



## **Background**

In 1979, His Majesty the Late King visited hill tribes in Wat Chan area and learned about their sufferings. At that time the locals were farmers practicing shifting cultivation to grow rice in the valleys. Also, the transportation infrastructure was not convenient for their lives. Thus, His Majesty the Late King initiated the development for Baan Wat Chan and other villages in the area by replacing shifting cultivation with temperate crop cultivation and improve the infrastructure in the community.

## **Geography**

There are not many plains in the area. It is also generally coniferous forest, the origin of Mae Jam River, covering 151,833 Rai (60,013 acres) at 900 – 1,200 meters above sea level.

## **Climate**

The average temperature is 18 °C (64.4 °F).

## **Population**

There are more than 8,005 Pgakûuyau or Karen and Lisu residing in the working area covering 17 villages (the officially responsible area of the center is 9 villages in 2 Sub-districts).

## **Location**

Moo 7, Baan Chan Sub-district, Galyani Vadhana District, Chiang Mai 58130  
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# Wat Chan Royal Project Development Center

At present, Wat Chan Royal Project Development Center has set up and developed field demonstration plots for several crops and provided supports for vegetable cultivation based on Food Safety Standards like Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), fruit cultivation, coffee cultivation, animal farming and dried flower making, which can create sustainable income and improve their lives. Furthermore, the community engagement strengthening each individual and community, reforestation project called "Three Forests, Four Benefits", soil and water conservation by Vetiver grass growing, chemical use reduction campaign, and environmental contamination monitoring campaign are supported by the center. The center itself is also a highland agricultural learning center for students, farmers and others who are interested.

## **Main produces of the center**

Japanese pumpkin, cabbage, Chinese cabbage Pe-tsai, pointed cabbage, avocado, Asian pear, Japanese apricot, passion fruit, cape gooseberry, low land rice, Brussels chicken and black-boned chicken



## **How to travel**

**1st Route:** From Chiang Mai city, take Mae Ma Lai – Pai highway. Before arriving Pai, take a left turn and head to Wat Chan. The trip is around 4 hr. for 157 km.

**2nd Route:** From Chiang Mai city, take Mae Rim highway 1096 heading to Sa Moeng District using Sa Moeng – Wat Chan highway. The trip lasts around 4 hr. for 154 km.

The bus to the center is also available at Warorot market.

