

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

14th August 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



RF * INRM * ISC-ED

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

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Inauguration of Oyster Mushroom Cluster and Support for Rubber Collection



On August 13th 2024, Shri Conrad K. Sangma, Honorable Chief Minister of Meghalaya, inaugurated the Oyster Mushroom Cluster and Common Facility Centre at Mendipathar in North Garo Hills District. He also flagged off vehicles and equipment to support rubber collection in the region. During the event, progressive mushroom farmers from North Garo Hills, who successfully cultivated over 1500000 kilograms of mushrooms on their own land, were recognized and awarded for their achievements.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Workshops & Training Programmes



To enhance pig rearing in the state, a one-day interactive workshop on “Efficient Production and Management Practices in Pig Farming” under the “TAMINER Project” was conducted at MAMETI, Upper Shillong, on 13th August 2024. Issues and challenges faced by pig farmers in the state were thoroughly discussed. The aim of the workshop was to develop strategies to address these challenges in order to increase profits, market share, and the quality of meat to better cater to the supply chain. The workshop was attended by service providers in piggyery under the MeghaLAM Project, IVCS members, and others.



The assessment of Service Providers for the Garo Hills Region was conducted over two days, on 12th and 13th August 2024, at SMELC, Tura. A total of 168 Service Providers (SPs) under the MeghaLAM Project from all five districts of the Garo Hills Region were assessed. The assessment focused on value chains for Black Pepper, Ginger, OSV, Pineapple, Banana, and Cashew.



A workshop on "Efficient Production & Management Practices of the Honey Value Chain" under the TAMINER Project, in collaboration with MBMA-DPMU EKH, was held on 12th August 2024 at Diengkynthong Primehub. The objective was to understand the volume and challenges faced by beekeepers and to explore ways to increase honey aggregation at the Diengkynthong processing unit.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Insights from the SUSTAIN SECAP Training for IFAD PMUs in New Delhi



A four-day SUSTAIN SECAP Training for Project Management Units (PMUs) was held in New Delhi, India, from August 6th to 9th, 2024. Organized by the Value Chain Capacity Building Network (VCB-N) / HELVETAS under contract with IFAD Rome, the training provided PMUs from India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka with essential knowledge to address Environmental, Social, and Climate (ESC) issues and integrate SECAP standards into their project cycles.

The training gave deeper insights into IFAD SECAP standards, learning how to apply them within project activities. The training included practical exercises, such as project-specific risk assessments, development of mitigation measures, adaptation of procurement processes to SECAP requirements, and stakeholder engagement strategies. Additionally, participants had the opportunity to share insights and address queries related to project-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESCMs). The event also served as a valuable platform for collaboration and strengthening partnerships within IFAD and beyond.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Enhancing Cooperative Development through Cross-Learning and Bookkeeping Training for IVCS Members



DPMU Ri Bhoi conducted a 3-day Bookkeeping Training for IVCS Managers at Mawroh Hall, Nongpoh, from 12th to 14th August 2024. Some of the important points discussed during the training included:

1. Daily maintenance of cash books and ledgers.
2. Maintenance of stock registers.
3. Addressing loan overdue issues.
4. Implementation of credit and deposit policies.
5. Calculation of savings and loan interest.



The Cross-Learning Program exposure visit was successfully organized for the IVCSs of East Jaintia Hills at Nongkdait Nongtwah IVCS Ltd, SWKH, on August 9, 2024. The visit aimed to promote collective learning and growth among IVCS members. The program facilitated knowledge sharing, skill exchange, improved capacity building, and collective development. It also strengthened cooperative societies through shared experiences and best practices, ultimately achieving its objectives and making a positive impact on the participants.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

IVCS Cluster Meetings, Elections, and Awareness Program



On August 8, 2024, the Inaugural General Meeting and inquiry for four IVCS clusters—Belguri Chaknari, Bawa Namgipa, Four Star, and Ravagre Seventar—were successfully conducted and approved by JCO Shri Apsar Sangma, BPM, and the IVCS Nodal Person. The agenda included the election of the President, the approval of the IVCS group names, the setting of admission fees, share values, and maximum share capital, as well as the election of the Secretary and managing committee members. Additionally, on August 9, 2024, an Enquiry cum IGM for the Kolkatola Cluster in Betasing Block, South West Garo Hills, was successfully held. Furthermore, an awareness program on Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) took place in Laitdiengsai, East Khasi Hills District, on August 16, 2024, with 47 participants, where the concept of IVCS was introduced, focusing on its principles and potential to support local businesses like mushroom farming.

Spring Mapping in Betasing, SWGH



Spring mapping in Betasing Block, South West Garo Hills (SWGH)

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

Insights from KAP Surveys, Baseline Assessments, and Capacity-Building Initiatives in Garo Hills and Laskein"



One-day orientation workshop on the Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) and Baseline surveys was held at Burny Hills, Tura, bringing together the district teams of the Garo Hills region as part of ongoing project activities. The KAP survey is to help understand community perspectives and behaviours toward project activities, while the Baseline survey sets the starting point for measuring the project's impact over time. Present at the workshop were the project coordinator, the assistant project coordinators, and the district project manager, WGHD.



On 13 August, a visit was made to the LIFE Spices Processing Cooperative Society Ltd. in Laskein to provide sensitization on the SLM project and its convergence with the Cluster Development Programme (CDP). The discussions covered the application process for Working Capital Grants, the importance of preparing and submitting Utilization Certificates (UC), the necessity of Social Agreements, and the documentation of Minutes of Meetings (MoMs).



Two-day training programme on PGS-INDIA Certification organized by the Regional Centre for Organic Farming, Imphal, in collaboration with BRDC.

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