

Project Update: May 2012

May 1, 2012

Sharing our RSG project information to Gambia, South Africa

The following is the email from Fatou Mboob, from TRY Oyster Women's Association
“Hello, my name is Fatou. I live in the Gambia working with women in the Mangroves. Your article was sent to me by my director Brian Crawford of the coastal research center of the University of Rhode Island. I was very much fascinated by your project and would love to know about you and your organization”.

TRY will officially receive the Equator Prize Award in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil this June. The Equator Prize is under the UNDP Equator Initiative and this ceremony is a part of the Initiative’s participation in the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

We had provided our information and also all the projects that have been successful with their applications can be seen on the website www.ruffordsmallgrants.org

It is good to share our RSG project to this outstanding association, from Ranong -Thailand to Gambia-South Africa.



Photos from website: www.try-oysters.com.

May 7, 2012

Training community groups in developing Mangrove Processing Products

Steamed Bun or Chinese Bun or Steamed Dumpling is made from wheat flour and yeast and cooked through the steaming process. The steamed buns can be filled with any types of meat or non-meat. With the utilization of local Mangrove raw materials, our Steamed Bun is uniquely filled with the flowers of *Avicennia alba*, *Aegialitis rotundifolia* and/or *Avicennia officinalis* and will be named “**Mangrove Bun**”.

This project is a development in educational system outside classroom under the initiated principle to improve the learning process that community people is at the centre of the learning and participation, in which the benefit of Mangrove Rehabilitation and Regeneration for Biodiversity is needed.

May 8, 2012

Organizing the 3rd time of the “Mangrove Processing Products Small Enterprise Kamphuan Community, Kamphuan District, Ranong Province” board meeting

The board meeting issues for consideration are as follows:

1. To summarize the updates of our works from the last meeting until this meeting.
2. To prepare the presentation of our RSG project to the Armanah Credit Union (CULT) member’s annual general meeting
3. To prepare for broadcasting our RSG Mangrove project on the free TV at all channels of Thailand Television Stations such as TV-3, 5, 7, 9, NBT and Thai PBS. Their news reporters will visit us on May 23, 2012.

During our 3rd board meeting, we served them with Mangrove Tea and the new processing product “Mangrove Bun”.



Mangrove Tea + Mangrove Bun = Naturally Delicious

This project could be distributed to the pride of the Kamphuan Community because the hardship of their works will be broadcasted on air by the Thai Television news soon.

May 12, 2012

Presenting our RSG project to the Armanah Credit Union (CULT) member’s annual meeting

We had presented the Mangrove RSG project boosting local solutions to create a sustainable balance between people and their natural environments and create opportunities and platforms to share knowledge and good practice. The project concept and our updated works were disseminated to the 100 members of Armanah Credit Union.



During this event we also had exhibited our Mangrove processing products and gave them some free samples to try i.e. Mangrove Roti, Mangrove Desserts, Mangrove Tea, Mangrove

Buns, Mangrove Fabric and Mangrove Bag. They were all enjoyed about this indigenous initiative's activity.

We had launched the new style of Mangrove Tea for the summertime that is Tasty Mangrove Iced Tea.

This learning process helps and reinforces local community to value the unseen of their own resources. This project could be distributed to certain concrete actions by processing the products from Mangrove plants into edible and consumable products under the philosophy of "Sustainable Economy".

May 21, 2012

We are pleased to announce that Miss Rissa Walters (Peace Corps/USA) has participated in our activities and her various programs have been integrated into our outreach program as follows:

1. She had already opened her "Happy English Class" here in our learning center starting from May 20, 2012. This program will help our board of SME group and other villagers know how to speak English.
2. She also has a plan to teach the Mangrove issues here soon since she had acquired some useful information from MAP (Mangrove Actions Project).
3. She is now appointed as our "Mangrove Networking Volunteer (Leader)" as her contribution to bring the students and teacher from Kamphuan School to participate in our RSG Mangrove activities. We had already agreed with the director of Kamphuan school approved Rissa as a leader to bring a group of students and teachers one whole class at a time to participate in learning the technique of Mangrove processing products and also attend in replanting the Mangrove species. One class includes with 25 students and 2 teachers.

First Session: Organizing the Mangrove Processing Training for students from Kamphuan School with the emphasis on the Mangrove product processing techniques leading by Rissa Walters, Peace-Corps Volunteer.

The first training of Mangrove processing products for this study group was on "Mangrove Desserts"

The students were very happy in this integrated program between our RSG project and Kamphuan School. After the training, we gave them the study accessories kits for their participation.

Second Session: Organizing the activities to replant the 20 Mangrove species that are appropriate to the ecosystem for biodiversity, focusing on rehabilitation and regeneration of the existing species on the degraded area.

This RSG project is able to guide the students to learn the cycle of life and appreciate the value of Mangrove forest; they can see the connection between the Mangrove processing products to the Mangrove species that they are replanting.



Rissa and her students from Kamphuan School & Gifts of Participation



May 23, 2012
The Amazing Day
 Morning Session

Preparation the Place

We had prepared the SME working place and the landscape as follows:

1. Posted the big signage “Amazing Kamphuan...Amazing Mangrove Processing Products” at the entrance way to our learning center.



Amazing Kamphuan...Amazing Mangrove

2. Replication the model of “Mangrove Garden” to show some real plants i.e. Bruguiera gymnorrhiza, Nypa fruticans, Acanthus sp, Pandanus odoratissimus, Cerbera

odollam and Xylocarpus granatum. We also installed the “Mangrove Bike” to use for exercise and water these Mangrove plants.

3. Built the natural fence from *Nypa*'s leaves at the SME entrance way.



Mangrove House, Mangrove Library & Mangrove Bags Corner

4. Arranged the “Mangrove Library” providing the good “Mangrove Books” and related matters. We also use this area as a meeting place of the SME board.
5. Displayed all the available Mangrove processing products section by section such as Mangrove Desserts, Mangrove Lamps, Mangrove Bun, Mangrove Roti and Mangrove Curry, Mangrove Tea, Mangrove Tie dye Fabric, Mangrove Bag, Mangrove Toy and Mangrove Appliances.

Afternoon Session:

Moment of TV news reporter

We had invited all the village chiefs and village headman in Suksamran district to be our honorable guests included with 2 village chiefs (Kumnun) from Kamphuan and Nakha sub districts, 7 villages' headman from Kamphuan and 8 villages' headman from Nakha.

Ruttima Manoch was presenting the RSG project to the village leaders.



Ruttima in a beautiful Muslim dressing & Mr. Phiraphong Phinit: our Mangrove Hosting

Mr. Phiraphong Phinit, the SME chairman and his board also wore in the Muslim dress. They were all helping in explaining each Mangrove processing product to our visitors.



Mangrove Bun corner



Mangrove Tea corner



Mangrove Toy, Mangrove Appliances corner & Mangrove Fabric corner



Mangrove bag corner



The TV news reporter had filmed all the presentation of the Mangrove processing products from the beginning to the end of the program. The date of broadcasting will be confirmed by the TV reporter soon.

All the participants were truly amazed about our RSG booster project. They love Kamphuan and Mangrove forest more than when they never know about it before.



The visiting of TV reporter enhanced the community people proud about their community and Mangrove products.

This innovation “Environmentally Friendly Products” could also enhance “Green Tourism” in the community.



Mr. Teerasak Pooprapadilok –Head of TV reporter

May 27, 2012

Organizing PR campaign for the collaboration of people to use “Mangrove Bag” as the packaging instead of plastic bags

The SME group held the campaign “Mangrove Bags ... Our Bags” program for raising awareness and strengthening the productive collaboration of Kamphuan Community people to use the Mangrove Bags at the Kamphuan Market.

Our “Mangrove Bags” are able to be made from weaving parts of the leaves of *Nypa sp.* and these environmental-friendly bags can be used as the packaging for the vendors’ products such as clothes shop.

The owner of the clothes shop and her customers were very happy since they could get the free bags as the special gifts where originally come from their own Mangrove forest.

Kindly find more good pictures in <http://mangrover1.multiply.com/>