

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

29th 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

Highlights of Exposure Visits



On August 26, 2024, an exposure visit to Jabar Lumtop Jaud IVCS in Sohiong C&RD Block, EKHD, was organized by DPMU, WJHD, with participation from the SP (Livestock, OSV) and CMC managing committees from both blocks, featuring a brief overview of the Jabar Lumtop Jaud IVCS, an interactive session among participants, and a field visit to the CMC, Piggery Mission, and demo plot.



An exposure visit to Nongduh IVCS was organized by DPMU, WJHD on August 26, 2024, to promote collective learning, knowledge sharing, and skill exchange. The aim of the visit was to enhance capacity building, foster collective growth, and strengthen the IVCS through shared experiences and best practices.



An exposure visit was organized by the Marketing Initiative, MeghaLAMP, under the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA), involving fifty-three members, including the Chairman and Secretary of the PRIME HUB committee from the Eastern Region, senior staff from SPMU, and onboarded entrepreneurs. The visit, which took place on the 21st and 22nd of August 2024, included stops at Mendipathar PRIME HUB, Tikrikilla PRIME HUB, and Rongram (Babadam) PRIME HUB. This experience allowed the Chairman and Secretary to evaluate and identify key products that should be prioritized for intervention within their respective PRIME HUBS.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Trainings



On August 19 and 29, 2024, Shri Abell Lyngdoh (System Integrator), along with MBDA staff, conducted personalized training on the process of DCT, data migration, and ERP login at Lakroh IVCS and Moosakhia IVCS, respectively.



Training on the MIS Appverse was conducted for the staff of DPMU-SGH at Prime Hub, Tura, on August 23, 2024. On the same day, similar training was conducted by DPMU-WGH for the MLAMP staff at SMELC Building, Tura.

Training on the MIS MLAMP Appverse for DPMU staff and IVCS managers of MBMA South West Garo Hills, Ampati, was organized by the Monitoring and Evaluation unit of MeghaLAMP, District Project Management Unit, South West Garo Hills, Ampati. The training took place at the DPMU office in Ampati on August 22, 2024.



Personalized training on demo ERP and live ERP was imparted to the secretary of Nongkhroh IVCS by the Branch Manager of MCAB Jowai on August 21, 2025. The training program included modules on membership and savings.

Personalized training on demo ERP and live ERP was imparted to the secretary of Madur IVCS by the Branch Manager of MCAB Jowai on August 19, 2024. The training program covered modules on membership, savings, term deposits, and loans.

The training on Governance and Management for the 2nd batch of IVCS Board Members was successfully held on August 14, 16, and 17, 2024, at Dkhiah East Community Hall, EJHD, with 14 IVCS cooperatives in attendance. The objective of the training was to enhance the governance and management skills of the IVCS board members, enabling them to effectively lead and manage their respective cooperatives.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Inspections



On August 23, 2024, a joint field visit was conducted with ARCS Tura, Veterinary Dr. Gilsang Ch. Marak, DPM Incharge, and DPMU staff from SWGH. The team visited Manchak IVCS to inspect the construction of the piggery shed and interacted with the society's members. They also visited Rongkhon Songital Cooperative Society to observe the pig fattening unit and engaged with the Secretary and Chairman. Additionally, the team visited Purasinga village under Betasing Block to review the pig fattening unit and discussed with the Secretary and society members their second installment for the breeding unit and the repayment of loans.

On the 20th of August, 2024, joint inspections were conducted by the IVCS in-charge, TA, and CIP consultant at potato demo plots, along with IVCS representatives and service providers from Kyiem, Pyndenglitha, Nongur, Wahsohlait, Mawthlong Mynsain, and Jabar Lumtop Jaud IVCS under Mawphlang and Sohiong C&RD Block to discuss interventions. The discussions covered land preparations, input requirements, land and social agreements, checklists, the procurement process under INRM funding, the training/sowing calendar, and the mobilization of PG and non-PG members for training, as well as the plan layout.



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



A workshop-cum-review meeting on CMC for the IVCS with CMC under Baghmara C&RD Block, SGH, was conducted by DPMU-SGH in collaboration with the Cooperation Department at Krima III Hall on August 27, 2024. The meeting was attended by Shri Suman T. Sangma, SCO, Cooperation Department, Baghmara, who contributed valuable insights based on the audit report. Key points discussed included the proper management of CMC working capital, the distribution of profit between the IVCS and investors based on the amount of funds invested by both parties, the need for the creation of a new sub-committee for this purpose, proper record maintenance, and strategies to address loan overdue issues. Additionally, awareness about the GRM was imparted to the representatives of IVCS.



A block-level review meeting for the IVCSs under the Ranikor C&RD Block was held on August 27, 2024, in the presence of Shri Steveford Marwein (MCS), BDO of Ranikor C&RD Block.



On August 23, 2024, DPMU SWKHD organized a district review meeting cum training on Appverse at the DRDA Conference Hall, Mawkyrwat. The meeting was attended by all components under MLAMP, FOCUS, VDV, and the Farm Manager.

An awareness program on the formation of IVCS was conducted on the August 23, 2024, at Pashang Village under Mawkyrnrew Block, in the presence of Smt. E. Marbaniang, Sub-Registrar of Cooperative Societies, East Khasi Hills District.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Workshops & Meetings



On, August 22, 2024, a workshop-cum-review meeting on CMC was conducted for the representatives of IVCS with CMC under Chokpot C&RD Block, South Garo Hills, attended by officers from the Cooperation Department. Based on the audit findings, the Cooperation Officers recommended that the IVCS open an additional bank account named the 'Others' Account. This account would be used exclusively for depositing CMC working capital and other business-related funds, simplifying fund management and record-keeping for the IVCS. Additionally, participants were made aware of the GRM platform and agreed to use it as needed.



On August 22, 2024, a weekly review meeting was held at the DPMU Office, Ampati, with the IVCS Incharge, INRM Nodal, FE, Technical, M&E, Accounts, RF MT, VDV Nodal person, and DEOs. The discussion covered INRM, UC collection, and pending works. The FE shared updates on the bank account statement of NRM accounts, and the DPM provided insights on focus activities under Rural Finance. Staff management at the district level was discussed, including roles for contact persons in computerization, credit linkage, member mobilization, savers and borrowers in IVCS, and business planning and implementation. Responsibilities were assigned accordingly to each IVCS Incharge, as well as to the INRM Nodal and District Admin, particularly for credit linkage. It was noted that, as discussed in Thursday's VC meeting, the district team identified a commerce graduate who can guide the IVCS Manager and support credit linkage at the field level. Additional topics included targets, CMC UC collection, processing units, markets, and Prime Hub.



The DPMU, WJHD conducted an Awareness cum Mobilization and Sensitization program on August 16, 2024, at Mupliang IVCS with the objective of enrolling new members in the IVCS.



A meeting with SRCS and inactive IVCS for the preparation of the audit was held on the of August 14, 2024, at Saitsohpen, Shella Block.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Highlights of Awareness Programme & MSP



An awareness program on IVCS mobilization was held at Umphrew Village, within the area of operation of the IVCS. PG members under FOCUS attended, along with the executive committee of the village. The outcome of the program included the spot registration of 10 individuals for membership and 16 for savings under Mawlai Block.



A one-day cluster-level MSP programme on black pepper and orange value chain products was held by DPMU, SGH, along with a resource person from the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at Siju Rongkenggittim, under Baghmara C&RD Block, SGHD.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

IVCS Cluster Meetings, Elections, and Awareness Program



Kasibil Cluster enquiry cum IGM conducted under Betasing Block, SWGH.

State-Level Workshop on Future Strategy, Technical Sessions, and Team Building



The SPMU MegLIFE staff organized the first-ever three-day state-level workshop to strategize future plans, and set targets for upcoming activities, while also strengthening team bonds. The event aimed to acknowledge the hard work of staff and motivate them to strive for excellence in achieving project goals.

The first day of the workshop focused on technical sessions covering different component activities such as GIS, EPA, SWC, and the SALT Farm & Agroforestry model, including a Knowledge Management session for nodal KM staff.

Day 2 included sessions on IVCS & SHG target setting, springshed management, finance, and procurement challenges. Capacity building and MIS issues were addressed, and the day concluded with cultural programs, team-building activities, and outdoor games.

The final day started with a focus on HR topics, with Additional Project Director Shri Gunanka D. B., IFS joining to reflect on the project's achievements and outline future expectations. The day concluded with a presentation of the workshop outcomes, followed by the announcement of MegLIFE awards for the best-performing staff.



Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya (MegARISE)



PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Two-day workshop conducted for MegARISE staff

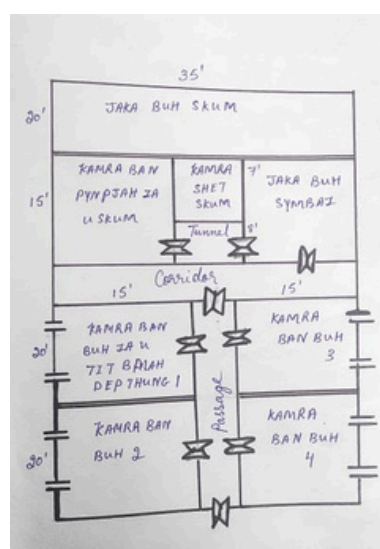

A comprehensive two-day workshop was conducted on the 6th & 7th of August 2024 for MegARISE staff on various key aspects of project management including Global Training Plan, Training Needs Assessment (TNA), Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), Community Engagement Planning Framework (CEPF), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The workshop was facilitated by the Implementation Consultants team- Mr. BK Tiwari and Mr. Steffen Schuelein, IC S&E Safeguard Expert and Mr Amba Jamir . The workshop was an essential event for aligning staff to meet project demands and ensuring effective community engagement and environmental management practices.

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


The second Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) contest was held at Demthring Village , under Myllem Block, EKH District on August 9th 2024. The winning idea was awarded to Kong Teacherlin Sohlang, who presented on "Solar Energy and Vermicomposting." Her innovative approach to combining sustainable energy with environmentally friendly composting practices earned her the top award.

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

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



The second Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) contest was held at Pombot Village under Myllem Block, EKH District on the 10th August 2024. The best winning idea was awarded to Shidalin Lyngdoh Nongbet and her proposal submitted was to have a cold storage at the village level which will cater to the need of all village members and help them to fetch a better market price especially since the village is well known for mustard and potato cultivation.

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



The Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) 1st Contest held on August 14th, 2024, at Selbal Nokat under Rongram Block, West Garo Hills District was a great success with active community participation! A wide range of ages involved in different activities. The storytelling participants spanned from elders aged 67 to the youngest at 24, showcasing diverse experiences and perspectives. Additionally, the drawing competition in Group 1 featured participants as young as 5 years old up to 13 years old, highlighting the creativity of the younger generation.

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) under Umiew Catchment

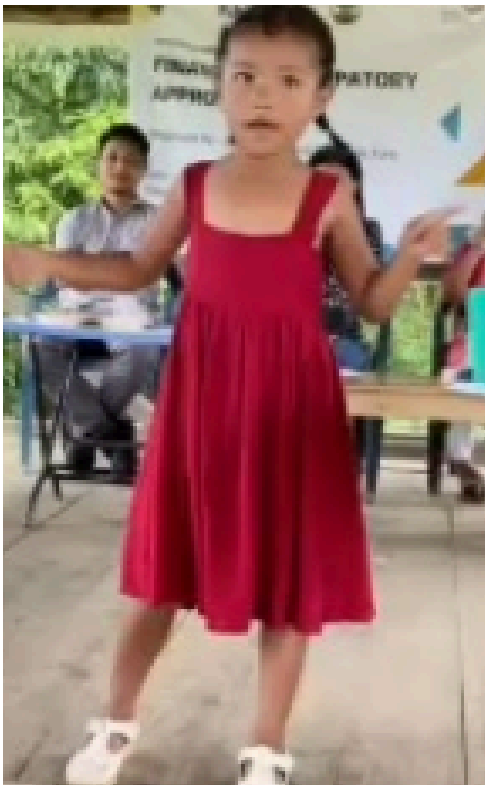

The 1st FPA contest was held on the 17th Aug 2024 at Mawrashe, under Myllem Block, EKH District. The children as well as adult community witnessed & participated for the first time in the drawing competition and story telling.



The Drawing and Storytelling competitions seem to have really engaged the community, with a significant number of participants in each category held on the 17th Aug 2024 at Mawkhanpasil under Myllem Block, EKH District. It's wonderful to see the creativity shown by the children in the drawing competition, especially in expressing their thoughts about the environment. The storytelling competition also sounds fascinating, especially with the participants sharing stories about the origin of the village's name, "Mawkhan," and its cultural significance.

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

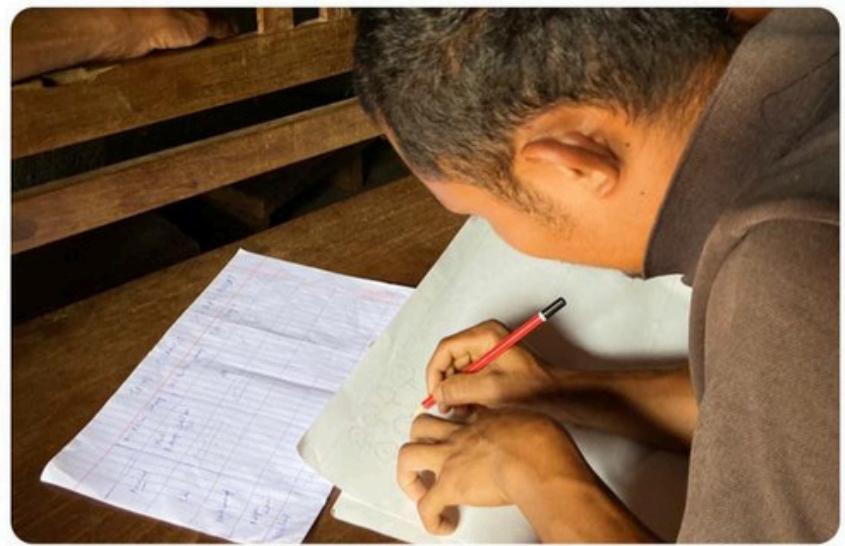
Highlights of Financial Participatory Approach (FPA) under Ganol Catchment



The second FPA contest at Mandal Nokat in the Samanda block, East Garo Hills District was another successful event, with good community engagement and participation. The fact that there were seven contestants presenting their own project ideas shows a strong commitment to creating sustainable solutions that can benefit the community. The event was held on the 19th Aug 2024

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of PRA Exercise at Ganol and Umiew Catchment



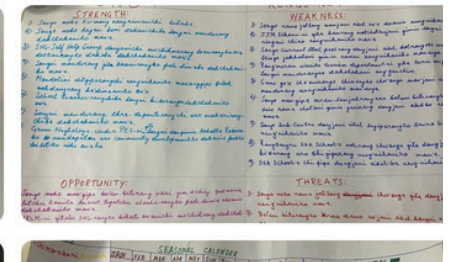
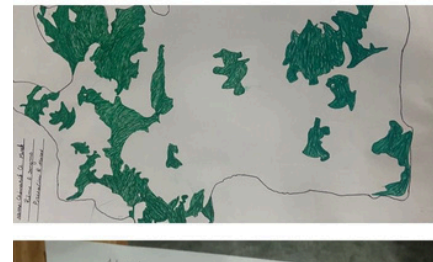
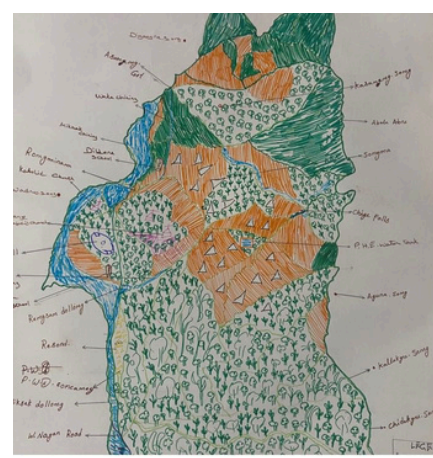
Ganol Catchment Team conducted Two day PRA exercise on the 12th-13th August 2024 at Selbal Nokat, Rongram Block, West Garo Hills District



The Umiew Catchment Team's PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) exercise at Mawrashe and Mawkhanpasir under Myllem Block on August 14th and 16th, 2024, which was a thorough and productive assessment.

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of PRA Exercise at Ganol Catchment



Two day PRA exercise was conducted on the 20th and 21st Aug 2024 at Rengsanggre, Rongram Block, West Garo Hills District. Apart from capturing information through various PRA tools, the team also conducted focus group discussion with women where they have highlighted their major problems faced in day to day life.

Highlights of FPA Contest at Ganol Catchment



The FPA 1st contest in Rengsanggre Village was a wonderful event, filled with cultural performances and community spirit. The vibrant start with the school children's performance and the women's group singing the Garo traditional song "Chanting" must have created a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone involved. The competition saw participation from both children and adults. These events not only highlight local talent but also help in preserving and celebrating cultural traditions.

 PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of Project Awareness Programme



Project awareness (VPIC formation, PRA, FPA) at Laitkynsew under 12 Shnong-Laitkroh Block on the 13th August 2024



Awareness program and Ground Truthing conducted at two villages Chibra Agal and Kama Dumindikgre under Rongram Block on August 17th, 2024. It was learnt that the community's socio-economic dynamics, particularly regarding the benefits the people of Kama Dumindikgre derive from the multi-purpose cooperative society located in Babadam.

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA

Highlights of FPA Contest 3 at Umiew Catchment



Contest 3 was a great success in Pombot village, with strong participation and impactful ideas. Kong Mebelsha Lyngdoh's proposal to improve the water source at Wah Shrieh through afforestation and constructing a water reservoir is particularly significant, given its direct impact on the community's drinking water supply. Her emphasis on sustainable water management reflects a forward-thinking approach to ensuring the village's long-term well-being. The quote, "Pyllang ia ka um mynta na ka bynta ka jingshngain ka lawei," beautifully encapsulates the essence of her proposal, highlighting the importance of taking action (to store water) now to secure a better future. The event was held on the 23rd Aug 2024.



FPA Contest 3 also took place at Demthring Village under Myllem Block on the 23rd Aug 2024 , focusing on the crucial theme of Community Infrastructure for Soil and Water Conservation. With 10 participants actively engaging in sharing their ideas, it's clear that the community is committed to improving to water security and sustainability.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



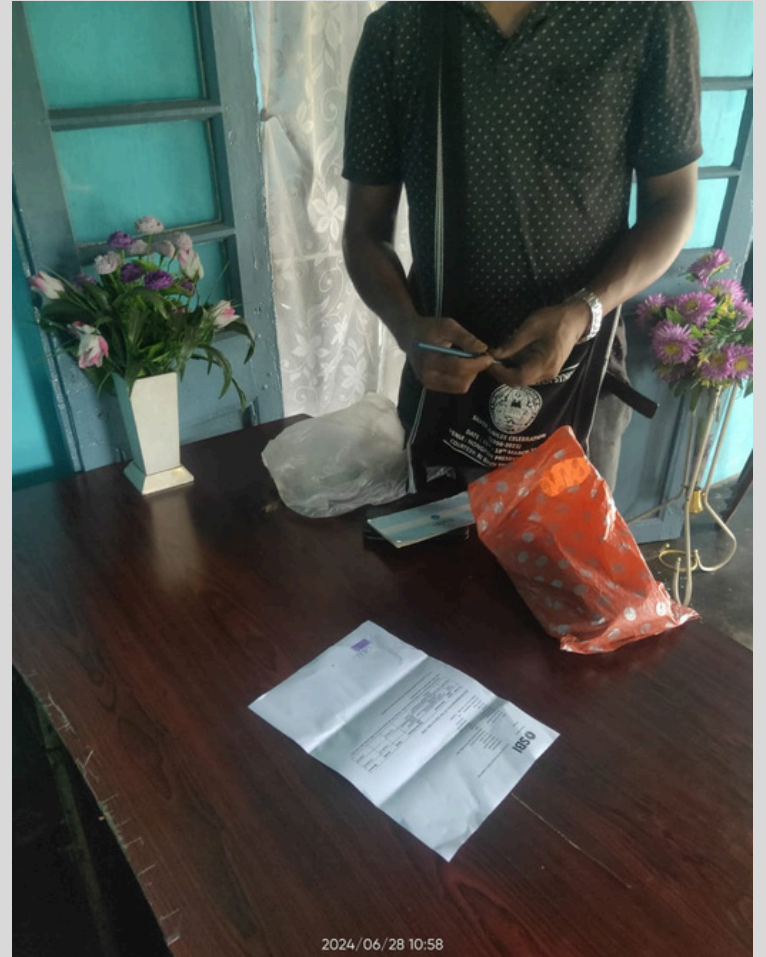
PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

"Site Inspection Visits and Meetings by GFA"



2nd year PES activities carried out by Dubagre community

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.

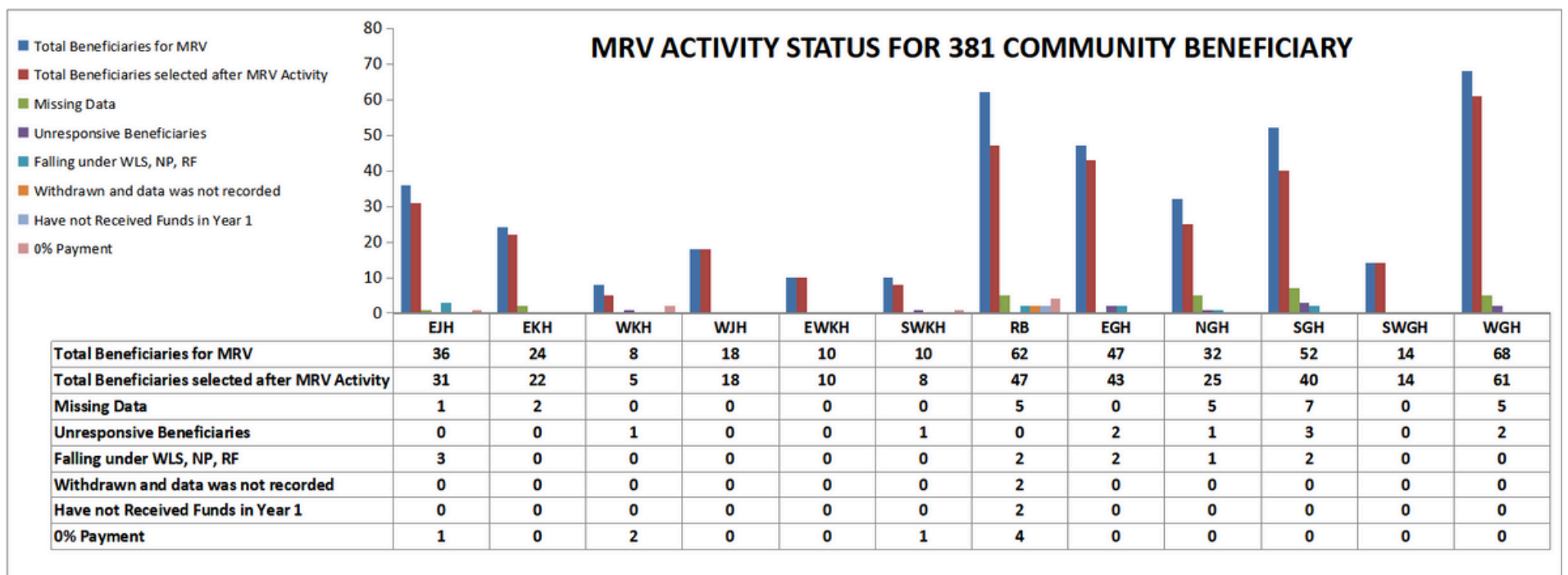


Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).

PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

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	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



Knowledge Management
knowledge.mbda@gmail.com

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