

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

24th 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



October 18th 2024: Chief Minister Hosts Interactive Session at FOCUS Farmers Program and CM ELEVATE Conclave

In a significant step toward empowering farmers and entrepreneurs in the state, the Chief Minister of Meghalaya hosted an interactive session as part of the Integrated Program of the FOCUS Farmers Interactive Program and the CM ELEVATE Elevate Conclave. The event, held at Taj Vivanta, brought together Producer Groups (PGs) from across the state, facilitating direct engagement between the Chief Minister, government officials, and beneficiaries.



The program also connected PG members from various C&RD Blocks through an online platform, providing a valuable opportunity for dialogue. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of collectivization as a means to achieve fair trade and sustainable livelihoods for farmers. He reiterated the government's commitment to supporting these collectives with targeted interventions aimed at boosting rural development and bridging the gap between farmers and economic prosperity.

The event was attended by notable dignitaries, including Dr. M. Ampareen Lyngdoh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture; Shri A.L. Hek, Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary; Mr. Marcuse N. Marak, Cabinet Minister for PHE, Soil & Water Conservation, and Housing; Dr. D. Vijay Kumar, IAS, Commissioner and Secretary of the Planning Department and PD MeghaLAMP; along with Deputy Commissioners, Additional Deputy Commissioners, and Block Development Officers.

During the event, cheques were distributed to PG beneficiaries and CM Elevate program, further demonstrating the government's ongoing efforts to uplift rural communities and strengthen the state's agricultural economy.

 MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT



Celebrating the International Day of Rural Women: MBMA Observes a Week of Empowerment and Leadership Programs Across Districts

From October 15th to 18th, 2024, the International Day of Rural Women was celebrated throughout districts under MBMA, with DPMUs under MLAMP leading the observances. Inspired by this year's theme, "Women Cultivating Good Food for All," the programs expanded to cover crucial topics like food security, digital literacy, and leadership roles for rural women. Prominent community figures—including a Padma Shri awardee, career experts, legal professionals, and educators—addressed attendees on subjects ranging from gender equality and entrepreneurship to tackling domestic violence and enhancing digital skills.

The celebration also featured well-known entrepreneurs sharing personal journeys of overcoming challenges, motivating women to pursue growth and resilience. In some districts, including South West Garo Hills, East Garo Hills, and West Garo Hills, exhibitions were held to showcase products crafted by rural women, highlighting their skills and contributions to local economies.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Trainings



On the **16th of October 2024** an awareness program was conducted at Nongriniang village, South West Khasi Hills District, covering topics on Producer Group (PG) formation and expansion opportunities, focus was also given on coffee cultivation. The session included the identification of feasible land for establishing a mini processing unit to support local agricultural efforts and improve community livelihoods.

On **23rd October 2024**, a training session on the Soil Health Card (SHC) was conducted for MBMA volunteers by the District and Local Research Station & Laboratories in Sangsangre, Tura. A total of 17 participants from North Garo Hills (NGH) and South Garo Hills (SGH) attended the training. The main objective was to understand the significance of the Soil Health Card, assess the current soil status, and, over time, track changes in soil health influenced by land management practices. Following the training, volunteers gained skills and knowledge on soil health, enabling them to assist growers with crop-specific nutrient and disease recommendations for different soil types. The SHC provides a soil fertility status for each farmer, along with tailored recommendations.



Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



An interactive session was held at East Garo Hills on **21st October 2024** with CM-ELEVATE beneficiaries, accompanied by the distribution of sanction letters. Representatives from various line departments and banks participated in the session, discussing key areas including piglet procurement, insurance, shed construction, vaccination, and loan disbursement processes. Additionally, the session addressed the steps for acquiring weaving tools and equipment for sericulture and weaving beneficiaries, with respective departments offering guidance and support on these topics.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

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Highlights of Exposure visits, Inspection and Mobilisation



On **16th October 2024**, the INRM Team from DPMU **East Garo Hills** visited Lower Sambrak in Kharkutta Block to follow up on the progress of the Spring Protection project for the construction of a mini check dam.



A site inspection was conducted on the **17th of October 2024** at Kulang village, Ranikor C&RD Block, **South West Khasi Hills District**, in collaboration with the Agri PMU team. The visit focused on exploring precision farming techniques for Khasi Mandarin cultivation to improve productivity and sustainable practices in the area.

On **October 22 and 24, 2024**, the DPMU team visited the Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) in Kharkutta Block, **North Garo Hills**, to collect data for the MIS profile details, including CMC and service providers in sectors such as piggery, ginger, black pepper, vegetables, food and fruit processing, craft, and bamboo. The team discussed work progress and the importance of accurate record-keeping, covering several IVCS, including Tinsimina, Nehru, Kimkro, Kucholsan, Tangkamgipa, and Dapolpara IVCS Ltd.





MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT



On **October 17, 2024**, Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) and Micro Planning were conducted in Denggnagre and Lower Rembigre villages, under BPMU Tikrikilla in **West Garo Hills District**. In Lower Rembigre, Batch II, a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was held, with active participation from the villagers to identify key issues and challenges. Various maps, including an intervention map, were collaboratively created with the community and later approved by the general body.

Spring Mapping survey in Chiringpara



The MBDA MegLIFE Project, in collaboration with ACWADAM and CHIRAG, conducted a spring survey and mapping in Chiringpara, **SWG**H, on **October 16-17, 2024**. This initiative aims to improve water quality and revive drying springs through Springshed Management by mapping water collection areas, identifying recharge zones, and building structures for water capture and storage.

FMP Event in Anogre Village, October 2024



An FMP event was conducted over three days in Anogre village, from **October 15th to 17th, 2024**, led by the Programme Associate from the Tikrikilla Block.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

Community Nursery Training for Umsning Block Villages



On **October 18, 2024**, community nursery training was held for Group 2 villages in the Umsning Block. Led by the Forester and PA, the training focused on the importance, establishment, and maintenance of nurseries. Attendees also visited the KHADC nursery for an interactive session with the Ranger in charge and the Umsning Forester. Overall, the training was both engaging and extremely valuable for all participants.

Community Nursery Activities in Resubelpara Block



Activities at the Community Nurseries in Resubelpara Block include refilling and preparing the nursery at Thapa Matronggre, as well as creating nursery beds in Kosichora Group II village.



Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Project Awareness at Ganol Catchment

The project awareness program at Asnagre was quite fruitful, especially because of the vigorous participation of the nokma and other village leaders. The issues that were mentioned regarding water, erosion control, tree addition, and flood prevention indicate that the community members are aware of environmental issues, especially the Ganol River passing through the village and causing problems during the monsoons.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA



Visit to Thangsning and Jongksha, East Khasi Hills District

On **23 October 2024**, a field visit was made to Thangsning and Jongksha in East Khasi Hills with 26 participants present. The visit included Mr. Shanlang F. Lyngdoh (COO-LP, MSRLS), Mr. Yoobiangmi Lyngdoh (PM-Farm, MSRLS), Mr. Joshua Lyngdoh (IMC, SLM), Mr. Joshi Tuisum (Project Coordinator, SLM), Ms. Medashisha Khongwir (EARMACS), and representatives from BMMU Mawkynrew, including BPM, CC-General, CC-LP (Farm), and PE-LP (Farm).

Discussions focused on marketing strategies for natural farming produce through EARMACS, support mechanisms for natural farming farmers with SLM's assistance, and methods of intercropping, particularly with legumes, to improve soil nitrogen content. The expansion of natural farming into uncultivated areas was also encouraged, as this would enhance soil fertility. Guidance was also given to ECRPs, ICRPs, and farmers on the importance of timely task execution to ensure successful outcomes.

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