

Development of the Model of Poverty Troubleshooting for People in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province

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Abstract

This research aimed at investigating the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting of the people, developing the model of poverty troubleshooting for people, conducting the experiment and evaluating the model of poverty troubleshooting for people in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province. Research results revealed that an overview of the level of people's participation in the three aspects consisted of the participation in perception, the participation in decision-making, and the participation in activity-planning and performance was at a moderate level. As for the evaluation result of the draft of the model of poverty troubleshooting for people in electoral zone 6 by 5 experts, its IOC (Item of Objective Congruence Index) was 0.89. After this model was used for a sample of 60 people, it showed that they had their post-knowledge concerning poverty troubleshooting higher than their pre-knowledge at the .05 statistical significant level. An overview of their positive attitudes towards this model was at a high level. And an overview of their positive attitudes towards this workshop in terms of its context, its inputs, its processes, and its outputs was at a high level.

Keywords: development, model of poverty troubleshooting, Electoral Zone 6, people's participation

1. Introduction

According to the statement written in the National Economic and Social Development Plan volume 9 (A.D. 2002-2006) which pointed out that poverty troubleshooting was an urgent problem and it needed a continuous process throughout the five years of this plan. Its main goal was to reduce proportion of the poor from 15.9% to 12% in 2006 and emphasized the importance of a systematic poverty troubleshooting by giving a chance for the poor to reach state services, developing the strength of the poor in order to encourage them to get ahead in life by themselves, improving state administration, and adjusting some regulations in order to give a chance for the poor to reach the rights and justice equal to other people in society.

Phetprasert (2005) suggested the way to find the key answers for poverty troubleshooting in the Thai society that we should solve them from the questions like these: Who is the poor?, What is mode of living of each type of the poor?, How does poverty trouble rise to lead to other social problems?, Which are the appropriate ways to help the poor?, and How about the feasibility of self-reliance?, because there are many types of the poor; for example, the poorest or the people who lack a chance to reach all of state services, they almost have no income and be insulted by other people, the another type of the poor is the people who have income but they feel unstable of their occupations since those are the occupations which nobody accept such as prostitution, labour, and illegal business, both types of the poor need some help from all sectors of Thai society, All types of the poor need a chance to get income from lawful occupations.

Poverty can be divided into 4 types: 1) poverty resulted from a lack of income, a lack of production factors, a lack of requisites of life; 2) poverty resulted from a lack of chance and basic right to receive proper and standard public health service, and no right to reach a proper job; 3) poverty resulted from a lack of power to participate in economic and political activities, a lack of self-protective mechanics, and an impact of someone took advantage over the poor; and 4) poverty resulted from social discrimination. The poor were discriminated by a majority group or an authoritarian group. The trouble of poverty troubleshooting but this problem has not been

solved yet. This is consistent with Chiangkun (2004), he writes that the result of fifty years of economic development, it has shown the average growth of GDP per year at 3%-6% but this growth does not distribute to all people so the types of the poor in Thailand can be mainly divided into two types: the absolute poor (no adequate requisites of life) and the poor according the criterion of minimum income (a rate of 4,000-5,000 baht per person per month), while the minority of the rich own almost all of production factors and capital, control all systems of economy and society, the poor are pressed to be a majority group with no power.

Phongphit (2003) points out that almost all of projects of economic and social development operated by state organizations were failed because they determined people's requirements by themselves without giving a chance for people to determine their requirements by themselves and the projects of development tend to focus on the importance of budget is run out, the problems still remain. It can say that the trouble of poverty in Thailand links with a problem of unfair distribution of income resulted from the policy or economic and social development which was set by the government and operated in an operative style of top-down development.

The strategy of poverty troubleshooting and economic development of Nakorn Si Thammarat Province was set into 4 aspects: 1) the aspect of increasing income, 2) the aspect of reducing expenditure, 3) the aspect of opportunity expansion, and 4) the aspect of making community's strength. In the area of Electoral Zone 6 or Nakorn Si Thammarat Province, there are a lot of the poor working in rubber tree plantations of the middle class and the majority of them have no stability of income. Moreover, they ignore to participate in activities concerning economic and social development because they think that these activities should be operated by state organizations and it is not a direct duty of them. Maybe this research will find the way to pursnate people living in this area to participate in these activities.

2. Purposes

- To investigate the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting of the people in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province.
- To develop the model of poverty troubleshooting for people in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province.
- To conduct the experiment and to evaluate the model of poverty troubleshooting for people in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province.

3. Materials and Methods

This qualitative research was conducted by the process of research and development using a technique of action research. Questionnaires are used as research instrument. The researcher conducted this research into 3 stages:

Stage 1. investigating the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting the people living in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province by deriving data from the 2 sources as follows:

- Gathering the data concerning the background of the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting of the people living in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province from a documentary investigation.
- Gathering the data concerning the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting from statements of a sample of 382 people registering the list of the poor under poverty and social troubleshooting project, all of them were leaders of families who gained minimum income at a rate of 4,000-5,000 baht per person per month. And the sampling table of Krejcie and Morgan (1970) was used for selecting the sample within a level of statistical significance at 95%.

Stage 2. Developing the model of poverty troubleshooting for people in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province by using all data gathered from the stage 1. As a database and then conducted the development process as follows:

- Analyzing the data derived from the stage 1.
- Synthesizing the data and then drafted a model of poverty troubleshooting for people in Electoral Zone 6.
- Examining and evaluating the dratted model the 5 experts examined and evaluated the quality of the model. The researcher developed the model according to the experts' suggestions.
- Evaluating the developed model. A sample of 60 people was selected from the stage 1. by means of a purposive sampling in order to evaluate the quality people's participation consisted of the participation in

perception, the participation in decision-making, and the participation in activity-planning and performance.

- Making an absolute model which was based on the result of all evaluations.

Stage 3. Conducting the experiment according to the technique of Appreciation Influence Control (AIC). The Model of Poverty Troubleshooting for People in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province was tried. The model and the workshop were evaluated by the 5 experts and the sample of 60 people on every aspect.

Finally, it became the practical model for poverty troubleshooting in real situation.

3. Results and Discussion

In terms of the level of participation in poverty troubleshooting of people, it revealed the following:

- The participation in perception, an overview of the level of participation in this aspect of people was at a moderate level. It indicated that the people living in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province ignored the participation in perception information concerning poverty troubleshooting produced by state organizations.
- The participation in decision-making, an overview of the level of participation in this aspect of people was at a moderate level. It indicated that the people living in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province did not emphasize the importance of decision-making on poverty troubleshooting.
- The participation in activity-planning and performance, an overview of the level of participation in this aspect of people was at a moderate level. It indicated that the people living in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province did not like to cooperate with state organizations in activity-planning and performance on poverty troubleshooting.

As for their main reason for ignoring the participation in poverty troubleshooting with state organizations derived from a field study was poverty troubleshooting operated by state organizations was delayed, non-continued, and non-fair.

In terms of developing the model of poverty troubleshooting, it indicated that a technique of AIC (Appreciation Influence Control) was used for developing the model. This technique consisted of 3 stages were the stage of appreciation, the stage focused on the importance of the background of poverty trouble and then all participants participated in problem-perception, decision making, and activity-planning and performance; the second stage focused on creating the way to develop community; the third stage focused on operating development projects. The draft of this model was evaluated by the 5 experts, its IOC (Item of Objective Congruence Index) was 0.89. And the value of IOC of the model evaluated by the sample of 60 people was higher than the experts'. This is consistent with Homans (2003), he writes that the three factors pushing people to gather together are an activity, an interaction, and a collective conscience, the more people gather, the more interaction and collective conscience appears. Deutch & Krauss (1965) point out that the process of participation and interaction leads to good relations between the givers and the receivers, it also enhances good cooperation which is necessary for group-operation. Ackoff (1969) writes that planning is the design of a desired future and of effective ways of bringing it about. It is an instrument that is used by the wise, but not by the wise alone. When conducted by lesser men, it often becomes an irrelevant ritual that produces short-run peace of mind, but not the future that is longer for. Thus, the draft of this model was improved to the absolute model by all persons concerned.

In terms of conducting the experiment according to the technique of AIC, the Model of Poverty Troubleshooting for People in Electoral Zone 6, Nakorn Si Thammarat Province was tried for the sample of 60 people. After the workshop finished, it indicated that participants' past-knowledge concerning poverty troubleshooting was higher than their pre-knowledge at the .05 statistical significant level. An overview of their positive attitudes towards this model was at a high level. An overview of their positive attitudes towards this workshop in terms of its context, its inputs, its processes, and its outputs was at a high level. As for the statements of the participants derived from a group-interview, it indicated that they were satisfied the atmosphere of the workshop, the majority of activities and elements of the workshop, including they thought that this model could be practically operate for poverty troubleshooting for people in real situation. This is consistent with Suwimon Wongwanit (2003), she writes that the evaluation of each experiment is necessary for finding out the real knowledge and skills of learners in situation which is similar to the real world. This process and its products by both the experts and the participants.

4. Conclusion

The results of the research entitled Development of Model of Poverty Troubleshooting for People in Electoral

Zone 6, Kakorn Si Thammarat Province benefit the organizations concerned in case of they can adapt some useful things from this research to their activities concerning socio-economic development. The research was conducted by means of an AIC technique which the participants directly take action together with their groups through all processes of a workshop. Every stage of research operation was evaluated by both the participants and the experts so this model can be used in real situation practically.

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