



The Royally-initiated

Khao Cha-ngum Deteriorated Area Development Project

at Khao-Cha-ngum Sub-district, Photharam District, Ratchaburi Province , THAILAND

His Majesty the King and Land Development Work

“The key idea is to conserve the topsoil which is rich in nutrients. It should not be peeled off. Existent perennial trees should be preserved to maintain the moisture in the soil.”

The initiative project was set up to solve the severe deteriorated soil due to land misuse which making them no longer for cultivation. The Chaipattana Foundation efforted by growing trees with selected abundant mixed deciduous forest made the better spreading moisture over the area. The efforts followed the three major initiatives of His Majesty’s :

“Do not abuse the forest,”
 “ Do not abuse nature”
 “Reforestation without planting”

“Good soil is a very necessary resource for the agricultural occupation. If the soil is severely deteriorated and undernourished, fruitful cultivation is not possible. Commonly found soil problems are acidity and salinity, which require different solutions.”

“... Development of land means to improve the soil; not to merely observe the conditions of the soil, but to create improvement, which can be done. Some countries are made up of rocks but they can still develop into gardens ...”



Project area in 1986



Project area in 2012

For sandy soil, dry soil, hardpan soil and laterite soil problems are suggested:

1. Suggested methods involve building reservoirs, dams and water retention areas
2. Planting more trees including the vetiver grass for holding soil , preventing soil erosion and increasing soil moisture
3. Improving the soil quality by using compost and green manure



shallow soil

