

# Phop Phra Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System



## Background

On May 8, 2015, the sheriff of Phop Phra District sent a letter to the president of the Royal Project Foundation requesting for the establishment of the Royal Project Expansion Areas for Khiri Rat Sub-district and Ruam Thai Phatthana Sub-district, with the objectives of conserving natural resources, the environment, and the country's large forests to be fertile. Thus, the project has been operating since 2017 until now.

## Climate

The climate is tropical monsoon; it rains for the majority of the year. Summer season is in March-April, the lowest temperature in April is 28°C (82.4°F), and the highest in April is 33°C (91.4°F). Rainy season is in May-October, the lowest temperature is 19°C (66.2°F), and the highest temperature in May is 29°C (84.2°F). Winter season is in November-February, the lowest temperature in December is 13°C (55.4°F), and the highest temperature in February is 25°C (77°F).

## Population

There are 24 villages, 7,843 households, and 32,370 people. The project covers Khiri Rat Sub-district and Ruam Thai Phatthana Sub-district, Phop Phra District, Tak Province.

## Problems and development guidelines

To develop the villagers and the area, HRDI assists them in several ways. First, providing the knowledge for farmers. Most of people in Phop Phra area work in agriculture and have a heavy utilization of chemicals because they lacked knowledge of cultivation, including the plant disease and pest management. Moreover, the productivity was low and have unstable income. Thus, it is important to provide the farmers agricultural knowledge and conduct the plantation demonstration plots to assist these problems. Second, the careers development. This highland development project introduces farmers alternative careers, including greenhouse cultivation, and promote occupation off farming to them. Third strengthening of the community. Farmers should form a group and establish the agriculture institute. Moreover, there should be a promotion of the development of community leaders or model farmers under the sufficiency economy philosophy and focus more on selling products. Third, the environmental conservation and restoration. There are forest encroachment for shifting cultivation, thus, agricultural land should be zoned and allowed for farming. In addition, farmers should grow perennials and fruit trees in plots so that to be the combination planting plots. Moreover, the utilization of chemicals in agriculture should be replaced by biopesticide. Also, they should approach related agencies that support community irrigation for assistance with water storage and water systems for both consumption and agriculture.

## Main produces of the center

Vegetables: sweet peppers, onion flower stems, tomatoes, and super-hot peppers

Crops: hemp, and handicrafts (hemp-woven fabric).



## Location

Moo 4, Khiri Rat Sub-district, Phop Phra District, Tak 63160