

Project Update: January 2012

Conduct professional development with Laem Son National Park, Department of Marine Coastal Resources and Kasetsart University Coastal Marine Resource Research Station.



Mr. Phanuwachr, KCLC's Director presented the full project of Rufford Booster Grant to all the local authorities in Kamphuan, Ranong Province. The goal is to build a living laboratory for local researchers and community members to learn the benefits of Mangrove Rehabilitation and Regeneration for Biodiversity. The Learning Center has been working on mangrove conservation activities with local communities since 2008. The aim of this project is to continue and expand these activities. The main purpose is to develop and promote the sustainable harvesting of mangrove forest products in a way that leads local communities to take more stewardship for the conservation of the mangroves on which some of their livelihood and income generation depends.

The group of participants included with the Suk Samran Governor, the Disaster Prevention Department Head of Ranong, the Fisheries Department Head of Ranong, the Community Development Head of Ranong, a representative of an Office of Environmental Resource of Ranong, the Kamphuan TAO Chairman and a secretary of TAO, the village leaders, the head of Kasetsart University Research Station Center and the representative of Laemson National Park. They all very extremely happy and supported our project.

February 14, 2012

Community Group Orientation

We found that they all were very excited how amazing of this project.

The principle we all agreed upon are:

- We will do mangrove planting activities and training every month.
- We will do product promotion and monitor or evaluate whether the products can be sold profitably (Feasibility study of market potential and profitability).



We held the meeting on our Rufford Booster Grant for the community groups to understand the objectives, the benefit, the activities and the rules of this project.

Details of the processed Mangrove products

<u>Processed product</u>	<u>Mangrove species</u>	<u>Components</u>
Variety of Thai Desserts	<u><i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza</i></u>	Old sheath
Roti	<u><i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza</i></u>	Old sheath
Steamed Stuff Bun	<u><i>Avicennia alba</i></u>	Flower
	<u><i>Aegialitis rotundifolia</i></u>	Flower
	<u><i>Avicennia officinalis</i></u>	Flower
Palm Bag	<u><i>Nypa fruticans</i></u>	Leaf
Mangrove Tea	<u><i>Acanthus sp.</i></u>	Root/stem/leaf/flower
Sea Scent	<u><i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza.</i></u>	Old sheath
	<u><i>Rhizophra apiculata.</i></u>	Young leaf
	<u><i>Rhizophra mucronata</i></u>	Young leaf
	<u><i>Acanthus sp.</i></u>	Root/stem/leaf/flower
	<u><i>Pandanus odoratissimus</i></u>	Flower
Scent Container	<u><i>Cerbera odollam</i></u>	Old fruit
Decorated light lamp	<u><i>Cerbera odollam</i></u>	Old fruit
Multipurpose dyed fabric	<u><i>Xylocarpus granatum</i></u>	Old fruit

- Conduct a Market Analysis

We should embark on the market analysis process because without product markets and profitable ability to produce marketable goods. To begin the market analysis process, we have the questionnaire for our training groups to complete (attached file). There were 5 parts i.e. Self Survey, Market Survey, Competitor Survey, Business Opportunity Survey and Customer Survey. The project relies on the fact that developing, and marketing mangrove products is economically viable. The groups involved in the harvesting ideally should also have exclusive rights to these harvests that then provide an economic incentive for their protection.
- We will do work hard to advocate and assist some group(s) of harvesters to obtain exclusive harvest rights within a given mangrove area. Now they knew that the Laem Son National Park and all the local authorities' leaders supported this project (regarding to the Meeting on February 8, 2012) and we also have the letter of permission from the Laem Son National Park management unit authorities for the Kamphuan Community Learning Center to implement this project. (attached

Memo1-2). This memorandum is the starting point for the harvesting groups to obtain the exclusive rights in the near future.

- We will select the harvest group from the training participants to become a Group of Practice (GoP):
 - A GoP is a group of people who are active environmentally friendly practitioners and understand the objectives and the rule of this project.
 - The purpose of a GoP is to provide a way for practitioners to share tips and best practices, participate in the project activities, and provide support for each other.
 - Membership is dependent on expertise - one should have at least some recent experience performing in the role or subject area of the GoP.

Example: Someone who is interested in Variety of Thai Desserts/Roti should have some background in cooking/baker/pastry, someone who is an inventor will help in developing the scent containers/decorated light lamps, etc.