## Background

Mining Industry is one of important industries in Thailand. There are 676 active mines around the country (DPM, 2008) including 247 limestone mines and 4 gold mines (account for 37% and 0.6%). There were a lot of complaints related to mining process on health of local people.

High rank of decision makers of Primary Industries and Mines Department (DPM) and Department of Health (DOH) started to discuss since 2009 and agreed to develop HIA guidelines – mainly for monitoring process together. Two types of mining were chosen – gold mine and limestone mine and started working in 2010.

## Studying Process

### Suphanburi - Limestone Mines
- 12 mines located in 3 subdistricts
- Mine owners incorporate with PIMD

### Pichit - Gold Mine
- One single mine
- Local people complaints to various organizations - health problems (skin irritation) and other hidden conflicts (land selling).

### Area specific:

### Process:

1. **Discussion**
   - among mine owners, public health officers, industrial officers:
   - among public health officers hospital, health center, Provincial Health Office, DOH;

2. **Data Collection**
   - 3 types of data
     - **Health data** are 3-year health recorded data of 3 subdistrics of 5 symptoms – respiratory tract, cardiovascular, neuro system, skin disease and visual symptoms. Health data sheet is developed to use as a monitoring tool – data can be collected by village health volunteer.
     - **Environmental data** – TSP, PM10, Noise, Vibration
     - **Metrological data** – Wind direction and speed
   - 2 types of data
     - **Health data** are 3-year recorded health data - respiratory tract, neuro system, skin disease, and blood examination of complained person.
     - **Environmental data** - water quality.

3. **Data analysis**
   - Health risk area

4. **Dissemination**
   - to stakeholders
   - to organization involved

### Output and Outcome:
- Recommended Health Indicators in HIA Guideline for limestone mine and gold mine:
- Monitoring tool;
- Cooperation among mine owners, health personnel, authorized agency and local people;
- Disease/symptoms related to mine project will be reduced.

### Roles of Ministry of Public Health
- Drafting HIA guidelines;
- Developing monitoring tool and mechanism;
- Support advocacy and learning process for all parties involved.

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