Sustainable Highland Development Project : Huay Nam Sai Model, Thailand

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INTRO

- Thai highlands are situated mostly in the north with approximately 20.56 percent of the country's total land area.
- Over one million people are living in 4,205 villages, and with their traditionally slash-and-burn farming, creating massive impacts on deforestation and highland environment.
- The Royal Project Foundation (RPF) is based in the north of Thailand, founded by His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great in 1969.
- The Highland Research and Development Institute (HRDI) expands the Royal Project Model to Sustainable Develop Highland Communities.

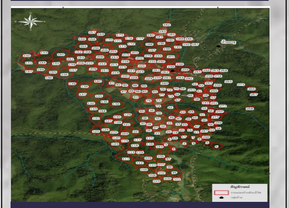
METHOD

- The model aims at reducing poverty, strengthening rural development and protecting natural environment by using the Royal Project sustainable and balanced development model.

Huay Nam Sai, a Karen village nestled in the Northern mountains of Thailand becomes a model of highland development sustainability, using the Royal Project sustainable and balanced development model with the emphasis on information and data analysis, social geography, community participation and integration across relevant organizations.

People Centric Concept

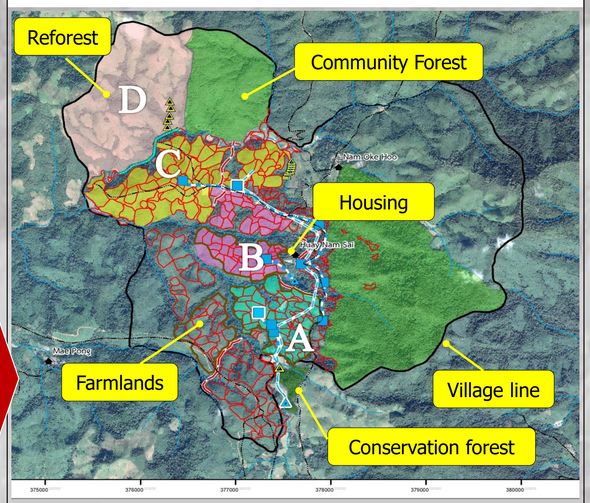
Community plan



Landuse Planing

Research-based knowledge

Community Development Plan For Area Base



Symbol
- village
- river
- local road
- village area
- community forest area
- farmland area
- farmland to forests area (Zone D)

Development Zone
- zone A
- zone B
- zone C
- zone D

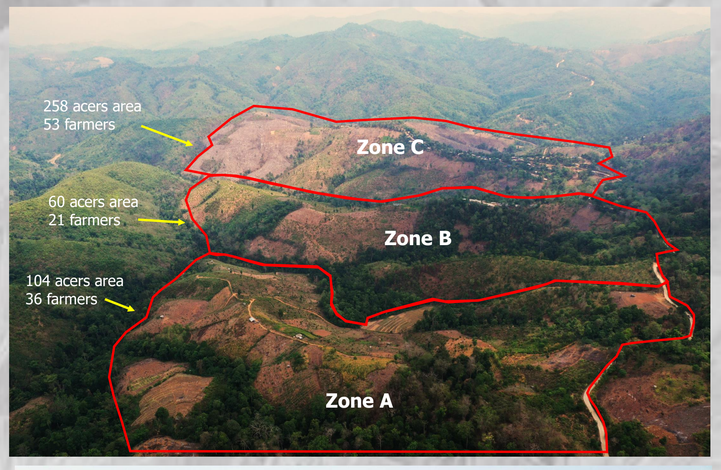
Development Plan / Activity
- water tank
- check dam
- check dam (small)
- water systems
- fire brake
- wildlife conservation area
- soil and water conservation

มาตราส่วน 1:30,000
ระบบพิกัด WGS 1984 UTM Zone 47 N

Farmers' Institution/ Community / Partnership/ Working Group active and substantial involvement

RESULT

- Huay Nam Sai village today becomes a learning center for sustainable highland development leading to people's happiness, green economy and inclusive participation.
- Huay Nam Sai model allows people and nature to coexist in harmony, by aligning the people's interests with the natural environment preservation. At present, 70 percent of the villagers ensure food security without expanding their agricultural lands. They practice diverse range of environmentally friendly farm activities including fruit, coffee, rice, vegetables and livestock with available marketing channels, generating sufficient income to contribute to their family and to cope with poverty.



- The villagers volunteer to return about 400 acres (Zone D) of their farmland to forests, increasing biodiversity and plant species richness and diversity.