HIGHLIGHTS Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project

Focus Group Discussion

Gender Budgeting Sessions

**CMC** Construction Status



# Focus Group Discussion on Women's Empowerment at Simkalangre, South Garo Hills

On 29th April 2025, a Focus Group Discussion was held at Simkalangre to gather on-the-ground information for validating secondary data. The session focused on understanding the impact of project activities on women's empowerment, covering aspects like income generation, decision-making, and work-life balance.



#### Gender Budgeting Sessions Held in Mairang and Baghmara Blocks

Gender Responsive Budgeting training was conducted on 6th May 2025 at the office of the Block Development Officer, Mairang Block, with 69 participants from 15 Integrated Village Cooperative Societies. A similar session took place on 7th May at Baghmara Bakdil Training Centre with 80 participants from 25 Integrated Village Cooperative Societies. A similar session took place on 7th May at Baghmara Bakdil Training Centre with 80 participants from 25 Integrated Village Cooperative Societies.



Update on Collective Marketing Centre Construction Status by Baksapara IVCS Ltd., South West Garo Hills

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS Project for Community-based Egrest Management and Livelibood Improvement in Maghalaya

Project for Community-based Forest Management and Livelihood Improvement in Meghalaya

**Resubelpara** 

Hands-on training on half moon terracing

Advance plantation work underway

Piggery Training at Tura as a Business



# Community Facilitators. The session focused on half-moon terracing —a technique that helps capture rainwater, retain soil moisture, and

control erosion. These semicircular bunds are especially suited for Meghalaya's high-rainfall conditions and are maintained by Village Project Implementation Committees with continued technical support.

On May 5th, 2025, the Block Project Management Unit organized a hands-on training at Thapa Dangre, Resubelpara Block, for 22 Village

Hands-on Training on Half Moon Terrace Held in

#### Advance Plantation Work Underway Across Multiple Blocks

Plantation activities for 2025 have begun, with agroforestry alignment and staking completed in Umsning Block, including Pamlatar Group 2, and groundwork in progress at Rabukong. The 2024 plantation cycle at Dokasaram has been successfully completed. Preparatory work is ongoing in Thadlaskein, Zikzak, and Tuidam, blocks while jungle clearance has started in Shallang and Sohbar and continues in Daistong, Saipung, and Mawkyrwat Blocks.

#### Training on Piggery as a Business for SHGs Held in West Garo Hills

On May 7, 2025, the Veterinary Department conducted a training on piggery as a business activity for Self Help Groups at SMELC, Dakopgre, Tura. Covering SHGs from Tikrikilla, Selsella, and Rongram Blocks, the initiative promotes income and food security through livestock farming, skill development, and access to markets and finance—supporting inclusive and sustainable rural livelihoods.

#### Photography Training for Village Community Facilitators in Garo Hills

On May 6–7, 2025, Village Community Facilitators from East, West, and South Garo Hills took part in a basic photography training organized by the Knowledge Management team. The training covered essential camera skills, composition, and lighting, and included a field session to practice capturing plantation sites, Entry Point Activities, and Soil and Water Conservation structures.







# HIGHLIGHTS Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project

Crisil Engages with Farmers

Block Level Workshop

Value Chain Analysis

SLM Project Review Meeting



#### Strengthening Collaboration & Evaluating Progress: SLM Project Partners' Review Meeting

On May 5, 2025, a review meeting was convened with key project stakeholders, chaired by Project Director Smt. Saloni Verma, IAS. The session focused on evaluating progress, addressing challenges, and enhancing coordination across partners. Implementing agencies—DoH, BRDC, MSRLS —alongside NGO partners, PMU staff, and consultants (Crisil, Clover Organics) participated.

Shri Augustus Suting, Additional Project Director, stressed the urgency of completing preparatory activities by December 2025 in anticipation of the upcoming loan phase. He emphasized the importance of building NGO staff capacity, especially in community mobilisation and marketing, and called for the identification of potential master trainers from within field teams.

#### **Block Level Workshop**



A block-level workshop on the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project was held at Betasing C&RD Block on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025. The workshop was attended by the BDO Betasing, officials from Horticulture and Agriculture Departments, BPM MSRLS, Cluster Level Coordinator, APOs, Technical Assistants, Gram Sevaks, and Nokmas.

Shri. Sujib Mishra, Manager at SPMU, outlined the project's objectives, stressing community participation, sustainable practices, and improved land productivity. The workshop fostered interdepartmental coordination and strengthened efforts for effective implementation at the grassroots level.

# Value Chain Analysis on Oranges and Honey Held at Durama Cooperative



A value chain analysis focused on oranges and honey was conducted at the Durama Multipurpose Cooperative Society on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The session saw active participation from around 50–60 farmers, who engaged in discussions on cultivation practices, pricing strategies, and marketing avenues.



# Improving Bay Leaf Market Access: Crisil Engages with Farmers



The DPMU, EKH, conducted a meeting with the Crisil team at Diengkynthong's PRIME Hub on April 6, 2025. Farmers from three IVCS - Khrang, Mawlyndiar, and Raidmawshuit - participated, sharing marketing challenges for bay leaf. Following the discussion, the district and CRISIL teams, along with the farmers, visited Sohkynduh village's bay leaf cultivation area under Mawlyndiar IVCS.



Plantation Model Identification at New Dengasi village

Plantation Model Identification at Boldamgre Village



# Plantation Model Identification at New Dengasi village

The Ganol-Catchment Management team visited New Dengasi village under Rerapara Block to assess suitable plantation models. Five plots were identified—one for Assisted Natural Regeneration and four for Agroforestry



### Plantation Model Identification at Boldamgre Village

The Ganol Team visited Boldamgre village under Rongram Block, West Garo Hills and identified 13 plots for plantation activities. The selected models include 13 plots.

HIGHLIGHTS Green Meghalaya, Payment for Ecosystem

**GREEN Meghalaya Awareness Drive** 

2683 forms collected for conservation of natural forest



#### **Collection of Application forms on Green Meghalaya**

Green Field Associates collected 2683 applications from villages for the month of April 2025, to encourage continued conservation of natural forest owned by communities, clans and private individuals and incentivize their commitment to continue conservation for at least 30 years.

#### **GREEN MEGHALAYA AWARENESS DRIVE**

Green Field Associates conducted awareness programs across blocks to promote reforestation, biodiversity conservation community-led afforestation. The initiative also focused on green belts, sustainable farming & urban green spaces

