

Community Welfare Network Management By Community Organization Networks In Bann-Ladyasai Village, Huay Kwang Subdistrict, Kampangsan District, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand.

การจัดสวัสดิการชุมชนโดยเครือข่ายองค์กรชุมชนของบ้านลาดหญ้าไทร ตำบลห้วยขวาง อำเภอกำแพงแสน จังหวัดนครปฐม ประเทศไทย

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Abstract

The objectives of this research were; to study the area context of Bann-Ladyasai village; to study the community welfare network management by community organization networks in Bann-Ladyasai village; and to study a coherence of community organization networks of both inside and outside villages in Huay Kwang sub-district, Kampangsan district, Nakhon Pathom. The research methodology was the qualitative research which the researchers employed an in-depth interview, self-embedment in the community and focus group discussion. The key informants were community leader and committees, heads and members of community organizations from all groups. The data analysis was to be contents analysis with typology and taxonomy. The research founded that there were seven community organizations in the network which not only established by the government but also established by local people including; the first government establishing group composed of five community organizations such one million funds group, one hundred thousand funds group, SML (Small-Medium-Large) funds group, women roles development group and public health volunteers group and the second local group establishing group composed of farmers group; saving for development group; and morality in life cycle group. All community organizations operated connectively for providing community welfare to local people. They performed by both formal and informal committees who nominated by

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members of each group. In addition, they expanded the community welfare through outside community welfare network in order to raise up local people's quality of life and strengthen community networks in the area.

Keywords: 1. Community Welfare 2. Community Organizations 3. Community Welfare Network

บทคัดย่อ

การศึกษาครั้งนี้มีวัตถุประสงค์ 3 ประการ ได้แก่ 1) เพื่อศึกษาการจัดสวัสดิการชุมชนโดยกลุ่มและเครือข่ายองค์กรชุมชน ม. 10 บ้านลาดหญ้าไทร ต. ห้วยขวาง อ. กำแพงแสน จ. นครปฐม 2) เพื่อศึกษากิจกรรมการดำเนินงานภายในกลุ่มและองค์กรต่างๆ ที่เกิดขึ้นใน ม.10 บ้านลาดหญ้าไทร ต. ห้วยขวาง อ. กำแพงแสน จ. นครปฐม และ 3) เพื่อศึกษาการเชื่อมโยงเครือข่ายของกลุ่มที่เกิดขึ้นทั้งเครือข่ายภายในชุมชนและภายนอกชุมชน เพื่อการจัดสวัสดิการชุมชนของ ม. 10 บ้านลาดหญ้าไทร ต. ห้วยขวาง อ. กำแพงแสน จ. นครปฐม ระเบียบวิธีวิจัยเป็นการวิจัยเชิงคุณภาพโดยใช้การสัมภาษณ์ การลงพื้นที่ชุมชน และการสนทนากลุ่มย่อย โดยผู้ให้ข้อมูลสำคัญเป็นผู้นำชุมชนและผู้นำกลุ่มองค์กรชุมชนทุกกลุ่ม การวิเคราะห์ข้อมูลใช้การวิเคราะห์เนื้อหา การจัดกลุ่มและแยกประเภทข้อมูล ผลการวิจัย พบว่า กลุ่มองค์กรชุมชนทั้ง 7 กลุ่มที่รวมกันเป็นเครือข่ายมีทั้งการจัดตั้งโดยหน่วยงานภาครัฐและจัดตั้งโดยการรวมตัวกันของคนในชุมชน กลุ่มองค์กรชุมชนที่จัดตั้งโดยหน่วยงานภาครัฐประกอบไปด้วยกลุ่มองค์กรชุมชน 5 กลุ่ม ได้แก่ กลุ่มกองทุนเงินล้าน กลุ่มกองทุนเงินแสน กลุ่ม SML กลุ่มกองทุนพัฒนาบทบาทสตรี และกลุ่มอาสาสมัครสาธารณสุข ส่วนกลุ่มที่จัดตั้งขึ้นจากการรวมตัวกันของคนในชุมชน ได้แก่กลุ่มเกษตรกร และกลุ่มกองทุนสัจจะสะสมทรัพย์เพื่อการพัฒนาคุณธรรมครบวงจรชีวิต คณะกรรมการกลุ่มของกลุ่มองค์กรชุมชนจะมีสมาชิกภาพในแต่ละกลุ่มองค์กรชุมชนและระหว่างกัน ทำให้การจัดสวัสดิการชุมชนเป็นแบบลักษณะเครือข่ายสวัสดิการชุมชนที่ช่วยเหลือกันและยกระดับคุณภาพชีวิตของคนในชุมชนและสร้างความเข้มแข็งของเครือข่ายสวัสดิการให้แก่ชุมชน

คำสำคัญ: 1. สวัสดิการชุมชน 2. องค์กรชุมชน 3. เครือข่ายสวัสดิการชุมชน

Introduction

Community welfare was a part of social welfares which would be an alternative stream of social welfare managed by the people in community's own potentialities. Therefore, the community welfare could serve and raise the quality of life for people in the community independently. The community welfare groups could be categorized into two types including a naturally set-up group of welfare and formally or by law set-up group of welfare. Besides, the model of community welfare would be able to be divided into five models such 1) financial-based community organizations, 2) production and enterprise-based community organizations, 3) natural resources and environment based community organization, 4) ideological and religious based community organizations and 5) poverty reduction-based community organizations.

As long as the experiences of people in community for collaborating in welfare management provision via community cooperation and saving funds group, was a starting point for community welfare development and evolution by the civil society movement in society in order to increase the quality of life of people in the community. Therefore, the stake holders in society for community development should be collaborated with each other to strengthen the community for self-reliance and sustainability in the long run. So it was very important to set up and create community networks for community work and community welfare provision which integrated the collaboration of both inside and outside organization networks that empowered the community. The work process model of community organizations ought to be significantly linked to provide community welfare and facilitated people to access the welfare benefits from all sources.

In Bann Ladyasai village, Moo 10, there were several community organizations that had been found into two type including 1) naturally set-up group of community organizations and 2) formally or by law set-up group of community organizations for example, the formally or by law set up group were such one-million fund group, one hundred thousand fund group, women fund group, SML working group, public health volunteer group and the samples of naturally set-up group of community organizations was such farmer network group, saving fund group for life-cycle moral development. Although, those had their own outstanding strength in collaboration for work and welfare provision, but there were still some weakness points in order to sustainably strengthen the community development.

Therefore, the researcher aimed to study the network of community organizations and the provision of community welfare of the community organizations networks in order to develop and improve the working process of community organizations for community welfare provisions in the same ways.

Research Objectives

1. To study the provision of community welfare management by community organizations in Bann Ladyasai village, Huay Kwang sub-district, Kampangsan district, Nakhon Pathom.
2. To study the activities driven by community organization networks for community welfare in Bann Ladyasai village, Huay Kwang sub-district, Kampangsan district, Nakhon Pathom.
3. To study the linkage of community organization network both inside and outside the village.

Research Methodology

The research employed the qualitative methodology for searching data and facts that would be fulfilled the research questions and objectives. Therefore, the research methods were an in-depth interview, focus group discussion, observation and documentary study. For data source, the research collected and analyzed the data from 2 sources as detail hereunder;

Data Sources for Research

This research exploited 2 types of data which were 1) primary data and 2) secondary data.

The primary data

The researcher directly collected data from the primary sources such the community leaders, heads of community organizations by in-depth interview and observation.

The Secondary data

The researcher collected data from the secondary sources such local organization annual reports, data and statistics from a report of sub-district health promoting hospital and etc.

Key Informants

The key informants in this research were from several stakeholders in the village including; community leader and committees, heads and members of community organizations which were composed of 1) Million fund group, 2) One hundred thousand fund group, 3) SML group (Small Medium Large size of villages), 4) Public health volunteers group, 5) Women fund group, 6) Saving fund group for life-cycle moral development, and 7) Farmer network group.

Research Tools for Data Collection

The research methodology was the qualitative study by observation and in-depth interview the key informants in the villages. The research tools were integrated by a set of in-depth interview questions, field notes for observation and a set of questions for focus group discussion. The main issues for data collection were to survey the community organization and found out the foundation of the operation of each and every community groups and the ways they provide community welfares and linkage of the community organization both inside and outside the village. The data analysis was to be contents analysis with typology and taxonomy.

Research Findings

Firstly, the researcher had made a rapport with the people in the villages and interviewed all targeted key informants and after that, the research had made focus group discussions with members of all community organizations in the village. The research found that;

Types of community organizations and community welfare provisions in Bann Ladyasai village, Huay Kwang sub-district, Kampangsan district, Nakhon Pathom

According to observations and data collection, the research found that there were 2 major types of community organizations which were 1) naturally set-up group of community organizations and 2) formally or by law set-up group of community organizations. In addition, both types of community organizations had been integrating the operation of community welfare provision with each other.

Naturally set-up group of community organizations

There were only two community organizations which were chartered by people's own collaboration without any government or local government's assistance or command. They were 1) saving fund group for life-cycle moral development and 2) farmer network group. The research found that the major objective of the group formulation was to raise the quality of life for people in the community, plant morality in ways of life and help to be self-reliance and collaborate for community work. In addition, the activities of community organization had focused on saving and lending money to the people in community. The activities of the saving fund group for life-cycle moral development were created from local wisdom related to the dimensions of economics, society, politics, environment, and health. People who were members of the community organization had ever collaborated and shared knowledge and experiences about farming with each other. These activities empowered people and community to live in a changing world and expanded bargaining power against the competitors. Most of the people in the village belonged to both community organizations' memberships because the organizations opened widely for people in the village who wanted to join community welfare. Besides, they always had a monthly meeting and set up and approved any rule and regulation of the organizations together. They had to abide by the rule and regulations that they mutually created such rules and regulations for deposit and withdrawal money, interest rate, loan and all allowances. Monthly, the members had to deposit money to the group within the 10th of every month, this deposit was called "Faithful saving". So the members had to deposit money monthly to the group with the same amount of faithful saving that they intended to save, in case of the breakable faithful, it meant they did not deposit monthly faithful saving, they would be fined and then could not apply for any loan from the

group. The fine was collected to the fund of the group and distributed to the community in the form of community welfare.

As for the farmer network group, the members of the group should be the farmers and they had created their own activities such training for organic fertilizer production, field trip study and etc. The research also found that there was any support from provincial local government especially paddy seeds for planting. The paddy seeds were distributed and sold to all members of the group with the cheaper price than the market price. The distribution and sale bring about profits and the member could ask for the loan for career investment from the profits of the group.

Both saving fund group for life-cycle moral development and farmer network group had a linkage for collaboration to work and provide community welfare because the committees of both group nearly the same board of executives and the members also remained the status of membership of both groups and link to outside collaborative networks such nearby villages, Phra-Subin saving fund group (a prototype of saving fund in Trat province of Thailand) and farmers network of Huaykwang district, rice research center of Ratchaburi province and community rice research center in Nakhon Pathom province.

In a part of community welfare provision, the saving fund group for life-cycle moral development provided some loan for people who were impoverished by the committee's ranking in terms of loan necessity. At the end of the fiscal year, the profits from activities such loan interest would be divided into two parts, the first part was distributed for dividend sharing and the other was returned to be a capital in the fund for loan redistribution to the needy people. Nevertheless, the committees were compensated with an amount of bonus at the end of the year. The members of saving fund group were covered under the benefits from the group's profits such inpatient fees, cremation allowance and debt remission for the farmers after passing away. Some profit was redistributed for public service in the village, temple, and school in Bann Ladyasai sub-district.

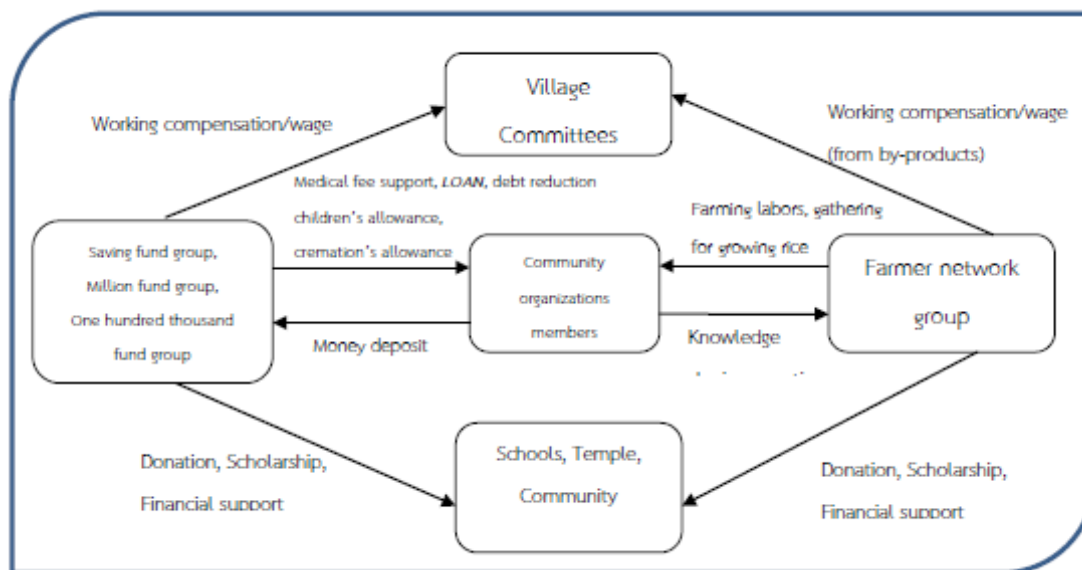


Figure 1: Linkage of community organizations and community welfares in Bann Ladyasai Village

Formally or by law set-up group of community organizations

There were five community organizations which were chartered by law or government support and enforcement including; 1) Million fund group, 2) One hundred thousand fund group 3) SML group (Small Medium Large size of villages), 4) Public health volunteers group and 5) Women fund group. Due to the field study, the research found that the government needed to put the national budget directly to the community in order to meet the need of people in the community. In addition, the research also found that most of the community organizations had their own ways of operation with the similar activities especially, committee election, the election was made by the people in the community for the board of committee.

Firstly and secondly, both Million fund group and One hundred thousand fund group had a similarity of group activities such executive committee election and meeting. Besides, some committee was positioned in both groups, it caused any collaborations for works in the community not only loan, money deposit but also community activities. The major activities for community welfare were reallocated the national budget from the government to be the loan with the low rate of interest for people in the community, money deposit to the funds and provision of donation, educational scholarship and financial support/aids to social institutions in the community. The groups always had monthly meetings on the 10th and that day was the activities day of loan payment and money deposit to the groups and funds.

Thirdly, SML group was annually funded by the government twice budgets, first time of budget allocation was Baht 250,000 and the second time was Baht 400,000, in order to support the activities of the community. The people in community elected a board of committees and their function was to approve, monitor and examine the budget spending. In Bann Ladyasai. The first budget allocation by the government was spent to purchase a coin machine for drinking water production. This project of purchasing coin machine had made profits from selling drinking water to the people in the community and the second budget allocation was spent to build a community learning center, buying tables and chairs for rent in and nearby community in order to earn profits. So the profits would be returned in the form of community welfare such child allowance, handicapped allowance, elderly allowance and enlarging the fund.

Fourthly, Women fund group was set up by the public policy under Yingluck's government for a specific group of woman in society. The principal's aim was to support women to increase their income by forming a career group. By the way, the government had seed money for the initial start.

Finally, the research found that the public health volunteers group in Bann Ladyasai composed of a representative from each and every village, the total amount of volunteers were eight and they were responsible to work for proactive health in the village such home visit, hypertension check-up, diabetes filtration, health care campaign and etc. Monthly, they had to report the situation of health in the responsible areas to the provincial public health office.

In addition, the research also found that the formally or by law set up group of community organizations mutually aimed to mobilize the public policies and allocate national budgets from the government to the local areas and finally it would make the quality of life, illegal household debt reduction for people in communities. Moreover, it would be initiated the network of community organizations and community welfare for them. Eventually, there was a community welfare network which could work sustainably for each other. People realized to participate in community development and fiscal and budget management. Besides, they also realize to save money and reduce the illegal household debt because they could access the source of the legal loan from One million fund group and One hundred thousand fund groups.

As previously mentioned about the mutual committees amidst the community organizations, the research also found that there were a relationship and a linkage, taken place between Million fund group, One thousand hundred fund group, SML group, Women development group and public health volunteers group, that was a mutual team of committees. Whenever if there was an activity hold by a community organization, other community organizations always

gave assistances to support the activity. Although there were various careers of members from all community organization such farmers, grocers, peddlers, craftsmen and government employees, that had caused different ideas and opinions, they still willingly collaborated and participated in the activity. People in the community could be a member of one community organization or more, similarly, a committee in one community organization could also be a member in one or more community organizations. This was a proactive mechanism to strengthening and empowering community organizations network within and outer the villages.

For example of a linkage of community organizations and community welfares to social stakeholders in community, the saving fund group functioned as a bank in terms of deposit and loan, it made some profit from the margin of interest rate between saving and loan, the interest rate of loan is lower than the financial institutions like banks. As stated above that the saving fund group, it would redistribute the profit to be community welfare to the needy people and students in a community school such Ladyasai primary school. In return, the students and teacher saved and deposited money to the group, at the end of a month, teachers would collect money from students and transferred it to the saving fund group. This was a kind of gimmick to plant saving habit for students.

SML group was funded by the central government to run an activity in the community by its own need and decision. In Ladyasai village, the fund was spent to build a coin machine for drinking water production and building a community learning center that was a place of formal and informal meeting in the villages such public health volunteers, saving fund group members, farmer group members and etc. The revenues from drinking water production were also transformed to the community welfare in the form of scholarship, donation to temples and financial support for community activities.

Eventually, Community organizations were found and administered by elected committees. They were hired by some of the profit of the group but the very little amount of compensation. Most of profit and revenues from community organizations were spent to the benefits of people in the community such medical fee support, child allowance, cremation allowance, public material maintenance, a donation to temples, a scholarship to students and etc. These were called community welfares that managed and provided by the community's own.

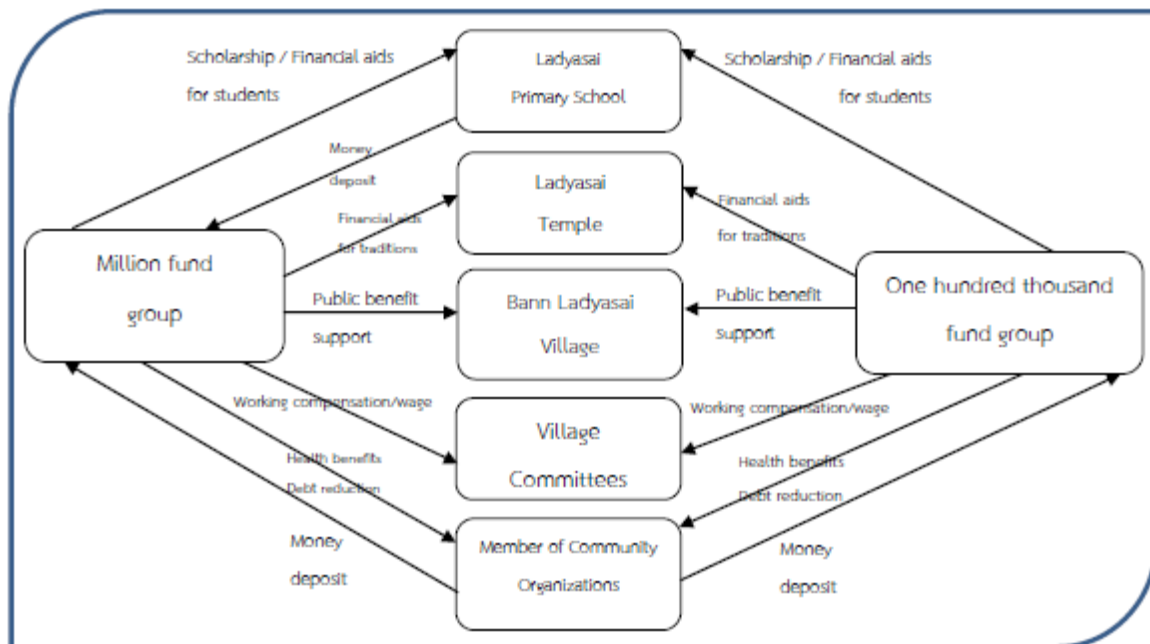


Figure 2: Networks of financial community organizations and community welfare

Discussion

As the research results, the research would discuss about the findings as hereunder;

Discussion of findings in the issues of community organizations and collaborative networks

In Bann Ladyasai, there were seven community organizations which could systematically work together for the benefits of community. Finally, they became a group of community organization networks and work linking to inside and outside community organizations. The finding was similar to the finding of Sujin Daoveerakul (1984) and Kannika Chomdee (1981) in terms of participation process of the working group that ought to be a network for the mutual benefits and progressive work because the network would facilitate and expedite activities of the community.

Discussion about community welfare provided by community organizations

As the people participated in the group process in community, Community had to have a correct management not only from the board of committees but also from the community welfare provision from profits and revenues from community organizations and compensation to the committees and members of the group. These were relevant to the findings of Kanyamon Insawang. (2003) and Kanistha Kanchanarungsri and Walaitas Worakul. (2004) that community welfare should be provided in form of members' benefits, financial support for local traditions on a holy day or feasts, public material maintenance and scholarship to students.

Recommendation

According to the research findings and conclusions, it was found any weakness of community organization networks and network's management so the researcher recommended governmental institutes of both central and local supported their activities and budgets. Besides, the officers should teach and make people learned about recording the standard of accounting and financial management.

Recommendation for the Future Research

It should be researching in the future for the developing and strengthening the network of community organizations in order to make a community's self-reliance and sufficient community welfare provision by employing the participatory action research.

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