



Assessment of the prevention and problem solving of drug problem with participation in schools under the local administrative organization in Sisaket province

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Abstract

The objectives of this research were (1) to assess the suitability and feasibility of participatory approaches for the prevention and solution of drug problems of schools under Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organizations and (2) to create a consensus proposing a leadership development model that influences driving effectiveness, management and performance on drug prevention of schools under the local government organization. The informants were the study administrators and teachers who were responsible for prevention and correction drug problem of school, each group of 5 people, and the total of 10 people, obtained by purposive selection. The research instrument was a semi-structured interview. The interviews were conducted during January to March 2023. The research results showed that (1) Participatory approaches for the prevention and solution of drug problems of schools under the local administrative organizations in Sisaket Province of every created item had a suitability assessment at a level higher than the specified criteria and the possibility of implementing the guidelines; and (2) leadership development model that influences management and results of drug prevention operations in schools under the local government organization can be summarized in 5 issues: (1) raising awareness and education (2) developing communication skills (3) building trusted teams (4) being a good role model, and (5) self-reflection and assessment.

Keywords: Administrative organization province, Drug problems, Participation and local government organizations, Prevention and solution of drug problems, Sisaket province.

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Contribution of this paper to the literature

This research is a model that leads to tackling drug abuse in schools, which no one has done before. To be used as a model for drug prevention in educational institutions to be effective. in the Northeast of Thailand.

1. Introduction

Currently, every country in the world is aware of the drug problem as a threat which is undermining both national security, social, economic and public health because drug addicts have to use drugs on a daily basis and have to increase the amount all the time. It can be seen from the period of more than 10 years (2009-2019) from the World Drug Report 2021 of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The population is approximately 269 million people worldwide, or 1 in 4 of the world's population over a billion people 'use of drugs' increased by 30% and more than 35.6 million people (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2021) found that drug users around the world are likely to increase. In the year 2019 around the world there are approximately 275 million drug users, representing 5.5% of the world's population, between the ages of 15-64 (2018, around the world, there are approximately 269 million drug users, representing 5.4% of the world population aged 15-64 years). It is estimated that in the year 2030 there will be approximately 299 million drug users (Office of the Narcotics Control Board Ministry of Justice, 2022). The increase in drug use is partly due to 'Global population growth' increases where 'urbanization' and the flow of people into cities become one of the factors expanding the drug market in urban areas rather than rural areas both in developing and developed countries coupled with the rapid changes in the drug market causing drugs to spread rapidly to different parts of each region in the world, including cocaine, amphetamines, methamphetamine, as well as the use of marijuana for non-medical purposes, etc. (Sustainable Development Goals Research and Support Center, 2022). It can be seen that drugs have spread. The epidemic spread rapidly in all regions of the world. Especially in Thailand because Thailand is close to drug production in the Golden Triangle area. Drug addiction is therefore a national problem and a threat to the quality of life that affects all the user, family, society, economy, and the country that is becoming more complex because there is a network and the trade groups are ready to distribute drugs into vulnerable groups. Youth in educational institutions are one of the targets of the drug epidemic. In addition, the group of children and youth is an age that is curious to try; therefore they are easily induced to use drugs which from the statistics found that children and adolescents had their first drug use at the age of less than 10 years, and school-aged youth aged 12-18 years, both in and outside the school system, had the highest number of first drug use problems when compared to the other age group 43.1 percent (Department of Health Ministry of Public Health, 2022).

All kind of changes in the social systems, economic, political, cultural and technological have been gained in the societies which have made continuing cause problems Especially the drug problem in educational institutions (Terzi, 2008). Sisaket is a province located in the northeast of Thailand. It has a total population of 1,472,859 people, comprising 734,405 males and 738,454 females (data as of December 2020). There are educational institutions from early childhood levels (pre-kindergarten and kindergarten) to tertiary level, 1,554 places are schools under local government organizations, 55 schools are under local government organization including Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organization (39 schools), Sisaket Municipality (7 schools), Kantharalak Municipality (1 school), 3 sub-district municipalities and 5 Subdistrict Administrative Organizations (Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organization, 2022). It is also the province that ranks among the top 5 with the highest number of drug cases, namely (1) Songkhla 10,659 cases (2) Nakhon Si Thammarat 9,462 cases (3) Surat Thani 8,163 Cases (4) Khon Kaen 5,465 cases and (5) Sisaket 4,811 cases (National Statistical Office, 2022) and there is a tendency to increase due to drug traffic coming in from Khemmarat district, Ubon Ratchathani Province and the side of Chanuman District and there are 400 people receiving rehabilitation treatment in 2019, 110 people in 2020, with a range of ages who received the most treatment of 25-29 years old, followed by 20-24 years old, 15-19 years old, respectively (Committee of the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Center Sisaket Province, 2022). For this reason, the Ministry of Education, which is assigned by the government to take action in preventing the spread of drug abuse in schools. Educational institutions in Sisaket Province have continued to carry out projects or activities related to the campaign, prevention, and suppression of drugs in educational institutions according to the policy assigned by the Ministry of Education. The key factor that can lead projects or activities of educational institutes to success is the educational institute administrators because the school administrators are the leaders of the organization and it is an indicator of success in creating prosperity and making progress for educational institutions or to achieve the objectives and goals set (Charungjit, 2018).

Therefore, the researcher is interested in studying Guidelines for Participatory Prevention and Solution to Drug Problems in Schools under Local Administrative Organizations, Sisaket Province. The objectives are (1) to create guidelines and (2) to evaluate approaches to prevent and solve drug problems with participation of schools under Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organizations to be used as a guideline for educational institutions, implement the prevention and solution to the drug problem with participation of schools under the local administrative organization, Sisaket Province to succeed more efficiently.

2. Objectives of the Research

1. To assess the suitability and feasibility of the participatory approaches to prevent and solve drug problems of schools under the jurisdiction of Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organizations.
2. To create a proposal for a leadership development model that influences driving effectiveness, management, and performance on drug prevention of schools under the local government organization.

3. Method

3.1. Group of Informants

The group of informants were 10 school administrators and teachers responsible for prevention and correction of school drug problems were obtained by purposive selection with a master's degree or higher in a field related to education or education administration and have experience in being an educational administrator for 5 years or more.

3.2. Research Instruments

The tools used to collect data were opinions interview forms of experts on the academic validity of the participatory drug prevention and solution approach in 5 aspects: (1) prevention (2) Search (3) Treatment (4) Surveillance and (5) Management semi-structured.

3.3. Data Collection

The researcher brought a request for courtesy with the administrators of the selected educational institutions and conduct self-interviews until the number of interviews has been completed.

3.4. Data Analysis

Use Content Analysis, Content validity analysis, and the principles of the participatory approach to preventing and solving drug problems. By finding an index of consistency between questions and objectives. (Item-Objective Congruence Index: IOC) by specifying criteria for accepting a congruence index value of 0.6 and up (Rovinelli & Hambleton, 1997). The IOC value is between 0.6 and 1.0, indicating that every action item is consistent, Content and structure.

4. Research Results

Results from interviews with school administrators and teachers who were responsible for prevention and correction School drug problems found that they were administrators and teachers of large educational institutions in the amount of 4 persons, medium-sized educational institutions in the amount of 4 persons, small educational institutions in the amount of 2 persons. There were 4 educational institutions under the Provincial Administrative Organization, 2 were under the jurisdiction of municipalities, and 2 were sub-district administrative organizations. The results of in-depth interviews according to the objectives of the study can be summarized as follows:

1. The results of the evaluation of the suitability and feasibility of the participatory approaches to prevent and solve drug problems of schools under the jurisdiction of Sisaket Province were as follows:

Part 1 Prevention There are 15 action items, consisting of (1) Participation in planning, there are 4 action items (2) Participation in operations, there are 4 action items, (3) Participation in monitoring and evaluation, there are 4 action items, and (4) Participation in receiving benefits, there are 3 practical items.

The second aspect of searching contains 15 items of practice, consisting of (1) Participation in planning. There are 4 practical items. (2) Participation in operations. There are 4 practical items. (3) Participation in monitoring and evaluation. There are 4 action items and (4) participation in receiving benefits. There are 3 practical items.

The third aspect of treatment has 13 action items consisting of (1) Participation in planning, there are 3 action items (2) Participation in operations. There are 4 practical items. (3) Participation in monitoring and evaluation. There are 4 action items and (4) participation in receiving benefits. There are 2 action items.

The fourth aspect, surveillance, has 16 action items, consisting of (1) Participation in planning, there are 4 action items (2) Participation in operations, there are 4 practical items. (3) Participation in monitoring and evaluation. There are 4 action items and (4) participation in receiving benefits. There are 4 practical items.

The fifth aspect, management, has 16 practical items, consisting of (1) Participation in planning. There are 4 practical items. (2) Participation in operations. There are 5 practical items. (3) Participation in monitoring and evaluation. There are 3 practical items and (4) participating in the benefits. There are 4 practical items.

Summarizes the suitability and feasibility of the participatory approach to prevent and solve drug problems of schools under the Sisaket Provincial Local Administrative Organization in 5 aspects, consisting of prevention, search, treatment, surveillance, and management. According to the process of participation, there are 4 steps: participation in planning, participation in operations, participation in monitoring and evaluation, and participating in the benefits. In total, there are 75 items of action items with an average of suitability at a level higher than the specified criteria (3.50).

2. A proposal for a leadership development model that influences management and performance on drug prevention of schools under the local government organization.

Administrators and teachers responsible for the prevention and solution of drug problems of educational institutions express opinions about the leadership development model that influences management and performance on drug prevention of schools under the local government organization can be summarized as follows.

(1) Awareness-raising and education: For leaders who have succeeded in school drug management and prevention, it is necessary to have knowledge and understanding about drug problems which is a serious problem and affects society. Awareness-raising and education about drugs and prevention methods can be an effective tool in developing leaders with sufficient knowledge to address early and long-term problems.

(2) Developing Communication Skills: Effective communication is essential to being an influential leader. Leaders should develop clear and effective communication skills to create understanding and encourage participation in school drug prevention activities.

(3) Building Confident Teams: Leaders should build trusted teams and have good relationships with team members. Creating an organizational culture that supports and fosters teamwork, such as fostering trust, promoting collaboration, and to support and promote the skills of team members.

(4) Being a good role model: Good leaders should be exemplary in honesty and fairness, show management responsibility, Support and promote learning, and skill development of school personnel.

(5) Review and self-assessment: Leaders should review and assess their own abilities in leadership roles, such as emotional strength, correct decision-making, communication, team building, etc. Review and self-assessment will help leaders recognize their strengths and weaknesses, and be able to continually improve and develop themselves.

5. Result Discussion

The researcher has the following important issues for result discussion:

1. Discuss the assessment results of the participatory prevention and solution of drug problems of schools under the local administrative organization in Sisaket Province found that the guideline for the prevention and solution of drug problems with participation of schools under the local administrative organization of Sisaket Province have a suitable average and possibility higher than the specified criteria (3.50) in all 5 aspects. Such results are consistent with the concept of The [Council on School Health and Committee on Substance Abuse \(2007\)](#) noted that drug prevention interventions in schools should provide opportunities for collaboration with parents, health care professional and community officials. Therefore, it will make the fight against drug addiction effective. This may be due to preventive measures and solve the drug problem created by the researcher focusing on participation from all sectors, namely, school administrators, teachers, students' leaders, the school committee, parent network, community leaders local leaders, religious leaders, police, and health workers participate in operations, prevention, and solving drug problems in schools. According to the participatory process, i.e. participation in planning, participation in operation, participate in monitoring and evaluation, and participate in the benefits which is appropriate to the context of each school where often have administrative resources such as teachers, budgets, materials, and equipment are limited. Therefore, it is necessary to require participation from all sectors, which is in line with the research of [Pornchai \(2017\)](#) who studied prevention and solving drug problems in educational institutions in the area of responsibility of the Metropolitan Police Division 6 found that the components of preventing and solving drug problems in educational institutions in terms of overall administrative factors were at a high level. When considering each side, it was found that Participation with network partners was at the highest level, followed by student development activities, responsibility, and education to develop life skills, respectively. It is also in line with the research of [Penchan \(2020\)](#) that studied the approaches for the prevention and solution of drug problems with participation of the school expands educational opportunities under the Office of Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Primary Educational Service Area 1-2, it was found that (1) guidelines for participatory approaches for the preventive operations and solution of drug problems consisted of 5 aspects, namely prevention, search, treatment, surveillance, and management according to the process of participation in 4 steps, namely participation in planning, participation in operations, participation in monitoring and evaluation, and participating in the benefits. There were 77 practical items in total, and (2) guidelines for participatory operations in drug prevention and solution for schools to expand educational opportunities. All items were evaluated for suitability and the possibility of implementing. The approach go into practice higher than the specified threshold.

2. Discuss the results of building a leadership development model that influences management effectiveness and performance on drug prevention of schools under the local government organization. It was found that administrators and teachers responsible for prevention and correction school drug problem comment about the leadership development model for drug prevention of schools under the local government organization can be summarized in 5 issues: (1) Raising awareness and education (2) Development of communication skills (3) Confident teams (4) Being a good role model (5) Reviewing and self-assessment. If administrators of educational institutions under the local government organization of Sisaket Province and the relevant agencies can create awareness among school administrators, they are ready in all 5 areas. The management and performance of drug prevention operations of educational institute administrators, schools under the Sisaket Provincial Local Administrative Organization will inevitably become efficient and effective as well because leadership development is the process that is necessary for leaders to improve their performance in administrative roles to help increase the effectiveness of school management, whether build participation in project initiatives, participation in planning stage, participation in the project implementation phase, and participation in the project evaluation phase requires the cooperation of all parties either direct participation or indirect participation. Therefore, it is one of the factors contributing to the success of the policy implementation of Narcotics Suppression in Educational Institutions under the Ministry of Education. It is also in line with the research of [Kampon and Thanattha \(2022\)](#) who studied the participation of the people's network in preventing and solving drug problems: a case study in Lam Prada Subdistrict, Bang Mun Nak District, Phichit Province found that the participation of the public sector network in preventing and solving drug problems Lam Prada Subdistrict Administrative Organization Bang Mun Nak District Phichit Province were at a high level both in overall and in individual aspect. It was found that the aspect with the highest average value was the aspect of participation in the benefits, followed by the aspect of participation in operations, participation in the evaluation, and participation in decision making, respectively. In addition, the research of [Surachit \(2015\)](#) that studied the effective

leadership of administrators in outstanding schools: a multi-case study found that effective leadership characteristics of outstanding school administrators consist of (1) vision, (2) knowledge and skills, (3) morality and ethics, (4) learning management, (5) team development, and (6) development community and engagement have an impact on the effectiveness of school administration.

6. Research Suggestion

6.1. Implementation Suggestions

(1) School administrators should apply the guidelines for preventing and solving drug problems participatory model of schools under the Local Administrative Organization of Sisaket Province to be used as a basis or a guideline for school policy formulation as well as cooperating with all sectors involved, including teachers, students' leaders, school committee, parent networks, community leaders, local leaders, religious leaders, police, health workers, and other related agencies.

(2) Schools under the local administrative organizations of Sisaket Province should take preventive work and solve drugs problems participatory according to measures in 5 areas, namely prevention, search, treatment, surveillance, and management by focusing on participation from all sectors involved, namely administrators, schools, teachers, students' leaders, school committee, parent networks, community leaders, local leaders, religious leaders, police, health officials and related agencies have been involved in the prevention work and solving drug problems in schools according to the process of participation in 4 steps: participation in planning, participation in operations, participation in monitoring and evaluation, and participating in the benefits.

(3) Interested educational service area offices should take the results of this research to be published so that school administrators in various subordinates are aware of the guidelines for preventive work and solving drug problems with participation that is appropriate and practical possibilities.

6.2. Suggestions for Further Research

(1) Should study and evaluate the implementation of the guideline for the prevention and solution of drug problems with participation of schools under the Sisaket Provincial Administrative Organization to seriously practice in educational institutions.

(2) There should be study guidelines for the prevention and solution of drug problems with school participation under the Administrative Organization of Sisaket Province to practice in different areas across the country.

(3) Should study and evaluate the implementation of the approach to prevent and solve drug problems with participation of other affiliated schools across the country.

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