

## Huay Pong Royal Project Development Center

### **Background**

In 1982, the center started its work in collaboration with Tribal Research Institute, Faculty of Agriculture, Chiang Mai University and Hill Tribe Development and Welfare Center. The center focuses on developing and promoting temperate crops to replace to opium poppy and shifting cultivation among Lahu tribes at Bann Pong Pha-lard.



On February, 27 1984, Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn visited the area and witnessed its advance development. The villagers got much inspiration from her visit to continue replacing opium poppy with temperate crops and to live self-sufficient.

### **Geography**

The area is mountainous with not many plains at 780 – 1,200 meters above sea level covering 11,124 rai or 4,396 acres.

**Climate** The average temperature is 21.75 °C or 71.15 °F.

### **Population**

There are more than 7,720 Lahu and lowland people living in 16 villages.

### **Huay Pong Royal Project Development Center**

At present, Huay Pong Royal Project Development Center has set up field demonstration plots to find suitable crops for the area. Many varieties of crops have been promoted to the farmers under Food Safety Standard like Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Organic Standard. The center also encourages other farming activities to generate sustainable income and good quality of life to the farmers such as flowers, fruit, field crops, tea, Arabica coffee and animal farming. Moreover, the center has provided support on reforestation project known as “Three Forests, Four Benefits” and strengths-based individual and community engagement. Today the center becomes a learning center on highland agriculture for students, farmers and other interested people.

### **Main produces of the Center**

Chinese cabbage pe-tsai, Chinese mustard, Japanese cucumber, baby pak choi, passion fruit, cape goose berry, lemon, herbs, tea, coffee, bromeliad and cymbidium

**Huay Pong Royal Project Development Center**

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