# ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ECO-TOURISM DRIVE MECHANISM CHIANG MAI PROVINCE

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### Statement and Significance of the Problem

Throughout the past period, Thailand's tourism sector has continued to expand. both in terms of the number of tourists tourism income Popularity Ranking and economic value from tourism-related businesses Thailand has many strengths such as its location as the center of the Southeast Asian region. Diversity of natural resources, arts and culture, unique traditions Thai people's hospitality the readiness of road, rail, water, and air infrastructure, as well as opportunities from the expansion of the global tourism market and the low-cost airline business. communication technology that can reach customers easily and quickly. However, in the future, the tourism industry will have more intense competition. Because many countries will use tourism as an important strategy to generate income for the country. Especially in ASEAN countries. Therefore, Thailand must develop its competitiveness and create a variety of tourist attractions in line with the needs of tourists. including cultural tourism business travel health tourism water tourism and tourism connecting the regions. If Thailand has a clear direction for tourism development, it is in line with the situation and context that affects the tourism industry. Thai tourism will be a tool for generating and distributing income and enhancing the country's competitiveness.

Master plan under national strategy, tourism issues (2018-2037) The most important thing is to build confidence in the safety of tourists. enforcing the law to ensure safety and not allowing tourists to be taken advantage of Then spread the tourism in terms of the area. and income to the community as well as giving importance to sustainable tourism development to aim for the ultimate goal of tourism as a tool to reduce inequality in Thai society. by the master plan Developing the tourism ecosystem Develop environmental factors conducive to enhancing competitiveness in tourism and sustainable tourism management to add value to Thai tourism. According to the National Tourism Development Plan (2021-2022), problems and challenges have arisen in Thailand's tourism situation. including the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019, the political situation of the country government policy Changing behavior of tourists Besides that, there are also trends in technology development and innovation, cooperation, and international relations. As a result, international travel around the world has decreased. And halted for a while, which UNWTO estimates that the number of international travels in the world will return around mid-2023-2024. The country is expected to start accepting foreign tourists in the last quarter. year This is when most of the country's vaccination progress has been made.

The post-COVID world has shifted towards more qualitative tourism, improving the image of national tourism. Aiming towards high value tourism in 3 areas: economy, society, and environment based on responsible tourism There is an appropriate number of tourists (optimum scale) consistent with the sub-master plan. Under the National Strategic Plan, issue 5, tourism especially in the development of the tourism ecosystem Aims to promote more socially and environmentally responsible tourism. By focusing on creating pride for tourists and related parties in working together to create sustainable tourism This is one of the new normal tourism guidelines, emphasizing on a form of tourism that does not cause an impact on the environment and integrated as a whole. The adjustments of those involved are in line with the adjustments of tourists. The survey found that more than four in five  $(8\,5\,\%)$  Thai travelers also plan a more minimalist travel experience (Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion , 2022; Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council , 2022)

Chiang Mai is the central city of the North. and is a world-famous tourist city. travel leisure survey of tourists and travelers from around the world in 2019 found that Chiang Mai was ranked 3, while the current year 2022 Chiang Mai was ranked 7. As for the survey of tourists in Thailand, agoda explored the cities that Thai people want to visit. Finally found that Chiang Mai was ranked No. 1 in 2020 (Spring News, 2022; Siamrath, 2019; Economic Foundation, 2020)

## **Research Question**

- 1. What is the context and general condition of eco-friendly tourism in Chiang Mai?
- 2. What is the mechanism for driving eco-tourism that is environmentally friendly in Chiang Mai?
- 3. What is the model for eco-tourism management that is environmentally friendly in Chiang Mai?

### **Research Objectives**

- 1. To study the context and general state of environmentally friendly eco-tourism in Chiang Mai Province.
  - 2. To study the mechanism for driving eco-friendly tourism in Chiang Mai Province.
- 3 To study an eco-tourism management approach that is friendly to the environment, Chiang Mai Province.

## **Rresearch hypothesis**

Spatial elements Participation component Administrative Components and activity components It has a direct relationship to the creation of a mechanism to drive ecotourism. environmentally friendly Chiang Mai Province

### **Scope of the Study**

This research was a mixed study ( Mixed Method ), both estimation and qualitative studies. The scope of study is as follows:

- 1. Scope of content: This research has a study content scope. Stakeholders, roles, duties, structures, and processes of ecotourism that are friendly to the environment of Chiang Mai. based on the concept of network theory and new public administration
- 2. Scope of study area: Area boundaries Chiang Mai Province Only in Muang District, San Sai, Mae Rim, Saraphi, Hang Dong
  - 3. Population scope

Scope of the quantitative population It consists of people in the area, including Domiciled in Chiang Mai Only Muang District, San Sai, Mae Rim, Saraphi, Hang Dong, with the current total population (2022) 593,241 people using a sample of 200 people.

Tourists who travel to tourist attractions in Chiang Mai, only in Muang, San Sai, Mae Rim, Saraphi, and Hang Dong districts using a sample of 200 people.

Qualitative population Which will be in-depth interviews and focus groups with people involved in eco-tourism that is environmentally friendly in Chiang Mai, divided into 3 groups: the government sector, consisting of the governor of Chiang Mai. Policy and plan analysts from the Chiang Mai Provincial Tourism Office National Park officials, private sector, tourism service business operators within Chiang Mai Accommodation entrepreneurs in the community, totaling 20 people.

4. Time limits the period used in this study was conducted from March 1, 2023, 6 to December 31, 2023.

### **Significance of the Study**

- 1. Academic benefits
- 1. The results of the research made known the situation. Operational Conditions and Obstacles of Environmentally Friendly Ecotourism in Chiang Mai Province
- 2. The results from the research can be used to determine the mechanism for driving eco-tourism that is environmentally friendly in Chiang Mai.
- 3. Research results can be used to define the format Guidelines for managing ecotourism that is environmentally friendly in Chiang Mai Province
  - 2. Benefits in application
- 1. Take the results from the research This will be empirical data to be used to improve and promote eco-tourism that is environmentally friendly. Chiang Mai Province
- 2. Take the results from the research To be adapted for the management of the budget to support and promote both the public and private sectors to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in management.

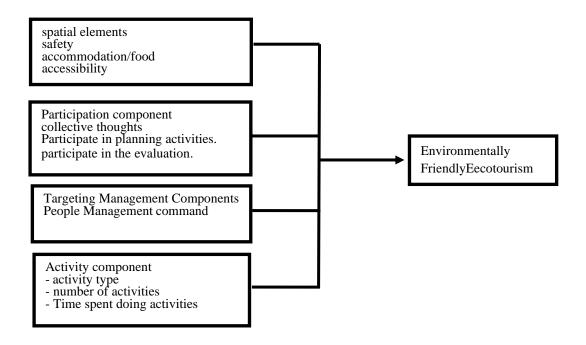
#### **Definition Of term**

- 1. Ecotourism refers to responsible tourism in unique natural and cultural sites associated with ecosystems. There is a learning process (Learning Process) together of those involved.
- 2. Driving Mechanism refers to things that make the system move or operate. with resource allocation There is an organization, unit, or group of people to carry out the work in a step-by-step manner.
- 3. Management is defined as a set of functions that direct the efficient and effective use of resources.
- 4. Environmentally friendly Refers to the focus on the environment. Paying more attention to the world
- 5. Appropriate eco-tourism management approach means form, method, management approach. management Implementation of activities related to eco-tourism that are effective in social conditions around Chiang Mai.
- 6. The form of activities towards eco-tourism management means the form of activities suitable for eco-tourism attractions in Chiang Mai.

### Theoretical concepts for conducting research and determining the research framework.

- 1. The 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2023-2027)
- 2. National Tourism Development Plan No. 3 (2023 2027)
- 3. Human Resource Development Theory
- 4. The concept of management theory
- 5. Concepts and theories about tourism development
- 6. Concepts and theories about development management
- 7. Concepts and Theories about Sustainability
- 8. Concept of demographics
- 9. Integration Theory
- 10. Theoretical concepts of environmental conservation
- 11. Drive Mechanism Theory
- 12. Ecotourism Theory
- 13. Related Research
- 14. Conceptual Framework

### **Conceptual Framework**



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