Annual Report
on SDG14 Life Below Water

14.5 Maintaining a local ecosystem

14.5.3 - Does your university as a body develop and support programs and incentives that encourage and maintain good aquatic stewardship practices?

Programs and Incentives to Encourage Good Aquatic Stewardship Practices

Connecting Conservation with Community Responsibilities, Learning and Livelihoods

Thaksin University encourages aquatic stewardship by connecting the protection of Songkhla Lagoon with community responsibilities, practical learning and livelihood opportunities. The University recognizes that conservation depends on continuing participation by people who use aquatic resources. Its programs therefore support both the knowledge needed to care for the environment and the practical conditions that enable communities to remain involved.

In 2025, this work continued through the **Academic Service Unit for Natural Resource Management in the Songkhla Lagoon Area**, research collaborations and community partnerships. Activities brought together aquatic life shelters, locally known as fish houses, conservation areas, community agreements, environmental observation and learning opportunities. At Talat Tai Thun, the connection extended to market livelihoods and conservation-oriented tourism, demonstrating how the quality of a shared aquatic environment matters to everyday community life.

Sharing Responsibility for Aquatic Habitats

During 2025, the University worked with six communities on the construction, maintenance and care of fish houses and conservation areas. Community members contributed local knowledge, labor, materials and participation in fish surveys, while the University provided academic and technical support. This cooperation makes stewardship a continuing responsibility. Community involvement extends beyond constructing a structure to observing site conditions, maintaining the habitat intervention and watching for problems. Participation in surveys also gives residents a role in understanding the aquatic resources they are helping to protect.

A further collaborative activity took place on **11 November 2025**, when Fish House No. 10 was constructed at **Moo 8, Tinsulanonda Road, Khao Rup Chang Subdistrict, Mueang Songkhla District, Songkhla Province**. The activity involved the University, **Khao Rup Chang Town Municipality** and the **Songkhla conservation angling association**. The design was selected to suit for selected area.

This activity brought academic support, local government participation and community interests together around habitat conservation. Continuing responsibilities comprised the care of structures, observation of surrounding conditions and surveillance of the area.



Public evidence: https://www.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5616

Developing Agreements for Responsible Resource Use

At Ban Mai, the University supports dialogue on shared responsibility for fisheries resources in Songkhla Lagoon. Community agreements connect fish-house conservation with the management of resource use and coordination with relevant organizations, including district and provincial fisheries offices and the Thai Sea Watch Association.

During 2025, activities included meetings, review of community rules, communication and implementation of agreed practices. The University contributed academic information and

supported discussions among residents and partner organizations. The process enables community members to consider how conservation responsibilities can be shared and how local rules relate to the work of responsible agencies. The formal recognition process was during process in **2568**; the community reports that approval by the Department of Fisheries is pending. The agreements are therefore described according to their documented status, while community activities already undertaken are reported separately.

Stewardship also includes observing environmental change. At Ban Mai, residents continued water quality and fish surveys and reported unusual conditions to relevant organizations. These roles allow community members to contribute evidence and seek technical support when concerns arise.

Linking Stewardship with Talat Tai Thun

Talat Tai Thun provides a continuing setting in which conservation, livelihoods and public participation meet. The market remained active in 2025 alongside conservation-oriented tourism, a community learning centre, fish houses and a conservation area. Food prepared using Songkhla Lagoon resources connects visitors with local livelihoods and aquatic diversity. The University supports this relationship through academic engagement and community learning. Its contribution includes training on waste management, waste separation, collection and environmentally friendly packaging, working with the market committee.

Market rules encourage packaging made from natural materials, including banana leaves, and the use of reusable plastic items. Vendors share responsibility for collecting waste, while the market provides facilities for separating materials that can be reused or sold, including plastic bottles. These arrangements make environmental care part of market operation and help prevent waste from entering the lagoon. The shared participation of vendors is an important element of stewardship. Responsibility is distributed among the people whose activities generate waste and whose livelihoods benefit from the market. The University’s role is to support the knowledge and practices needed to carry out that responsibility.



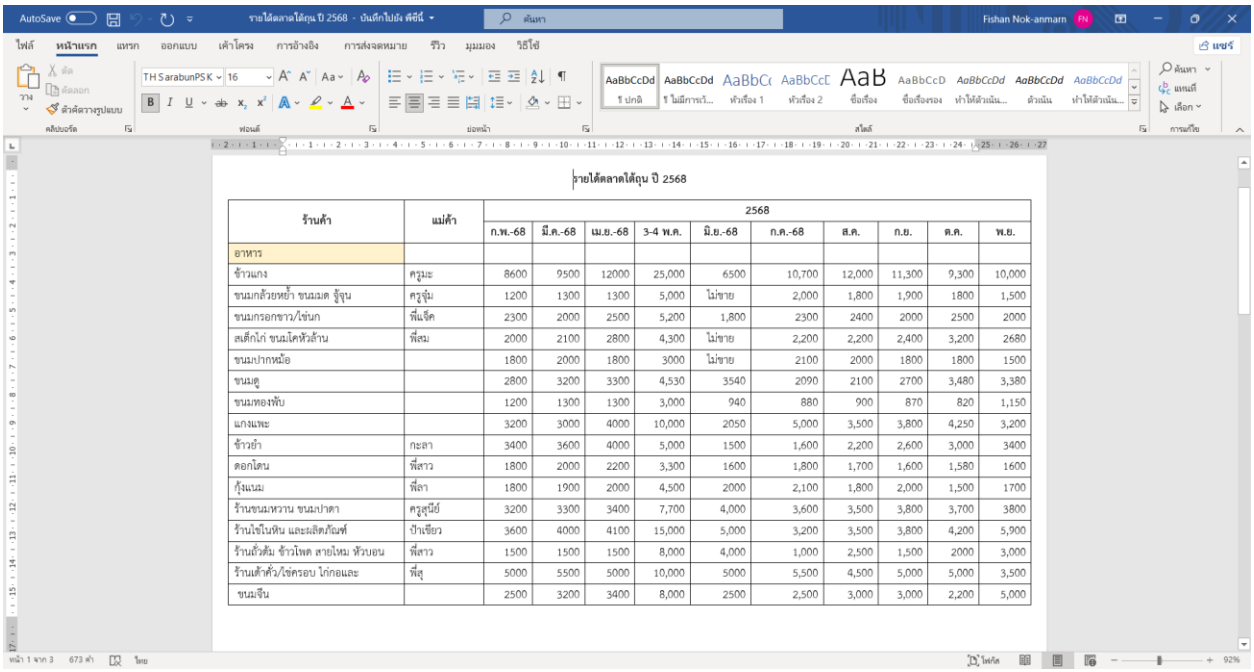
Public evidence: https://m.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5133

Making the Livelihood Connection Visible

The market's sales records demonstrate the scale of economic activity associated with this community setting. Recorded gross sales across participating stalls totalled **THB 1,404,843 for the entries covering February–November 2025**. The recorded sales for **3–4 May 2025** were **THB 314,616**. These figures represent stall sales recorded in the supplied market ledger. They are not net profit, a full-calendar-year total or a measure of income attributable solely to conservation. Their relevance is that they show livelihood activity in a place where the lagoon, local food, community identity and environmental management are closely connected.

The market gives residents a practical reason to maintain the quality of their surroundings. A clean waterside setting and meaningful visitor experiences support the community's activities, while shared waste management and conservation responsibilities help care for that setting. This

relationship complements the University's educational work by connecting stewardship with tangible community interests.



รายได้ตลาดได้ถุน ปี 2568

ร้านค้า	แม่ค้า	2568									
		ก.พ.-68	มี.ค.-68	เม.ย.-68	3-4 พ.ค.	มิ.ย.-68	ก.ค.-68	ส.ค.	ก.ย.	ต.ค.	พ.ย.
อาหาร											
ข้าวแกง	ครูมะ	8600	9500	12000	25,000	6500	10,700	12,000	11,300	9,300	10,000
ขนมกล้วยหย้ำ ขนมเม ลูจุน	ครูจุ๋ม	1200	1300	1300	5,000	ไม่ขาย	2,000	1,800	1,900	1800	1,500
ขนมกรอกขาว/ไข่นก	พี่แอ็ค	2300	2000	2500	5,200	1,800	2300	2400	2000	2500	2000
สเต็กไก่ ขนมโคหัวล้าน	พี่ลม	2000	2100	2800	4,300	ไม่ขาย	2,200	2,200	2,400	3,200	2680
ขนมปากหม้อ		1800	2000	1800	3000	ไม่ขาย	2100	2000	1800	1800	1500
ขนมดู		2800	3200	3300	4,530	3540	2090	2100	2700	3,480	3,380
ขนมทองพับ		1200	1300	1300	3,000	940	880	900	870	820	1,150
แกงแพะ		3200	3000	4000	10,000	2050	5,000	3,500	3,800	4,250	3,200
ข้าวย้า	กะลา	3400	3600	4000	5,000	1500	1,600	2,200	2,600	3,000	3400
ดอกโดน	พี่สาว	1800	2000	2200	3,300	1600	1,800	1,700	1,600	1,580	1600
กุ้งแนม	พี่ลา	1800	1900	2000	4,500	2000	2,100	1,800	2,000	1,500	1700
ร้านขนมหวาน ขนมปาตา	ครูสุนีย์	3200	3300	3400	7,700	4,000	3,600	3,500	3,800	3,700	3800
ร้านไข่ในหิน และผลิตภัณฑ์	ป้าเขียว	3600	4000	4100	15,000	5,000	3,200	3,500	3,800	4,200	5,900
ร้านถั่วตัม ข้าวโพด สายไหม หัวบอน	พี่สาว	1500	1500	1500	8,000	4,000	1,000	2,500	1,500	2000	3,000
ร้านเต้าคั่ว/ไข่ครอบ ไก่กอและ	พี่สุ	5000	5500	5000	10,000	5000	5,500	4,500	5,000	5,000	3,500
ขนมจีน		2500	3200	3400	8,000	2500	2,500	3,000	3,000	2,200	5,000

Sustaining Participation through Community Learning

The community learning centre continued operating in 2025, with approximately **450 participants** reported in the revised program information. This figure describes participation in the learning activities and is not presented as the total number of market visitors.

The University supported the development of learning materials, organization of activities and facilitation, working with the Talat Tai Thun market committee. Activities included **Songkhla Lagoon Fish Bingo** and the **Songkhla Lagoon Monopoly** game. Fish Bingo introduces learners to fish diversity, while the games provide accessible opportunities to engage with the lagoon alongside community members and university facilitators.

The **Water Detectives** activities added a practical environmental component. Children and young people learned about the use of organisms as indicators of water quality and participated in water quality analysis. These experiences introduce the observations and knowledge needed for future participation in aquatic stewardship.

Additional community learning records document **230 participant entries in 2025** across school and youth activities. These covered local cultural learning, the first Pak Phayun Festival,

town exploration and local food, and product presentations. Because these records may overlap with the approximately 450 participants reported for the wider learning program, the figures are presented separately.

The same records identify **THB 75,000 in reported income from three learning-related activities**: THB 10,000 from the youth activity associated with the first Pak Phayun Festival, THB 5,000 from the creative school-holiday activity, and THB 60,000 from the local-food activity with Matthayom Koh Mak School. This income is reported separately from market stall sales.

These broader activities sustain participation in the community learning setting within which aquatic education and conservation engagement take place. Their cultural and livelihood contributions complement the directly aquatic components of the program.







Public evidence:

https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10231912752785365&set=pcb.10231912753065372&locale=th_THhttps://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10232314796476206&set=pcb.10232314799716287&locale=th_TH

https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=12215585795645674 9&set=pcb.12215586158045674 9&locale=th_TH



Public evidence:
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Public evidence:

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https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1221291539008989 00&set=pcb.1221291553408989 00&locale=th_TH



Public evidence:

https://m.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5133

Supporting Communities with Resources and Partnerships

Continuing stewardship requires resources as well as willingness to participate. In Phatthalung, collaboration with the Provincial Administrative Organization supported the inclusion of natural resource management in its environmental and natural resource planning, together with budget, materials and equipment for fish houses and conservation areas in six communities.

This assistance reduces practical barriers to community participation. Academic advice supports decisions about what to do, while materials, equipment and funding help communities carry out the agreed activities. The support therefore serves as an enabling incentive for continued stewardship, alongside the livelihood and learning opportunities associated with the program.



Signing Ceremony for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Thaksin University's Academic Service Unit for Natural Resource Management in the Songkhla Lagoon Area and Partner Organizations on Natural Resource Conservation and Management

Public evidence:
https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1266015835541256&set=pcb.1266037008872472&locale=th_TH

Maintaining Participation over Time

The University follows implementation through activity records, meeting reports and field engagement. Evidence includes the maintenance of fish houses, community surveys, discussions of resource-use agreements, shared market waste management and continuing learning activities. The program connects several reasons for people to remain involved: protecting fisheries resources, caring for community spaces, supporting local livelihoods and creating learning opportunities for younger generations. These connections help embed aquatic stewardship in recurring activities and shared responsibilities.

Summary

In 2025, Thaksin University encouraged aquatic stewardship through work with six communities on fish houses and conservation areas, community agreements, environmental observation and learning activities. Talat Tai Thun connected environmental responsibilities with livelihoods, recording **THB 1,404,843 in gross stall sales across the February–November entries**. Approximately **450 participants** were reported for community learning activities, while separate records documented **THB 75,000 in learning-related income**. University guidance and partner resources supported practical participation. Together, these programs and enabling incentives connect the care of aquatic ecosystems with community knowledge, shared responsibilities and continuing local benefits.