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)

THE WORLD BANK











DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES

Ri Bhoi





On August 23, 2023, DPMU team visited Nongsangu village in Umsning Block. The purpose of the visit was to verify data for the Forest Management Plan (FMP) under the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) initiative. This program promotes sustainable forest practices and compensates landowners for maintaining ecosystem services. Nongsangu village, standing over 400 meters high, ranks in the top ten peaks of Ri-Bhoi District. This elevation contributes to its unique ecology, emphasizing the need to protect its resources. The visit underscores local communities' role in preserving valuable ecosystems.



On August 24th, EE-EM from Ri-Bhoi DPMU conducted a visit to Umshaken Raid Mathan Village in the Umsning Block. The visit aimed to validate data for the Forest Management Plan (FMP) as part of the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) program.



EE-Accounts visited Maker and Mashang Villages in the Umsning Block to collect UCs for the Forest Management Plan and review Excess Fund utilization. The visit also involved updating accounting records.

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



On August 24th, the Knowledge Management team from SPMU along with District KM team went for video documentation at Quinine & Narang villages. This aimed to showcase a noteworthy household visit initiative to promote Natural Resource Management and about the CLLM Project.



On August 25, 2023, Ri-Bhoi DPMU held a meeting with the Presidents and Secretaries of the 30 VNRMC members to plan the exit strategy since the Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP) is coming to an end and sustain the progress achieved. The involvement of these members is crucial for a smooth transition, as they play key roles in decision-making, representation, continuity, engagement, and leadership for future landscape management initiatives.

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



On August 23rd, DPM met with the APO of Umling Block to verify the submission of Utilization Certificates (UC) by all VECs, emphasize the ongoing activities within Umshangling VEC, and confirm the upcoming joint inspection with the APO. This collaborative effort aims to monitor the progress of ongoing projects, ensuring efficient utilization of Catalytic funds allocated via the SRES and alignment with the project's intended objectives. Currently, all VECs have submitted their Utilization Certificates (UCs), demonstrating responsible fund utilization. Notably, two VECs are actively engaged in ongoing project work, highlighting sustained efforts towards project goals. After discussions with the APO, a joint inspection is planned to monitor activities at the project sites.

East Khasi Hills



On August 25, DPM and Deputy Manager of Social teamed up with the Lion Clubs of Shillong Divas to support a meaningful cause. Their collective mission centered around the students of Mawan in Mylliem Block, aiming to enhance their access to clean drinking water at school. This was achieved by furnishing water purifiers. This collaborative undertaking exemplifies the strength of communityled efforts, showcasing the unity of various stakeholders in addressing a crucial requirement and fostering the well-being of the students.

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES







Refresher training was held on August 24th at Muthlongrim Pohsymphor for the Village Community Facilitators and Secretary of VNRMC regarding Spring Mapping. The training focused on the utilization of water tracers and discharge measurement techniques.



On August 24th, DPMU team conducted a site inspection for a proposed new intervention funded by the Catalytic Fund in Myntkung village.





West Garo Hills

On August 22, 2023, the Deputy Manager and Field Engineer visited Dollonggre to conduct a detailed inspection of the ongoing activities, including the construction of the dam with a storage tank at Apalgre and the establishment of the Permanent Community Nursery.

DISTRICT WISE ACTIVITIES



On August 23rd, as part of the project assignment, DPM and the Knowledge Management team visited three villages: Selbalgre, Sasatgre, and Chandigre, located within the Rongram Block to conduct ground research and gather stories unrelated to the project that feature interesting characters and untold narratives.



On August 25th, 2023, a visit was made to Aminda Simsanggre and Ganipara villages in Dalu Block for ground research and to uncover untold stories. The District Project Manager (DPM) and Knowledge Management team also inspected Ganipara's ongoing Permanent Nursery, sharing important insights with the community about its success.





On August 23rd and 24th, 2023, the DPMU organized a training for teachers on utilizing community computers at the Circuit House conference room in Mawkyrwat. A total of 20 teachers participated in the training.



A 2-day MRV physical training was conducted in Dura Songma Kantragre, Tura, under Rongram Block, West Garo Hills District. Led by Dr Lavinia M Dkhar, it concluded with a field training by Salgrik on August 30, 2023.

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).



Umsning Block.



Baghmara Block.



Khliehriat Block.



Mawkynrew Block.





Collection of Application Forms and Utilisation Certificates



Kharkutta Block.



Mairang Block.



Thadlaskein Block.



Shella Block.



Khliehriat Block.



Saipung Block.

Verification and Boundary Mapping



On August 24, 2023, the villagers of Sasatgre initiated the demarcation of their Community Reserve Forest boundaries.





Ratacherra individual forest of Mr. Shedrak Manar.





Batch-3 PES verification in Umsning Block.



GFA Jasmine M Sangma visited Dorengkigre for a site inspection on August 28, 2023.



Verification of Batch 3 PES within the Thadlaskeiñ Block.



Batch 3 PES verification at kudengrim village.



PES verification at Nongtalang village .



On August 30, 2023, GFA Stevenson Roy Wahlang visited Laitryngew community forest with the village's forest secretary and a member..

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.



VPIC of Dobakol Changalgitim has finished fencing on August 23, 2023.



Fencing at Dobakol Awemong village was completed on August 24, 2023.





Fencing work at Chorepahar village.



Fencing work at chiringpara village.





Fencing work at Madagre village.

Ri Bhoi



On August 25, 2023, around 210,000 lemon grass and citronella saplings were delivered to Nongrim Umksih village for the Aroma Mission. The MINR Team gave hands-on cultivation demonstrations to farmers.

COMMUNITY NURSERY

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

South Garo Hills



At the community nursery of Dobakol Changalgitim, the Toona Ciliata species is thriving and other species are also showing robust germination. All the poly bags in the nursery have been put to use, leaving no empty spaces.



Rangmai Chigitchak village.



Expansion of the community nursery in Simseng Gading village.



Simseng Nakol village.



On August 30, 2023, the PMC Field coordinator visited the Dogepgipuram community nursery.





Songmagre village.





Dorenggre village.







Malmua village.



Seed vacancy filling at Radanpara community nursery.



East Jaintia Hills

The VPIC of Kyrluh village successfully implemented the Community Nursery Extension project on August 23, 2023, involving the packaging of 10,000 polybags.



Ring weeding at Lumthari village.

Tuidam village.



On August 23, 2023, Dr. Ravi Shankar Thupalli's visit to Umrang Rongkru and Jermanai community nurseries in Ri Bhoi District motivated VPICs and the team, boosting their enthusiasm.





On August 23, 2023, Samuel Raju Geddam visited Mawtharap village's community nursery in the Mairang block. The nursery focuses on growing Pinus kesia, boasting an outstanding germination rate of over 90%. The site's suitability is well-appreciated.



Lait Dombah village.

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.







Sir David Gandhi and the BPM from Dalu Block visited the SALT farm in Darenggagre village to monitor its progress. They evaluated SALT farming across four local farms and praised the dedicated efforts of the farmers.



SALT farm of Shri. Chanang Sangma from Sasatgre village.



SALT farm of Shri. Endilson Marak from Manggakgre village



SALT farm of Labin Bolwari Marak from Manggakgre village.



An orientation program focused on Sloping Agricultural Land Technology took place on August 24th, 2023, at ETC, Tura. The program was followed by a practical session in Jawakgre village, involving a field visit.











Nongthymmai village beneficiary's salt farm.





Salt farming at Bolchugre village.







Pamlatar village.





Salt Farm of Rangmai from Chigitchak village.

ENTRY POINT ACTIVITY - COMMUNITY HALL

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





Ajasiram village.



Nanil Apal villlage.





Thapa Dajonggre village.



Sasatgre village.

Borogobol village.



Nayapara village.







Sawilgre village.



East Garo Hills

Nengkongkil village.





Thaugittim village.



The PMC's field coordinator visited Miktongjeng Aro Dogepgipuram community hall on August 30, 2023.





Lait Dombah village.

South west Khasi Hills

On August 25, 2023, inspections were conducted for completed excavation work, bar bending, and construction materials in Demnar village, as well as bar bending in Pawphlang and Mawksiar villages.











Domtynrong village.

South Garo Hills





Dobakol Awemong village.





On August 23, 2023, Sir Ajai Rai's visit to Chidekgre (Group II) village in West Garo Hills made remarkable contributions through microplanning and strategic guidance. His insights have immensely benefited the team and inspired the community to embrace his advice for meaningful improvements in people's lives.



On August 24, 2023, Ajay Rai paid a visit to Bugakolgre village, where he provided assistance to the team in executing micro plan tasks.

PLUP And Microplanning Exercises

On August 26, 2023, BPM Lily C Ramhlunkim Hmar visited Group II village, Pamlatar, as part of the Microplanning and PLUP exercise in Umsning C&RD Block.



Ongoing microplanning and Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) in Nongsangu village, part of Umsning C&RD Block.

MIS and Procurement Training



4-day training for West Garo Hills on Accounting, Register maintenance, MIS, and community procurement concluded on 25-08-2023.



A 4-day Residential Training for VCFs in Mairang Block, Eastern West Khasi Hills District, concluded successfully on August 25, 2023. The training covered MIS, register maintenance, subject review, tests, error clarification, and certificate distribution.

Soil and water activities

Circular platform alignment for plastic tank positioning successfully completed on August 25, 2023, in Umden Nongtluh and Umden Khasi villages, Umling Block.



Quality inspection of materials was conducted on August 25, 2023, in Umden Nongtluh village, Umling Block, for the purposes of stone masonry and stone soling.





Institute of Natural Resources (INR)

CENTRE FOR BIO RESOURCES (MEGH AROMA MISSION)



Demonstration on cultivation of Lemongrass to the farmers of Tyrso village, under Bhoirymbong block.

Capacity Building on "Pre & Post Processing of MAPs for extraction & marketing of essential oil"







The Bio-Resource team facilitated capacity building and training for farmers in the South West Garo Hills region who specialise in cultivating Medicinal and Aromatic plants. This comprehensive program focused on the cultivation techniques, processing methods, and effective market integration. Farmers were also given a practical demonstration the utilisation of Field Distillation Unit.

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

Site Verification and Electrification at different sites under the Decentralised Green Energy Development Project.

Synnei Village, Mawsynram block

East Khasi Hills District



Mawtangor village, Mawsynram block



Langsymphut village Mawsynram block



Phlangwanbroi village mawsynram block



Ronggopgre, Bajengdoba Block, North Garo Hills.

Garo Hills District



Siju Medical Colony, Baghmara Block, South Garo Hills.


Lawbah village, Mawsynram block



Suktia Village, Shella block



Nohron village, Mawkynrew block

East Jaintia Hills District



Tuberkmai village, Khliehriat block



Mutong village, Khliehriat block



Iapmala village, Khliehriat block



Cham Cham village, Khliehriat block

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Meghalaya Livelihoods And Access To Markets Project (MeghaLAMP)

Empowering Community Development: MSP cum AGM Series in West Khasi Hills, West Jaintia Hills, and East Garo Hills IVCS



A series of Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) cum Annual General Meetings (AGMs) was conducted across various Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) in West Khasi Hills, West Jaintia Hills, and East Garo Hills. These gatherings were held at Langpih IVCS, Ktiehthawiar IVCS, Langumshing IVCS, Nongriangka IVCS, Umdang IVCS, Songsak IVCS, Nongriangba IVCS, Nengchigre IVCS, Rongkhugre IVCS, Nongshram Adeng IVCS, Umthlu IVCS, Dorangre IVCS in West Khasi Hills, Mookyniang IVCS in West Jaintia Hills, and Chram IVCS in East Garo Hills District. The objective of these meetings was to synergize efforts and deliberate on crucial agendas for advancing community development.

In the presence of officials including the Junior Cooperative Officers from the office of the Assistant Registrar Cooperative Society, staff from the District Project Management Unit, and IVCS members, the discussions centered around pivotal subjects such as adopting new By-Laws, presenting annual IVCS reports, and emphasizing the strategic significance of elements like Service Provider training, Farmers Field Schools, and Processing Units. Participants also explored the expansion of the IVCS's operational scope and the reassessment of office bearers.

These meetings fostered an enriching dialogue among community members, stakeholders, and experts, facilitating collaborative decisions for future actions.

Enhancing Data Collection Proficiency: Training on Key Performance Indicator (KPI) and IVCS Reporting for Western Region team.





Two day training on various aspects of data collection with respect to KPI within MLAMP in view of IVCS reporting format for INRM, RF, and Supply Chain, and others such as M&E role in data collection, collection of



UC, and community procurement was conducted for the Garo Hills region at CNC Hotel, Tura on 24th and 25th August, 2023.



On August 19th, 2023, EFC Ranikor actively engaged in the Megha Camp awareness NALSA initiative about schemes and government welfare programs at the Nolikata Mini Stadium. The event was meticulously organized by the District Legal Services Authority, South West Khasi Hills District, in partnership with the Meghalaya State Legal Authority. During the event, Tyllilang Keniong Producer (MLAMP-Group, ISC&ED), and Rikcheng Producer Group, Makbilkol (FOCUS), set up stalls to showcase their products,

The Global Off Grid Lighting Association (GOGLA) team explores Off-Grid Solar Use in East Khasi Hills.



A delegation from GOGLA, the global association for off-grid solar industry headquartered in Amsterdam, Netherlands, conducted a visit to Swer, Laityra, and Nongduh in East Khasi Hills District. GOGLA's mission is to establish sustainable markets for providing electricity-deprived customers with high- -quality solar products and services.During the visit, the team aimed to gain direct insights into two key aspects: the utilization of distributed solar and storage in areas with weak grid supply, including the potential for integrated systems, and the application of solar power and productive-use appliances in livelihoods and agricultural value chains. Reflecting on the visit, the GOGLA team expressed their gratitude for the informative experience and highlighted the value of interaction with the local people to enhance their understanding of the Northeast region."

Agrarian Insight: Producer Groups Gain Knowledge through Agriculture & Allied Schemes Awareness



The Directorate of Agriculture, in partnership with the Agriculture Development Officer of Mawryngkneng Block, hosted an Agriculture & Allied Schemes Awareness Programme on August 22nd, 2023, at Orchid Dhaba, Mawrynkneng. Hon'ble MLA Shri. Heavingstone Kharpran, Mawryngkneng, graced the event as Chief Guest. Distinguished attendees included Smt. A.R. Kynta, MCS, BDO Mawryngkneng Block, and representatives from departments: Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Fisheries, Soil & Water Conservation, Forest Department (Social Forestry), KVK, Directorate of Food Processing, and the Enterprise Facilitation Centre, which facilitated the mobilization of Producer Groups. The program resulted in beneficial awareness for over a hundred farmers who are members of Producer Groups.

ISC & ED



In a stride towards enhancing local agriculture, a two-day training on vegetable nursery techniques was conducted at Sodurkura village on August 22nd and 23rd, 2023. This initiative was designed to equip Producer Groups (PGs) with practical insights. Similarly, on August 24th and 25th, 2023, another twoday training session took place at Koltapara Village within the Ranikor C&RD Block, South West Khasi Hills District.

ISC & ED





On August 25th and 26th, 2023, a comprehensive training program focused on Broom Grass value chain was conducted by the ISC&ED component. Hosted at NWE Rangasora Village in the Ranikor C&RD Block, South West Khasi Hills District, the training aimed to equip participants with insights and skills vital for harnessing the potential of the Broom Grass industry.



Invited as a Resource Person, Shri Ivan R Marbaniang, DPM, EKH, delivered a training session on Entrepreneurship in Piggery Farming at the Vocational Training Center, Upper Shillong, on August 23rd, 2023.

ISC & ED



On August 28th, 2023, an exposure visit was organized by the Madhukar Livelihood Foundation and MBMA, in collaboration with EFC Pynursla and CORP NGO. Ten farmers from Pynursla Block ventured to the Common Facility Centre in Mendipathar, North Garo Hills District, to gain firsthand knowledge and experiences.

RURAL FINANCE



On August 28th, 2023, a review meeting was held at PRIME Hub, Umdihar, where the focus was on assessing the progress and activities of IVCS. The meeting also included strategic planning for the upcoming month. The District Project Management Unit (DPMU) took the opportunity to apprise the attending diverse members about the opportunities available under Windows 2 to 4.

RURAL FINANCE



From August 28th to 29th, 2023, a Special General Meeting was conducted for IVCS' under Dambo Rongjeng Block for the amendment of New Bye-Law. Circle Officer Smt. Shelly Marak engaged both MC and IVCS members, shedding light on their roles, duties, and the advantages of the revised Bye-Law. The IVCSs involved in this event included Darugre Chikama IVCS Ltd, Millawe IVCS Ltd, Silchang Dimrimbri Palwang Ading IVCS Ltd, Gabil Rongmil IVCS Ltd, Gabil Daningka IVCS Ltd, Dambo Rongdeng IVCS Ltd, Nongchram IVCS Ltd, and Rongdu IVCS Ltd, reflecting a collective stride towards community empowerment and compliance with contemporary regulations.



Inaugural General Meeting at Rangblang Sohsynnyiang Area IVCS., Rangblang.



Special General Meeting at Mwapait Nongthymmai IVCS for adoption of new Bye-law.

RURAL FINANCE



Special General Meeting at Raibah IVCS for adoption of new Bye-Law

INRM



Gathering at Thadmusem VEC, Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills on August 25, 2023, to strengthen the IVCS, followed by discussions with existing shareholders post the General Meeting.

UPDATES OF THE WEEK 30th August 2023

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

INRM



A training session on Book Keeping and Record Management was organized for VECs under INRM. The event took place on August 23rd, 2023, at EFC Ranikor C&RD Block, South West Khasi Hills District.



As part of the Capacity Building on INRM Thematic Area, a series of training sessions and awareness programs were successfully conducted across multiple locations. The training encompassed topics such as procurement committee guidance, capacity building in INRM, and the importance of soil and water conservation. Collaboratively organized with the Soil & Water Conservation Department, South West Khasi Hills District, these events were held on August 10th, 16th, and 18th, 2023, at Munai VEC, Photkroh Village, and Photkroh VEC respectively, all within the Ranikor C&RD Block of the South West Khasi Hills District.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT



Official visit to Village Information Centre initiated by Knowledge Management Unit, Megha-LAMP in collaboration with DPMU, West Jaintia Hills District was organised at Pamtbuh and Khonglah village under Amlarem Block on the 23rd and 25th August 2023 respectively. Officers from different department under Amlarem Sub-Division that is PHE, Agriculture, Social Welfare, Education. Co-operative and Meghalaya Rural Bank attended the programme. The officers from different departments discussed the various measures, programs, and advantages rolled out by their respective departments. These officials also motivated individuals to make the most of the opportunities offered by these departments, providing them with guidance on accessing these benefits. The community participants posed numerous questions about the obstacles they encountered and sought clarification on the procedures for accessing the programs and aid offered by the concerned department.

Knowledge Management



The District Review Meeting addressing all components under MLAMP, FOCUS, MegLIFE, and CLLMP was held on August 16th, 2023, at the Circuit House in Mawkyrwat, South West Khasi Hills District. The meeting was honored by the presence of Shri. T. Lyngwa, Deputy Commissioner cum Ex-Officio and DPC.

Click the link below to watch the video <u>https://bit.ly/45P0o9L</u>

OR

Scan Here





Jabar Lumtop Jaud IVCS Ltd has been rendering various services to the village regarding finances, supply of farm inputs, and farm machinery to help in doubling the farmer's income and for the betterment of the village.

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