

# NEWSLETTER

**Updates of the Week**

31st October 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**



**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



INRM \* RF \* ISC&ED

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

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

### Highlights of Trainings



A two-day training for Field Engineers (FEs) and Technical Assistants (TAs) on constructing CFCs, warehouses, CMCs, PRIME Hubs, and farmers' markets was held at MAMETI on **October 22nd and 23rd, 2024**. The training, attended by 40 participants, was led by Shri P Pale, Project Engineer from the State Sports Council.

On **October 24th, 2024**, a Business Plan Training was conducted for IVCS Managers and President Secretaries from North Garo Hills at Mendipathar Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd. Training Hall. A Three-Year Activity Plan was developed during the training, focusing on IVCS production activities, Processing Units, and CHCs. Managers and IVCS Chairmen/Secretaries collaborated on preparing Balance Sheets, and detailing Expenditures and Assets.



### Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



On **October 24th, 2024**, a one-day workshop on the **Common Facility Center (CFC) and Warehouse** was held at MAMETI, attended by 120 beneficiaries under CM Elevate. The workshop covered topics such as construction timelines, financial and record management, LIFCOM loan components and repayment details, and insurance. It also featured a special session on the Grievance Redress Mechanism. Resource persons included Shri A.S. Suting, Deputy Project Director, MLAMP; representatives from National Insurance; Shri Rodonald Majaw, Regional Project Manager of Eastern Region; Shri Nitul Das, Regional Project Manager of Western Region; Smt. Liza Kharpomtiah for LIFCOM; and Smt. Bronia Marak from Knowledge Management.

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

### Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



On **October 24, 2024** a meeting was conducted at Mendipathar Multipurpose Cooperative Society Training Hall, **North Garo Hills** on CM Elevate with MBMA, banks, and department officials to discuss the loan component processing, grant disbursement phases, and delays in loan disbursement by banks.



On **October 25th, 2024**, a meeting of the Managing Committee (MC) members was held at Kentrikona IVCS, **South West Garo Hills** to discuss CMC working capital. Secretary Benjamin briefed the members on fund utilization and potential products that IVCS can take up for the upcoming season. He shared information about advance booking for arecanut bags from the village and discussed the KCC loan, computerization of IVCS, and other activities initiated by MBMA.



On **October 28th, 2024**, a one-day workshop on the computerization of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) was conducted in **South West Garo Hills District**. The workshop was attended by 31 IVCS secretaries and presidents, with resource persons including Shri Roshan Srivastava and Shri Rangkan B Marak. Discussions covered KCC loans, repayment, interest rates, and crop loans for paddy cultivation. Secretaries from Bolonggre B IVCS and Kentrikona reported limitations with their micro ATMs, leading MCAB BM in charge, Shri Balsrang Marak, to request a bank visit to address these issues.

On **October 29th, 2024**, a one-day Cluster Outreach Programme for cashew growers in the Ronchonpara Cluster, Selsela C&RD Block, was conducted by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), in collaboration with the Reserve Bank of India, DCIC-Tura, Prime Meghalaya, NABARD, and MBMA DPMU, **West Garo Hills**. Farmers engaged in open discussions with officials about the challenges they face in processing cashews.



Village Data Volunteers online examination held on **October 25th, 2024**, in Nongstoin, **West Khasi Hills**.

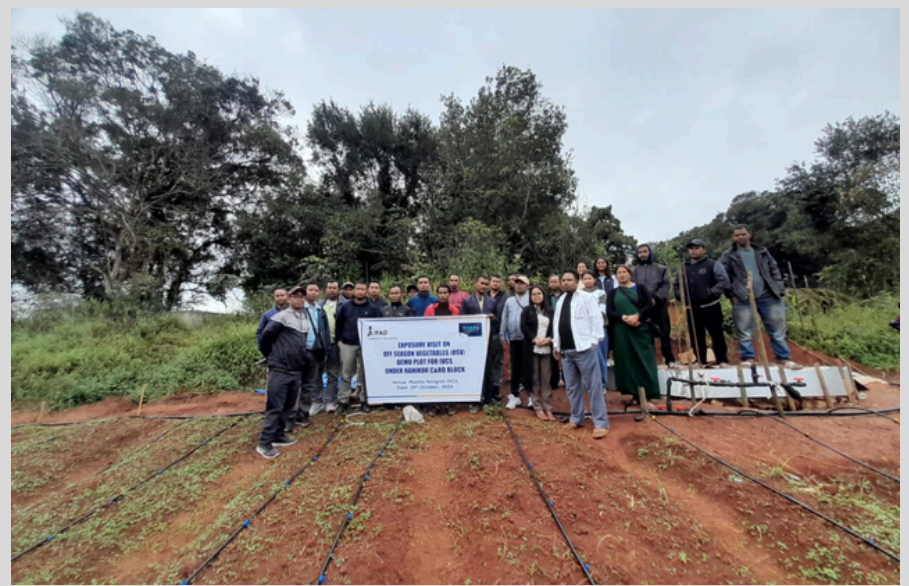
## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

### Highlights of Exposure visits, Inspection and Mobilisation



A series of exposure visits were conducted for farmers, including CMC and IVCS members, in October 2024. On **October 25th**, a one-day visit took place at Mawlyndiar IVCS in the **East Khasi Hills District** for members from **South West Khasi Hills District**. Additionally, farmers from **Ri Bhoi District** visited Nongduh IVCS on **October 17th-18th** and Mawkisyiem IVCS on **October 21st-22nd**.

An exposure visit for Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) from Ranikor C&RD Block, **South West Khasi Hills** was conducted on **October 24th, 2024**, at the Off Season Vegetable demo plots located at Mukhla-Nongrim IVCS and Mookyndur IVCS in the Thadlaskein C&RD Block, **West Jaintia Hills**.



On **October 28th and 29th, 2024**, the DPMU, **West Garo Hills** team, along with Agriculture Development Officers Smt. Balsara T. Sangma from Dadenggre and Smt. Julie G. Momin from Rongram Block, collected data for the Project Comilla Cotton Value Chain Development. This initiative aims to revive cotton cultivation in Garo Hills, focusing on Dadenggre and Rongram Blocks, where about 100 households in Sadolpara and 90 households in Adugre and Mongalgre are already engaged in cotton farming. These households will be connected with the Pringrang Prime Hub for further value chain activities.



# MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood  
Improvement through Forest  
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



Nursery refilling preparations in Thapa Darenchi village, Resubelpara Block, and community nursery refilling preparations in Zikzak Block.

### SHG Livelihood Talks in Zikzak Block (Oct 23-24, 2024)



On October 23, 2024, a visit to the VPIC was carried out for SHG re-gradation and discussions on livelihood interventions led by the P A from Zikzak Block. The re-gradation of SHGs continued at Ghilajuri VPIC in Zikzak Block on October 24, 2024.

### Community Nursery



Community Nursery in Soropagre village, Dalu Block

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT



On October 26, 2024, the FMP training for VCF was held at Wakskogre VPIC, and the training was also extended to the Wakskogre VCF.

SALT Model farm



The SALT Model Farm of Shri Joshan Sangma Bangsi Aga





# Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



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**PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA**


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**VCF Orientation cum Training Programme at Ganol Catchment**


A productive two-day training session was conducted on October 28th & 29th, 2024, to orient Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) from 28 villages within the Ganol CMU under the MegARISE Project. The training focused on building a strong foundation for VCFs by outlining the project's purpose, expectations, and the critical role VCFs play in its success.

A practical session on GIS technology and record maintenance was also provided to equip VCFs with essential skills for effective fieldwork.

The importance of participatory tools like PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) and VLMAP (Village Land Use Management and Planning) was also emphasized, highlighting their role in ensuring community-driven project planning. Additionally, former VCFs under CLLMP, shared their experience & lessons learnt from their tenure. They offered encouragement and practical advice, motivating the current VCFs to go the extra mile in their roles.

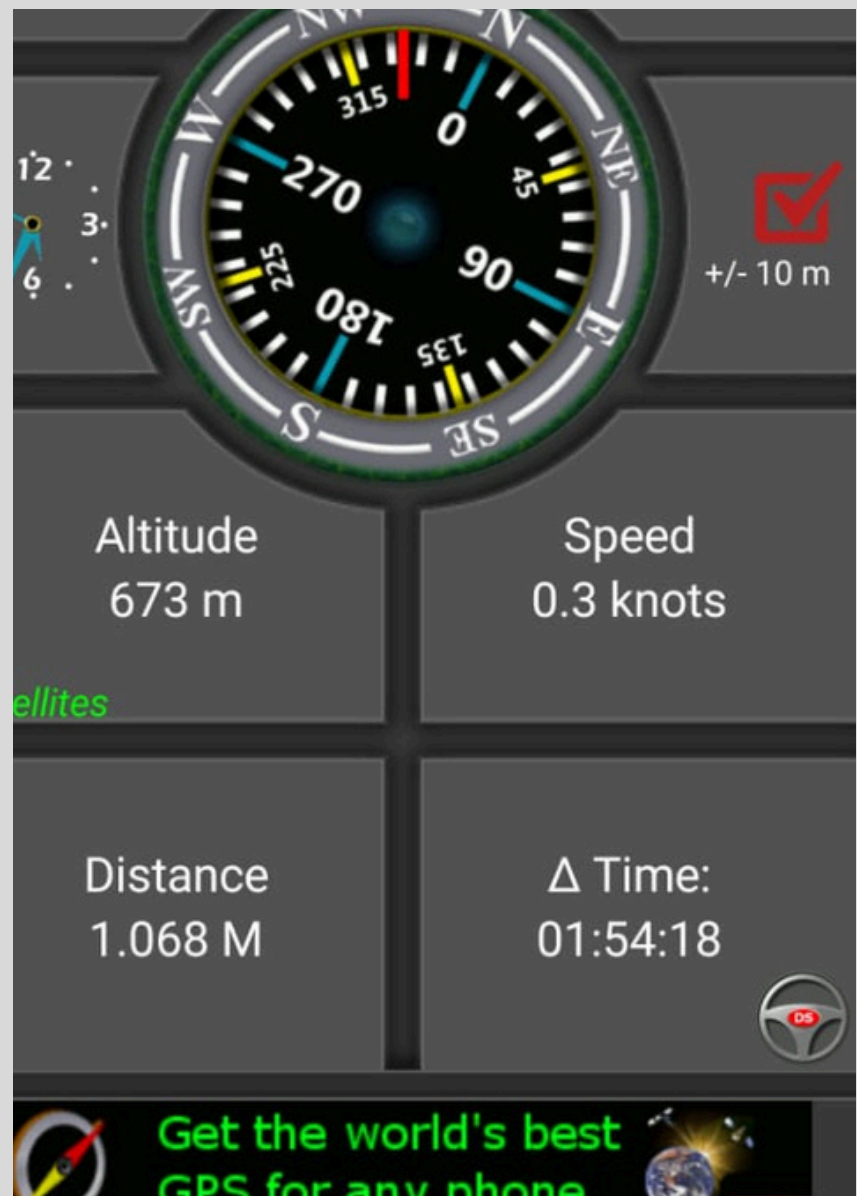


# Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



## PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

### MRV activities in different Blocks and villages conducted by the GFAs



MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) activities have been conducted across numerous blocks and villages, including Nongthyllep, Umket (Bhoirymbong Block), Kolapara (Gasuapara Block), Nongbareh Lyntiar, Nongblai, Sakhain, Mawkisyiem (Shella Bholaganj Block), Kudengrim, Maraikaphon (Shella Bholaganj Block), Akkarok Songgital, Katuligre, Jamge (Community Songsak Block), Omorpul, Dawa Chipit, Najokgre (Demdema Block), Jongdikgre, Chijong Apal (Dambo Rongjeng Block), Nongkyndah, Dalbotpara (Betasing Block), Kudeng Thymmai, Charipara Community, Jongdikgre Land Reserve, Naniigre, and Rongmachokgre villages. These efforts encompass extensive areas, aiming to establish sustainable resource management and maintain environmental standards within community and reserve lands.

# SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



## SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA



The 5th Regular Meeting of the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) was hosted by the IMC on **28 October 2024** to discuss progress on various project-related activities, including the status of financial disbursement and projected expenditures by November deadline, the preparation plan for loan component, plan for engaging the support of IMC during the interim period following the conclusion of the first phase, and other related matters. Participants included Shri Jun J. Momin, Deputy Project Director (DPD), SLM; Shri Debashish Rudra, Chief Financial Officer, MBMA; Dr. Florian Wieneke, Portfolio Manager NRM, KfW; Smt. Sangeeta Agarwal, Senior Sector Specialist NRM, KfW; Mr. Antonio Sartorius, Chief Technical Officer, IMC; and Mr. Alexander Lotz, GOPA AFC Backstopper, IMC

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