project Phase II

1) Overall Objective and Task

The project will conserve trans-boundary biodiversity in the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex situated between Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR. Experiences from this project will be used as a model to other potential trans-boundary conservation areas in participating countries and in the lower Me Kong Basin.

2) Specific Objectives

- 1) Strengthen cooperation between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos for biodiversity conservation in respective TBCA
- 2) Enhance protection and monitoring of biological resources along tri-national borders
- 3) Strengthen the involvement of local communities and stakeholders in sustainable uses and management of natural resources both in the enclaved communities and/or in the buffer zones

1.3 Purpose of this report

This report is the Final Technical Report of the Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant. The report focuses on analyzing the achievements so far of the specific objective number three “the promotion of the involvement of local communities and stakeholders in sustainable uses and management of natural resources” via community development and eco-tourism management activities. It is divided into 6 chapters: 1. Introduction, 2. Methodology for the strengthening of people participation in community development and eco-tourism management, 3. Overview of 6 target villages and summary of supported ICDP activities, 4. Achievements in the promotion of local communities and stakeholders participation in the implementation of ICDP and pilot activities, 5. Conclusions and 6. Recommendation. The author hopes that the lessons learnt from the development process in particular in the 6 model target villages will be useful for other TBCA in Thailand and participating countries as well as in the lower Mekong Basin.

2. Methodology for the strengthening of people participation in community development and eco-tourism management

2.1 Overall approach

To fulfill the above mentioned objective, specifically objective number three (which is under the responsibility of the Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant) the following key principles were employed as working guideline by the consultant to best tackle the key questions of the study and enable an active participation of stakeholders in the development process.

- 1) Close consultations with stakeholders i.e. PM, park officials as well as staffs from related departments, community members and local authorities were undertaken from the very beginning since the preparation period down to field implementation step. By which information and views of key persons on policies at different stages, past important achievements and constraints and future plans were informally interviewed and documented. Special attention was given the discussion on poverty reduction versus environmental conservation policies and measures. Participatory workshops and meetings to listen to the comments and recommendations from representatives of stakeholders were organized.
- 2) The holistic view and the quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques were used in order to get both outsiders and insiders' views related to ICDP and target activities. This included the review of Phase I study result and other documents as well as the interviews with key informants from target production groups and related agencies.
- 3) Close collaboration with project Consultants in the promotion of target activities

2.2 Methodology and intervention activities

The research activities and development interventions conducted by the Participatory Community Development and Tourism can be classified into four main sequentially steps; Step I: The community preliminary appraisal and review of relevant documents, Step II: The identification of potential villages and selection of 6 pilot villages for ICDP and pilot activity fund, Step III: Capability building training/workshops for community members

and relevant officers, Step IV: Promotion and facilitation of participatory monitoring and evaluation of the achievements of ICDP target activities.

Having the above mentioned key principles and elaborated methodology as working guideline, several activities have been conducted during the first period of work such as preliminary community study to appraise community potential for community based tourism and alternative occupation development. Moreover, a consultant team workshop has also been organized in late December, 2008. Later on, 6 target villages for ICDP and pilot activities have been selected by the Joint Task Force meeting on March 27, 2009. Capability building workshop and training were arranged for selected villages where the community appraisal has indicated their potential for eco-tourism promotion. Moreover, many informal meetings between Consultant team and ITTO staff as well as representatives of Joint Task Force were organized to discuss over the design of working process in order to strengthen active participation of stakeholders from the very beginning down to the evaluation of achievements at the project end. Finally, stakeholder workshops in each target village were organized in December 2009 to allow the community members to evaluate the achievements of their own development activities. The following table shows the research activities and development interventions conducted by the Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant in collaboration with ITTO staffs and related agencies.

Table 1. Research activities and key development interventions held by the consultant for tourism and community participation from October 2008 to December 2009

D/M/Y	Activities	Key informants/participants
1 Oct. 08	<u>Village appraisal</u> - Rong Kanyaeng Noi village, Samrong sub-district, Po Sai district - Rong Kanyaeng Yai village, Po Sai district - Pa Chan village, Samrong sub-district, Pa Sai district	1. Mr.Lue Rukkajan, Rong Kanyang Noi village headman 2. Weaving group leader 3. Rong Kanyaeng Yai village headman 4. Paa Chan village headman
2 Oct. 08	<u>Village appraisal</u> - Sasom village, Napoklang sub-district, Kong Jiam district - Palanchai and Udomchai village, Nonko sub-district, Sirinthorn district	1. Sawaeng Saengsunee, village headman 2. Mr.Praiwan Thong-phai, Broom making group leader 3. Mrs.Saliang Jansuprom, villager 4. Mr.Mitra Pimkrao-dee, villager
3 Oct. 08	<u>Village appraisal</u> - Kaeng-rueng village, Najaluai sub-district, Najaluai district - Nong Krok village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Namyuen district	1. Mrs.Sakorn Thantee, committee of wild orchid culture group 2. Mrs.Nupian Piangkarn, Piansawai wild orchid garden owner

Table 1. (Continued)

D/M/Y	Activities	Key informants/participants
24 Nov. 08	<u>Key informant and related agency interviewing</u> - Tourist Office of Ubon Rajathani province - Wuenbuk village, Kongjiam sub-district, Kongjiam district	1. Mr.Nopparat Kokwan, Director 2. Village headman
26 Nov. 08	<u>Key informants interviewing</u> - Nong Chad Horse Camp, Sirinthorn local Horse Conservation Society, Kham Kuenkaew sub-district, Sirinthorn district - Kham Kuenkaew Tambon (sub-district) Administration Office (TAO), Sirinthorn district	1. Mr.Chuchart Warapree, Founder of Sirinthorn Local Horse Conservation Society 2. Mrs.Uraithip Muangkorn, TAO Chief
21-23 Dec, 08	Consultants workshop	ITTO consultants
20-21 Feb. 09	<u>Training</u> on “local product development and eco-tourism management by people’s organization network”	Representatives of community leaders and home-stay included production groups from 8 villages and officials from related TAOs, Patam as well as Kaengtana National Parks
27 March, 09	Joint Task Force meeting to select 6 target villages for ICDP pilot fund	Representatives of Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks under ITTO project area included ITTO Project Manager and Technical Advisor

Table 1. (Continued)

D/M/Y	Activities	Key informants/participants
June, 09	Community meeting in 6 target villages to prepare proposals for pilot activity fund and elect committee members	Community leaders and Pa Chan, Ta Long, Suan Son, Nong Rue, Non Soong, Ta Yoi villages
6-7 August,09	Training on “Eco-tourism management”	Representatives from 6 target villages and officers from Parks and Sanctuaries in project area
December, 09	6 Stakeholder workshops to evaluate the achievements of pilot activities by the group members of each target village	Representatives of each target group

3. Overview of community potential appraisal result and summary of development interventions in 6 ICDP pilot villages

As per the four sequentially development steps elaborated in Chapter II, more detail on development progress in particular about the 6 ICDP pilot villages will be the emphasis of the discussion of this chapter. The first part will be the report on the result of community potential appraisal conducted during the preparation step, following with the information about the selection process of target villages for ICDP pilot fund. Finally, it will conclude the discussion with the report on facilitation activities in enabling the target villages to develop the achievement indicators and to build their capability.

3.1 Community potential preliminary appraisal for ICDP pilot activities:

1) Consultation and Community Preliminary Appraisal

Due to more than two years delay from the initial Phase II implementation plan (changed from Year 2005-2006 to 2007-2008), there had been a lot of changes occurred in the PPFC target sites. First of all the increase in number of population as well as number of target villages (81 villages have been adjudicated under Phase II or about 24 villages/communities more than Phase I). It was therefore necessary that the RDI consultant team conducted trips for community preliminary appraisal and consultation with local authorities and production groups. List of trips made by RDI team for community appraisal was shown in Table 1. in Chapter II.

During those trips the team had visited many villages. For example, Talong village which is located on Mekong river side. The home of Broo ethnic people, who are famous of their neat hand woven bamboo products. Another village was Huaimak village where krajiew flowers were increasingly grown for sell. A trip to Lakpai village was also conducted to learn of how the bamboo woods were cut for sell as raw material to traders and for weaving into sticky rice steaming container.

Conclusively, the preliminary community assessment and documentary review revealed that the changes found in the target communities were the results of multi factors. Summary of some changes and needs for development were as follows;

- Some villages had been involved in the action research projects led by several agencies; i.e. the study on Broo ethnic group in Taa Long village conducted by Ubon Rajathani University, the participatory action research on eco-tourism management

at Pha Chan village supported by Thailand Research Fund, and the study on promotion of tissue culture of wild orchids (in Nongkrok and Ta Yoi villages) to eliminate the collection from nearby natural park supported by Thailand Research Fund. It was observed that many families in Sasom and Pha Chan villages had been actively involved in home stay groups and touring activities in close collaboration with Tourism Authority of Ubon Rajathani province and Tambon Administrative Organizations (TAO)for sometimes. However, the quality control measures of such services and the arrangement of community information for tourist still needed improvement. As well as the learning center of tissue culture of wild orchids of Nongkrok - Ta Yoi villages required additional capability building support.

- As a result of the policy and promotion measures of the government and local authorities, more land had been converted to cash crop growing (cassava, para rubber and palm oil). Beside the local people, many of the investors were from outside the community.

- Lak Pai village and neighboring villages in Nong Saeng sub-district, Bun tarik district, were found to be not only the big producers of bamboo products but also the major seller of “Pung” bamboo as raw material to traders from nearby communities and from far away. The higher demand of “Pung” bamboo has eventually created a great effect on the bamboo resource base in the forest. A measure for sustainable use of Pung bamboo was thus crucial for the future of both the bamboo weavers and bamboo resource base in the locality.

- Many other potential production groups and conservation activities were found such as Tung Namuang natural dyed cotton weaving group, the Sirinthorn Local Horse Conservation Society, and Suanson village which was well known as a learning site for the self sufficiency economy activities i.e. food processing group and integrated agriculture. These existing potential groups were important for the development of alternative occupation and eco-tourism activity.

- Moreover, information gained from several interviews with responsible officers of TAOs in target areas and the Director of Tourist Office of Ubon-Rajathani province confirmed that the related agencies and local authorities were interested in cooperation with ITTO in the development of alternative occupations and eco-tourism. Some local authorities had prepared tourism promotion plan and set aside budget in its annual action plan. Some TAOs had an officer appointed specifically for tourism promotion.

The up to date information about the social, economic and environmental situation in particular the changes in potential and development needs of target communities was useful for the designing of further development plan to promote eco-tourism and environmental safe occupation. On the other hand, such meetings with relevant partners had helped the stakeholders better understand about ITTO project plan and objectives which was the necessary beginning step of participatory development approach.

3.2 Selection of target communities for ICDP and pilot activities by the Joint Task Force Committee:

The next step of development was the selection of target communities for ICDP and provision of funds for the implementation of pilot activities. Special concern had been given to the sustainability of the project interventions. The participation of the related implementing agencies had thus been enhanced. The meeting of ITTO Joint Task Force was held on March 27, 2009 at the Zone 9 Office of the Management of Protected Area, Ubon Rachathani province, to consider on the selection of target communities for ICDP and pilot activities. 12 committee members from the Wildlife Sanctuary Offices and National Parks under ITTO project area included ITTO Project Manager and Technical Adviser participated in the meeting. After the presentation on ITTO project purposes included the work plan for the integrated conservation and development programs in 6 villages by the Project Manager, the committee members had extensively exchanged views on the target village selection criteria and the selection process.

Following criteria had finally been concluded as guideline for the village selection;

- (1) The community should have indigenous knowledge and knowledgeable persons in regards to the management of natural resources and environment.
- (2) The community should have actively been practicing the rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources for sometimes.
- (3) Existing organizations should have strong roles in conducting the NREM activities.
- (4) There should be potential for eco-tourism management.
- (5) The community should be committed or willing to exchange on lessons learnt with other communities (in the locality and from other regions including from abroad).
- (6) The community should have a will to collaborate with relevant agencies.

During the discussion on the designing of village selection process, information on potential and limitations derived from preliminary community study had been reported to the plenary for consideration by the Manager. For example the information on serious destruction of bamboo resource base in the handicraft from bamboo making villages in particular in the ITTO middle zone around Buntrik Wildlife Sanctuary. Information of other villages in the upper zone on existing potential for eco-tourism promotion i.e. natural scenery and culture of ethnic group was taken into consideration. Some of these villages had long experience in receiving tourists but lack of collaboration among each others. The quality of local products also needed improvements to meet tourist requirements while maintaining local specialty and uniqueness.

After an extensive discussion, the village selection process started by listing down 39 names of potential villages that were proposed by the task force committee members. Reasons or specific potential categories of each proposed village had to be given, i.e. names of potential villages for orchid culture, village names for home stay development, and potential villages for integrated agriculture and handicrafts development. Due to limited ITTO grants to be given to only 6 villages as seed money to start up the pilot activities, the following 6 villages had thus been carefully selected by the Joint Task Force Committee.

- 2 Villages for wild orchid culture (both villages are under Yod-dom Wildlife Sanctuary area):
 - (1) Tayoi village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district; The villagers wanted to learn from the more experienced Nong Krok and Nong Waeng villages on tissue culture and other cultivation techniques.
 - (2) Nonsoong village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district; There was no development intervention on handicraft nor bamboo growing in the village. The development support to be provided by the project was expected to be useful.
- 2 villages for home-stay/ eco-tourism development:
 - (1) Pa Chan village, Samrong sub-district, Posai district; Though the home-stay in Pa Chan had already been managed by the village committee for some years but the standardization of home-stay houses and the eco-tourism management system still needed improvement. ,

- (2) Tha Long village, Huipai sub-district, Khong Jiam district; A village of Broo ethnic people, located on Mekong riverside close to Pa Taem National Park, has rich natural and cultural resources promising for eco-tourism development. Though the village had received supports from many agencies for eco-tourism development but due to poor cooperation among support agencies, the tourism and home-stay in Tha Long still needed improvement.
- 1 village for integrated agricultural development:
 - (1) Suan Son village, Khamkuenkaew sub-district, Sirintorn district; Suanson is located in the buffer zone of ITTO project area close to Kaeng Tana National Park. It is famous for integrated agriculture and food processing activities. With additional assistance from ITTO, Suan Son village would be better equipped and could work more effectively as a learning site for wider dissemination of its lessons and experiences.
 - 1 village for the development of handicraft from bamboo:
 - (1) Nong Rue village, Kholaen sub-district, Buntarik district; located in the radius of Buntrik Wildlife Sanctuary and being known as one of the big producers of cheap but of good quality bamboo rice cooking container. However, due to tremendous amount of bamboo being consumed by handicraft activity without proper management system, the bamboo resource base within community and in the adjacent forest had been deteriorated dramatically. Immediate and long term actions, for rehabilitation and public awareness raising, were of utmost needed.

At the end of this meeting, coordinators between the project with each target village in different zones had also been assigned namely,

- Mr.Tawatchai Puangsri, the coordinator from Yod-Dom Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Mr.Jakrapong Klomjai, the coordinator from Patam National Park.
- Mr.Sa-Ad Wandee, the coordinator from Kaengtana National Park.
- Mr.Somkid Singsathan, the coordinator from Buntrik Yodmon Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Mr.Theerayut Wongpaisert, coordinator and Head of Poojong Nayoi National Park.

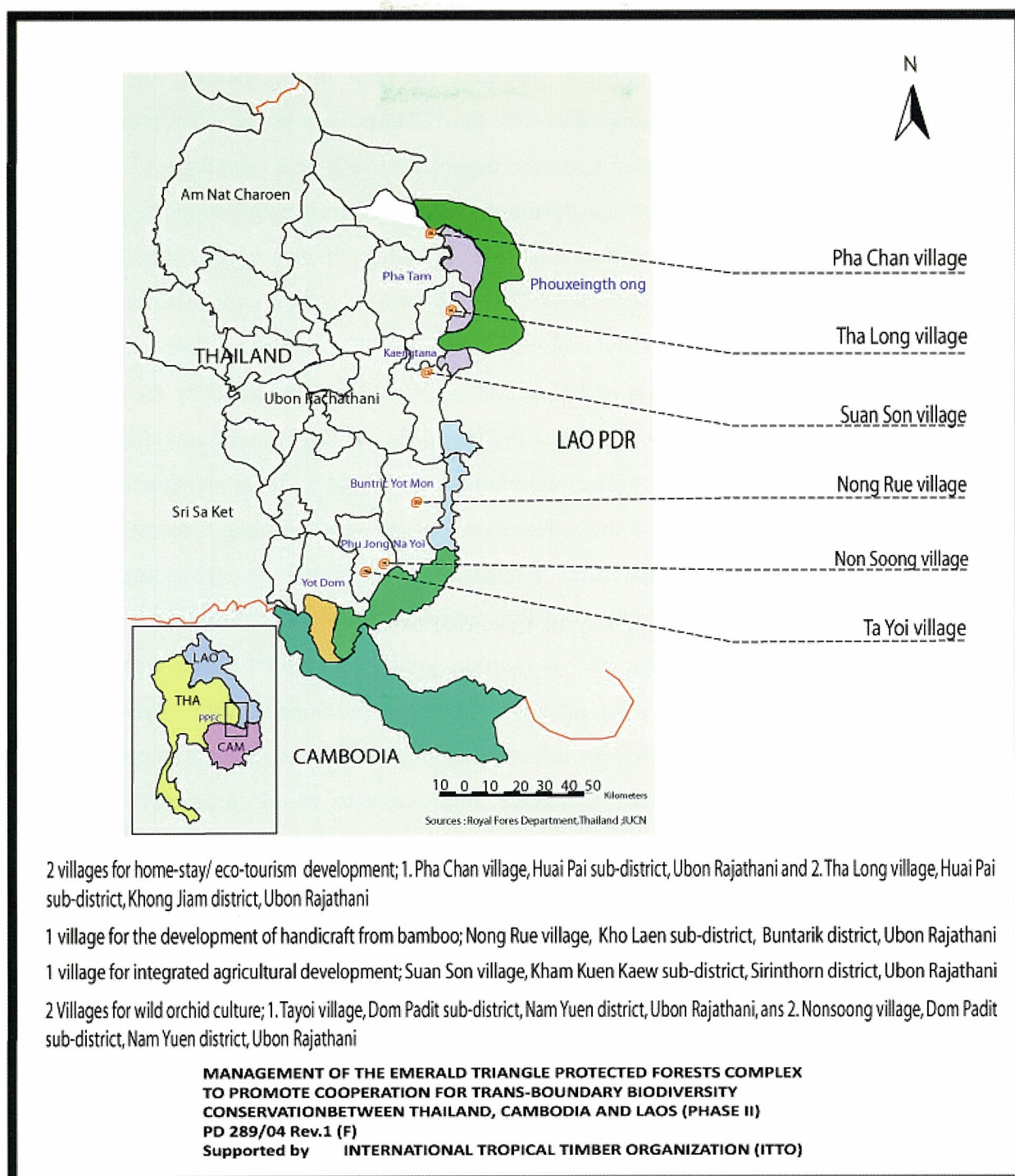


Figure 2: Map of PPFC indicating the location of 6 pilot villages

3.3 Collaborative planning for ICDP monitoring and evaluation measures:

After the selection of target villages, meetings between the Consultant for Tourism Promotion and Community Participation with the ITTO project staffs and representatives of the Joint Task Force Committee had been organized (on June 2 and June 12, 2009) to discuss over the collaboration in the development of monitoring and supporting process and drafting of achievement indicators of pilot activities. It was agreed that Extensive exchanges between related partners should be encouraged to make sure that the provided fund would be most appropriately utilized. It was hereby confirmed that the existing guidelines on the Community-based Forest Management Fund prepared by the Office of the Community Forest Management under the Royal Forest Department would be applied by the Project in the preparation of the community request and in the establishment of local committees to be responsible for the management of the granted funds. However, as the types of the project's pilot activities (emphasizing promotion of environmental safe occupations) were different from the forest management activities, consideration had been made that a separate monitoring and supporting guideline as well as the achievement indicators for each particular pilot activity should be developed. After that, to allow community participation, meetings in target villages should be organized to present and listen to comments on the drafted guidelines. Improvements of the indicators and M&S guideline would be made and the agreement to use the revised version by the villagers themselves as M&E tool would be done within the community meeting. In launching the planned activities, active involvement of the implementing agencies and local authorities all through the development process was highlighted. Whereas the consultant would emphasize the supervisory roles to the project staffs and the officials of National Parks.

3.4 Civil society meetings in 6 villages to prepare the development proposal for ICDP pilot fund:

Village community meetings in each every target village had been organized to inform villagers about the result of target village selection by the Joint Task Force and to explain about the purposes of the Pilot Activity Fund. The villagers and village leaders were then encouraged to consider about the proposal preparation. In these particular meetings the management committee members of the ICDP and target activities were also elected.

Table 2. Summary of development activities of the 6 target villages specified in the proposals

Village	Activities	Pilot fund/ Baht
1. Tha Long	1. Purchasing of equipments and materials for home stay (Bht 15,000) 2. Production of advertisement board (Bht 5,000) 3. Study tours on eco-tourism and home stay management (Bht 14,000) 4. Fund for the management of home stay (Bht 11,490) 5. Meeting of the committee members (Bht 4,000)	49,490
2. Pa Chan	1. Study tours on eco-tourism and home stay (Bht 20,000) 2. Purchasing of equipments and materials for home stay (Bht 12,000) 3. Training for villagers on the management of eco-tourism and home stay (Bht 13,920) 4. Meeting of the committee members (Bht 4,200)	49,490
3. Suan Son	1. Growing of integrated crops (Bht 38,890) 2. Purchasing of equipments for agricultural activities (Bht 1,400) 3. Improvement of agricultural produces store room (Bht 5,000) 4. Meeting of committee members (Bht 4,200)	49,490
4. Nong Rue	1. Fund for purchasing of “Pung bamboo” for selling to members (Bht 10,000) 2. Fund for purchasing of bamboo products from members for selling to traders (Bht 5,190) 3. Support for Pung bamboo growing (Bht 30,300) 4. Meeting of committee members (Bht 4,000)	49,490

Table 2. (Continued)

Village	Activities	Pilot fund/ Baht
5.Non soong	1. Construction of orchid nurseries (Bht 19,890) 2. Purchasing of equipments for orchid culture (Bht 26,000) 3. Meeting of committee members (Bht 3,600)	49,490
6.Ta Yoi	1. Improvement of Learning Center (Bht 11,500) 2. Training on “Reviewing of indigenous knowledge and techniques in wild orchid culture and tissue culture” (Bht 25,300) 3. Activity to return orchids back to the forest (Bht 8,290) 4. Meeting of committee members (Bht 4,400)	49,490

3.5 Development of achievement indicators of the pilot activities:

Several informal visits had been made by the project field staffs. Besides, workshops with representatives of 6 group management committees were arranged in order to facilitate the development of achievement indicators for each target group. These indicators would be used by the 6 villages themselves as guidelines for the evaluation of groups’ achievements at the end of the project.

The indicators could be divided into two sets. The first set was the achievement indicators for general project purposes or the purpose of ITTO pilot fund. The second set was the indicators developed by group committee members in response to different specific purposes of each target group. (more detail on achievement indicators see Annex 1.)

3.6 Capability building activity:

1) Workshop on local product development and management of eco-tourism by the peoples’ organization network

The community appraisal revealed the facts that the upper zone of ITTO project area had many potential for eco-tourism management, such as natural beauty, culture of ethnic groups, local products and historical sites. But most villages still lacked or had limited knowledge in sustainable tourism management, and the quality and design of local products

were not attractive to tourists. There was poor cooperation in touring management either between neighboring villages or with related agencies. Thus most of income gained from touring activities went to private companies rather than to the communities.

Based on such findings the first workshop program was designed for potential villages on “local product development and management of eco-tourism by the peoples’ organization network”. The workshop was held on February 20-21, 2009 at Sasom village with the intention to use Sasom as a case study for all participants on the management of home-stay, nature trail, and local production groups. 21 participants were invited representing different participating partners in tourism management such as village leaders, home-stay owners and production group committee members, officials from sub-district administrative organizations and Patam and Kaeng Tana National Parks. Knowledgeable persons from Office of Tourism and Sports of Ubon Rachathani province and from sub-district administrative organization in the area had been invited to share the information on tourism development policy and plan with participants. During the two days of workshop program the participants had been encouraged to contribute and involve actively in the workshop process. (For more detail information please see the separate workshop report submitted to ITTO together with the mid-term technical report prepared by the Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant.)

4. Evaluation result of the achievements in the promotion of ICDP pilot activities

4.1 Basic information of the 6 ICDP pilot villages:

Locations of the six pilot villages distributed over the three zones of PPFC and possess of different potentialities according to diverse physical and ecological environments. Pha Chan and Tha Long are in the northern part of PPFC, whereas Nong Rue and Suan Son are situated in the middle zone. Ta Yoi and Non Soong are located in the south most district of Ubon Rajathani province. Out of the six villages, Tha Long is the smallest village in terms number of population and the village area. The average number of population per household of the six villages is not much different, around 4 persons per household. The major source of income are mostly from cash crop growing i.e. cassava, para rubber and from selling forest produces such as honey, bamboo handicrafts and edible leaves.

Table 3. Basic information of the 6 ICDP pilot villages

Village/ sub- district/ district	Number of			Major occupations
	HH.	Pop.	Average members /hh.	
Pha Chan, Samrong sub- district, Posai district	97	431	4.44	93% of the total households are rice growing farmers. Around 20 hh. earn income from tourists by selling home grown produces at nearby touristic place. Visitors of study tours to the village are another prominent source of villagers income.
Pha Chan, Samrong sub- district, Posai district	97	431	4.44	93% of the total households are rice growing farmers. Around 20 hh. earn income from tourists by selling home grown produces at nearby touristic place. Visitors of study tours to the village are another prominent source of villagers income.

Table 3. (Continued)

Village/ sub- district/ district	Number of			Major occupations
	HH.	Pop.	Average members /hh.	
Tha Long, Huipai sub- district, Khong Jiam district	51	198	3.88	Every hh. grow rice and cassava. Almost 1/3 of the land is used for para rubber tree growing. As the village is situated on Mekong river side, it is thus famous of the beautiful scenery. The village is also known of the Broo ethnic inhabitants who are skillful in handicrafts from bamboo making. Many people involve in home stay and tour guide services.
Nong Rue, Kholaen sub- district, Buntarik district	101	465	4.60	Every hh. grow rice and 2/3 of total hh. grow cassava. Nong Rue is known as one of the biggest producers of handicraft from bamboo. (86 hh. involved in producing bamboo sticky rice steaming container). At present, most of the bamboo being used and sold as raw material to outside traders is from the forest.
Suan Son, Khamkuen kaew sub- district, Siritorn district	99	418	4.22	2/3 of the total hh. grow cassava whereas around 22 hh. grow rice. Most hh. have integrated plots where fruit trees, vegetables, flowers and cashew nut are grown and fish ponds were dug. Increasing area is being used for para rubber tree growing.

Table 3. (Continued)

Village/ sub- district/ district	Number of			Major occupations
	HH.	Pop.	Average members /hh.	
Ta Yoi, Dom Pradit sub- district, Nam Yuen district	86	374	4.35	Every household grow rice and cassava. Around 1/3 of the totals earn additional income from seasonal employment. 20 hh. earn extra income from selling wild orchids from their nurseries. (esp. the local species that have been reproduced by villagers as per the concept to decrease dependency on collection from forest).
Non Soong, Dom Pradit sub- district, Nam Yuen district	138	624	4.52	Every hh. grow rice and cassava. Increasing areas are used for para rubber tree and palm oil growing. 5 hh. have orange orchards. The villagers are interested to learn about wild orchid culture techniques in order to eliminate the collection from forest.

Source of data:

1. Village profile database of 2009, Information Centre for Rural Development, Community Development Department, Ministry of Interior.
2. Direct observation and group interviewing by the consultant team during field study and stakeholders workshop

4.2 Participatory evaluation process:

Regarding the ITTO development concept emphasizing active participation of the target communities all through the development process, the evaluation of the achievements of the target activities at the end of project had thus been designed in such a way that the group members would do the evaluation themselves. The achievement indicators developed by the group members at the beginning was used as a guideline for the evaluation.

A one day workshop was organized in each village where the group members were invited to join. The consultant prepared the answer sheets of every indicator and distributed to every member. The evaluation process is as follows;

- 1) The evaluation workshop began with self introduction of every person who attended the workshop.
- 2) After that the consultant together with the representative of Joint Task Force Committee explained about the purpose of the workshop which was to enable the participatory evaluation of the achievements of the target activity at the pilot project end by the direct beneficiaries themselves.
- 3) The consultant began with group interviewing technique in order to make the participants feel more relax to answer openly. The question was about the group objectives and planned activities as stated in the project request. The achievement indicators of the group was also reviewed, while asking for verbally elaboration on progress to date by group members and village leader i.e. What and how they have been done? What were the constraints or important success? Were there any supports from other agencies or from the local authorities? Did the members actively participate in group activities? What need to be done in the future after the project end?
- 4) Later on the consultant explained on how to evaluate the achievement of each indicator by using the answer sheets. The level of achievement of each indicator divided into 5 levels and the members needed to carefully judge the level of achievement according to his or her understanding/ perception;

0 = does not implement this activity / do not have this activity in the plan

1 = does not achieve the planned output

2 = medium level

3 = good

4 = very good, excellent

- 5) The consultant read the achievement indicators slowly, one by one, in order to assist the members who could not read properly to be able to join the evaluation. The members then put the mark in the answer sheet of each indicator.
- 6) The consultant concluded the result of the evaluation and reported to the plenary whereas the observations on significant success as well as low graded indicators were also made. Exchange of views among members was encouraged to consider what needs to be improved in order to get rid of the weak points and maintain the strong points. The members who gave high grade to some certain indicators or those who gave low weight were asked to share their reasons and views. Through this process the members understood each other better which was necessary for the future cooperation.
- 7) The consultant asked about the uses of/ benefits gain from this evaluation session.
- 8) Finally, the consultant concluded that the achievement indicator should be used as a tool for controlling the group's operation to work efficiently in line with the planned tasks and activities. The indicators can be adjusted annually in response to the newly formulated task and capability of the group.

4.3 Achievement evaluation result

The following tables will show the result of the achievement evaluation done by the six group members. It will begin with the evaluation result of the general objective of the ITTO funded project. As every group used the same set of indicators for this objective item, the evaluation results of all the six groups were thus presented together in table 4-1 to table 4-3. The following table 5 to table 10 present the achievement evaluation results on specific activities and purposes of each target group.

A. Achievement indicators for general project purposes

Table 4-1 Shows the evaluation result of Objective 1. To strengthen cooperation between communities and related officers in the development of community livelihood

Indicators	Village/ average weight					
	V.1	V.2	V.3	V.4	V.5	V.6
1. Members and stakeholders of target group:						
- Members compose of male and female members from different age groups and diverse socio-economic status.	2	3	4	3	3	4
- There are more new members.	3	2	3	3	3	4
- Stakeholders (from inside and outside target village) participate actively in group activities.	2	3	3	3	3	3
2. Level of community participation:						
- Understanding about project's task and target activity	3	3	3	3	3	3
- Involvement in development planning of the target activity	2	2	3	3	3	3
- Participation in conducting the planned activities	3	3	4	4	3	3
- Involvement in monitoring and evaluation of target activity	2	2	2	3	3	2
- Sharing benefits or gains from implementation of the target activity	2	3	3	4	3	4

Table 4-1 _ (Continued)

Indicators	Village/ average weight					
	V.1	V.2	V.3	V.4	V.5	V.6
3. Wider coverage of cooperation:						
- Cooperation with other groups within the community	3		2	3	3	3
- Cooperation with other groups outside the community	2	3	2	3	2	3
- Initiation of new development activities	1	3	3	3	3	2

Remark: 1) Village number 1 to 6 stands for the following villages;

V.1 = Non Soog village

V.2 = Tayoi village

V.3 = Nong Rue village

V.4 = Suanson village

V.5 = Pa Chan village

V.6 = Tha Long village

2) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

Table 4-2 Shows the evaluation result of
Objective 2. Conservation of forest resources

Indicators	Weight					
	V.1	V.2	V.3	V.4	V.5	V.6
1. Decrease utilization of forest resources	3	3	1	4	3	2
2. Most efficient use of resources	3	3	2	3	3	3
3. Implement natural resource conservation and rehabilitation activities:						
- Planning	3	4	3	4	3	3
- Formation of regulation and agreement	3	3	4	3	3	1
- Implementation of planned conservation and rehabilitation activities	3	3	3	3	3	3
- Documentation of knowledge and lessons learned	2	2	2	3	3	2
- Monitoring and evaluation of success and constraints	2	3	2	4	3	2

Remark: 1) Village number 1 to 6 stands for the following villages;

V.1 = Non Soog village

V.2 = Tayoi village

V.3 = Nong Rue village

V.4 = Suanson village

V.5 = Pa Chan village

V.6 = Tha Long village

2) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

Table 4-3 Shows the evaluation result of Objective 3. Strengthening of community's capability in natural resource management

Indicators	Weight					
	V.1	V.2	V.3	V.4	V.5	V.6
1. Benefits gain by individual member:						
- Income increase	1	2	2	3	3	4
- Reduction of expenses	2	1	2	3	3	2
- More knowledge gained	1	2	2	4	2	2
- Individual member takes note of personal data	3	3	4	3	3	3
2. Capability of target group:						
- Clear management and administration structure	2	3	3	4	4	3
- Regulations and agreements are formulated.	1	3	3	3	3	2
- Group work plan is prepared.	2	3	3	3	3	3
- Higher capital	2	2	3	3	3	3
- Monitoring and reporting system is in place.	2	3	3	3	3	2
- There is knowledge management system.	3	3	3	3	3	3
- Members participate actively in group activities.	3	3	3	3	3	4
3. Network:						
- Existence of more experienced members capable for knowledge dissemination	2	3	3	3	3	3
- More participation of children and youths in target activity	3	3	3	3	3	3
- More youths learn about local wisdoms.	2	3	2	3	3	3
- There are more supports from external sources.	2	3	1	3	3	3

Remark: 1) Village number 1 to 6 stands for the following villages;

V.1 = Non Soog village

V.2 = Tayoi village

V.3 = Nong Rue village

V.4 = Suanson village

V.5 = Pa Chan village

V.6 = Tha Long village

2) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

A. Achievement indicators for each target activity

• **Home stay management/ Eco-tour village**

Specific objectives:

- 1) To enable the tourists to learn of local way of life, local tradition and villagers' believes as well as the natural resource conservation practices.
- 2) The villagers and local authorities perceive the importance of local wisdom, local culture and natural resources.

(1) Eco-Tour and home stay activities of *Pa Chan village*

Table 5. Shows the evaluation result of eco- tour and home stay of Pa Chan village

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource development: - Local people are trained on how to be a good tour guide.	3
2. Natural resources: - Conservation area for "Jilo" (edible and market demanded insects living in wet land area) is managed.	3
- Documents on Jilo conservation techniques are produced.	3
- Fish conservation area is identified	3
- Documents on local fishes are produced.	2

Table 5. (Continued)

Indicators	Weight
3. Management of target activity:	
- Tourist routes and necessary information are developed.	3
- Home stay activity is properly managed.	3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

(2) Eco-tour and home stay activity of *Tha Long village*

Table 6. Shows the evaluation result of eco-tour and home stay of Tha Long village

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource:	
- Villagers will be trained to work as local tour guides.	2
- Local wisdom will be conserved and transferred to the youths.	3
- There will be more young handicraft producers.	1
- Rural way of life can be observed i.e. fishing methods, food preparation techniques, speaking language, and traditional shows.	4
2. Natural resources:	
- “Sang Pa bamboo” (a kind of bamboo good for basket making) conservation activity is initiated.	3
3. Management of target activity:	
- Tourist routes and necessary information is developed.	2
- Tourist statistics is collected; number of tourists and their habits i.e. accommodation, purchasing of souvenirs.	3
- The handicraft production group is more systematically managed.	2
- Home stay activity is properly managed.	3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

(3) Local plants conservation and promotion of integrated agriculture in *Suan Son village*

Specific objectives; To establish community learning plots of integrated agriculture (“Move the forest to homestead garden” or” To grow what the people use to collect from the forest at home”)

Table 7. Shows the evaluation result of Suan Son integrated agriculture

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource development: - There are more knowledgeable person/ resource person work as local tour guides.	3
2. Natural resources: - More integrated agricultural plots in the community. - Decrease dependency on forest resource	3 3
3. Management of target activity: - There are learning plots of integrated agriculture in every cluster. - Clear design of integrated agricultural plots by group members - Data on integrated agriculture will be documented. - Better public relation and appropriate medias for dissemination of group knowledge are produced. - Availability of community market selling local products	4 3 3 3 3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

(4) Bamboo basket making group of *Nong Rue village*

Specific objectives: To conserve and rehabilitate “Pung bamboo” (a kind of local bamboo good for basket making)

Table 8. Shows the evaluation result of bamboo basket making group of Nong Rue village

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource development:	
- There are more villagers who have better knowledge and capable in teaching on Pung bamboo growing.	3
- More youths can produce bamboo baskets.	3
- Consumers understand the status and importance of Pung bamboo conservation.	3
2. Natural resources:	
- There is a monitoring system to check the origin of Pung bamboo. (The cutting of Pung bamboo from forest shall eventually decrease.)	4
- Bamboo seedling plots are arranged.	3
- More Pung bamboo are grown.	2
3. Management of target activity:	
- Knowledge in Pung bamboo growing will be documented.	1
- A proper managed plot of Pung bamboo is in place.	3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

- **Orchid tissue culture of Non Soong and Ta Yoi village**

Specific objectives;

1. Conservation of wild orchids via tissue culture technique
2. Less wild orchid collecting from forest for trade
3. Establishment of wild orchid tissue culture center for education

(5) Wild orchid culture of *Non Soong village*

Table 9. Shows the evaluation result of wild orchid culture of Non Soong village

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource development:	
- There will be group members who can provide knowledge on tissue culture.	2
- Local knowledge will be applied by members in wild orchid culture.	3
- The knowledge will be transferred to younger generation.	2
- More wild orchids will be produced by various techniques.	1
2. Natural resource:	
- Learning center of wild orchid will be founded.	1
- Tissue culture center of wild orchid will be established.	1
3. Management of target activity:	
- Monitoring system is in place	1
- Public relation on local wild orchid protection.	2
- List of local wild orchids are documented.	2
- Regulations within group are formulated.	3
- Collection of wild orchid species	3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

(6) Wild orchid culture of Ta Yoi village

Table 10. Shows the evaluation result of wild orchid culture of Ta Yoi village

Indicators	Weight
1. Human resource development:	
- There will be group members who can provide knowledge on tissue culture.	3
- The knowledge will be transferred to younger generation esp. to school children.	3
- More wild orchids will be produced by various techniques (local knowledge will also be applied).	3
2. Natural resources:	
- Activity to return orchids to the forest is conducted.	3
- Learning center of wild orchids is built.	3
- A tissue culture center is built.	3
3. Management of target activity:	
- Monitoring system is in place.	3
- Public relation on wild orchid protection	4
- List of wild orchids are documented.	0
- Regulations within group are formulated.	3
- Collection of wild orchid species	3

Remark: 1) The weight shown is an average weight of the total.

The members have shown interests and joined the evaluation actively. They said they understood more about the achievement indicators and how it can be used as a tool for group development. The members were very honest and open in giving grades. Some indicators received zero weight and very few indicators received full 5 weight, as the members saw that the group was at the beginning stage. Though they have conducted most of activities according to the plan but the quality of the outcomes of some indicators were not yet good enough. Especially the documentation of lessons learnt, of the indigenous knowledge, and publication of the knowledge and lessons learnt. This may not be the capability of the old members, but they saw the importance of this activity and willing to improve this aspect in the future with assistance from the younger members and

knowledgeable persons in the village. Moreover, some activities such as wild orchid tissue culture, more bamboo growing and expansion of integrated plots, required longer period of time to achieve the set task of the reduction/ the elimination of the dependency on forest resources. It was also clear that the villages became better known by publics. Most of tourists who came to the village were the study tour groups. But the quality of eco-tour management and home stay need a lot more improvements. Closer coordination between nearby villages and with local authorities and related agencies are of crucial importance to receive and disseminate necessary information and to acquire of support on capability building. The pilot groups have done a substantial progress within a short period of time. However, this newly emergence needs continuous follow ups to further strengthen them for a sustainable development.

5. Conclusions

The on-going transformation of livelihoods in PPFC was facilitated by the combination of several factors: increased population pressure, the expansion of cash crop areas, the desire of the people to improve their economic situation through the tourism activities, the infrastructure development and, as a result, more encroachment into protected forests and higher demand of forest products.

The initiatives of the Management of PPFC Project Phase II aimed at the strengthening of local participations in the rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources by means of the promotion of environmental safe occupation in particular the eco-tourism management. In support of this task a pilot fund for 6 villages of Baht 50,000 per each pilot village was arranged. This financial assistance shall be used as seed money for the start up of the pilot activities. Regarding the conclusion and suggestion of the Phase I Final Project Report emphasized the 6 promising ICDP pilot sites: 1 pilot project for handicraft from bamboo, 2 pilot projects for home-stay, 1 pilot project for food bank or fruit tree plantation and another 2 pilot projects for wild orchid tissue culture.

The RDI-KKU team, as a Participatory Community Development and Tourism Consultant, has conducted several community potential appraisal trips in order to learn of up to date situation and needs for development of the target sites. Consultation interviews with representatives of related agencies and local authorities were also done to search for possible collaborations in development of eco-tourism and alternative occupations. The result of the community appraisal and key informant interviews were used in the designing of capability building training curriculum and in the selection of six pilot villages.

The Project Joint Task Force committee meeting was held on March 27, 2009 to consider on the selection of six target communities for ICDP and pilot activities. The committee has developed the village selection criteria emphasizing the continuous roles in rehabilitation and conservation of natural resources and the commitment to exchange their experience with other communities. Finally, six villages were selected for the Project pilot fund namely:

- 2 Villages for wild orchid culture: 1. Tayoi village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district and 2. Nonsoong village, Dom Pradit sub-district, Nam Yuen district.
- 2 villages for home-stay/ eco-tourism development: 1. Pa Chan, Samrong sub-district, Posai district 2. Tha Long, Huipai sub-district, Khong Jiam district.
- 1 village for integrated agricultural development: Suan Son village, Khamkuenkaew sub-district, Sirintorn district.
- 1 village for the development of handicraft from bamboo: Nong Rue village, Kholaen sub-district, Buntarik district.

After that, community meeting in each village was organized to inform of the selection result and to facilitate the participatory preparation of the pilot activity proposal for the pilot fund. The group management committee was also elected by community members. Training programs on eco-tourism management and development of local products were provided for representatives of target communities. In addition, the workshop to facilitate the development of achievement indicators of each pilot activity by the representatives of group committee was managed. During implementation process of pilot activities, several informal monitoring visits were made by the Project field staffs.

In December 2009, stakeholder workshops were organized in each village where the group members were facilitated to use the achievement indicators for the evaluation of the pilot activities by themselves. The members expressed their views after finishing the evaluation that they understood more about the meaning of achievement indicators and how it could be used as a tool for group development.

The evaluation result indicated that the group members were very honest in giving grades. Very few indicators received full weight, as the members saw that the quality of the outcomes of some indicators were not yet good enough. Especially the documentation of lessons learnt, of the indigenous knowledge, and publication of the knowledge and lessons learnt. This may not be the capability of the majority members, but they saw the importance of this activity and willing to improve this aspect in the future. Moreover, some activities such as wild orchid tissue culture, bamboo growing and expansion of integrated plots, required longer period of time to achieve the set task “ the reduction/ the elimination of the dependency on forest resources”. Though the villages became better known by

publics and had more visitors. But the quality of eco-tour management and home stay need a lot more improvements. The pilot groups have done a substantial progress within a short period of time. However, these newly formulated groups need continuous supports for a sustainable development.

6. Recommendations

1. The six pilot villages have shown a rapid progress within short period of time and some of these have a strong potential for learning sites or development models to other communities within PPFC and to the trans-boundary conservation areas in the Mekong basin. However, these newly formulated groups should be provided with additional capability building supports to ensure the sustainable development. The training on how to be a good learning site and necessary skills for knowledge transfer is also required.
2. Appropriate project duration (should at least be more than one year) for different pilot activity should be considered. For example the wild orchid tissue culture and eco-tourism management which comprise of different related activities need longer period for development.
3. Emphasis of the community development in the next phase should be given to the application of clustering approach in the expansion of cooperation between existing groups with neighboring communities and with other network organizations. The exchange of lessons and development experience between the groups doing similar activities shall be encouraged. The development of new groups and clusters with other potential resources in PPFC should be assisted.
4. The development approach by providing financial support as seed money for pilot activities is an effective tool, However, to make it more useful and suitable to different condition of groups and communities, the criteria for target group selection and amount of grants should be flexible and open for not only the request from a single village but also the request from cluster of groups or network organizations.
5. Assistance to the pilot groups in particular in setting up a practical system for accumulation of knowledge and lessons learnt is required. This activity will enable the target groups to uplift the level of learning mechanism of their own, which is an important capability for self adjustment in response to the rapid socio-economic transformation. Furthermore, the information gained can be published and produced in various forms of media for dissemination to other communities in PPFC and wider public.

6. Diverse touring packages to suit the different demands of tourists should be designed. For example the packages for the short and long stay visitors, for the group of study tours, for trainees and students whereas the package for different topic of focus should also be developed i.e. on ethnic culture and way of life, on wild orchid tissue culture and on natural dyed cotton weaving activity etc. Coordination with provincial Tourist Office and private touring association in order to disseminate the information about the tour packages to be offered by the community should be done.

Annex I

Achievement indicators of ICDP pilot activities

The following achievement indicators have been drafted by representatives of 6 target village committees. The indicators can be divided into two sets. The first section is the achievement indicators for general project purposes, which will be used by all 6 target groups. The second set is the achievement indicators for specific purposes responding to different pilot activities of each group. These achievement indicators will be used by group members as evaluation guideline of their own group.

B. Achievement indicators for general project purposes (to be used by all 6 villages)

Objective 1. To strengthen cooperation between communities and related officers in the development of community livelihood

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Members and stakeholders of target group: - Members compose of male and female members from different age groups and diverse socio economic status. - There are more new members. - Stakeholders (from inside and outside target village) participate actively in group activities.						
2. Level of community participation: - Understanding about project's task and target activity - Involvement in development planning of the target activity - Participation in conducting the planned activities						

Objective 1. (Continued)

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involvement in monitoring and evaluation of target activity - Participation in problem solving activity - Sharing benefits or gains from implementation of the target activity 						
3. Wider coverage of cooperation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation with other groups within the community - Cooperation with other groups outside the community - Initiation of new development activities 						

Objective 2. Conservation of forest resources

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Decrease utilization of forest resources						
2. Most efficient use of resources						
3. Implement natural resource conservation and rehabilitation activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning - Formation of regulation and agreement - Implementation of planned conservation and rehabilitation activities - Documentation of knowledge and lessons learned - Monitoring and evaluation of success and constraints 						

Objective 3. Strengthening of community's capability in natural resource management

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
<p>1. Benefits gain by individual member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Income increase - Reduction of expenses - More knowledge gained - Individual member takes note of personal data 						
<p>2.Capability of target group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear management and administration structure - Regulations and agreements are formulated. - Group work plan is prepared. - Higher capital - Monitoring and reporting system is in place. - There is knowledge management system. - Members participate actively in group activities. 						
<p>3. Network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of more experienced members capable for knowledge dissemination - More participation of children and youths in target activity - More youths learn about local wisdoms. - There are more supports from external sources. 						

C. Achievement indicators for each target activity of each target village

- **Home stay management/ Eco-tour village**

Specific objectives:

- 3) To enable the tourists to learn of local way of life, local tradition and villagers' believes as well as the natural resource conservation practices.
- 4) The villagers and local authorities perceive the importance of local wisdom, local culture and natural resources.

(1) Eco-Tour and home stay activities of *Pa Chan village*

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Human resource development: - Local people are trained on how to be a good tour guide.						
2. Natural resources: - Conservation area for “Jilo” (edible and market demanded insects living in wet land area) is managed. - Documents on Jilo conservation techniques are produced. - Fish conservation area is identified and documents on local fishes are produced.						
3. Management of target activity: - Tourist routes and necessary information are developed. - Home stay activity is properly managed.						

(2) Eco-tour and home stay activity of Ta Long village

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
<p>1. Human resource:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Villagers will be trained to work as local tour guides. - Local wisdom will be conserved and transferred to the youths. - There will be more young handicraft producers. - Rural way of life can be observed i.e. fishing methods, food preparation techniques, speaking language, and traditional shows. 						
<p>2. Natural resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Sang Pa bamboo" (a kind of bamboo good for basket making) conservation activity is initiated. 						
<p>3. Management of target activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourist routes and necessary information is developed. - Tourist statistics is collected; number of tourists and their habits i.e. accommodation, purchasing of souvenirs. - The handicraft production group is more systematically managed. - Home stay activity is properly managed. 						

(3) Local plants conservation and promotion of integrated agriculture in *Suan Son village*

Specific objectives; To establish community learning plots of integrated agriculture (“Move the forest to homestead garden” or” To grow what the people use to collect from the forest at home”)

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Human resource development: - There are more knowledgeable person/ resource person work as local tour guides.						
2. Natural resources: - More integrated agricultural plots in the community. - Decrease dependency on forest resource						
3. Management of target activity: - Clear design of integrated agricultural plots by group members - Data on integrated agriculture will be documented. - Better public relation and appropriate medias for dissemination of group knowledge are produced. - Availability of community market selling local products						

(4) Bamboo basket making group of *Nong Rue village*

Specific objectives: To conserve and rehabilitate “Pung bamboo” (a kind of local bamboo good for basket making)

Indicators	Weight					Reason/remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Human resource development: - There are more villagers who have better knowledge and capable in teaching on Pung bamboo growing. - More youths can produce bamboo baskets. - Consumers understand the status and importance of Pung bamboo conservation.						
2. Natural resources: - There is a monitoring system to check the origin of Pung bamboo. (The cutting of Pung bamboo from forest shall eventually decrease.) - Bamboo seedling plots are arranged. - More Pung bamboo are grown.						
3. Management of target activity: - Knowledge in Pung bamboo growing will be documented. - A proper managed plot of Pung bamboo is in place.						

- **Orchid tissue culture of Non Soong and Ta Yoi village**

Specific objectives;

1. Conservation of wild orchids via tissue culture technique
2. Less wild orchid collecting from forest for trade
3. Establishment of wild orchid tissue culture center for education

(5) Wild orchid culture of *Non Soong village*

Indicators	Weight					Reason/ remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1. Human resource development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be group members who can provide knowledge on tissue culture. - Local knowledge will be applied by members in wild orchid culture. - The knowledge will be transferred to younger generation. - More wild orchids will be produced by various techniques. 						
2. Natural resource: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less dependency on wild orchids from forest. - Learning center of wild orchid will be founded. - Tissue culture center of wild orchid will be established. 						
3. Management of target activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring system is in place - Public relation on local wild orchid protection. - List of local wild orchids are documented. - Regulations within group are formulated. - Collection of wild orchid species 						

(6) Wild orchid culture of *Ta Yoi* village

Indicators	Weight					Reason/remark
	0	1	2	3	4	
1.Human resource development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be group members who can provide knowledge on tissue culture. - Local knowledge will be applied by members in wild orchid culture. - The knowledge will be transferred to younger generation. - More wild orchids will be produced by various techniques. 						
2.Natural resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity to return orchids to the forest is conducted. - Learning center of wild orchids is built. - A tissue culture center is built. 						
3. Management of target activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring system is in place. - Public relation on wild orchid protection - List of wild orchids are documented. - Regulations within group are formulated. - Collection of wild orchid species 						

Annex II

1. Community study, consultant meeting, capability building training and stakeholder workshop



Field study, key informant interviews for community appraisal and building linkages with relevant agencies



Exchange with a soldier responsible for development activity of Queen's Project in the Project area

Interview and exchange with the Director of Tourism Office of Ubonrajathani

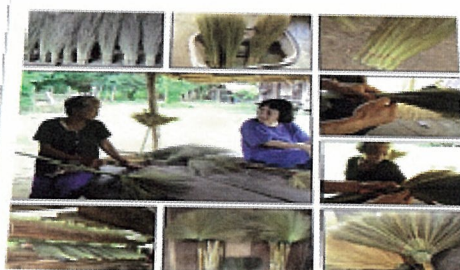
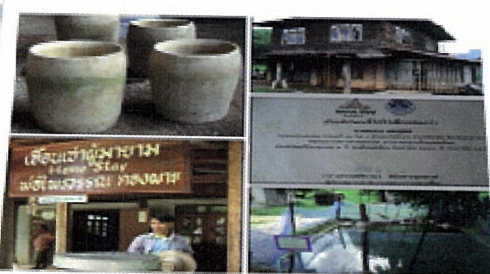


Interview with Wuenbuk village headman. Interview and exchange with an Official of Kaengtana National Park. Site visits during community appraisal

1. Community study, consultant meeting, capability building training and stakeholder workshop (Continued)



Workshop on local products development and management of eco-tourism by the peoples' organization network.



Potential local products and home stay in project area



Meeting between consultant team with project staffs and representatives of Joint Task Force Committee on June 26, 2009

1. Community study, consultant meeting, capability building training and stakeholder workshop (Continued)



Training on eco-tourism management



Village community meeting at central meeting hall of target village

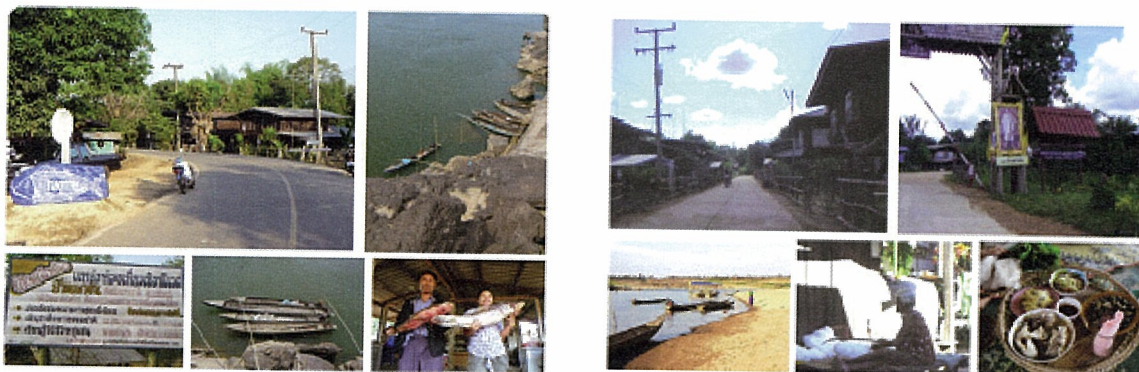


Stakeholder workshop to appraise achievements of ICDP and pilot activities

2. Pilot activities of the 6 target villages (Continued)



2 Villages for wild orchid culture: Tayoi village and Nonsoong village, both villages are under Yod-dom Wildlife Sanctuary area.



2 villages for home-stay/ eco-tourism development: Pa Chan and Tha Long village.

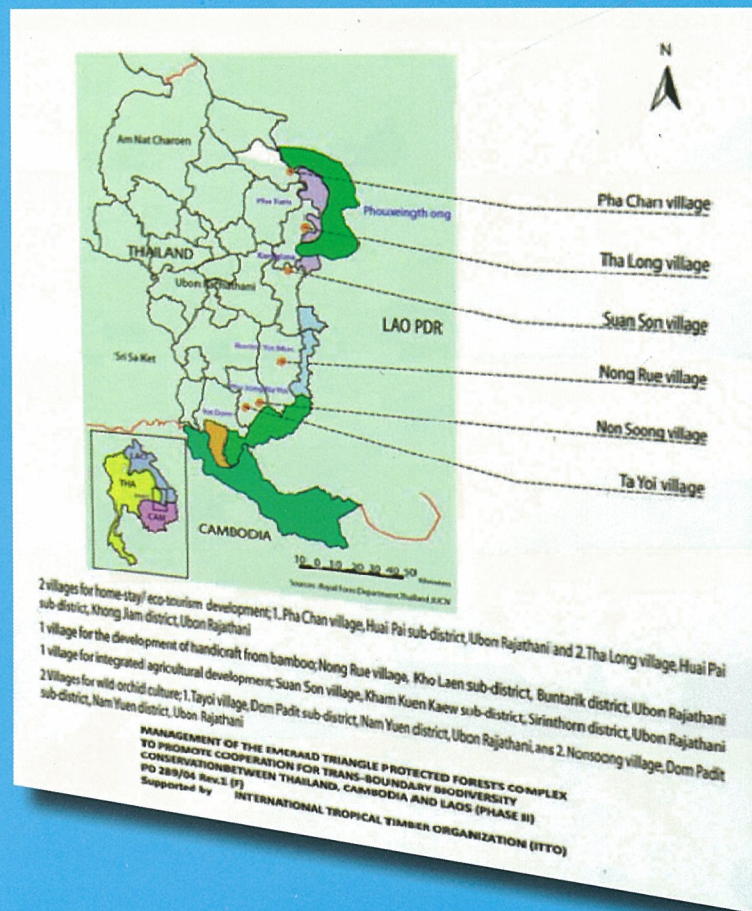
2. Pilot activities of the 6 target villages (Continued)



1 village for integrated agricultural development: Suan Son village, located at the outskirts of project area (in the buffer zone of ITTO project area) close to Kaeng Tana National Park.



1 village for the development of handicraft from bamboo: Nong Rue village, located in the radius of Buntrik Wildlife Sanctuary and being known as one of the big producers of cheap but of good quality bamboo rice cooking container.



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