

Recovery of the Coastal Thai Communities from the 2004 Tsunami in southern Thailand: A Case Study in Ranong Province

Passakorn Pananont^{1,*}, Raykha Srisomboon², Wisai Kongkaew³ and Pralin Kriwichai³

¹Special Research Unit for Seismology and Tectonics of the Planet Earth (SEIS-SCOPE), Department of Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, 10900 Thailand

²Program in Economics, School of Economics, University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok, Thailand.

³ Andaman Coastal Research Station for Development (ACRSD), Kasetsart University, Kamphuan subdistrict, Suk Samran district, Ranong province, Thailand

The 2004 Sumatra tsunami devastated a large amount of the local communities along the coastline of the Andaman Sea in the southern Thailand. Since then, a large amount of money and effort have been invested in the tsunami research and development, earthquake and tsunami monitoring and warning systems and a large number of educational outreach to young generations which leads to quick recovery of most affected communities and better tsunami and earthquake mitigations of the country. This work presents a case study of the post-disaster recovery processes for a comparison of two small local villages in *Suk Samran district*, Ranong province: *the Nua and the Hat Sai Khao villages and the government organizations*, the Kasetsart University's Andaman Coastal Research Station for Development that also sustained heavily damages. The recovery process of these two small villages can be used as proxies for *many small* local communities in the southern Thailand about how they have adapted themselves to restore their communities back to their normal stages and eventually to have a sustainable immunity to this natural hazard. It can be concluded that for small local communities, it is extremely difficult to accomplish a full recovery without a quick external supports. It can be seen for this specific case study that the continuation of the long term support to the affected communities and the participation of the victims in the restoration and reconstruction processes are also very important in order to help the victims restore their lives effectively.

Keywords: tsunami, restoration process, coastal communities, Ranong, Thailand Tsunami, Earthquakes, southern Thailand; Coastal communities

Presenter: E-mail: fscipkp@ku.ac.th, akeithaca@gmail.com