

People-centered and Sustainable
reintegration of offenders:
Getting the criminal justice
system and the community to
work together.

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People-centered and Sustainable reintegration of offenders:
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Lessons learned from the Doi Raang prisoner pre-release programme

Doi Raang prisoner pre-release programme:-

Objective:

**To improve Doi Raang Pre-release programme
on**

**curriculum & reintegration system development
under the alternative development concept**

aiming at

effective re-integration and reduction of recidivism

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Evidences learned from the previous programme

- Majority were able to start-up again with supports from families and gov. agencies
- Poor self efficacy – not able to socialize
- Rely on smartphone & social media routes
- Heavy alcohol use
- Some persons relapsed to drug use and got arrested again – influence from partner/family

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curriculum development under the alternative development concept

5-month curriculum involved:

- Doi Raang pre-release prisoners as students
- Doi Raang Prison staffs as instructors
- Experts on therapeutic community and behavioral counseling

To improve: Prisoner's strength on
Heart, Head, Hand and Health

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5-month curriculum for 50 selected prisoners

- **Living together and team work (3 teams)**
- **Agriculture+ vocational choices (practice++)**
- **Re-education on Thai society**
- **Labour supports to outside agencies**
- **Self-efficacy enhancement training**
- **Family relation enhancement training**
- **Medical care**

To improve: Prisoner's strength on **Heart, Head, Hand and Health**

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- **5-month curriculum for 50 selected prisoners**
- **Training for prison staffs on Therapeutic community principles and practices**
- **Improving contents of 5-month curriculum**

To improve:

Prisoner's strength on Heart, Head, Hand and Health

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Lessons learned:

- Great supports and participation of local experts especially counselor team
- Great support from prison/probation staffs
- Great participation of pre-release prisoners
- Strong supports from the INSPIRE Project

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Challenges:

- **Medical problems: Tuberculosis 4/50**
- **Limited number of staffs and workloads**
 - X short/brief Therapeutic community training at an existing Therapeutic Community Service in Chaing Mai**
- **Not released after the 5-month programme due to correction dept. rules & regulation complexity**

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Reintegration system development under the alternative development concept

Involved:

- Doi Raang pre-release prisoners
- Doi Raang Prison staffs
- Community leaders as moderators/supporters

To promote:

- Community attitudes towards after-release prisoners
- Active community participation on community-based social and vocational trainings

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Challenges:

- **Geographical distribution of prisoners' homes**
- **Attitudes of general communities & agencies on prisoners**
- **No existing community-based after-release & recovery system**
- **No peer support groups**

To promote:

- **Community attitudes towards after-release prisoners**
- **Active community participation on community-based social and vocational trainings**

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Piloting:

- Engagement activities at one eligible community
 - Strong community-based multi-sectoral relationship
 - Positive attitudes towards people-centered programme
- Agree to active participation as a training site

To promote:

- Community attitudes towards after-release prisoners
- Active community participation on community-based social and vocational trainings

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Ongoing Piloting: November 2017 – April 2018

- **Engagement activities at one eligible community**
 - 2 meetings at the community administrative office
 - 3 exposure visits to the prison
 - 2 meetings to plan on community-based training

To promote:

- **Community attitudes towards after-release prisoners**
- **Active community participation on community-based social and vocational trainings**

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Lessons Learned:

- Great community leader team attitudes after exposure visits
- Existing local networking facilitating engagement of local resource experts

To promote:

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- Active community participation on community-based social and vocational trainings

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Recommendations:

- **Staff training & development system**
- **Community participation & engagement system**
- **Rules and Regulations adjustment**
 - Selection processes aiming for shorter post-training-to-release duration
 - Criminal record prevent gov. work engagement
 - Incentives and deposits for after-release start-up

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Acknowledgement:

- **INSPIRE Project**
- **Correction Department, M. of Justice**
- **Chiang Rai and Doi Raang Prisons' leadership & staffs**
- **Chiang Rai Probation Office leadership & staffs**
- **Chiang Rai Narcotic Control Committee counselor team**
- **Chiang Mai Drug Treatment expert team**
- **Department of Family Medicine, Chiang Mai University**
- **Northern Substance Abuse Center staffs**
- **Mae Pao community leadership and team**
- **All involved prisoners**