

CHAPTER 5

RECOMMENDATIONS

The village leaders training program to improve knowledge and attitude toward people with HIV/AIDS employing the participatory learning technique: Case study of Ban Nong Khun, Nong Phok Sub-District, Nong Phok District, Roi-Et Province, aimed to educate people in the community on HIV/AIDS knowledge. After the completion of the training it was expected that these people would transfer the knowledge to their family members and people in the community. When people in the community have accurate understanding about HIV/AIDS, they would then be able to prevent themselves and family from the infection and also able to care for those infected with the disease. The optimal goal of the project was to change people's behaviors. If they could change their usual behaviors to the better and proper ones, that would show the project achievement. However, it is probably unlikely to change people's behaviors by education only because there are several factors involved. These include internal and external factors. Internal factors include knowledge, experience and mental health. The external factors stimulate people to act in different ways.

The training with participatory learning technique is a process to encourage people to reforming and changing their usual behaviors as the method applied group participation technique which is a democracy process where people in the group have to follow majority's decision. In fact, most training project often lack of continuity and therefore leading to unsuccessful results. The main reason regarding to this was that the project conducted was not concurred with people's needs and not consistent with the ways of life of people in the community. People do not feel of ownership in the projects.

The project of village leader training on HIV/AIDS conducted at Nong Khun Village should be strongly supported to continue for the sustainability of the project and

in order to see whether this project actually solve HIV/AIDS problem in the community. The Community-based organizations involved in solving HIV/AIDS problems such as Community Health Centers, Sub-District Administration Organisation, Association of Public Health Volunteers and schools should also initiate training programs to educate other target groups in the community so that everybody will be able to understanding about HIV/AIDS and be able to effectively prevent themselves and others from the infection and also able to care for those already infected.

The sub-district administration organization should provide monetary supports, budgets and set up community regulations and policy on HIV/AIDS prevention. Schools should have contained a curriculum on HIV/AIDS and cooperate in HIV/AIDS preventive campaigns with the community.

Health Center should provide up-date information, data, news, technical and academic information on HIV/AIDS to other community-based organizations. Community-based organizations should encourage people to participate in HIV/AIDS campaigns and together help and support one another for the success of the programs.

Recommendations for the training project using participatory learning technique are as follows:

1. Suitable training timetable.
2. Choose appropriate number of the target groups, which in general, target group should not exceed 40 people per training.
3. Formation of groups, each group should consist of 6-8 people. This is to be convenient for participants to communicate and get to know each other, and it is easier for trainers and/or speakers to observe their participation.
4. Trainers and/or speakers should be listener rather than speaker, and encourage learners to broaden their discussion.
5. Training period fit with ways of life of people, such as there should not be training during the harvest seasons. The training should not affect normal routines.
6. Support every individual to participate in the project.

7. Emphasizing on thinking and learning processes for the participants to be able to use in the future and able to continue their learning.
8. Cooperate and coordinate with other organizations to reduce process's repetition.
9. There should have qualitative evaluation of the project in order to assess the effectiveness of the project.
10. A regular house visit 1-2 times per month or proactive working approach in community to identify, analyse and find solution for problems will help people in the community to feel enthusiastic to improve their quality of lives.