

Developing the Problem Statement and Project Goals

Strengthen ability to conceptualize key elements of a project and graphical and oral expression skills

Using the problem statement you developed in class continue to develop your ideas about your project by establishing a thoughtful problem statement and project goal:

- ❑ Continue to identify plausible “core problems” underlying your project and for each make a diagram that identifies its possible causes and effects. You don’t have to be certain about the core problems, nor their causes and effects – this exercise is to get you started in researching reasonable possibilities, only a few of which may eventually be significant for your project.
- ❑ Once you are satisfied with your problem statement develop a draft project goal. A project goal should be something that you can do in the course of C term. Consider this something that you can be graded on; it must be accomplished by the end of your time in Thailand.
- ❑ Once you get something together develop a brief (2-3 minute) power point presentation for the next class that accomplishes the following things: 1) your project’s problem statement, 2) your project’s core problems, 3) your project goal, and 4) shows a linkage between these core problems to the goal.
- ❑ ***Be thinking about:*** based on your team’s Problem Analysis diagrams and your own ideas make an outline of the kind of knowledge and information you may need in order to understand the core problem(s) well enough to help your sponsor respond effectively. Use the following generic categories of knowledge to help organize your thinking, but make *your* outline specific to your project.
 - basic concepts directly related to the subject matter,
 - existing data/literature on the subject,
 - the geography of the study site(s),
 - the history of the subject and site(s),
 - laws and regulations applicable to the topic,
 - any organizations that are important to the Project,
 - any additional information that will help frame the issues that are fundamental to your project

Organize your outline logically and identify those topics you think are most important to study first.