

**BIODIVERSITY EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION THROUGH
THE PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH AT BAN KONGDIN,
RAYONG PROVINCE, EASTERN THAILAND**

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ABSTRACT

Local community is important user and maintainer the biodiversity by their traditional knowledge. A community-based of the participatory action research is a tool for education on biodiversity conservation. Interviews and panel discussion were use to learn about the traditional knowledge, utilization and history. Participants were university students of Kasetsart University, primary students, teachers, and peoples of Ban Kongdin, Klaeng district, Rayong province. All participants collected data on flora and fauna from community forest November 2007 and March 2009. A total of 291 plant species were recorded, and 202 species were used by the community. The utilization of plant were divided into 5 categories; 51 edibles (22%), 24 medicinals (10%), 53 construction materials (24%), 36 fuel materials (16%) , 35 ornamentals and landscape architectures (15%), and 30 for other purposes (13%). The fauna is comprise 7 species of mammals, 144 species of birds, 26 species of amphibians and reptiles, 30 species of fishes, 15 species of mollusc and crustacean, 7 species of insects. In this action research a participatory approach in collecting data was use in order to develop guidebook and educational materials for the biodiversity and sustainable use of the community natural resources