

Huay Nam Khun Royal Project Development Center

Background

Huay Nam Khun Royal Project Development Center was previously Mae Poon Luang Royal Project Development Center in Wiang Pa Pao District, Chiang Rai. Huay Nam Khun Royal Project Development Center was set up in 1983 in 20 Rai (7.9 acre) area in order to improve quality of life of local people by promoting temperate crops to replace their former shifting cultivation as well as to develop community infrastructure, restore and conserve the environment.



Geography

It is complex mountainous terrain with narrow plains around covering 88,339 rai or 34,926 acres at 600 - 1,400 meters above sea level.

Climate

The average temperature of the area is 22 °C or 71.6 °F.

Population

There are four main groups of hill tribe people : Akha, Pgakûuyau or Karen, Lahu and Yunan, more than 7,470 people residing in 8 villages and 14 communities.

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The center these days aims to generate sustainable income and improve livelihood of local farmers by developing and promoting alternative crop cultivation namely tea, coffee and fruit, under Food Safety Standards: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Furthermore, the center focuses on strengthening individuals and communities, natural resources and environmental conservation, reforestation project called “Three Forests, Four Benefits”, soil and water conservation by vetiver grass growing, chemical use reduction and environmental contamination monitoring. The center has become a highland agricultural learning center for students, farmers and other interested people.

Main produces of the Center

Green and red capsicum, Frillice iceberg lettuce, Cape gooseberry, strawberry, Japanese apricot, Japanese plum, persimmon, coffee and tea

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600 Moo 16, Ta Kau Sub-district, Mae Sa Raay, Chiang Rai 57180

Tel. 053-163-344 Email: hnk7036rpf@gmail.com