

CHIANG MAI

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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Join one of our flagship research projects to develop hands-on practical fieldwork experience or complete an independent research project as part of your undergraduate or postgraduate dissertation.

The village of Huay Pakoot has around 400-500 people who are members of the Karen hill tribe, and are being impacted by our project due to improved income and English skills. The Karen culture is very unique and parts of it are being forgotten by younger generations.



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RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

HUB OBJECTIVES INCLUDE

- Examine the viability of eco-tourism projects.
- Investigate the relationship between educational programs and improved living standards for people in the Huay Pakoot village.
- Investigate the relationship between educational programs implemented at Huay Pakoot Primary school and learner performance.



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RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- Gain a better understanding of the culture of the Karen people including but not limited to traditional gender roles and the mahout/elephant culture.



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FLAGSHIP RESEARCH PROJECTS

ECO-TOURISM

Site: Huay Pakoot village

Research focus: Examine the relationship between GVI's ethical elephant program and its economic impact on the community

Methodology: Participatory research, focus groups, interviews

Partners: Local community

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT / EDUCATION

Site: Huay Pakoot village

Research focus: Examine the relationship between educational programs implemented at Huay Pakoot primary school and learner performance contributors to pollution

Methodology: Participatory research, focus groups, interviews

Partners: Local community



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FLAGSHIP RESEARCH PROJECTS

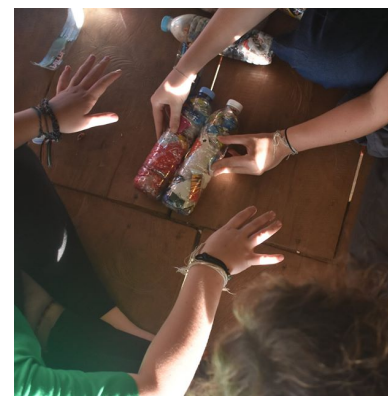
KAREN CULTURE

Site: Huay Pakoot village

Research focus: Investigate different facets of Karen culture such as the role of women, the history of Huay Pakoot as a mahouting (elephant owning) village, Karen folklore and sacred animals in Karen society

Methodology: Participatory research, focus groups, interviews

Partners: Local community



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INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

HUB TOPICS INCLUDE

- Eco-tourism
- Karen culture
- Education for development
- Livelihoods
- Skills development
- Youth empowerment



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EXISTING DATASETS

AVAILABLE DATASETS INCLUDE

- Data on school grades from Huay Pakoot Primary school.



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FOCUS AREAS

EDUCATION

- Primary school children foreign language skills
- Adult literacy
- Adult foreign language skills
- Further education
- Housing

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

- Women education
- Women entrepreneurship
- Evolving roles of women

MICRO-BUSINESS

- Total early-stage entrepreneurial activity
- Entrepreneurial ecosystem
- Access to finance
- Environmental awareness



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FOCUS AREAS

LIVING STANDARDS

- Income
- Educational attainment
- Societal values about entrepreneurship

KAREN CULTURE

- The role of women
- Folklore
- Traditions
- Mahout culture
- Sanctity of elephants



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