#### UPDATES OF THE WEEK

Newsletter

The Meghalaya Community Led Landscape
Management Project (MCLLMP)

The Meghalaya Livelihood Improvement through Forest Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)

Institute of Natural Resources (INR)

The Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Markets Project (Megha-LAMP)

Farmers' Collectivization for Upscaling of Production and Marketing Systems (FOCUS)

The Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA)

The Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA)

















# STAFF OF THE QUARTER

(JAN-MARCH, 2023)

#### **NOMINATE YOURSELF!**

#### SHOWCASE, GET RECOGNISED AND BE REWARDED FOR THE EXCEPTIONAL WORK YOU HAVE DONE!

Share your proudest moments/best contributions and be in the running for "Staff of the Quarter".

To nominate yourself, send us a brief write up (500 words) explaining:

- 1. Your role in the organization.
- 2. The contributions you wish to showcase, explaining what the problem were, what actions you took and what changes those actions led to.
- 3. Signed statement from each of the following references (including name and phone number for verification) to attest your work:
- a. Reporting officer/DC/Senior official who were involved or are aware of your activities. b. Any beneficiary that benefitted from your actions.
- 4. Provide photograph of interventions.

Note: Kindly attach a photograph of yourself along with the write-up.

# Don't wait, apply now!

Send your application to: binikm2022@gmail.com

Last Date: 10/04/23

WINNER GETS A CERTIFICATE & RS 10,000 CASH PRIZE!



#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



#### South West Khasi Hills

The Environment Management EE visited the Pyndenmawramhah VNRMC accompanied by VCF Environment to collect data on spring mapping for both CLLMP and Non-CLLMP villages. The data collection involved assessing water recharge and quality, including factors such as pH, salinity, temperature, and electrical conductivity, which will ultimately benefit the community.





The VCF received a boost as the EE Environment and EE Geographic Information Systems team visited Nongmawlein VNRMC to help with spring mapping data collection.

The team collected crucial information

on water discharge and quality, including pH, salinity, temperature, and electrical conductivity for both CLLMP and non-CLLMP areas.



The EE - Social Management visited Jakrem VNRMC to oversee the Minute Book EC & GB Meeting, Purchase Register, and Issue Register. This activity comprised of a total of seven participants which included three individuals from the EE Social team, two from the VCF (M&E, Environment) team, one secretary, and one PC member.

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



DM and EE Environment Management accompanied by VCFs visited Nongbrei Nongdom VNRMC to aid the VCF in gathering data for spring mapping. This included data on water discharge and water quality (such as temperature, pH, salinity, and electrical conductivity) for both CLLMP and Non-CLLMP springs.



The president of Pyndensakwang VNRMC provided an update on the progress of works at Pyndensakwang and ensured that the ongoing Permanent Nursery would be completed by the end of March. During the visit, the recently completed concrete Canal was also inspected. Additionally, the VNRMC has

completed all works within 75% of the budget, and any remaining works will be funded under excess funds. The UC for these pending works is expected to be submitted in March.





The DPM, DM M&E & EE visited Photkylla for physical verification of implemented activities under CTF and had a meeting with the members of VEC discussing findings and observations with agreed points for the VEC members to follow for speedy completion of works. The accounts team (AM P& F, OA) had visited the same village a day earlier to assist them with records maintenance, UC etc.

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



The Deputy Manager for Monitoring and Evaluation recently had a productive interaction with the VCF of Lawblei VNRMC. During the visit, the DM M&E cross-checked the data and provided encouragement for the construction of a Traditional Hall, for which the building materials have already been procured.











Training sessions on seedball preparation were conducted at St. Michael UP School in Jakrem, Rangblang, and St. John Bosco School in Mawpat. These training sessions will go a long way in promoting environmental conservation and increasing green cover.





Meeting on Women prioritization in VNRMC at Nongbrei Nongdom

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



#### East Khasi Hills





The environment team and training manager collaborated to conduct Seedball preparation training for a total of 34 schools. A team of 16 Master Trainers provided training to 7 schools from Mawkynrew Block in Thangsning and 27 schools from Mylliem Block in Kyndong Nongkyntir, Lawsohtun, Laitkor, Mawnianglah, and Sawmer. The training session had a great turnout, with active participation from all attendees.



The field engineers from DPMU East Khasi Hills District conducted a site inspection at Kenmynsaw for the construction of a permanent community nursery, which is being implemented using funds from the Forest Management Project (FMP).



The Deputy Manager, DPMU East Khasi Hills district conducted a field visit to Lum Nongkhlaw to inspect the newly completed bio-fencing and fire line control. These measures are vital for preventing fires and maintaining the ecosystem in the area.

#### **DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES**







On March 15th, the Monitoring & Evaluation team, accompanied by the Village Community Facilitators (VCFs), conducted a field visit to inspect the completed and ongoing CNRMP activities that were implemented under Lad Mawreng VNRMC, in the Mawphlang Block.

A location was chosen for the disbursal of Seed Balls at Laitkroh Block. The selected location is the most suitable spot to promote natural regeneration through the Seed Balls programme, as it has a high likelihood of serving as a catchment area for nearby water bodies.







Inspection of recharge pit at Lai Kyntoit under Mylliem Block

#### **DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES**

The DPMU team from East Khasi Hills, along with the environment team, visited Lum Nongkhlaw in the Lai Kyntoit VNRMC area to assess the feasibility of building a water reservoir.

The team used a Brunton compass during the field visit to measure the dip and strike direction, as well as to determine the direction of water flow.





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#### South West Garo Hills





Seedball preparation training at Ampati village.



Installation of Information Board in Rongchadenggre VNRMC under Rerapara Block by Field Engineer and Field Engineer (EE).

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



#### North Garo Hills





The DPMU NGH visited Chidareth Ajagro VNRMC to observe the FMP activities taking place in the village, including measures being implemented to control forest fires.





A meeting was held with the VCFs of Mendal Songma, Lower Mendal, Dingrepa and Rongjal to update the village profile, gather case studies, and collect photographs for photo database.







DPMU NGH conducted field visits at Kawak, Doba Apal and Dandakol VNRMC villages under Resubelpara C&RD Block for site verification of permanent community nursery and ongoing construction of nursery, construction of check dam and agroforestry and other ongoing activities.

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



#### Ri-Bhoi





The DPMU team visited Umdoh 18 Mile and Umdohbyrthih VNRMCs to follow up on the preparation of UCs and to check the registers.





A training session on NRM (Natural Resource Management) was held for VCFs (Village Community Forests) from the scale program at the Auxilium Training Center in Khapmara village, Bhoirymbong Block. The session was conducted by the Training Specialist, in collaboration with the Senior Manager for Environment (SM EM) and the Technical Specialist (TS).







The AM M&E traveled to Nongtraw and Umket villages in Umsning C&RD Block to oversee the progress of Catalytic Funds-related activities and CDF activities.

#### DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES

#### **Celebrating World Water Day**



#### **World Water Day!**

Today, we celebrate the importance of water in our lives and the need to protect this precious resource.

Click the link below or scan the QR code to watch the video

https://youtu.be/GgoK37VQsfU









The VEC Secretary of Doratcha Village in Resubelpara Block has accepted 5 forms and plans to discuss the scheme with the whole village to apply for all 5 village reserved forests. It is worth noting that due to the unavailability of roads, reaching the village is difficult. The Secretary mentioned that the PWD had already measured the land, but no road has been constructed for many years.



On 21st March 2023, an awareness programme was held at Kremmyrsiang, Thadlaskeiñ Block. The participants showed interest in the programme, however, most of the landowners mentioned that their forest area is less than 2 hectares.



In Amlarem Block, an awareness programme was conducted at Pamtadong village. The participants expressed their willingness to apply for their Law Kyntang



On 21st March 2023, an awareness programme was conducted at Umtasor village. The participants expressed their intention to apply for their community land, which has an area of approximately 100 hectares.



An awareness programme was conducted at Pyrnai, Shakai, and Saitwait villages wherein the majority of the participants showed interest in the programme, however, most of them have forests with an area less than 2 hectares.







An awareness program was held in Sibbari, which included the villages of Aritakgre, Darokgre, Bamon Dipogre, and Gosegaon. Application forms were distributed, and all the attendees showed interest in the program.



An awareness programme was conducted at Amlamet village in Amlarem block. During the programme, two forms were distributed to the headman for the community forest, as they expressed interest in applying for the scheme.

An awareness was conducted with the headman along with two members from Borghat village in Khliehriat block. However, it was observed that there is no natural forest land in the village and all the land is being used for broom plantation, betel nut cultivation, and betel leaf cultivation.



An awareness program was conducted at Siltham village in Mawkynrew wherein the participants showed interest in the scheme and application forms were distributed to them.







Awareness program at Eman durabanda / Asakgre

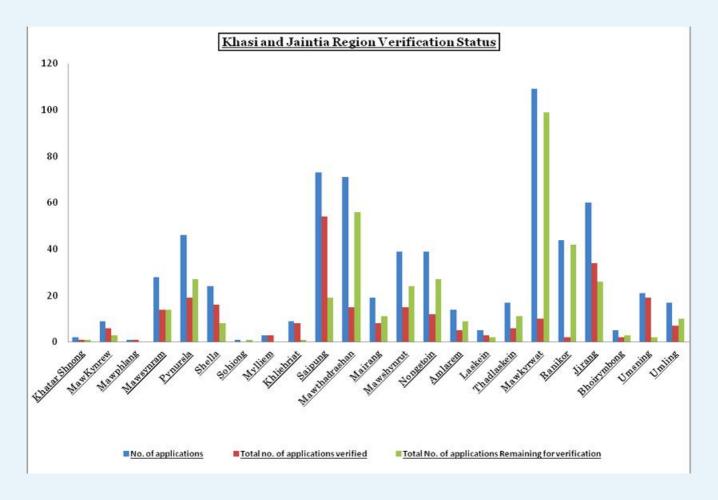




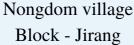


As of March 18, 2023, a total of 1059 applications were uploaded for verification. Out of these, 342 have been verified while 717 are still pending verification. These applications are from both the Khasi & Jaintia and Garo regions.

In the Khasi and Jaintia region, there are 656 applications that require verification. Out of these, 182 have been verified, and 474 are still pending verification.



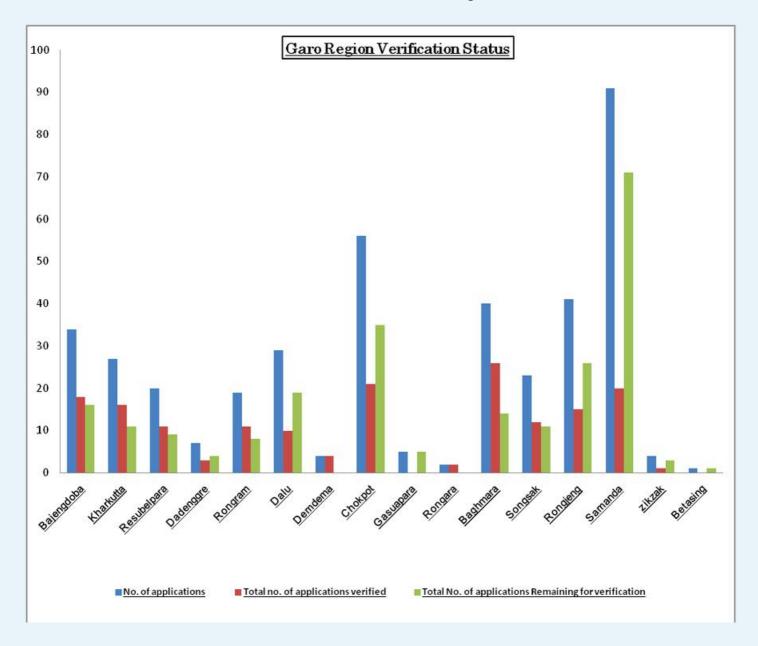






Umsalang village Block - Amlarem

In the Garo region, there are 403 applications that need verification. Out of these, 160 have been verified, and 243 are still awaiting verification.





Menggonpara Community Forest Reserve Block - Zikzak



Sosotpara Nokat Block - Dalu

#### More pictorial updates of forest verification.



Dinar(Rangjadong) village Block - Mawkyrwat



Dommawlieh village Block - Mawthadraishan



Lelad village Block - Saipung



Nongnah village Block - Ranikor



Naregre village Block - Samanda



Chigro Agal village Block - Dambo Rongjeng

#### **COMMUNITY NURSERY**

A total no of 433 project villages under MegLIFE project have elected to set up Community Nurseries. Preparatory works are underway.



Preparation for Community Nursery at Bangsi Dogru VPIC, Resubelpara, NGH



Community preparing site for nursery at Dangkong Tasilgre, Songsak, EGH.



On March 15, 2023, a field visit to Nokatgre, Resubelpara, NGH, to facilitate an EC meeting and verify a new site for the nursery, as the site selected previously is often visited by elephants. Additionally, a follow-up visit was made to Thapa Dajonggre and Thapa Darenchi.



The members of Silsekgre VPIC are getting ready to establish a community nursery in Rongram.



Clearing of Jungle, preparation of beds in Kalak Songgitcham, Rengregre, Kalak Songgital, Kalak Dorek and Dorakgre villages under Samanda Block











Daljagre under Rongram Block, WGH, preparing Community Nursery bed,



Jungle clearance for Community Nursery at Watenanggre, Songsak Bock, EGH.



Rongmatcha VPICs preparing land for Community Nursery, Resubelpara Block, NGH

#### ENTRY POINT ACTIVITY- COMMUNITY HALL



Thapa Matronggre village, Resubelpara has prepared the land for the construction of a community hall.



Preparation of land for construction of Community Hall at Chandigre under Rongram land

#### **SALT**

Preparation of A- Frame taught by Shri David Gandhi to the Farmers at Umblai Village, Mawkynrew Block, EKH









Technique of contour line burning being taught to the farmers of Wahlakhiat Village, Mawkynrew block, EKH

Preparation of A-Frame

#### **MICROPLAN and EC MEETING**



NGO staff at Guresimram Village, Resubelpara, North Garo Hills, continuing with Microplan activities.

This is the last of the villages of the block conducting Microplanning and PLUP Exercises.



VPIC EC meeting and Microplanning at Taidang Village of Rongara Block, South Garo Hills.



EC meeting at Nokatgre, Resubelpara















# Institute of Natural Resources (INR)

# <u>(MEGH AROMA MISSION)</u>



On March 17th, 2023, Dr. R. P. Bansal, principal scientist of CSIR CIMAP Lucknow, along with the Bio-resource team distributed rooted Geranium to Iasnohktilang V.O Khliehrangnah in the West Jaintia Hills district of the Laskein Block.



Inspection of Citronella and Lemongrass Plantation at Mynska Village Laskein Block, West Jaintia Hills district.



Inspection of Lavender plantation at Khliehrangnah Village, West Jaintia Hills district.

#### MONITORING OF GERANIUM



Umdohbyrthih village, Bhoirymbong C&RD block, Ri-Bhoi district



Umtham village, Umsning block, Ri -Bhoi district



Marshillong village, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills.



Pyndenglitha village, Mawphlang block, East Khasi Hills district.



Mawlai Block, East Khasi Hills district.



Mawlai Block, East Khasi Hills district.

On 15th March 2023, the Bio-resource team successfully delivered two Field Distillation Units (FDUs) to Shipara Self Help Group (SHG) in Mawphanlur, and to Marngar Self Help Group (SHG) in Khliehmawlieh, West Khasi Hills district.







Follow up on the new plantation of lemongrass of Bankroikyrhai Self Help Group, Marshillong, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills district.



Follow up and monitoring on Cultivation of Lavender at Rangmaw, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills district.

## <u>CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION</u> (<u>GREEN ENERGY</u>)

### NAME OF THE PROJECT: DECENTRALIZED GREEN ENERGY <u>DEVELOPMENT PROJECT</u>

**District wise Installation/ Site Supervision** 



West Jaintia Hills District





Installation of hydroger at Larnai village, Thadlaskein Block



Meeting & Follow up on the work progress with Lymba Village Energy Committe (VEC) Amlarem Block.



Meeting with Nongtalang Shnongthymmai Village Energy Committe (VEC), Amlarem, Block for UC discussion and submission.



Site Supervision at Mookynniang Village, Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills district.



#### **East Khasi Hills District**



Jakhong village, Mairang Block.



Wahlyngkhat village, Pynursla Block.



Mawpdang village, Mawryngkneng Block.



Mawbri village, Laitkroh Block.





Mawsohmad village, Laitkroh Khadarshnong Block.





Follow up of construction work progress at Laitlum village, Mawkynrew Block

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#### **South Garo Hills District**



Damik awe village, Siju Block



Dura Banda village, Chokpot Block





Chibe teteng village, Baghmara Block

# 

THEME: ACCELERATING CHANGE



#### CENTRE FOR WATER RESOURCES

Water is one of the most essential resources that we need to survive, yet it is also one of the most undervalued and taken for granted.

Meghalaya is home to numerous rivers and streams, many of which are important sources of water for domestic, agricultural, and industrial purposes. Despite its abundant water resources, Meghalaya continues to face water shortages.

World Water Day is observed annually on March 22nd to raise awareness about the importance of freshwater and the need for sustainable management of water resources. The United Nations introduces a new theme every year aimed at raising awareness and promoting action on a particular issue. This year theme is "Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis", the theme calls for individuals to change how they use, consume, and manage water in their own lives.

The Centre for Water Resources was established to better understand the state's water resource problems and to develop effective and long-term solutions. The centre is the result of inter-departmental collaboration and convergence, and it encompasses a broad range of activities.

BE THE
CHANGE YOU
WANT TO SEE
IN THE
WORLD

AN ESSENTIAL
REMINDER TO
CONSERVE
AND PROTECT
OUR WATER
RESOURCES

#### CENTRE FOR WATER RESOURCES

Khlieh Umtrew, a village located in Ri Bhoi district, has been grappling with water scarcity for many years. The village, with a population of 750 and 138 households, covers an area of about 3.32 square kilometers and has a total of 10 springs. The community heavily relies on these springs for drinking and consumption, while farming remains the primary source of livelihood.

According to Bah Wahlang, the headman of Khlieh Umtrew, water scarcity has caused several problems in the village, including health issues. However, the most significant impact has been on agriculture and food production, leading to lower crop yields, livestock losses, and reduced access to food. In addition to this, the village faces challenges with inadequate or outdated infrastructure such as wells, pipelines, and water treatment plants, which makes it difficult to meet the water needs of the community..

"Upon the arrival of this Jal Abhayaranya Campaign (JAC) project in our village, I felt a great sense of joy and gratitude, as I knew that our community was in great need of such initiatives due to the prevalent scarcity of water. We learned about the Himalayan springs, spring revitalization methods and the significance of conserving the environment from the Water resources team."

He further added that the Water Resources team and their project have provided invaluable assistance to the village, offering training on techniques such as building check dams, gabion walls, and water storage and filtration processes. This has helped in ensuring the availability of clean water which is safe for drinking, industrial use and other purposes.

In addition to providing access to safe and clean water to the village, the CWR team has also assisted with afforestation in the catchment areas, promoting the growth of diverse plant and animal life and helping to create a more balanced ecosystem in Khlieh Umtrew village.



# Meghalaya Livelihoods And Access To Markets Project

#### INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (INRM)





INRM site inspection at Ichamati and Tyllap village under Shella Bholaganj Block, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya.

#### **RURAL FINANCE ACTIVITIES**

### **3-day orientation training of Business Facilitators**

3-day orientation training were held for Business Facilitators (BF) of IVCS from all districts. These were held Williamnagar for BFs of IVCS from East Garo Hills and North Garo Hills on 6-8 March, Shillong for BFs of IVCS from East Jaintia Hills, West Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, and South West Khasi Hills on 9-11 March, Williamnagar for BFs of South Garo Hills on 9-11 March, and Tura for BFs of IVCS from West Garo Hills and South Garo Hills on 13-15 March.

The progam also focused on credit linkage training and activities included group discussions, group presentations by the participants, and game sessions for team building. The role that the BFs will play is to mobilize people for loans in each IVCS and link them with banks for loans.





2 days block level workshop for the IVCS under Umling block, Ri bhoi district at Mawroh hall, Nongpoh from 14th -15th March, 2023.

2 days review meeting for Master Bookkeepers of IVCS in Garo Hills Region from 14th -15th March, 2023 at Lamjingshai Youth Centre, Pohkseh, Shillong



#### **Exposure visit**



2 days exposure visit from 17th – 18th March, 2023 was conducted for the IVCS's under West Jaintia Hills District at Jalyiah & Iengskhem IVCS, East Jaintia Hills District.

3 days exposure visit from 13th – 15th March, 2023 for IVCS under West Jaintia Hills District (Batch III) at Nongshram and Songsak IVCS, WKHD.





The DPMU team, Ri Bhoi conducted a meeting of the Integrated Village Cooperative Society Business Facilitators under Umling block on 18th March, 2023 at the Sport and Cultural Hall Mawroh, Nongpoh.



The Rural Finance team, DPMU, West Khasi Hills District conducted a 3 days training on maintenance of books of accounts for IVCS, CMC & PG's.

# INCLUSIVE SUPPLY CHAIN & ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (ISC&ED)





Exposure visit to Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana for IVCS & CMC federation members on 'beekeeping' with the objective of setting up of honey processing unit in Diengkynthong PrimeHub, Khatarshnong Laitkroh block. The team had an interaction with Dr. Jaspal Singh (Principal Entomologist) and his Students on 'honey bees' and 'pollinators'. - District Project management Unit, East Khasi Hills District







Eastern Region Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd. held its 1st Board of Directors meeting on 21st March 2023 at LIFCOM office. The main agenda being coopting remaining 6 members, appointment of Managing Director, coopting 2 number of professionals and preparing of action plan.



The Inclusive Supply Chain & Enterprise Development, District Project Management Unit, Ri Bhoi conducted a review meeting with the service providers (livestock) along with State Project Management Unit (SPMU) on 14th March 2023 at Mawroh VEC hall.



Site inspection was conducted by ISC&ED team along with the Field Engineer to the area for construction of Lower Rajapara Arecanut Processing Unit at Kakorkora Village, Ranikor C&RD Block and to brief on the drawing of the construction work to the IVCS.





Visit to Khonjoy IVCS to check the books maintenance for Ginger Processing Unit, the progress of construction work and to take GPS coordinates of the area proposed for Ginger cultivation and for Farmers Field School

Meeting with Chaiman & Secretary Koraigora IVCS on matters relating to Procuring of Mini Soil Testing Lab Kits from Ayogram Medisoft Solutions Pvt. Ltd.



#### **OTHERS**







Monitoring and inspection to Diwon VDVK under Umling C&RD Block on the 9th March, 2023. This VDVK received a Grand Fund from Trifed amounting to ₹1500000/-. They have also started food processing activities such as pickle making and seasonal juice processing individually at their homes. They have also been doing value addition for bamboo products.

#### **UPDATES ON DISTRICT-RELATED EVENTS**



#### West Khasi Hills

BDU in West Khasi Hills arranged a visit to Dongki-ingding and Umniangriang villages, where they were joined by Sir David Gandhi, an expert in SALT farming from MBMA. During the visit, Sir David explained to a farmer about the importance of adopting SALT farming techniques on her land and the various benefits that come with it.





BDU, West Khasi Hills organised a meeting with the Executive committee of Umniangriang VPIC wherein the following points were discussed:

- i) Finalize the area for plantation for the year 2023
- ii) Sharing benefit mechanism by the private Landowners to the VPIC
- iii) Community Contribution (Cash/kind, labour)
- iv) Construction of Water tank
- v) Signing of MOA for plantation area with private land owners and NOC from the Headman for community land.
- vi) Advance work for plantation of 2023

BDU, West Khasi Hills organised a meeting with the EC of Dongkiingding VPIC to discuss the following:



- i) Area of Plantations
- ii) Area and Construction of Community Hall and water tank , regarding NOC
- iii) Community contribution
- iv) Membership, Minutes register

#### **UPDATES ON DISTRICT-RELATED EVENTS**

Meeting with the Executive committee of Patharlyndan Village, Mawlumkhri VPIC, Mawkyi village, Mawlieh village, Pynndengdombah village, Nongthyllep village, Mawiong village and Nongsohma village.

Points discussed:

- i) Area for plantation
- ii) Area for construction of Community Hall and Community contribution
- iii) Constituting the Local Purchase Committee of the Pynndengdombah VPIC
- iv) Registers for records and maintenance of the VPIC
- v) Signing of MoA for the community nursery land





#### Prime Hub construction at Mawshynrut C & RD Block, WKHD





#### **UPDATES ON DISTRICT-RELATED EVENTS**



#### South West Khasi Hills

A meeting was held with the Chairman and Secretary of Phlangdiloin IVCS-CHC to discuss matters related to CHC. The meeting was attended by team members including Smt. Mumie N Shangplaing, DPM, Smt. Iaineh Hujon, Deputy Manager (INRM), and Shri. Opal Roy Lyndoh, Assistant Manager (ISC&ED).



A training session was conducted at the Civil Subdivision for SDO VEC representatives on the topics of Book of Accounts and Record Management. The training was attended by 35 participants and was led by Smt. Iaineh Hujon, Deputy (INRM), with Manager along Shri. Engleberth Pde, Admin Associate, DPMU, and Shri. Definetis Dkhar, Assistant Manager M&E.





Smt. Iaineh Hujon, Deputy Manager (INRM), visited Photkroh for a follow-up on CHC and community contribution. The visit was conducted along with Manager, Iaikyrsoi IVCS-CHC.



#### **UPDATES ON DISTRICT-RELATED EVENTS**

A meeting was held at EFC Ranikor on 14-03-2023 with 40 participants, including VECs representatives, to follow up on community contribution and other related matters.







The RF and ISC&ED team conducted a site inspection with the FE to the area designated for the construction of Tilagoa Arecanut Processing Unit. During the inspection, the team also briefed on the drawing for the construction work.



#### North Garo Hills

On 16th March 2023, a 5MT cold storage machine was installed at Adokgre Bazar Committee. However, the installation of solar panels is still pending.



The land for Gokolgre Bazar committee has been prepared and is now ready for civil work to be carried out for the installation of a 5MT cold storage.



#### **FOLLOW US ON**

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Knowledge Management knowledge.mbda@gmail.com