

Mae Ma Lor Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System



ศูนย์พัฒนาโครงการหลวงแม่หลอด



Background

On February 22, 2000, the president of the Compassion of the Princess Mother's Projects issued a letter requesting the Royal Project Foundation to provide academic and techniques in agriculture as well as marketing to farmers in Mae Ma Lor who are Karen hill tribe living in the Inthanon National Park. Later, the Highland Research and Development Institute and officials from the Royal Project Foundation attend the developing planning meeting with 19 representative farmers, and agreed that the agricultural products will be sent to the Royal Project market with safe and environmentally friendly production. Therefore, the Mae Ma Lor Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System was established since 2007 until now.

Geography

The area is mountainous at 1,075 meters above sea level

Climate

There are 3 seasons, which are summer in March-May, rainy (June-November), and winter (December-February).

Population

There are 2 tribes: Native Thai and Pakakyaw (Karen), totaling 4,176 people in 8 villages.

Career

Most of the people are farmers and Minority of the people are officialdom, handcraft and selling forest products.

Problems and development guidelines

To develop the Mae Ma Lor villagers and the area, HRDI assists them in several dimensions. First, career development. The majority of villagers in Mae Ma Lor are engaged in agriculture, which relies on mono-cropping and chemical utilization. This practice has resulted in farmers being unable to earn sufficient income. Therefore, the project aims to promote various careers for farmers to increase their income. These include the development of traditional crops such as Japanese rice, as well as inside and outside greenhouse cultivation, legume cultivation, and the promotion of new plant varieties such as mango, avocado, rambutan, and passion fruit. Second, the environment. The forest areas were destroyed for maize cultivation, leading to the loss of watershed forest and soil erosion. Moreover, there are pollution from burning, forest encroachment, and chemical utilization. Subsequently, the project aims to promote the community natural conservation, such as community reforestation, planting vetiver grass, check dam building, minimize chemical use, reducing slash-and-burn methods, and composting biological fertilizers. Last, the infrastructure. The villages now have access to electricity, public telephone, education, and public health.



Main produces of the center

Fruit trees: mango, rambutan, avocado, and passion fruit

Also, legumes cultivation and livestock



Location

Mae Na Chon Sub-district, Mae Chaem District, Chiang Mai 50270