

Community Based Disaster Risk Management Training

Since December, the Program has conducted three training events in Community Based Disaster Risk Management, each one covering four days of skills training and hands-on community risk management activities. The first training, held in December 2005, trained two Community Representatives from each of the seven villages in Kamphuan. Participants learned how to identify disaster risks and then developed village maps showing the vulnerabilities associated with these risks, including landslide, tsunami, flood and, fire. During the second training in March, 2006 the training group visited each of the

villages in Kamphuan to expand the information on the risk maps and ground-truth the initial individual findings of the Representatives. The participants received training on mitigation of risks and began to develop evacuation plans based on their community risk maps. Earlier this month a third training was held to present draft products developed by Community Representatives at village meetings of an expanded group of stakeholders. Here villagers learned how to better prepare themselves in the event of another tsunami by having a village evacuation plan including a buddy system, and household evacuation kits. The final training is scheduled for September, 2006.

Dr. Walter Dudley of The University of Hawaii and the Pacific Tsunami Museum conducted video interviews of several survivors of the tsunami. These survivor's stories will be used as a tool to educate people of the in Thailand.



Dr. Walter Dudley films Mr. Udom Formalee telling how he survived the Tsunami of December 26, 2004



Training participants discuss risk maps with community members to verify their findings

Children's Playground Opens- Crisis Corps Volunteer Heads Home

Last month we bid a sad farewell to Crisis Corps Volunteer Katherine Melcher. Katherine's project to design and construct a playground in Kamphuan was a resounding success and the results will be enjoyed by children and adults of the community for years to come. The playground was designed with community input and offers swings, a badminton/takro court, several play structures for children and a stage for table-tennis and aerobics. Funding for the playground was provided by the generosity of the

Peace Corps partnership. Katherine plans on traveling throughout southeast Asia before returning the US in May.



William Knowlton of Crisis Corps speaks at the opening ceremony



Katherine and friend at the opening ceremony of the Kamphuan children's Playground

The Post-Tsunami Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods Program is funded by the United States Agency for International Development and implemented by the Asian Institute of Technology, University of Rhode Island, and University of Hawaii in cooperation with the Kamphuan TAO (Tambon Administrative Organization) in Suk Samran District, Ranong Province, Thailand. The goal of the program is to demonstrate how participatory, issue-driven and results-oriented processes can be applied to restart livelihoods and rehabilitate coastal communities affected by the December 26, 2004 tsunami in selected coastal villages along the coast of the Andaman Sea.

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Water Tanks provided to Tsunami Village

As a part of our program objective to providing clean water for the people living in Kamphuan, we purchased and distributed 1,000 liter household water storage tanks to twenty nine families in Village 2 at Hat Pra Pat. A brief ceremony attended by Dr. Bart, Dr. Hopkins (UHH) and the TAO Chairman was held to distribute the tanks on May 02.



A truckload of 1000 liter water tanks awaits distribution at Hat Pra Pat in March.

Village Meetings Provide Ideas for Activities

In April, the Program held meetings in each of the five villages to better understand the current needs of those people affected by the 2004 tsunami. The meetings also allowed people in the communities to better understand the goals and accomplishments of the USAID funded program. Many new initiatives were discussed, including the construction of fishing boat repair shops, replacement of water storage tanks, batik cloth, duck-fish integrated farming, mushroom cultivation, kitchen gardens and more. The Project is looking to support small livelihoods projects and welcomes community members to discuss their ideas with the staff.

TAO News

TAO is pleased to announce the purchase of its new solid waste collection vehicle. This new piece of equipment will enable TAO to provide better collection services to the tambon. Over the next two months TAO, in conjunction with the Program and local the health community is planning to conduct an awareness raising campaign on solid waste and recycling. This team is planning to get community feedback to design waste management plans for each of the villages in Kamphuan to improve sanitation and beautify the communities.

The Project Welcomes Rattima Manoch

Rattima Manoch, Community Volunteer Facilitator from Village 3, Ban Kamphuan recently joined the Program full-time as an office assistant. Rattima is also committee member of the village 3 revolving fund and holds a bachelor's degree from Ratjabat University in marketing. Her task will be to provide overall secretarial support to the field project staff.



Revolving Fund News

The village revolving funds have shown a great deal of activities in the past few months. All villages have accepted new members and released limited number of second round of loans. Using the savings from the revolving funds the village 3 fund donated 1,500 baht to three elderly women in the village to assist with living expenses, at this time of difficulty.

Overall, the revolving funds are doing well with 100% repayment in village 1, 3 and 7 and 24 and 32% in village 1 and 4 in May. Thus far 19 additional loans have been disbursed from the revolving accounts with village 1, 3 and 7 leading the pack. The Program will continue to monitor the group activities and provide technical support as needed. A skill-building study tour is planned for Fund Management (IMF) group in June to visit a successful fund in Nakorn Sri Tamarat Province in Southern Thailand.