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Coast Management Experts Encourage Public Debate on Best Practices to Mediate Coastal Erosion



Sustainable Coastal Management Specialists from the University of Rhode Island and the Asia Institute of Technology join with elected district officials, village leaders and benefactors, to evaluate the merits of setbacks, embankments, and barriers in four villages affected by the Tsunami. Beach areas intersected by inland canals are particularly vulnerable to erosion as a result of annual canal entry and path movement.

URI: Jim Tobey

USAID helps build community optimism by encouraging proactive involvement in decision making. In Thailand, where decentralization of government is a relatively new national policy, USAID supports local capacity building by building from the cornerstone of local wisdom and culture.

Discussions helped improve mutual understanding about best practices and local needs to hone analysis of erosion deterrent measures.

The community proposed initially, a barrier wall that would bifurcate the laterally from across the shoreline. As a result of considered discussions, community members opted to favor practices that over the long-term will preserve environmental resources. As a result of collaborative decision making processes, confidence and credibility in USAID supported technical assistance and technological transfer was established. As an outcome, local decision makers enthusiastically supported collective efforts to reduce coastal erosion in these villages.