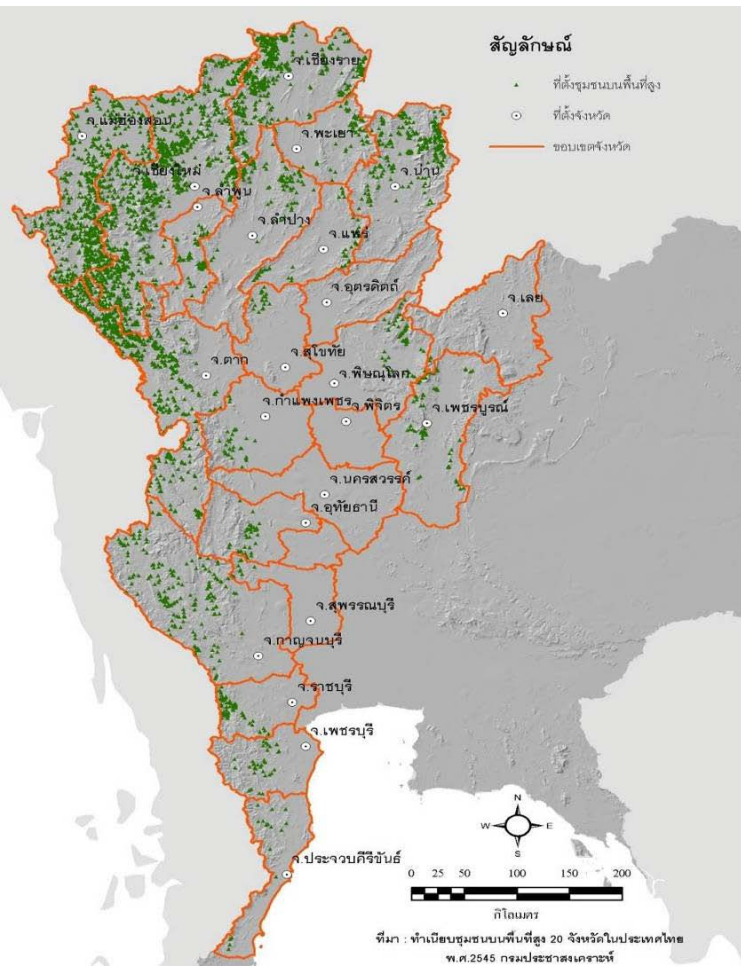




Highland Research and Development Institute



Thai Highlands



Areas:

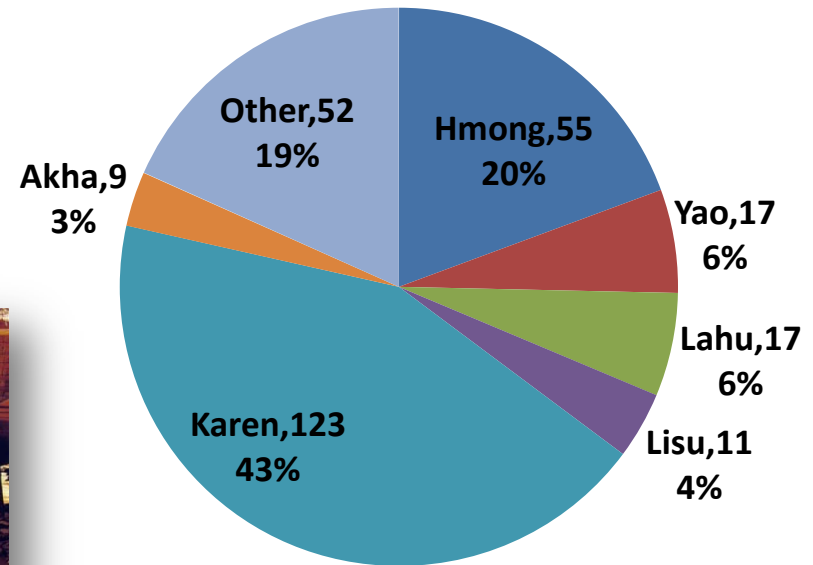
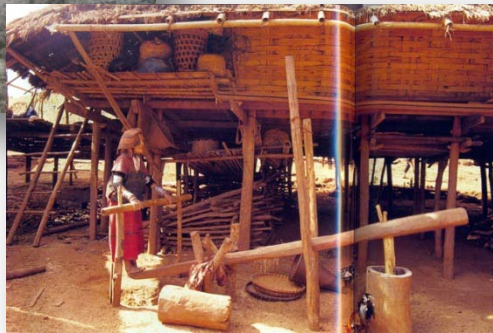
- Total country area: 51 million ha
- North of Thailand: 17 million ha
 - Lowland: 3 million ha
 - Upland: 5 million ha
 - Highland: 9 million ha (52% of the North, above 500 msl)

Climatic conditions:

- Heavy monsoon rainfall
- Low temperature (winter season)

Thai Highlands

Thai Hill-tribe Population



Unit: People, Thousands

- Hill-tribe population at 275,000 majority were Karen and Hmong
- Living in 20 provinces of northern and western part of Thailand

(UN Survey 1965 – 1966)

Thai Highlands

Problems

1. Poverty

- No other crops grown in the highlands
- Low yield of food crops + agri. products

2. Deforestation

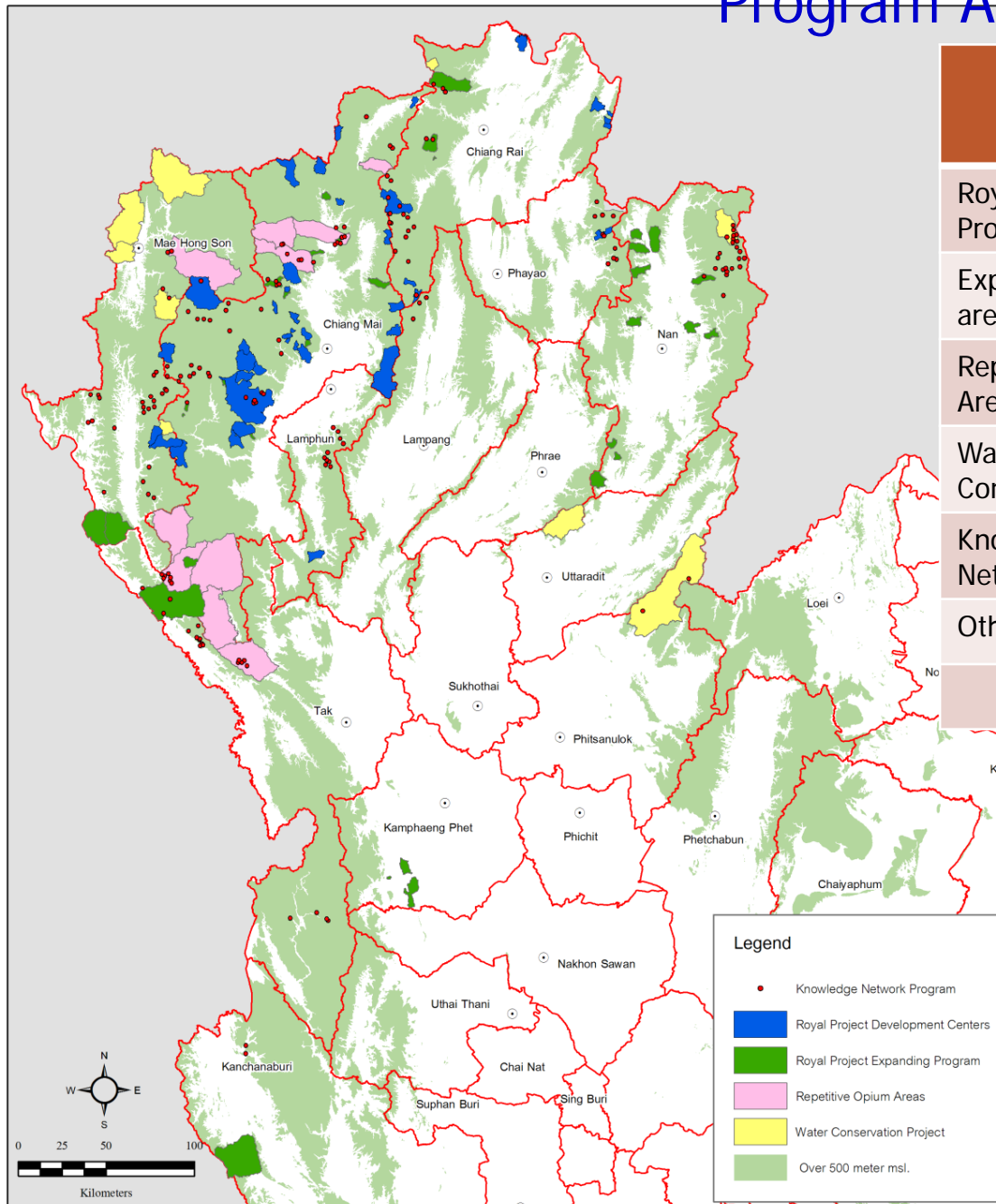
- Slash and burn cultivation
- Farming in altitude 1,000-1,400 msl

3. Opium poppy cultivation

- Cultivated area 17,920 ha
- Yield 10 kg/ha
- Farm gate price 20-30 \$US/kg
(UNODC Survey, 1967)



Program Areas and Beneficiaries



Program	Centers	Villages	Population
Royal Project	38	476	166,911
Expanded areas	28	184	120,325
Repetitive Opium Areas	10	115	21,563
Water Conservation	10	109	32,586
Knowledge Network	20	180	39,971
Other Highlands	-	2,765	703,440
Total	266	3,829	964,916



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

Food Security

Objectives

- Productivity of food crops
- Nutrition diversification

Research Areas

- Improving rice production in highland
- Improving diversified cereal crops
- Promoting local edible and herbal plants



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

Production and Marketing

Objectives

- Good variety development
- Reducing cost of production
- Improving yield and quality
- Reducing loss in post harvest
- Food safety
- Competitiveness advantages



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

Production and Marketing

Research Areas

Commodity-Based

- Fruits; grape, avocado, passion fruit, mango
- Coffee
- Vegetables (organic, GAP)
- Cut flowers; Chrysanthemum rose, curcuma
- Hemp
- Pig, poultry, bee

- Nutrition
- Post harvest
- Marketing



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

Natural Resources and Environment

Objectives

- Biodiversity rehabilitation
- Reducing chemical uses
- Environmental friendly production
- Soil and water conservation
- Value-added of local knowledge



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

Natural Resources and Environment

Research Areas

Biodiversity-Based Products

- Bio-extracts for farming
- Herbs
- Bio cosmetic & health
- Climate change resilience

Area-Based Approach

- Royal Project community model
- Agro-forestry
- Shade grown coffee
- Reducing of chemical uses
- Uses of indigenous knowledge



HRDI Development-Oriented Research Program

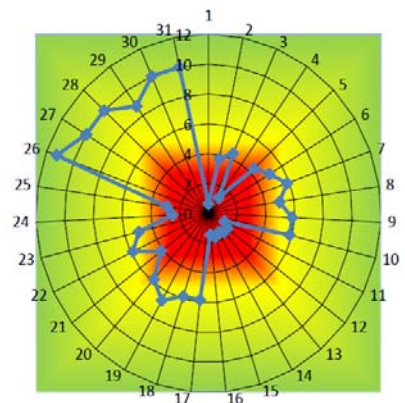
Social Empowerment

Objectives

- Strengthening collective action
- Self-help management
- Facilitating social learning

Research Areas

- Ethnicity leadership
- Hill tribe community-based organizations
- Well being index of highland community



Thank You

