

1st March 2023

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)



MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



East Khasi Hills

On February 22nd, IIMC, Delhi along with the EKH, Knowledge management team held a drawing competition for students at Umsawmat Presbyterian LP school. The competition was conducted as part of a one-month Community strategy activity. Ms Babysa Marbaniang, an Umsawmat Village opinion leader and a school teacher at Umsawmat Presbyterian LP school, delivered a speech on how school children can help preserve their natural resources in a sustainable manner.



At Ur- Ur village, the EKHD environment team conducted a survey on the survival rate of the plantation from CLLMP initiatives. Since last year, the seeded seedlings have had a high survival rate of at least 70-80%.



The environment team also inspected the Nursery structure at Mawrohroh and checked the survival of seedlings. The plants were planted in the year 2022. The nursery had a low survival rate due to extreme cold in the region.



In another activity, the finance team on 23rd Feb, Monitored and Verified the Books of Account and conducted a Meeting with the Purchase Committee Members of Rasong VNRMC.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



South West Khasi Hills



The District Project Management Unit conducted Site inspection at Sohkhylam with participation of VNRMC members and VCFs at the following locations:

1. Afforestation at Setkhla
2. Afforestation at Dommawohet
3. Agro Horticulture at Mawbyrsien
4. Water Conservation Dam at Setkhla
5. Plantation of Ornamental trees at Kseh Mawlangwir



North Garo Hills



DPMU NGH in collaboration with MegLIFE conducted three day orientation cum exposure programme on Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT) for the farmers of different clusters under Resubelpara C&RD Block.

During the exposure field tour to the Nokatading and Kawak villages, local farmers received orientation on SALT on how to cultivate on sloping areas, preserve soil erosion, conserve water, and plant trees on the areas.

MCLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



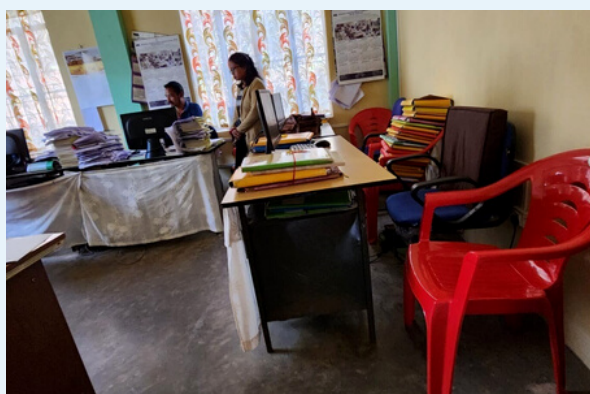
Ri-Bhoi



The District Project Manager along with the Block Technical Assistant visited Narang village to meet with VNRMC members and VCFs to inspect sites for the construction of the Check Dam and Spring Chamber and to follow up on other activities.



The District Project Manager (DPM) and the Block Technical Assistant (TA) toured Mawpun and Nongpyrdet villages in the Bhoirymbong C&RD Block to inspect and teach VNRMC members and VCFs on the implementation of new activities.



The District Project Manager (DPM) met with the APOs in Umsning and Bhoirymbong Blocks to discuss CTF SRES usage Credentials (UC)

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



The Assistant Manager for Knowledge Management, along with a team from SPMU, travelled to Tomonpo Anlong village in Umling Block to meet Mr. Hajew Klein, the inventor under Grassroot innovation, *Low-cost power tiller machine and thresher* in order to create video evidence of his low-cost farming innovation.



West Garo Hills

District Dy. Manager- Environment Management, AM-Social Management, and Manager- Knowledge Management, along with a Hired-Field Engineer (FE), visited Upper Dopgre village in Gambegre Block with regard to the Cluster Development Fund.

The team also visited the two cluster villages under Dalu Block namely Magupara and Darong Adu Cluster for the same purpose.



MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



South West Garo Hills



Field visits to Dengasi and Murchapani villages for implementation of forest fire control line with Field Engineer(EE) and NRM (EE).



Site inspection on Spring Chamber (SRES) CATALYTIC FUND at Chiringpara village.



Field visit to Latrigre for site inspection and for MIS update by Assistant manager M&E and EE.



Field visits to Nogorpara and Bollongre-2 villages for verification of permanent nursery along with NRM(EE) and Field Engineer (EE).

GAMBEGRE VILLAGE SHOWCASING THE BEST PRACTICES OF NRM

Gambegre Village is one of 400 villages located in critically degraded landscapes of the state, which came forward to participate in the World Bank-funded Community-Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP) in 2019. A survey by the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC) in 2012, revealed that as many as 1900 villages in Meghalaya had worryingly depleting natural resources, marred in equal parts by climate change and anthropogenic activities. Given that so many are reliant on these resources for sustaining varied forms of agriculture-based livelihoods, the data was an ominous warning that the need for sustainable interventions was immediate.

Since 2019, the people of Gambegre have initiated multiple NRM-first efforts to reclaim their lands and rejuvenate the deteriorating landscapes. As CLLMP is a community-driven development project, the planning and implementation processes were led by the communities.

The project only facilitated support with the implementation. Interventions comprise a community nursery, a PCC water conservation unit dam, a spring chamber, trenches, a dugout pit, 18-day hot composting methods, and support with a tree plantation drive at a depleted natural reserve. Projected long-term results include enhanced productivity, revived natural resources, and more significantly, opportunities for improved livelihoods.



The 12-bed Songjatchi Community Nursery is home to different local saplings including the endangered varieties. Fruits to be found here are jackfruits, mangoes, gasampe, che'eng, agol, raju, chandan, bolgisim, chambu, bolkasin, neem, ajari, soksinareng, bolbret, and sakap. Some of the matured saplings are transplanted to the catchment area. The community has been able to sell about 350 saplings to date. The PCC water conservation unit dam and the spring chamber have helped with secured access to water for both domestic and irrigation purposes, directly benefiting 10 and 9 households respectively. The spring chamber, in particular, has also addressed the issues associated with drudgery, sanitation, and agricultural health. Two trenches covering three acres of hill area were built in July 2020, one in Jenggrim (C) and another in Rami Chiga, which have led to increased water levels in the streams. The soil removed during the rainy seasons is used to create a berm just downhill from the trench and is useful in slowing surface water run-off and soil erosion from sloping land and re-vegetating the degraded lands.



The water from the dugout pit at Jenggim Bipek is for the community nursery during the dry seasons and for cleaning and bathing, benefiting 35 families. CLLMP is also promoting the Berkeley hot composting method for achieving fast and efficient production of compost for various plantation activities and also as a source of revenue to sustain various activities undertaken. Compost that is currently priced at Rs. 20 per kg is sold to Tura and other markets. And finally, the community planted different species of tree saplings in Songgitcham Reserve like the Te.brong, the Te.gatchu, and the Gasampe species. The initiative was aimed at recovering lost forest cover and building a sheltered home for animals and birds. During World Environment Day 2021, the community planted nearly 200 trees in the reserve area, in line with the Hon'ble Chief Minister's One Citizen One Tree Campaign.

These multi-pronged, community-led interventions of the CLLMP project have completely transformed the village's approach and thinking in terms of how they plan to move forward managing their natural resources and catchment areas and have delivered impactful and quantifiable



change. Project personnel are continuously facilitating support to Gambegre through handholding and monitoring of implemented activities.

On their part, the community is buoyed by what has been accomplished and is participating in village meetings to chalk out strategies for further rural empowerment and to pose an optimal model for holistic development. In the pipeline are dugout pits in Ransan Amuchakram, Wa.sik, and Ronggrim Bipek to raise the underground water levels and improve the springs which are critical sources of water for them.

LET'S TALK NRM

Watch the latest episode of Let's Talk NRM on YouTube.

Click the link below

<https://bit.ly/3KLAZGH>



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES & SPRING MAPPING

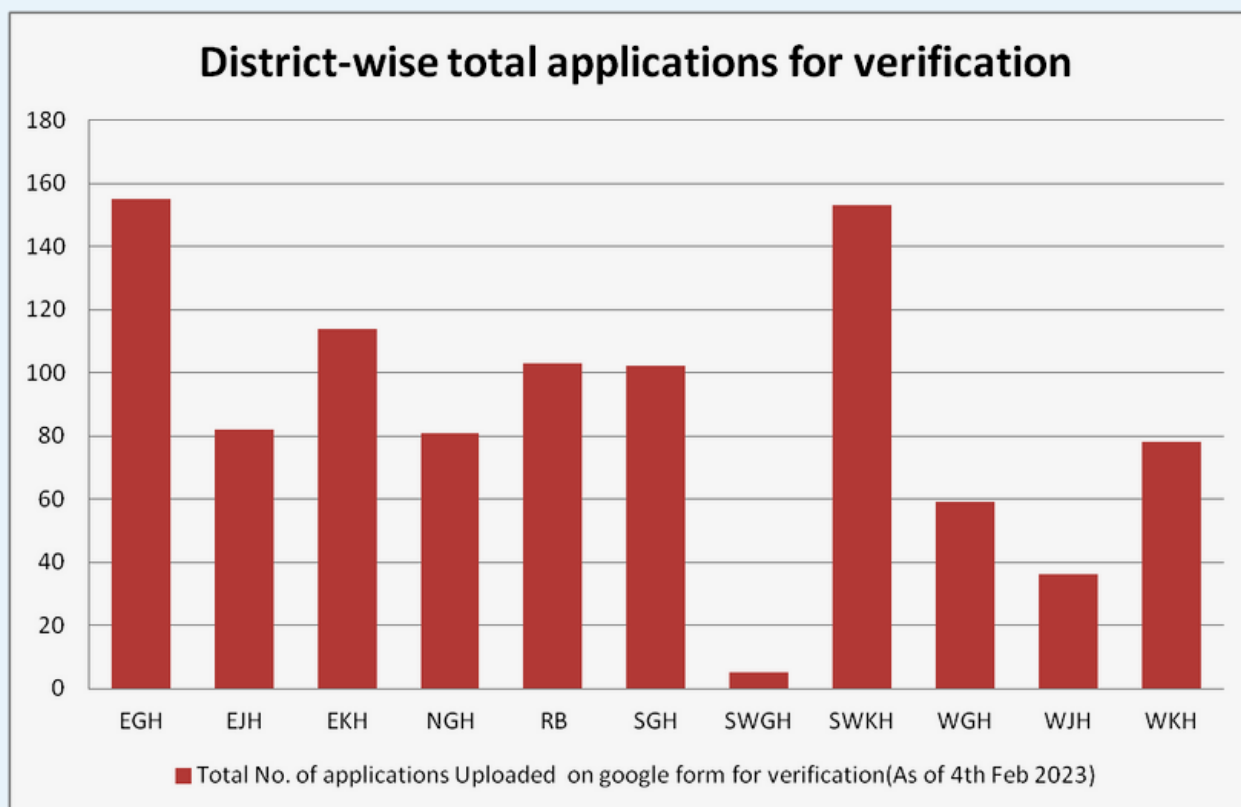
Payment for ecosystem services scheme provides payment towards the communities who have been conserving their natural forest resources. To become beneficiaries of this scheme, application forms have to be submitted by the applicants to the Green Field Associates (GFAs).

In the verification process the GVCFs/VCFs/GFAs check if the village forest cover fall under the following:

- a) Natural forests or
- b) Plantations (mono crop plantations or cash-crop cultivated) or
- c) Check for the presence of Living Root Bridge, State Reserve/Protected Forests, Wildlife Sanctuaries or National Parks

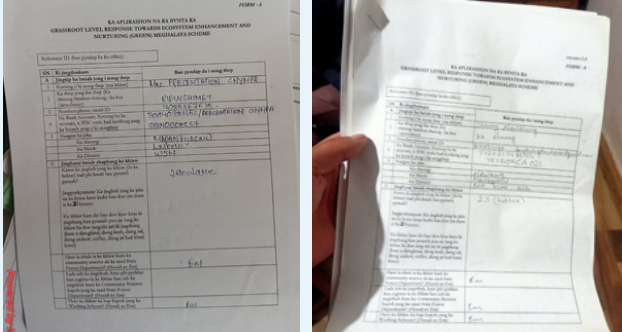
If the forest is found to be natural, the applicant will be eligible and the VCFs will use GPS to do boundary mapping and collect 8 boundary points to know the actual size of the area given for the Scheme.

The following graph below presents the total number of applications uploaded for verification from each district by Green Field Associates (GFAs).



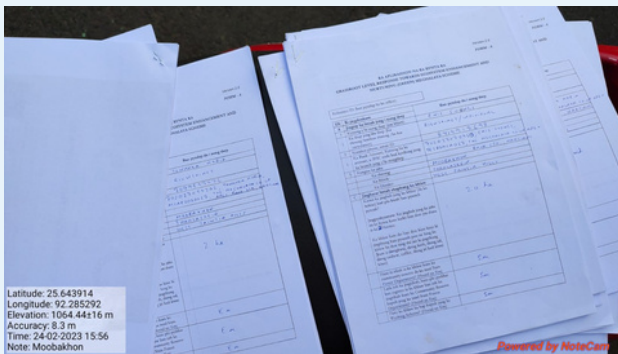
PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES & SPRING MAPPING

Collection of Forms

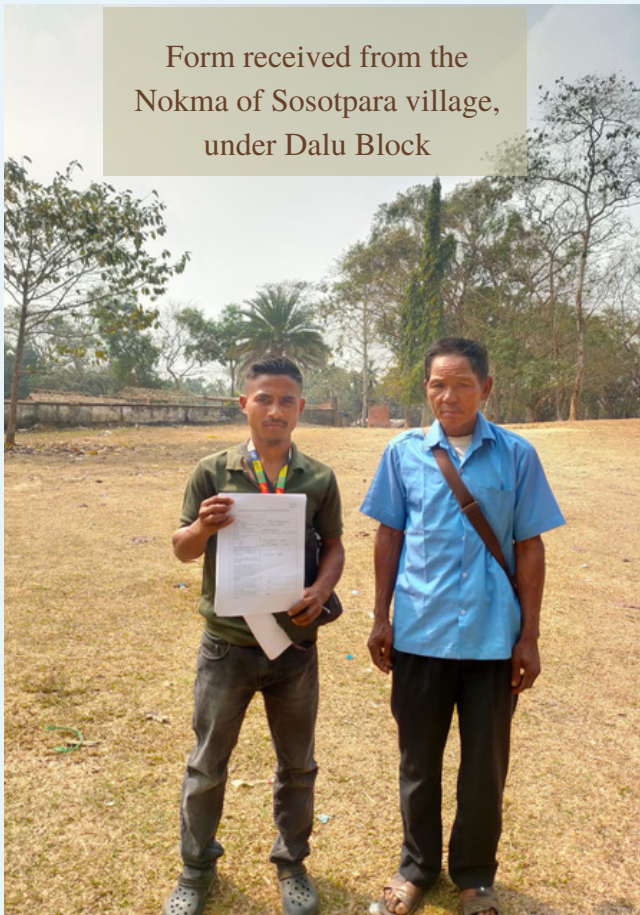


Forms received: 12
 Village : Moobakhon
 Thadlaskein Block.

Forms received: 04
 Village : Madankynsaw
 Block: Laskein



Forms received: 01
 Village : Mawblang
 Block: Mawkynrew



Pynursla Block
 Mawah Village



Rongara Block
 Kasarisora Village

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES & SPRING MAPPING

Awareness



An awareness program was conducted at Tongnapara village under Zikzak Block wherein all 20 members who attended the program and showed interest in the Payment For Ecosystem Services Scheme.

Awareness Program at Nokma's Residence of Gongrapara Village under Zikzak Block along with MegLIFE project, Team Leader, Mr. Ezer.



Kid Alfred M Sangma, GFA from Dalu block, met the headmen of three villages Basulpara, Jamdamgre (50 hectares), Sosotpara (100 hectares) who showed interest in the PES scheme and handed over the application forms to the same.

Location - Umblai/Mawiong

Interested - 5 participants and forms has been given to them

Remark - They have small forest land and some has been used for orange and broom plantation.



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES & SPRING MAPPING



Headman of
Laitsohpliah village

Block: Khatarshnong

GFA: Yessterfield
Kurkalang



Sordar of
Laitdomain village

Block: Mairang

Aibanchestar
Mawnai, EWK



Village: Mawkhan village.
Block: Mawthadraishan
GFA: Shemborlang Ryntathiang



Village: Rongmande Damash
Block: Resubelpara block
GFA: Suman Jakaria D Marak,



Village: Mawlum
Mawjaksew
Block:
Mawthadraishan
GFA: Shemborlang
Ryntathiang



Village: Dandakol
Block: Resubelpara
GFA: Raymosh S
Marak

**MEGHALAYA
LIVELIHOOD
IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH
FOREST
ENHANCEMENT
(MegLIFE)**

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

Ongoing Microplanning and Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) activities



PLUP & Microplanning exercises at Kalak Songgital Village, Samanda Block, East Garo Hills district has reached completion. The following are the list of completed exercises: Natural Resource Map: Past, Present & Future, Historical Timeline, and Social Map.



Community members actively participated in making social maps on the ground as a part of Microplan exercise at Diastong Village, Saipung Block, East Jaintia Hills district.



PLUP & Microplanning at Pdeniadaw Village, Thadlaskein, WJH. Exercise on the creation of Ownership Map, Forest Condition, and Intervention and Land zoning Map was done. The women of the community actively participated in all the exercises.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)**Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT)**

Orientation training conducted at Darang Boldak Village, Baghmara Block, SGH. A total of 39 farmers participated at the training and learned about advantages of SALT and mixed cropping. The farmers are keen on taking up mixed cropping along with SALT.



2nd Batch SALT orientation training conducted at Rongkandi Dengjama Village, Baghmara, SGH,



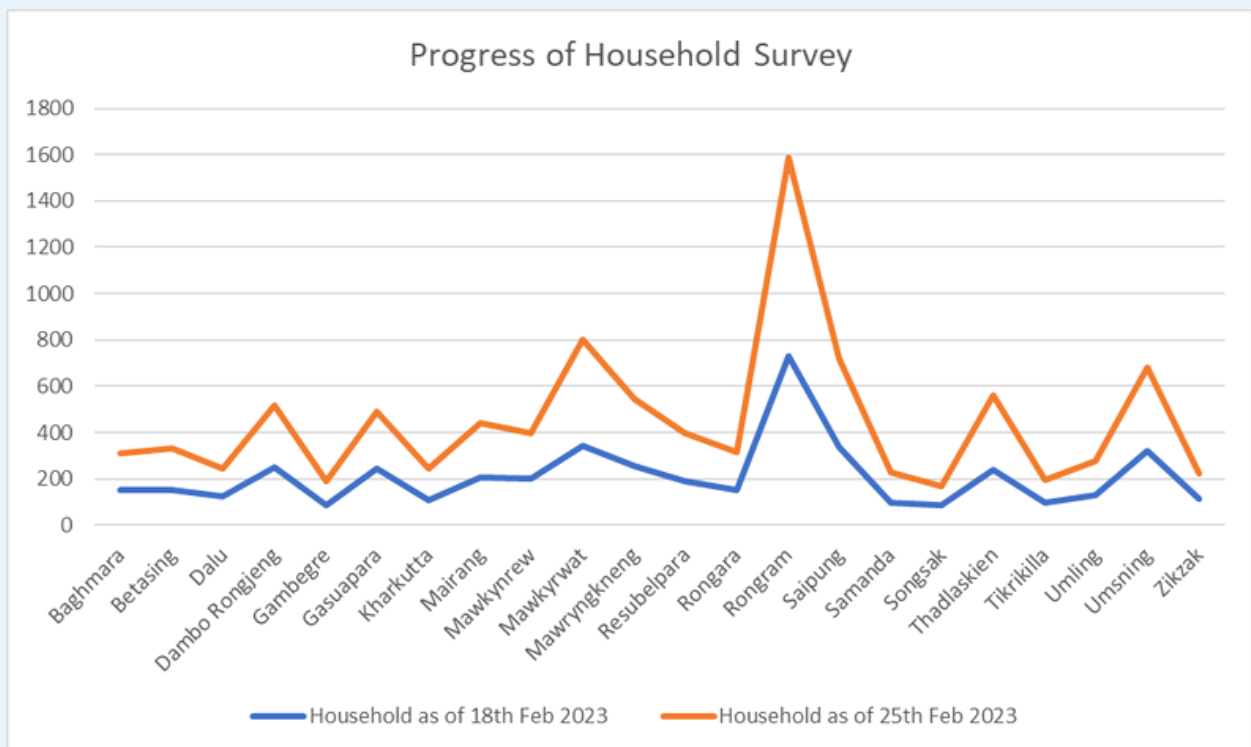
One Day Orientation Programme was conducted at Dekachang Community Hall for Batch1, Resubelpara, NGH. Demonstration was done at Nokatgre Village in a *jhum* plot


MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Orientation cum demonstration on SALT was conducted at Dekachang Community Hall, Resubelpara, North Garo Hills in which representatives from 11 villages were in attendance.

The theory session has conducted at Dekachang Community hall whereas the practical cum demonstration session was conducted at Hatibasa *jhum* plot,





Institute of Natural Resources (INR)

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION
(GREEN ENERGY)

NAME OF THE PROJECT: DECENTRALIZED GREEN ENERGY
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Successful installation of Hydroger



The Green Energy Team conducted Training cum installation of Hydroger in Mawkhew village, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills district and Mustem Village, Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills district.



Green Energy team in collaboration with Emsys for the installation of Turbine at Domtynrong Village, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills district.



Training cum Hydroger Installation at Longnoh, Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills district conducted by the Green Energy team.



Successful installation of Hydroger at Dengasi Village Rerapara Block, South West Garo Hills district.



Successful installation of Hydroger at Paromgre Agro, Chokpot Block, South Garo Hills district.



Site visit for construction supervision of checkdam, penstock laying and alignment at Domtynrong village, Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills district.



Site visit for supervision of construction of checkdam at Mawpdang village, Mawryngkneng Block, East Khasi Hills district.



CENTRE FOR WATER RESOURCES

The Water Resources team of INR conducted hydrological survey for spring rejuvenation in Mawlai Umshing, East Khasi Hills district.

The Water Resources Team of INR conducted several site inspection on 24th February 2023 at Khlieh Umtrew, Umsning Block, Ri Bhoi district under the JAC project.



Site visit for digging of trenches as part of springshed development.



Extraction of data from soil moisture sensor installed at Khlieh Umtrew.



Inspection of tree plantation area
- Bamboo netting to be done for all trees planted under JAC for easier identification and counting survival rate.



Checking site feasibility for dug out pond - Two sites have been successfully identified.



Inspection of constructed platform for water distribution and storage tank.

**CENTRE FOR BIO RESOURCES
(MEGH AROMA MISSION)**



Staff from Megh Aroma Mission on 24th February visited Skhenpyrsit, West Jaintia Hills District for Monitoring of Rehabilitation of mine spoilt area to ensure the land is restored to a productive and sustainable land use.

Meghalaya Livelihoods And Access To Markets Project



South West Khasi Hills

Participatory Land Use Planning and Micro Plan (PLUP) activities was held at Mawsian Village from 20th - 25th Feb, 2023.

With a total of 49 participants, the activities were led by the DPMU team, lwhich comprised of the following staff: *Tanlin Wahlang, Team Leader*

Welbokstar Lyngkhoi, Field coordinator

Pynshaingborlang Lyngdoh Marshillong, Supervisor and Annecia Lyngdoh, PA, GIS MegLIFE



East Khasi Hills

Meeting on Honey Processing Unit at Diengkynthong Prime Hub



West Garo Hills



Commencement of work for construction of Cashew Processing Unit by Rongte Nokbak IVCS, Dadenggre

FOCUS

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



North Garo Hills

Site survey for Farmer's Field School (FFS), was conducted by Field Engineer, NGH at Rajasimla and Tinsimina villages.



FE visited Lower Bolmedang for in situ site supervision of INRM Challenge Fund implementation & MAP follow up

Treatment of Acidic Water with OLC

Open limestone channels in Mukhaialong Village have assisted the community in purifying contaminated water from coal mining.

Click the link to watch the video
<http://bit.ly/3Zb91c0>



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