Participatory Action Research in Promoting Safe Bike to School

Pondej Chaowarat (Dr.-Ing.)
Methee Piriya-akarnnon
Suphathida Sawangchaeng

Faculty of Architecture, Urban Design and Creative Arts
Mahasarakham University, Thailand
Email: b_pondej@hotmail.com   Mobile: +66 817292275
PAR’s definition

A kind of knowledge accumulation, combining social and pedagogic sciences, together with action learning.

Unlike ordinary cycling planning, the participatory action research encourages people to involve in the entire planning process.

The cycling promotion plan is expected to be highly realistic, innovative, fully accepted from all stakeholders and encourages the sense of sharing responsibilities in the society.
**Question:** How to promote cycling to school with PAR?

**Target group:** Pupils aged 6-12 years old

**Area:** Kalasin City

**Time Period:** April – December 2015

**Participants:**
- Local cycling club (Dino Speed Bike)
- Thai Cycling Club (TCC)
- Mahasarakham University (MSU)
- Kalasin Municipality
- Primary schools
- Provincial Police
- Provincial Transport Authority Office
- Provincial Health Office
- Provincial Skill Development Centre
PAR research Steps

1) An introduction and interview with the mayor and relevant actors
2) A questionnaire with pupils
3) Creative Vacation Project
4) A meeting with the municipality’s leaders
5) A cycling committee meeting
6) Healthy Pupils Cycling Project
7) A meeting with Thai Cycling Club
PAR research Steps
1) An introduction and interview with the mayor and relevant actors

Jaruwat Boonperm
Mayor of Kalasin

Adisak Anuntariyasap
Chamber of Commerce
Governor's advisor
Mayor's advisor
Dino Speed Bike founder
Thai Cycling for Health Association

Somsuk Teerachot
Head of Dino Speed Bike

Prayot Kansawai
Head of Municipal School
Member of Dino Speed Bike

Pismsai Paprakai
Teacher of Anuban School

Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand
Green School Project
PAR research Steps
2) A questionnaire with pupils

Gender
- Boy 72%
- Girl 28%

Decision Makers
- Students 48%
- Parents 52%

- Mobility freedom
- Joyful
- Comfortable than walking
- Being with friends
- Parents having no time
- To train students

Average Distance
- 1.25 km.

Learn to Ride
- 6 Years Old
Ride to School
- 8.5 Years Old

Average Distance
- 1.25 km.
PAR research Steps
3) Creative Vacation Project
PAR research Steps
4) A meeting with the municipality’s leaders
5) A cycling committee meeting
PAR research Steps
6) Healthy Pupils Cycling Project
Results

• Satisfaction with this project 4.60
• Increasing cycling confidence 4.79
• Increasing cycling will 4.47
• Agree on ‘Kalasin Cycling City’ 4.67
• Demand on repeat this project 4.77

Opinions towards activities

• On street cycling 90.0%
• Cycling training on demonstration track 4.3%
• Games 5.2%
• Souvenir and sweets 0.4%
PAR in Cycling Promotion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects Solutions</td>
<td>Actions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PAR research Steps
7) A meeting with Thai Cycling Club

PAR’s Initiatives
1) Creative Vacation Project
2) Committee meetings
3) Healthy Pupils Cycling Project
4) Cycling Community Project (on process)
5) Cycling Family Project (on process)
6) Local Cycling Personal Training (on process)

PAR research Steps
1) An introduction and interview with the mayor and relevant actors
2) A questionnaire with pupils
3) Creative Vacation Project
4) A meeting with the municipality’s leaders
5) A cycling committee meeting
6) Healthy Pupils Cycling Project
7) A meeting with Thai Cycling Club
The results were the participatory action research successfully generates effective solutions to cope with traffic safety in pupils.

Pupils enrolling in the cycling training course felt more confident in cycling, more willingness to ride, and highly agree on Kalasin to be a cycling city.

The research successfully strengthen civil society network, evidently from following collaborative projects among participants.