

Presentation for “Taking Part – local
management of natural resources”
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Collaborative Management in the
Highlands of Northern Thailand

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About Thailand...

- ❖ Land area: 513,000 km²
- ❖ Population: 63 million
- ❖ IP Population: 1.2 million
- ❖ Main IP groups: Karen,
Hmong, Lisu, Lahu,
- ❖ Mian, Akha, Lawa








Table 1: Thailand's Forest Cover %

Year	1900	1961	1985	1990	1995	1999
Total	75	53	29	27.3	25.6	25.1
North		69	50		43.6	42.8
North-east		43	14		12.6	12.4
Central		53	26		23	22.6
South		42	22		17.6	17



Government policy

1. To stop destruction of forests by traditional IP culture (swidden farming),
2. To stop all opium-related activities in the mountain areas,
3. Protection of the border regions and prevention of communist activity in the mountainous areas (promotion of national security).



Government Policy Implementation


- ❖ 1. Resettlement and regrouping of IPs.
- ❖ 2. Declaration of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- ❖ 3. Promotion of modern agricultural methods.



People's Movement

- ❖ 1. Draft Community Forest Act
- ❖ 2. New Constitution of 1997
- ❖ 3. Mapping and modeling of local natural resources
- ❖ 4. Ordination of 50 million trees
- ❖ 5. Support from the King





Failure to Solve Problems

- ❖ 1. Government does not recognize people-forest co-existence.
- ❖ 2. Thai environmental organizations agree with government and mobilize lowland Thais.
- ❖ 3. Government disinformation on highland IPs.
- ❖ 4. Conflict between lowland Thais and highland IPs.



Pathway to a solution

- ❖ 1. Clear demarcation of village lands
- ❖ 2. Land use regulations agreed on by all parties
- ❖ 3. Open and clear negotiations inclusive of all stakeholders
- ❖ 4. Drawing up tripartite agreements
- ❖ 5. Submit agreements as a basis for community land use titles

CMLN's role is to promote...

- ❖ 1. Participatory Action Research, e.g. water problem, chemical pollution, and so on.
- ❖ 2. Village-level Forums and Stakeholder Forums
- ❖ 3. Joint activities between stakeholders, e.g. establishment of fire-breaks, rituals related to natural resource conservation, and so on.
- ❖ 4. Dissemination of real information through bulletins and forums.

Thank You!

Taj bluv dof mav.

