

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

06th March 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)**



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 BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AWARENESS AND WORKSHOP PROGRAMMES



CIFOR-ICRAF hosts a 3-day Women's Resource Rights learning and capacity development conference. The event's primary focus is Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA) in the context of land resource rights.

On February 27, 2024, the awareness cum demonstration programme emphasizing on broomgrass initiative, was held in Mawtepiew village within the Mawsynram C&RD Block. Simultaneously, the Financial Literacy Camp (FLC), jointly organized by the DPMU-SWKH office and MCAB Mawkyrwat Branch, convened at the BDO Office Hall in Ranikor C&RD Block.



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SITE INSPECTIONS & DOCUMENTATIONS

The GOAT Foundation team, accompanied by SPMU and BPMU Mawphlang Staffs, visited the Piggery Slaughterhouse of EARMAC at Lwai on February 27, 2024.



On 4th and 5th March, 2024, the Knowledge Management team documented the activities of the Service Providers (Umthlu IVCS and Nonglang IVCS) from WKH and (Sonaru IVCS and Chima Apal Bakrimesa IVCS) NGH as they demonstrated soil testing techniques.





MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Empowerment in Action



On this International Women's Day, let us celebrate the remarkable journey of Smt. Raisabao Momin, a beacon of empowerment and resilience. Her story resonates deeply, embodying the spirit of determination and the transformative power of unwavering commitment.

In 2014, Smt. Raisabao embarked on her journey with MBDA, driven by an unyielding passion to make a difference. Starting as a Programme Associate, she quickly ascended through the ranks, showcasing her dedication and leadership qualities. Her crowning achievement came in 2021 when she was chosen as the Block Project Manager for the prestigious MegLiFe project, a testament to her exceptional abilities.

Transitioning to a new role in 2023 presented Smt. Raisabao with a series of challenges, from a skeptical community mindset to daunting road connectivity issues. Yet, undeterred by adversity, she embarked on a mission to transform perceptions and foster community involvement. Her perseverance bore fruit in 2023, as her efforts led to successful forest restoration and the establishment of community nurseries, showcasing her proactive approach.



In 2024, Smt. Raisabao surpassed expectations yet again, exceeding plantation targets and earning recognition as the top-performing BPM in East Garo Hills. Her ability to overcome obstacles and deliver excellence sets her apart as a true trailblazer. Smt. Raisabao's impact extends beyond her achievements in the field. She has shattered stereotypes and surpassed her male counterparts, showcasing the true essence of empowerment. Her story serves as an inspiration to all, reminding us of the power of perseverance and the profound impact of unwavering dedication.

Today, as we honor women's achievements worldwide, let us draw inspiration from Smt. Raisabao Momin's journey. Let us celebrate her resilience, her courage, and her unwavering commitment to creating a better world. May her story inspire us to break barriers, defy expectations, and uplift each other as we continue on the path towards gender equality and empowerment.

Happy International Women's Day!

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

"Springshed Management Initiatives in MegLIFE: Enhancing Conservation Efforts in West Garo Hills and EWKH District"



The Springshed management team from MegLIFE engaged in various activities across different villages and blocks. They conducted spring inventories to identify critical springs in locations such as Gambarigre and Bugakolgre. Visits were made to villages like Jarimpara, Dana Bolongre, Nongsohma, Darengagre, Possengagre, and Umniangriang, where field surveys were carried out for Springshed Management in collaboration with MLSC, PSI, CHIRAG, and ACWADAM teams. Lithology studies and recharge intervention surveys were also conducted in some areas. These efforts aimed to enhance the management and conservation of springs in the region, particularly in the West Garo Hills District and EWKH District.

Community Engagement and Expansion of Plantation Efforts in Betasing and Gambegre Blocks



Mobilization commenced for the Plantation area within Betasing Block on March 1, 2024. Additionally, an interaction took place with villagers from Waro Songital VPIC Chokpot regarding the plantation area. Initially, only 8 hectares were allocated for Agroforestry, but following discussions with villagers, they offered an additional 22 hectares, bringing the total to 30 hectares. A meeting was held on March 4, 2024, in Chokpot group 2, Emandurabanda village, where previously 13.55 hectares were designated for plantation, and now,

villagers are offering more land suitable for plantation. Program Associate Galwanggre A from Gambegre Block elucidated the LULC (Land Use and Land Cover) map on March 2, 2023, illustrating areas such as scrub land and open forest where plantation initiatives could be undertaken. Villagers expressed their willingness to contribute land for plantation efforts during this session.



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.

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

"Formation of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) in Resubelpara Block, North Garo Hills District"



On March 4, 2024, the BPM from Resubelpara Block, North Garo Hills District, organized a meeting and awareness program about Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS). Around 70 villagers participated enthusiastically, expressing their keen interest in establishing an IVCS. They elected 50 promoters to assist in its formation. IVCS aims to provide financial services, particularly savings and credit, to its members, serving as a bank for farmers. Additionally, IVCS acts as a service provider for various stakeholders, facilitating better market access for farmers /Producers Groups/ Self Help Groups to sell their produce at higher prices and enhancing market linkages.

"Exposure Visit of MegLIFE Village Representatives to Tripura."



From the 4th to the 8th of March, representatives from MegLIFE villages in Dalu, Resubelpara, Umsning, and Umling blocks embarked on an exposure visit to Tripura.



On March 5, 2024, a visit was conducted to Dumindikgre Village in the Rongram block and Damjongre Village in the Selsella block, accompanied by Sir Ivan Areng, the District Project Manager (DPM) of West Garo Hills (WGH). A meeting was convened with the communities to deliberate on various agroforestry models. Both villages expressed agreement to allocate more land for agroforestry, and plans were formulated to delineate the designated areas for this purpose.



Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY



MegARISE staff, a KFW-funded project, had a meeting with the Chief Project Director of MegARISE, Shri Sampath Kumar, IAS, at the Secretariat in Shillong on March 6th, 2024. Shri Gunanka D.B., Additionally, Project Director of MegLIFE/MCLLMP/MegARISE, gave a short presentation on the progress status of the MegARISE-KFW project, during which several suggestions and inputs for involved departments were provided.

The staff present at the meeting included managers from different verticals such as GIS, KM, NRM, Social, and Capacity Building, including Shri James Kharkongor, DPD of MegARISE.



In a proactive move to foster community involvement, the EKH-CMU orchestrated a vibrant Public Awareness program at Pdengshnong on February 29th, 2024. The event drew the attention of numerous villagers eager to learn and engage with the initiative.

Led by the committed efforts of the CMU's CPM, attendees were meticulously briefed on the primary objectives of the project. This informative session served as a cornerstone for disseminating crucial information and galvanizing local support.

Looking ahead, the CMU aims to amplify community awareness through an exciting series of competitions slated for the upcoming weeks. These competitions are strategically designed to encourage active participation and empower residents to contribute meaningfully to the project's success.

With these initiatives in place, the EKH-CMU stands poised to strengthen its bonds with the local community, fostering a spirit of collaboration and collective progress in the pursuit of shared objectives.



Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Brewing Success: A Tale of Empowerment in Tyrsad Umkseh



As the sun rises over Tyrsad Umkseh, a village embraced by the nurturing arms of the Mawphlang block, the spirit of Women's Day dances on the breeze. Here, amidst the rolling hills and whispered tales of resilience, a young woman stands as a testament to the strength and determination of her gender.

Born into the humble embrace of a stalwart stall owner, she embodies the essence of empowerment, gracefully juggling two roles with a resilience likened to the mountains that watch over her village. Thanks to the transformative interventions of CLLMP, she has discovered newfound opportunities that have illuminated her path.

By day, she presides over a quaint tea stall, where the fragrant symphony of brewing leaves intertwines with the vibrant symphony of community life. With each cup poured, she pours warmth and camaraderie into the hearts of her fellow villagers.

As night falls like a soft embrace, she transforms into a skilled tailor, her nimble fingers weaving tales of silent strength into every stitch. Through her artistry, she captures the essence of her community, stitching together stories of resilience and hope.

Her journey is a testament to the transformative power of Women's Day, exemplifying the triumph of women breaking free from the shackles of tradition and drudgery. Through her inspiring example, the village blossoms with newfound unity, prosperity, and promise for the future.

On this special day, let us celebrate not only her journey but the countless women around the world who embody the spirit of resilience and empowerment. Together, let us continue to nurture a world where every woman has the opportunity to thrive, to shine, and to shape a brighter tomorrow for generations to come.



Happy Women's Day!



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



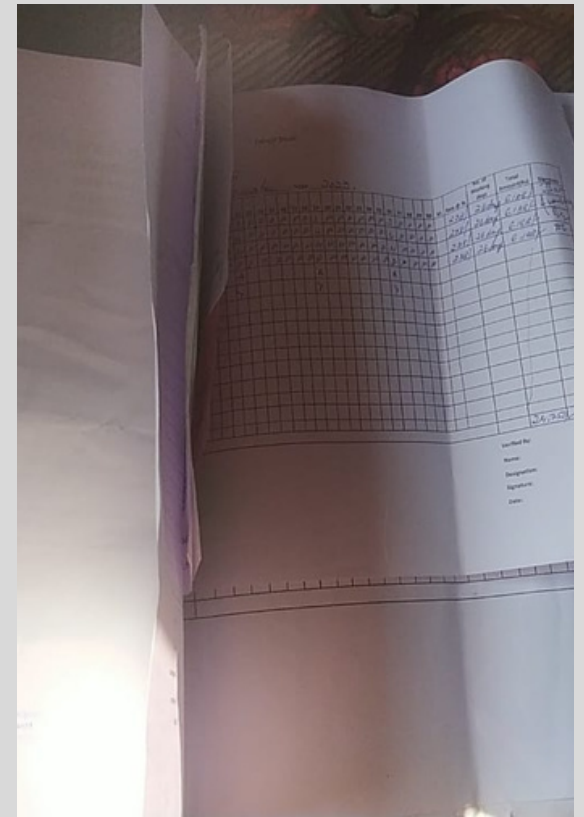
MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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



Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) is a process of PES_GREEN Meghalaya conducted to assess the performance of the beneficiaries' activities as outlined in the scheme, through this process the quantum of next installment under the PES Scheme can be determined. MRV has been carried out for 381 communities only, that received funding for Year 1 in December 2022. Out of these, 324 communities have been selected to receive funds for the Second Year. The MRV activity for 381 communities commenced on February 5, 2024, led by GREEN Field Associates at Block Level in collaboration with Village Community Facilitators (VCF), and completed on February 17, 2024. Note: Beneficiaries with missing data, falling under WLS, NP, RF, Not received funds in year 1 and 0% Payment are under Review.

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.

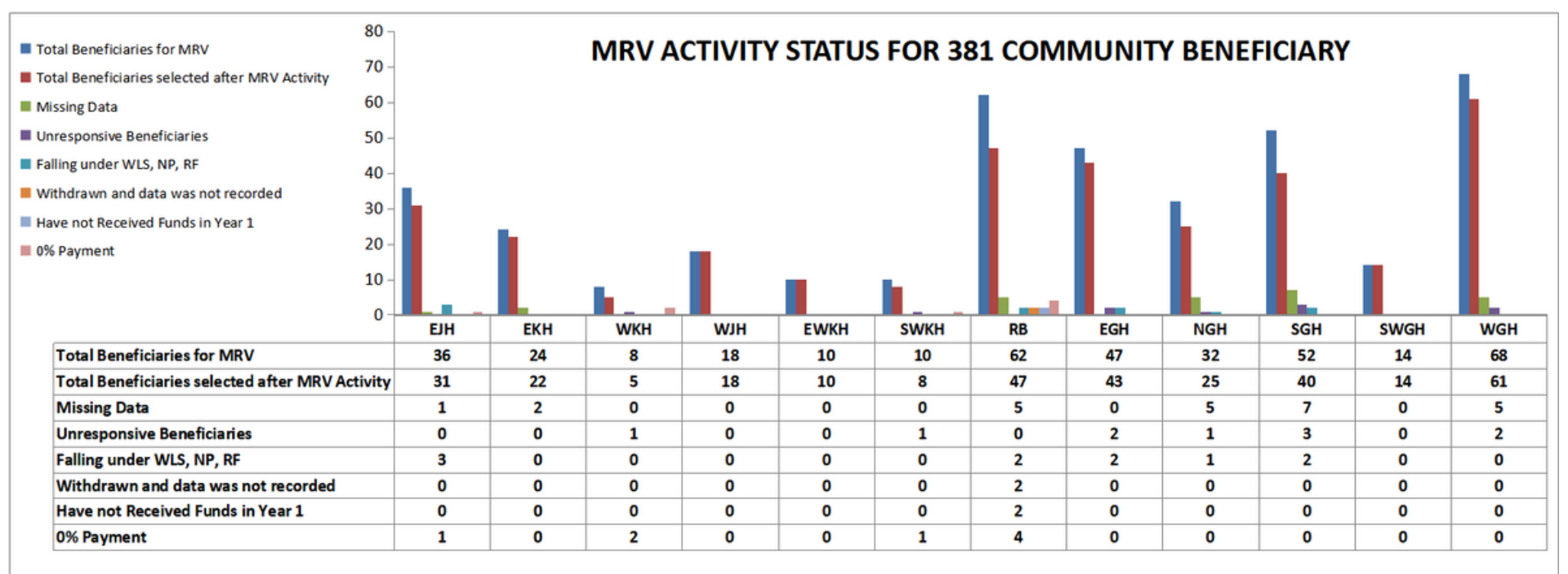


Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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 H	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)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES



On March 4th, 2024, the Honorable Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad K Sangma, officially inaugurated the Aromatic Plant-Based Sanitary Pads Unit in Rongdong, South Garo Hills District. With the introduction of the Re'King Sanitary Pad, a medicated sanitary napkin, that represents a significant stride toward improved health and opportunities for women. Developed and marketed by Dabram IVCS, this remarkable napkin incorporates a unique technology pioneered by CSIR CIMAP. The successful transfer of this technology, was facilitated by the Megh Aroma Mission of the Institute of Natural Resources.

This accomplishment transcends the mere introduction of a napkin; it embodies the empowerment of rural women entrepreneurs. The Megh Aroma Mission plays a pivotal role in supporting these women, nurturing environmentally friendly and sustainable livelihoods within our state.

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