

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

22nd May 2024



THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT (MEGHA-LAMP)



THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (MEGLIFE)



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA



THE MEGHALAYA COMMUNITY LED LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PROJECT (MCLLMP)



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA



INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES (INR)



FARMERS' COLLECTIVIZATION FOR UPSCALING OF PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SYSTEMS (FOCUS)



THE MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY (MBMA)



THE MEGHALAYA BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MBDA)

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT



RF * INRM * ISC-ED

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

 MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Meetings in multiple IVCS locations: A discussion on deposit and credit policy, finance committee activation, loan repayments and other matters related to the IVCS "



On 21st May, 2024, a meeting convened at Cham Cham IVCS, EJHD, brought together various IVCS Committees, with 19 members present. The agenda covered several crucial points, including addressing loan overdue issues, reselecting Finance Committee members, defining the roles and responsibilities of SP Credit Linkage/Group Facilitator/Manager IVCS, resolving payment concerns, establishing targets for credit linkages, organizing forthcoming training sessions, coordinating the distribution of dry rations, and strategizing the implementation of CM-Elevate initiatives.

On 20th May, 2024, the DPMU team from WJH attended the MC meeting at Namdong A IVCS, joining discussions on understanding and adopting the Deposit and Credit Policy, activating the Finance Committee, re-electing the SP-CL, listing overdue loans and following up on repayment, setting targets for credit linkages, and discussing demo plots and other matters. Likewise, on 18th May, 2024, they participated in MC meetings at Kremmysiang IVCS and Mookynniang IVCS, where similar agendas were addressed, including topics such as deposit and credit policy, finance committee activation, addressing overdue loans, credit linkage targets, demo plots, and other relevant issues.



On 21st May, 2024, a meeting was convened involving all the various committees of Tubershohshrieh IVCS, EJH. The primary agenda of this meeting was to discuss and clarify the roles and responsibilities of each committee.



On 22nd May, 2024, a review meeting of IVCS was convened at the PRIME Hub, Umdihar. The purpose of the meeting was to address various concerns such as the punctual submission of data, credit linkage, business plan preparation, and audit matters for the fiscal year 2023-24. Attending the meeting were the chairman, along with other stakeholders.

 MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Enhancing Community Empowerment through Capacity Building: Insights from Bookkeeping and Dry Ration Training Workshops



A training session on bookkeeping and concept seeding for the GFs, FFs, and NGO Partners of EGH took place on 21st May, 2024, at DRDA Hall in Williamnagar, EGH. Participants are tasked with training PGs from their respective areas within their blocks on bookkeeping, gathering UCs, and compiling the most effective PG list.



On 21st May, 2024, a one-day training session on "Dry Ration" took place at Mawkynrew C&RD Block, facilitated by EFC staff in collaboration with EARMACS. Attendees included the MCs of both Laitkyrhong and Jatah Nonglyer IVCS, SHG members, and PGs members. The training was led by Shri Marbit Wahlang, Chairman of EARMACS, and Dr. Manroi K. Shylla.



A "Dry Ration Training" was conducted at Mawsynram C&RD Block by EARMACS and EFC Mawsynram. Participants included IVCS members, VOs, progressive PGs, and farmers.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Empowering Rural Communities Through Awareness Programmes



In the South West Garo Hills (SWG) region, various awareness programmes were conducted to empower rural communities and enhance agricultural practices. One such initiative, organized by the DPMU SWGH under the INRM component, focused on informing Chapahati IVCS about the establishment of a new Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) on 20th May, 2024, at Chapahati 1. This endeavor aimed to facilitate collective resource utilization among farmers, thereby boosting agricultural productivity.



Additionally, an awareness programme on "State Mission Organic 2.0" was held on the 20th May, 2024 at Umsawnongbri IVCS, in collaboration with the Horticulture Department, Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh. The event, featuring insights from Shri. Terminal Wann, HDO, emphasized the significance of organic farming practices for sustainable agriculture.



Furthermore, on 21st May, 2024, an awareness programme on IVCS mobilization on membership savers and lenders under phase III took place at Nongmensong dorbar hall under the Mawpat C & RD Block. Conducted by DPMU SWGH, the session, led by Shri. Wellborn Nongbri, Assistant Manager, aimed to encourage community participation in financial initiatives, with representation from the village executive members, IVCS officials, and PG members from the Nongmensong area.

 MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Assessment and Implementation of Solar Power Solutions



On 22nd May, 2024, an inspection of solar connections was conducted at Mawlumrum in the presence of the IVCS Incharge and IVCS Manager. The observation revealed that the installation of 20 batteries, along with the inverter, solar power conditioning unit, and control panel box for the first phase solar inverter, was successfully completed at the ginger processing unit of Mawlumrum IVCS. Additionally, the solar panels were appropriately positioned to optimize solar energy utilization. However, it was noted that although three machines had been received at the GPU, the IVCS Manager indicated that their operation had not commenced as of the inspection date.

 MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

"Empowering Local Economies: Exploring Opportunities and Challenges in Meghalaya's West Garo Hills"



On May 18, 2024, Shri R. M. Mishra, IAS (Retd.), Executive Chairman of the Meghalaya State Investment Promotion Board, Government of Meghalaya, visited Phulbari in West Garo Hills and engaged in discussions with local traders, civil representatives, entrepreneurs, members of cooperative societies, and representatives of MeghFARM. Shri Sumit Kumar, IAS, Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) of Dadenggre Subdivision, along with officials from Dadenggre Subdivision, the Department of Commerce & Industries, the Transport Department, PWD (Roads), Government of Meghalaya, and the MBMA Team, were also present during the interaction. The topics discussed ranged from the types of small-scale industries currently operational, market linkages, livelihood opportunities for locals related to the ongoing railway project, and the potential for exporting their products. The discussion also touched upon the need to improve road conditions and address investment issues, emphasizing the crucial

cooperation required from both the government and the public. Shri R. M. Mishra, IAS, also visited the ongoing bridge construction site before proceeding to MeghFARM, where he inspected the Processing Hub.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

PLANTATION ACTIVITIES



Various plantation activities are underway across different blocks and villages. The PA and AM of Betasing Block, SWGH, visited Rongsang Abagre, Kasibil, and Lutubari villages to monitor staking and pit digging, as well as the status of ANR plot cleaning and advance work. The Project Co-ordinator of Garo region had also checked on the community hall status in Danal Dasik and ASIL Songital, and staking activities in Sochapara, Jawakgre, and Rongari Ading under Gambegre Block. Advanced work has been completed for Rangsa Village under Kharkutta Block and Laskein C&RD Block, with ongoing advance work for AR Plantation at Mowkaiaw Community in Laskein C&RD Block, West Jaintia Hills District. Staking is almost completed at the ANR Plantation site in Malchapara Village, Betasing Block, as demonstrated by the PA of Betasing.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



Field Visit by FE Kharkutta and AM Kharkutta for Spring shade Management for Mandadrop and Kalwe Village under Kharkutta Block .

Meeting with the DC of East Khasi Hills District

A meeting was conducted by the MegLIFE East Khasi Hills District team and the DC and Chairman of DPMU, EKH, to review the implementation of MegLIFE in the district on May 20, 2024. The purpose was to inform the Chairman about the MegLIFE project, provide updates on its implementation progress in the district, and explore the potential for convergence. The Chairman expressed support for exploring convergence, particularly at the block level. The team is grateful for his willingness to visit one village in each of the implemented blocks in the coming days, despite his busy schedule. His support at the Chairmanship level has been greatly appreciated.



GROUND TRUTHING TO KHARKHUTTA BLOCK



Dated: 20/05/2024 Ground truthing of 2024 plantation Plots for Lower Jambal Cluster under Kharkutta Block monitored by SPMU team Sir Samuel Raju Geddam and Madam Bratati Purkayastha verified the accuracy of selected confirmed plots for Raising plantation in 2024 and also monitored Community Nursery

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

Dated: 21/05/24 : On the second day of field visits for ground truthing of the 2024 plantation plots in Memillam and Remagittim Village under Kharkutta Block, the SPMU team, including Sir Samuel Raju Geddam and TS Bratati Purkayastha, conducted the inspection. Sir Raju demonstrated to the farmers how to implement Model 6 Agroforestry (Broom Grass) by laying out the broom grass contour line and ensuring a spacing gap of 10 meters from the line, with 6 meters to 2.5 meters between the broom grass plantations. He also instructed the VPIC members to collect seeds and fill vacancies in the poly bags to revive the nursery.



Dated: 22/05/24: Third day field Visit by Sir Samuel Raju Geddam and Technical Specialist Bratati Purkayastha along with Kharkutta BPMU staffs for ground truthing of 2024 plantation ANR plots for Mandadrop and Rajasimla Songgittal village under Kharkutta Block.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

Field visits and inspections



Dated:17-05-2024

Visit to Raitong Village under Sohpool FPO, Umsning Block for interaction with Farmers, collection of data and inspection on Ginger cultivation in Raitong Village.



Dated: 17-05-2024

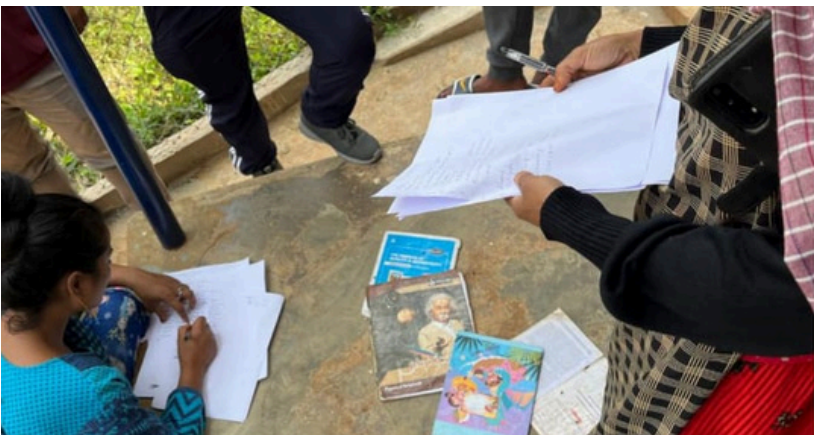
Visit to Umkrem and Myriaw in Mawthadraishan Block for geo fencing lands of farmers under MSRLS, collecting soil samples, and interacting with the ICRP, ECRP of MSRLS.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

Field visits and inspections



Visit to Maspara village under Mawshynrut block for geo tagging as part of MSRLS activities. 8 farms have been geotagged as of 21 May 2024.



Visit to Sohpodok village in Ri Bhoi district along with the GIS team for geo fencing. There are 75 farmers in the village and 47 plots have been geo-tagged as of 21 May 2024. Discussions were also held with the farmers to get an understanding of the types of seeds sowed.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

"Site Inspection Visits and Meetings by GFA"



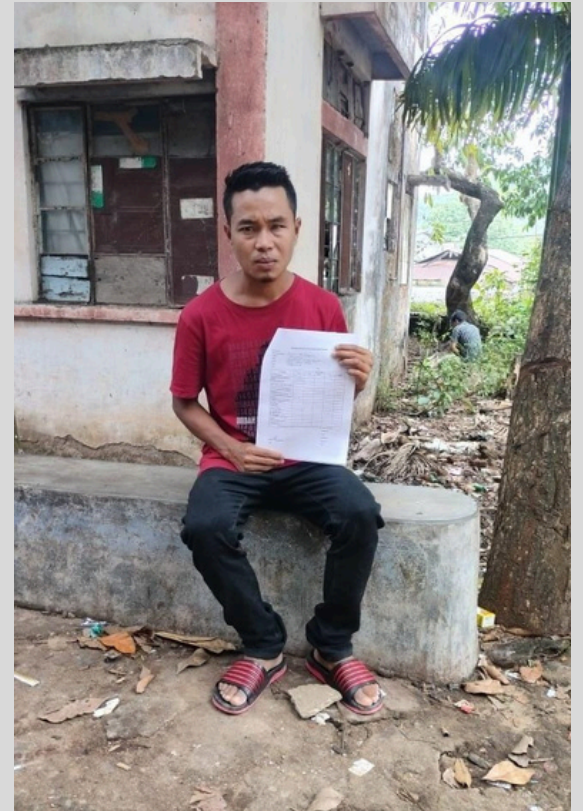
The GFAs conducted field visits encompassing various activities such as demarcating forest boundaries at Dengnakpara Noagre village in SWGH, collaborating with the IORA team at Mawlangwir and Nonglang villages, describing boundaries at EGH Rongjeng Silchang Village, meeting beneficiaries at Mawlangwir village, conducting field surveys at Langlew Village with the IORA team, visiting Mawtneng law along Bhoirymbong Block, conducting site visits at Samandalgre village in SWGH, and visiting Sosotpara with the IORA team.

"Forest Protection Efforts: Fireline Setup & Boundary Work in various Block"



The Rongkugre Community Reserve in Chokpot, SGH, conducts activities focused on boundary demarcation and fire prevention and control.

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.

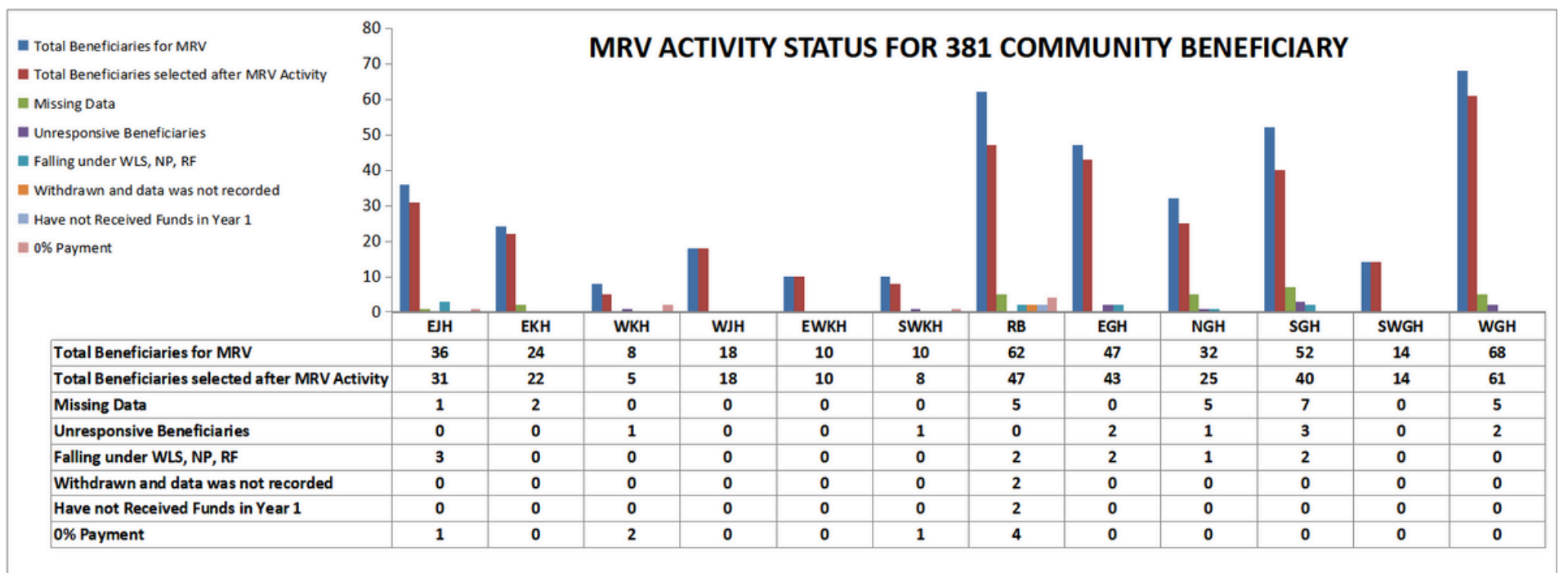


Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

MRV ACTIVITY FOR TOTAL 381 COMMUNITY BENEFICIARIES

District	Total Beneficiaries for MRV	Total Beneficiaries selected after MRV Activity	Missing Data	Unresponsive Beneficiaries	Falling under WLS, NP, RF	Withdrawn and data was not recorded	Have not Received Funds in Year 1	0% Payment
EJH	36	31	1	0	3	0	0	1
EKH	24	22	2	0	0	0	0	0
WKH	8	5	0	1	0	0	0	2
WJH	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
EWKH	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWKH	10	8	0	1	0	0	0	1
RB	62	47	5	0	2	2	2	4
EGH	47	43	0	2	2	0	0	0
NGH	32	25	5	1	1	0	0	0
SGH	52	40	7	3	2	0	0	0
SWG	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
WGH	68	61	5	2	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL	381	324	25	10	10	2	2	8



Institute of Natural Resources

(INR)



INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
BIO-RESOURCES TEAM



On 16th May 2024, the Bio-Resources team assisted Professor Mala Trivedi from Amity University on a field visit to Pyndenglitha village. The purpose of the visit was to provide technical expertise on the cultivation of wintergreen.



Field monitoring of Lemongrass and Citronella conducted by the Bio-Resource team at Kenbah Malai, Mawrapat and Mawsawa, Mawsynram block, East Khasi Hills District.

Knowledge Management
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