

# Wang Pai Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System



## Background

On May 9, 2007, Mr. Sorapong Pattianan, Wang Pai Village Headman, Na Rai Luang Sub-district, Song Khwae District, Nan Province, sent a special letter to His Serene Highness Prince Bhisadej Rajani, the president of the Royal Project Foundation at that time, requesting support for careers development and support for villagers. Thus, the project has been operating since 2008 under the supervision of the Highland Research and Development Institute.

## Climate

The average temperature is 22.5°C (72.5°F) all year round. The highest is 31°C (87.8°F) in May, and the lowest is 10°C (50°F) in December and January. The rainy season is in May-September.

## Population

There are 11 villages, 1,049 households, and 4,517 people. The project covers the areas of Du Phong Sub-district, Santi Suk District, Nan Province.

## Location

Moo 8, Na Rai Luang Sub-district, Song Khwae District, Nan 55160

## Problems and development guidelines

To develop the Wang Pai area, HRDI assists the villagers in several ways. First, the research. Because the upland rice product in this area is low, there is a lack of soil fertility, plant diseases and pests are found in crops, they should conduct research on the establishment of soil improvement plots. Moreover, they should conduct demonstration plots for disease and insect control, including the use of biological agents. Second, the career development. Farmers should plant vegetables both inside and outside greenhouses for distribution in community markets, as well as cultivate fruit trees that are suitable for the area. Farmers should also raise more livestock. Plus, they should promote upland rice processing and local handicrafts. Third, strengthening the community, farmers should focus on community cultural activities and local wisdom, as well as develop community markets and systematic market management. For marketing, they should enhance product quality, especially considering the limited market options for agricultural products. Fourth, the environmental development, they should invest more in forest rehabilitation by organizing campaigns to reduce chemical usage in crops plantation. Furthermore, farmers should cultivate vetiver grass more and make bio compost to improve soil nutrition. Last, the infrastructure. Due to inadequacies of water systems, they should develop water sources for both consumption and agriculture, or cooperate with related agencies.



## Main produces of the center

Early on, farmers mostly cultivate paddy rice and corn, causing them to have insufficient income for living and having debt. Later, farmers turn to grow indoor and outdoor vegetables and fruit trees because of the encouragement of alternative crops that are environmentally friendly, such as sweet peppers, cabbage, kale, green brinjal, mango, rambutan, avocado, and passion fruit. These plants have the highest monetary value.

