

Tiedekunta-Fakultet-Faculty Faculty of Social Sciences		Laitos-Institution-Department Institute of Development Studies
Tekijä-Författare-Author Rauhala, Anna-Maria Henriikka		
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<p>Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract</p> <p>The topic of this thesis is human development in a Community Health Evangelism (CHE) project in Northern Thailand. The theoretical part of the thesis first examines a number of concepts of human nature briefly. It then focuses on four different theories of human development: Manfred Max-Neef's human scale development, John Friedmann's empowerment theory, the human development of the United Nations and the empowerment theory of the World Bank.</p> <p>The thesis seeks to determine how human development has resulted through the CHE project of Fida International in the village of Na Poo by mirroring the development to the four human development theories mentioned above. Secondly the CHE method is analysed to see how it produces human development. Also the aspect of religion in the development work in Na Poo is dealt with briefly. The main methods of the work, besides analysing the CHE project through the human development theories, are interviews and PRA -type group exercises done by some of Na Poo's residents. Some of the most important sources of the research are Manfred Max-Neef's Development and Human Needs in the book Real-Life Economics: Understanding Wealth Creation (Ekins, P. & Max-Neef, M. [ed.] 1992), John Friedmann's book Empowerment: The Politics of Alternative Development (1992) and lastly Stan Rowland's book Multiplying Light & Truth through Community Health Evangelism (2001, revised version).</p> <p>The main result of the research is that Fida International's CHE project in Na Poo, Northern Thailand, has brought about human development to an extent in the village. For example, an area included in all the four theories is freedom of choice and this has clearly been improved by the project. The theory that has the most resemblances with the ideals of CHE is John Friedmann's theory of empowerment with its focus on the household level. Religion (Christianity) has played an important role in this development project, as the villagers do not often even differentiate between what has been caused by religion and what has been the result of the development work alone.</p>		
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