

2nd August 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)



MCLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



Ri-Bhoi



District Project Management Unit (DPMU) team had a productive visit to Nonglum Village in Jirang Block. They followed up on all Forest Management Plan (FMP) activities and confirmed their successful completion. Additionally, the DPM held a meeting with the Village Natural Resource Management Committee (VNRMC) and Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) to discuss progress, address concerns, and consider the community's perspectives and needs in ongoing and future initiatives.



DPM has been actively following up with the Assistant Project Officers (APOs) of Jirang Block regarding the CTF SRES. They are closely monitoring the project's progress and ensuring it stays on track. As per the latest update, only one activity related to the CTF SRES is currently ongoing, indicating that most of the planned activities have already been successfully completed. The accomplishment of these tasks showcases the dedication and efficiency of the project team and stakeholders involved in the SRES implementation.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



On July 25th, 2023, the District Project Manager (DPM) of Ri-Bhoi District inspected two villages under Umling Block to follow up on specific interventions:

1. Waste Management Bin at Saiden: The DPM confirmed that the Waste Management Bin construction in Saiden village was successfully completed.
2. Community Pond at Umdoh 18th: The DPM assessed the completion status of the Community Pond in Umdoh 18th village.

The successful completion of both activities indicates effective project implementation in the respective villages. The Waste Management Bin is expected to improve waste disposal practices and contribute to a cleaner environment, while the Community Pond can serve various purposes, including water conservation, irrigation, and supporting local biodiversity.



On July 24th, Ri-Bhoi District Project Management Unit (DPMU) successfully installed the Community Information Board at two locations: Partharkhmah and Sohkyrbam Dompklang. The Community Information Board is likely to be a valuable source of information for the local community, improving communication and engagement.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



East Khasi Hills



Latitude: 25.521271
 Longitude: 91.91983
 Elevation: 1758.47419 m
 Accuracy: 68.4 m
 Time: 25-07-2023 12:53
 Date: Spring Chamber
 © Google

The East Khasi Hills, DPMU team, comprising of Social, M&E, Finance, Environment, Field Engineer, and Knowledge Management, visited Lamlyer Village in the Mawryngkneng Block on 25 July 2023, to meet with the VNRMC members, Secretary, VCF Social, VCF Monitoring, and VCF Environment, as well as conduct a site inspection of the various interventions carried out in the village.



South West Khasi Hills



The South West Khasi Hills, DPMU team conducted a follow-up on the work progress of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) and the remaining funds at Tynnai VNRMC, specifically regarding FMP activities, nursery, and fire-line control. The construction of the traditional hall, funded from the remaining balance, has reached 70% completion. Additionally, all Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) received instructions to diligently update registers and add milestones to the Milestone MIS.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES

Resilience in Action: Mr. Hejew Klien's Innovations Revolutionizing Farming in Meghalaya



In the remote village of Tomonpo Anglong in Meghalaya, a remarkable story of resilience and innovation unfolds through the journey of Mr. Hejew Klien. Overcoming the challenge of being unable to continue his formal education beyond the 10th standard, Mr. Klien nurtured his passion for machines and experimentation from a young age. His unwavering determination and technical prowess enabled him to achieve incredible feats by the age of 25, including the construction of a hydraulic excavator, a remote-controlled hot air balloon, a small airplane, and a parachute. These inventions showcased his ingenuity and love for machines, leading him to create tools that would transform the lives of local farmers.

Despite the lack of formal education opportunities, Mr. Klien's passion for machines and experimentation never waned. His relentless pursuit of knowledge and innovation led him to invent groundbreaking tools that would eventually revolutionize farming in his community. Recognizing the potential of his creations, he received funding of Rs. 1,19,813 from the World Bank through MBMA-CLLMP, enabling him to develop the best version of his low-cost inventions.

MCLLMP**DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES**

One of Mr. Klien's most remarkable inventions was the low-cost Threshing Machine. Utilizing components scavenged from a discarded two-wheeler and a TVS motorcycle engine, he developed a machine that efficiently separated kernels from grain heads. This ingenious device drastically reduced the labor-intensive process and empowered farmers by enabling two people to do the work that previously required seven people over a week's time. The low-cost power tiller, another of his remarkable creations, replaced water buffaloes traditionally used for rice cultivation, reducing the community's dependence on manual labor.

Mr. Klien's inventions were not merely about technical prowess; they were rooted in a strong desire to uplift his family, friends, and villagers. His primary objective was to empower farmers and contribute to the economic well-being of his community. With his innovations, he sought to bridge the gap between traditional farming methods and modern agricultural practices.

The impact of Mr. Klien's inventions quickly spread beyond his immediate circle. By completing several sets of the Threshing Machine, he managed to generate income for himself and his workshop co-owner, a close friend. Their workshop became a hub for mechanical innovations, with Mr. Klien taking charge of all mechanical work, showcasing his expertise and experience in the field. Beyond his mechanical prowess, he remained dedicated to supporting his younger siblings, emphasizing his commitment to family and community.



Through his relentless pursuit of new technologies and their accessibility, Mr. Klien's inventions have the potential to revolutionize the agricultural sector in Meghalaya. His innovations aim to make farming more efficient, sustainable, and profitable for farmers, thereby contributing to the overall growth of the region's agricultural economy.

MCLLMP

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES

The extraordinary journey of Mr. Hejew Klien from a small village in Meghalaya exemplifies the power of resilience and innovation. Despite facing numerous obstacles, he never gave up on his passion for machines and experimentation. Through his low-cost Threshing Machine and Power Tiller, he has empowered farmers, transformed farming practices, and uplifted his community's economic prospects. His success not only demonstrates his entrepreneurial spirit and mechanical expertise but also serves as an inspiration to countless others facing similar challenges. As Mr. Klien's inventions continue to create a ripple effect, they will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the agricultural landscape of Meghalaya.

Capturing Mr. Hejew Klien in action



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Engaging with the beneficiaries, various DPMU teams conducted discussions on the planned activities and provided assistance in filling out the UC (Utilization Certificate)



Mairang Block



Khliehriat Block



Thadlaskien Block



Mairang village

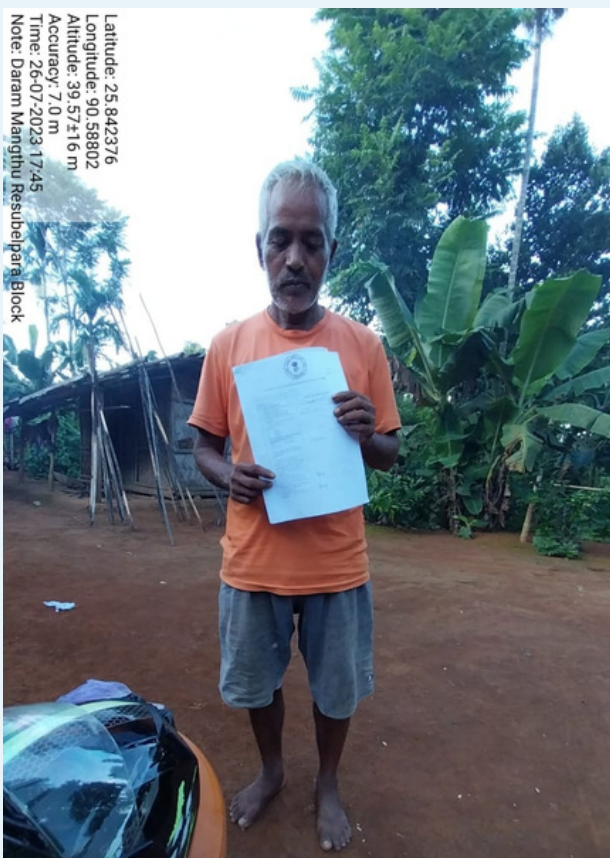


GFA, Boslin M. Sangma interacted with the community members of Malengma and Dalenggittim villages, aiming to raise awareness about the payment for ecosystem services scheme.

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



Awareness programme at Gabil, Resubelpara Block



Daran Mangthu,
Resubelpara Block

Collection of Application Forms and Utilisation Certificates



Daran Teklang,
Resubelpara Block

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



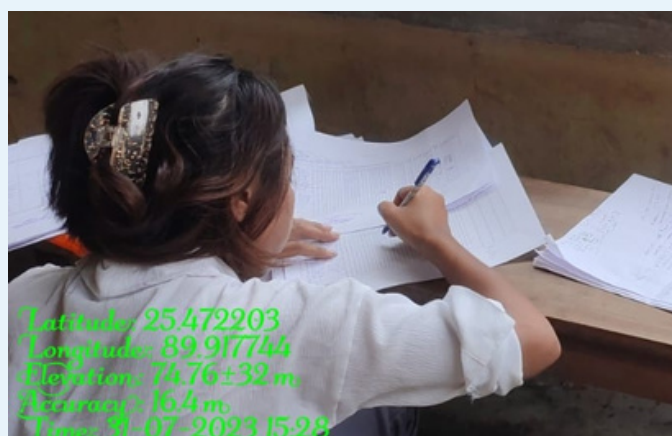
Kharang Village,
Mawkynrew Block



Ampangre Village,
Gasuapara Block



Tojanangre Village,
Gasuapara Block



District Project Management Unit
Ampati



Engaging in a Discussion on Utilization Certificate (UC) and Mapping Land of
the PES Applicant at Khliehriat Block



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



PES Verification at Rangga Community Reserve, Kharkutta Block



PES verification at Jair village, Umsning Block



PES verification Darengre Community Reserve



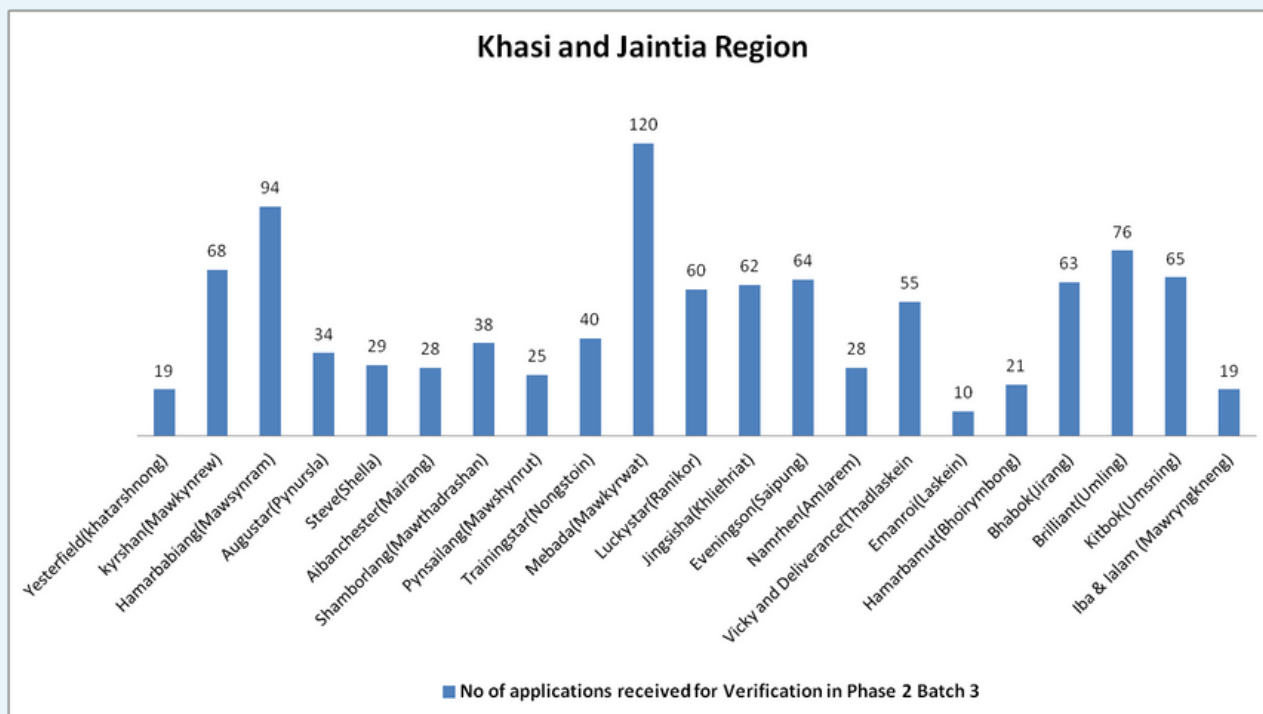
PES Verification at Myngngor village, Thadlaskein Block.



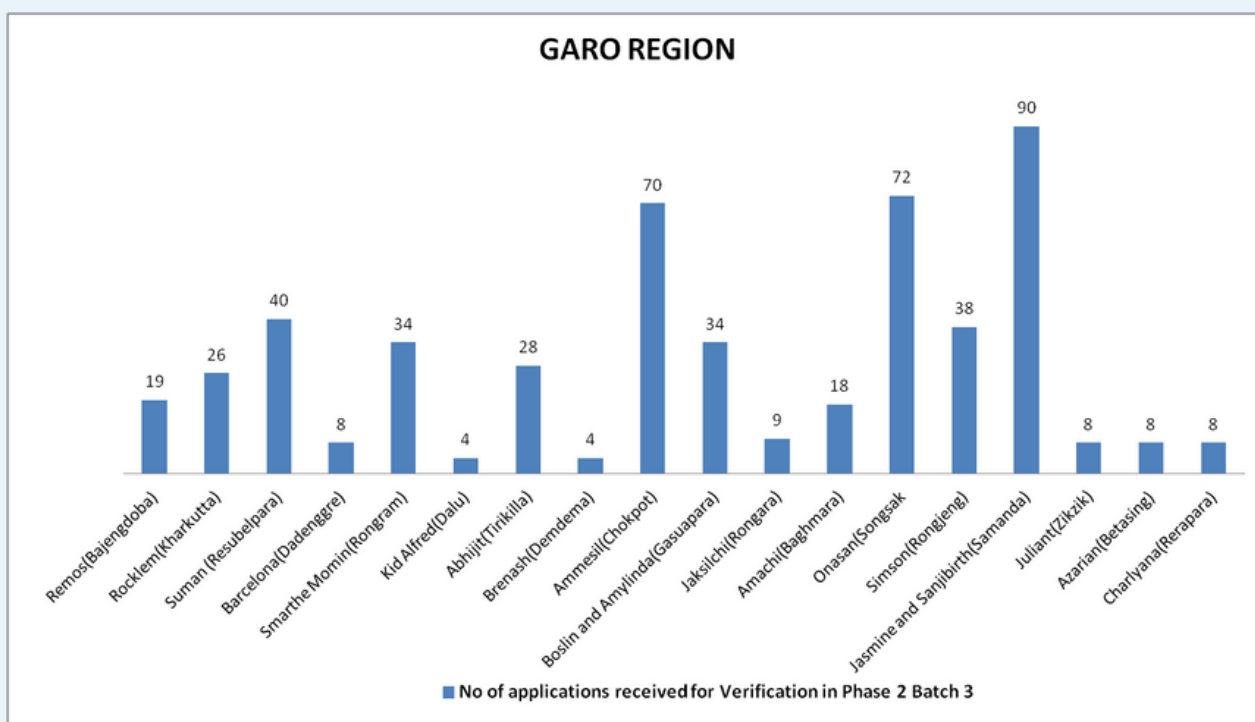
PES Verification at Moobakhon village, Thadlaskein Block.

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The graph represents the block-wise total number of applications applied by the Villagers, Communities, Clans and Individuals for the PES Scheme from 14th April 2023 to 1st August 2023



The total number of applications received from Khasi and Jaintia Region is 1018



The total number of applications received from Garo Region is 518

MEGHALAYA
LIVELIHOOD
IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH
FOREST
ENHANCEMENT
(MegLIFE)

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

PLANTATION

MegLIFE communities are hard at work to achieve the project's goal of covering 22,500 hectares of plantation. plantation of saplings is currently underway.

 **South Garo Hills**



Lifting of seedlings from Rongara to Taidang village.



Lifting of seedlings to Dompaigne village.



On July 27, 2023, Agrengitim village completed plantation of 100,000 citronella slips, with 600,000 more expected.

 **North Garo Hills**



Agroforestry plantation at Khaldang Tunaturam village

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Rongpetchi village is undertaking the replantation of trees in an area devastated by elephants.

 **East Khasi Hills**



The installation of poles surrounding the plantation area in Pomlahier village was successfully completed on July 28, 2023.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

 **East Garo Hills**

On July 26, 2023, ring weeding was conducted at Thaugittim village.

Ring weeding, also known as ring cultivation or ring method weeding, is a technique used in agriculture and horticulture to control weeds around the base of plants. It involves removing weeds in a circular area around the plant's stem, leaving the central part of the soil free from unwanted vegetation.



The seedlings for Agroforestry were transported to Rongchek Akong, Chibilbang, and Mejlgre Nokat villages.

On July 26, 2023, the Agroforestry model was implemented in Jingangre village.

Agroforestry involves integrating trees and agriculture in a mutually beneficial way, providing environmental, economic, and social benefits.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Agroforestry land preparation at Mejlgre Nokat village.



Agroforestry land preparation in Chibilbang village.

 **East Jaintia Hills**



Tuidam village.



Daistong village.

In Daistong village, the vast plantation area in hectares awaits the completion of the additional AR model. Meanwhile, Tuidam village has successfully finished two plots—one on community land and another on private land. However, due to the monsoon, they faced challenges in transporting seedlings for an additional plot.

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 **Ri Bhoi**



Weeding and biofilters along hedgerows were set up by Smt. Phommira Nongrang in Nongrim Umksih.

 **South West Garo Hills**



Ring clearance at Chiringpara village

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

COMMUNITY NURSERY

433 Villages under MegLIFE Project have elected to set up community nurseries.



South Garo Hills



Nengsra village.



Rona Agal village.



Red chandan saplings at Bolchugre village.



Nursery extension work at Galwanggitok VPIC.



Nursery extension work at Attabengaon village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Unloading of citronella slips.



Bed preparation at Tebisokgre village.



Nursery extension work at Rangmai Aruak village.



Tebisokgre village.



Extension of nursery beds at Rongara village

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North Garo Hills



Dokasaram village.



Ajasiram village.



Bangsi Bokda village.



Nanil Apal village.



Nanil Apal Nursery Extension has already planted Rain tree and China Sisodiya seeds.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

East Garo Hills



Dagal Nokat village.

South West Garo Hills



Jongchetpara Songma village.



Rongsang Abagre village.



Seeds were sown in polybags at the Bashbari village community nursery, and now they are beginning to sprout.

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West Garo Hills



Soropagre village.



Bauhinia purpurea seedlings.



Pongamia pinnata seedlings.



Mangifera indica seedlings



Gmelina arborea at Daranggagre village,



Terminalia arjuna at Daranggagre village.



Bolsamdangre village.



Soropagre village.

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West Jaintia Hills



Sanaro village.



Lapangap village.



South West Khasi Hills



Mawjarain village.



Mawksiar village.



Mawkyllung village.



Mariem village.



Mawrap village.



Mawsain village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



On July 26, 2023, land clearing for nursery extension was done in Mawsain village.



On July 31, 2023, weeding commenced in Mawbri, Nongnam, and Mawtangden villages.



On July 31, 2023, Mawtangden and Photdei villages completed their weeding activities.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

SALT - SLOPING AGRICULTURE LAND TECHNOLOGY

SALT training is being imparted to farmers of the MegLIFE Project wherever feasible to improve land productivity and fertility. The technique is enthusiastically being adopted by the trainees.



Eastern West Khasi Hills



David Gandhi, Consultant, SALT, shared his excitement about discovering a species of a NFP, possibly *Indigofera heterantha* or Himalayan indigo, growing in its natural habitat at an elevation of approximately 1500 meters above sea level near the LP School in Nongthyllap village, Mairang block of Eastern West Khasi Hills. This particular species has the remarkable ability to fix nitrogen and shows resilience to frost conditions.



East Garo Hills



SALT farm of Greting Marak at Rongribo Amalgre village.



Latitude: 25.542447
 Longitude: 90.530957
 Elevation: 362.35±26 m
 Accuracy: 3.9 m

SALT farm of Smt Minu T Sangma at Gitokgre village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



SALT farm of Shri Jeseng Marak at Dangkong Songgital village.



West Garo Hills



Posenggagre village



West Jaintia Hills



In Mynkrem village, the SALT initiative is progressing smoothly, with the hedgerows showing healthy growth. The farmers are planning to cultivate the land next year.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

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.

South Garo Hills



Following a short delay, the team is thrilled to announce that on 26 July 2023, the construction of a long-awaited community hall has resumed in action at Karawengre village.



Dobakol Awemong village.



Rongkandi Songital village.

North Garo Hills



Thapa Ragolgre village.



Dokasaram village.



Thapa Dajonggre village.



Nanil Apal village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Chorepahar village.



Rongpetchi village.



Ajasiram village.

 **West Garo Hills**



Santogre village.



Mandagre village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



East Garo Hills

Kalak Songgital village



Watenanggre village.



Simseng Balkol village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)



Danal Apal village.



West Jaintia Hills



Lumtrep village.



South West Khasi Hills



Alignment of column footing at Mawkyllung village.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT (MegLIFE)

PLUP And Microplanning Exercises



Microplan and PLUP exercise conducted at Iawthymme Group II village on July 27, 2023.



Lyting Lyngdoh Group 2 village.



Microplan and PLUP exercises conducted at Khaidong village group II on July 27, 2023.



Institute of
Natural Resources
(INR)

CENTRE FOR BIO RESOURCES (MEGH AROMA MISSION)



Site feasibility for cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic plants at Dombah and Sohtyngkhur, Mairang Block, EWKH.



Demonstration on cultivation of citronella at Umwai village, Shella Bholaganj block.

Monitoring of MAPS



Monitoring for sweet basil, Geranium, Lavender and Rosemary at Nongshillong and Mawkaton, Mawthadriashan Block, EWKH.





Monitoring the cultivation of Citronella, *Tagetes minuta* at Umdohbyrthih, Umroi Madan, Bhoirymbong block.

Exposure Visit To CSIR CIMAP Lucknow

The Institute of Natural Resources, Meghalaya in collaboration with CSIR-Aroma Mission organised a 'Four days training programme on entrepreneurship and skill development through medicinal and aromatic plants based formulation for nodal farmers and officials of Meghalaya at CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow'.



The training aimed to empower the farmers with essential competencies to foster a productive and cohesive work environment for different products such as Incense sticks, Herbal Floor cleaner, Mosquito Repellent Body Lotion and Aloe Vera Gel. The program was conducted on the 25th of July 2023 to the 28th of July 2023 and was attended by Twenty-four participants from various districts within Meghalaya.

Visit to Experimental Farms and MANAV Garden: The visit kicked off with an exploration of experimental farms, where participants were exposed to cutting-edge agricultural techniques and practices. This hands-on experience allowed them to witness firsthand the implementation of modern farming methods aimed at increasing productivity and sustainability. Additionally, the trip to MANAV Garden provided a serene environment to reflect on the importance of biodiversity and nature conservation in agriculture.



Training in Incense Stick Making: One of the highlights of the visit was a training session on crafting incense sticks. Participants learned the art of blending fragrances, selecting appropriate materials, and mastering the intricate process of creating these aromatic products. This workshop not only honed their creative skills but also provided insights into the lucrative world of incense production.



FloMop and Mos-Ex Workshop: Another noteworthy aspect of the trip was the training on producing household essentials like FloMop, a floor disinfectant, and Mos-Ex, a mosquito repellent lotion. This workshop empowered participants with the knowledge and skills to manufacture these in-demand products, showcasing the potential for small-scale entrepreneurship in the realm of household hygiene.

Aloe Vera Based Gel/Cream Production: The exposure visit delved into the world of personal care products with a hands-on training session on making Aloe Vera-based gels and creams. Participants grasped the nuances of formulation, quality control, and packaging, gaining valuable insights into the cosmetic industry.



Industry Visits to CSIR-CIMAP, M/s Vyom Organic Pvt, and M/s Ashri Natural Pvt: The exposure visit culminated with visits to notable industries, offering a glimpse into the practical application of scientific research and entrepreneurial endeavors. The interactions with professionals at CSIR-CIMAP and various organic and natural product companies like M/s Vyom Organic Pvt and M/s Ashri Natural Pvt in Barabanki left a lasting impression on the participants. These visits not only reinforced their learning but also provided a platform for networking and potential collaboration.



In a formal concluding meeting, CIMAP scientists extended their appreciation to the state officials and the Nodal Farmers of Meghalaya government and to the Institute of Natural Resources. They expressed their gratitude by presenting Dr. Hygina Siangbood, Mr. Pakai-yo Suja, and Ms. Bhalang Kamar with Herbal kits from CIMAP. As the session wrapped up, certificates were awarded to all the participants, and Dr. R K Srivastava, Senior Principal Scientist at CIMAP, concluded the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Training Programme, delivering a vote of thanks.



CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, ADAPTATION & MITIGATION (GREEN ENERGY)

Installation of Hydroger machine under the Decentralised Green Energy Development Project



Umsohpai Village, Jirang Block, Ri Bhoi district



Moosyiem village, Laskein block, West Jaintia Hills district.

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, ADAPTATION & MITIGATION (GREEN ENERGY)

Site Inspection conducted by the Green Energy team under the Decentralised Green Energy Development project



Mawten village, Mawkyrwat block, South West Khasi Hills District.



Nohron village, Mawkynew block, East Khasi Hills District.



Electrification Street Lighting at Phlangwanbroi, Mawsynram, East Khasi Hills District.

Meghalaya
Livelihoods And
Access To Markets
Project
(MeghaLAMP)

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

Sweet Success: Meghalaya Pineapples Conquer Global Markets, Empowering Farmers!



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

Sweet Success: Meghalaya Pineapples Conquer Global Markets, Empowering Farmers!

Delicious news! The taste of success is sweet for our farmers and the delightful flavor of Meghalaya's pineapples is now reaching international shores. These golden fruits are not only gracing malls in Dubai, Kuwait, and Sharjah, but they are also yielding abundant rewards for our hardworking farmers, with prices seeing a remarkable two-fold increase. A significant milestone in this journey is the establishment of a cutting-edge mobile processing unit at Umdihar IVCS, Umdihar Village (Ri Bhoi), initiated by a Karnataka-based processor. In its very first week of operation, this state-of-the-art facility has processed an astonishing 23 tonnes of pineapples, paving the way for larger quantities to meet global demand.

Amidst this success, an inspiring story comes from the 'Silchang Dimrimbri Palwa Adling IVCS' of East Garo Hills District. This farmer collective achieved its first international trade by shipping over 1.3 tonnes of pineapples to the Middle East. This remarkable feat was made possible through unwavering support and guidance from the Department of Agriculture and the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA), empowering farmer collectives to break away from middlemen and embrace enhanced production and marketing practices.

To ensure our farmers receive fair value for their produce, special emphasis is placed on providing pineapples weighing a kilogram and above, mitigating distress sales of smaller-sized table-variety pineapples. Collaborative efforts between the Department of Agriculture and the MBMA have paved the way for market linkages with local retailers, particularly with Reliance Retail stores across Guwahati. This strategic move has enabled farmers to reap over two times the price for their table-variety pineapples, significantly improving their economic prospects.

This sweet success story has gained national attention and has been prominently featured in the esteemed "India Today North East" newspaper, highlighting the exceptional achievements of our farmers and the growth of the pineapple industry in Meghalaya.

As we celebrate these achievements, the Government of Meghalaya is delighted to announce an upcoming Pineapple Festival in Delhi, scheduled after the Independence Day celebrations. This festival offers Delhiites a unique opportunity to relish the fine pineapples (aka fineapples) from our beautiful State and further promotes the growth and recognition of Meghalaya's pineapple industry.

Unlock the full article on Meghalaya's Pineapple growers, featured in India Today NE Newspaper and Batesi TV, by simply clicking the link:
[India Today NE Batesi TV](#)

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

ISC & ED



On 21st July 2023, identification of the Service Provider (SP) and the establishment of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) took place at Old Moilam IVCS, Moilam Village, Ranikor C&RD Block, South West Khasi Hills District. A similar program was conducted at Mawshynrut C & RD Block, on the 27th July 2023 .



A one-day exposure visit for PGs (Pepper) from mawpud IVCS & phlangdiloin IVCS was held at Photkylla Farm, Horticulture Development Office (HDO), Ranikor, WSKH on the 26th of July, 2023.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

ISC & ED



A Multi Stakeholders Platform program at Namdong A was successfully held on the 27th of July 2023. During the program, KYM (Know Your Member) and dry ration data were collected, and the participants were encouraged to save and borrow from the IVCS (Integrated Village Cooperative Society). Similarly, an MSP program was also conducted at Sohphoh village West Jaintia Hills district.



On the 28th of July, the Nangiaisan Producer Group (PG) at Wahlyngkien village under Mawphlang C & RD Block, successfully harvested G0 ARCs. The following day, on the 29th of July, PG/IVCS members harvested potato ARCs at the Pyndenglitha IVCS net house, also under Mawphlang C & RD Block, East Khasi Hills District.

Knowledge Management
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