

## Redressing Deforestation through People Participation 参加型農村調査法による森林減少の是正

Tin Min Maung (Utsunomiya University)  
ティン・ミン・マン (宇都宮大学)

Massive scale in plantation forestry began from the early 1980s as a drastic measure to fulfill the increasing demand for timber and to prevent the conversion of deteriorated forestland to agricultural land. Forest Department is recruiting shifting cultivators and applying taungya method in plantation projects. From the very beginning, there was an argument between the traditional foresters and social foresters on whether the project is creating forest protective groups or forest destructive groups.

The study was carried out in Bago Yoma which is the main region of the special teak plantation program. Survey interviews were carried out in Minbyin Reserved Forest of Lewe Township, Saingyane Reserved Forest of Yedashe Township and Baingda Reserved Forest of Kyauktaga Township. The main objective of this study is to examine the current economic benefit of plantation villagers as it is the key determinant to encourage their participation. Questionnaire was mainly targeted to explore the incentives for people participation and the socio-economic situations of the plantation villagers.

In brief, research findings indicate that local people willing to participate in the establishment of plantations at its initial stage. In return, they get formal right to cultivate taungya and certain wages from their participation. The problem simply starts after all the plantation activities have been finished. It arises because all the incentives relating to the project are temporary basis with no long term consideration for taungya farmers which jeopardizes the plan on creating forest protective groups. The study comes to the conclusion that it is the time for Myanmar forest department to change its main intention to establish teak plantations through taungya method based on temporary incentives to redressing deforestation through people participation based on rural development. The study suggested starting from land allocation to the participants to establish agro-forestry plantations in line with community forestry instructions.

(連絡先 : Tin Min Maung

khinekhant2001@yahoo.com)