

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

5th September 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

Highlights of Trainings



A one-day training session for Service Provider Credit Linkage of IVCS was held on August 27, 2024, at Wika Guest House, Khliehriat, East Jaintia Hills. The training aimed to review progress and provide guidance to Service Providers in achieving credit linkage targets at the IVCS level.



On September 4, 2024, the SPMU Team, Shri L. Kharkongor and Smt. B. Nongsiej, conducted Business Plan training at Sohphoh IVCS in collaboration with DPMU, West Jaintia Hills. The training, attended by the IVCS manager, members, and the Service Provider, aimed to equip the IVCS with the skills needed to develop a three-year business plan.



On August 28, 2024, the DPMU South West Khasi Hills District conducted Farmer Field School (FFS) training on livestock for members of Khonjoy IVCS, with a focus on the Bokashi method. The training covered the preparation of Oriental Herbal Nutrient (OHN), Fermented Fruit Juice (FFJ), Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB), and shed preparation using layers of wood logs, dried leaves, soil, and Indigenous Microorganisms (IMO).



On August 30, 2024, training on the MIS AppVerse application for data collection at the field level was conducted for IVCS in-charges and managers from all IVCS in East Khasi Hills at the District Project Management Unit office. A similar training was held the same day for IVCS office bearers and managers of MLAMP Blocks in West Garo Hills at the SMELC Building, Dakopgre, Tura. The training was later extended to Phase III IVCS office bearers and managers on September 3, 2024. Awareness on the Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) was also provided during both sessions.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Inspections



On August 30, 2024, an external inspection of Kyrdemkhla IVCS Ltd's books of accounts and activities was conducted by Shri S. Thanksale (AGM, NABARD Assam RO), Shri D. Sarkar (AM, NABARD Assam), and Shri B. Thangkhiew (Deputy Manager, MCAB Shillong). They provided guidance on improving thrift and credit practices, along with proper documentation for the Micro ATM, particularly regarding technical issues. The Managing Committee members and the Secretary of Kyrdemkhla IVCS Ltd were present during the inspection.

A field visit by the System Integrator (SI) to the IVCS in South West Khasi Hills District was conducted from August 21 to August 31, 2024, for hands-on training in computerization. The training covered data entry, member shares, savings, loan management, and system software configuration.



A mobilization program was conducted at Thadmusem IVCS, West Jaintia Hills, on August 29, 2024. During the event, 16 members were enrolled, and 35 savings accounts were opened, totaling Rs. 77,790/- (Seventy seven thousand seven hundred ninety.)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



A review and planning meeting for the Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Markets Project was held on the 29th and 30th September 2024 at Tancia, East Khasi Hills District. The meeting brought together key stakeholders from the State Project Management Unit (SPMU) and District Project Management Units (DPMUs) to discuss major expenditure items and deliverables.

Participants engaged in detailed discussions on the current issues and challenges affecting the project's progress. They also explored strategies to expedite the completion of critical activities, emphasizing the need to adhere to a defined time frame. The collaborative session aimed to align efforts and ensure that project goals are met efficiently and effectively.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



Thadmuseum IVCS in West Jaintia Hills held its AGM on August 30, 2024. The agenda included a report presentation, renewal of office bearers, adoption of the credit and deposit policy, and the selection of a Service Provider.



On September 2, 2024, DPMU North Garo Hills held a review meeting for the Service Providers (Piggery) of 19 IVCS under Kharkutta Block at the Block Office Training Hall. Dr. Bontina Momin, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Officer cum BDO, Kharkutta C&RD Block, reviewed the activities of the Service Providers.



An interaction with CM-Elevate applicants was organized by DPMU, West Garo Hills at the SMELC Building, Dakopgre, Tura, on September 2 and 3, 2024, in collaboration with Allied Line Departments and Partner Banks. A total of 247 beneficiaries from the Poultry, Piggery, and ARVS sectors participated. A similar program was held by DPMU, North Garo Hills on September 3, 2024, at the Training Hall, Mendipather Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Ltd., with 53 beneficiaries from the Piggery, Poultry, CFC, and Warehouse sectors. Officers clarified procedures, subsidies, and loan details, with beneficiaries responding positively and committing to comply with the terms.



A Review Meeting cum Workshop on the INRM Progress Status under MLAMP for the Eastern Region was held on September 4, 2024, at the MBDA Conference Hall. Attended by INRM Nodal Persons, Field Engineers, and Technical Assistants, the meeting focused on reviewing the progress and current status of INRM initiatives.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT



JICA Mission, North Garo Hills 2024!

Ms. Inagaki Yukari and Ms. Sushma Sen Adarshi, representatives from JICA, had a 3-day visit over the weekend to review MegLIFE Project progress, including site visits to Thapa Dangre & Ajasiram villages. The team was warmly welcomed by community members along with Shri A.K. Singh, IAS, DC-cum-Chairman of MegLIFE NGH DPMU, & APD MegLIFE Shri Gunanka DB,IFS. The team engaged in community interactions, cultural performances and important discussions regarding progress of the project. The mission concluded with MegLIFE Awards 2024, recognizing staff dedication in rural development.



Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) Contest under Ganol Catchment



FPA 1st contest was conducted on 29.8.24) at Selbalgre, Rongram block with a total participant of 21 school students both from L.P and U.P school and 7 contestants for storytelling. The storytelling competition featured Shri. Ringjeng Sangma, the oldest participant at 84 years old, who is a great-grandchild of the Selbalgre residents. His participation added a meaningful connection to the village’s heritage. The 1st prize was awarded to Mr. Balison Sangma (64 years), for his story on the existence of Selbalgre village and traditional conservation practices.

Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) Contest under Umiew Catchment



The FPA Contest No. 2, themed "Sustainable Livelihood," was held at Mawrashe on August 30, 2024, with eight participants presenting innovative ideas. Third place went to Kong Syrpailin Kurkalang for her floriculture proposal, while Kong Sonit Kurkalang secured second place with a plan for a fruit tree nursery and floriculture. The winning idea came from Kong Wansuklang Umdor, who impressed the judges with her proposal on mushroom cultivation, offering a sustainable income-generating opportunity for the village..

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) under Umiew Catchment



The CMU EKH team held FPA Contest No. 2 on "Sustainable Livelihood" at Mawkhanpasil Village on August 31, 2024, with 15 participants presenting diverse ideas. Kong Shongdor Nongkhlaw won with her proposal to create storage facilities for agricultural produce and a polyhouse for seeds, offering significant benefits for local agriculture..

Highlights of PRA Exercise under Umiew Catchment- Marbaniang village(Myllem Block)



The EKH CMU team conducted a PRA exercise at Marbaniang Village on September 4, 2024, with strong participation from women. The primary challenge identified was water scarcity during the winter. Tools used included resource maps, forest condition maps, trend change maps, ownership maps, daily activity clocks, SWOT analysis, problem analysis, and Venn diagrams.

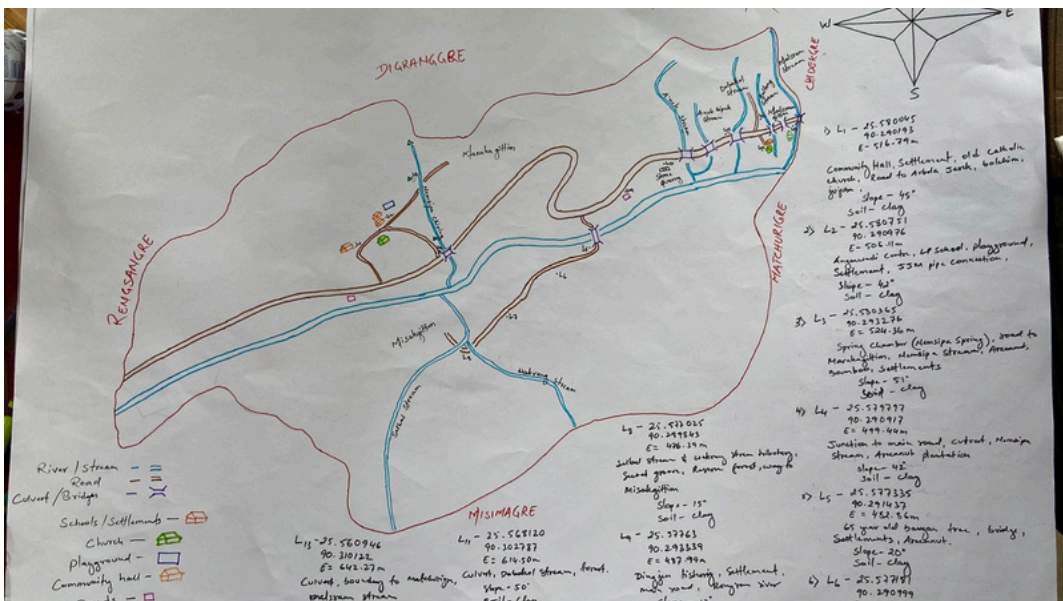
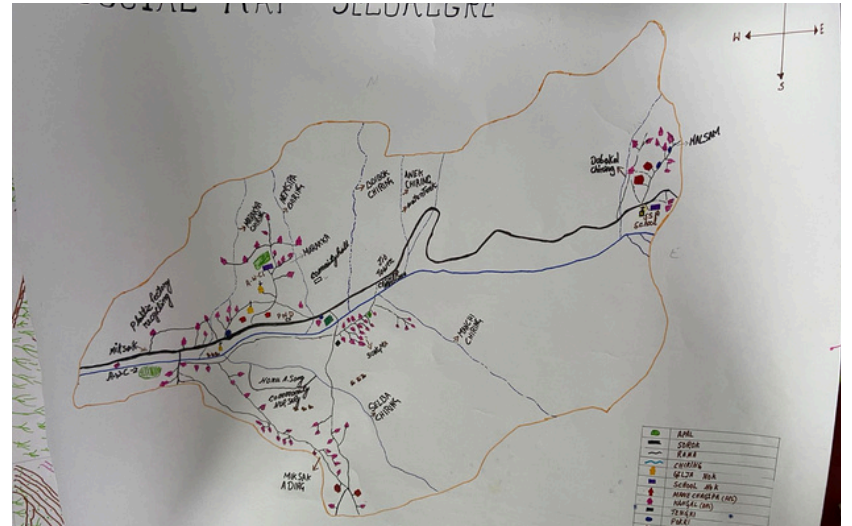
 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Baseline Survey under Umiew & Ganol Catchments


The Centre of Excellence (CoE) under MBDA has initiated a baseline survey as part of the MegARISE Project to assess socio-economic, livelihood, and environmental conditions in villages within the Umiew and Ganol Catchments. This survey aims to gather essential data for planning future activities in the project areas. This in-depth assessment focused on land use, water resources, forest cover, biodiversity, and local livelihoods. Trained surveyors, deployed by the CoE, began the survey on September 2, 2024, and will continue across various villages throughout September and October.

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

**Highlights of PRA Exercise under Ganol Catchment at Selbalgre, Rongram Block:
27th - 28th Aug, 2024**



A comprehensive PRA exercise was conducted, utilizing tools such as social mapping, wealth ranking, resource mapping, Venn diagrams, trench change, seasonal calendars, forest maps, ownership maps, Chapati clock diagrams, historical timelines, and SWOT analysis. During focus group discussions, the community highlighted critical issues including water scarcity, the endangerment of local seeds, and soil degradation.

A subsequent transect walk, led by the field engineer, revealed significant potential for implementing soil and water conservation measures. The observations also pointed to opportunities for enhancing plantation and village landscapes through agroforestry and SALT techniques, as well as the possibility of developing tourism in the area.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA (SLM)



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT, MEGHALAYA

Insights from KAP Surveys, Baseline Assessments, and Capacity-Building Initiatives in Garo Hills and Khasi Jaintia Region

Activities facilitated by MSRLS on Organic Farming



In Myriaw Village, Mawthadraishan Block, farmers prepared beds for potatoes and transplanted cabbage and mustard using Beejamruth and Ghana Jeevamruth.



In Jongksha Village, Mawkynrew Block, multi-cropping is in progress with green peas, beans, carrots, beetroot, knol khol, coriander, and lettuce.



Azolla plantations were introduced in Rongjeng Block to support natural farming.



MSRLS showcased natural farming practices in Thadlaskein Block.



An orientation on the Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey, as well as Baseline surveys, was conducted in Shillong. The session, facilitated by the SLM PMU, was aimed at preparing the district teams for these surveys.



A two-day meeting was held with farmers from all four project villages under the Sohpoock FPC. The meeting aimed to engage the farmers, discuss project progress, and address any concerns or queries.

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