

Mae Tha Nuea Royal Project Development Center

Background

In 1978, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great visited Tha Nuea Sub-district, Mae On District, Chiang Mai Province and graciously initiated the help to improve the villagers' quality of life and to prevent deforestation by setting up Mae Tha Nuea Royal Project Development Center. At the beginning, with the



cooperation of the Forest Industry Organization, forest gardens were supported in order to generate villagers' income. Later on, the center expanded its work on career development.

General information

Geography

The area is plain between valleys at 520 – 850 meters above sea level covering more than 158,760 rai or 62,768 acres. The north of the area is Mae Tha river and the south faces high mountains. Most of the area is hilly evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest.

Climate

The average temperature is 23 °C or 76.4 °F.

Population

There are more than 6,940 people comprising of lowland people and Pgakûuyau or Karen living in 14 villages.

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Focusing on local farmers' sustainable income better livelihood, Mae Tha Nuea Royal Project Development Center these days aims to develop and support their agricultural production including vegetable, fruit and coffee as well as Mehsanee dairy buffalo, dairy goat and organic layer poultry farming under Food Safety Standards: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Furthermore, various activities related to individual and community strengths, Cooperative Saving Group establishment, natural resource and environmental conservation, reforestation project known as "Three Forests, Four Benefits", vetiver grass growing to reduce soil erosion and chemical use reduction as well as contamination monitoring campaigns are supported by the center. Today the center has become a highland agricultural learning center for students, farmers and other interested people.

Main produces of the center

Japanese cucumber, needle bean, French bean, sugar snap pea, capsicum, zucchini, baby corn, okra, passion fruit, dairy buffalo and dairy goat.

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