

CHAPTER 5

RECOMMENDATIONS

Critical recommendations gained from implementation of the project “potential evaluation and development of community public health self-reliance” are outlined in the followings:

1. Operation management for continuous improvement and development to achieve the goal of each measurement item and eventually achieve the community development goal, which is the strong community, required serious and continuous operation of 2 systems including:

- 1.1 Operation management system within the community is required to encourage people or groups, which involve with community development works, to participate in problem analysis process, establishment of action plans, and implementation of the plans to achieve the goals of community public health self-reliance by using the measurement criteria in the evaluation form for assessment of community public health self-reliance, developed by the Office of the Primary Health Care , the Ministry of Public Health as a guideline for continuous evaluation, improvement and development.

- 1.2 Support system from related external organisations including governmental sectors, local groups, and non-governmental sectors is required by integration of their related project plans with the development activities of the community and the weak points obtained from the pre-implementation assessment into the action

plans of the community in the future. The local public health sector is to be the main coordination sector.

2. In using of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation model for evaluation and development of community public health self-reliance potential, the local public health officers are considered to be the main coordinator in the area and need to concentrate on every step of procedure including:

- 2.1 Formation of the evaluation team is the first critical step. The evaluation team should contain personnel from 4 major governmental sectors at Tambon level including public health, interior, agricultural and cooperative, and education. There should be also members of the Tambon Administrative Organisation and leaders of various groups in the community. Such evaluation team must be informed of work procedure, instruments and benefits of development activities to both the participated organisations and the community.

- 2.2 In identification of potential levels of community public health self-reliance, the evaluation team members should be allowed to review current situations of the community with topics that cover/respond to the content of the measurement criteria used. This enables them to better rationalise potential levels of community public health self-reliance by each individual measurement item.

- 2.3 In establishment of the action plans to solve problems and develop community public health self-reliance potential, the entire evaluation team should determine development goals for each individual measurement item by analysing the criteria

limit of each measurement item, summarising the weak points, and imposing the means for resolution and improvement. Such procedure will not only illustrate the outcome direction of the completed activities, but also facilitate the integration process of the activity and project plans. In addition, since there may be similarity in the means for resolution and improvement of several measurement items, implementation of only one activity might be sufficient to achieve development goals of several measurement items.

2.4 In implementation of the action plans including in monitoring and evaluation process, there must be a clear schedule and certain allocation of responsibilities among the evaluation team members. The implementation and evaluation duration should be approximately one year and during this period the local public health officers should act as a key coordinator in monitoring the progress and in solving any problems occurred.

3. Evaluation cycle is resulted from continuous operation of the participatory evaluation, which also leads to continuous development. That is, there should be conclusion of the implementation and reassessment every one-year period. The appropriate time for reassessment is during August-September as it is the end period of the financial year. The assessment process would correspond with the annual evaluation and plans of governmental sectors and of the Tambon Administrative Organisation, facilitating the integration of the activity plans and projects.

4. Utilisation of the evaluation data. The community should regularly inform its members of the evaluation data including the outcome data from implementation of various project activities to stimulate self development at both personal and family levels. In addition, there should be a system for compilation of annual evaluation and development data to compare the progress of future operations.

5. Policy recommendations

5.1 Governmental sectors should promote and support an application of Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation method in assessment and development of other areas in a community.

5.2 A community should be developed in order to better control and supervise its own development works, whereas the roles of government officials will be coordinating, supporting and facilitating rather than controlling and supervising.

5.3 The Office of the Primary Health Care under the Ministry of Public Health as an owner of the evaluation instruments and an organisation that supervises the national health policies should revise and improve the instruments regularly. There should be brainstorming of opinions and recommendations from acknowledgeable persons, experts, and the officers who actually practice the instruments as well as from the community leaders in order to update the instruments with corresponding to the current economic and social situations.