

Investigating Actors of The Green City with Actor Network Theory: A Case Study of Khon Kaen City

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Abstract

"City" is a space where presents daily life components, both the human part (social dimension) and the nonhuman part (environmental dimension). To understand phenomenon that exist in the city, it is important to study interrelationship between the human part and the nonhuman part. This research investigates dynamics of the Green Urbanization of Khon Kaen city. The study has been viewed under a sociological concept of Actor Network Theory (ANT), as a theoretical framework to explore the actors who play an important role in the green urbanization and interrelationship between the human actor and the nonhuman actor the green urbanization. This research applied the qualitative research methodology to investigate the phenomenon. Semi-structure interview was applied to collect data from the green urbanization stakeholders. Research area was Khon Kaen city, where its area is ranked as the most green area in Northeastern Thailand in 2021.

The results found that the vital components that play roles in the green urbanization development of Khon Kaen city consisted of the human actors which were government bureaus, communities, and citizens. These actors collaborated with each other through the development policies, projects and activities, collaborated works, legal, and problems in the specific area. Such relationships were linked empirically with the nonhuman actors who play role in the green urbanization as same as the human actors. The nonhuman actors in the green urbanization were including open spaces, green spaces, trees, water resources, garbage, greenhouse gases. and the urban landuse plan. Additionally, dynamics of Khon Kaen green urbanization were found in three periods which were the period of vision setting, the period of policy implementing and its requirements, and the period of stakeholder participations.

Keywords: Actor Network Theory (ANT), Actors, Green Urbanization, Green City, Northeastern Thailand