

CHAPTER II

RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION

Results of the evaluation presented in this section is collected from field visits and also from the Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents. The evaluation emphasized the following four topics:

1. General characteristics of the project
2. The process of creating the activities
3. Water Supply Installation program
4. Cash crop program
5. Attitudes of farmers

I. General characteristics of the project

The project document showed that thirteen villages have already expressed interest in the project including eight karen villages, three Hmong villages, one Lahu village and one combined Hmong and Karen village, a total of 380 families. At the recommendation of the administrator of the project, the

evaluation focused on four villages: Ban Mae Jum, Ban Mae Wae, Yong Maun Sub-district, Samoeng District, and Ban Mae Ga Piang, Ban Huey Tao Lu, Sa Luang Sub-district, Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai Province. Two different ethnic groups were involve in this evaluation: Hmong and Karen.

1.1 Average land holdings

The average land holdings are shown in Table 1. The data shows that Ban Huey Tao Lu has the highest average of upland holdings, second is Ban Mae Wae and third is Ban Mae Jum. In contrast to this, Ban Huey Tao Lu has a lowest average area of paddy field.

Table 1 Average of land holdings

Unit: Rai		
Village	Upland	Paddy Field
Ban Mae Jum	2.58	3.11
Ban Mae Wae	3.22	3.37
Ban Mae Ka Piang	*	*
Ban Huey Tao Lu	23.75	1.75

Note: * = Not available

Source: Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents

1.2 Estimated annual household income

The estimated average annual household income per year of households are shown in Table 2. The data shows that Ban Mae Ka Piang have highest average income per year. The lowest average income per year was in Ban Mae Wae, with Ban Huey Tao Lu in the middle.

Table 2 Estimated average annual household income

Unit: Baht

Village	Average income
Ban Mae Jum	*
Ban Mae Wae	2,866
Ban Mae Ka Piang	5,236
Ban Huey Tao Lu	4,875

Note: * = Not available

Source: Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents

1.3 Activities of the project

The activities of the project include mountain water pipe systems, water supplies for agriculture, field crop seed inputs and fruit trees. The data from field visits in table 3 show that every village surveyed areas had all of the project activities except Ban Huey Tao Lu which had only two project activities.

Table 3 Activities of the project by village

Village	Mountain pipe	Water for agriculture	Cash crops
Ban Mae Jum	A	A	A
Ban Mae Wae	A	A	A
Ban Mae Ka Piang	A	A	A
Ban Huey Tao Lu	NA	A	A

Note: A = Activities

NA = No activities

Source: Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents

II. The process of creating the activities

The creation of the activities of the project in the villages is dependent on the readiness of villagers and their community. The first step was for the villagers to have a meeting. After that ideas and requests were submitted to the project officers. The project officer visited the villages to verify the willingness of the people and to check the feasibility of the creation of a program at that village.

Usually it was found that there was a need and most people in the villages were enthusiastic about the idea of establishing the program in their village. Field studies found that Hmong were generally better organized than Karen.

III. Water Supply Installation program

One of the key problems of villagers in the project areas is water supply for agriculture and household use. In the sampled villages, it was found that most of villages had both a water supply for agriculture and a mountain pipe system. Only Ban Heuy Tao Lu alone had only water supplies for agriculture from the project. Some of these mountain pipe systems were projects of Chiang Mai Province members of parliament rather than from the project. Table 3 below shows the water supply program by village. Data from the field survey shows that mountain pipe systems are very suitable for the villages and save time formerly used to carry water in containers from streams to the village. In some villages, it was found that there is not enough water in the dry season and also not enough water supply for agricultural production. Overall, the installation of water supplies is a good program for villagers.

Table 4 The installation of water supplies program

Village	Mountain pipe system	Water supply for agriculture
Ban Mae Jum	A	A
Ban Mae Wae	A	A
Ban Mae Ka Piang	A	A
Ban Huey Tao Lu	NA	A

Note: A = Activities

NA = No activities

Source: Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents

IV. Cash crops program

The villagers in the project areas grow cash crops which help increase family income. The project provides cash crop seed varieties to the farmer. These include soybean, ground nut (peanut), white cabbage, squash (pumpkin), fruit tree seedling and chinese cabbage. The data from field visits in table 5 shows that every village received ground nut seed. Only Ban Mae Jum received squash (pumpkin) seed and Chinese cabbage seed. The data also show that only two villages, Ban Huey Tao Lu and Ban Mae Ka Piang received white cabbage seed.

Soybean seed was given in Ban Mae Jum, Ban Mae Wae and Ban Mae Ka Piang. Fruit trees are grown only in Ban Mae Wae and Ban Huey Tao Lu.

Fruit tree crops of various types were promoted by the project in 1990/1991. As these trees require several years to bear fruit, it difficult at this stage to make meaningful evaluation of their economic impact, Although the fruit tree crops promoted by the project are beneficial for highland environment and catchment areas of villages.

Table 5 Cash crops program

Village	Soy-bean	Ground nut	Squash (Pumpkin)	White cabbage	Chinese cabbage	Fruit tree
Ban Mae Jum	A	A	A	NA	A	NA
Ban Mae Wae	A	A	NA	NA	NA	A
Ban Mae Ka Piang	A	A	NA	A	NA	NA
Ban Huey Tao Lu	NA	A	NA	A	NA	A

Note: A = Activities

NA = No activities

Source: Mae Taeng Agricultural Project documents

V. Attitudes of farmers

Interviews revealed that most of the participants of the project had fairly good knowledge about the project activities. They portrayed a very positive attitude toward all of the project's activities.

The attitudes of villagers toward the job performance and relations with the project's officers indicate that overall ratings of relations were moderate.

In some villages, it was found that the villagers reported insufficient agricultural water at least part of the year. This is normal in rainfed agricultural regions. Installation of irrigation systems is not feasible in most areas, but planting of beans and other second season crops promoted by the project help make maximum use of residual ground moisture available at the end of the rainy season.