

Yongyuth Kamraphan. 2008. **The Process of Chi River Conservation by the Local Community: A Case Study of Bung Samrong Sub-district, Kaeng Sanam Nang District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province.** An Independent Study Report for the Master of Public Administration in Local Government, College of Local Administration, Khon Kaen University.

**Independent Study Advisor:** Asst. Prof. Chalit Chaikhanchit

### ABSTRACT

This independent study is aimed at studying local participation in Chi River conservation in Bung Samrong Sub-district, Kaeng Sanam Nang District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province, and to study the means to support local participation in the aforesaid conservation. The informants consist of 250 residents in the above mentioned region. The results of research are summarized below.

1. Local participation in Chi River conservation in Bung Samrong Sub-district, Kaeng Sanam Nang District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province:

The people have a high level of knowledge and understanding of Chi River conservation in the study area, and their participation in this project is rated at medium level. As regards water use for activities, the people use the Chi water for economic activities such as farming and fishing; some use the waterway for communication between villages; some participate in river conservation, such as collecting garbage and refuse, overseeing and keeping the riverbank environment clean; a few suggested ideas in meetings about conservation. When seeing someone polluting the Chi River, the people concerned might tell him/her to refrain from doing so. The people said that when compared to the past, the river landscapes have changed considerably. Currently, a small number of people participate in Chi River conservation, and the way to conserve it must be properly formulated.

2. Ways to encourage local participation in the Chi River conservation project:

Local residents should be provided with knowledge and understanding of the ways in which Chi River conservation will benefit their daily life. Additionally, young people should be

instilled with a good attitude toward participating in conservation and solving environmental problems like sustainable conservation of the Chi River. Moreover, the municipality should have the Chi River conservation project under budgetary support of the government.

