**Elephant dung plant pot for Lifelong Learning**

Keawsuk Akkarima, Suwansil Sirilak

Songkhla Zoo

sirilak\_s09@outlook.com

**Abstract**

 Education Department, Songkhla Zoo has been working in educating about environmental conservation and wildlife. Among the most popular animals in the zoo is Asian Elephants, they are recognized as the national animal of Thailand and also gotten first-hand in attention from students and tourist that visiting a zoo. This is where we develop an educational activity “Elephant Dung Plant Pot” us to improve that into the educational development as an environmental innovation. Making elephant dung plant pot for lifelong learning is conducted since 2015 until now. The target group is the students in play and learn program in Songkhla zoo. Zoo educator lets them learn to create new thing from resources that we have, accompanied the conscious awareness of environmental.

 In addition, the students can integrate the knowledge how to plan, to observe, learn the method as science, learn ratio of making Elephant dung plant pot as mathematic and take it back to use as fully functional. Elephant dung plant pot is organic matter; it’s very useful, can help plant to grow up because the dung contains lots of broken-down plant fibers that from an elephant food. Decrease use of plastic, using Elephant dung plant pot instead plastic plant pot can reduce the microplastic in the natural. Moreover, this activity can make the students aware of social responsibility and current environmental situation.

**Keywords:** Elephant dung, Lifelong Learning, educational development, environmental

innovation, play and learn program