

Khok Nong Na Model: Challenges for Private Farming Model in Nong Khai Province, Thailand

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to portray Khok Nong Na sustainable farming model, both in theory and its practice in reality. The objective of the research is to scrutinize Khok Nong Na models practiced in Nong Khai province, Thailand, to portray success and obstacles the relevant agents face. The research is qualitative by nature as the researchers use semi-structure interviews and focus groups to gather the data. The informants are farmers who practice Khok Nong Na models in Nong Khai province, local administrative agents and subdistrict administrative organizations, academics and practitioners. As well, the researchers use social capital and human security theories to study the cases.

The findings are that even if the Khok Nong Na model is widely publicized in Thailand, it is still difficult for farmers to access governmental assistance, especially in term of financial help. Therefore, unfortunately, to achieve the full potential of the model, the farmers must invest personal budget along the process. Also, since the model is quite new, the local agents are not well informed about the model which leads to confusion and highly time-consuming processes. Furthermore, many organizations have used Khok Nong Na model as public relation scheme, rather to practice the model for actual sustainable development.

The researchers conclude that Khok Nong Na model is actually crucial for sustainable development and will greatly benefit the community if it is well-practiced. Moreover, it is suggested that the model should be more accessible because that will enhance food security and sustainable development in the country.

Keyword: Sustainable development/ Food security

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