

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

14th February 2024



THE MEGHALAYA COMMUNITY LED LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PROJECT (MCLLMP)



THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (MEGLIFE)



INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES (INR)



THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS 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)

UPDATES OF THE WEEK

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

Innovative Hubs Launched in West Garo Hills, Meghalaya: MeghFarm Processing Hub and Tikrikilla PRIME Hub



On February 10 2024, the **Honorable Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma** officially inaugurated the **MeghFarm Processing Hub and Tikrikilla PRIME Hub** at Khamari, Tikrikilla, **West Garo Hills**, marking a significant shift in regional agriculture. With a processing capacity of 80 to 100 tons, MeghFarm aims to reduce agricultural wastage and enhance market value, representing a Rs. 14.5 crores investment by the Government of Meghalaya (GOM) and the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA), Megha-LAM Project. Joined by esteemed dignitaries, including Power Minister A T Mondal and Lok Sabha MP Agatha K Sangma, the Chief Minister emphasized the hubs' role in empowering local farmers and entrepreneurs through mentorship programs, with the goal of creating a sustainable economic ecosystem. This initiative is poised to uplift numerous livelihoods in the Garo Hills region.





Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP)



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On February 12th, 2024, the Ri-Bhoi District Project Management Unit (DPMU) convened a meeting with all members of the Village Natural Resource Management Committees (VNRMCs), delivering a thorough briefing on the transfer of VNRMCs and their associated assets to new committees or associations. The Deputy Manager (Social Management) emphasized the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), highlighting the necessity of its submission by February 15th, 2024, as the project nears its conclusion. It is vital for all involved parties to adhere to this deadline to ensure a seamless transition. Failure to submit the MOU on time could disrupt the handover process and hinder the project's closure. Therefore, prompt action is crucial to ensure compliance and efficiency. Members are urged to promptly address any inquiries or concerns regarding the MOU to facilitate its timely submission. The successful completion of this handover process is crucial for the uninterrupted continuation of operations within the VNRMCs.



A one-day orientation program was conducted for MegARISE staff, a KFW-funded project, at the MegLIFE office in Shillong. Employees received orientation on MegARISE objectives from the ICE Team, APD-MegLIFE/MegARISE, DPD-MegARISE, covering thematic components such as KM, GIS, HR, as well as the usage of MIS, APPVERSE, and E-Proposal.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

"Improving Fire Safety in Zikzak Block, Dangsapara Community Forest"



Forest fire protection and control measures have been implemented in the Dangsapara Community Forest, particularly in the Zikzak Block area.

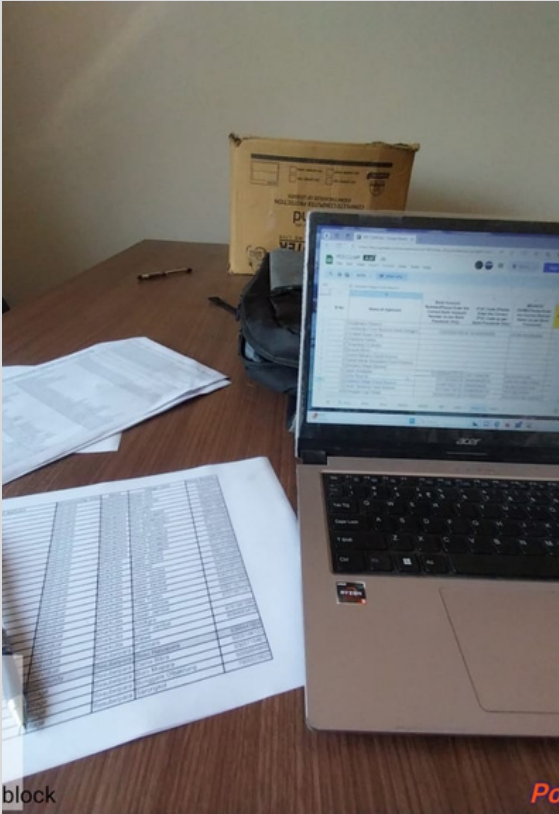
"Empowering Communities Through MRV Trainings and Surveys: A Journey of Learning"



Our Green Field Associates (GFAs) and Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) have been actively engaged in Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) activities across various villages and Blocks. They've covered locations like Pamlatar Village, Melagre Reserve, Lelad Community Forest, Ruga Songmong Village, and beyond. MRV efforts encompass a range of activities, including surveys, verifications, and

assessments, targeting village reserves, community forests, and specific spots like Rengsangre Village and Rimrangpara Village. Completed MRV activities have been documented in Gasuapara Block, Mawbsein Dorbar Shnong, Halwa Ambeng Village, and Milawe Village, showcasing a commitment to environmental monitoring and conservation across diverse regions and communities.

SNIPPETS



Green Field Associates (GFAs) are presently in the process of collecting application forms and utilization certificates, demonstrating their active involvement in gathering comprehensive information from applicants.



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).



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



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""Significant Agricultural Updates: Sesame Harvest in Mengotchigre Village and Scenic Hedgerows in Simseng Balkol and S.Rongal Villages."



Big news from Mengotchigre village in Tikrikilla Block! Farmer Pardon Marak has just harvested sesame (Til) on his SALT farm. Anticipating a yield of 40-50 kgs, he plans to sell at Rs. 100/kg! Also, Simseng Balkol and S.Rongal villages in Dambo Rongjeng block are showing off beautiful hedgerows.

"Finance and Procurement Team's Involvement in Updating VPIC Registers"



The Finance and Procurement team has been actively involved in rectifying and updating Village Project Integrated Committee (VPICs) Registers across various Blocks. This includes ongoing activities such as checking registers in Resubelpara Block, Tikrikilla Block staff conducting checks on VCF's registers, similar efforts in Kharkutta Block, and ongoing register checks and preparation for internal audit in VPIC under Songsak Block.



Community nurseries have been set up in different Blocks across various villages, managed by VPICs, to grow plants for the upcoming year 2024 in specified plantation areas.

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Fresh Tephrosia plant seeds have been gathered from Nepalgre village, located in the Betasing Block of South West Garo Hills.

Implementation of Agroforestry-based Carbon Credit Scheme in South Garo Hills District, Meghalaya



On February 8th, 2024, the successful implementation of the "Agroforestry-based Carbon Credit Scheme" took place in the communities of the South Garo Hills district in Meghalaya. A total of 51 consent forms were collected during the event, which was attended by Dr. Thyiam Jefferson and Dr. Tremie M. Sangma.

Institute of Natural Resources (INR)



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INTERNATIONAL WATER CONCALVE



The Honorable Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma officially inaugurated the International Water Conclave, organised by the Government of Meghalaya in collaboration with the state's Department of Water Resources on 9th February 2024. This two-day event drew participation from various government officials and welcomed delegates from countries such as Bhutan, Thailand, as well as other states of India.

The conclave featured sessions focused on spring shed management, aimed at elucidating the distinction between watershed and springshed, particularly in hilly regions like Meghalaya. Shri Gunanka DB, IFS, Executive Director of MBDA, represented the organisation in the session. Concurrently, another session delved into source sustainability, with Shri Wankit K. Swer, General Manager, representing MBDA.

Furthermore, the event included an exhibition showcasing water technology innovations. Among the exhibitors was the Decentralised Green Energy Development Project under the Institute of Natural Resources, Meghalaya which was chosen to showcase its project in the conclave.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT



RF * INRM * ISC-ED

*Megha***LAMP**
Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project
In Partnership With IFAD

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

UN HOUSE HOSTS SECAP TRAINING FOR IFAD PROJECT
STAFF IN INDIA



SECAP Training in UN House: On February 9th, 2024, an interactive learning session on **Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAP)** took place at the **United Nations House in New Delhi**, specifically tailored for the IFAD project staff in India. The session featured a comprehensive presentation on SECAP implementation, skillfully delivered by Ms. Arundhati Inamdar Willetts, an esteemed expert from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Headquarters. Participating in this session were five dedicated IFAD project staff members from India, actively

engaging in a profound exploration of SECAP methodologies and their practical applications. Additionally, four members from MLAM Project also took part in the enriching training session.

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