

# THE MODEL OF LIFE ASSESSMENT OF THE ELDERLY IN YASOTHON, THAILAND

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## ABSTRACT

The ageing process is a natural reality that is beyond the ability to control, causing rapid changes, deterioration of the body and mind, greatly affecting the daily livelihoods of older people. This research aims to study 1) the priority of assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province 2) basic necessities, government policies, sufficiency economy, quality of life that influences the assessment of the livelihoods of the high and 3) The assessment model for the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province. The research used the Mixed methods are quantitative and qualitative research. The sample includes elderly people living in Yasothon Province. Sampling with Stratified sampling method, where the sample size is equal to 20 times that of the observed variable, there are 18 variables. A sample of no less than 360 people and analyzed the data by analyzing structural equation modeling (SEM). Qualitative research: The tool is a semi-structured interview, used to interview the main informant. Of those, 18 are local executives. Presidents and members of the Seniors Club. The results showed that 1) assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly has a very priority 2) Factors influencing the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly are sorted: sufficiency economy, quality of life, government policy and basic necessity 3) The model of assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province found that the assessment must start from physical and mental health first and then assess financially and socially. To enhance the development of living systems by encouraging, encouraging, continuous activities together. Require a buddy couple to take care of them. Invite families to participate in activities so that the elderly can live happily in society and not lose their self-worth. The findings benefit the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. The Ministry of Interior can be used as a policy to formulate a provincial development plan to effectively increase the efficiency of living for the elderly.

**Keyword:** Assessment / Livelihood / Elderly / Yasothon

## THE BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PROBLEM

ASEAN Aging Society It found that the ASEAN region has a total population of approximately 647 million people, 63.9 million people aged 60 and over, or 9.9 percent (Office of the National Health Commission, 2016). Thailand is transitioning from an aging society into a completely aging society (complete – aged society) at a faster rate than other developing countries (Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, 2017). In 2020, Thailand will have 12.6 million elderly people out of a total population of 66.0 million. It is 19.10% of the total population (Sudha Wongsawat, 2016). And in 2021, Thailand reached a high society of more than 13 million people, the second ASEAN country after Singapore.

Thai society recognizes the importance of the elderly by granting the constitutional rights and protections of the Kingdom of Thailand Buddhist Era 1997 in Section 3, Section 54. The condition of the elderly deteriorates over time, causing anxiety, feeling irritable easily. In line with the National Economic and Social Development Plan No. 12 (Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, 2017) Changing population structures inevitably affect the quality of life for the elderly. Elders (Yongyuth Burasit and Kwanjit Sasiwongsaroj, 2018) In the field of age care, it is households where the elderly have to take care of themselves, take care of the elderly together, or care for others who live in the same household and have to take on the role of self-care or have to care for others. It can divide the living patterns of vulnerable elderly households. There are 5 forms: Elderly people living alone, elderly people living with spouses, elderly people living with parents and spouses, elderly people living in households across generations, and elderly people living with other non-relatives (Thaksika, Chatchawat and Supaporn Udornlak, 2017)

The researchers were interested in studying the elderly people in Yasothon province, as the improvement of the quality of life of the elderly was mainly under government agencies. It is necessary to be driven by four principles: healthcare system, economic collateral, preparation and social-environmental development. Problems with older people are caused by a number of factors, such as the need for various factors, the management of stress problems, the effects of rapid changes as they enter the elderly age as the body enters the final cycle of life or into that age. The body enters a state of physical, mental and social role, the changes are not equal or at the same time. From the condition of such problems. Investigators are interested in studying The Model of

Life Assessment of The Elderly in Yasothon, Thailand, as a way to implement the elderly living assessment model to improve rights and welfare for the elderly.

**OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH**

1. To study the priority of assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.
2. To study the basic necessities, government policy, sufficiency economy, quality of life that influences the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly.
3. To propose a model for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

The researcher used mixed method research with quantitative research and qualitative research, focusing on studies, reviews on the lifestyle of elderly people in Yasothon province.

**Quantitative Research:** The samples used in the research were elderly people living in Yasothon province, calculating sample sizes based on multicultural statistical analysis techniques. Using structural equation modeling (SEM), which proposes that a sample should be defined about 20 times that of the observed variable. The study author's framework defined 18 variables. Therefore, a sample size of 360 people is calculated to be consistent with analytical techniques and data accuracy. Data collection used probability theory with a segmented sampling method. It is calculated proportionally based on the percentage of the sample. The research tool is a 5-level estimation questionnaire with 90 questions. By determining the IOC, the entire IOC value was .85 and the whole sentiment was .855. Analyze data by using descriptive statistics and structural equation models.

**Qualitative Research:** Collect data by in-depth interviews from key informants, setting criteria for those who are knowledgeable, proficient, skilled, understanding, have at least 3 years of experience in assessing the livelihood of the elderly or working in aged care and consent to participate in research consisting of 1) executives or representatives of government agencies, 6 persons 2) prime ministers of local government, 6 persons 3) presidents or members of the seniors club, 6 persons, totaling 18 persons. Use a specific sample selection method. Validation and reliability of information obtained through in-depth interviews. The researchers used triangulation monitoring, that is, to consider the consistency and differences in the data from time sources, location sources and people. The IOC value of the question is between 0.80-1.00. Analyze data by analyzing content and data conduct.

**FINDINGS**

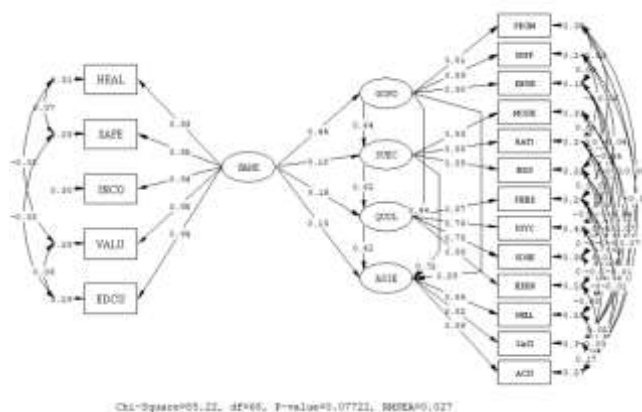
The Model of Life Assessment of The Elderly in Yasothon, Thailand summarizes the findings based on the research objectives as follows:

Objectives of Research No. 1: Study the priority of assessing the livelihoods of elderly people in Yasothon Province. Can be sorted as follows: Basic necessity. The average of 3.97 is the first, the second is quality of life, it has the average of 3.85, the third is the living of the elderly, it has the average of 3.83. The fourth is Sufficiency Economy, it averages of 3.81 and the fifth is government policy with an average of 3.73.

Objectives of Research No. 2 : Studying basic necessities, government policy, sufficiency economy and quality of life, influencing the assessment of the lives of the elderly

Shows the relationship and influence of data analysis together to determine the harmony of the model with the empirical data after the final adjustment of the model, effective as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 shows an analysis to determine the harmony of the model with empirical data.



The relationship path can be described as the basic necessity (BANE) with the greatest influence on government policy (GOPO) as 0.44, second only to the direct impact on the sufficiency economy (SUEC), quality of life (QUOL) And the elderly living assessment (ASIE) was 0.18, 0.15 and 0.13, respectively. The Assessment of Elderly Living (ASIE) and Sufficiency Economy (SUEC) was 0.47, 0.34 and 0.28 respectively.

Government policy (GOPO) has the greatest direct influence on the Sufficiency Economy (SUEC) of 0.64, second only to the direct impact on the quality of life (QUOL) and the elderly living assessment (ASIE) was 0.44 and 0.29, respectively. But it indirectly resulted in an assessment of the livelihood of the elderly (ASIE) and quality of life (QUOL) of 0.61 and 0.39, respectively.

The Sufficiency Economy (SUEC) is most directly related to the elderly living assessment (ASIE) of 0.72, second only to the direct impact on the quality of life (QUOL) of 0.62, but indirectly with the elderly living assessment (ASIE) of 0.26. It found that the quality of life (QUOL) was directly related to the elderly living assessment (ASIE) of 0.42.

From the correlation between internal and external variables There is a very high level of positive correlation (the r statistic is 0.81-0.94). The Sufficiency Economy (SUEC) and the Elderly Living Assessment (ASIE) are 0.94, second only to Sufficiency Economy (SUEC) and Quality of Life (QUOL) equal to 0.86 Quality of Life (QUOL) and the Elderly Living Assessment (ASIE) is 0.85 Government Policy (GOPO) and Quality of Life (QUOL) equal to 0.81.

It also found that the model of structural equations of government policy, sufficiency economy, quality of life and assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly was found. R2 is equal to 0.19, 0.54, 0.84, and 0.92, respectively. This shows that assumption models of relationship structures can explain the variety of government policies, sufficiency economy, quality of life, and assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly by 19 percent, 54, 84 and 92 percent, respectively.

Overall visual analysis showed that the harmonised index was more consistent with empirical data. It meets benchmarks that represent the conformity of models and empirical data with very good standards.

**Table 1** Hypothesis Test Results

Research Hypothesis	Path Coefficient	t statistics	Result
<b>Assumption 1:</b> Basic necessity, government policy, sufficiency economy and quality of life affect the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly			
1.1 Basic necessity directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly (BANE --> ASIE)	0.13**	2.68	<b>support</b>
1.2 Government policy directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly (GOPO --> ASIE)	0.29**	3.10	<b>support</b>
1.3 Sufficiency economy directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly (SUEC --> ASIE)	0.72**	4.90	<b>support</b>
1.3 Quality of life directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly (QUOL --> ASIE)	0.42*	2.49	<b>support</b>
<b>Assumption 2:</b> Basic necessity, government policy and sufficiency economy affect quality of life			
2.1 Basic necessity directly affects quality of life (BANE --> QUOL)	0.15**	4.14	<b>support</b>
2.2 Government policy directly affects quality of life (GOPO --> QUOL)	0.44**	7.40	<b>support</b>
2.3 Sufficiency economy directly affects quality of life (SUEC --> QUOL)	0.62**	9.17	<b>support</b>
<b>Assumption 3:</b> Basic necessity and government policy affect the sufficiency economy			
3.1 Basic necessity directly affects the sufficiency economy (BANE --> SUEC)	0.18**	3.58	<b>support</b>
3.2 Government policy directly affects the sufficiency economy (GOPO --> SUEC)	0.64**	10.66	<b>support</b>
<b>Assumption 4:</b> the basic necessity, affects government policy			
4.1 Basic necessity Direct affects government policy (BANE --> GOPO)	0.44**	7.50	<b>support</b>

**Table 1** can be explained according to the results of the conceptual hypothesis test:

**Assumption 1 :** Basic necessity, government policy, sufficiency economy and quality of life affect the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly. It found that the basic necessity directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly. The path coefficient is 0.13, the t statistics is 2.68, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlate in the same direction, that is, as the underlying necessity increases. As a result, the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly is also greater.

Government policy directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly, with a path coefficient of 0.29, the t statistics of 3.10, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as government policies increase, resulting in greater assessments of the livelihoods of older people.

The sufficiency economy directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly, with a route coefficient of 0.72, t statistics of 4.90. This supports statistically significant assumptions of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as the sufficiency economy increases, resulting in greater assessments of the livelihoods of older people.

Quality of life directly affects the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly, with a path coefficient of 0.42, the t statistics of 2.49, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as quality of life increases. As a result, the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly is also greater.

**Assumption 2 :** Basic necessity, government policy and sufficiency economy affect quality of life According to the hypothesis test results, the underlying necessity has a direct effect on quality of life, with a path coefficient of 0.15, the t statistics of 4.14, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as the underlying necessity increases, resulting in greater quality of life.

Government policy directly affects quality of life, with a route coefficient of 0.44, the t statistics of 7.40, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as government policies increase, resulting in greater quality of life.

The sufficiency economy has a direct impact on quality of life, with a route coefficient of 0.62, the t statistics of 9.17, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as the economy sufficiency increases. As a result, the quality of life is greater.

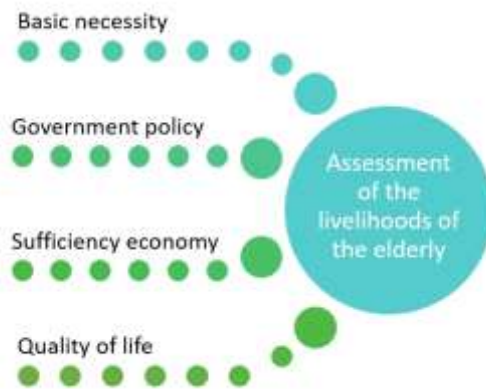
**Assumption 3:** the basic necessity and government policy affect the sufficiency economy, according to the test results, the hypothesis showed that the basic necessity has a direct effect on the sufficiency economy. The path coefficient is 0.18, the t statistics is 3.58, which supports the statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as the underlying necessity increases, resulting in a sufficiency economy.

Government policy directly affects the sufficiency economy, with a route coefficient of 0.64, the t statistics of 10.66, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01. This can be interpreted as the variables studied correlated in the same direction, that is, as government policies increase, resulting in a more sufficiency economy.

**Assumption 4:** the fundamental need affects government policy, as a result of the hypothesis test, finds that the basic necessity affects government policy. The path coefficient is 0.44, the t statistics is 7.50, which supports a statistically significant assumption of 0.01, which can be interpreted as correlated with the variables in the same direction: as the underlying necessity increases, resulting in more government policies.

The purpose of research no. 3 proposes a model for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province. It was found that older people, the body is more degenerating than growth. Changes are not equal. Most of the cells in the body work lower compared to growth age. Most changes are noticeable at the age of 40, such as bent back, inlets and slightly bent hips. Older people are less mindful, have anxiety and stress and social changes. Older people will have a changing social status. Promoting positive values towards the elderly, positive values towards the elderly help create positive attitudes and good practice towards the elderly, allowing the elderly to live with value and dignity. It is a cultural capital that also benefits society. Society has changed the promotion of values in each era, must be adjusted in accordance with the ideas, beliefs of the younger generation, and there are appropriate mechanisms for controlling care behavior. As shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2** Models of Assessment of the Livelihoods of The Elderly in Yasothon Province



## DISCUSSION

The basic necessity has a positive influence on the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province, since the basic necessity can be considered as an assessment of health impacts. In line with (Dejrat Sukkomnerd, 2012), he said that England presented factors that affect human health and that the human environment is a level from factors that are present in humans to factors in the community and society level. By linking the relationship between factors at a level ranging from prominent (personal behavior) to far-reaching levels of humans (namely community, society and public policy), there is a lack of detail, especially economic, social, cultural and environmental. In accordance with (Jariya Indrasarasame, 2017), the basic need must be to put safety first for the elderly, because if environmental conditions are inappropriate, it can be the cause of accidents in the elderly. Proper environments reduce problems and encourage older people to be confident in their movements and reduce the burden on caregivers. In line with (Chamchan, 2018), the focus on finance is a priority. Focus on savings to ensure income security. In line with (Samaporn Raksethyabun and Sirina Chitjaras, 2018), it is better that societies with fairer income distribution societies are healthier. In line with (Poe EI Zion and Yu Mon Saw (2020), residential institutions, education levels, marital status, income, social associates, social interactions with neighbors and friends, participation in group activities and frequency of going out and religious activities should be considered in planning and implementing programs for the elderly because it is a fundamental necessity that older people should receive. Therefore, the basic necessity is important for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.

Government policy has a positive influence on the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province because it is a framework for the treatment of the elderly. It is in line with Sombat Thamrongthanawong (2017), which says that policies are frameworks and guides, practices as a guideline for practice or decisions to allow actions to be taken. Achieve your intended objectives and goals effectively. Conforms to Patara SukhaSukon (2019) adopted government policies as a practice to establish the model of living assessments in 7 groups: Group 1: Family Love group and morality, Group 2: Self-confident and interested in the surroundings, Group 3: Conservation and Development, Group 4: Self-Care Activist Group, Group 5: Enthusiastic, well-informed group for success, Group 6: Self-Care and Environment Group, and Group 7: Hobby and Love Democracy Group. The focus should be on building a healthy base for the elderly, controlling chronic diseases, building good mental health, cultivating love, bonding and repayment. In line with Jutarat Sangthong (2017), a holistic study will enable you to look at trends in welfare arrangements to fully support the elderly society, be as effective and responsive to the population as possible. In line with Sudarsat Sudsombon (2014), social welfare for the elderly must be integrated from many sectors, including the public, private and public sectors. To accommodate the growing number of elderly people. This is to focus on providing the elderly with a good quality of life and being valued in society and the nation. Therefore, government policy is important for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.

Sufficiency Economy has a positive influence on the assessment of the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon Province. Because it's a matter of modestness. Rationality includes the need to have a fairly good built-in immune system in line with Sumeet Tantivejkul (2011), who says that sufficiency economy means an economy that can hold it without suffering. The foundation of the economy must be established well: to set yourself up to be sufficient, not to aim, but to dedicate yourself to creating a prosperity that lifts the economy quickly. Because those who have enough careers and self-reliance can continue to build progress and a higher economic position along the way. In conclusion, it is to retake the central line of living using the principle of self-sufficiency. In accordance with Chonkorn Sirawatana (2013), satisfaction in physical and mental life can perform various activities according to the roles of the body, have emotional and mental health conditions, can adapt and live in society properly. Aligns with Chotika Sinhathep, Thanikarn Srijan and Sawaney Chansang (2018) said knowledge should be passed on to the community due to their children. The younger generation sees inheriting local wisdom as a rather tricky thing to do, and when it is done, the goods are cheap, which makes the transfer of wisdom to the community a learning exchange limited to the elderly, so the sufficiency economy is important for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.

Quality of life has a positive influence on the assessment of the livelihoods of elderly people in Yasothon province, as Livia Carvalho Viana Miranda, Sônia Maria Soares and Patrícia Aparecida Barbosa Silva (2016) say that living well, enjoying and satisfying life in both physical, mental, social, emotional and individual lifestyles in society coordinates a person's perception of physical, mental, social relationships, the environment, under each person's culture, values and life goals and means living a proper life. Conforms to Chittiya. Sombat Boon and Busarin Ewingxiyoke (2019) To encourage the elderly to be happy by

organizing activities to promote health to cover the whole body. Using 5 happiness activities for the elderly, including comfort, happiness, peace of mind, bright and peaceful happiness. This will help to strengthen positive feelings, which will allow the elderly to live happily together in their families and society. In line with Kittiwong Sasuad (2017) The right form to improve the quality of life for aged care is that family members are the primary personnel in aged care. In addition to that, public and private agencies must be actively involved in the care of the elderly. It focuses on the well-being of the elderly in all aspects: physical, emotional and spiritual. In line with Thaksika Chachawarat and Supaporn Udomlak (2017) The promotion of elderly people to create self-living values consists of 1) promoting psychological strength, including understanding and accepting change, positive attitudes towards life, confidence in their own abilities, exhilaration and freshness, peace and acceptance, and respect for the general public 2) Promoting physical health, including food, air, water, excretion, exercise, sleep, prevention, accidents and taking care of their own health and 3) promoting social activities include seeking friends of different ages, doing things that benefit themselves, family and society, socialization, c, and community participation in elderly clubs. In line with Joyce Siette, Helen L Berry and Lindsey Brett. With Mary Dioise Ramos and Austin Brown (2020), positivity protects older people from negative experiences and reduces the risk of heartburn diseases that affect the improvement of the quality of life of the elderly, so quality of life is important for assessing the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.

## **SUGGESTION**

### **Academic Feedback**

The findings confirm findings consistent with relevant concepts, theories, and research works reviewed by the researchers who have obtained a model of assessment of the livelihoods of elderly people in Yasothon Province. It should push for long-term care laws for the elderly, covering public, private, civil society and fiscal services, developing a medium-term care system that will support those in need of recovery before returning home to be linked to the long-term care system, and promoting a standardized long-term care business for the elderly. Yasothon Provincial Office yasothon Provincial Public Health Office can adopt the elderly living assessment model as a model for policy, welfare to properly promote the quality of life for elderly people in the province.

### **Recommendations in the Next Research**

1. Analytical study of the adoption of the living assessment model of the elderly in Yasothon province as a strategy to define the provincial development plan.
2. Research to the satisfaction of the assessment model of the livelihoods of the elderly in Yasothon province.
3. Research the lifestyle assessment model of low-income seniors for welfare appropriately for the target audience.

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