

Political Participation of the People of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict Sikhoraphum District Surin Province

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Abstract

Introduction: The objectives of this research are 1) to study the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District. Surin Province 2) to compare citizens' political participation. Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District Surin Province Classified according to personal factors and 3) to present guidelines for developing political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict. Sikhoraphum District Surin Province.

Methodology: This research use a quantitative research model. The sample group was the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District—Surin Province. A total of 185 people were selected using a multi-stage sampling method using a questionnaire to collect data. The entire version has a confidence value of 0.811. Statistics used for analysis include Frequency value, percentage, mean and standard deviation, t value (t-test), and F value (One-way ANOVA).

Results: The research found that 1. results of the study of general personal information of the respondents. The sample population of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, is as follows. Surin Province Most of those who responded to the questionnaire were female. Several 103 people, accounting for 55.7 per cent; most are 18-30 years old; 47 people, accounting for 25.4 per cent; most have a secondary education level 1-6/vocational certificate; 81 people, accounting for 43.8 per cent; most have occupations. General employees: There were 106 people, accounting for 57.3 per cent, and most had an average monthly income. It was found that most of the sample population had monthly income. According to educational level results, 10,001-15,000 baht, a total of 63 people, accounting for 34.1 per cent, respectively. Political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District Surin Province as a whole has an average level at a high level. 2. Results of comparing the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District. Surin Province: Classified by personal factors, it was found that people of different genders, ages, levels of education, occupations, average monthly income, and levels of political participation vary. Overall, they are not distinct. Therefore, the hypothesis was rejected. 3. Guidelines for developing political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District. Surin Province Separated by the side It was found that the guidelines for developing political participation of People of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District Surin Province Expressing interest in politics When considering each item, it was found that the suggestions regarding expressing interest in politics Items that are very high Most of all, they want the government sector to come in and promote and develop various problems that the people need. 40.0 per cent

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suggested using the right to vote. The highest level is that the rights and voices of the people should be adhered to. Elections are the main thing, 40.0 per cent, followed by recommendations for giving information and receiving political information. The item with the highest level wanted the media to open up and cover more news, 40.0 percent.

1. Introduction

The 20-year National Strategy 2018-2037 emphasizes public involvement in the policy-making process and government sector decisions, utilizing mechanisms for monitoring and considering public opinions. Political involvement is tied to enhancing the public's potential regarding political education, fostering information literacy, and encouraging strong social awareness (National Strategy Secretariat Office, n.d.), which results in heightened awareness of political engagement, enabling the public to take part in national advancement by voicing political opinions or joining campaigns to assert their voting rights, staying updated on political news, sharing and obtaining political information with others, and engaging in overseeing the actions of government entities. From the review of literature related to political participation, it was found that the political participation of people in Sai Ma Subdistrict Municipality has been studied mainly in 4 aspects: 1) information, 2) expressing opinions, 3) decision-making, 4) monitoring and inspection (Boonmueang & Ratchatapibhunphob, 2021). Similarly, the study of people's participation in the development of Lak Hok Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Pathum Thani Province, has mainly studied three aspects: 1) participation in planning, 2) participation in operations, 3) participation in benefit receipt, and 4) participation in evaluation (Thanaphatthanyachot, 2023). It was also found that there were studies on the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, which was studied in 3 aspects: 1) Political interest, 2) Participation in local political change, 3) Participation in political struggle (Sengking, 2017). Therefore, the research team synthesized into a study framework of 3 issues: 1) Expressing political interest, 2) Exercising the right to vote, and 3) Providing political information and receiving news.

In this regard, Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province, is a village where most of the people follow political news via social media, television, radio, and from the village headman's public relations via the loudspeaker tower. They also exercise their right to vote every time there is an election at every level. However, they rarely gather to express their political opinions or join the campaign to exercise their right to vote because the people in the village often spend their free time farming and working as labourers in their village or neighbouring villages to earn extra income. Some people work in factories and do not have time to gather with others. The people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province, should be promoted to participate in politics, such as various activities that interest the people and encourage them to come out and do activities together, along with having each person give suggestions for developing the village and the country to be more prosperous so that the community leaders will know the people's opinions and use them to develop the community to be more progressive.

Therefore, the research on the political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province In order to develop public participation towards sustainable practice and with reason, it is important to research the political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, to study the potential to promote political participation of the people, where the community opens opportunities for the people to participate in community development, solves problems and obstacles, improves and increases the efficiency of public participation in village and community development for the sustainable well-being of the people in the community.

2. Research Objectives

1. To study the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province
2. To compare the political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province, classified by personal factors

3. To present guidelines for developing political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhoraphum District, Surin Province

3. Conceptual Framework

From the review of literature, concepts, theories and related research, the researchers were able to set the conceptual framework for the research as Figure 1.

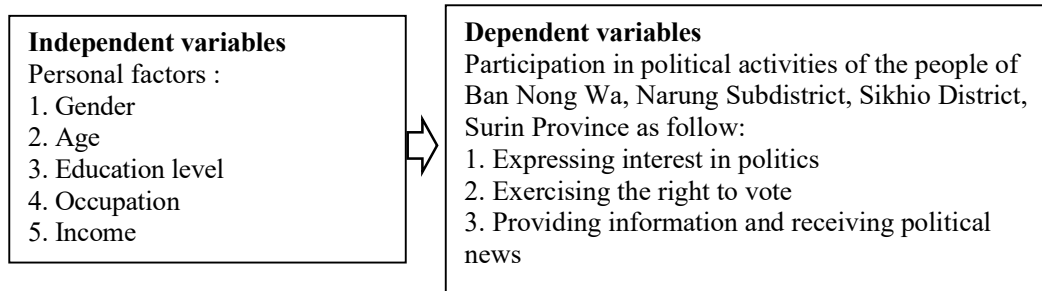


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

4. Literature Review

The research group examined multiple studies concerning political engagement. Chantana et al. (2019) studied the political engagement of residents in Preng Subdistrict, Bang Bo District, Samut Prakan Province, revealing a generally moderate degree of participation. Particularly, turnout in elections was significant, accompanied by a moderate level of engagement with political news, whereas involvement in political expression and political parties was limited. Additionally, the research indicated that age, relationship status, level of education, job, and earnings substantially impacted overall political involvement, while gender had no effect.

Sengking (2017) examined the political engagement of residents at the local level in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province. Most participants were women aged 51 and older, had completed primary school (Grade 6), worked as hired labourers, and earned a monthly income ranging from 15,001 to 20,000 baht. The research revealed no notable disparity in local political engagement when considering gender.

Chamnankar et al. (2023) examined the political engagement of residents in Ban Pet Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Khon Kaen Province. The general extent of political engagement was moderate (3.09), with involvement noted in conversations about political matters, reaching out to politicians and leaders, self-nominating for elections (as independents), taking part in public hearings or rallies, promoting political awareness and information gathering, acting as election officials or observers, advocating for voter turnout, and reporting electoral fraud. Notable variations in political involvement were identified according to profession, earnings, and educational attainment, consistent with the research of Sriprajan (2014) on influences impacting political engagement in local elections in Udon Thani.

Chitrayon (2022) investigated the political engagement of residents in Na Phra That Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Phanat Nikhom District, Chonburi Province. Most of the respondents were male, between 31 and 40 years old, married, possessed a bachelor's degree, were employed as company workers or shop personnel, earned between 20,001 and 30,000 baht monthly, and belonged to the general village population. The general degree of local political involvement was extremely minimal. Notable variations in local political engagement were noted based on gender, age, marital status, educational attainment, occupation, and income level.

Pangsakunyanon (2018) examined the political engagement of undergraduate students at Rajabhat Maha Sarakham University. Political participation overall was at a moderate level, showing a reasonable level of engagement in exercising voting rights and exchange of information, along with minimal engagement in demonstrating political interest, electoral campaigning, as well as political engagement. Notable variations in political engagement were observed according to gender,

department, and year of study. The research recommended encouraging democratic engagement among students by participating in political campaigns, utilizing their voting rights, and offering political knowledge.

5. Research Methodology

1. Research design

In this research, the research team used a quantitative research design using a questionnaire to collect data to obtain information about the “Political participation of people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province”. The research team selected 158 people as a sample to respond to the questionnaire.

2. Population and sample.

2.1 Population: People living in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, totalling 344 people, in 4 households.

2.2 Sample: People who are eligible to vote, aged 18 years and over, totalling 282 people out of a total population of 344 people, obtained by calculating according to Yamane’s formula (Yamane, 1967) and multi-stage sampling to obtain a sample size that is proportional to the proportion. Which uses a 95% confidence level at a significance level of 0.05

2.3 Sampling method

The researchers used the multi-stage sampling method as follows:

Step 1: Divide the population in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, totalling 344 people, into four groups, consisting of:

Group 1, 115 people, resulting in a sample of 62 people; Group 2, 75 people, resulting in a sample of 40 people; Group 3, 120 people, resulting in a sample of 65 people; Group 4, 34 people, resulting in a sample of 68 people.

Step 2: A random sampling method was used to determine the sample size by considering the population to obtain distributed data about the population proportion. Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, was used as the sampling area in proportion using the formula

3. Data collection

In this research, the research team collected data from the questionnaires according to the following steps:

3.1 Prepare a letter requesting permission to collect data from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Surin Rajabhat University, to request permission from the village headman of Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, to ask for permission to answer the questionnaire from the sample group of people in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province.

3.2 Prepare the questionnaires in sufficient quantities for the sample group to be collected. Then, submit the questionnaires and the letter requesting permission to collect data to request permission to collect data, along with explaining the details of the research study and the procedures to use the questionnaires to collect data to the required number.

3.3 Take the questionnaires to collect data from the sample group. The research team went down to collect the questionnaires themselves.

4.4 For data collection, the research team had the respondents return all the questionnaires and check their accuracy and completeness. If they were incomplete, they discarded the questionnaires and collected new data until they were complete. Then, they began analyzing the data according to the research methodology chosen for this time.

4. Data Analysis

In the research data analysis, the results collected from the questionnaires were recorded in a computer to calculate the selected statistical values for data analysis using a ready-made statistical program for social science research. The researcher followed the following steps:

4.1 Return the questionnaires to check their completeness.

4.2 Record the data results into the computer to calculate the selected statistical values for data analysis using a ready-made statistical program for social science research to find statistical values.

4.3 Present the results of the data analysis in the form of a table showing the analysis results with interpretation by descriptive methods according to the statistical values of each data table.

6. Results

1. The results of the study of the general personal data of the respondents are as follows: The sample population of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, most of whom answered the questionnaire were female, 103 people, or 55.7 percent. Most were aged 18-30, 47 people, or 25.4 percent. Most had a secondary education level of 1-6/vocational certificate, 81 people, or 43.8 percent. Most were general labourers, 106 people, or 57.3 per cent. Most had an average monthly income of 10,001-15,000 baht, 63 people, or 34.1 percent, respectively.

Table 1. Mean and standard deviation of the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province

Political participation of the people	\bar{x}	S.D.	Results	No.
In terms of expressing interest in politics	3.06	0.494	Moderate	3
In terms of exercising the right to vote	4.77	0.493	Very high	1
In terms of providing information and receiving political news	3.95	0.445	High	2
Overview	3.93	0.275	High	

From Table 1, The study's results on the level of political participation of the people showed their opinions on the level of participation of the people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province. Overall, the average value was high ($\bar{x} = 3.93$, $SD = 0.275$). When considering each aspect, it was found that the level of political interest in the evaluation was the highest level, with an average value at a high level ($\bar{x} = 4.77$, $SD = 0.493$). Next, providing information and receiving political news had an average value at a high level ($\bar{x} = 3.95$, $SD = 0.445$), respectively. Finally, political interest had an average value at a moderate level ($\bar{x} = 3.06$, $SD = 0.494$).

2. Summary of the overall results of the comparison of political participation of the people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province

Table 2. Summarizes the overall results of the comparison of the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhioraphum District, Surin Province

Hypothesis	Independent variable	Test Value	Sig.	Result	
				Accept	Reject
1	Gender	t - test	-0.039	-	✓
2	Age	F - test	0.860	-	✓
3	Education level	F - test	0.426	-	✓
4	Occupation	F - test	0.339	-	✓
5	Average monthly income	F - test	0.113	-	✓

* statistical significance at 0.05.

From Table 2., it can be concluded that:

2.1 People of different genders have a level of career development in political participation of people in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, which is not different overall. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

2.2 People of different ages have a level of political participation in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, which is not different overall. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

2.3 People with different education levels participate in politics in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, and Surin Province, which is not different overall. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

2.4 People with different occupations have different levels of political participation in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, which is not different overall. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

2.5 People with different average monthly incomes have a level of political participation of people in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, which is not different overall. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected.

3. Guidelines for the development of political participation of people in Nong Wa Village, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District Surin Province, separated by each aspect, found that:

3.1 Guidelines for developing political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, in terms of expressing interest in politics. When considering each item, it was found that the suggestion for expressing political interest, the item with the highest level, was that the government should come in to promote and develop various issues that the people wanted, 40.0 percent. Next was that the village community should develop and progress to be a good leader for the people, 30.0 percent, respectively. Finally, the current political participation is good, with a large number of people interested, 30.0 percent.

3.2 Guidelines for developing political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, in terms of exercising the right to vote. When considering each item, it was found that the suggestion for exercising the right to vote, with the highest level, was that the rights and voices of the people in the election should be the main principle, 40.0 percent. The next was that there was an expression Support the political party you like and go out to vote every time (30.0 percent), respectively. Finally, choose someone capable of governing the country (20.0 percent). 3.3 Guidelines for developing people's political participation in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, regarding voting rights. When considering each item, it was found that the suggestion regarding providing information and receiving political news, the item with the highest level was wanting the media to be more open and comprehensive with news (40.0 percent), followed by wanting media that would make people more politically aware (30.0 percent), respectively—finally, wanting the campaign vehicles of election candidates to reach the community more (30.0 percent).

7. Conclusion

The results of the comparison of the level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, classified by personal factors found that:

1. The sample population with different genders had a level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province in all 3 aspects. Overall, the overall picture was not different. Therefore, the hypothesis was rejected. This may be because at present, Thailand allows freedom of political participation to all genders. Both men and women have the right to participate in politics. Therefore, the political participation of each gender is not different. Which is consistent with the study results of Yodkeeree (2021) on the political participation of the people in local development, Mueang Chiang Mai District, Chiang Mai Province, which found that the political participation of the people in Bang Khonthi District, Samut Songkhram Province, classified by gender, was not different in political participation. And the study results of Sengking (2017) on the local political participation of the people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, found that the local political participation of the people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, classified by gender, people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality with different genders had no different local political participation. And the study results of Chamnankar et al. (2023) on the political participation of people in the municipality of Ban Ped Subdistrict, Mueang District, Khon Kaen Province, classified by personal data factors, found that different genders had no different overall political participation.

2. The sample population of different ages had different levels of political participation of people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province. Overall, the hypothesis was accepted with statistical significance at 0.05. This may be because each age group has different access to political media on social media. For example, people aged 50 and over usually do not have access to political media on social media, but people aged 18-49 can access, follow news, and express political opinions on social media. Therefore, political participation in each age group is different.

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And the study results of Sengking (2017) on the participation of people in local political media in the municipality. Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict, Mueang District, Chonburi Province found that the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, classified by different ages, had significantly different political participation at a statistical level of 0.05. Chamnankar et al. (2023) on the political participation of people in Ban Ped Municipality, Mueang District, Khon Kaen Province, found that the political participation of people in Ban Ped Municipality, Mueang District, Khon Kaen Province, classified by personal data factors, found that different ages had significantly different overall political participation at a statistical level of 0.05.

3. The sample population with different education levels had different levels of political participation of people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province. Overall, the hypothesis was not different. Therefore, the hypothesis was rejected. This may be because Thai society does not set a framework for people who graduated from primary and lower secondary schools to be prohibited from participating in politics. Therefore, no matter what level of education they graduated from, they can participate in politics equally with people who graduated from higher levels. Therefore, the political participation of people who graduated from each level of education is not different. This is consistent with the study results of Sengking (2017) on the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, which found that the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, classified by education level, showed that people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality with different education levels had no difference in local political participation.

4. The sample population with different occupations had no difference in the overall political participation level of people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province. Therefore, the hypothesis was rejected. This may be because occupation does not affect political participation. No matter what occupation you have, you have the right to participate in politics. Therefore, the political participation of each occupation is not different. This is consistent with the study results of Chantana et al. (2021) on the political participation of people in Preng Subdistrict, Bang Bo District, Samut Prakan Province, which found that the political participation of people in Preng Subdistrict, Bang Bo District, Samut Prakan Province, classified by different occupations, showed different political participation. Boonmueang & Ratchatapibhunphob (2021) on the political participation of people in Sai Ma Subdistrict Municipality, Mu Boonmueang eang Nonthaburi District, Nonthaburi Province, found that people with different occupations had no difference in overall political participation.

5. The sample population with different average monthly incomes had different levels of political participation of the people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province. Overall, the hypothesis was accepted with statistical significance at the 0.05 level. This may be because most people with high incomes tend to work in companies or factories, so they rarely follow political news. Most people with uncertain incomes tend to be farmers, so they have free time to follow political news and participate in politics. Therefore, political participation classified by average monthly income has different political participation, which is consistent with the study results of Yodkeeree (2021) on political participation of the people in local development in Mueang Chiang Mai District, Chiang Mai Province, which found that political participation of the people in local development in Lak Hok Subdistrict Municipality, classified by average monthly income, had statistically significant differences at the 0.05 level. The study results of Chitrayon (2022) on the political participation of the people in Na Phra That Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Phanat Nikhom District, Chonburi Province, found that political participation of the people in Na Phra That Subdistrict Administrative Organization, Phanat Nikhom District, Chonburi Province, classified by average monthly income was different. There was a statistically significant difference in political participation at the 0.05 level. The results of the study by Sengking (2017) on the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, found that the local political participation of people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, classified according to different average monthly incomes, had a statistically significant difference in political participation at the 0.05 level.

8. Discussion

From the study of the political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, the study can be discussed as follows:

The level of political participation of the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, overall, has an average value at a high level. This may be because the people are interested in politics, follow political news in Thailand, and exercise their right to vote every time there is an election, which is consistent with the study results of Sengking (2017) on the local political participation of the people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, which found that the local political participation of the people in Nong Mai Daeng Subdistrict Municipality, Mueang District, Chonburi Province, overall and in all aspects, was at a high level. The study results of Yodkeeree (2021) on the political participation of the people in local development, Mueang Chiang Mai District, Chiang Mai Province, found that the political participation of the people in local development, Mueang Chiang Mai District, Chiang Mai Province Overall, it is at a high level. Pimsri (2019) on the political participation of people in Rongkham Subdistrict Municipality, Rongkham District, Kalasin Province found that overall is at a maximum level.

Guidelines for developing political participation of people in Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, separated by each aspect, found that in terms of expressing interest in politics, 40.0 percent of the sample group of people suggested that political news should be distributed to people to be more aware and that news should be followed from reliable sources in order to make decisions with political information. The distributed news can use social media for political communication consistently with research Hongsoong et al. (2023) that people can communicate with each other easily and quickly, which also results in more people participating in politics. Regarding exercising the right to vote, 40.0 percent of the sample group suggested that people should participate in selecting or selecting good leaders to develop the country. Finally, regarding providing and receiving political information, 40.0 percent of the sample group suggested that people should be given more precise and accurate information. This may be because political participation is not only a right of the people but is also an important mechanism in developing democracy and social justice. Therefore, promoting and supporting participation is essential to creating a strong and sustainable society.

9. Recommendation

1. Suggestions for applying the research results

1.1 The study also found that the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, had the highest level of political participation in exercising their right to vote. The level of providing political information and news was high, and the level of expressing interest in politics was moderate. Therefore, the government should encourage the people to participate in politics by expressing their interest in politics even more to increase their interest in politics.

1.2 The study found that the people of Ban Nong Wa, Narung Subdistrict, Sikhio District, Surin Province, were quite interested in participating in politics in terms of expressing interest in politics, exercising their right to vote, and finally, providing information and receiving political information. Therefore, the government should take care of and support and encourage the people to study and become more aware of the country's politics to learn and develop the country. Public sector administration should be transparent, efficient, and effective in its work. These practices will help strengthen the democratic system and develop the people's quality of life sustainably.

2. Suggestions for future research

2.1 Village data should be studied to facilitate fieldwork.

There should be coordination between community leaders and research teams regarding complete and comprehensive documents and information for the public in the area to be ready for fieldwork to collect images and data for research.

2.2 There should be coordination between community leaders and research teams regarding complete and comprehensive documents and information for the public in the area to be ready for fieldwork to collect images and data for research.

2.3 Organizational attire, travel during fieldwork, and routes for surveying data should be organized. Set important positions for fieldwork.

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