# 

- · The goal is to restructure the family.
- All involved family members, staff MRICRH or other organization in the home country.
- Visit family, discuss problems, make realistic goals as a family.
- · Clarity of communication
- Family activities & interaction between family members.
- Making changes are not easy, hard to change old patterns.
- After 2 months staff member visits family.
- \* Talking, observing, discussing, patience & understanding.
- Staff gives feedback & supports the family members.

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# Obstacles and Challenges

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# Victim Identification

- Process to identify victim of trafficking
- Don't "re-victimize" the victim
- Victim status must take precedence over other national laws

# Poverty and Debt Bondage

- How do we prevent re-trafficking?
- Even after "successful" rehabilitation, victims still live in high risk situations and remain vulnerable
- Debt bondage makes it impossible to get out

# Social Stigma

# Negative social stigma impedes reintegration

- Chances of marriage and children
- Reputation of family
- Employment, job opportunities
- Criminal treatment

11

# Networking and coordination

- Need for more cross-border cooperation in
  - Law enforcement
  - Case follow up
  - Safety assessment
  - Tackling organized crime

Must include source, transit, and destination countries



#### MEKONG REGIONAL INDIGENOUS CHILD RIGHTS HOME (MRICRH)

A project of the Development and Education Programme for Daughters and Communities Center and the Social Development Center, Unit 12

# Mae Chan, Chiang Rai, Thailand Presented for

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Seminar on the Role of Shelters in Trafficking in Persons in the GMS

March 7 - 9, 2007

#### INTRODUCTION TO MRICRH

The Mekong Regional Indigenous Child Rights Home (MRICRH) began in 2002 with financial support from USAID, the Asia Foundation, and the U.S. Embassy. MRICRH is an independent NGO that operates in conjunction with the Government Social Development Center, Unit 12, (SDC). MRICRH is coordinated by Ms. Dusadee Jantraka, a Thai government social worker. It incorporates a Half Way Home, the Border Child Protection Rights project, and a 24-hour Child Helpline. These activities provide safe shelter for women and children rescued from cross-border and internal trafficking in the Mekong sub-region, coordinates voluntary repatriation to their country of origin and reintegration into society, and advocates for child rights and protection. Currently, the center houses approximately 50 children. In this paper, DEPDC presents an overview of MRICRH programs, offers successful rehabilitation and reintegration practices, and considers obstacles and challenges to reintegration and repatriation.

#### **Half Way Home**

Women and children under the care of MRICRH stay at the Half Way Home, a temporary home and safe shelter and rehabilitation center in Chiang Rai province. Trafficking victims receive non-formal education with the option to integrate into a formal educative atmosphere. Many of the children at MRICRH have never received an education and are impartial to learning. Half Way Home rehabilitation employs a multidisciplinary approach that responds to a child's physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs. Before leaving the Half Way Home, MRICRH coordinates reintegration and repatriation proceedings on the victim's behalf. Half Way Home staff are well qualified and trained work with traumatized children and provide essential medical, legal, social, psychological, and educational services.

#### Border Child Protection Rights (BCPR)

Border Child Protection Rights (BCPR) is a network of GOs, NGOs and community organizations in the northern Thailand that assumes the task of prevention, protection, and intervention on behalf of marginalized children through rescue, counseling, and case follow-up. BCPR specifically intervenes on behalf of abused, abandoned, and orphaned children in northern Thailand. BCPR is the first network of its kind in Thailand and is one of the major activities in the Chiang Rai Province Master Plan for Child Development prepared by ILO/IPEC partners in 1998. BCPR includes the following components:

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- Emergency services including notification of abuse, investigation, rescue and follow up for women and children;
- Developing cooperation among network partners on questions concerning children's rights and safety;
- Baseline data collection concerning specific cases;
- Maintenance of up-to-date information regarding child rights;
- Coordination of public awareness and informational campaigns;
- Documentation of best practices and lessons learned for dissemination in other areas of Thailand and countries in the Mekong sub-region.

BCPR on average handles over 200 local cases a year and receives referrals from the children themselves, their parents, their teachers or other child rights organizations, and outside observers reporting child rights violations. The BCPR staff then helps the child in a way best suited to each individual case. DEPDC/BCPR staff members have been trained in how to handle emergency cases.

#### **Child Helpline**

In order to adequately respond to children in need, MRICRH maintains a 24-hour Child Helpline modeled after India's effective and widespread Helpline system. The Helpline number is publicized through outreach to local indigenous communities and is shared with key community leaders such as doctors, nurses, village leaders, and teachers. Child Helpline provides 24-hour emergency and outreach services for children in distress or living in difficult circumstances, sexually exploited or in need of care and protection. MRICRH investigates cases and responds to emergencies with the capabilities to rescue children if necessary. Telephone counseling is also provided.

#### **TARGET GROUP**

MRICRH is strategically located in northern Thailand, a regional intersection for many nationalities, ethnicities, and indigenous tribal groups. In this setting, MRICRH is more accessible to some of the most vulnerable populations in the Mekong sub-region and serves as an effective receiving shelter and base for outreach to tribal and migrant communities, potentially helping to protect a greater amount of children from being trafficked into the sex industry. Its location near fluid border crossings and zones of high trafficking activity facilitates assessment of cases who have entered the human trafficking process and are in need of help, repatriation to neighboring countries, and networking with NGO and government partners. For these reasons, MRICRH is positioned to serve as a center of coordination for anti-trafficking activities and repatriation programs at this crossroads in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS). MRICRH specifically serves children who have been victims of all kinds of abuse (including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse as well as neglect), and exploited children who have been used for prostitution, labor, and other illegal and damaging purposes. Many of the children recovering at MRICRH are victims whose labor and bodies were exploited by traffickers; others entered the trafficking process in their home countries but were rescued before reaching their destination. Both of these groups need special care, rehabilitation, and carefully planned reintegration. Although the severity of child exploitation differs from case to case, all of these children have been put in danger and have suffered emotionally and physically.

MRICRH is an international shelter that focuses on the entire GMS. Beneficiaries of MRICRH services include members of many ethnic minority groups, including Ahka, Lahu, Hmong, Karen, Mlabri, Tai Yai, Thai Lue, and Kuomintang (Jin Haw). MRICRH has also assisted cases trafficked from countries outside the GMS, such as Nepal and Malaysia. Due to the liquid nature of sheltering and repatriation, women and children stay an average of three months or longer at the safe shelter until the situation is safe for their return. All women and children helped by MRICRH were not sheltered at the Half Way Home. Many received assistance in the form of counseling, assistance, rehabilitation, referrals, and case assessments. Direct program beneficiaries are trafficked women and children and their immediate families. Indirect beneficiaries include the Social Development Center, friends, relatives, villages and neighboring communities, youth groups, volunteers, schools in villages and outlying areas, monks, village

leaders, government agencies, police, immigration, NGOs and GOs, and international organizations.

Direct beneficiaries Indirect beneficiaries

7,310 186,981 60% female and 40% male 60% female and 40% male

## MOU between DEPDC and SDC (Social Development Center) of Chiang Rai Province

A Memorandum of Understanding, MOU, was written and enacted in 2002 between DEPDC and the government's Social Development Centre, Unit 12, of Chiang Rai Province for the creation of MRICRH. MRICRH is an independent NGO but works in conjunction with SDC to research and establish a practical framework for social development that can be used to successfully prevent the trafficking of women and children and provide a safe shelter for rescued cross-bordered trafficking victims.

#### BEST PRACTICES FOR REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATON

#### REHABILITATION

The Half Way Home at MRICRH provides a safe shelter for trafficking victims who receive care from a multidisciplinary team of qualified staff. MRICRH strives to care for children using a holistic, individually-centered approach that integrates the following components:

Medical and Psychological Care: Immediately after rescue from a dangerous or exploitative situation, a child's physical and mental health must be assessed. All children receive medical care, including disease screenings, treatment for existing illnesses, dental care, and special tests to accurately determine a child's age, if necessary. Trained social workers or psychologists provide professional mental health treatment, including counseling, to help child victims understand what happened to them, process their own emotions, and try to move on and have a healthy life in the future.

Non-Formal Education: Children entering MRICRH are extremely vulnerable and sensitive and many have never received formal schooling before. Moreover, the children come from all over the Mekong sub-region and speak a variety of national and ethnic languages, but not necessarily Thai. Therefore, some children who have the Thai language capabilities and emotional strength to

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attend government school do so; the remaining children receive a valuable non-formal education at MRICRH. This includes regular study of Thai language, English language, mathematics, and social studies, and health education. In addition to academic subjects, the children practice life skills that will enable them to be self sufficient in the future, such as cooking, gardening and agriculture, sewing, and local handicrafts. To better understand the complex milieu of peoples in the area, the children also learn about customs and cultures of the Mekong sub-region and have a chance to share their own culture with their peers.

<u>Vocational Training</u>: Families are tempted to migrate or sell their children to traffickers out of extreme poverty and desperation. In order to be successfully reintegrated into society and avoid reentering the trafficking cycle, children must learn a viable skill that will enable them to generate income to support themselves. To accomplish this, MRICRH provides vocational training in weaving and sewing, skills that can be used to earn and income and also advance cultural knowledge and pride. MRICRH also coordinates the "Life Must Go On" project, an initiative funded by the Asia Foundation to assist repatriated victims start up their own self sufficient agricultural activities, such as farming and raising animals.

**Nature**: Spending time in nature and experiencing the peace beauty of the wilderness is a vital component to emotional and spiritual healing. Children hike through the woods, observe birds, insects, and other animals, and collect mushrooms, vegetables, and freshwater fish and crabs in the forested area around MRICRH. Activities in nature teach children about the local ecosystem, foster an environment of tranquility, and promote healing by teaching children that they too have a place in the natural order.

Study Tours and Cultural Activities: To supplement the non-formal education provided at MRICRH, the children participate in various field trips and study tours to gain first hand, interactive knowledge about local culture, history, wildlife, and social issues. This also provides a diversion for the children and an opportunity for fun and play. Study tour and field trip sites include: the zoo, botanical gardens, historical sites, temples, markets, museums, the border area, the Golden Triangle, and ethnic minority villages.

**Sports**: Sports promote personal fitness, encourage team work, discipline and improve the physical and mental health of the children incorporating a "Play with Purpose" philosophy. For example, swimming improves concentration allowing the children to learn through participation and develop a healthy attitude to learning. Many rehabilitation centers use water games and water sports as therapy. Excelling in a sport, particularly a non-traditional sport such as swimming has enormous benefit in building children's self esteem and confidence. The team work involved teaches them co-operation and sharing, imparting a sense of belonging and family. They are taught the value and satisfaction of commitment to a common cause, goal setting, improving one's performance and how to cope with disappointment. Teaching the body to regulate and control breathing for a sustained period during training can also have positive effects on mood disorders, encouraging the body and mind to achieve an overall meditative state.

<u>Meditation and Yoga</u>: To facilitate spiritual healing after a traumatic experience, MRICRH promotes yoga and meditation. These activities contribute to regulated breathing, a peaceful mind and body, and physical and emotional health. Yoga and meditation can be practiced anywhere, either individually or in a group, are

provide spiritual benefits for practitioners of any religion. Children at MRICRH also learn basic religious principles and moral and ethical teachings.

#### REINTEGRATION

MRICRH uses an eclectic approach in family rehabilitation and reintegration, combining structured family therapy, effective communication, promoting therapeutic behavior.

<u>Case Management</u>, Background, history of family situation, behavior and problems facing case and family, situation surrounding the trafficked case, details: facts to being trafficked, details: facts prior to rescue, impacts, influences, future possibilities, what to do next?, case report, collect information to plan for assessment & support.

<u>Social Adjustment</u>: In order to successfully reenter the family, the community, and society, child trafficking victims must first adjust to life and people at MRICRH. This includes building up friendly, responsive relationships with staff and other children, learning to trust others (particularly adults), feeling close to others and caring for friends and family. MRICRH staff members are very sensitive to a child's emotional state and interact with children with a mixture of openness, frankness, patience, and compassion.

Family Forgiveness: Social reintegration requires work with a child's family and community leaders. To facilitate successful reintegration, family forgiveness and acceptance, and promote peaceful family life in the future in which all family members value each other, MRICRH facilitates post-trafficking family reunions. Firstly, staff arranges accommodations for family members to stay together and joints in meetings to observe the interactions between family members. The family meets with staff and social workers and is encouraged to show generosity, forgiveness, and understanding, and also speak openly about feelings of shame, self-blame, denial, guilt regarding the situation. Families discuss their own difficulties and painful memories, but also reminisce about good times and family closeness. Each family must remember its history of life together and the roots of the family in order to move ahead in the future. They are then able to discuss their future goals and dreams as a family and plan for sustainable, safe work.

Family Spiritual Healing: MRICRH promotes family reconciliation in a cultural and spiritual context by facilitating family meetings with staff, social workers, and spiritual leaders from the Buddhist and hill tribe traditions. Some families perform a Pook Kon Menu ceremony, which involves traditional prayer to show respect to parents and elders, an apology ceremony to ask for forgiveness of wrong behavior, and a welcome ceremony in which adults release all of their past mistakes in order to start life afresh. Buddhist monks and hill tribe leaders meet with the victims and families to discuss family values, spiritual support, perform ceremonies for good luck, prosperity, and safety, and hold parents accountable for protecting their children. These ceremonies provide an emotional and spiritual release for children and families and sanction their efforts in a new life together.

<u>Family Problem Solving and Planning</u>: After discussing feelings and forgiving past mistakes, victims and their families must work together to practically solve their personal and economic problems and plan for the future. In order to achieve this, MRICRH staff and social workers facilitate openness among family members and motivate them to find solutions to their problems, face difficult situations such

as conflicting needs and the role of underlying family problems, and brainstorm ideas on how to reevaluate the existing family structure (e.g., roles within the family such as primary earner, homemaker, student, etc.). Shelter staff plays key facilitative roles and must support the family members to build understanding and trust, promote open communication, encourage and reassure all family members, and help families change dysfunctional communication patterns. At this stage, the family sets realistic, achievable goals for returning home together and finding sustainable employment. Shelter staffs encourage families to help the child overcome psychological difficulties and social stigma. Staff members also provide reintegration resources, emotional support, and work-related training, while recognizing that the conditions that led the family to endanger their child still exist in the community. Families face major problems

Repatriation and Follow-Up: After rehabilitation and reintegration activities at MRICRH, the child victim and her/his family return home to start life anew. Follow-up after repatriation is crucial to ensure that children remain safe. MRICRH staff, preferably those who are conversant in the family's language, visit the family two months after repatriation to give feedback and support to the victim and family members, as well as provide additional resources or connect the family with other local organizations. Repatriated victims receive periodic follow-up for up to two years.

Trafficking survivors stay at the Half Way Home for three months or longer until it is regarded safe for them to return home. During this time, MRICRH works with a multidisciplinary team to investigate their cases, expedite their cases are investigated, necessary administrative and legal issues for the repatriation are expedited as well as extensive research conducted and assessments made into both their case history, for necessary police reports and their home situations to ensure a safe repatriation. MRICRH also collaborates with NGOs in the victim's country of origin to provide practical assistance and help returning victims reintegrate and become productive members of their communities.

#### OBSTACLES, CHALLENGES, AND PROBLEM SOLVING

There are many obstacles to the successful repatriation and reintegration of rescued trafficked women and children.

<u>Victim Identification</u>: Firstly, trafficked persons usually enter Thailand illegally without visas, passports or identification papers. It is critical that trafficking victims are not re-victimized by being prosecuted for breaking national laws as a result of being trafficked. Trafficked persons must be identified as trafficking victims first and not as illegal migrants or prostitutes subject to normal immigration and anti-prostitution laws. Many victims are held in immigration detention centers or deported when they need proper care and rehabilitation.

<u>Debt Bondage</u>: Because a large number of people from all walks of life are involved in organized trafficking rings, profits from trafficking are distributed to many people. Victims receive little or no compensation for their work in the destination country because they are indebted to agents, transporters, and various other persons in the countries of origin, transit, and destination. This cycle of debt bondage makes escape virtually impossible.

**Poverty:** Poverty is a root cause of human trafficking in the Mekong sub-region because it forces families to desperate measures (such as selling a child) to

support themselves. Poor economic conditions and unstable livelihoods contribute heavily to a victim's vulnerability to trafficking. Poverty also prevents the provision of effective assistance for reintegration. If economic difficulties are not addressed, victims remain at-risk of being trafficked again.

Social Stigma and Its Impact on Marriageability and Employment: Trafficking victims face heavy social pressures and debilitating stigma when returning home to their communities. Many women and children are seen as "ruined" or as "damaged goods" and have little opportunity for marriage or a family of their own in the future. Victimized women may have been treated by law authorities as criminals, either for prostitution or illegal migration, and, therefore face additional problems of employment or other forms of reintegration. In addition to psychological and social considerations, programs should be available that provide information on options available to victims for work, continuing education, and vocational training in order to help address the economic aspects of reintegration. Victims immediately face practical financial difficulties and in many source countries, reintegration resources are not available.

Need for Increased Networking and Cross-Border Coordination: Given the illegal and fluid nature of trafficking, both governments and NGOs can not be effective by themselves. Coordinated complementary efforts are essential both within countries and across borders. Through partnering with the government Hill Tribe Development and Welfare Center, MRICRH has established an extensive network of NGOs and GOs throughout the entire Mekong Sub-Region. However, this network must be strengthened and expanded to include law enforcement, relevant government ministries, NGOs, civil society organizations, local and religious leaders, academics and experts, and networks of youth and victims to effectively combat cross-border trafficking and maximize the efficacy of anti-trafficking efforts.

# 2 Seminar, JICA RAS

# Project Cycle Management: Planning

9 March 2007
Short Version of PCM for the TIP Seminar in GMS
Yumiko TANAKA and
Arphatchanee HONGSWADHI

#### Logicality: Causal Link in the PDM Vertically Logically Related **Narrative Summary Overall Goal** Household income increases. **END Project Purpose** Rice productivity increases, MEANS END Outputs Irrigation system works properly. MEANS 2. Modern farming methods are introduced. **END Activities** 1-1 Provide water management training to farmers 1-2 Organize Water Users' Associations MEANS 2-1 Provide agricultural technology training to farmers 2-2 Provide modern equipment to farmers

#### **PCM Workshop-House Rules**

- 1. Write your own idea on a card.
- 2. Write only one idea on a card.
- 3. Describe in a clear and brief sentence.
- 4. Stick to the facts, and avoid abstractions and generalizations.
- 5. Write your ideas on the cards before beginning discussion.
- 6. Obtain a consensus when removing cards from the board.

(

#### Step 1: Stakeholders Analysis

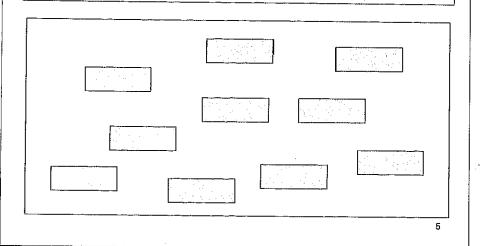
1. Confirm the expected project framework.

Country A's Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Social Development has requested the cooperation of the Japanese government for the improvement of the protection and reintegration of women victims of trafficking. Responding to the request, JICA is going to plan a bilateral technical cooperation project which will benefit the women in the GMS region.

Period, Specific Province ????

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2. Write down all individuals, groups, institutions and organizations involved in or affected by the project.



3. Sort the cards by category.

Beneficiaries	Affected	Potential	Funding
	Group/persons	Opponents	Agencies

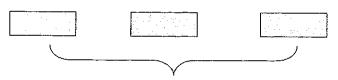
o

4. Select the key stakeholders.  Important Stakeholders (individuals, groups, organizations, etc.)	
	7

# Stakeholders Basic Weaktresses/ Strengths/ CountarProblems Potentials Measures 8

#### 6. Select tentative target group.

Identify the intended beneficiaries.



Among the key stakeholders

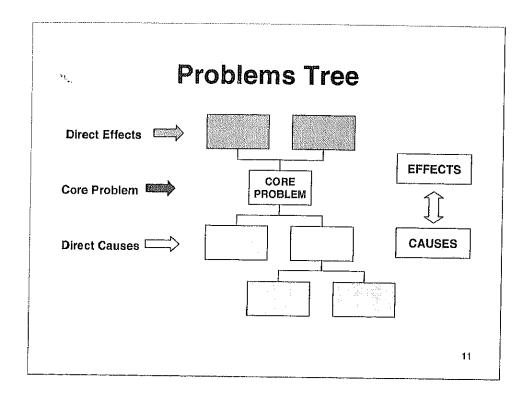
Whose problem do we need to solve?

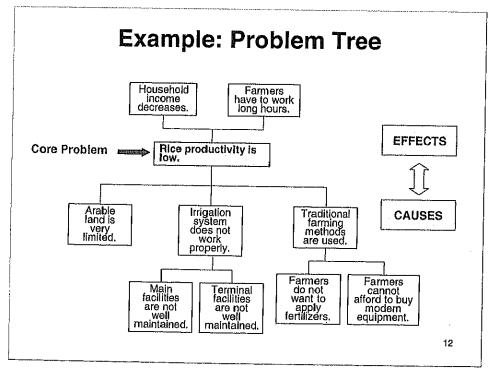
.

## **Step 2: Problems Analysis**

Visual representation of the **causes and effects** of existing **negative <u>conditions</u>** in the project area and/or sector, in the form of a Problem Tree.

- 1. Select the **core problem** (focal problem).
- 2. Identify the direct causes of the core problem.
- 3. Develop the problem tree downwards (add causes).
- 4. Identify the direct effects of the core problem.
- 5. Develop the problem tree upwards (add effects).
- 6. Ensure that "cause-effect" relationships are maintained in the problem tree.



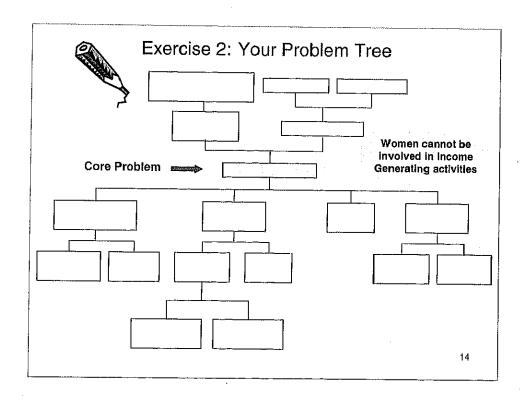


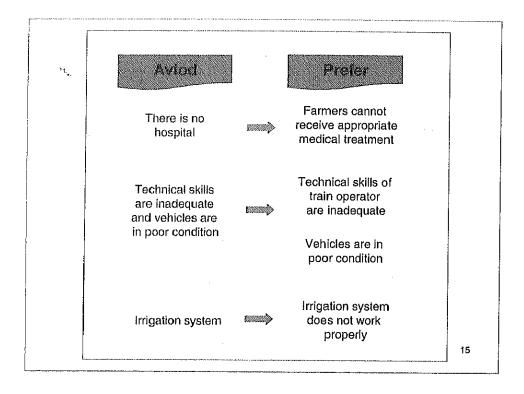
# Tips for Writing Problem Cards

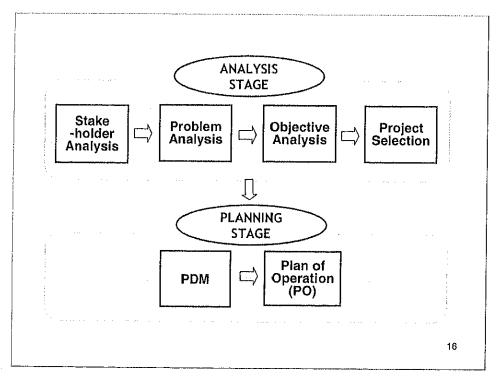
- 1. Write existing problems only.
- 2. Write only one problem per card.
- 3. Describe the problem in a sentence.
- 4. Do not include both the cause and the effect of a problem on one card.
- 5. Try to avoid expressions such as

"No resources is available."

(Instead, describe the conditions resulting from the lack or absence of the particular resources, )







Tap water is contaminated with soil residue

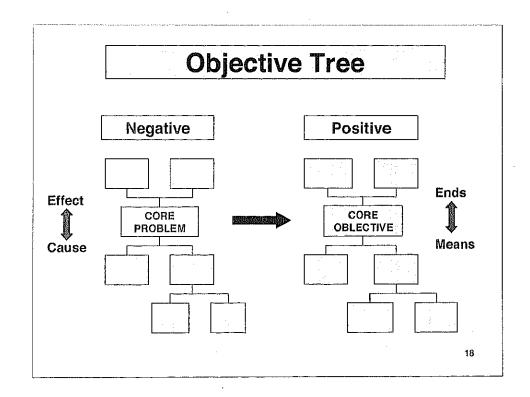
medical treatment

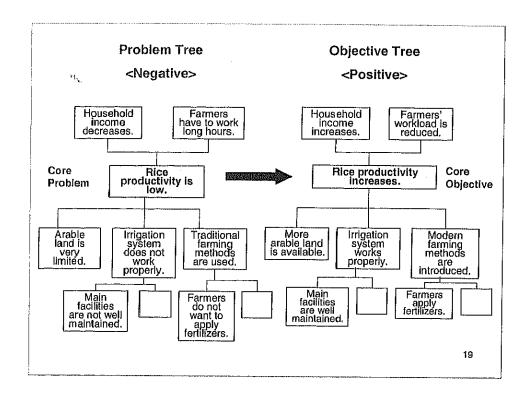
Rice productivity is low

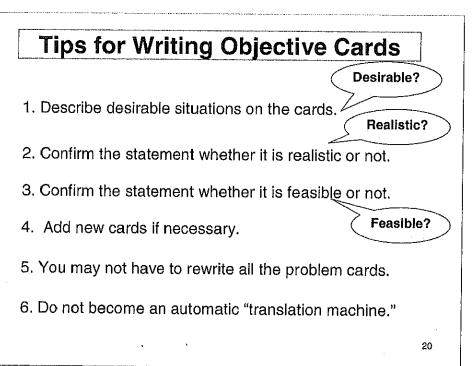
receive appropriate medical treatment

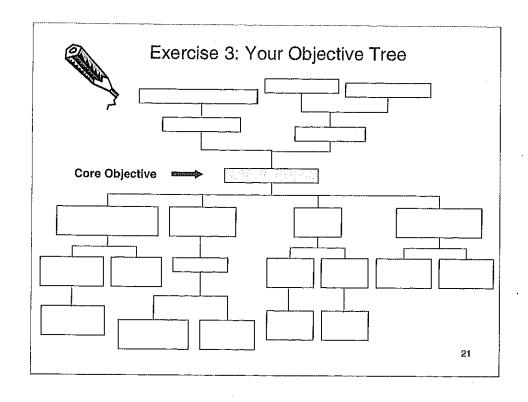
Tap water has no contamination of soil residue

Rice productivity increases



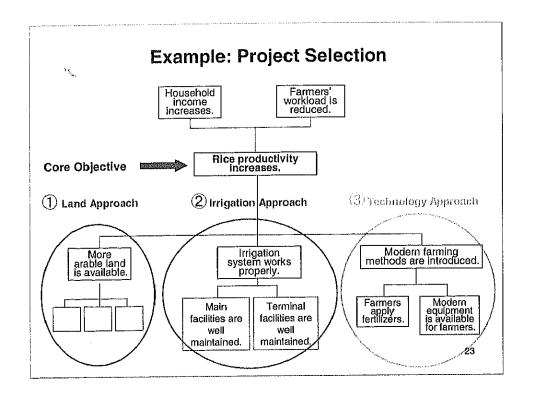






# **Step 4: Project Selection**

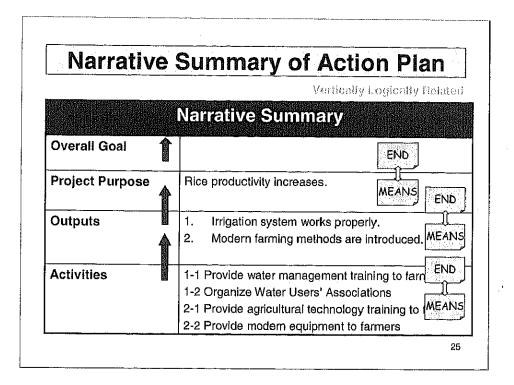
- 1. Circle approaches on the Objective Tree.
- 2. Name each approach in a manner that makes its objective clear.
- 3. Confirm the basic points of each approach.
- 4. Choose selection criteria for comparing the approaches to be examined.
- 5. Compare and examine the approaches in light of the selection criteria.
- 6. Select one approach to be developed into a project.



## **Step 5: Action Plan**

To meet the Objectives,

- What kind of actions and activities needed.
- Period
- · Resources sharing
- · Who will implement
- Networking



#### Possible List of Action Plan

- 1. Overall Goal
- 2. Project Purpose
- 3. Ou put
- 4. Activities
- 5. Measures/approaches
- 6. Possible Constraints
- 7. Necessary resources and inputs
- 8. Concrete Plan of Operations

1-2-1

Activities	Expected Results	Schedule	Person in Charge	Materials and equipment
1-1		2006 200 <del>7 200</del> 8		
Organize handicraft exhibitions.		soud4	Division of Human Resources	-Computers -Paper
1-1-1 Organize a committee		percentum	Development, Ministry of	-Stationary -Exhibition venue
1-1-2		MANAGE CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	Women's Affairs	-
Make advertisements		(MATERIAL TOTAL TO		_
1-1-3				_

# TIP Seminar JICA RAS

# Group Discussion Topics for 9 March 2007

## **Suggested Topics**

- Rescue Operation and Interview Methods
- 2. Skill Training Programs
- Market Development and Partnership with Private Sector
- 4. Repatriation and Reintegration
- 5. Alternative Form of Shelter Assistance

# Question1: Rescue Operation and Interview Methods

- Increasingly rights advocate groups and law enforcement agencies are engaged in rescue operation such as brothel raids.
- In addition, some organizations have introduced advanced scientific methods (i.e. x-ray, dental check-ups, use of recording device for interviewing) to substantiate the status of trafficked person.
- What are views of your organization and experiences on the matter?
- What is the Core Problem with Rescue Operation?

#### **Question2: Skill Training Programs**

- In general, occupational training programs are provided to trafficked persons at shelters.
- Mindful of the aim of job trainings is to provide an alternative occupational opportunity for trafficked persons, often available skill trainings are confined to less remunerative and conventionally defined 'feminine' work (handicraft, hair-dressing, dress-making etc).
- What type of job trainings are offered in your organization and why?
- Have the curriculum changed over the years?
- What are new areas of job training identified for a trial?
- What is the Core Problem of Skill Training Program?

#### Question 3: Market Development and Partnership with Private Sector

- The issue of developing market for handicraft goods and other products produced at the shelters has been a long standing challenge for both NGOs and governmental organizations.
- In this connection, some rights advocate groups around the world have marked a great success in marketization in collaboration with the private sector.
- What strategy do your organizations have for marketing and what are experiences? What are opinions of your organization on the private partnership?
- What is the Core Problem with Marketing Development?

# Question4: Repatriation and Reintegration

- It is a common knowledge that trafficked persons depending on the situation are repatriated to their country of origin both through government and NGO channels.
- What are mechanisms of repatriation implemented in your organization? How are they different from the official channel or vice versa?
- What are suggestions of your organization on more effective repatriation process?
- In addition, do you have any specific follow up policy to ensure reintegration of trafficked persons?
- What is the Core Problem with Repatriation and Reintegration?

# Question 5: Alternative Form of Shelter Assistance

- Given the social stigma and other constraints, the oppressive nature of conventional shelter detention has been growingly recognized, particularly for those who are detained for a long period for variety of reasons.
- What are experiences of your organization on this matter?
- What are responses from trafficked persons?
- What are areas identified that require further improvement in shelter management as well as in-country and the regional collaboration among shelters?
- What is the Core Problem with Shelter Management from a victim's perspective?