

# NEWSLETTER

**Updates of the Week**

17th 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 Exposure visits, Inspection and Mobilisation



Mr. Abdelkarim Sma, **Lead Regional Economist** for the **Asia and Pacific Division** at **IFAD**, and Mr. Piyush Kanal, **Country Programme Analyst** for India at **IFAD**, undertook a two-day visit to Shillong, Meghalaya, on the **9th and 10th of October 2024**. During their visit, they **assessed key MLAMP Project** intervention sites, including the **PRIME Hub** in **Umdihar, Ri Bhoi**, as well as the **Farmers Market** and **CMC** in **Lwai** and **Jabar Nongthulu** in **East Khasi Hills**. They also met with Dr. D. Vijay Kumar, IAS, **CEO of MBMA** and **Project Director of MLAMP**, to discuss project challenges, outreach efforts, and other strategic priorities.



On the **10th of October 2024**, representatives from the **Department of Economic Affairs**, Central Government of India, along with the DPMU, East Khasi Hills team, visited the BRDC's **Tissue Culture Laboratory and Polyhouse**. The visit, under the **Seed Secure Meghalaya Initiative**, focused on sustainable potato seed production using **Apical Rooted Cutting (ARC) technology**. During the visit, the delegation interacted with **MBMA staff** and **technical partners** to understand the processes involved in ARC production. They also engaged with **IVCS members**, who shared their experiences and benefits from the initiative.



## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

### Highlights of Workshops and Meetings



The **International Day of Rural Women 2024** was celebrated on the **14th October 2024** at **St. Edmund's College**, organized by the **DPMU, East Khasi Hills** in collaboration with the **Educational Centre and Social Science Research Counseling & Training (ECSSRC)** and the **NSS Unit of St. Edmund's College**. The event saw engaging addresses from notable speakers, including Smti. Aity Mary Khongjee, District Project Manager, Smti. Loretta D. Nongbri, Additional Director of MATI, Dr. (Mrs.) Ailin Nongbri, retired Associate Professor from the Department of Khasi at Shillong College, Smti. Therisa Syngkon, a member of ECSSRC, Prof. Randolph Langstieh from the Department of Social Work at St. Edmund's College, Smti. Suklin Dohling, a successful entrepreneur, Miss Doly Mary L. Lyngkholi, an NSS volunteer, and Smti. Sasana Kharkongor, Deputy Manager of DPMU.

The event saw over 100 participants, including representatives from IVCs across 11 blocks, teachers, NSS students, and DPMU staff.



A **one-day interaction with traders from various value chains** was held on **15th October 2024** at **Lumjingshai, Pohkseh, East Khasi Hills District**. The program focused on addressing the challenges traders face in their business operations, **marketing strategies**, and exploring solutions for more **efficient market operations**.





# MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood  
Improvement through Forest  
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)





## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

The Water Tank and MegLIFE Community Hall of Lower Rembigre VPIC in Tikrikilla.



### Nursery

Advancement of earth filling work at the Group 2 Dabakgre Community Nursery





# MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

## PLUP and Micro Plan Meeting at Nonglang Village

A meeting regarding PLUP and Micro Plan was held at Nonglang Village in the Mairang block, with the participation of community members and Mairang BPMU staff. During Focus Group Discussions on various activities for preparing the Micro Plan, the community addressed their issues, challenges, and proposed solutions. Through these sessions, the VPIC members presented the current forest cover map, resource map, and intervention map of the village to the community, effectively summarizing the Micro Plan preparation.



Phase II of the Belguri Community VPIC Hall project is currently in progress.







# Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)





PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

FPA Contest-3, held on October 8, 2024, at Durakalakgre VPIC in Rongram Block, West Garo Hills, in the presence of Implementation Consultant (IC) team , SPMU, and Ganol-Catchment Management Unit ( CMU)





PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA



The FPA-3 Contest continued on October 9, 2024, at Selbalgre VPIC with a total of 11 contestants, including 10 male participants and 1 female participant. The first winning idea of the FPA-3 Contest at Selbalgre VPIC was awarded to Shri Jackeyus M. Sangma for his proposal to construct an RCC (Reinforced Cement Concrete) check dam at the Chitra stream. This stream is the main water source for three key colonies: Miksak Gittim, Bagangre, and Eda Gittim. Shri Jackeyus highlighted that the construction of this check dam would significantly improve water availability, benefiting approximately 50 households in the area.

PRA exercise conducted at Laitmawlong Wahpein VPIC under Khatarshnong Laitkroh subdivision on 9th Oct 2024





PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

The FPA Contest-3 conducted by the Umiew Catchment on October 14, 2024, at Marbaniang VPIC, under Myllem Block. A total of 12 participants took part in the event including the IC team and SPMU.



The FPA Contest-2 was conducted on 14th Oct 2024 at New Dengasi VPIC under Rerapara Block, South-West Garo Hills. There were 11 (eleven) participants out of which 4 were female and 7 were male. Shri Ranford M Marak won the winner for his Hydraulic Arecanut Leaf Plate mini factory followed by Smt Chingme K Sangma in Fishery second place and Shri Subir N Sangma for his Mushroom cultivation winning the third place.





---

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA
 

---



The Ganol CMU team conducted FPA Contest No.2 at Nokatgre Village under Rerapara Block on 14th Oct'24. The event was marked by enthusiastic participation from the contestants, who brought forward various innovative ideas on livelihood activities. A total of 8 participants, each sharing unique and varied proposals, including-

Mushroom cultivation

Flower nursery

Post-harvest method of preserving fruits & Vegetables

Piggery

Betelnut/dry supari production

Promoting sustainable livelihood through digital literacy

Food processing (bakery)

Tent house initiative to prevent future felling of trees/bamboo



The Umiew CMU team's collaboration with the SPMU, IC teams and the community interaction regarding ESCOP, VLMAP, and past FPA contests must have fostered a rich exchange of experiences and insights.

The nursery site visit and discussions with SHG members were part of the program and the team also got to see the implementation of the winning ideas from FPA Contest No. 2 (cold storage) and FPA Contest No. 3 (check dam and catchment area treatment). Engaging with the community on these projects is essential for both monitoring progress and gathering valuable feedback.





# SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)





## SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA



As part of the ICM (Integrated Crop Management) campaign, SHG members in Bhoirymbong, **Ri Bhoi**, came together for a rally to raise awareness about natural farming. The event aimed at encouraging farmers to embrace sustainable practices, and as part of the ongoing efforts, 5 kg of oat seed was handed over by the BMMU staff to further support the initiative. ITEAMS also joined the farmers for an open discussion on how to market their agricultural produce more effectively. Discussions also covered key topics such as the Farmer Field School (FFS), intercropping systems, bio-stimulants, and other crucial elements of natural farming. The day's activities continued with the Persara SHG members, who established a multi-cropping system. Using a bed system for land preparation, they applied Ghana Jeevamrut before sowing the seeds, which included oats, carrot, radish, mustard, coriander, and cabbage.



An Integrated Crop Management (ICM) campaign was conducted in Umkrem Village, **East Khasi Hills**, aimed at improving farm productivity and sustainability. During the campaign, the principles of ICM were explained to the farmers. They received hands-on training on the preparation and application of Beejamruth, a natural seed treatment designed to boost seed vitality and enhance germination rates. This was followed by a practical demonstration of the ATM Model on a farmer's field, showcasing the integration of natural farming practices to

improve crop health and soil fertility. Participants were also shown how to prepare Beejamruth and were introduced to Neemastra, a botanical extract used as a natural pest repellent.

In the SHG meeting in Bibrage village under Chokpot block, **South Garo Hills District**, the benefits of nature agriculture were explained to the members, where it was emphasized that every member should have a kitchen garden. Also discussed were the A-Grade model (multi-crop system) and the method of planting multi crops in the betel nut crop.



Knowledge Management  
knowledge.mbda@gmail.com

## FOLLOW US ON

