

NEWSLETTER

Updates of the Week

31st January 2024



**THE MEGHALAYA COMMUNITY LED LANDSCAPE
MANAGEMENT PROJECT (MCLLMP)**



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT
THROUGH FOREST ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (MEGLIFE)**



INSTITUTE OF NATURAL RESOURCES (INR)



**THE MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO
MARKETS PROJECT (MEGHA-LAMP)**



**FARMERS' COLLECTIVIZATION FOR UPSCALING OF
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SYSTEMS (FOCUS)**



**THE MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY
(MBMA)**



**THE MEGHALAYA BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(MBDA)**



Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP)



UPDATES OF THE WEEK

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Meeting at Prime Hub Tura Discusses Carbon Financing in Garo Hills



On January 24, 2024, a meeting was held at Prime Hub Tura to talk about MRV (Measurement, Reporting, and Verification) in PES Ganol Catchment Villages and the Carbon Financing project in Garo Hills.

Dr. S. Ashutosh, along with other key people, led the meeting, which included discussions with experts from Shillong. They talked about how to measure and report environmental efforts and the plans for a project to finance activities that help reduce carbon emissions.

Later that day, the team visited Zikzak block to chat with the local community about Carbon Financing. They also organized a simple program to explain what Carbon Financing is and what its goals are. This is part of an effort to involve and inform the local residents about the project and its positive impact on the environment in Garo Hills.



On January 24th and 25th, 2024, KfW officials led by Mr. Ralph Lennertz and Dr. Brajesh Tiwari, visited Arbella Chidekgre, Chibasalgre, Dura Kalakgre, Matchurigre, and Bibragre Villages under Rongram Block and gathered vital information, focusing on social and environmental factors. This initiative aims to better understand and address community needs in the region.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

"Project Village Exploration: Field Visits by GFAs"



On January 29, 2024, Brenash N Sangma, a Green Field Associate, undertook a visit to Rongmachokgre village Reserve to assess the advancements in their boundary demarcation efforts. Concurrently, Jingshisha Bareh, another Green Field Associate, conducted a site visit in Bataw village, Khliehriat Block.

SNIPPETS

APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT OF ECO-SYSTEM SERVICES (PES) FORM - A

Sl. No.	Particulars	To be Filled by the Applicant
Reference ID (to be filled by office):		
A. Details of Applicant		
1	Name of Applicant (owner of the forest)	Dilma Songgital Reserve
2	Category of applicant (Village/Community/Clan/Individual)	Community
3	Contact Details (ph. Nos., email ID)	7630989249
4	Bank Details of the Applicant/s	
5	Address:	
	Village:	Dilma Songgital
	Block:	Reshulpara
	District:	North Garo Hills
C. Details of Forest		
	How much area of Natural Forest (in hectare) do you propose to conserve?	30 hectare
	Note: Maximum area eligible to propose is 5 Hectare.	
	Natural forest should not have any commercial plantation or mono cropping (like arecanut, Pine tree, Sal plantation, cashewnut plantation, coffee, rubber etc.)	
	Is the forest registered as community reserve with Forest Department? (Yes or No)	NO
	Is the forest traditionally recognised as a Sacred Grove? (Yes or No)	NO
	Does the forest have Living Root Bridge? (Yes or No)	NO
	Please provide the names of the head of all households that use or are dependent on this forest	

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).



MegLIFE

Meghalaya Livelihood
Improvement through Forest
Enhancement Project (MegLIFE)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

“General Meetings and Awareness Sessions across various Blocks for IVCS”



The IVCS general meeting for VPIC, organized by various Block Project Managers (BPMs), took place on January 24, 2024, in the villages of Gambaregre and Chibokgre within the Rongram Block, West Garo Hills District. Simseng Gading VPIC oversaw the gathering in Gambaregre, while Sagal Nokat led the session in Chibokgre. Concurrently, another meeting focusing on the establishment of IVCs and creating awareness at the cluster level occurred for Gindopara, Silsekgre, Chinapgre, Derikgre, Rencha Apal, and Dijingro Apal VPICs at Rencha Apal cluster hall, Rongram block, WGH. These VPICs were also provided with a flipchart on Plantation and Community Nursery.

On January 25, 2024, an awareness session regarding IVCS formation was conducted in the Chandigre cluster under Rongram block. The target audience included 5 village Nokmas, Secretaries, and VCFs. Villages like Sasatgre, Chandigre, Ading Nokat, Baladingre, and other non MegLIFE villages, already registered as Sasatgre Multipurpose dairy group, only required enhancements to strengthen their existing group. However, the combination of Bibragre and Tosekgre did not meet the criteria for forming an IVCS.

In the Resubelpara Block, a meeting for the establishment of IVCs was led by Kosichora VCF and Chairman. All attendees expressed their willingness to establish the IVCs.

"Resubelpara Block Project Associate Curates Seeds for Gap Filling"



Resubelpara Block's Project Associate (PA) has just curated seeds of *Azadirachta indica*, *Terminalia bellerica*, Jolpai, and Techri (*Tectomia japonica*) for gap filling.



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

"Comprehensive Review Session Led by Block Project Manager in Samanda Block on January 24, 2024"



Just completed a comprehensive review session on January 24, 2024, led by the Block Project Manager in Samanda block! Explored the intricacies of managing cash books and registers alongside our committed VCFs, had productive discussions with VPIC secretaries, and distributed informative flyers to VPICs.

"Launch of Carbon Financing Project for Agroforestry in Zikzak Block, SWGH District, Meghalaya"



On January 24, 2024, the Carbon Financing Project took off in Zikzak Block, SWGH district! Headed by Dr. S. Ashutosh, Retd. IFS, Co-Chairman & Director of COE for NRM & SL, MBDA, this initiative is all about promoting agroforestry practices through the Agro-Forestry based Carbon Credit Scheme for Meghalaya MBDA.

A remarkable 95 participants from 22 MegLIFE villages and CLMP projects in Zikzak Block actively participated in the awareness program. An impressive 90 individuals expressed their dedication by signing consent forms for the Carbon Credit project, making the session exceptionally productive.



Chokpot, Group II PLUP, and micro-plan field exercise took place at Emandurabanda VPIC, under the guidance of Block Project Manager Sailii K Marak.

MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

ENTRY POINT ACTIVITY - COMMUNITY HALL

The construction of 370 community halls has been sanctioned under EPA of MegLIFE. Initial phases of site preparation is underway.



Institute of Natural Resources

(INR)



MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY

"Meeting at Raj Bhavan on January 31, 2024, to Discuss Projects and Initiatives with INR Team"



On January 31, 2024, a meeting took place at Raj Bhavan involving Shri BDR Tiwari, IAS, Principal Secretary to H G M Raj Bhavan Shillong, along with the team from the Institute of Natural Resources. The session, attended by Shri L Shabong, Director of INR, Meghalaya, was convened to deliberate on forthcoming projects and prospective initiatives to be undertaken by INR.

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

Smart Solutions for Farmers: Arogyam's Soil Sathi Enhances Agricultural Practices



Soil and water testing of demonstration plots selected from each IVCS was conducted at Dadenggre, Selsella, and Tikrikilla, **West Garo Hills** from January 22 to January 27, 2024. Utilizing the innovative Soil Sathi Device with an inbuilt smartphone developed by Arogyam, macro and micro-nutrients present in the soil were analyzed. The device automatically recorded readings on the Arogyam website through network connectivity. The tests covered the presence of Nitrogen, Potassium, Phosphorus, Calcium, Zinc, Iron, Boron, Nitrate, and Ammonia in both water and soil samples. Certificates and detailed reports will be provided by the Arogyam Institute.



On January 24, 2024, the second batch of the Financial Literacy Programme was successfully conducted at Thadialong, an adjoining village under Iakyntulang IVCS in Laskein Block, **West Jaintia Hills**.



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From January 23 to 25, 2024, Training on Soil and Water Testing for Service Providers from Rengsinpara IVCS, Jakusan IVCS, Migasal IVCS, Jangrapara IVCS, Nangrime IVCS, and Rengigre IVCS took place in Jangrapara and Raksamgre Village, Tikrikilla Block. The event, facilitated by the ISC&ED Tikrikilla Block team, **West Garo Hills** and a Resource Person from SPMU under the MLAMP project of MBMA, aimed to enhance the knowledge of about 18 Service Providers on soil and water testing techniques.

Knowledge Management
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