

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion

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From study program to solve poverty problem in Thailand found, all program that Thailand use to solve poverty problem are a good program but it has three programs not success to solve poverty problem and having two programs are a recently set up program.

To help poor children, Child Support Grant is a good program that Thai's government should continue to do, including develop monitoring and evaluating this program in the future because this program is associate with program that other countries use to eliminate poverty. Poor registration system and Poor people card programs are interested program.

Thailand is informal economy that hard to verify income of people which cannot know for sure who was the real poor people and where do they live. This is the main barrier to solve poverty problem in Thailand. Moreover, the data of poor people in Thailand is limited and unable to identify who are poor. Thus to solve poverty problem in Thailand, government and local should cooperate together by integrating data. Government establish policy and determine the method to solve poverty problem then Local agencies collect the data in their region and send to government.

The main point to eliminate poverty problem in Thailand is knowing the cause of poverty in Thailand. Mean Test system and Poor registration system are the good programs to know the cause of poverty. From Poor registration system found the main cause of poverty in Thailand is unemployment issue. So the main cause of poverty in families come from unemployed parent. This will affect to children in their families and their children will become poor people follow their parent.

It can be seen that most countries give priority to the unemployment issue by having many program to increase income to poor parent in order to increase income in the long term and reduce the burden of the government for taking care poor families in the long term that have to use budget about 163,766 million baht per year.

Moreover, the researcher proposed to set up a fund for "Promoting and developing poor children" to help poor children based on the context of Thailand. The hybrid fund with the factors that affect poverty such as low education, lack of occupational opportunities, lack of family savings, lack of stable residency, lack of access to resources. The direct assistance should be done by providing basic education to children with all children having to have equal access to basic education. The indirect assistance should be done by helping the parents to be employed. The priority should be given to indirect assistance i.e. helping the poor children through helping parents to get a job. This is based on the direction of the fund's direction from academic work in most countries.

The objective of the fund are as follows:

1. Providing assistance to children and families or parents to have better quality of life.
2. Supporting and developing children in poor families.
3. Helping poor children to receive at least compulsory education.
4. Promoting, supporting, and participating in activities that enhance experience and learning skills for poor children.

The fund has the following target groups:

1. Poor families with children in the family excluding children who have become adult by marriage.
2. Children in poor families, lack of education.
3. Children in poor families with the parents are unable to find a job.

The fund's rules are as follows:

1. Providing assistance to poor children who want to study by providing scholarship based on the poverty threshold and the attention paid to studying.

2. Providing assistance to poor children with good academic performance to have the opportunity to study in higher education for them to bring knowledge back to improve the family, community, and society. This would be done by offering scholarships on school expenses that are not covered by government policies.

3. Providing financial assistance to poor children will depend on the student's grade. If the grade is good, more education funding will be provided.

This fund will offer assistance to children living in poor families in three areas: education, income, and health and nutrition. The education will directly help poor children. Income stream will indirectly help poor children through their parents or parents who care for poor children. Hygiene and nutrition will help families and poor children in the form of welfare cooperative with the agency and related parties. The assistance will be provided as follows:

Education

1. The Fund will seek to provide capital for education to poor children with cooperation from all sectors and all parties involved both from the community and stakeholders.

2. The Fund manages its capital to ensure that poor children get a proper education and skills that society needs such as poor children from poor families who work in agriculture wanting to study agriculture will receive free scholarships throughout the course. This is done to encourage poor children to bring knowledge to improve the quality of the family and the surrounding community.

3. Funds should provide a monitoring and evaluation system to track school teaching and the poor students who get the scholarship. This is done by providing external auditors with knowledge on and experience with the education system.

The Fund will have to take appropriate measures to select poor families with children in order to allocate educational funding to poor children who truly need help. There will also be measures to follow up and evaluate the success of the children

funded by the fund after graduation and bring the knowledge to be used in their employment and improvement of their own and family's livelihood.

Income

The fund should cooperate with all sectors and all parties involved in helping to send the list of family names so make the concerned agencies are aware of the needy families who really need help and the related agencies or departments could help increase income for poor families through tax interventions or fund transferring when the fund acknowledges what poor families the children are from.

Additionally, the fund may also provide employment to poor families with children. It may be in the form of a grouping similar to one Tambon one product with production or products using local raw materials. Besides, increasing revenue, it also adds skill to poor families to have more skills and craftsmanship to be able to work and take care of the families and children with the fund helping poor families with children through increased coaching skills. The finance department will contact external agencies to support the program.

Hygiene and nutrition

The fund should cooperate with all sectors and all parties involved in helping to send the list of family names so make the concerned agencies are aware of the needy families who really need help and the related agencies or departments could help to provide quality nutritious food for the families. This may be done by purchasing products from poor families with children who are engaged in agriculture or from farmers. It will also help increase income for the country's farmers. This may be done by establishing a project based on the Food Stamp program by issuing a card to families certified to be truly poor by the depositing money into the card every month to be used for home expenses and child care in the family. The amount given will depend on the family income compared to the poverty line of Thailand. Those who are eligible to receive the cards and grants must be families with incomes below the poverty line in Thailand, the families that has been inspected by the fund. This will receive a different subsidy based on revenue. Families with less income receive more subsidies than

higher-income families but still under the poverty line. The fund will help coordinate with the relevant agencies to recruit. Or practice skills for these families to increase income for the family and keep the family out of poverty while the poor family holds this card. It also makes the children in the family have a better quality of life. The help card will be automatically canceled. And no money transfers to the family again after these families fell out of the poverty line in Thailand.

In the establishment of a fund to help poor children, there must be an agency to review history and evidence to ensure that the poor family is a poor family with children and the children in families are affected by poverty and it has been verified that low-income families do not come from unidentifiable employment. The financial assistance in the aspects of education, income, or health and nutrition needs to be limited such as the fund may not be able to help all 5 children in a family with 5 children but will choose to help children qualified by the fund. There may also be a limit on the number of children getting help in each family. This is because the assistance will depend on the funds that the fund will provide. After helping the poor and there being more capital and supporters, the Fund will be able to provide more assistance to poor children. Finally, it will be able to provide assistance to all poor children in Thailand.

Therefore, aid fund for poor children should design the help for poor children by providing direct help to them via education. There is cost and assets management as the capital for poor children to be able to access to basic education equally to general children. In addition, the support can be done via parents by providing jobs and skill development to them, so they have jobs and adequate earnings to take care of their families.

In helping target group, money from aid funds should be divided into 2 types which are

1. Educational aid fund
2. Non-educational aid funds; such as cloths, food, and nutrition

The help should primarily go to poor children who left school halfway of their studies and whose names are in population census system. It's believed that each child does not have to equally receive support from funds: A child who is poorer might

receive special help. For example, the America's No Child Left Behind policy is for special children who fall behind the class. They will receive extra tutoring, while normal children will not. The children who are very poor will get free school-home transport which allows them to access to education. It's the America's policy which provides educational support to poor children.



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