

19th April 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 April 12th, 2023, a site inspection was carried out of the interventions under Catalytic Fund being executed by the VECs Kyndong Laitmawbah and Mawkohtep, situated in the Mawphlang Block. The project involves the construction of an irrigation canal and check dam. Following consultation with the VECs, it was confirmed that the project is scheduled to be finalized by April 2023. An APO from the Mawphlang Block was present during the field inspection.



The EKH team conducted a site inspection of the completed activities at Thangsning VNRMC, located in the Mawkynrew Block. The activities inspected included the retaining wall, spring chamber, and protection wall, which were implemented using the additional funds of CNRMP. Additionally, the ongoing training hall was noted to have been constructed according to the plan and estimate, utilizing the excess funds.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



On April 12th, 2023, the GIS EKHD Team undertook the collection and verification of forest area demarcation for PES Phase 2 in the Shella block. The team then proceeded to conduct the same activity in the Pynursla block on the following day.



The community of Umkhoi Village was engaged in a meeting to discuss Sadhana Forest's roles and objectives. The meeting was facilitated by the Social Manager of East Khasi Hills, along with the DPM on April 14, 2023.



On April 14, 2023, master trainers, including the VCFs from CLLMP, SCALE program, and MEGLIFE, received training on forest management plans.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



South West Khasi Hills

The DPMU team conducted a meeting at Nonglynkien VNRMC to screen a motivational video on Natural Resources Management (NRM) and conduct a site visit. They also followed up on the acceleration of excess fund utilization.



On April 11th, 2023, a meeting was held at Phlangkynshi to screen a motivational video on Natural Resources Management (NRM) and conduct a site visit. The meeting also included a follow-up on the acceleration of excess fund utilization.



A meeting was held with the EC members of Diwah Shadmoit VNRMC to discuss expenditure and follow up on the implementation of Traditional Hall (Excess Fund) while enlightening them on the benefits of sustainable maintenance of Vermi Composting & Community Nursery.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES

The EE - social management and EE - M&E visited Laitlawsnai VNRMC to follow up on the book of records and assist the VNRMC in maintaining the register, minutes book, purchase register, training register, and collecting information about community procurement. They also followed up on cheque issuance, payment vouchers, and cash books.



On April 12th, 2023, the EE Social, EE M&E, and EE KM visited Shngimawlein village to follow up on the purchase register, minute book, and training register. The M&E sector also collected information on community procurement, while the EE KM went on a site visit with a member from the VNRMC for a possible case study.



A planning and review meeting cum orientation for VCFs (PES verification) was held at CLLMP office (Mawkyrwat), with a target set to complete all applications before May 15th, 2023.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



A visit was made to Pyndengumjarain to oversee the implementation of FMP and hold meetings with the VNRMC to assist them in better understanding how to distribute the work and funds to all beneficiaries in their respective villages. The implementation has started, and some activities have been completed. The VNRMC had their doubts and problems cleared up to their understanding. Checking on the implementation of pending CNRM activities at Pyndengumjarain was also done. Pyndengumjarain also received a traditional hall and has agreed to start the implementation process.

On April 13th, 2023, the District Project Manager, Deputy Manager-M&E, AM-SM, and EE-Social had a meeting with the EC members of VNRMC at Laitnong. The meeting discussed the need to settle pending payments for all completed activities, checked the book of records, and visited the Traditional Hall (Excess Fund). Suggestions and guidance were provided to the VNRMC members regarding the proper finishing touch on the ongoing construction of the Traditional Hall.



MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



DPMU team visited Nongtynniaw to oversee the implementation of FMP and also hold meetings with all the VNRMC to assist them in better understanding on how to go about breaking the work and fund to all the beneficiaries in their respective villages as implementation has started and some even finished. They also dicussed the establishment of a Permanent Nursery and the VNRMC has agreed to start the implementation process.



Ri-Bhoi

DPMU team visited two VNRMCs to check the bank statement for fund utilization, UC preparation for work, VCF, EE, and calculation, Checking the documents and procurement data, updating all the registers:



Tdoh Umsiang VNRMC



Umlakro VNRMC

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



Handed over the approved FMP for the fire-control line to the Secretary of the VNRMC in Umsarang village, and collected vermicompost for the Seedball initiative, which will be distributed to schools.



On April 18, 2023, the DPM and Asst. Manager KM of Ri-Bhoi visited Mawtneng, a village under the Bhoirymbong C & RD Block, to follow up on the 'Green Mawtneng' innovation. They provided guidance to the innovators on the utilization of the third tranche of funds received and ensured that the activities carried out by the innovators match the proposal.



DPMU team visited Pahamkhroh VNRMCs to check the bank statement for fund utilization, UC preparation for work, VCF, EE, and calculation, Checking the documents and procurement data, updating all the registers as of date

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



North Garo Hills



A contract was signed between MBMA and the Innovators of Bee Hive made of Mud and the Aruakgre Development Committee for the Turtle Sanctuary at the DPMU, North Garo Hills.



A site visit was conducted at Bolpuma and Dilma Songgital VNRMC for the construction of a permanent community nursery in the village. The construction work has been carried out by the community members of VNRMCs in the village.



The community of Rem Songgital, under Banjengdoba C&RD Block, initiated a project for natural regeneration in the open forest. Both males and females actively participated in the project.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



West Garo Hills



On April 12th, 2023, a field visit was conducted to Saka Boldamgre, Dopogre, and Okkapara Songgitcham under the Gambegre Block. The purpose of the visit was to inspect ongoing and completed activities, as well as damaged structures, under CLLMP-DPM, with the presence of Deputy Manager-EM and Field Engineer.



On April 14th, 2023, a Forest Management Plan (FMP) training was held for Garo Hills Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) at SMELC in Tura. Conducted by CLLMP Master Trainers from various districts, topics covered included Forest Inventory, GPS, and Forestry Survey.

A hands-on field demonstration was held in Upper Dopgre Village for survey techniques, tree enumeration, and data collection. A total of 27 VCFs and 18 CLLMP staff attended the training.

For A Better Tomorrow

Nongbah Nongnah

Introduction

Nongbah Nongnah is located in South West Khasi Hills District. It is situated about 40 kms from Mawkyrwat which is the Headquarter of the District. It is the oldest village in Nongnah area. Nongbah has a total of 45 households and the residents of this village as we the DPMU team have seen are the most hard working and sincere people as one of the Non-CLLMP village we have had the opportunity to work with.

The people here are mostly engaged in farming activities and they are busy all year round. They cultivate broomstick, pepper, oranges and areca nut on a large scale. Their main source of income is broomstick. The only time they are most free is from the month of September to December and during this time they complete all their works in the village from various departments.

The Community Led Landscape Management Project throughout its five years here in South West have seen and met many people in and around but, the people of Nongbah Nongnah have struck our hearts as their will, hard work and determination can be seen in their work of which they are a recipient of the Catalytic Fund.

Catalytic Fund is a fund given to villages with potential towards natural resources management.



Fig: Overview of Nongbah Nongnah Village

Earlier Case Finding

Mot Chaw Long- The first residents of Nongbah Nongnah are the Clan (Kur) Lyngkhoi and in the heart of the village the clan elders have erected stones to commemorate Long Lyngkhoi as the ‘mother’ of the Lyngkhoi clan in Nongbah Nongnah. They did this as they did not know how to write at that time and this was the only way to honor her and to remember her name forever.

Phot Riat- This source of water founded by the forefathers of the village might be the only perennial spring water in the village. Even up to March the water stays and refills just enough so the villagers can scoop water with a mug or a bowl. It takes about half an hour for a women or child from the centre of the village to fetch water from Phot Riat. The spring name Phot Riat (local dialect) roughly translates to ‘a spring in a steep hill (here, very steep)’. There has also been a sad occurrence where a lady from the village went to fetch water from the spring fell to her death as the cliff on the hill is very steep. Though people till now have not stopped fetching water from there as they depend on it for drinking and cooking.

Intervention

The VEC with a strong will to receive help approached the CLLMP office in Mawkyrwat as they have known about CLLMP from their neighboring village that fall under CLLMP’s project. As the DPMU team sat and talked with members of the VEC they understood their hardships and decided to help them.



Fig: Phot Riat, spring chamber and safety rails

A trip was made to Nongbah Nongnah by the team and site inspections were done and after much brainstorming along with the VEC members who accompanied them, solutions and ideas were had on how to tackle some of the hardships faced by the people. Soon enough after everything had been finalized by the team the ideas had turned into reality and everything planned was set on foot.

Type of Intervention	Site Name	Area	Amount Sanctioned	Work Status
Plantation Work	Mot Chaw Long	0.5 ha (approx..)	56,250	Completed
Check Dam	Synrang Manai	2 (approx..)	4,36,550	Completed
Spring Chamber	Phot Riat	45 HH + neighbouring Village	1,36,470	Completed
Boulder Bund Boxes	Mot Chaw Long	0.1(approx..)	1,09,520	Completed
Safety Rails	Phot Riat	45 HH + neighbouring Village	2,48,110	Completed
Half Moon Terrace	Mot Chaw Long	1 (approx..)	22,240	Completed

Plantation works, boulder bund boxes and half-moon terraces have been proposed at Mot Chaw Long to help preserve the area because as time passes by the area might be forgotten and destroyed. The community worked hard on these activities and showed much interest as they too wanted to preserve the area for many generations to come. They even dressed the stones they used for the boulder bund themselves so as to add aesthetic beauty to the area. Half-moon terrace was done for planting trees to retain moisture and for easy application of fertilizers and manures for healthy growth of plants.

Since the main problem faced by the community is water scarcity and the area is rocky so the water cannot seep underground much making it dry so the team along with the VEC decided that a check dam was necessary not far away from the village. The site at Synrang Manai was satisfactory and the intervention was made. The aim of the check dam was to help tackle the water problems of the community by storing water during the summers which can be used domestically when winter season starts. It also helps recharge ground water and replenish underground aquifers. The check dam will surely prove to be a boon for the community as they have given their all and even made lots of community contributions towards building it

At Phot Riat the want of the team to intervene was even greater as it is the only perennial spring in the village and the loss of a life has put an even greater concern for the safety of the people from the village and the neighbouring village who fetch water from here. A spring chamber was made at the source as it was an open spring before. This will keep the water clean and free from the debris around it. Safety rails were also constructed along the cliff side of the path leading up to the spring

Through all these activities the community have worked very hard and tirelessly and have shown great interest in looking at different side of things too especially in preserving and conserving what nature or mankind have given to them and they also feel that along with the external help they receive they too will have to make community contributions and give maximum effort if they want things to be done perfectly.

The VEC and the community as a whole are very grateful towards the World Bank for all the help given to them and are also thankful to the DPMU team for their hard work and willingness to visit the sites and intervene. CLLMP's journey in the village though it was small made a huge and significant impact on the environment and the people as a whole.

“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”

-Henry Ford.

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

GFA-Shella block, met with the headman of Mawmluh village, who had requested a meeting to discuss the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme. The headman expressed particular interest in the scheme, especially given that there is a community forest in the village. Following our discussion, the headman informed me that a decision regarding the scheme would be made after he has consulted with the other members of the community.



In Mawkathein village, GFA, Ialamphrang Kharbteng met with the village secretary, who informed him that the village is aware of the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) scheme. However, he also highlighted that a significant portion of the village's land is utilized for farming purposes.



Headman of Mawthawtieng Village



Sordar of Thangshalai Village



Sordar of Umtngew Village

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

In a meeting with the Sordar of Ur Masi U Joh. The sordar informed GFA, Ialamphrang Kharbteng that a significant portion of the land in the area is utilized for agricultural purposes.



An awareness programme conducted at Nalsa mronggre under Demdema Block.



Awareness program conducted at Mutong village under Khliehriat Block

On April 13th, 2023, an awareness program was conducted at Mawthir village under Rambrai block by .



The Sordar of Gosingpita village plans to organize a meeting with the other executive members to discuss PES and evaluate the possibility of applying for the scheme. Their decision will be reached after the meeting.



Awareness at Phlangdilioñ village Ranikor block



Awareness at Laitdomain village Mairang block

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

COLLECTION OF FORMS

South West Khasi Hills : 12

West Khasi Hills : 11

East Khasi Hills : 08

East Jaintia Hills : 06

West Jaintia Hills : 03

South Garo Hills : 03

Ri Bhoi : 02

North Garo Hills : 01

Eastern West Khasi Hills : 01



Pynursla Block



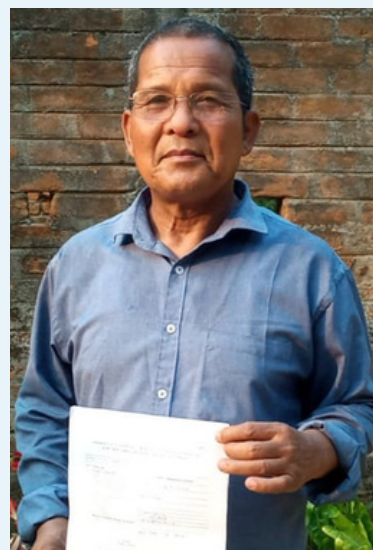
Phlangdiloin Village



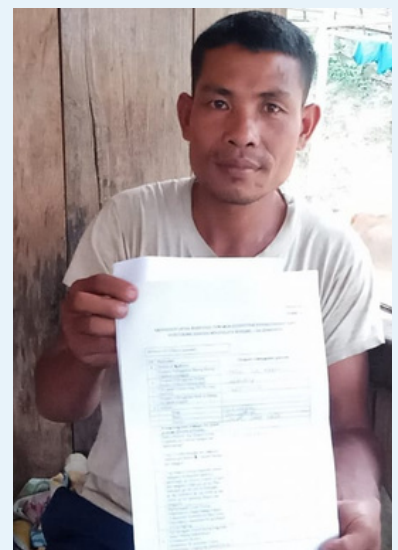
Pyndensynia Village



Mawsynram Block



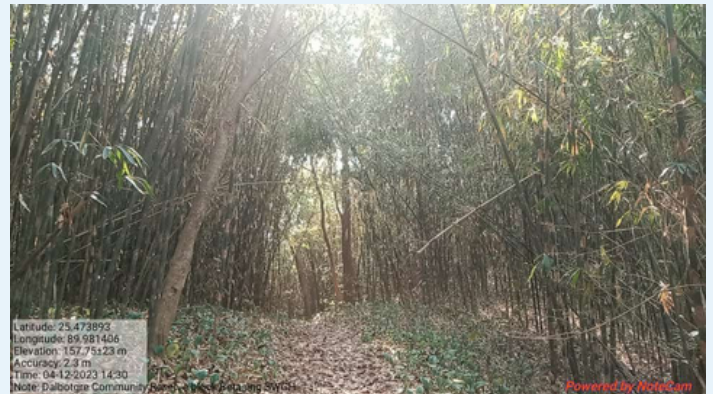
Damash Dokamcheng



Gasuapara Block

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

FOREST VERIFICATION



VCFs Momotha R Marak and Dilsan Sangma, have completed the PES Forest Verification and Boundary Mapping process for the Dalbotgre Community Forest Reserve located in the Betasing Block. The forest covers an area of 27 hectares.



PES verification at Mawkynrew



PES boundary verification at Songsak



PES Verification at Phlangdiloñ



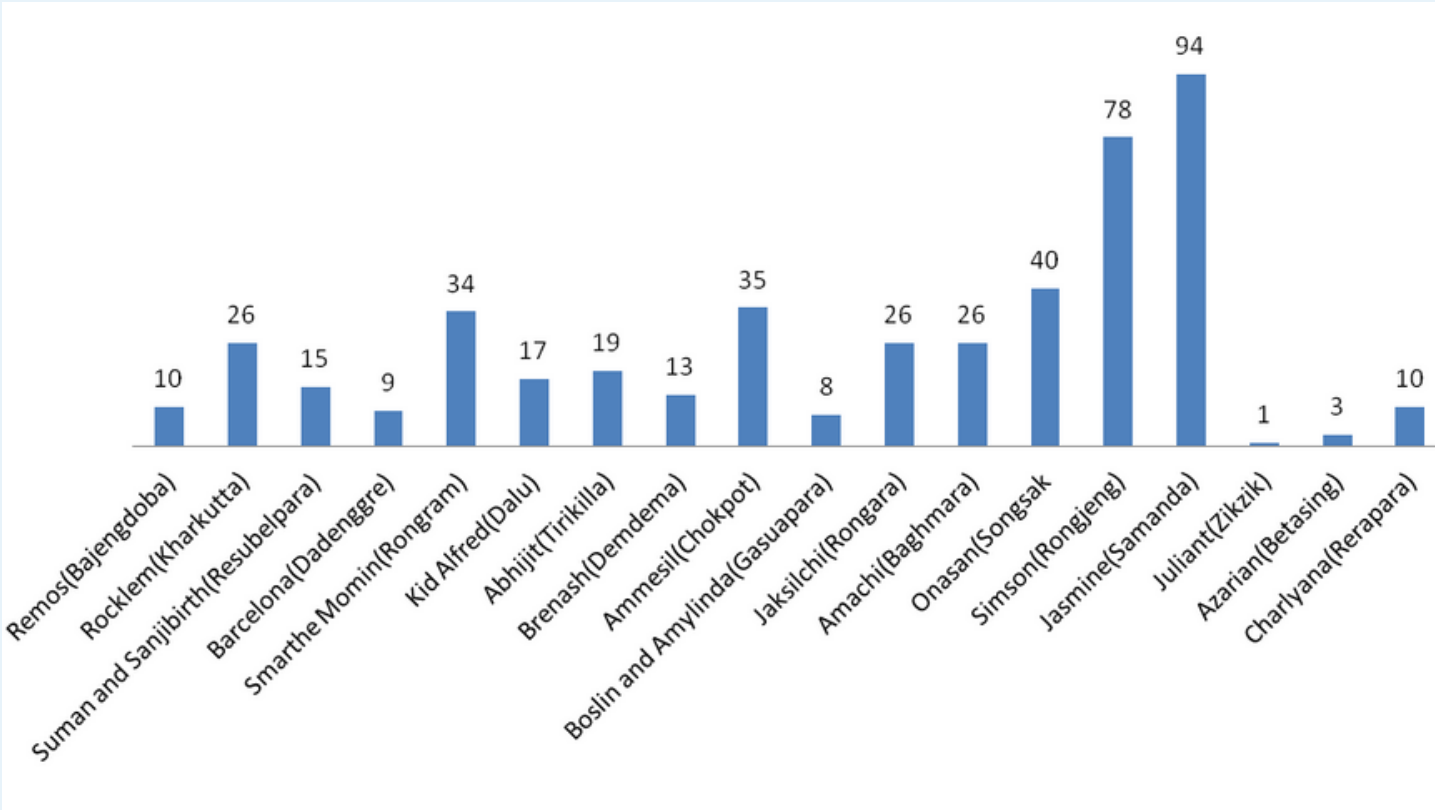
Pes verification at Dambo Rongjeng

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

**PES verification completed at
Perdikseh-Pawphlang (Rangblang)
Mawkyrwat block
VCF - Lampherlang Syiemlieh**



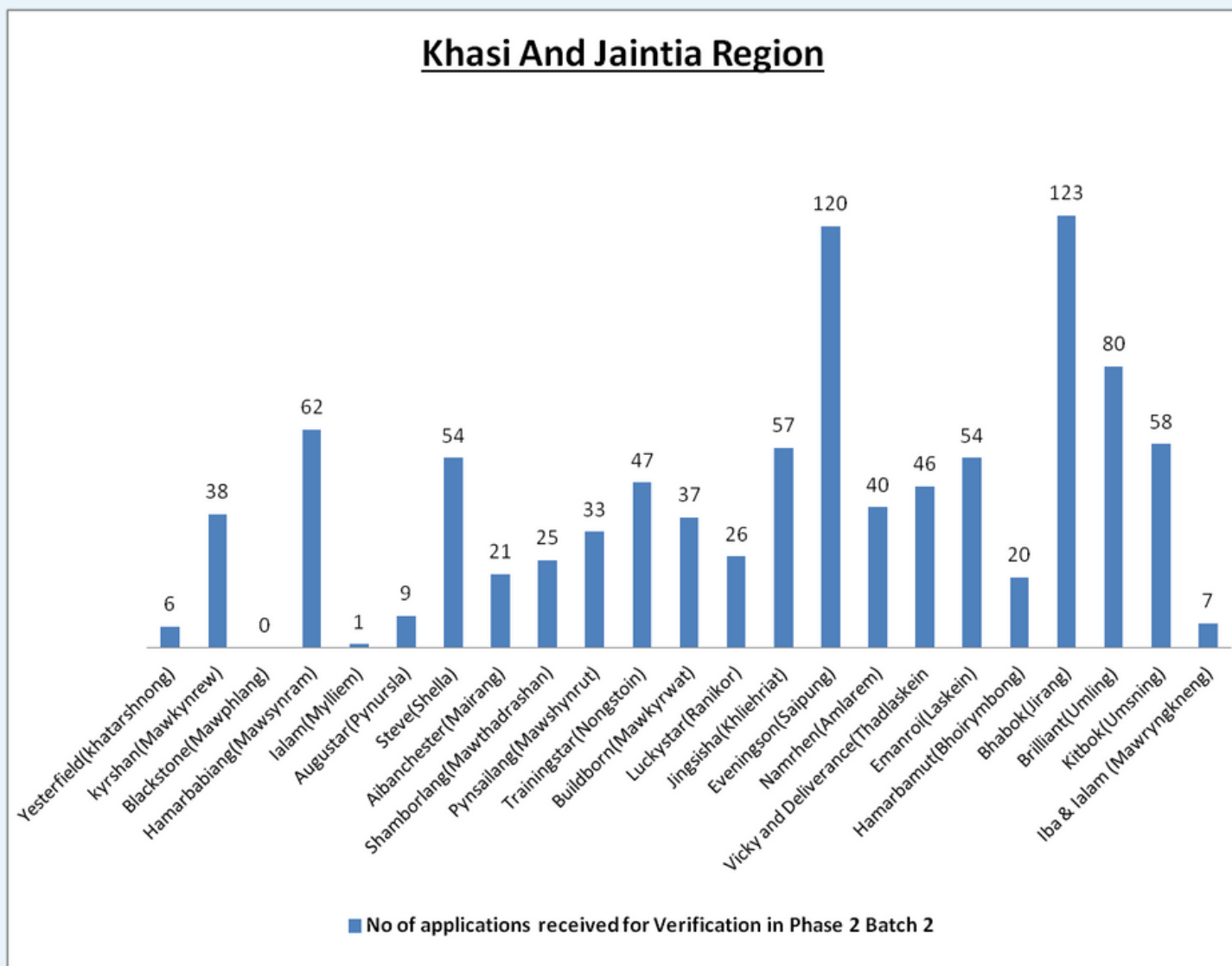
**PES verification completed at
Sohkynphur(Mawthawiang
Nongtraw)
Mawkyrwat block
VCF -Banjoplin Marthong**



The number of applications received for verification in Phase 2 - batch 2 from Garo Region is 464

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The graph displays the number of PES Scheme applications submitted by villagers, communities, clans, and individuals in each block. The applications were uploaded by GREEN Field Associates (GFAs) on a Google form for verification purposes during Phase 2 (batch 2)



The number of applications received for verification in Phase 2 - batch2 from Khasi and Jaintia Region is 964.

MEGHALAYA
LIVELIHOOD
IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH
FOREST
ENHANCEMENT
(MegLIFE)

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

COMMUNITY NURSERY

Ongoing work of Community Nursery of Tebisokgre village, Gasuapara Block, SGH.



Bugakolgre, Nursery Site, Resubelpara, NGH



Nursery at Dobakol Awemong of Baghmara block, SGH

PLANTATION

The MegLIFE communities are actively working towards achieving the project's goal of covering 22,500 hectares of plantations. The activities for site selection and preparation are currently underway.



Field visit with Mr Girin Medhi PA, Field Engineer for Site verification of ANR plantation in Jhum fallow land and Community Hall Construction at Remagittim Village Under Kharkutta Block, NGH.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Visit to Dobakol Chengalgitim, Baghmara block to survey plantation area



Visit to Tebisokgre, Gasuapara Block to identify the suitable model for the proposed site



Revisiting Gambil Apal for continuation of Micro Plan and had a meeting members for carry out the Advance work for plantation. Continuation of Microplan and PLUP exercise, visit to the nursery site and Community Hall construction. Resubelpara, NGH.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Awareness Programme on Aroma Mission at Nongrim Umksih, Umsning Block, Ri Bhoi District

Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT)



Bugakolgre farmers preparing for SALT cultivation, at Rongram, WGH



Institute of
Natural Resources
(INR)

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION & MITIGATION
(GREEN ENERGY)
NAME OF THE PROJECT: DECENTRALIZED GREEN ENERGY
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Inspection on installed hydro generator, On site operator training and testing and follow up on UC submission at Mynsngat village, Thadlaskein block West Jaintia Hills district.



Site Visit for Electrification at Myllat Village, Pynursla Block, East Khasi Hills District.



Inspection on installed hydro generator with the team EFC at Mawpdang Village, Mawryngkneng Block, East Khasi Hills District.

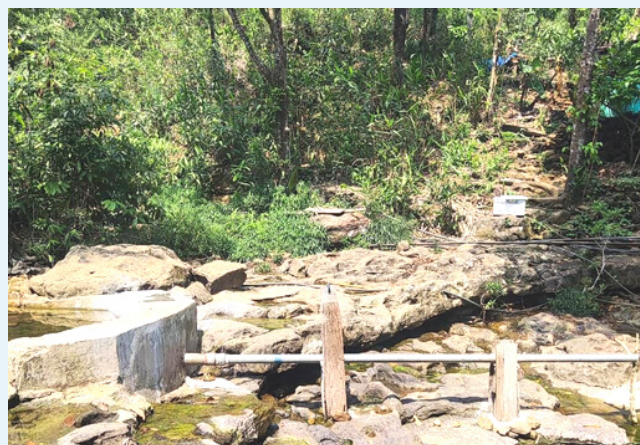


A hydroger installation was done at Igre Dochingkret in the Dadengre Block of West Garo Hills District. Additionally, VECs were instructed to reconstruct another power house at a lower level since the previous one was constructed at a higher level.

Site Supervision



Site supervision at Shangpung moosiem village, Laskein Block West Jaintia Hills district.



Burma Village, Pynursla Block, East Khasi Hills District.

Site supervision for Laying of Penstock- DGED Project



Ksehpyndeng village, Mawryngkneng Block, East Khasi Hills District



Laitlum village, Mawkynew Block, East Khasi Hills District



Mutong Village, Khliehriat Block, East Jaintia Hills District

CENTRE FOR BIO RESOURCES (MEGH AROMA MISSION)



The Bio-resources team of INR on 12th April conducted an exposure visit to Byrwa and Umtham village, located at Umsning Block, Ri Bhoi district to train our new field assistants on all the activities related to Megh Aroma Mission. From demonstrating cultivation of palmarosa to distillation, they got firsthand look at the process of creating essential oils.



Awareness Programme at Ri Bhoi district



A collaborative awareness programme promoting the cultivation and utilization of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) under the Aroma Mission took place at Nongrim Ksih, Umsning C&RD Ri Bhoi in collaboration with Meg Life. Concurrently, a site inspection was conducted after the program.

Awareness Programme at East Khasi Hills District



The Bio-Resource team conducted an awareness programme and site feasibility study for the cultivation of aromatic plants at Umkaber, Mawphlang Block, in the East Khasi Hills District.



Biomass and soil samples were collected from an orange orchard for the purpose of cultivating aromatic plants.



Installation of Field Distillation Unit (FDU) at Narwan Village Saipung Block, East Jaintia Hills District



Meghalaya Livelihoods And Access To Markets Project

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

RURAL FINANCE



A two-day workshop on mobilizing the formation of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) under Phase III was recently organized by the Rural Finance Component for Khasi and Ri Bhoi regions on April 14th and 15th, 2023 at MIIT, Shillong and for Jaintia region on April 17th and 18th, 2023, at Hotel Highwind, Thadlaskein. The primary objective of the workshop was to familiarize the staff from all components of the Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Markets Project (MLAMP) with the process of forming new IVCS in the state.

Building on the success of IVCS formation in the previous two phases of the project, the workshop aimed to scale up the initiative by forming 150 additional IVCS in the state. The workshop provided a platform for knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, and practical training on the mobilization and formation of IVCS, which play a crucial role in promoting rural livelihoods and access to markets.



Sarikushi IVCS Ltd from Umling Block recently participated in a Two-Day District Level Exhibition at Madan Football, Umsning on April 13th-14th, 2023.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



Several IVCS Ltds in Zikzak Block, SWGH, participated in the recent Know Your Member (KYM) data collection drive. The activity included Dondima IVCS Ltd, Kawahagra IVCS Ltd, Balughat IVCS Ltd, Domapara Ives Ltd, and Kerupara Ives Ltd, with the data collection taking place on April 18th, 2023.

INRM



On April 17th, 2023, a village level training session on bio-fertilizers (Jeevamrut) and bio-pesticides (Yellow Sticky Trap) was conducted in Ganggikona Village under the auspices of Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM), SWGH. The training aimed to educate farmers on sustainable agricultural practices and equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to produce healthy crops using natural and organic methods.

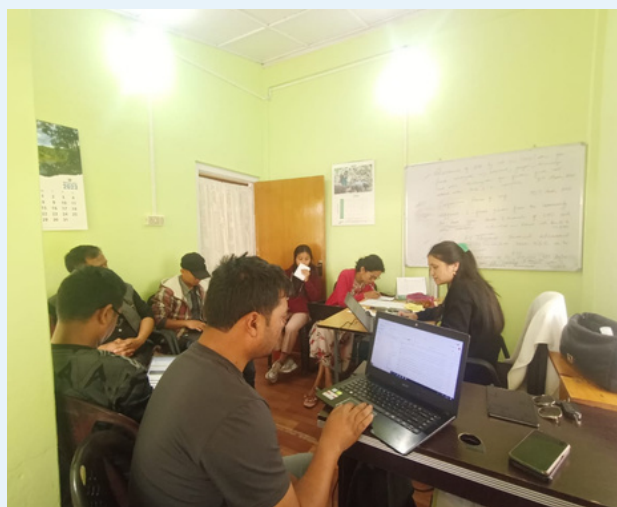
MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

ISC & ED



The Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Markets Project, in collaboration with Trifed, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, hosted a two-day Tribal Artisan Mela at Nongthymmai Community Hall. The event aimed to assist local artisans to showcase and sell their handloom and handicraft products across the country. Through the Promotion of Tribal Products, North Eastern Region scheme, the program provided a platform for local artisans in Meghalaya to sell their products across the country with better prices, eliminating middlemen. The Mela took place on April 18th and 19th, 2023, and was an excellent opportunity for local artisans to showcase their skills and sell their products across the country.

M & E



On April 10th-11th, 2023, a meeting was held at the office of DPMU SWKHD, Mawkyrwat, to finalize the Annual Work Plan Budget (AWPB). The objective of the meeting was to finalize the AWPB to ensure effective implementation of the project's work in the district.

Knowledge Management
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