

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

20th December 2023



**THE MEGHALAYA COMMUNITY LED LANDSCAPE
MANAGEMENT PROJECT (MCLLMP)**



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (MEGLIFE)**



INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES (INR)



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS 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)**



Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP)



UPDATES OF THE WEEK

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY



Inauguration of Food Concoction Unit and Nursery

Bah Jorsing Syngkli, recognized as an innovator under Grassroot Innovation, has received funding of Rs 300,000. He has utilized the funds for nurseries, where he preserves and conserves the medical herbs needed for his food concoction (Bio-pesticides). In addition to the funding, he has constructed a stall where he can sell his produce.

The impact of Syngkli organic Bio-Pesticides on farmers goes beyond crop protection; it extends to economic, environmental and community aspects. By providing an effective and sustainable solution to pest challenges, this organic Food Concoction (Bio-pesticides) has the potential to positively transform the lives of farmers and the communities.





Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



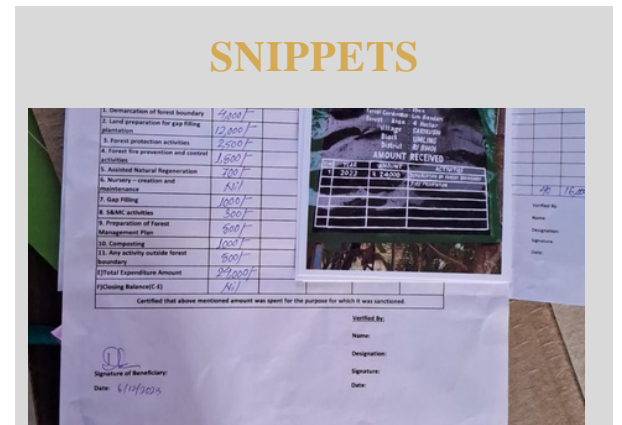
"GFAs' Involvement in Plantation Assessment Across Project Villages"



the plantation sites survey conducted by GFAs from different Blocks represents a pivotal step in promoting sustainable development, community involvement, and environmental resilience. The detailed assessment not only optimizes resource allocation but also ensures the long-term success and impact of the plantation initiatives across diverse project villages.



On December 15, 2023, GFA Smarthe G Momin along with the village community facilitators (VCFs) led a Plantation Survey in Rongram block to assess existing vegetation, identify afforestation opportunities, and generate carbon credits. The initiative focused on community involvement, conducting a detailed survey covering plant species, soil quality, and ecological evaluation. The meticulous analysis serves as a foundation for future afforestation projects, aligning with global climate change initiatives and emphasizing the commitment to offset carbon emissions through strategic tree planting and forest preservation.



Green Field Associates (GFAs) are presently in the process of collecting application forms and utilization certificates, demonstrating their active involvement in gathering comprehensive information from applicants.



Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).



On December 18, 2023, the PES Cheque Distribution Program was conducted in North Garo Hills, involving the allocation of Rupees 2.61 crores distributed among 60 beneficiaries. The initiative aimed to acknowledge and reward these individuals for their efforts in preserving the ecosystem, emphasizing a commitment to environmental sustainability in the region.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



"Empowering Integrated Village Cooperative Societies: Phiba Umdor's Comprehensive Workshop Series for Community Development"



On December 13, 2023, Phiba Umdor spearheaded a comprehensive workshop focused on the Formation of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS). The event, which took place at Mowtyrshiah A VPIC, Laskein Block, DPMU WJH, proved to be an enriching experience for participants hailing from Mowtyrshiah A, Mowtyrshiah B, and Mookaiaw. The workshop served as a platform for knowledge exchange and skill enhancement in the realm of cooperative societies.

Continuing the momentum, Phiba Umdor orchestrated another impactful workshop on December 14, 2023, hosted at Raliang VPIC, Laskein Block, DPMU WJH. Attendees were immersed in a deep dive into the intricacies of IVCS formation, gaining valuable insights and practical know-how. The facilitator's expertise and engaging teaching style contributed to a dynamic learning environment.

The learning journey extended to December 15, 2023, with a dual workshop format.

Firstly, at Mooshrot VPIC, Laskein Block, DPMU WJH, the session catered to the specific needs of the Mooshrot community. Following that, participants from Saba VPIC were beneficiaries of an enlightening workshop on IVCS formation. The tailored approach underscored the commitment to addressing the unique challenges and opportunities present in each community.

Anticipating a grand finale, Phiba Umdor is set to conduct another workshop on December 19, 2023, at Thangrain VPIC, Laskein Block, DPMU WJH. This session promises to be a culmination of the series, bringing together diverse stakeholders and fostering collaborative efforts in the establishment and enhancement of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies.

Overall, these workshops signify not only a transfer of knowledge but also a commitment to community development and empowerment. Phiba Umdor's dedication to facilitating these sessions underscores the importance of building strong foundations for cooperative initiatives that can positively impact the socio-economic landscape of the regions involved.

MEGLIFE COMMUNITIES ARE HARD AT WORK TO ACHIEVE THE PROJECT'S GOAL OF COVERING 22,500 HECTARES OF PLANTATION. PLANTATION OF SAPLINGS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY.



On December 13, 2023, DPM Shembhalang Khongjee undertook a visit to Mawkynew Block with the primary objective of persuading the local communities to actively participate in a plantation initiative. A comprehensive meeting was organized, which included representatives from Batch 2 and 3 VPICs. During the gathering, various aspects beyond plantation were elucidated, encompassing

community nursery development, carbon sequestration practices, and the promotion of Integrated Village Development Committee awareness. Additionally, the session provided a platform to address pertinent issues facing the villages, fostering positive discussions and collaborative problem-solving.

Emphasis was particularly laid on the importance of initiating extensive plantation efforts in the year 2024. Encouragingly, VPICs with available land resources expressed their commitment to contributing to the cause, with a tangible timeline set for the upcoming week, contingent on demarcation procedures. However, some VPICs identified the need to convene General Body (GB) meetings to garner support from private landowners, underscoring the multifaceted nature of community engagement in the proposed initiatives.



On the 13th of December 2023, Saili Marak conducted a comprehensive visit to Rene Badimagre village, situated within the administrative boundaries of Chokpot Group2 village. The primary aim of this visit was to impart knowledge and raise awareness regarding plantation initiatives within the community.

In discussions with the Nokma, the esteemed village head, it was elucidated that the community is custodian to a significant 23-hectare community reserve forest. This specific reserve forest is currently characterized by an exclusive bamboo ecosystem.



Recognizing the need for environmental stewardship and sustainable practices, the community has expressed a collective interest in introducing a diverse range of tree species into this reserve forest.

Consequently, an active initiative is being undertaken to diversify the vegetation within the reserve forest. The envisioned project not only seeks to enhance the ecological diversity of the reserve but also aligns with the broader objective of promoting environmental sustainability within the local community.

Workshops on IVCS Conducted Across Mariem and Pawphlang Clusters!



The insightful workshops that took place on December 19, 2023, as part of the ongoing efforts of the team to enhance knowledge and skills within communities.

Mariem Cluster Workshop by DPM Bansuklang Syiem: DPM Bansuklang Syiem led a dynamic Workshop on IVCS at Mariem Hall, captivating the audience with valuable insights. The session was tailored to the specific needs of the Mariem cluster, providing a comprehensive understanding of IVCS.



Pawphlang Cluster Workshop by BPM Pynshaibor Nongsiej: Simultaneously, BPM Pynshaibor Nongsiej orchestrated a Workshop on the 'Formation of IVCS' at Pawphlang Cluster, Mawkyrwat. Attendees were treated to an engaging session that delved into the intricacies of IVCS, fostering a deeper understanding within the Pawphlang community.

These workshops exemplify the team's commitment to fostering knowledge-sharing and skill development within the community.



Community nurseries, under the management of VPICs, have been instituted in various Blocks spanning across multiple villages. Their primary objective is to cultivate plants earmarked for the upcoming year, specifically targeting designated plantation areas. Through this systematic approach, the community nurseries aim to facilitate effective plant management, fostering sustainability and supporting environmental and agricultural endeavors in the respective regions.

ENTRY POINT ACTIVITY - COMMUNITY HALL

The construction of 370 community halls has been sanctioned under EPA of MegLIFE. Initial phases of site preparation is underway.



Institute of Natural Resources

(INR)





INR STAFF

Christmas Party



Embracing the festive season, the INR staff, joined by Director Shri L. Shabong, gathered for an early Christmas celebration. Special item songs by the staff, a heartfelt message from the director, and a closing Christmas carol marked the joyous occasion. 🎄🎵#ChristmasCelebration



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT



RF * INRM * ISC-ED

Megha **LAMP**

Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project

In Partnership With IFAD



21st December 2023: Finalization Workshop on Dry Ration saw active participation from IVCS members. **Eastern Region**, contributing to discussions on EARMACS actions, proposed activities, and framing duties for the Board of Directors. The workshop also marked the one-year anniversary of EARMACS with a cake-cutting ceremony. Among the attendees were Shri. A.S. Suting, Additional Project Director, MLAMP, Shri. T. Kharshing, Consultant Rural Finance, Shri. R. Rangslang, Consultant ISC & ED, the Apex body of the EARMACS, Eastern region and the IVCS members.



Ripples of Change: Embracing Integrated Village Cooperative Society (IVCS) Awareness Campaign

On December 7, 2023, an awareness program on Integrated Village Cooperative Society (IVCS) formation took place at Laitmawsiang village under Mawphlang C & RD Block, **East Khasi Hills**. The session featured resource persons Smt W Lakiang, Extension Circle Officer, Corporation Department, and Smt Rinylla Jana, Secretary of Mawmaram IVCS.

Continuing the initiative, Awareness Programmes on IVCS were conducted on December 7, 2023, at Nongjri Village and on December 8, 2023, at Mawpran Nonglyndiang Village, Pynursla C & RD Block, **East Khasi Hills**. Shri. R. Kurbah, Centre Manager, served as the Resource Person. The events saw the active participation of the Headman, Secretary, Producer Groups, Self-Help Groups, and individuals. The Enterprise Facilitation Centre (EFC), Pynursla, organized these programs.

Furthering the outreach, an Awareness Programme on IVCS formation was organized on December 13, 2023, at Pynthorbah Community Hall. The event was facilitated by the EFC team, NGO, and saw participation from the communities of Nongmensong and Pynthorbah villages, Mawpat C & RD Block, **East Khasi Hills**.





Merry Christmas

*Wishing you a joyous Christmas and
a prosperous New Year from all of us
at the Meghalaya Basin Management
Agency! May the festive season bring
warmth, joy, and moments of
togetherness. As we welcome the New
Year, may it be filled with shared
successes and accomplishments.*

!Happy Holidays!

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