



Groundwater development for better life in the Royal Initiative Project at Nong Hoi Royal, Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai Province



INTRODUCTION

Nong Hoi Royal Project is located at Mae Rim District, Chiang Mai Province. The project was established in 1984 when King Bhumibol visited the people of Ban Nong Hoi. He realized that the people in this area were still poor. Opium Cultivation was their main source of income. Therefore, it was important to develop a career to generate income for the people to replace the income from opium cultivation. The king noticed that farming was a way out. However, the area of the Nong Hoi Royal Project was unable to store water because it is a high slope area and resulting that the surface water in this area being lack of shortage. Water lacks problems: consumption and agriculture cause the people in the area to have unstable incomes and poor quality of life.



METHODOLOGY

- Drilling 8 artesian wells with an average depth of about 90 meters. As a result, it can operate a total water volume of 106 cubic meters per hour. The aquifers are aquifers in igneous rocks



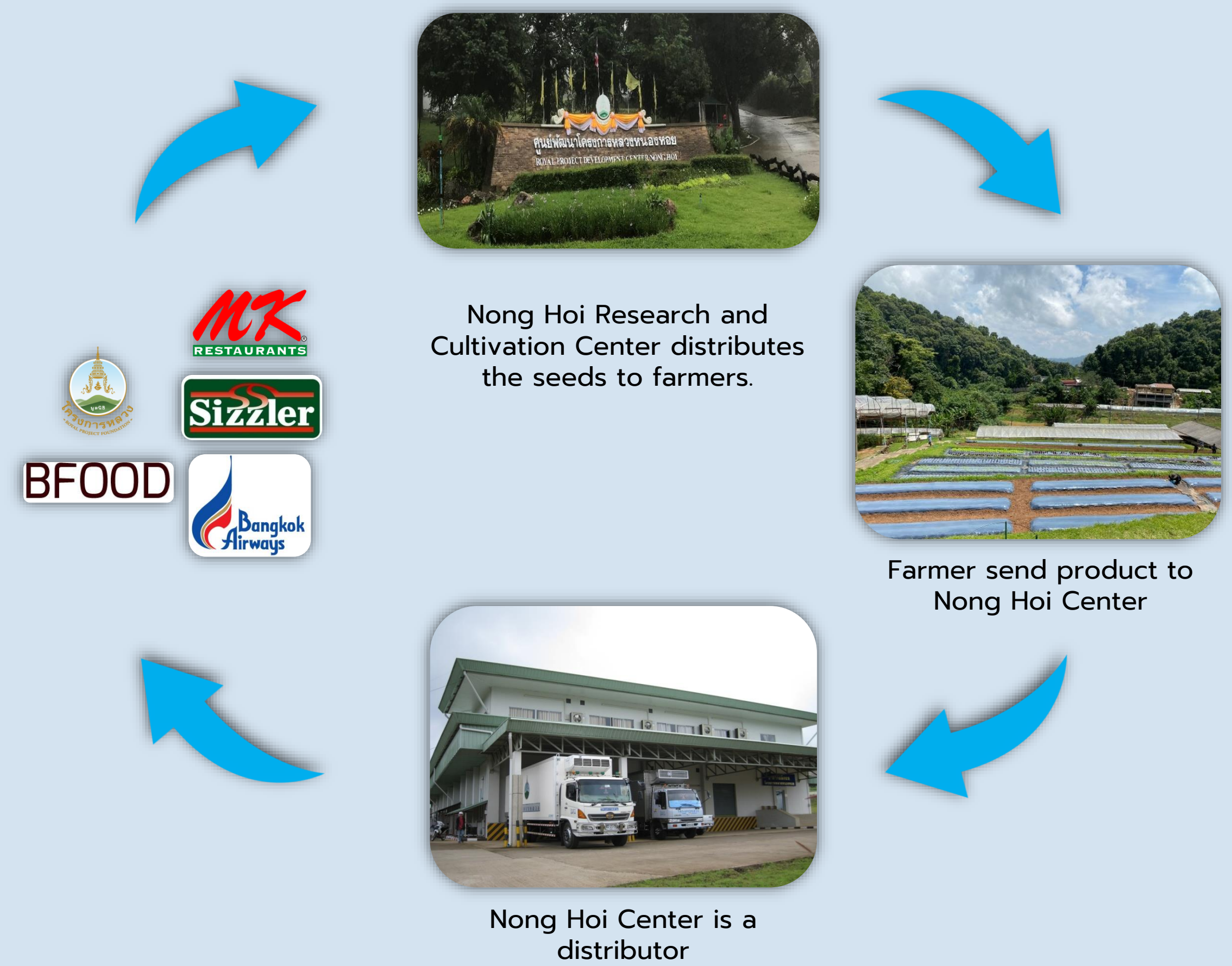
- Built an underground water supply system with a size of 12 cubic meters and a size of 20 cubic meters



- Constructing a water quality improvement system to make bottled drinking water.



RESULTS



- Now a day, the Nong Hoi Royal Project Development Center has encouraged people in the area to turn to crops instead of opium cultivation and shifting cultivation. The project has an operating area of 138,878 Rai and 485 households. The Nong Hoi Royal Project Office uses groundwater for almost all activities, including cultivating vegetable and fruit seedlings. There are demonstrations and various research projects. The key fruits and vegetables are lettuce, cabbage, salad, and berries. Bottled water is also being sold.

CONCLUSION

- According to the income data of farmers members in 2021, farmers in the project have an overall income of 105,649,300 baht, an average of 217,542 baht per household per year.

RECOMMENDATION

- The system should always be maintained to keep it working.
- Study and develop groundwater in other areas to further increase the quality of life of Thai people.

