

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

26th June 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)



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

Insight from CM-Elevate Mela



Beneficiaries of the CM-Elevate Mela from across the East Khasi Hills district had a one-on-one interaction with bank officials from various banks during the event held on June 27, 2024. This event was organised by the DPMU, EKHD under the Meghalaya Livelihoods & Access to Markets Project. The beneficiaries gained clear understanding of the loans, subsidies and grants available to them. Bank officials provided valuable suggestions and feedback on the steps required to expedite the disbursement of the sanctioned amounts. The programme has significantly benefitted many individuals and groups seeking support to expand their activities. the CM-Elevate Mela is an ongoing event organized by the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency across the state. A similar programme is also being conducted in the Garo Hills region.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

Insights from the CM-Elevate Mela & Tribal Artisan Mela



The CM-Elevate Mela, organized by the DPMU, EWKH, took place on June 26, 2024, at the Tirot Singh Memorial Hall, Pyndengumiong. A significant highlight of the event was the interactive session between entrepreneurs and bank officials, where entrepreneurs inquired about loan eligibility to support and expand their business ventures.

The event also featured the Tribal Artisan Empowerment Mela, conducted in collaboration with the District Administration, Government of Meghalaya, MBMA, IIE, and NEHHDC. The ADC, EWKH, attended as the chief guest, and officials from various government departments, DPMU, SPMU, banks, CM-Elevate representatives, farmers, entrepreneurs, SHGs, and IVCSs. Farmers and entrepreneurs from the district showcased diverse products, including crafts, spice products, wine, handicrafts, and woolen goods.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

"Enhancing Agricultural Practices and Market Accessibility in Garo Hills: Insights from Recent Visits and Programs"



On 21st June 2024, delegates from France and regional heads from BMGF visited Lwai in the presence of several key figures: Shri J. Marbaniang, Assistant Manager from SPMU; Shri R. Rangslang, Consultant; Shri W. Nongbri, Assistant Manager from DPMU; Smt. M. Kurbah, PGDF, EFC Mawphlang; Shri M. Wahlang, Chairman of EARMACS; Shri M. Thabah, Secretary of EARMACS; Dr. C. Lyngwi, Veterinary Specialist; and Dr. M. Shylla, Veterinary Specialist. During the visit, the delegates inspected the pig quarantine unit, fattening unit, and slaughtering unit. They engaged in discussions with representatives of EARMACS regarding enhancing and upscaling the Piggery value chain. The delegates provided important feedback on proper feeding management for pig fattening and adopting hygienic practices in the fattening unit.



A program was conducted for the INRM representatives of 67 MLAMP villages in Kharkutta Block, North Garo Hills, regarding the collection of UCs (Utilization Certificates) and SOEs (Statement of Expenditure) for NRM interventions. The program focuses on collecting UCs for INRM interventions and preparing necessary documents and vouchers. It is expected to ensure the collection of all UCs and supporting documents without fail.



A visit to Suktia IVCS was conducted to meet with the MC Members and discuss the assessment and future business plans regarding Dry Ration for the top 100 IVCS. Additionally, a site inspection of the arecanut processing unit was conducted by Shri Ferdy Nongspung (FE), in the presence of Shri Ivan R Marbaniang (Senior Manager), SPMU IVCS i/c, and the IVCS Manager.



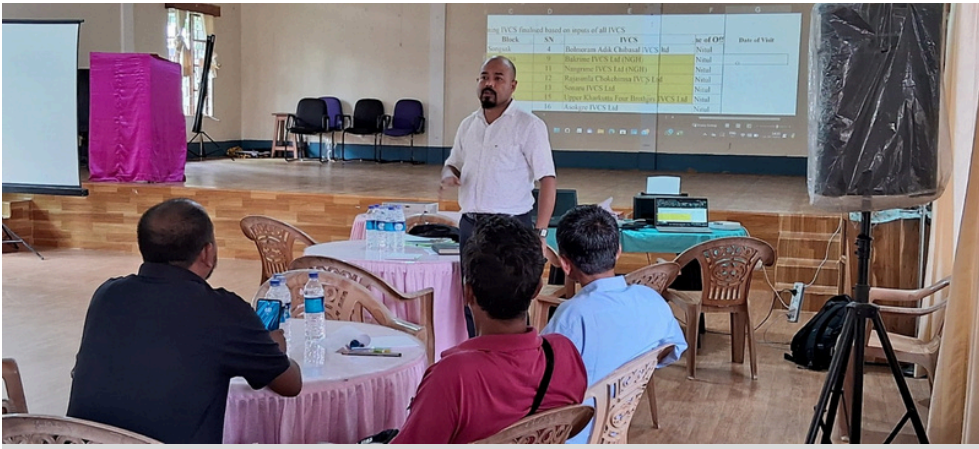
Market inspection was conducted for the Shilliang Um Farmers and Traders Association at Lawmei Farmers' Market. The association supplied more than 50 tons of carrots and capsicums to Mizoram and Assam. Most of the vegetables were sourced from nearby villages such as Mawlumtum, Mawlaiteng, Mawlaingut, Krang Nongrum, and Nongpathaw.



Inspections of the Lwai and Lawmei farmers' markets were conducted in the presence of the market's Incharge and members of the market committee to assess the requirements for additional structures and plinth area. Additionally, a demo plot under Mawlumrum IVCS was inspected for the implementation of INRM interventions as required.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

"Enhancing Economic Sustainability: Empowering Cooperative Societies in Garo Hills through Food Processing and Capacity Building"



Shri Nitul Das, AGM and RPM, MLAMP-Garo Hills Region, conducted the preparation of a business plan for dry ration and a review of IVCS for representatives including Chairmen, Secretaries, MC Members, and the designated personnel for dry ration from the top performing IVCS of North Garo Hills at Mendipathar Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd. During the session, the business plan was explained to the participants, and the IVCS representatives expressed their willingness to participate in the dry ration initiative. Additionally, a briefing was provided on the assessment of IVCS and the importance of advancing them to the next level.



Two days of training on food processing were conducted at Resubelpara, North Garo Hills, for the members of four IVCS that have received funding for food processing. These IVCS are four brothers IVCS Ltd., Rajasimla Chokchimsa IVCS Ltd., Tinsimina IVCS Ltd., and Nangrime IVCS Ltd. Three of these IVCS received Rs. 2 Lakhs each, while Rajasimla Chokchimsa IVCS Ltd. received Rs. 4 Lakhs as support funding from MLAMP. The resource persons for the training were Smt. Baldilla T Sangma and Smt. Silseritha Marak, prominent entrepreneurs in the food processing industry. Following the training, the IVCS are preparing to establish bakery and food processing units under their respective organizations.



Bookkeeping training and concept seeding sessions were conducted for Group Facilitators, FOCUS Facilitators, FOCUS Volunteers, and NGO Partners of North Garo Hills and South Garo Hills. The training took place at MMCS Training Hall, Mendipathar, NGH, and BBC Conference Hall, Baghmara, Tura, respectively. Smt. Gimzera Sangma, Manager, FOCUS (GHR), led the session on Concept Seeding and Bookkeeping. Shri Sujib Mishra, Manager, SPMU (GHR), focused on UC Collection, and Smt. Venecia N Sangma, Manager-KM (GHR), guided the selection of the best PGs.

In the Garo Hills Region, a total of 277 Group Facilitators, FOCUS Volunteers, and NGO Partners were trained. Participants acknowledged that Bookkeeping was new to them but expressed confidence in mastering the task with practice.



In North Garo Hills, the cultivation of ginger rhizomes was carried out for a ginger demonstration plot by the SPs and DPMU Team at Tinsimina IVCS Ltd. A similar program was conducted at Nangrime IVCS Ltd., where they utilized the SIRI variety of ginger.

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKET PROJECT

"Strengthening Rural Communities: Promoting Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Agriculture in Garo Hills"



An FLC program at Pyndenglitha was conducted by the Branch Manager of MCAB Sohiong. The main purpose of the program was to raise awareness among IVCS members about the benefits of banking and KCC loans. The Branch Manager also mentioned that the bank is willing to collaborate closely with IVCS to facilitate bank account openings for farmers, recommend KCC loans, and provide other necessary loans to members as needed.

During the program, some members raised a question: if they still have outstanding loans in one bank, can they apply for another loan in a different bank? The Branch Manager clarified that they can apply, but approval will depend on their credit score with the bank.

The outcome of the program is that IVCS will serve as a platform or link between the bank and its members for credit and savings activities.



The Financial Literacy Programme (FLP) was conducted at Pangchakram IVCS Ltd., under Bajongdoba Block, North Garo Hills by DPMU-NGH. The participants responded enthusiastically, and IVCS is expecting increased membership, share subscriptions, and higher participation in savings and loan activities following the program.



An Orientation cum Meeting on Dry Ration and other matters for Top Performing IVCS of Garo Hills was conducted at SMELC Dakopgre, Tura, by Miss Venecia N Sangma, Manager (KM), Garo Hills Region, and Shri Sujib Mishra, Manager, SPMU. The discussion primarily focused on Dry Ration, with briefings provided to the representatives of the concerned IVCS regarding rates, quantities, and the procurement process.

During the program, individual IVCS discussions were also conducted, during which they expressed their specific requirements for dry ration.



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT THROUGH FOREST ENCHANCEMENT PROJECT

"Women Nurture Thriving Plantation in Ajugre"



22 community nursery

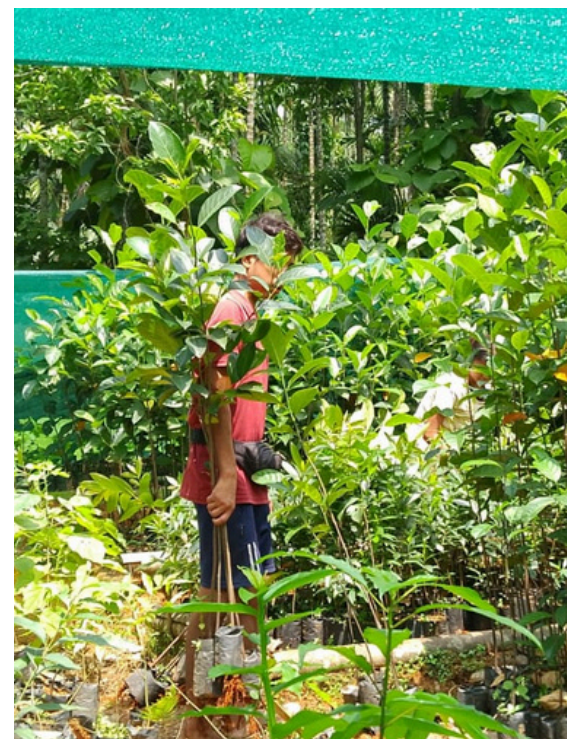


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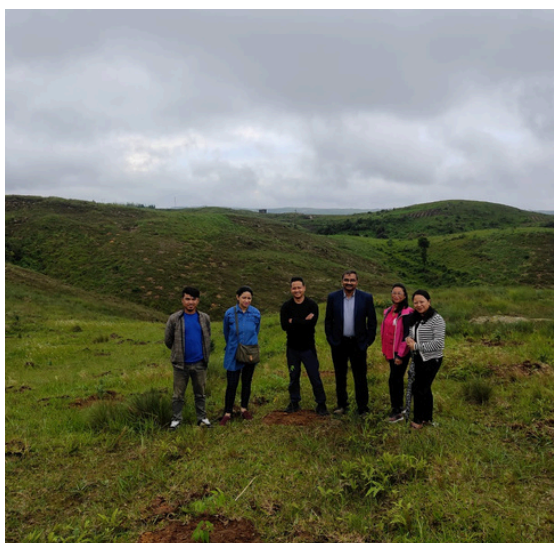


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In Ajugre village, women have nurtured a thriving 10.82-hectare plantation, making a daily journey from a nursery near Aju stream to plant over 2,500 seedlings. Their efforts embody community resilience, environmental stewardship, and sustainable growth, offering hope and prosperity.



Transferring saplings from Rajasimla Songgital VPIC to their ANR plantation site



The SPMU team visited the Veterinary and Dairy Departments in Laitmysang and Mawdulop villages in Mawkynrew Block to select the ideal site for the Silvopasture model of AGF. The BPMU team in Mawkynrew expresses their gratitude for the valuable insights gained during this visit.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

"Site Inspection Visits and Meetings by GFA"



Visit to Upper Rongdotchi Forest Reserve to oversee ongoing PES activities.

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.

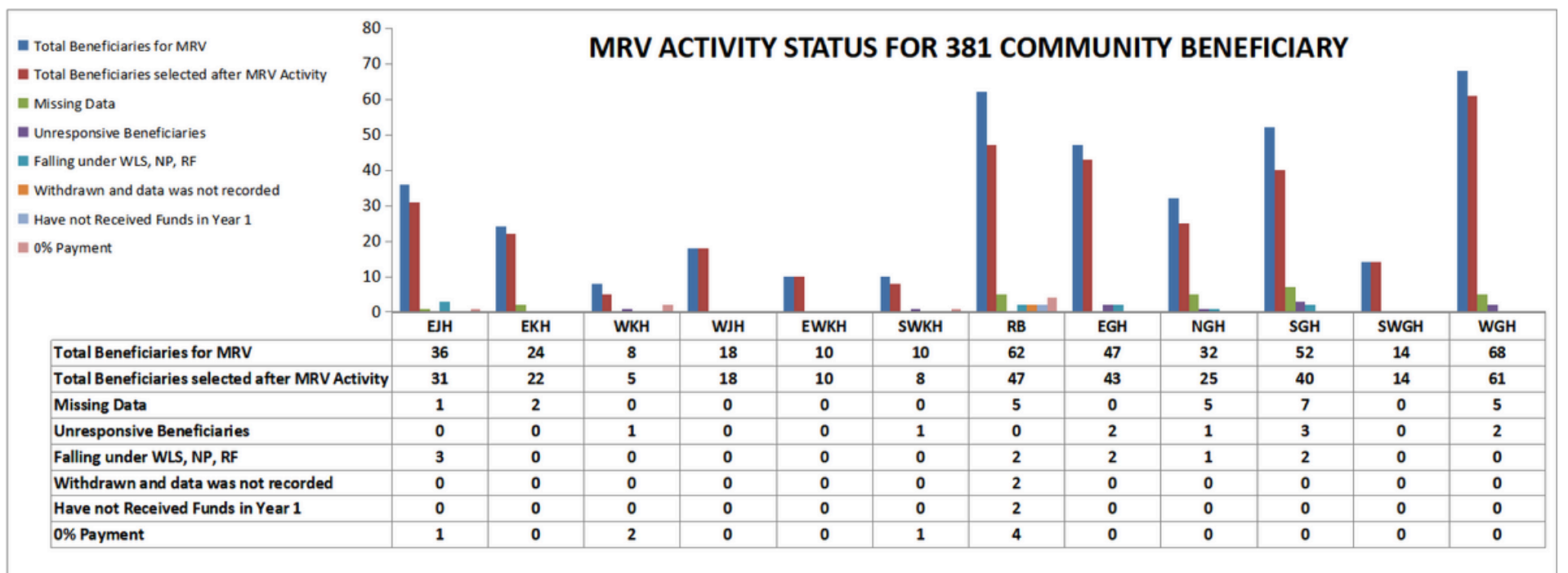


Meetings are underway with beneficiaries of the payment for ecosystem services scheme. The sessions encompass guidance on effective fund utilization and timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UC).

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



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