



COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER
University of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Khampuan In Action

October 2005

First Revolving Fund Loans To Be Awarded in October

The first round of loans from the USAID/AIT Community-Based Revolving Fund will be awarded to fund members in Suk Samran Villages 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 in mid-October.

Each village will have its own fund of 1,000,000 baht, for a total of 5,000,000 baht. Each village chose 50 people to participate in the village's fund. Priority will be given to villagers who were directly affected by the Dec. 2004 tsunami. Loan applicants will be required to prepare



Village Revolving Fund Committee Members enjoyed practicing their accounting skills using play "money" during training provided by Suri Consult

a business plan and a budget. Loan recipients will be required to repay the loan so that additional villagers can receive loans in the future. Each village elected ten people to form a committee that will administer the village's fund, including deciding which applications to accept.

During September, Suri Consult provided nine days of training, during which villagers learned skills in savings, loan, simple accounting and financial discipline. In Oct., the committee members will be trained in credit and financial management before choosing which villagers will receive the first round of loans.

TAO NEWS

TAO Kampuan has received 2,648,990 baht from Coastal Habitats and Resources Management (CHARM) and Rotary International (RI) for tsunami livelihood rehabilitation. A total of 21 occupational groups related to aquaculture were proposed for the fund. CHARM provided approximately 1,950,000 baht for 16 groups covering all seven villages. RI provided approximately 650,000 baht for five groups in village two.

On Sept. 22, TAO, CHARM and Raks Thai cooperated in holding a workshop for TAO's CHARM advisory board regarding occupational development for coastal resource rehabilitation. Raks Thai provided the trainers. The purpose of the training was to provide maximum benefit to the occupational groups and strengthen the community.

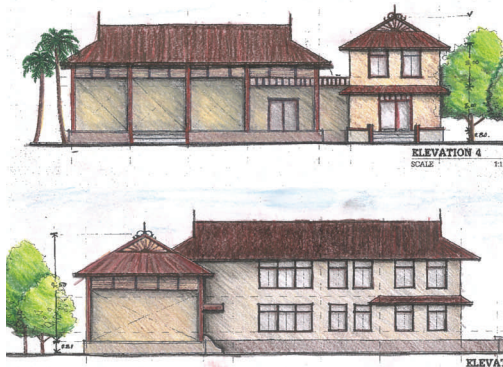
Contributor: Sudtiwat Salee, TAO

Community Center Plans Announced

Working together, the Khampuan TAO and USAID/AIT will build a Tambon Community/Learning Center on the empty lot behind the TAO and AIT offices.

Funding for the Center is being supplied by USAID, Rotary International, and Coca-Cola.

The two two-story buildings will include a large meeting room with a stage, a large auditorium for recreational and ceremonial activities, a learning center, a computer room, a kitchen, and a library. The Center will also be used for religious teaching for young children.



Artist Rendering of new Community/Learning Center For Suk Sumran (final plans may differ)

Ground breaking for the building is scheduled for mid-November.

Community-Based Tourism Initiatives

During September, North Andaman Tsunami Relief (NATR) started collaborating with Responsible Ecological Social Tours (REST). REST's Community Based Tourism (CBT) project has been funded through the International Labour Organisation's Post-Tsunami Livelihood Recovery in the Tourism Sector Programme, and draws together a working group comprising NATR,

Raks Thai (CARE), Wildlife Animal Rescue (WAR) and Community Organization Development Institute (CODI). The team is evaluating the potential for CBT in three pilot villages, including Baan Talae Nok. Community members have been sharing their vision for tourism. Baan Talae Nok offers boat trips through (cont. on page 2)

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35 Villagers Receive New Fishing Boats

On Sept. 28, American Refugees Committee (ARC), USAID/AIT, and Avon presented 35 new fishing boats to tsunami survivors in villages 2, 3, 4 and 7. USAID/AIT funded 20 of the boats and 10 engines. Those who received boats will also be trained in boat safety and better fishing practices.

Eco-Tourism (cont.)

the mangroves, forest hikes to a waterfall, a pristine beach, snorkeling around the islands and a soap workshop where tourists can purchase locally made herbal soaps. The three-day workshops have been well received, and the programme is set to move forward until the end of the year.

Contributor: Lucy Dixon-Clarke, NATR

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 Kampan TAO (Tambon Administrative Office) 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 Dec. 2004 tsunami in several coastal villages along the coast of the Andaman Sea.

Village Volunteers Honored By U.S. Ambassador

On August 19, U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Ralph L. Boyce and USAID Regional Mission Director Timothy T. Beans presided over an awards ceremony honoring ten village extension volunteers for their service in helping foster sustainable livelihoods recovery in their tsunami affected communities. Ambassador Boyce presented certificates of appreciation as well as symbolic gifts: fish seed for aquaculture, and tree seedlings for mangrove rehabilitation,

representing U.S. Government technical assistance to help communities restart livelihoods and reduce vulnerability to coastal hazards in an environmentally sustainable manner.



Standing: Aranya Padungchart, Ekarath Chuengyang, Manpitak Famengkorn, USAID Regional Environment Office Director Winston H. Bowman, Ambassador Ralph L. Boyce, Preecha Denmartai, Su-shat Samart, USAID Regional Mission Director Timothy T. Beans, Sunhanat Somwang, Dr. Amrit Bart, Dr. Soparth Pongquan, USAID Regional Program Specialist Saengroaj Srisawaskraisorn

Kneeling: Kittika Hanjit, Samran Laonumao, Ruttima Manoch, Sumon Sangkaew

“When the Ambassador presented me with my certificate, my heart was pounding,” said one volunteer. “I was very proud.”

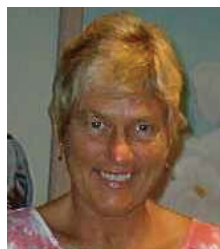
The volunteers, as well as the Ambassador and USAID Director, were interviewed by numerous media outlets. Channel 11/1, Nation TV, Thai Day International Herald Tribune and Post Today all carried news reports of the event.

Meet AIT's Field Staff Members



Chris Dunbar
Field Site Manager

Chris was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ranong Province from 1995-97. Most recently he has worked as an environmental consultant and research vessel captain. He also has experience with marine fisheries science. Chris will be with AIT in Suk Samron for two years.



Pat Koester
Small Business Advisor

Pat is a Peace Corps Crisis Corps Volunteer. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ayuthaya from 1966-68. She has owned two small businesses (a newspaper and a gift shop) and was a small business advisor for 7-Eleven Food Stores in the U.S. She lives in Hat Sai Khaw.



Sumon Sangkaew
Field Coordinator

Sumon holds a M.Sc. in Regional Science/Planning and a B.A. in Public Administration. She has worked with AIT for five years, in the fields of rural and regional development planning as well as environment and resources management.



Theerachai Haitook
Field Coordinator

Theerachai holds a M.S. in Aquaculture and a B.S. in agriculture. He is currently working on his Ph.D in animal husbandry. He has worked for AIT for 14 years, including supervising research projects, organizing technical training, and financial management.