

## Abstract

The research program aim to explore type and stepwise of community-based organization (CBOs) in highland. The study discovered that there are both formal CBOs that are registered under relevant law and informal ones that are socially formed and functioned by community. Main drivers of CBOs establishment are 1) maintaining community survival e.g. saving group 2) integration knowledge and wisdom e.g. village rice mill group, catchment management 3) increasing negotiation e.g. cooperatives, village enterprise and 4) self-help management. Most of CBOs in the Royal Project Extended area are formed by government entities with quick initiation phase but long term coaching is needed. Whereas, strong CBOs took longer time in initiation phase but sustain self-management in longer term. Hence, further development of CBOs must carefully address the stepwise in particular in the initiation stage.

**Keywords:** institutional development, social capital, CBOs, highland

