

trackingchange

Local and Traditional Knowledge in Watershed Governance

Global Knowledge Symposium

Conference in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand February 2017

Bringing together voices from the Mackenzie, Amazon and Mekong River Basins...

In February 2017 the *Tracking Change* project hosted a Global Knowledge Symposium at Ubon Ratchathani University in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand. The Symposium was an opportunity to bring together those participating in the project from the Mackenzie, Amazon and Mekong River Basins, allowing for discussion on freshwater ecosystems both in Canada and in the international context of Brazil and Thailand.



The Group at the Pak Mun Dam!

The Mekong River Basin

The *Tracking Change* Project funded by the SSHRC is working primarily with ethnic Lao people living in Northeastern Thailand (Ubon Ratchathani), southern Laos (Champasak Province) and Northeastern Cambodia (Stung Treng Province) to investigate wild fish, fish migrations and associated capture fisheries.

The meeting created opportunities for presentations (oral/poster) by community members, students, academics, policy-makers and partners, place-based learning about fishing livelihoods (particularly related to the impact of the Pak Mun River Dam), critical discussion with the ultimate aim of mobilizing knowledge being created through *Tracking Change* and strengthening the research at a global scale. Participants also had the opportunity to interview local peoples and policy-makers/government organizations.

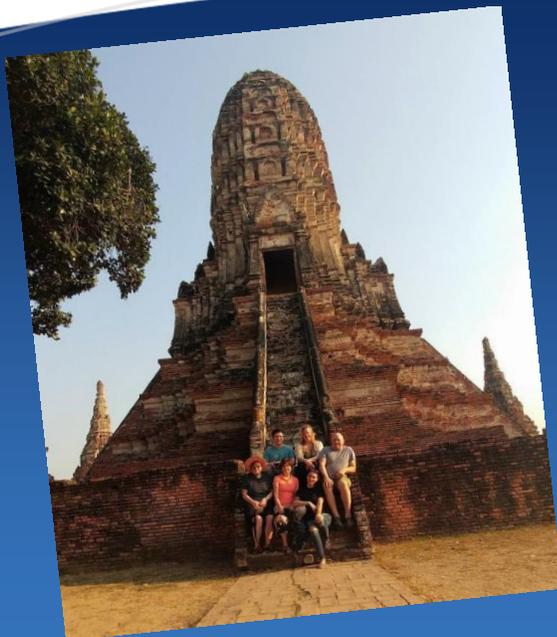
Overview of the Global Knowledge Symposium

1. Create **opportunities** for indigenous community participants from the Mackenzie River Basin and the Lower Mekong River Basin to share their own local and traditional knowledge about social-ecological change and develop a better understanding of its significance at **global scales**.
2. Develop a **deeper understanding** of the knowledge, practices and beliefs of Lao/Thai fishers through **place-based learning activities**.
3. **Identify and advance theories and conceptual frameworks** that can help **explain trends** and patterns in the livelihoods of fishing communities in the Mackenzie, Mekong and Amazon including the changes associated with **hydropower**.
4. Strengthen **research collaboration** between graduate students, junior and senior faculty and community knowledge holders (fishers) and partners from Canada, Thailand and Brazil.
5. **Build global academic-community-policy networks** that can effect change in the governance of the Mackenzie, Mekong and Amazon.



6. Catalyze critical thinking about the **methodological best-practice for studying and communicating about fisher knowledges and practices**.
7. Advance community reporting and academic publication through **facilitated workshops**.

More information available on www.trackingchange.ca



Where did our participants go?

Our guests at the symposium had opportunities to visit tourist and cultural attractions in Bangkok and Ubon Ratchathani. This included aquariums, Temples (such as Wat Chaiwatthanaram Ayutthaya), restaurants, the Ubon Ratchathani University's campus, the Pak Mun Dam, Bangkok's Floating Market and more. Additionally, the Global Knowledge Symposium included a Homestay in the Village of Baan Kanpuay. Where participants enjoyed a night of traditional food prepared by local peoples of the community, as well as a Sai Sin Ceremony in the morning!

Posters from the Symposium can be found in the Outreach section of the Tracking Change Website!



Our International Crew!
(Mekong and Amazon)

THANK YOU TO ALL PARTICIPANTS:

Nacho Nayak Dun First Nation
Gwich'in Tribal Council
Inuvialuit Fisheries Joint Management Ctte.
Sahtú Renewable Resources Board
Deh Cho First Nations
Yellowknives Dene First Nations
Iutsël K'é Dene First Nation

Prince Albert Grand Council
Mikisew Cree First Nation
Fort McMurray First Nation
Saulteaux First Nations
Treaty 8 Tribal Association
University of Manitoba
Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte
Royal Roads University
University of Ottawa
Ubon Ratchathani University
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Alberta

Kanokwan Manolom
Wanapa Wongpinit
Phongthep Bukla
Ian Baird
Brenda Parlee
Sharon Peter
Joella Hogan
Tsatsiye Catholique
Kristin Hynes
Leonard Kenny
Leon Andrew
Elliot Betsaka
Chief Ernest Betsina
Chief Felix Lockhart
Tristan Lockhart
Vice Chief Joseph Tsannie

Melody Lepine
Bruce McClean
Cleo Reece
Vera Nicholson
Art Napoleon
Karen Aird
Fikret Berkes
Henry Huntington
Yamin Janjua Muhammad
Mark Poesch
Tracy Howlett
Shalene Jobin
Renato Silvano
Priscilla Lopes
Ron Harpelle
Kelly Saxburg

Jennifer Fresque Baxter
Gustavo Hallwass
Akarath Soukhaphon
Carrie Oloriz
Iria Heredia Vasquez
Tracy Proverbs
Chelsea Martin
Kristine Wray
Neal Spicer
Abby D'Souza
Johanne Johnson
Carolina Tavares Freitas
Chawirakan (Ploy) Nomai
Elaine Maloney
Finn (Zizhao) Wang



For more project information visit our website:

www.trackingchange.ca



Group photo at Ubon Ratchathani University!



Tracking Change
@mackenziebasin



Tracking Change Project
@riverbasins



Tracking Change Mackenzie
basin@ualberta.ca

Brenda Parlee

Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology
University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G2H1
bparlee@ualberta.ca

Elaine Maloney - Coordinator

Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology
University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G2H1
basin@ualberta.ca

Amabel D'Souza - Newsletters

Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology
University of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta T6G2H1
dsouza@ualberta.ca



All Images owned by Tracking Change

trackingchange



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

