

Abstract

Effects of Training on People's Rights and Duties to Participate in the Transparent Administrative Activities of Tambon Administrative Organization (TAO): A Case Study in Saiyoke District, Kanchanaburi Province

Yothin Sawangdee

Chalermporn Apichanapong

Yupin Varasiriamorn

Weerapa Thanaprach

Paramaporn Meesuwan

Monrueedee Kerdsomboon

This research analyzes consequences of training on people's political rights and duties to participate in the transparent political and administrative activities of tambon administrative organization in Saiyoke District, Kanchanaburi Province. The study units are all 7 TAOs. Data for analysis are from interview schedules of a sample of 1,315 villagers 18 years old and over. The study employs a quasi-experimental research design without control case. Experimentation activities under 8 months intervention compose of using volunteers to participate in the legislation process such as attending the TAO council meeting, follow up TAO administrative committee annual report, monitoring procurement and recruitment system. Duration of the project is between April 2001 and July 2002. The study finds that an increase in knowledge such as roles and functions of TAO, people rights to participate, and influence of people participation in rural development activities organized by TAO have positive relationship with people's confidence in the transparency of TAO administration. Furthermore, volunteers' participation in legislation and administrative processes, such as TAO council meeting, procurement and recruitment systems, checking annual budget tends to have positive relationship with TAO administrative transparency leading to good governance. Consequently, to strengthen people's participation in TAO procurement and fiscal systems should be emphasized with a view to achieving more transparency in the administration to TAO.