

## Mae Sa Pok Royal Project Development Center

### Background

The center has established since 1983 aiming at improving local people's livelihood by replacing opium poppy growing and shifting cultivation with temperate and sub-tropical crops, as well as supporting the development of community basic infrastructure, career development and environmental conservation and restoration.



### General information

#### Geography

The area is plains between valleys at 500 – 900 meters above sea level covering more than 27,390 rai or 10,829 acres.

#### Climate

The average temperature is 21 °C or 69.8 °F.

#### Population

There are more than 2,890 Pgakûuyau or Karen and lowland people living in 4 villages and 8 communities.

### Mae Sa Pok Royal Project Development Center

Mae Sa Pok Royal Project Development Center these days aims to develop and support local farmers to cultivate vegetables and fruits under Food Safety Standards: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Organic Standard. The cultivation of herbs, temperate fruits as well as sub-tropical fruits, foliage trees, field crops, arabica coffee and black-boned chicken farming are also supported in order to generate sustainable income and improve quality of life quality of local farmers. Moreover, the supports are provided for the engagement of individual and community strengths, natural resource conservation, reforestation project called “Three Forests, Four Benefits”, soil & water conservation by vetiver grass growing and campaigns on chemical use reduction as well as environmental contamination monitoring. The center has become a learning center on highland agriculture for students, farmers and other interested people.

### **Main produces of the center**

Pak choy, kailaan, zucchini, mixed salad, sweet basil, baby pak choy, Kale, Chinese mustard, French bean, bitter gourd green, fruits: nuan kham mango, passion fruit, cape gooseberry, field crops: upland rice, lowland rice, black sesame, buckwheat and arabica coffee

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