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NATTAWUT KOMVAN : URBAN DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR TOURISM IN  
SU-NGAI KOLOK BORDER TOWN. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSOC. PROF. SAKCHAI  
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The objectives of this thesis are to (1) study the role, problems and effects of tourism in Su-ngai Kolok border town, (2) to analyze all factors that have influenced on its potential in tourism development and (3) to propose alternatives in developing Su-ngai Kolok border town to sustain tourism with its full potential and with suitable environment. Using primary data from field survey in Su-ngai Kolok city area to gain the general situation of the studied area and interviewing as a tool to collect point of views from tourists, people in the studied area, entrepreneurs and those involved, 376 questionnaires had been employed to analyze together with secondary data collected from involved institutions.

The study of the overall view of Su-ngai Kolok city showed that this city has its strengths on its transportation network which can link to many cities in all direction both by car or by train. Consequently with this network, tourists can travel to other tourist sites both regionally and internationally, such as Malaysia. Secondly this city also equipped with all accommodations, facilities and services needed for all classes of tourists. Within the city, there are many tourists' attractions, shops near the border, and all kinds of entertainment facilities. Moreover, this city has its location advantage as a gate to many tourist sites in inner area of Narathiwat province. As for its weaknesses, this city is confronting with many problems such as heavy transportation within city, the congested commercial area in the center of the city, the deterioration of both border facilities and Su-ngai Kolok train station, unsafeties in life and belongings, flooding in some area, and ineffective waste management from the community. These will strongly affect the image of the city. As for its opportunities, there are many plans and projects to support the city development which encourage tourism industry: Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Development Project (IMT-GT), Su-ngai Kolok checkpoint development project and development projects of Su-ngai Kolok district. As for its outside treats which cannot be controlled are lacking integrated tourism development plan, competition with other border towns, and too much tourist and product dependency from Malaysia.

From its potential in tourism development, this study has proposed guidelines for urban development in Su-ngai Kolok city to support tourism near the border to the most equipped accommodation and infrastructure, diversified tourist attractions, and service activities and, in the mean time, to get rid of its present weaknesses and to support the urban and tourism expansion to its most effectiveness. These guidelines for urban development are (1) various future land use guidelines especially commercial and residential area, which can be expanded to the east and to the south of the city in stead of concentrating on the present area and to the west of the city, (2) the improvement on infrastructure such as roads in commercial area, for examples: Cholatam-ket road, Tedprathom road, Wongseviwat road, and Prachaviwat road, waste management improvement system in the community, community sewage improvement system, and flooding control by building dikes around Su-ngai Kolok river area, (3) tourist' attractions improvements such as enhance the quality of services concerning the in-town tourism, improve the surrounding around Chao-Mae-To-Mo shrine and Maharaj sport complex, and initiate other tourist loop in the vicinity, and (4) human resource development, being able to solve the plausible problem from the expansion of the city and enabling the city to use its potentials and opportunities to compete as a future center for trading and tourism in the borderline area.

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