



**International Workshop on  
 “Highland Best Sustainable Agricultural Practices (Today) for Better Future Development”  
 31 August – 4 September 2026  
 Chanaka Dhibesra Damri Royal Project Agricultural Research and Development Center,  
 Royal Project Foundation (RPF), Chiang Mai, Thailand**

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**1. Course Title**

Highland Best Sustainable Agricultural Practices (Today) for Better Future Development

**2. Duration**

31 August – 4 September 2026 (Excluding travel days)

**3. Background and Rational**

Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) is a national focal point for Thailand’s international development cooperation. It was established in 2004 to realize Thailand’s aspiration to be a contributor to international development cooperation. Believing that global challenges are best addressed through international cooperation and global partnership, TICA continues to work closely together with its development partners to realize the global development agenda through various capacity-building and human resources development programmes. In response to the recent changes in the global landscape of development cooperation, TICA has strengthened its partnerships to harness the synergy of South-South and Triangular Cooperation to tackle global development challenges, including expediting the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also continues to realign our focuses in order to deliver Thailand’s commitments as a global reliable partner.

In the Thai highlands, ethnic minority people have been socially, physically, and economically marginalized. They usually suffer from poverty and a lack of food security. For these reasons, people in the highlands continue to practice slash-and-burn agriculture and expand farm areas into forests. Seeing the hardships of his people, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great initiated the Royal Project to enhance the social and economic well-being of the hill tribe communities and also rehabilitated the highland watershed forests of the country and the region. His Majesty also formulated "The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy" (SEP) as a means towards empowering communities and enhancing local economic prosperity. By adopting good agricultural practices and SEP applications as guidelines, individuals and communities have gained knowledge and benefited from improved quality of life, balance, and resilience in an unstable and unpredictable situation. Sustainability has been a growing concern for the economy and agriculture for several years due to the impact of environmental issues, climate change, air pollution, technological disruption, or the so-called “VUCA World”. These factors have had tremendous impacts on people worldwide; causing them to adapt to new and everchanging conditions in order to survive. Likewise, the agricultural sector also has to adapt to the aforementioned changes by adopting more sustainable agriculture practices. In the transition to sustainable agriculture, farmers play a crucial role in ensuring a sustainable agricultural system with knowledge and dedication.

This workshop has been organized with the collaboration of the Royal Project Foundation (RPF), Highland Research and Development Institute (HRDI) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs's Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), to equip the participants with a comprehensive understanding and hands-on experiences of Thailand's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) and the Royal Project Highland Sustainable Development Model (RPF Model).

The workshop also aims to promote knowledge of crop production under food safety standards across the entire supply chain, encompassing quality control, field management, including soil and pest management, post-harvest handling, and customer delivery arrangements. This workshop will provide valuable insights from successful farmers who have achieved high-quality and consistent crop yields while adhering to food safety standards. Participants will have the opportunity to directly learn from these experiences and apply them to their own practices or in their own country. Moreover, participants will be encouraged to actively contribute to their fellow workshop participants by sharing their own case studies on good agricultural practices.

#### **4. Course Objectives**

The course is designed to the followings:

- 4.1 Provide participants with knowledge and understanding of the RPF Model concepts under the principle of SEP including the expansion the Royal Project's success across other highland areas
- 4.2 Highlight highland agriculture and development situation
- 4.3 Further provide participants with knowledge and experiences of the good sustainable farming practices that will produce the food supply for future generations
- 4.4 Provide a platform for participants to discuss and share good practices as well as building a concrete network.

#### **5. Course Contents:**

The training course comprises 3 parts as follows:

##### **5.1. Lecture sessions:** which includes following topics:

1. Understanding of the RPF Model concepts under the principle of SEP including the expansion the Royal Project's success across other highland areas
2. Highland agriculture and development situations
3. Highland natural resources and environment management
4. Farming system on highland
  - o Soil management
    - Soil health
    - Soil biology – microorganisms
    - Soil fertility - compost, cover crop, soil amendment
  - o Integrated pest management
  - o Postharvest management: Processing, Packaging, Waste management and Distribution
5. Highland smart farming system
6. Quality control and market development
  - o Food safety standards (GAP and Organic)
7. Other key success factors

**5.2 Site visit:** Best practice communities on sustainable farming practices (2-3 locations)

**5.3 Conclusion** from lessons learned and feedback

## **6. Number of Participants**

30 - 35 participants from invited countries

## **7. Invited Countries**

Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao P.D.R., Lesotho, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Vietnam

## **8. Participants' Criteria:**

All participants must meet the minimum criteria requirement listed below in order to be eligible to apply for the programme.

- 8.1 Be nominated by their respective government
- 8.2 Have good Proficiency of English language
- 8.3 Prefer those who are experience in rural development and agricultural development
  - Mid-career government officials
  - Professional of development agencies
  - Field operation officer
  - Farmers
  - Private sectors who are responsible for rural development and agricultural development.
- 8.4 Participants are required to prepare a case study on a topic relevant to the workshop, focusing on their own country, and then present it with fellow workshop participants.

## **9. Attendance and Evaluation**

Participants who complete the training will receive a certificate based on:

- 9.1 All participants must attend the workshop more than 80% of the total time.
- 9.2 Each participant needs to participate in exchanging his/her experience in the course at least.
- 9.3 Participants are required to pay close attention during the workshop's assessment.

## **10. Venue:**

- 10.1 Chanaka Dhibesra Damri Royal Project Agricultural Research and Development Center, Royal Project Foundation (RPF)
- 10.2 Inthanon Royal Project Research Station
- 10.3 Maesamai Royal Project Development Center

## **11. Expected Results**

Upon completion of the workshop, participants are expected to:

- 11.1 Gain a deeper understanding of the Royal Project Sustainable Highland Development Model (RPF Model) and Sufficiency Economy Philosophy Principle (SEP) and how they apply to sustainable highland community development in an unsettled and unpredictable VUCA world;

- 11.2 Engage in extensive knowledge-sharing, idea-exchanges, and experiences with fellow participants, speakers and facilitators; and,
- 11.3 Learn sustainable highland development practices in Thailand and how to apply them effectively in different contexts.

**12. Organization/Institution:**

12.1 Royal Project Foundation (RPF)

Address: 910 Moo 3, Maehia, Muang, Chiang Mai 50100, THAILAND  
 Contact person: Ms. Kulthinee Phivnil  
 E-mail: [rpfw@royalproject.org](mailto:rpfw@royalproject.org)

12.2 Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) (HRDI)

Address: 65 Moo 1 Suthep Rd., Chiang Mai 50200, THAILAND  
 Contact person: Miss Patinya Kanthatham  
 E-mail: [pkanthatham@hotmail.com](mailto:pkanthatham@hotmail.com)

12.3 Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA)

Address: 8th Floor, Government Complex Building B (South Zone)  
 Chaengwattana Road, Laksi District, Bangkok 10210, THAILAND  
 Contact person: Director, Human Resources Development Cooperation Division  
 E-mail: [aitc@mfa.go.th](mailto:aitc@mfa.go.th)

**13. Expenditure/Funding**

13.1 This programme is funded by Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Royal Project Foundation (RPF) and Highland Research and Development Institute (Public Organization) (HRDI).

13.2 Travel and financial arrangements: Participants will be offered benefits, including:

- 1) Round-trip international airfare (economy class)
- 2) Accommodation for the duration of workshop in Chiangmai, Thailand
- 3) Per diem
- 4) Visa fee
- 5) Cultural visits in Chiangmai city
- 6) Health insurance with adequate coverage
- 7) Airport transfer service

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