

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> WASWAC World Conference THREATS TO LAND AND WATER RESOURCES IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY: PREVENTION, MITIGATION AND RESTORATION

On the occasion of the organizing of the

## **5<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION ON WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING**



**September 4-7, 2013** 



# Chiang Rai, Thailand

With a post-conference tour to the

Golden Triangle

Myanmar Laos

Thailand

Eastern part of Thailand during Sept 8-9 or Sept 8-10, 2013

## Organized by

World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC), Beijing, China Sub-committee on Water Resources, Engineering Institute of Thailand Dept. of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Thammasat University, Thailand



## **INVITATION**

This historical flood in Thailand in 2011 resulted in a total of 815 deaths and affected 13.6 million people with a World Bank's estimated damage of 1,425 billion Baht (US\$45.7 billion).

Land is foundation of human survival and development, but the degradation of land is intensifying in many parts of the world, mainly because of improper land use and global climate change. Land degradation could induce the deteriorated productivity of land and ecological functions, including the last flood that we have just experienced. Land degradation has been threatening the socioeconomic and cultural development at regional and global scales. Fortunately, the increasing attention has been paid in combating land degradation all over the world that there have been

many projects being operated by agencies in various regions to cope with such problems.



A Short History of WASWAC The World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC – est. 1983 in U.S.A.) held conferences during its prime years in several developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, resulting in a list of publications that give answers and directions to professionals, implementers and landusers to manage the land profitably and sustainably. To enable the organization to serve better, the WASWAC secretariat moved out in 2003 and eventually acquired its present office in Beijing, China in 2010.

Among the first tasks of the WASWAC since then was to organize the international conference on **Combating Land Degradation in Agricultural Areas** in Xi'an, China, during October 11-15, 2010, with the first worldwide meeting of WASWAC councilors. It was agreed during that time that the WASWAC should hold its international conference and council meeting every three years, e.g. in the last year of each 3-year council. The conference should have a main title of "WASWAC World Conference and Council Meeting", and an important issue of that time could be put as the main theme. The council meeting in Xi'an agreed that the 2<sup>nd</sup> WASWAC World Conference and Council Meeting (WASWAC-WCII) should take place in Thailand in 2013, the third year of the present council.



The Conference The severity of the great flood with subsequent damages and the urgent need to cope with the extent of land degradation have motivated the Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT), the World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC) and the Civil Engineering Dept. of the Faculty of Engineering, Thammasat University, to organize this conference by sharing the same venue with the 5<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION ON WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING at Le Méridien Chiang Rai Resort, in Chiang Rai, the northernmost province of the country, during September 4-7, 2013, with hope that it will benefit academics and professionals in engineering, land development, soil and water sciences, agriculture and other related fields in achieving more knowledge and understanding of the ways and means to deal with these undesired effects, especially from the ever-increasing degradation of the land and the receipt of excessive runoff and applying them to avoid further damages.

We sincerely hope that the conference on "Threats to Land and Water Resources in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Prevention, Mitigation and Restoration" (LANDCON 1309 in the WASWAC meeting series) will be a lively platform for land management and conservation specialists worldwide to share their expertise. It will be preceded by the Second Councilor Meeting of WASWAC that will take place on the first day, September 4, 2013. We expect to achieve certain concrete outcomes that will be put in use right after that, and also with valued contributions to be published in the proceedings as well as in a scientific journal. We look forward to welcoming you at Chiang Rai, Thailand soon.

## **Cooperating organizations**

- Land Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok, Thailand
- Soil and Water Conservation Society of Thailand (SWCST), Bangkok, Thailand
- Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Green World Education Foundation (GWEF). Bangkok, Thailand
- Chinese Society of Water and Soil Conservation (CSWSC), Beijing, China
- Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China
- International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES-UNESCO), Beijing, China
- Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS/MWR), Shaanxi, China
- Northwest University of Agriculture & Forestry, Yangling, Shaanxi, China
- Jiangxi Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Nanchang, Jiangxi, China
- Guangdong Institute of Eco-Environmental and Soil Sciences (GIEESS), Guangzhou, Guangdong, China
- Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment-CAS. Chengdu. Sichuan. China
- Chinese Soil and Water Conservation Society (CSWCS). Taichung. Chinese Taipei
- National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), Taiwan, Chinese Taipei
- National Chung-Hsing University, Taichung, Chinese Taipei
- National Pingtung University of Science and Technology , Pingtung, Chinese Taipei National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences (NIAES), Tsukuba, Japan

- College of Bioresource Sciences, Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM), Quezon City, Philippines
- Philippine Society of Soil Science and Technology (PSSST), Quezon City, Philippines
- Soil Conservation Society of India, New Delhi, India
- North Carolina Agriculture & Technology State University (NCA&T), Greensboro, NC, U.S.A.

## **Organizing/Scientific committee**

**Chairman:** Assoc. Prof. Chavalit Chaleeraktrakoon, Thammasat University, Thailand **Co-chairman:** Dr. Samran Sombatpanit, Past President/Advisor of WASWAC, Thailand <u>sombatpanit@gmail.com</u>

Members: 1. Assoc. Prof. Nathaniel Alibuyog, Mariano Marcos State University, Philippines

- 2. Asst. Prof. Dr. Somchai Anusontpornperm, Head, Soils Department, Kasetsart University, Thailand 3. Dr. Syaiful Anwar, Deputy Director of Watershed Planning, Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia

- Prof. Dr. Jorge Batlle Sales, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain
   Dr. Suraj Bhan, President, Soil Conservation Society of India, New Delhi, India
   Prof. Dr. Winfried Blum, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Austria
- 7. Assoc. Prof. Suwatana Chittaladakorn, Kasetsart University, Thailand
- 8. Assoc. Prof. Sakchai Choochote, King Mongkut's Inst. of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand 9. Prof. Su-Chin Chen, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, NCH Univ., Chinese Taipei
- 10. Prof. Cui Peng, Institute of Mountain Hazards & Environment, CAS, People's Republic of China 11. Prof. Dr. Deng Wei, Director, Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), CAS, China
- 12. Prof. Dr. Theo Dillaha, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, U.S.A.
- 13. Dr. Rungsun Im-Erb, Advisor, Land Development Department, Bangkok, Thailand
- 14. Prof. Dr. Eiichi Kohno, Dean, College of Bioresource Sciences, Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan
- 15. Dr. S.S. Kukal, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India
- 16. Prof. Dr. Li Dingqiang, Director, Guangdong Institute of Eco-Env. & Soil Science, GZ, China
- 17. Prof. Dr. Li Hongwen, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China
- 18. Prof. Dr. Li Rui, President, World Association of Soil & Water Conservation, Beijing, China
- 19. Prof. Dr. Liu Guobin, Director, Institute of Soil and Water Conservation CAS, Śhaanxi, China
- 20. Prof. Liu Zhen, Director, Dept. of Soil and Water Conservation, Min. of Water Resources, Beijing, China
- 21. Prof. Dr. Lu Zhan Yuan, Inner Mongolia Acad. of Agric. and Animal Husbandry, Hohhot, China
- 22. Prof. Dr. Gustavo Henrique Merten, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- 23. Prof. Dr. M. Mihara, Tokyo University of Agriculture & President, ERECON, Tokyo, Japan
- 24. Dr. P.K. Mishra, Diréctor, Central SWC Research & Training Institute, Dehra Dun, Índia
- 25. Prof. Dr. Ted Napier, Ohio State University, OH, U.S.A.
- 26. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Kim Loi, Nong Lam University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
  27. Prof. Dr. Ning Duihu, Vice Director of the International Research and Training Center on Soil Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), and Secretary General of WASWAC, Beijing, China
- 28. Dr. Toshiaki Okhura, National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences (NIAES), Tsukuba, Japan
- 29. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kingshuk ROY. College of Bioresource Sciences. Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan
- 30. Prof. Dr. José Rubio, Centro de Investigaciones sobre Desertificación-CIDE, Univ. of Valencia, Spain
- 31. Dr. Shabbir S. Shahid, ICBA, Dubai, United Arab Emirates 32. Mr. Chinapatana Sukvibool, Deputy President, WASWAC/Land Development Department, Thailand
- 33. Dr. Silvino Q. Tejada, Director, Bureau of Soils and Water Management, Quezon City, Philippines
- 34. Assoc. Prof. Vidhaya Trelo-ges, Dept. of Land Resources & Env., Khon Kaen Univ., Khon Kaen, Thailand 35. Mr. Winai Wangpimool, Water Resources Department, Bangkok, Thailand
- 36. Dr. Doug Wimble, Past President of the International Erosion Control Association (IECA), Australia
- 37. Prof. Wu Bin, General Secretary of Chinese Society of Soil and Water Conservation, Beijing, China
- 38. Dr. Kazuyuki Yagi, National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences (NIAES), Tsukuba, Japan
- 39. Prof. Dr. Zheng Fenli, Northwest University of Agriculture & Forestry, Yangling, Shaanxi, China 40. Prof. Dr. Miodrag Zlatic, Past President of WASWAC, University of Belgrade, Serbia

#### **PROGRAM**

#### September 4, 2013

Registration: 0900-

Debris Flow Mini-Workshop (15.00-17.00)

Council Meeting (17.00-18.30)

September 5 & September 6, 2013 (Following sessions run concurrently: 2&5, 3&6, 4&7, 9&12, 10&13, 11&14) (Banquet will be from 18.30-20.30 of September 5, 2013; a number of social activities including Awards presentation will take place.)

Registration: 08.30-

#### Opening Session (09.00-10.30)

Opening Speeches and Welcome to the Participants (the same as the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference)

MAIN KEYNOTE 1: How can technological advance reduce damage from floods? Ashish Sharma, Australia

MAIN KEYNOTE 2: Soil and land resources: general trends and future scenarios - a worldwide

perspective. Winfried E.H. Blum, Austria

Opening of the Photo Exhibition on Climate Change by Forest Clim, Germany & GISTDA, Thailand

Opening Video: Crying Land - Plenary

**NOTE:** The number of papers in each session varies; only 4 papers have been randomly taken to illustrate the contents of one session. A complete table of contents will be available in August.

#### Session 1. METHODOLOGIES TO ASSESS THE EXTENT OF LAND DEGRADATION

- Vulnerability of soils of Thailand to degradation processes, Pisuth Vijarnsorn, Thailand
- Linking landforms and land use to land Degradation in the middle river Njoro watershed, *Zachary Gichuru Mainuri*, Kenya
- A survey of natural Nipa palm areas for restoration of degraded coastal lands in southern Thailand, *Noparat Bamroongrugsa*, Thailand
- Recognition of the gully in loess hilly-gully region from high spatial resolution imagery using object based image analysis, *Li Bingbin*, China

Opening of the poster session – 30-40 posters will be presented at the WASWAC-WCII

#### Session 2. SOIL LOSS AND LANDSLIDE

- Research into soil erosion processes and control in major water-erosion regions of China, Li Rui, China
- Effect of initial water content on the factor of safety against land slide, Mousa Attom, UAE
- Simulation of spatial distribution of soil erosion and sediment yield for Huangfuchuan watershed based on MUSLE model and GIS, *Fu Jinxia*, China
- Application of hourly rainfall data to estimate the Rainfall Erosion Index in southern Taiwan, *Lin Huan-Hsuan*, Chinese Taipei

#### Session 3. DEBRIS FLOW

- Integrated method of botanical and geotechnical countermeasures for debris flow control, Cui Peng, China
- Disaster magnitude assessment for debris flow under extreme rainfall event in Siou-Lin County, Hualien, *Wu TingYeh*, Chinese Taipei
- Dammed-up phenomena recognition by HEC-HMS and topographic features of debris flow events, *Chen T.C.*, Chinese Taipei
- Characteristics, hazards and mitigation of the 8.18 catastrophic debris flows at Jushui river basin, Sichuan, China, Guo Aaron, China

#### Session 4. SEDIMENTATION

- Sediment disaster potential analysis and application in Taiwan, Chen Lien-Kuang, Chinese Taipei
- Experimental study on sediment transport capacity of rill flow on loess hillslopes, China, Liu Jun'e, China
- The computational model of the sediment control at soil and water conservation engineering, *Lien Hui-Pain*, Chinese Taipei

- A sediment transport model for soil erosion and sediment yield under different land use types, *Zhao Chunhong*, China

#### Session 5. EFFECTS OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

- Achieving food security in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries in a changing climate scenario, *Shabbir A. Shahid*, UAE
- The impacts of forests on water supply and flood mitigation in a changing climate, *Gebhard Schueler*, Germany
- The level of empowerment competitive food crop farmers for anticipation climate change: pilot project in Central Java, Indonesia, *Efriyani Sumastuti*, Indonesia
- Characteristics of meteorological disasters in China within 2012, Zheng Fenli, China

#### Session 6. EVALUATION OF IMPACTS OF LAND DEGRADATION

- Soil security, conflicts and wars linked to desertification and climate change impacts, José Rubio, Spain
- Land degradation neutrality: implications for a soil related sustainable development goal, Knut Ehlers,
   Germany
- Salinity status of tsunami-affected agricultural lands in northeast Japan, Kingshuk Roy, Japan
- Design of experimental runoff plot for soil and water conservation, Xie Songhua, China

#### Session 7. ECOLOGICAL ASPECT OF LAND DEGRADATION AND RESTORATION

- Ecological and socio-economic issues of small hilly watersheds case of Serbia, *Miodrag Zlatic*, Serbia
- Ameliorating ecological integrity in the fragile ecosystems: uncultivated foods as a cornucopia for food, nutrition and environmental security in the Himalayas, Vir Singh, India
- Soil conservation and ecosystem rehabilitation of the Loess Plateau of China: from benefit to ecosystem service, *Liu Guobin*, China
- Soil nitrogen and nitrogen bacteria groups under different vegetation types in forested zones of loess gully region, *Huang Yimei*, China

**Session 8.** SWAT ACHIEVEMENTS - A Plenary, with contributions in the achivements of the use of SWAT hyrological model from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, The Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam,

#### Session 9. CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT/MITIGATE LAND DEGRADATION AND FOR RESTORATION

- Resource conservation technologies for efficient rice water management in Indo-Gangetic plains of India, S.S. Kukal, India
- Restoring degraded land to improve food production in Budhiganga sub-watershed of Nepal, *Chiranjivi Sharma*, Nepal
- Rehabilitation of lahar-laden lowland rice areas with cocopeat, Fe B. Perlas, Philippines
- Environmental education and reforestation approaches to prevent, mitigate and restore land degradation in Madagascar, *Euphrasie Razafindravoniarisoa*, Madagascar

#### Session 10. INTEGRATED MEASURES THAT ENHANCE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

- The agency framework in the conservation agriculture narrative of a farmer, Jean A. Saludadez, Philippines
- Effects of long-term organic material applications and green manure crop cultivation on soil organic carbon in rainfed area of Thailand, *Tomohide Sugino*, Japan
- Soil physical capacity and intensity properties for achieving sustainable agriculture in the subtropics and tropics, *José Miguel Reichert*, Brazil
- Soil quality for agriculture in Thailand and challenging to be World Kitchen, *Orathai Sukreeyapongse*, Thailand

#### Session 11. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Storing water underground: a response to anticipated water shortage due to climate change, *Mushtaque Ahmed,* Oman
- Rainwater harvesting, its prospects and challenges in the uplands of Talugtog, Nueva Ecija, *Sammy Contreras*, Philippines
- A biblimetric study of water resources research: 1910-2010, Tan Rongzhi, China
- The wastewater management in Colombian's small watersheds, Henry Jimenez Escobar, Colombia

#### Session 12. LAW AND POLICY

- Legislative and institutional aspects of soil and water conservation: The Philippines experience, *Redia Atienza*, Philippines
- Strategies for slopeland disaster management after the Chichi earthquake in Taiwan, *Chen Su-Chin*, Chinese Taipei
- Use of incentives to promote sustainable land use: case study of sawlog production grant scheme (SPGS), Bueno Dickens Sande, Uganda
- Impacts of urbanization on soil and water of a wetland ecosystem: a case study from Nigeria, *Tijani Moshood,* Nigeria

#### Session 13. FARMERS' ROLE IN CONSERVING SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

- A participatory approach of conservation agriculture: the case of Andean raspberry and transitory crop associations in steepland of Colombia, *Franco Humberto Obando-Moncayo*, Colombia
- Factors affecting application of soil and water conservation practices by farmers in upland crop production system in Sri Lanka, *Shanta Hewage*, Sri Lanka
- Does rubber plantation have a positive impact on soil environment?, Alain Brauman, France
- Evaluating the crop productivity and environmental impact of land application of composted organic waste on calcareous soils of northern Guam, *Mohammad Golabi*, U.S.A.

#### Session 14. LAND USE CHANGE AND CONSEQUENCES

- The expansion of Brazilian agriculture: soil erosion scenarios, Gustavo Merten, Brazil
- Effects of land use change on soil and water losses in Yang Ming Shan National Park, Taiwan, *Thomas C.C. Huang*, Chinese Taipei
- Effects of land-use changes on soil carbon dynamics in tropical area of Thailand, *Sathaporn Jaiarree*, Thailand
- Strategies for controlling agricultural land conversion of paddy by using Analytical Hierarchy Process in Central Java, Sucihatiningsih Dian Wisika Prajanti, Indonesia

#### **Closing Session**

Threats to Land and Water Resources in the 21st Century - A Panel Discussion Presentation of WASWAC Activities Worldwide Conclusions and Recommendations Closing Speeches and Farewell

#### September 7, 2013 (07.00-18.00)

#### Excursion to visit a soil conservation project and certain geographic sites of Chiang Rai Province as follows:

- Chiang Rai Land Development Station, Tambon Nanglae
- Land Development Unit near Mae Salong Village
- Lunch and relaxation at Mae Salong Village where Kuomintang soldiers migrated from Yunnan several decades ago
- Golden Triangle where the territories of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand meet
- Stop at certain sites along the way

Participants that will join the post-conference tour of Bangkok and the Eastern part of the country travel by plane from Chiang Rai to Bangkok by either **FD3206**, **21.40-23.00** or **TG141**, **20.25-21.45** 

Participants that will **NOT** join the post-conference tour of Bangkok and the Eastern part of the country may leave Chiang Rai by any flight or any other mode of transportation.

#### September 8-9, 2013 or September 8-10, 2013

#### Post-conference tour of Bangkok and the Eastern part of Thailand (details will be available later) to visit:

- Important sightseeing spots in Bangkok,
- Certain authority/ies that are responsible for soil and water conservation in the country,
- A royal development study center,
- The city of Pattaya (beach, entertainment etc.),
- Horticultural areas of Rayong Province,
- and drop participants at the Suvarnabhumi Airport or Donmueang Airport or at a hotel.

# Registration fee & other fees

| International participants International students (with proof as an active student from their institution)  IMPORTANT NOTE: As we want to make it convenient and inexpensive to everyone, now participants will pay only one fee, \$250 (\$200 for students), at the venue on Sept 4. To be elig participant needs to paste a copy of one's <b>flight ticket</b> <i>or</i> <b>booking document</b> on p. 3 of the reform and send by e-mail to the organizers NOT LATER THAN <b>July 15, 2013</b> . Without such esent, each participant will be charged \$300 (\$250 for students) when registering at the venue.  Fee for ONE accompanying person (ONLY spouse/relative, others pay regular fee)  Surcharge on the excursion on September 7, 2013  Fee for the post-conference tour to Bangkok and the East (Sept 8-9 or Sept 8-10)  US\$120 or | gible, a<br>gistration<br>document<br>US\$150<br>US\$40 |
|---|---|
| NOTE: The registration fee includes conference attendance, conference materials, banquet, lurefreshments on September 5-6 BUT does not include international transportation to and from and accommodation fee that participants will pay to the hotel directly. Accommodation is arrefined in Chiang Rai; approximate rates/day (with breakfast) are: (1) Le Méridien, US\$130; (2) Du (3) Rimkok, US\$50, with transportation between hotels and conference venue provided. Hotel for 7, Sept 8, Sept 9, Sept 10 will be approximately US\$40-50/night, for single/double, with breakfast  | Chiang Rai<br>anged at 3<br>sit, US\$80;<br>ee for Sept |
| Cut here→   |   |
| REGISTRATION FORM (Please ask for another updated form that includes your fligh   | t info)   |
| September 4-7, 2013, Le Méridien Chiang Rai Resort, Chiang Rai, Thailand  | - F 1   |
| Title:  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Prof.   Assoc. Prof.  Asst. Prof.   Others   Male   |   |
| First Name Last name  |   |
| Country   |   |
| Tel: Fax:   |   |
| Email(s): (1)(2)  |   |
| Name in English that you would like to see on your conference badge (First letter of t  |   |
| and last name at 10 letters maximum) (e.g. <b>D. Heddington</b> )   |   |
| ▲ I would like to present □ a poster paper, □ none. Proposed title  |   |
| ▲ I would like to pay the REGISTRATION FEE □ US\$250 (or □ US\$200 as international student with proof) and will send a copy of my airticket to the organizers soonest, within July 15, 2013.   |   |
| ☐ I will pay for ONE accompanying person (spouse/relative) (Name)   | <b>@US\$150</b>   |
| ▲ I would like to attend the following activity:  |   |
| ☐ Excursion to visit soil & water cons. sites & geographic spots on <b>Sept 7, '13</b> US\$4  | 0/person  |
| □ Post-conference tour in Bangkok & the East, □ <b>Sept 8-9</b> or □ <b>Sept 8-10 US\$120</b> or \$180, Total amount to pay: US\$   | •   |
| ์ (ผู้เข้าประชุมชาวไทยจ่ายค่าลงทะเบียน ๕๐๐๐ บาท สมาชิก วสท. และ สมาคมอนุรักษ์ดินและน้ำแห่งประเทศไทย จ   | ท่าย ๔๕๐๐   |
| บาท นิสิตนักศึกษาจ่าย ๔๐๐๐ บาท ไม่ร่วมงานเลี้ยงเย็นวันที่ ๕ กย. ลด ๑๐๐๐ บาท ร่วมไปดูงานวันที่ ๗ กย. เพิ่ม ๙   | ๑๐๐๐ บาท)   |
| ▲ My hotel preference (per day): ☐ Le Méridien (US\$130); ☐ Dusit (US\$80); ☐ Rimkok (  | US\$50)   |
| ▲ Please send the completed registration form to: Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Thammasat University, Khlong Luang, Pathum Thani 12121, Thailand. Tel. (66-2) 5643001-9 Ext. 3047, 3039, Fax. (66-2) 5643022, E-mails (please send to both): admin@wreeit.org & sombatpanit@gmail.com; more info in www.wreeit.org & www.waswac.org  |   |
| From now, registration fee and other fees can be paid onsite at the venue on Sept 4, with the condition shown above. Finance of the conference is with the savings bank account of the  |   |
| Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT), Bangkok Bank, Surawong Branch, No. 147-4-32388-6 (Contact Ms. Potjanee Thiengthaisong: potjaneet@gmail.com for more information).  |   |

## Some information about Chiang Rai Province (From Wikipedia – Free Encyclopedia)



The city of Chiang Rai has a population of around 62,000 and is the main commercial centre serving the Golden Triangle border region of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos. It is an excellent base for exploring the region. Chiang Rai is essentially a service city for the surrounding province. It has a relatively small population of 200,000 people, but also has a respected university and other civic facilities. The character is distinctly Northern and is distinct to Chiang Mai to the southwest in various ways. The food is definitely spicier and the ethnic composition includes a good percentage of hill tribes and Myanmar exiles such as various tribes of Karen people.

Following are some important sites.



From left to right, top to bottom: Wat Phra Singh; Wat Ming Mueang; Wat Rong Khun; Oob Kham Museum; Emblem of Chiang Rai Province; Flower Garden at Doi Tung Palace; Harvest of Tea at Doi Mae Salong; Late Afternoon Scene at Doi Hua Mae Kham; Poo Chee Fah cliff at the Thai-Laotian Border More information is available at <a href="http://wikitravel.org/en/Chiang\_Rai">http://siamteas.com/?page\_id=881</a> Le Méridien Chiang Rai Resort: <a href="http://2g.pantip.com/cafe/blueplanet/topic/E9660558/E9660558.html">http://2g.pantip.com/cafe/blueplanet/topic/E9660558/E9660558.html</a>

http://www.facebook.com/samran.sombatpanit; http://www.waswac.org

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