

See Richness from Scarceness-An Investigation into Community Asset of Wang-an Township, Penghu County

Shan-Ru Chao

Professor, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of Science
and Technology, Taiwan

Shu-Twu Wang

Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of
Science and Technology, Taiwan

Li-Ju Jang

Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of
Science and Technology, Taiwan

Jie-Yi Chen

Graduate Student, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of
Science and Technology, Taiwan

Yu-Syuan Tang

Graduate Student, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of
Science and Technology, Taiwan

Chia-Ling Kung

Graduate Student, Department of Social Work, National Pingtung University of
Science and Technology, Taiwan

Abstract

The objective of the research was to determine the current situation in terms of community assets in Wang-An Township, Penghu County, Taiwan. The study covered six aspects including physical capital, human capital, social capital, political capital, environmental capital and cultural capital. The research adopted quantitative and qualitative approach such as social investigation and individual in-depth interview, furthermore, the data collection concluded in July, 2012.

The results of this investigation show that in terms of physical capital, some local infrastructures can support community development. Concerning to human capital, the educational background in the studied areas is low, however they specialize in fishing and angling as they depend on the sea for a living, in addition the populations are highly committed to voluntary service. Relating to social capital, the residents are closely connected, and they possess outstanding bridging bonding social capital. In the aspect of political capital, religious groups and parents' meetings in schools are favorable for community development. In terms of environmental capital, there are natural landscapes which support the development of the communities' tourism industry. It's suggested the communities could combine these assets along with community development goals to form a relationship network through mechanisms and operations of community organizations, hence to establish partnership among community, organizations and residents in order to promote community sustainable development in the areas.

Keywords: Wang-an Township, community asset, asset mapping, community research