



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

NAGALAND FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Foreword

The Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) has made significant strides in 2023-2024, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable forest management and holistic community development across the state. Through strategic collaborations and an integrated approach, NFMP has achieved measurable outcomes in several project villages, exemplifying the transformative potential of convergence and community participation.

One of the hallmark achievements has been the successful convergence of various schemes with NFMP, notably the Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) convergence with the Jal Jeevan Mission in various project villages. This initiative has ensured access to tapped water for all households, addressing a critical need while demonstrating the power of synergy between projects. Similarly, plantation activities implemented through the JAF, JFF, and JCF models have begun yielding encouraging results. The notable growth of saplings across Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) villages highlights the effectiveness of the right species selection and the region's favourable climatic conditions. This has also created valuable opportunities for communities to gain hands-on nursery management skills, ensuring sustainability in future afforestation efforts.

Another impactful component of NFMP has been the Entry Point Activity (EPA) and creation WHS structures. These initiatives have not only resulted in tangible community assets such as kitchens, toilets, halls, and water tanks but also strengthened social cohesion by fostering trust and confidence among community members. Furthermore, livelihood generation under NFMP has catalyzed a movement led by Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Focused on agriculture, value addition, and marketing, these efforts have cultivated entrepreneurship and self-reliance, particularly among women. The successful loan repayment by all nine SHGs in Mon district from Batch-1 is a testament to this initiative's impact, as is the emergence of small-scale enterprises in numerous villages.

The involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations (FNGOs) has been instrumental in these successes. With their support, NFMP has conducted a range of awareness and training programs that have equipped communities to take ownership of various project components. This collaborative approach has not only ensured effective implementation but also fostered a sense of ownership and accountability among local stakeholders.

As we reflect on these achievements, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all partners, stakeholders, and community members whose dedication has been pivotal to our progress. Together, we are creating a greener, more sustainable future for Nagaland, driven by the principles of conservation, inclusivity, and empowerment. We look forward to scaling new heights in the years ahead, continuing to harmonize ecological preservation with socioeconomic development.



(M. SENTHIL KUMAR) IFS

Project Director,
Human Resource Development, R&E.
Nagaland Forest Management Project.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT



SHRI. DHARMENDRA PRAKASH IFS (NL:1989)

PCCF, Chief Project Director Cum CEO

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT



Shri. Temjenyabang (NL:2004)

Project Director

(Admin, Finance & Procurement)



Shri. Ango Konyak

ACF Deputy Project Director

(Admin, Finance & Procurement)

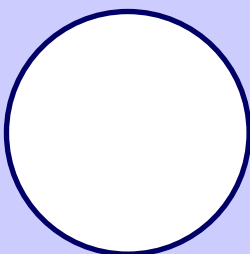
- * Manage administrative matter relating to PMU, DMU and FMU.
- * Draft operational manual.
- * Consolidate annual budget requirement for implementation of the project.
- * Review and update annual disbursement schedule of the project and control fund disbursement.
- * Consolidate SOEs and prepare necessary document for requesting reimbursement of expenditure.
- * Pursue necessary fund request and transaction for DMU and FMU.
- * Supervise and undertake necessary procurement as per OM and as sanctioned under the project.
- * Facilitate internal and external auditing.

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING & EVALUATION



Shri. Vedpal Singh IFS

*(NL: 1993) APCCF Project Director
(Implementation and ME & GIS)*



Deputy Project Director (Biodiversity Forest Management & Planning)

- * Prepare various project implementation manuals.
- * Review and advice from the technical view point on the proposed annual work plan submitted by DMUs for biodiversity and forest management activities.
- * Review and consolidate annual work and annual budget requirement proposed by DMUs.
- * Supervise micro planning activities.
- * Feedback on approved annual work plan, annual budget plan and annual action plan to DMUs.



Shri. Rama Sankar Prasad IFS

*Deputy Project Director (JFMC, Community Development, Livelihood * IGA)*

- * Develop/revise guidelines for JFMC constitution and functioning, community development guidelines for community development activities.
- * Scrutinize and assess the financial and technical feasibility of IGA proposed by SHGs through DMUs.
- * Setup and ensure adherence of guidelines mechanism for convergence with other department or agencies.
- * Plan and design of community development, livelihood and IGA activities.
- * Guide DMU, FMU and other partner organization on community development livelihood and IGA activities.



Shri. Velatso Demo IFS

Deputy Project Director (Monitoring Evaluation & GIS)

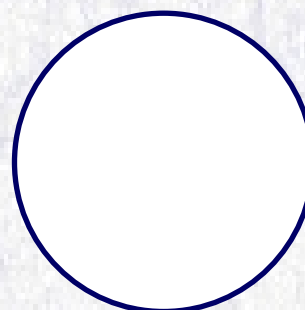
- * Prepare M&E framework and guidelines for the project. Setup MIS system for the project Creating baseline for the project.
- * Disseminate the guidelines to DMUs and FMUs and ensure training of DMUs and FMUs on MIS and M&E system setup for the project.
- * Establish GIS, develop data base for the project planning and monitoring.
- * Consolidate PR (Physical & Financial) submitted by DMUs.
- * Produce regular PR for submitting to HPC and JICA.
- * Manage periodic assessment and evaluation.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH & PUBLIC RELATIONS



Shri. Senthil Kumar IFS

*Project Director
(HRD, Research and Extension)*



*Deputy Project Director & PRO (Documentation,
Publication & Research)
(Awareness generation Capacity Building & Training)*

- * Preparation of Project Newsletter and Annual Report.
- * Maintenance of the Project Website.
- * Documentation of all Activities of the Project.
- * Field documentation of traditional practices and knowledge system around forest management, biodiversity, conservation and development of protocol for fallow – forestry, local tree Silviculture.
- * Assessment of various initiatives taken under project including Biodiversity in Jhum lands, Fallows, Forest reserves and CCA across agro – ecological zones , district and communities, impact of IGA and livelihood initiatives etc.
- * Prepare and implement IEC plan for the project.
- * Conduct awareness building campaign for the project in and around the project area.
- * Conduct training need assessment for Forest department staffs to be involved in the project activities, JFMCs, VCs and other community institutions involved.
- * Organize necessary trainings in collaboration with PDs for DMUs, FMUs, JFMCs and SHGs/IGA/User groups.
- * Conduct post training evaluations.
- * Oversee and coordinate the recruitment of project personnel as per requirements and approved project budget.

ABOUT NFMP

About Nagaland Forest Management Project

The Project is an Externally Aided Project supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with the aim to improve forest ecosystem and support income generation by rehabilitation of Jhum area and provision of livelihood support, thereby contributing to sustainable forest and environmental conservation and livelihood improvement in the target villages in Nagaland State. The project has a target to cover 185 villages involving all Districts of the state spanning over 22 Forest Range & Beats. Duration of the project is 10 years.

This project has following three components:

- * Forestry interventions and biodiversity conservation
- * Livelihood improvement and community development &
- * Institutional strengthening

THE PROJECT

Introduction

Nagaland is one of the North Eastern States of India situated on the eastern border with a population of about 1.9 million (2011) and is rich in forest resources within the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot.

Almost 60% of the State's population is engaged in Jhum (slash and burn) cultivation - a form of traditional cultivation that has evolved over generations and has become a core tradition of the Nagas. Jhum cultivation meets approximately 60% of food demand in the State. Under Jhum, cropping cycle of one or two years is followed by long fallow period to ensure fertility and nutrient cycling to maintain land productivity. The climate of the state is humid tropical and sub-tropical with steep terrain and Jhum cultivation results in depletion of micro-nutrients from the soil. It is also reported that Jhum cycle has been reduced particularly in the Eastern part of the State. The short rotation cycle of Jhum leads to lower productivity due to short fallow period. The state has the lowest yield per hectare from Jhum Cultivation among the North Eastern States. Average productivity in Nagaland is estimated at 702 kg/hectare while that in other North Eastern States it is approx. 1,193 kg/hectare. As a result, there is an increasing pressure on the forests for commercial exploitation to augment income of rural population. This pressure results in degradation of the forest resources and the biodiversity. According to the India State of Forest Report (FSI, 2021) Forest cover in the state was 12,251 sq.km. which is 75.33 % of its total geographical area, but more than half of it is in open forest category (having canopy density less than 0.40). Moreover, according to this report forest cover has been decreased by 450 sq.km, between 2015 and 2017, the fourth highest loss of the forest cover across the states in the country. Jhum cultivation is one of the reasons cited for the forest degradation. According to FSI report on Forest carbon in India's Forests (FSI, 2012) per ha. Carbon in the above ground biomass pool in the state has been estimated to be 12.08 tons which is very low compared to the national average of 31 tons per ha.

The biodiversity of the state is not only valuable for its intrinsic value, but also provides critical ecosystem services such as food sources, water sources, soil formation, nutrient cycling and primary production. Thus, sustainable restoration and rejuvenation of Jhum area is essential for restoration of forests and conservation of biodiversity in the state.

The Project Objective

Nagaland Forest Management Project - NFMP (hereinafter referred to as the Project) was started during 2017-18 with the above background and assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The main objective of the Project is to improve the forest ecosystem and support income generation by rehabilitation of Jhum areas and provision of livelihood support, thereby contributing to sustainable forest and environmental conservation and livelihood improvement in the targeted villages in the State.

Project Costs & Components

With a total estimated cost of Rs.533 Crores, the Project is to be implemented in 185 villages in 22 selected Forest Ranges and in 11 Forest Divisions namely Mon, Mokokchung, Tuensang, Wokha, Dimapur, Zunheboto, Phek, Kohima, Peren, Kiphire & Longleng, covering all the districts of the State. The main approach is to undertake need based and village specific interventions in the Joint Forest Management (JFM) mode through the JFM committees (JFMCs).

Ranges/Independent Beats will be selected by applying the criteria of Jhum intensity, and forest cover. Villages within selected ranges/independent beats shall be selected batch-wise spanning over a period of 4 years, (30: 60: 60: 35 villages in batch 1, 2, 3 & 4 respectively) based on the criteria as given in Detailed Project Report read with the Minutes of Discussion (MoD) of 30th January, 2017 between the Dept of Environment Forest & Climate Change, GoN and JICA.

Selection of the target villages would follow in a cluster based approach i.e. a group of villages sharing the same geographical and vegetation landscape requiring similar forestry interventions, with a view to enhance project impacts in a tangible manner and to reduce administration cost and facilitate cohesive management.

While Making Selection Of Villages, Following Types Of Areas Is Being Avoided

- a) Areas where there are land disputes or community disputes
- b) Isolated villages which cannot be included in a cluster
- c) Villages which have been supported by other external (foreign) donors in the recent past
- d) Protected areas (eco awareness activities shall be implemented outside Protected Area)

| Forest Division wise number of ranges/independent beats and villages selected under the Project | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Name of the Forest Division | Number of Ranges/ Independent Beats | Name of Villages |
| Dimapur | 2 | 7 |
| Peren | 2 | 13 |
| Mokokchung | 2 | 18 |
| Wokha | 2 | 20 |
| Kohima | 2 | 16 |
| Zunheboto | 2 | 20 |
| Phek | 2 | 20 |
| Tuensang | 3 | 25 |
| Kiphire | 1 | 18 |
| Longleng | 2 | 9 |
| Mon | 2 | 19 |
| Total | 22 | 185 |

The Project Has Four Main Components, Namely

- i. Forestry Interventions and Biodiversity Conservation
- ii. Livelihood Improvement and Community Development,
- iii. Institutional Strengthening, and
- iv. Support activities

The Nagaland Forest Management Project Society, under the Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Nagaland, has been constituted for the implementation of the Nagaland Forest Management Project. It is registered under Registration of Societies Act (No XXI of 1860) bearing registration No. Home/SRC-7616 dated 4.4.2017 and has the following office Bearers:

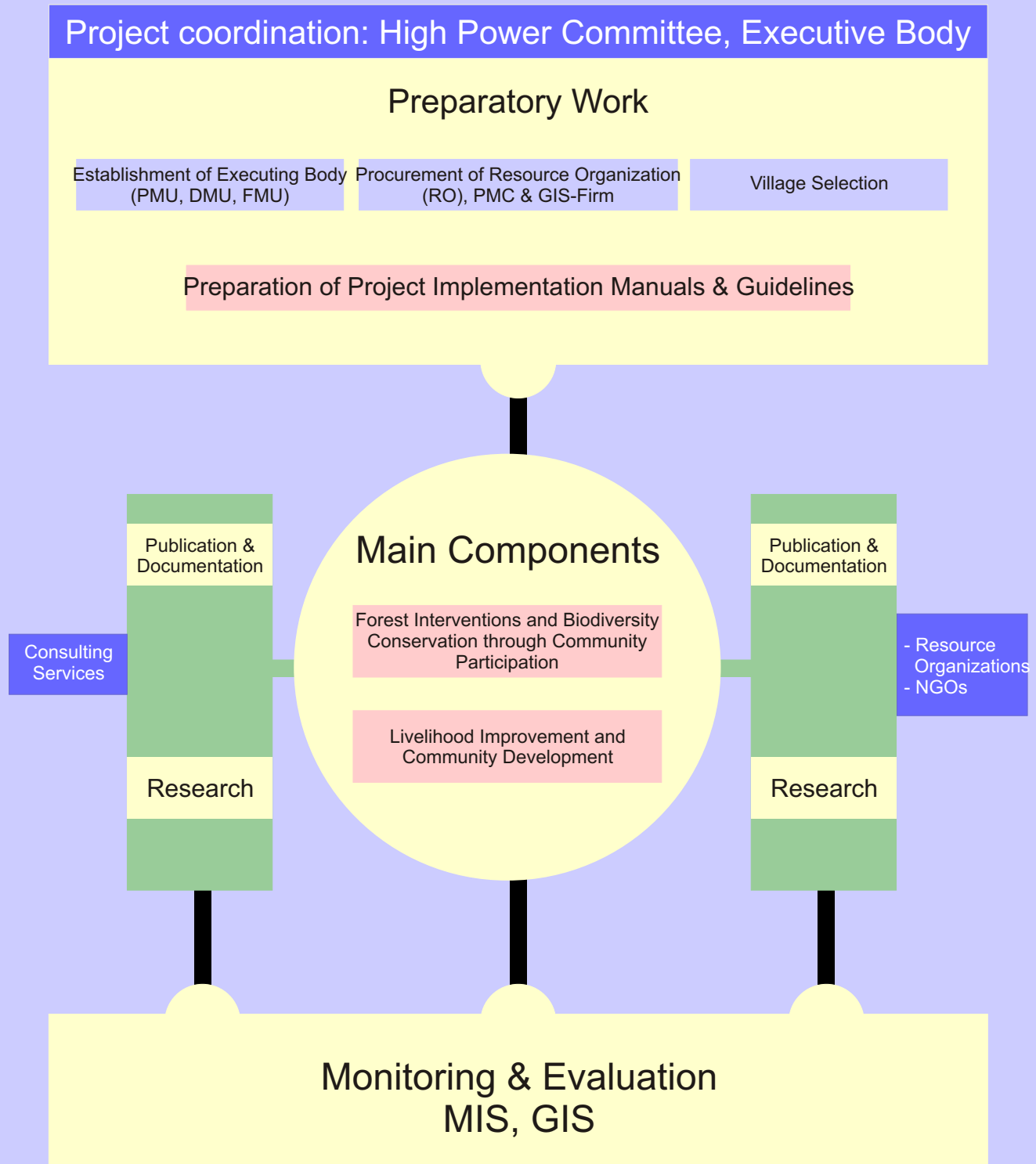
- i. PCCF & HoFF - Chairperson
- ii. PCCF O/o PCCF & HoFF - Technical Advisor.
- iii. Chief Executive Officer - Chief Project Director of the Project shall be the ex-officio Chief Executive Officer of the Society.
- iv. Finance Controller - Project Director looking after Finance in PMU.

The Subscribers to Memorandum of Association of the Society, members of the Governing Body, and Heads of DMUs are members of the Society. In addition, the State Government may nominate any official of the Government from time to time as member of the Society.

| Sl. No. | Component | Details |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Forestry Interventions and Biodiversity Conservation through Community Participation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forestry Interventions in Villages Landscape <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jhum Agro forestry 10,325 ha. ii. Jhum Fallow Forestry 4,594 ha. iii. Jhum Conversion to Forestry 4,594 ha. iv. Jhum Conversion to CCA 3,697 ha. v. Protection and Expansion of CCA 55,886 ha. vi. Creation of Nursery 185 nos. 2. Monitoring and Evaluation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. GIS mapping (Outsourcing) ii. Mid-Term Evaluation (Physical) iii. End-Term Evaluation (Socio Economic & Physical) iv. Project Impact Assessment (Socio Economic & Physical) v. Designing and establishment of MIS/GIS vi. Procurement of financial/management software vii. Annual Review at Division Level viii. Annual Review at State Level ix. Concurrent Physical Survey |
| 2 | Livelihood Improvement and Community Development in 185 project villages, average 3 SHGs per village | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Micro Planning Preparation ii. Strengthening of JFMCs iii. Community Development Activities (Entry Point Activities (EPA)) iv. Water harvesting Structure for Community v. Support for Income Generation Activities (IGAs) vi. Day-Visit Destinations |
| 3 | Institutional Strengthening | Strengthening of PMU, Strengthening of 11 DMUs and Strengthening of 22 FMUs |
| 4 | Project Management Consultancy | International Man Months : 9 National Man Months 204 |

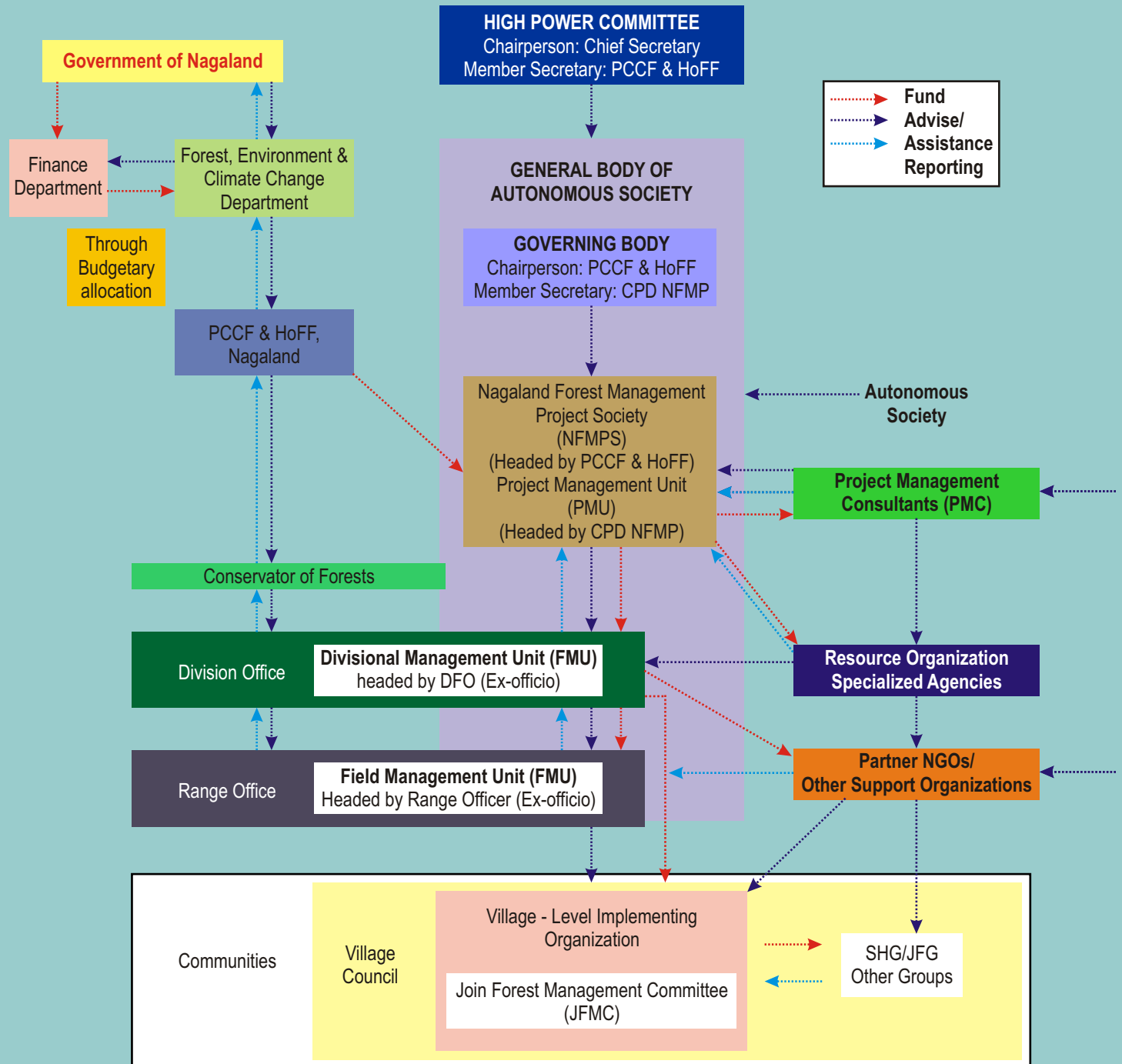
SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

NFMP OUTLINE



ORGANOGRAM

The Executing Body of the Project comprises an external (outside the NFMPs) High Power Committee as the highest decision-making body and other Organs like the Governing Body, Project Management Unit, Divisional Management Units, Field Management Units, and JFMCs as denoted in the



POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF NFMP EXECUTIVE BODY

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| High Power Committee (HPC) | <p>Approval of Operational Manual of the Society</p> <p>Approval of Annual Work Plan of the Society</p> <p>Approval of Annual Budget & Accounts of the Society</p> <p>Facilitate convergence with other Departments & Schemes to achieve the objectives of the society.</p> <p>Approval of such Programs and Plans for furtherance of the objectives of the Society.</p> <p>Any other functions that may be added at a later stage by the HPC.</p> |
| Governing Body (GB) | <p>To monitor the financial and physical progress of the programs of the Society</p> <p>Provide guidance to the PMU in preparation of the Operational Manual.</p> <p>Provide guidance to the PMU in preparation of annual plans and proposals to be placed before HPC for approval.</p> <p>Guidance and initiatives for changes in Forest Policy and rules based on the basis of lessons learned from the Project.</p> <p>Overall supervision for timely and effective implementation of the Project Activities.</p> |
| Project Management Unit (PMU) | <p>Administration, Finance and Procurement;</p> <p>Implementation and Monitoring & Evaluation; and</p> <p>Human Resource Development, Research and Extension</p> |
| Project Management Consultancy (PMC) | <p>Preparation and review of various Project Procurement and Implementation Manuals including MIS manual and guidelines, JFMC Management Manual, SHG formation and functional guideline, IGA implementation guidelines,</p> <p>Procurement of contractors, individual experts and resource organizations, Areas of biodiversity conservation, forestry interventions in shifting cultivation areas and forest management and supervision and management of implementation of related work/activities.</p> <p>Monitoring and management of JFMC, JFG, SHGs/IGA groups and other field level project institutions by assisting in designing project monitoring and management framework, indicators and manuals.</p> <p>Preparation of capacity building strategy and implementation of strategy by PMU and DMUs, including planning of State/National and International training for PMU/DMU/FMU staffs in consultation and with approval of PMU.</p> <p>Preparation of annual planning of activities and budgeting based on the assessment of requirements at FMUs, DMUs and PMU.</p> <p>Support PMU in financial management and reporting</p> <p>Developing strategy for sustainability of project.</p> <p>Assist PMU, DMUs, and FMUs.</p> |
| Divisional Management Unit (DMU) | <p>Manage, control and supervise implementation of the Project at division level</p> <p>Prepare Annual Work Plan at DMU level</p> <p>Facilities reporting, information flow, financial transactions regarding the Project</p> <p>Provide technical assistances to FMUs</p> <p>Selection, recruitment and coordination with NGOs</p> |
| Field Management Unit (FMU) | <p>Manage, control and supervise implementation of the project at Range level</p> <p>Prepare Annual Work Plan at FMU level</p> <p>Provide technical assistances to JFMCs and JFMC federations</p> <p>Coordinate with Range level NGO support teams Assist and guide field staff in JFMC/JFG/SHG/IGA formations</p> <p>Assist and guide field staff in conducting baseline Assist and guide field staff in Micro-ing</p> <p>Assist and guide field staff in project implementation</p> <p>Prepare periodic physical and financial progress report. Any other works that may be assigned by the DMU Head.</p> |

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CONVERGENCE

Convergence is essentially a concept, indicating merging of different department, agencies or organization to attain a common goal. Convergence in a rural set-up could involve various stakeholders such as government agencies, local authorities and community members to address common issues. Each sector can contribute its resources and expertise to address and meet the needs of the community. Convergence can guide the communities to improved quality of life with access to health care, education and other welfare programmes. Convergence encourages the village community to take part in decision-making process and promote a sense of ownership, with the overarching goal to improve the livelihood of the community.

DMU Kohima:

The distribution of vegetable seeds to SHGs members of Seiyhama (Batch- II under Chiephobozou Range) in convergence with District Agricultural Officer, Kohima has yielded positive outcome. The SHGs members have not only harvested the produce from the seeds, but they have also learned the process of making radish pickle as a part of post harvest management. Another convergence programme with the Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources was conducted for SHGs members under DMU Kohima, where they received hands-on training on value added products of fish. The training equipped the SHGs members with new knowledge and skills. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Promotion of Farmers' Producer's Organisation (FPOs) funded by NABARD and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) aims to enhance farmers' competitiveness and increase their advantage in emerging market opportunities. This scheme is being implemented by FNGO, NEIDA, where NFMP villages, namely Tuophema, Seiyhama, Terogvunyu, Phenwhenyu, Tseminyu, Tsosinyu and Gwachonlo are being covered. To tackle current water crisis and to ensure sustainable water access to all, spring-shed based watershed, funded by NABARD and implemented by FNGO NEIDA has resulted in promoting responsible and appropriate management of spring-sheds and watersheds at Terogvunyu village. With the aim to demonstrate various methods of rearing pigs, a piggery promotion programme funded by TATA AIG under CSR Programme has benefitted many households of Terogvunyu, Phenwhenyu, Ehunnu and Tsosinyu villages, where 300 piglets were fattened, while 30 trainings were conducted on piggery management at NFMP villages.

The Integrated Livelihood Project funded by the Tata Trusts aims to substantially increase the income of households in Tseminyu by increasing the profitability and sustainability of Farmers Producers Organisations, wherein 500 households were covered so far. With the aim to raise quality vegetable saplings, the Vegetable Nursery promotion funded by Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, has benefitted 131 households in Terogvunyu, Kandinu and Phenwhenyu. In addition, three entrepreneurs are promoted under the project for raising quality vegetable saplings and making it accessible for vegetable growers in the district to scale up their vegetable production.

Thus, it can be seen that convergence programme with various agencies is yielding positive outcomes in the NFMP villages. Overall, the positive impact of convergence is insightful and transformative and it has the potential to empower the local communities.

Convergence with various Departments:



Distribution of vegetable seeds to SHGs of Seiyhama village



Water testing for spring at Terogvunyu village



Training on value added product of fish



Piggery promotion programme

DMU Peren: A case study of WHS Peletkie

Convergence of NFMP (JICA), Jal Jeevan Mission & Dept. of Power

Project Activity:

- Installation of electric power supply line up to water reservoir tank 100 meter approx.
- Installation of submersible water pump.
- Connection of main water supply pipe line from WHS (NFMP) reservoir tank pumping uphill to distribution tank 500 meter approx.
- Connection of water taps to every households.



Vegetable nursery promotion

Before commisioning of WHS under NFMP:

- There was only 3 common distribution points one each in 3 Khels.
- There was acute scarcity of drinking water during lean period as the upstream water source dried up.
- Womenfolk spent most of their time in fetching water for domestic use.

Benefits out of the Convergence Project:

- The drinking water supply in the village has improved to a great extend.
- All the households now have water tap connection.
- It has directly benefitted the women folks particularly as they no longer invest their time in fetching water.

Conclusion:

During the PRA exercises, the community felt the need and identify the source and site for WHS construction as there was acute scarcity of drinking water in the village during lean period as the upstream water source dried up. The construction of WHS was initiated in the year 2022 but however it was completed in the year 2023, since it required a huge investment in implementing the said project. The JFMC approached the Electrical Department for purchase and connection of electricity at subsidised rate and with the initiation of the PHED Department, the JFMC was successfully able to have convergence with the JAL JEEVAN MISSION. With the successful convergence, the villagers acknowledged their gratitude to the JFMC EC and NFMP for solving the problem of water scarcity by connecting water tape connection in every household in the village.



Submersible water pump



Main reservoir constructed under JJM



DMU Dimapur:

Convergence with Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) at Sirhi Angami Village

Sirhi Angami village Batch III NFMP-JICA village under DMU Dimapur of Medziphema Beat, has a total number 44 HHs, with a population of 217. The village is 25 km away from District Headquarter and the nearest town is Medziphema which is 7 km away and is located near National Highway 29. One of the main problem faced by the community in this village is shortage of water especially during the dry season (January-April). Villagers depend on surface water source such as streams, springs and ponds, however, the quantity of water in these sources decreases during the dry months. In the year 2023, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) under PHED Department was introduced at Sirhi Angami village under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation. Under the JJM, all the households were provided with direct pipe line connection from the community water tank to their doorsteps. The NFMP JICA assisted the village by providing water storage tank (SINTEX) with a capacity of 1000 ltrs to every HHs for easy water collection and storage. Through this convergence activity of JJM and NFMP, the villagers have been benefited with sufficient water for drinking, washing as well as for domestic use throughout the year.



JFMC member of Sirhi Angami Village with the water container at her home and right photo Community Water tank with JJM pipe connection at Sirhi Angami Village.

Awareness program on Waste Management Roles and Responsibilities:

DMU Dimapur in convergence with MOBIUS Foundation conducted an Awareness program on Waste Management Roles and Responsibilities at Piphema Old village. Around 35 participants attended the awareness program. The program was chaired by Supervisor FNGO Piphema Beat, introductory remarks was done by Project Manager, MOBIUS Young Professional Program, MOBIUS team member delivered the speech on Waste Management Roles and Responsibilities.



Capacity Building and Training on Banana Fibre Extraction and Handicrafts:

DMU Dimapur organized Skill Development Training on Banana Fiber Extraction and Handicrafts in convergence with Nagaland Tool Room and Training Centre (NTTC) sponsored by ministry of micro, small and medium enterprises in 5 (Five) NFMP-JICA project villages under Medziphema Beat & Piphema Beat from 21st February 2024 to 9th March 2024, the overall turn out of the said training was satisfactory as there were 90 participants in total who attended the training. This training helped the villagers to make use of the raw materials available in the village without having to waste it.





DMU Wokha:

For the year 2023-2024, Divisional Management Unit Wokha (DMU) has seen a rise in convergence activity with various institutions and organizations from the villages. Wokha DMU has also converged with various departments to conduct trainings for SHGs to improve their skills and knowledge and to improve the quality of their products.

Two days intensive training on post-harvest Management and value-added product of locally available vegetables and fruits was organized by Divisional Management Unit (DMU) Wokha in convergence with Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) on 7th & 8th June 2023 at Forest Colony Community Hall, Wokha. Each member from SHG groups of Batch I, II & III villages of NFMP (JICA) under DMU Wokha and interested Educated Unemployed youths under Project villages participated in the two days training. The training was conducted with resource person Mrs. Benthunglo Murry, Block Technology Manager and Mrs. Lothungbeni Murry ASST. Block Technology Manager from Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) under convergence program focusing on both theory and practical classes.

Trainings were conducted for the following activities:

1. Mix Pickle Making
2. Fruit Juice making
3. Tomato puree making
4. Vegetable preservation methods

All together 42 SHGs members from Batch I, II and III villages under NFMP, JICA and others interest group participated for the two days training. Positive feedback was also received from the trainee stating the immense ideas and knowledge they learned from the training.

Divisional Management Unit Wokha (DMU) also conducted awareness program during World Environment Day in collaboration with JFMCs, Village council members, Student bodies VLOs and Church with Longsa, New Riphyim, Old Riphyim, Wokha, New Wokha and Old Changsu Village under the theme "Beat Plastic Pollution". The day long program included campaign on single use plastic and their ill effects, conducting social work and plantation drive, seedling was arranged from the JFMC Nursery, the supervision was done by FNGOS members from Natural Nagas Wokha base and ECO-Warriors team members, the event was conducted in convergence with NRLM, Wokha. The program included advocating and creating awareness for mission life through church special Sunday sermons on 4th June during Devotional services

Under infrastructure development three villages successfully implemented convergence programs with various institutions and agencies. Nungying Village in convergence with the student union constructed Student Union Office under Entry Point Activity (EPA), Yikhum Village in convergence with Yikhum Village Baptist Church successfully constructed the Rostrum under Entry Point Activity and Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) and New Riphym Village converged with Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) for water pipeline connection.



Convergence Training with Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA)

DMU Tuensang:

Report on kidney beans cultivation:

Agriculture with its allied sectors is unquestionably the largest livelihood provider in India, more so in the vast rural areas. It also contributes a significant figure to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Sustainable agriculture, in terms of food security, rural employment and environmentally sustainable technologies such as soil conservation, sustainable natural resource management and biodiversity protection, are essential for holistic rural development. Indian agriculture and allied activities have witnessed a green revolution, white revolution, a yellow revolution and a blue revolution.

With agriculture as the key to overall development of the State economy and pulses as one of the major crops in Nagaland. The Life Care Society (FNGO) in convergence with the Agriculture Department under Tuensang distributed Kidney beans to Akheda SHG of batch II Angangba village under NFMP/JICA Project on 30th August 2023 with the aim to enhance their Income Generating Activity. Along with it, they were also given guidance on the sustainable farming/ cultivation of the beans for higher harvest.

With an improved market system at the village, the women folks marketed the harvest in the market place at Angangba village and other districts as well. It can be observed from the quantity harvested from the little that was provided to them that every resource that is available in and around our surrounding can be used wisely to generate income and also to sustain our livelihood.



CULTIVATION OF RAJMA



FNGO staffs with the SHG members

Report on Medical Health Camp:

Organized by Life Care Society in convergence with Tuensang Medical Team, Longkhim Medical Team & Angangba Medical Team supported by Pharmacy Union Tuensang and Department of Forest Tuensang Division.

With the intention to provide access of medical health care and generate awareness towards health among the underprivileged sections of the society, one day medical camp was organized at batch II Angangba village under Longkhim Range on 28th June 2023 for the community of village. The Health camp conducted by LCS is an initiative to integrate awareness of community health and insights obtained from the community through the camp.

In a short span of around 8 hours, 109 general medicine, 43 malaria patients & undisclosed numbers of HIV/AIDS patients could benefit from the health camp. We had major patients with complaints of body aches, cold & fever, stomach ache, skin problems indicating less awareness towards hygiene and skin care. This was followed by eye care, dental care and ortho care checkups.

It is noteworthy that despite odds as rain and short duration of time, it could draw good response from the community. Thanks to the sincere efforts of team from JFMC & SHGs of Angangba village under NFMP /JICA Project, Tuensang Medical Team, Longkhim Medical Team & Angangba Medical Team. The Health camp was only possible due to the support of Pharmacy Union Tuensang which was instrumental in providing the stock of medicines to conduct the programme. The success of the programme in providing basic health care facilities for the community is because of the heartfelt cooperation and support from all the stakeholders till the end of the event. It is felt that organizing certain health camp in a community premise can benefit the needy section of the society in accessing health care facilities and generating awareness among people.



WHS (Water Harvesting Structure) at Angangba village in convergence with JJM (Jal Jeevan Mission) and Angangba Church:

The WHS at Angangba village is a great example that proves that along with the resource provided by any funding or project, the participation and contribution of the community plays a major role in its success. WHS was constructed as part of NFMP/JICA project in order to help the community get better access to safe drinking water; the project helped in the construction of water tank as part of WHS. With the same goal in mind Jal Jeevan Mission played a vital role in the setting up of WHS by providing pipe connectivity to each household. The church contributed a sum of Rs. 5 Lakh which was used in acquiring motor pump and construction of borewell which helped the community during dry seasons. There have also been many contributions from individual of the village citing the nearest example of Tsapise GB who is also currently the Treasurer of JFMC. He along with JFMC members took the initiative of connecting the pipeline from the main water source to the village as part of community contribution.

The village, now enjoys uninterrupted water supply which can be broadly described as a success due to combined effort of all stakeholders for the betterment of the village and community. The WHS acts as a source of domestic water supply to the entire household within Asithri khel which is the largest khel consisting of around 100 households. It is also to be noted that the PEC water source is the main source of water connected to WHS.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| NFMP/JICA | Construction of the tank |
| JAL JEEVAN MISSION | Pipe connectivity to household |
| Church | Motor pump & borewell |
| Connectivity | 90-100 households |



CF, DFO, Ranger & JFMC committee during CF's visit

Community Contribution:

Community contributions are important in building more stronger, inclusive and vibrant societies. It involves people contributing their skills, time and resources for overall development of the community. It also creates a platform where people can come together, collaborate and share ideas for the growth of the community as well as discuss local issues and generate solutions. Contribution to community empowers individuals to make positive differences in the lives of other people. Community based programmes such as festivals, local sports events and other social gatherings offers opportunity to the people to come together and get themselves involved. Community contribution not only ensures ownership but also commitment from the masses. It also inspires other people to follow suit and create effect of positive change. Without the involvement of the community and their contribution, developmental projects will fail to meet their intended targets.

Under NFMP, the contribution of the community is ardent. Various members of the community comprising of JFMC, village council, youth and women group take active part in the project activities, fostering deep sense of belonging amongst the individual members and creating a sense of ownership of the project. While setting up the nurseries under the project, the community allocated the land and provided necessary labour including locally available planting seeds, watering, weeding and overall maintenance. This also helped in creating employment opportunities within the community. During the seed collection, the communities took active part in seed collection drives, thus contributing to the diversity of the nursery's plant stock. In this way, the community also contribute to the environmental conservation efforts and mitigate the effects of deforestation. Members of the community have also contributed immensely during the plantation and maintenance work in the Forestry Intervention Model Areas. They contribute their time, labour and energy, ensuring that the plants are successfully planted to enhance their survival rate. They also contribute in monitoring the progress of the planted saplings by taking active part in maintenance work such as weeding, checking pest infestation, mortality rate to promote healthy growth of the plants.

During the creation of EPA and WHS, the community contributed by providing valuable inputs during the initial phase, by contributing ideas, feedback and local knowledge. For the execution of the works, the communities had contributed resources such as land, labour and materials apart from the project fund. The successful establishments of EPAs and WHS are the result of each community member collaborating and contributing with the project implementers during the entire process.

Overall, the contribution of the community is not only in achieving certain developmental outcomes but it is also about empowering and strengthening them, so that the village can reach their full potential and create a more prosperous and sustainable future for every member of the village.

Contribution of Community in Various Activities:



Community working at Terogvunyu village



Community working at Zhadima'A' village



Community working at Nsunyu village



Community working at Zhadima'A' village

PLANTATION

DMU Mon:

The survival assessment of plantations in different models under the Forestry Intervention models was enumerated and carried out as per the project guidelines and the new inspection Performa guidelines and instructions as part of monitoring about the success/failure of plantation carried out under this project.

As per the Performa, for JAF models the entire land parcel of the JFMC Farmer/individual land was selected as sample plots and the survival assessment of the plantation was enumerated subsequently, for JFF and JCF Models the same was laid out as per the guidelines of the Performa format.

Good and Profuse growth of plantations in JAF models was enumerated in many JFMC villages i.e Chi, Totok Chingnyu, Pongkong, Lampong Sheanghah, Wakching. Under these JFMCs species like Hollock, Sam, Toona, Khokon, Macaranga were seen to be profusely growing well in the JAF model notably due to suitable climatic conditions. However adequate and average growth of plantations was computed in Tuimei and Tanhai JFF where the Macaranga deniculata species can be seen as dominant in the plot which could be the factors like the right choice of species, locality factors and the site quality favouring the growth of the species thereby it has stunted the growth of other plantation such as Hollock, Khokon, Yongchak and Sam in the plot.

Lesson learnt:

Choice of species is important before any plantation activities is done, to ensure successful rate of regeneration and plantation.

Tending and cultural operations such as weeding and clearing of the unwanted plants/weeds was not carried out on time by some JFMCs as appraised which was mainly due to delay of funds.

Additionally, due to rapid growth of weeds during the rainy and monsoon season maintenance was encouraged mostly around the plantation instead of the entire field to foster the growth of the plantation.

Some of the issues which may not have been anticipated while selecting the area is notably grazing, incidental intrusion of cattle in treatment area plots. During our visit, we found that in Chi village, Buffalos has affected some of the treatment areas, where saplings/were grown. This has affected the growth of the plantation and to carry out casualty replacements in the treatment plot time and time again was seen as a tedious and challenging task for the JFMC.

Staking of the casualty replacements and plantations was properly done as observed in all the models. However, in some JFMCs the used of plastics for staking marking/ indication was discouraged by the DMU Head. In substitute of plastics, White cloth / muslin cloth or White Thermocol were suggested to the JFMCs to ensure the eco-friendly method in the plot and adhere to the project guidelines.

Soil and moisture conservation (SMC) method was not adequately done as observed in the farm land or sample plot while carrying out the exercise for the Plantation survival assessment. DMU Head has appraised the FMU Heads to encourage the JFMC to adopt the SMC Method in order to increase the soil fertility and site condition of the field as well as to ensure the growth rate of regeneration of plantation.

Success Story:

Totok Chingnyu village, situated 13 kms away from the District Headquarter Mon, is home to approximately 555 households with a population of around 4207, all relying on agricultural practices. The NFMP JICA project, launched in 2020 as part of Batch-II in the Mon Range under DMU Mon, aimed to address the challenges faced by the villagers, particularly related to Jhum Cultivation or shifting cultivation, a longstanding cultural practice inherited from ancestors. However, extensive land clearing for Jhum cultivation led to land degradation over time. The practice of traditional Jhum or slash cultivation has led to habitat fragmentation and loss of habitats over the past years. The shifting cultivation has led a detrimental effect on the forest ecosystem such as loss of Forest/Green cover rapidly due to the increase practice of Jhum as well as increasing population of the villagers which has resulted in threats to Biodiversity resources such as its rich Flora and Fauna.

With the implementation of NFMP JICA, villagers received comprehensive guidance and capacity building on establishing nurseries and conducting plantations. This initiative proved instrumental in restoring the degraded land. Now, the villagers enthusiastically participate in planting saplings on their own land, fostering a sense of healthy competition among them.

Under this project, which has accepted the social significance of jhumming by Naga community, has tried to make their jhum area to have better returns after they abandon the area after one or two years of harvesting season followed by a long fallow period.

The photographs added depicts one such jhum area which was under active jhumming in 2020, where under this project, classified as Jhum Agro-Forestry (JAF) model, some fast growing plantation was done on certain regular spacing which can be fully matured before the villagers return to this patch of land as per their jhum cycle. The plantation in this land under the project was done in 2021 along with their regular jhum crops. After 3 years, when they have shifted their activity to another area, these planted species have kept this patch of land, green and productive economically during the fallow period. This plantation will not only give them extra income at the time of next jhum cycle, it will be also add to many ecological services like Carbon-sequestration, increased forest cover and better micro climatic condition during the fallow period.

The fallow land or barren lands which were left uncultivated due to the extreme Jhumming has been replenished and restored by the method of reforestation and strengthening of Biodiversity conservation through the externally aided project i.e NFMP-JICA by the Forest Department. The DMU and JFMC have observed that saplings planted in 2022 have now reached a height of 3 meters, signaling positive progress in revitalizing degraded areas and restoring habitats, thanks to favorable local conditions.

The Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) of Totok Chingnyu village expressed deep gratitude for the invaluable support provided by NFMP JICA under DMU Mon, which has not only empowered the villagers but also contributed to the sustainable restoration of their environment.

Below are the pictures to support the content:



*The Arrow in the pictures indicates the transformation of the area around the Rest House viewed from the Photo Point.

DMU Wokha:

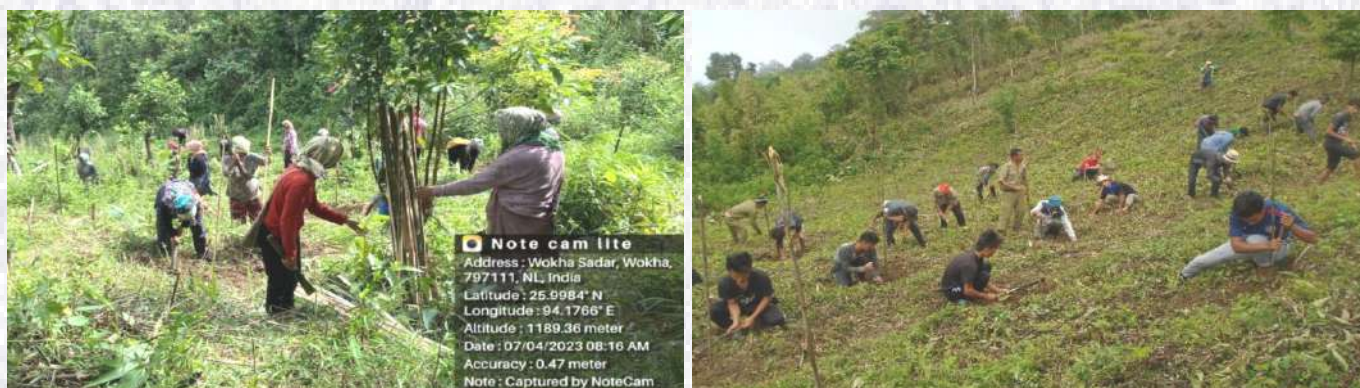
Community Contribution:

Community contribution is one of the cornerstones of the project where community plays a very important role for successful implementation of the project. Under Divisional Management Unit Wokha, Community contribution is attributed to improve accountability and ensure a more cost- effective use of the resources and more importantly, responsible use of forest resources according to the local needs.

For the year 2023-2024, under Divisional Management Unit Wokha, Community has played a very important role in various activities such as plantation, construction and management of nursery, construction of Entry Point Activity (EPA) and Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) and sustainable use of forest resources.

Plantation Activity:

Community contribution in plantation is one of the highest contributions under Divisional Management Unit Wokha. For the year 20203-2024, under Wokha Range, Batch III villages of Niroyo, Yanthamo and Phiro Village, the village community voluntarily did the plantation activities in the model areas prior to the release of funds. Similarly, under Doyang Beat batch III village, New Changsu Village also carried out the plantation activities in the model areas before the release of funds. all the villages under batch I and II also saw an active participation of village community during plantation activity.



Community participation during Advance Work (left) and Creation work (right) at New Wokha village

Nursery:

Under Wokha Range and Doyang Beat, the village community under Batch III villages contributed Labours and traditional knowledge during the construction of germination bed, nursery shed and during packing of poly bags. The village also contributed by donating land for construction of germination bed and nursey shed. Phiro village under Wokha Range Batch III constructed their nursery before the release of funds.



Active participation of the community during plantation activity in Old Changsu Village

Successful Plantations/nurseries:

Plantations:

Under Divisional management unit Wokha, all the villages under batch I and II successfully executed the plantation activity. Although plantation activities were executed as per the requirements, factors like timing of plantation and maintenance work may have negative effects on survival and mortality rate of the planted saplings. Polybag saplings is also found to have better rate of survival than naked saplings. Some of the most successful plantation model site are:

- **Longsachung JAF:** Longsachung JAF is the most successful plantation model site under Divisional Management Unit Wokha. With a total area of 40 ha, as per the manual, 16,000 saplings were planted including 8,000 Poly Bags and 8,000 Naked Saplings. Maintenance work and cap filling were carried out in right time which resulted in high survival rate of the planet saplings.
- **Nungying JAF:** Nungying JAF is also one of the most successful model sites. With a total area of 40 ha, as per the manual, 16,000 saplings were planted including 8,000 Poly Bags and 8,000 Naked Saplings. Nungying village JAF also have high survival rate due to the execution of maintenance work and gap filling at the right time.
- **Yikhum:** With a total area of 15 ha, Yikhum village JFF model site is also one successful plantation model sites.
- **New Wokha Village JAF:** New Wokha Village JAF is also one of the most successful model sites under DMU Wokha. With a total area of 45 Ha, the survival rate of the planted saplings is high as it was carried out in time.
- **New Riphym JAF:** With an area of 30 ha the model site is also considered to be one of the most successful intervention sites with high survival rate and good growth of the saplings planted.

One of the main factors responsible for high mortality rate of the planted saplings is because of carrying out maintenance work during untimed season of the year. JAF model sites are also most likely to have the best plantation model sites because the saplings are planted in current jhum which does not require maintenance work for one season. For batch III villages under both Wokha Range and Doyang Beat plantation activities has been so far successfully between the month of May to August 2024 in all the villages. Depending on the area of the model site, the required polybags and naked saplings were planted as per microplan.



Nungying Village JAF model site

Nursery:

Construction of nurseries are done after consultation with the villages regarding the species of plants to be planted in the village. Selection of sites are also done after verification by the FMUs after which the construction of nurseries is proceeded depending on the area of their respective model sites. Training is conducted for villages that required assistance during the construction of nursery and germination bed.

For batch I and II villages, Longsachung and New Wokha Village under Wokha Range batch II, maintained the most successful nurseries. These two villages were the only village that were able to have surplus saplings after 2nd Year maintenance work. These two village nurseries also supplied the surplus saplings to few villages during gap filling and generate some funds for their respective JFMCs. Old Changsu and Yikhum under Doyang Beat batch II, also constructed and maintained one of the most successful nurseries. Besides these four village nurseries, every village under batch I and II successfully maintained the nursery stock till the 1st maintenance year.

Under batch III villages, all the villages have successfully maintained surplus nursery stock after the plantation activity.

Here is the list of the most successful nurseries village wise:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Longsachung (batch II) | b. New Wokha Village (batch II) | c. Old Changsu (batch II) |
| d. Yikhum (batch II) | e. Yanthamo (batch III) | f. Phiro (batch III) |
| g. Niroyo (batch III) | | |



Longsachung Village nursery



Phiro Village nurseries

DMU Mokokchung:**Successful Plantations/Nurseries (Forestry Activity):**

Among the NFMP Villages under Changtongya beat, Mokokchung Division, Batch-II Merangkong Village is the only one whose nursery has been upgraded to Hi-Tech nursery. This was made possible through the funding received from the Australian Consulate through Direct Aid Programme and was implemented by Nagaland Development Outreach. The JFMC of Merangkong even before upgradation had been maintaining the nursery well by not only making the polybag saplings available to villagers but also to those from outside the village. The Seedling for the villagers was given for free while for outsiders, saplings were sold at discounted price.

After the upgradation of the JFMC Merangkong Nursery, beside tree saplings other saplings were also introduced as per the demand within the villages. They introduced cassava saplings to the nursery so as to assist the SHGs in their business plan.

Currently, the Merangkong JFMC Nursery has about 4000 saplings and some of the species are Spondias axillaries (Ait), Khokon, cassava (Tapioca), Jackfruit (Bolong), etc.



JFMC Hi-Tech Merangkong Nursery: 2022-till Date

Successful JFMC Plantation: JAF Salulamang:2023 2nd Year2024 3rd Year

Successful JFMC Plantation: JAF Merangkong:

2021 (Plantation)

2023 2nd Year**Report on Successful Plantation and Nursery in NFMP Villages under FMU Mokokchung:**

In the implementation of Nagaland Forest Management Project, one of the activities ascribed to the village community is the establishment of Nursery wherein they have to raise their own saplings for plantation in the selected model areas. This has nurtured the villagers' ability to raise saplings for their own plantation purpose. Besides this, the saplings planted in the model areas has created plantation plots which in posterity may be harvested for their own utility while some areas were maintained solely for conservation/ environmental aspects.

Under FMU Mokokchung, there are certain plantation models in the implementing villages that find mention in terms of growth and maintenance of the planted saplings. These are the models of JAF in Sungratsu and Longmisa villages. In terms of Nursery establishment and maintenance, Longmisa and Chungtia villages have performed quite well. These two nurseries have been able to raise saplings for their model areas as well as distribute free of cost to public while at the same time, sell the excesses to interested buyers and use the amount in the sustenance of their nursery activities.

Plantation Models:

- **Longmisa JAF Model:** Plantation year for Longmisa village was 2021 covering an area of 56.98 Ha. From the JFMC nursery, saplings were distributed to 32 beneficiaries doing jhum cultivation in the model area. Besides that, saplings were also distributed to villagers undertaking plantation outside the model area. Artificial plantation along with naturally regenerated saplings were maintained. Gap plantations were done in subsequent months and year.
- **Sungratsu JAF Model:** Plantation year for Sungratsu village was 2021 covering an area of 55.8 Ha. From the JFMC nursery, saplings were distributed to 86 beneficiaries cultivating the model area. Artificial plantation along with naturally regenerated saplings were maintained. Gap plantations were done in subsequent months and year.

Longmisa Model:

Plantation Year 2021 (Dec)

Maintenance-2 Year 2023

Plantation Activities in picture:



JAF Model Lampong Sheanghah Batch-II, Mon Range

JFF Model Mon Batch-I, Mon Range



JAF Model Totok Chingha Batch-III, Mon Range



JFF Model Chingphoi Batch-III, Naganimora Range



JCF Model Tuimei Batch-II, Mon Range



JCF Model Mon Batch-I, Mon Range



JCF Model Chi Batch-II, Mon Range



JCF Model Totok Chingnyu Batch-II, Mon Range



JCF Model Wakching Batch-II, Naginimora Range



JCC Model Mon Batch-I, Mon Range



JCC Model Lampong Sheanghah Batch-II, Mon Range



PEC Model Mon Village Batch-I, Mon Range



Nursery of Lower Tiru Village Batch-III, Naginimora Range



PEC Model Lampong Sheanghah Batch-II, Mon Range



Nursery of Tanhai Village Batch-II, Naginimora Range Nursery of Chingphoi Village Batch-III, Naginimora Range



Nursery of Pongkong Village Batch-III, Mon Range



Nursery of Upper Tiru village Batch-III, Naginimora Range

EPA/WHS

Value of EPA/WHS:

Entry point activities (EPA) are the means of winning people's trust and building their confidence. EPAs are designed to mark the entry of the project or initiative and also build rapport between the community and the implementing agency. The proposals for EPAs are brought forward by the community depending on their immediate need and for the benefit of the entire community. The community plays a vital role in defining and organizing aspects of all the required works to be taken up under EPA. Women's participation are also being ensured while planning the activities under EPA. Creation of assets such as construction of village gate, construction of community hall, footpaths, compost pits, ecotourism activities and other repair works are some of the Entry Point Activities, which are proposed by the village community.

The creation of EPA and establishment of Water Harvesting Structures (WHS) in the NFMP villages has met the immediate needs of the community. In Zhadima 'A' village, Batch I under Chiephobozou Range, the JFMC members along with the community constructed WHS and community toilets as EPA near the Village Council Hall and the local ground. These infrastructures have become a boon to the village as they utilise the assets during various events such as meetings, sports and other programmes. The JFMC members are also of the view that the construction of community toilets has promoted good health and hygiene among the population. Similarly, in Nsunyu village, Batch I under Tseminyu Range, the construction of community toilet near the National Highway beside the village has aided the commuters to utilise the infrastructure. In Tuophema village, the construction of a marketing shed as EPA in the heart of the village has helped the community to sell their local produce to the tourists and visitors. In Terogvunyu village, Batch- II under Tseminyu Range, the JFMC members along with the village council members constructed the village gate, which has been a long felt need of the village. Furthermore, in other Batch II villages of Seiyhama, Kandinu and Phenwhenyu, the JFMC shared that they are now able to store water and utilise during dry season. Another creative village approach can be seen at Ehunnu village under Batch III where the JFMC member decided to construct a village library as EPA, to inculcate the habit of reading among the children.

Thus, it is evident that the establishments of EPA/WHS are greatly valued and appreciated by the communities, as the assets have been created as per the immediate needs of the community.

Some of the EPA/WHS under DMU Kohima:



WHS at Zhadima 'A' village



EPA - community toilet at Zhadima 'A' village



Community bathroom at Phenwhenyu village



EPA Library at Ehunnu village



EPA Community toilet at Nsunyu village



EPA Marketing shed at Tuophema village

Construction of Community Graveyard in Lekromi Village:

Division: Phek

FMU Pfutsero:

- **Addressing Longstanding Community Need:** The construction of the community graveyard in Lekromi village fulfilled a pressing need that had been consistently discussed in village meetings.
- **Community Participation and Equal Contribution:** All members of Lekromi village participated equally in the labor-intensive construction process, fostering a sense of ownership and collective responsibility.
- **Successful Completion Through Collaboration:** The project successfully leveraged partnerships and contributions from various stakeholders, ensuring the graveyard's completion despite initial funding challenges.
- **Promoting Social Cohesion:** The establishment of the graveyard not only provided a necessary infrastructure but also strengthened social bonds within Lekromi, promoting unity and mutual support among community members.
- **Legacy for Future Generations:** The completed graveyard stands as a lasting legacy, ensuring dignified burial grounds for current and future generations of Lekromi residents.
- **Demonstration of Community Initiative:** This project exemplifies the proactive approach of the community in addressing local challenges, emphasizing the importance of grassroots initiatives in sustainable development.
- **Educational and Inspirational Value:** It serves as an educational example for other communities, demonstrating how collaborative efforts can effectively address critical infrastructure needs and enhance community well-being.

These outcomes highlight not only the tangible benefits of the project but also its broader impact on community dynamics, resilience, and future-oriented planning in Lekromi village.

Activity/Intervention Description and Key Lessons Learned:

Context:

Constructing a community burial ground had been a longstanding objective discussed in numerous village meetings in Lekromi.

Activity/Intervention:

The project engaged all community members of Lekromi in equal participation during the construction phase of the graveyard.

Key Successes:

- Successfully completed the construction of the community burial ground through participatory approaches.
- Partner contributions played a pivotal role in ensuring the project's success.
- The design of the intervention facilitated the effective implementation of the graveyard construction.

Shortcomings and Solutions:

Despite initial challenges such as insufficient funds from the EPA allocation alone, the project successfully leveraged additional resources through collaboration with Village Development Board (VDB) funds.

Lessons Learned:

This initiative imparted a crucial lesson to the villagers about collective responsibility and community welfare. It underscored the importance of viewing project funds not merely as individual benefits but as investments in communal infrastructure essential for future generations.

Follow-up Actions:

The Lekromi Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) is committed to maintaining and overseeing the EPA-supported projects initiated through the JICA project. Furthermore, they advocate for continued support from organizations for ongoing training and developmental initiatives aimed at further enhancing community well-being.

This case study highlights how strategic partnerships and community involvement can effectively address local infrastructure needs, promoting sustainable development and fostering a sense of collective ownership among community members.

Conclusion:

The construction of the community graveyard in Lekromi village exemplifies the power of community-driven initiatives and collaborative efforts in addressing local needs. By uniting all members in equal participation and leveraging partnerships for support, the project not only fulfilled a longstanding requirement but also fostered a sense of unity and collective responsibility among residents. Beyond providing a dignified final resting place, the graveyard stands as a symbol of resilience and proactive community engagement.

Moving forward, the success of this endeavor encourages continued stewardship by the Lekromi Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) and underscores the importance of ongoing support from organizations like JICA. By advocating for additional training and developmental opportunities, the community seeks to enhance its capacity for sustainable development and ensure the well-being of future generations.

In essence, the construction of the community graveyard in Lekromi village not only meets an immediate infrastructure need but also sets a precedent for collaborative action and community empowerment, embodying the spirit of resilience and collective progress.



Narrative success story of Meluri Village EPA:

Division: Phek

Range: Meluri

Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), includes Entry Point Activity (EPA) aimed at addressing the immediate needs of villages participating in the project. Meluri, a village in the Phek district and part of Batch 2 under NFMP, lacked proper sanitation infrastructure at the village Council Hall and faced significant sanitation challenges. This inadequate infrastructure often posed health risks and discomfort among the public. In response to these challenges, the community identified the construction of a community toilet as a critical need. The construction was started on 26 April 2022 and was completed on 18 July 2022 which costed 3 lakhs. It consists of four room (two urinals and two toilet) for both male and female which is build behind the village council hall. The community also contributed through labour via convergence.

Key Success:

- The JFMC committee demonstrated inclusive decision-making by incorporating feedback from women representatives who highlighted the necessity of separate toilets for male and female due to the inadequate condition of the previous facility. Meluri Students Union's (MKK) opinion/request for the construction of toilet in view of hoisting the Miss Phek 2022 was also one of the important factors in the success of toilet construction.
- The cooperation between the JFMC Members and the village council was instrumental. The council hall, being a central venue for various events, necessitated a larger capacity toilet.
- Mobilizing community labour contribution fostered a sense of ownership and facilitated the project's completion.

The construction of this toilets had a great impact on the community as the public expressed how there they are experiencing a clean hygienic sanitation with privacy and comfort. Women folk in particular expressed gratitude for the convenience and privacy provided by separate restrooms. Access to clean and private sanitation facilities not only enhance comfort but also promotes dignity and equality among the public. It has set an example, the benefits of having a hygienic sanitation infrastructure with separate restrooms for people.

Activity/Intervention Shortcomings and Solutions:

- Procuring of construction materials from Dimapur incurred high transportation costs due to the long distance. This was one of the main challenges faced by the JFMC. However, through the collaborative efforts of the village council and contributions from the community members, the JFMC was able to manage and complete the construction successfully.
- The project highlighted the necessity of clean water facilities in each bathroom to ensure proper sanitation and maintenance.

Lesson Learned:

- The importance of including clean water facilities in bathroom designs for maintenance and hygiene.
- The success of the EPA underscores the value of involving community members in planning and execution to ensure the infrastructure meets local needs effectively.

Conclusion:

The construction of the community toilet in Meluri under the NFMP's Entry Point Activity significantly improved sanitation infrastructure. It enhanced hygiene, comfort and dignity, particularly for women, and fostered a sense of community ownership. The project's success highlights the importance of inclusive decision-making, collaborative efforts, and addressing maintenance needs in the future initiatives.

**Akhen Village WHS:****Division: Phek****Range: Meluri**

Akhen is a small, remote village under Meluri sub-division, with a population of fewer than 30 households. In 2019, the village was selected to be part of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The project provided support for constructing Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) as part of a collaboration for the success of the project with the community. The WHS was strategically constructed at the top of the village to ensure efficient water distribution to all the households. This intervention significantly improved water availability by channeling water directly to each doorstep, making life in the community more accessible and healthier.

Key Success:

- **Enhanced water availability:**
The construction of WHS at the top of the village has ensured a consistent and reliable water supply for all household. The strategic positioning leverages gravity-fed distribution, facilitating efficient water delivery.
- **Improved health and hygiene:**
Access to clean water availability at doorsteps reduced the risk of waterborne diseases, improving overall health conditions. The ease of water access has also enabled better personal and household hygiene, contributing to healthier living environment.

- **Community cohesion:**

The project has fostered unity and cooperation among the community members. The collective effort towards a shared goal has strengthened social bonds and community spirit, laying a foundation for future community-driven initiatives.

- **Empowerment:**

The project raised awareness about the importance of water conservation and environmental protection, encouraging sustainable practices. Additionally, involvement in the project provided leadership opportunities for community members, empowering them to take initiatives in other development activities.

Shortcoming and Solution:

One of the main challenges faced by the JFMC committee was high transportation cost incurred when procuring construction materials, due to the long distance involved. However, JFMC was able to identify and source construction materials locally or from closer suppliers to reduce transportation expenses. Explore alternative, locally available materials to minimize costs and support the local economy. Establish partnerships with nearby suppliers to ensure a steady supply of materials.

There was initial resistance from some community members who were skeptical about the benefits and changes it will bring, yet the consistent efforts of the JFMC in holding meetings and discussions to address concerns and ensure transparent, consistent communication to build trust and acceptance made huge impact in the completion of WHS construction.

Lesson Learned:

- Active involvement and participation of the community are essential for the success of development projects.
- The sense of ownership and pride in communal achievements lays the foundation for future community-driven initiatives.
- Providing leadership roles and responsibilities to community members can enhanced their confidence and capability to take on other development activities.
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the project's progress and impact are vital. This helps in identifying issues early, making necessary adjustments, and ensuring that the project remains on track to achieve its goal.

Conclusion:

The Nagaland Forest Management Project has brought significant benefits to Akhen village, particularly in terms of enhanced water availability, strengthened community cohesion, and empowerment through increased awareness and leadership opportunities. Overall, the project has not only improved the quality of life in Akhen village but also provided valuable lessons for the planning and implementation of rural development projects. The community's active participation and the project's adaptive approaches have set a strong foundation for future initiatives, highlighting the importance of sustainable practices, community engagement, and local resource utilization.



Inauguration of Entry Point Activities at Keor village, Batch-II (NFMP)

As part of Entry Point Activities, NFMP Kiphire has constructed Women Guest House in which community contribution both in cash and in wages has been instrumental in successful completion of EPA at Keor village under Batch-II (NFMP). DMU Head Shri. Chisayi, IFS, on 8th July 2023 inaugurated Keor EPA (Women Guest House).

The purpose of constructing women Guest House is to accommodate visiting guests & officials visiting the village from within and outside the state. It will also serve the purpose during important events in the village.



DMU Head Shri. Chisayi, IFS inaugurated the women guest house (EPA) at Keor village, Batch-II on 8th July 2024

Construction of Entry Point Activities (EPA) in Batch-III villages vis Azetso JFMC, Amikioro JFMC, Kisetong JFMC, New Longmatra JFMC & Yingshikiur JFMC:

As part of the NFMP project initiatives, all the NFMP villages were given EPA fund amounting to Rs.300000/- (Three Lakh) only for community development initiatives as per the choice of the villages. For Batch-III NFMP villages, EPA was approved based on their community development requirement and as such EPAs were constructed with community contribution apart from NFMP assistance.



C.C Footpath, EPA Azetso Batch-III constructed under NFMP



Community Toilet, EPA Amikioro Batch-III constructed under NFMP



Women Society Kitchen, EPA Yingshikiur Batch-III constructed under NFMP



Village Council Hall, EPA New Longmatra Batch-III constructed under NFMP

Entry Point Activity (EPA) under DMU Dimapur:

EPA for batch III villages (Ruzaphema & Sirhi Angami) under Medziphema Beat is under progress and expected to be completed by August 2024.

Renovation of Community Hall at Sirhi Angami construction started in the month of Feb. 2024 and expected to be completed by August 2024. (pics below)



Check Dam at Ruzaphema activity stated in the month of December 2023 with jungle clearance and during the month of March 2024 the EPA site was cleared again in preparation for the construction work. (EPA completed in the month of May 2024) (pics below)



Water Harvesting Structure (WHS): Distributed 44 water container (SINTEX) to all 44 households at Sirhi Angami Village, Batch III under Medziphema Beat during the month of September 2023.

Value of EPA/WHS:

As mentioned, the introduction of EPA/WHS under NFMP has benefitted the community members and improved their living standard in various ways:

EPA Pipeline Connection and Construction of WHS at Hukphang Village(Batch-I):

For the past years, the people of Hukphang Village were struggling to obtain proper drinking water facilities, despite the village being located at the foothill of Yingnyushang Mountain. Lack of proper water infrastructure, compelled the people of Hukphang village to live without reliable access to clean water even after walking for long distances to fetch water.

Clean and fresh water is an essential ingredient for a healthy human life, but with the increase in population it became more difficult for most of the villagers to get access to clean drinking water due to its scarcity, especially during winter season. The village elders had approached PHE department earlier, but they were unable to resolve their problem since the department had no fund allotment to undertake any new projects.

When NFMP, JICA Project was introduced in their village, people were not much concerned as they expected all Government Departments to be the same; ineffective in implementation. But once the project work began, people began to have hope in the NFMP, JICA Project. The pipe line connection from source (Yingnyushang Mountain) to WHS at Hukphang village which was done in convergence with PHED's Jal Jeevan Mission, is a great success story.

The people of the village were struggling for clean drinking water for so many years, but with the installation of proper drinking water facility through NFMP, JICA, Project, most of the people today are availing clean drinking water, and are safe from many preventable water-borne diseases too. Around 110 (one hundred ten) households are recorded to be benefiting from this project. Students now get extra time to study and do other works since the time they spent for fetching water from the source is minimized. The community members still regard this as one of the most successful projects ever carried out by any Government agencies of the state in their locality.



CF, NTC, Smt. Rongsenlemla, IFS, and NFMP Team Longleng inspecting the WHS at Hukphang Village.

EPA Installation of Bore-well and WHS at Pongching Village (Batch-II):

Like most of the mountain regions of our state, Pongching village too is not in lack of water sources, but the time and energy they put in to fetch a bucket of water was painstaking. The introduction of NFMP, JICA Project was a ray of hope for many people of the village, who are mostly farmers. When NFMP, JICA Project introduced EPA and WHS fund under the project, the villagers decided to install a borewell and construct water tank in their village which could be used during all seasons of the year.

The Installation of borewell, connection of pipeline in convergence with Jal Jeevan Mission of PHED and construction of water tank at Pongching Village is one such of a success story as it is said to benefit around 70 (seventy) households of the village with clean and undisturbed supply of water for drinking and household use.



CF, NTC, Smt. Rongsenlemla, IFS, inspecting the Borewell site at Pongching Village

PMC Team Shri. Jayesh Bhatia and Shri. Pranab R Choudhury along-with NFMP team Longleng inspecting the EPA Borewell at Pongching Village.

WHS at Mongtikang Village (Batch-II):

WHS construction and connection of pipeline from Noyak (mountain) to Mongtikang village was done in convergence with PHED (Jal Jeevan Mission) and community participation. Today, with the construction of WHS through NFMP, JICA Project, around 68 (sixty eight) families are provided with undisturbed clean water for drinking and household use.



EPA Construction of Village Gate and WHS at Kangching Village(Batch-I):

The long awaited dream of the villagers to have a well constructed village gate at Kangching Village came to reality with the EPA fund issued by NFMP, JICA Project. It was later converged with fund from village council and contribution of community members. The village gate was inaugurated by Shri. Beizo Suokhrie, IFS, DFO, Dimapur on 31st May 2022.



Shri. Beizo Suokhrie, IFS, DFO, Dimapur, inaugurating the EPA construction of Village gate at Kangching Village

The construction of water tank through WHS in Kangching Village was done in convergence with Jal Jeevan Mission of PHED and it is providing clean and undisturbed water to around 80 (eighty) households of the village.



WHS water tank at Kangching Village

EPA Construction of Community Hall and WHS at Sitap Village (Batch-II):

When enquired about the need of the community members of Sitap Village for the implementation of NFMP, EPA fund, the villagers opted for construction of community hall since it was much required in their village. This project was undertaken in convergence with Rural Development (RD) Department of Nagaland and was completed by the end of June 2022. It is can be stated that this is one of the largest projects undertaken by NFMP, JICA, Nagaland.



The construction of WHS at Sitap village is a success story because it was the long cherished dream of the people of Sitap to acquire clean drinking water. The construction of WHS is providing clean drinking water for around 40 (forty) households.

EPA and WHS at Yachem Village (Batch-III):

EPA installation of three (3) Water Filtration Plants and WHS construction of water tank in convergence with Village Council and PHED (Jal Jeevan Mission) for pipe line connection. Today, almost all the villagers obtain clean filtered water for household use in the entire village.



With the higher dependency on rain water, the construction of Water Harvesting Structures and installation of water filters have proven to ease the burden faced by the locals. And such water conservation measures have also ensured the efficient and proper use of rain water, thus taking little steps in our attempt to fight the water shortage and possible drought calamities.

Entry Point Activity (EPA) and Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) at Nungyim and Yikhum Village:

Under the aegis of Yikhum Village Baptist Church community, the church contributed Rupees 100,000 towards the construction of Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) and a plot of land for the Rostrum construction (EPA), Nungying Village Student Union community also contributed Rupees 15,000 towards the construction of Entry Point Activity (EPA). Besides the contribution of funds all the villages of Wokha Range and Doyang Beat under batch II contributed Land and voluntary labour for construction of Entry Point Activity (EPA) and Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) in their respective villages.

Successful Implementation of Entry Point Activity at Chungtia Village under FMU Mokokchung:

Nagaland Forest Management Project made its inroad in the village in 2022. A committee under the project known as the Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) was set up. Under this project, precedence was given on three objectives where Entry Point Activity comes under the objective of Institutional Strengthening. For the Development of Community Infrastructure, the NFMP initiated the sanction of Rs. 3,00,000/-. In a joint meeting of JFMC and the Village Council, a decision was made to take up the 'Renovation of Community Hall' under Entry Point Activity.

The Renovation of Community Hall under Entry Point Activity commenced from 17th April 2023 and was completed on 8th June 2023. The community contributed more than 25% in the form of labour and procurement of other materials required during the renovation of the community hall.

Before the Project Implementation:

The Community Hall was constructed in the year 1995. Having served its full utility, over the years it was experiencing the wear and tear, making it apprehensive for the villagers to gather during scheduled programmes lest it might come crashing down. Chungtia being a large village of 651 households, having three units of its Citizens Union in existence outside the village, made the decision after much deliberation and planning for around 5-6 years to prioritize the need of Renovating the Community Hall.

Key Success:

With the coming of Nagaland Forest Management Project, in collaboration, the village has made a successful display of sustainable and proper utilization of resources under the strategic guidance of the project.

The key highlights on the success of Entry Point Activity at Chungtia Village are:

- The Renovation of Community Hall has provided a better platform for the villagers to conduct different programmes and seminars.
- The Community contribution done by the village was Rs. 20,00,000/- which proves the strong affiliation, social environment and community stewardship in the village.
- The villagers can invite different important personalities and showcase their culture and performances during specially organized festivals.
- The collaboration between village and NFMP presents a positive learning to other neighbouring villages to extend cooperation and invite projects from different departments.
- With the coming of the project, no plastic zone was created as an environmental awareness to the people.

Major Contribution made by the Village:

Along with the amount of Rs. 3,00,000/- received from NFMP, the convergence made for the Renovation of Community Hall were from-

- Village Council
- The three units of Chungtia Union outside the village
- Different organizations & individuals. Total of Rs. 23,00,000/- was utilized in the work.

Observations:

- The villagers were quite enthusiastic of working with NFMP under the Department.
- The project created lots of opportunities for the population especially under EPA, WHS and Plantations.
- Under the project, the villagers learned much about the Department functioning and participated in a lot of environmental activities under the guidance of the department.
- It passed on the habit of clean Environment and sensible plastic usage for the younger generation.
- Overall, the NFMP benefited the entire population in the village.

Conclusion:

The collaboration of the Villagers, the JFMC and the NFMP has set up a good example for the neighbouring villages to avail the opportunity in inviting new sustainable projects to assist them into becoming a sustainable society.

Lastly, with the efforts given by the Village Council and the JFMC members along with the fund provided by NFMP (JICA), the implementation of the EPA was a huge success for Chungtia village.



Successful Implementation of Converged EPA - WHS in Aliba Village under FMU Mokokchung (2023 2024):

Before the Project Implementation:

Aliba village is strategically situated at the hilltop. Despite heavy rainfall during peak monsoon, the village often faces water scarcity. In earlier times, there was a perennial spring within the settlement area which catered to the water requirements of the people. However, amidst the growing population, the villagers had to tap a water source at Chungliyimsen village which is about 13 km away. Overtime, this provision also seemed to be insufficient for the entire populace. Moreover, the villagers had to incur huge cost annually in maintaining the water source and pipelines.

Implementation of the Project:

With the implementation of NFMP project (JICA Assisted Project) in the village, the component of community development in the form of Entry Point Activity and Water Harvesting Structure provided an excellent opportunity to the village to direct their efforts in the development of water provision for all.

Aliba JFMC played an active role in engaging the villagers, led by the Village Council, to discuss about the development component under NFMP. Hereafter, they decided to converge the EPA and WHS component and utilize the combined amount of Rs. 6,00,000/- towards the common cause of improving water facility in the village. The village council also rendered its full support to this activity. The decision was to rejuvenate and restore the former perennial spring known as Tsüngi Tsüba and to increase its water holding capacity. The procurement of construction materials along with preliminary works at the site started from 16th January 2023.

The village community set to construct 2 filtration unit along with a main water reservoir. Besides that, desiltation of the water source was undertaken and the retaining structure around it repaired. The JFMC members along with the Village Council supervised and monitored the works. Contribution from the community in terms of time, labour, donation and moral support led to its completion. Another major task that presented before the community was the pumping up of the reserved water, since the source is much below the village settlement. Herein, with the community's contribution, pipeline materials were procured, connected to water source and brought up to the settlement area. A transformer was also purchased to serve as the power source during pumping of water. The pipeline connection was completed by April month (2024).

Convergence in form of Villager's Contribution:

In addition to the amount of Rs. 6,00,000/- received through the convergence of EPA & WHS from NFMP, the contribution in cash/ kind by the villagers are-

- Timber: Rs. 40,000/-
- 25KVA transformer & other related gadgets: Rs. 1,02,000/-
- Skilled labor (4person x 55days @700/person): Rs. 1,54,000/-
- Refreshment provision: Rs. 8,860/-

Observations:

- Aliba JFMC executives played a proactive role in directing and channelling the fund towards the utilization and completion of the activity till date.
- The village council took to the task of supervising and monitoring the works for the community's welfare. It also initiated in bringing contributions from various avenue to complete the construction work successfully.
- The level of cooperation between the JFMC executives and the villagers, led by the village council is a welcome sight.
- FMU staffs rendered their assistance and guidance to the villagers in undertaking the activity to their level best.

Comments:

As of now, the community is awaiting the installation of the transformer and the arrival of a motor pump of higher capacity. It won't be long before the aspiration of sufficient water in Aliba village be a reality and the village script another success story. This in essence will be due to the continued and zealous efforts of the JFMC members and the Village Council in particular and the boost given by JICA-aided Nagaland Forest Management Project under the guidance of the department.



Marketing Shed (EPA) of Lampong Sheanghah Village Batch-II, Mon Ran Range, Naginimora Range



EPA Inauguration of Pongkong Village Batch-III, Mon Range by Shri C.L. John

The inauguration ceremony for the Entry Point Activity (EPA) in Pongkong village was presided over by Shri C.L. John, the Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, and Village Guard of the Government of Nagaland on 27th November. Expressing his appreciation, Shri C.L. John extended gratitude to NFMP JICA for seizing the opportunity and assisting the Pongkong villagers in the construction of their welcome gate.



EPA of Totok Chingha Village Batch-III, Mon Range During Initial and after Completion



WHS of Mon Village Batch-I, Mon Range

WHS of Chingphoi Village Batch-III, Naganimora Range

LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES

DMU Mon:

Under Divisional Management Unit (DMU) Mon, the activities taken up towards Nagaland Forest Management Project (JICA) is highlighted since the time of implementation from 2018 till 2024. The report will project the status and activities of project implementation carried throughout the selected villages along with supporting pictures.

Three villages were selected for implementation of Batch-IV in 2023 namely Longkei and Leangnyu under Mon Range and Wakching Chingla & Wanching Yongmouh under Naginimora Range. The PIC Signing with Longkei and Leangnyu were successful but the application was withdrawn from Wakching Chingla & Wanching Yongmouh Village from NFMP under Batch-IV, which the reason was stated as non-availability of land to carry out the project activity and alternatives have been suggested from the office.

Overview of Livelihood/IGA Activities:

In terms of IGAs each SHGs are solely focused on Agriculture Production and marketing, most common activities include Ginger Farming, King Chilli, Garlic, Soybean, Mushroom Farming and other seasonal vegetables. Other IGAs include Poultry and Piggery was taken up by some SHGs. Additionally, 9 SHGs of Batch-I have completed their Loan Repayment and as of Batch-II, 21 SHGs were selected and the repayment is on the process. Whereas, for Batch-III, 15 SHGs have received their Revolving Funds.

Women as the epitome of wealth and prosperity: The Story of Akehda SHG:

Blessed with good climatic conditions and abundance of fertile land suitable for all kinds of crops, agriculture is their major profession of Angangba village under Longkhim range, the primary source of income for the community is through agriculture and its allied farming. The village having a highway that interconnects almost all major districts is one with great potential for commercial purpose. Different institutions and associations have had their fair share of try to make this village and its community into a commercialized center. This narrative is one such where we have targeted women SHG with great potential and will to progress and forward but with their only set back being the lack of support.

Akehda SHG consisting of 10 motivated and capable women was formed at the year 2014 through NSRLM Tuensang. After visiting the village and interacting with all the SHGs formed under NSRLM, their profiles were obtained. Seeing their activeness and will to do achieve goals, the group was selected as one of the three recipient of the SHG Revolving Fund under NFMP/JICA Project for the year 2022.

With clearer and bigger horizon and vision for the promotion and development of the community the FNGO team explored the potential and the capacity of the village as well as the ability and possibility of the SHG, the group along with the FNGO team planned for Potato and Cabbage cultivation and since then the SHG has had an unstoppable pace of success. With the `50,000 loan fund provided by the project and `23500 from members' contribution, they invested in procuring the required supply and other needs. From then on they started their venture into agricultural business. The FNGO team also made sure to provide them with trainings equipping them on the technical way of cultivation and harvesting of both the crops,

The following year's potato harvest also had major success with an income profit of `22500 and the second phase of cabbage cultivation generated an income of `70000.

The group also went out of the way to generate more income and explore other potentials, during the 77th Indian Independence Day, in a serendipitous turn of events, the group Through the sale of traditional and locally available goods generated an income of `33,500.

As of now the group is running with tremendous success, accumulating a whopping amount of `210250. The data provided below shows the figural success rate of the group.



Training by FNGO Team on cultivation of crops



SHG members during the 77th Independence Day



Cabbage cultivation & Potato harvest

The group also practices inter-lending at a very low interest as a form to help the group grow further and also to help each other whenever the need arises. This is one of a kind story which proves that Nagas have the potential and ability to achieve and reach any goals when given the right amount of motivation and boost. It is also a story to let the world know of what wonders women can do when given the power. It is also of great inspiration that the group focuses on sustainability and environmental friendly method of cultivation, focusing solely on organic farming. They are highly motivated to continue working on their own even after the repayment of the loan, they now have enough to sustain themselves as well as provide for their families.

They are now well sustained on their own and wish to spread and share the success they have had. Even with so much ability and capability to be qualified for the next round of Revolving Fund or even Challenge Fund, the Group wants other SHGs from their village to get the opportunity and a chance to do what they have done and even more. Grateful and humbled by the humongous opportunity given to them, they aspire to inspire the women folks in their community to never set limit and push further.

DMU Kohima:**Women Participation:**

Under NFMP women participation is a must in formation of Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC), a decision making body and generally in Self Help Groups.

Two women representatives are required in formation of JFMC and they have equal rights as their male counterparts in the functioning and decision making of the committee. However, most of women participation can be seen in the active functioning of SHGs. They take up various Income Generation Activities (IGA) such as rearing of pigs, cultivating ginger, etc.

Participation of womenfolk are crucial for speeding up development and achieving inclusive and sustainable development. Women's participation, be it in the political or socio-economic field, helps them to build their resilience, gain new knowledge, receive support and make a difference in the fast-changing world. Their engagement in various fields promotes gender equality, facilitate them to become confident and capable leaders. In a developing country like India, rural women are closely associated with the natural heritage, land, soil, plants, trees and animals. Therefore, women's participation in ensuring the conservation of natural resources and environment are paramount. The main aim of including women in project implementation is to ensure that they have access to the benefits and that they are able to manage the resources in a sustainable way.

With the implementation of NFMP, we have witnessed the participation of women in various activities such as village resource mapping, microplan exercises, nursery work, maintenance work, weeding, and other project related activities. Their participation has not only helped them to earn their livelihood but it has also boosted their capacity. In every JFMC Executive, there is a women representative, fostering equity and inclusivity. In a male dominated society like ours, women are also getting a platform through this project to participate from planning to decision-making, thus contributing their support and mentorship.

In the project villages, women members have taken active part in the nursery by filling the poly bags with manure and taking care of the nursery, they also contributed in the maintenance work along with the other JFMC members from their village in the forestry intervention model areas, apart from earning daily wage from the project. The involvement of SHGs in the project has further facilitated the process of building self-confidence among themselves, in addition to achieving self-reliance. It has boosted their knowledge on book-keeping, financial decision-making and also a sense of asset ownership are being developed amongst the members, thus empowering them to a greater height. Apart from that, they have also gained immense knowledge on the importance of protecting the environment and achieving a goal of biodiversity conservation.

Women's participation is not only about gender equality but also a fundamental aspect for the growth of a society at large, and therefore efforts to promote and support their participation should be prioritized at all levels.

Women's Participation in Various Activities:

Nursery maintenance at Nsunyu village



Maintenance work at Zhadima 'A' village



Maintenance work at EPA- Zhadima 'A' village



Plantation work at Zhadima 'A' village

Profitable IGA:

Members of SHGs from NFMP villages through the provision of Revolving Fund have been engaged in IGAs such as piggery, poultry, weaving, rice mill installation, cultivation of mushrooms and various organic vegetables. This endeavour has not only proven to be profitable but also increased the income of SHGs members. In addition, maintenance of various records under NFMP has boosted their capacity, thus helping them to keep track of their financial status, meeting records, agenda discussed, ensuring transparency & accountability and building trust among the members. With the training the members acquired from the project, it has further honed their skills to improve their income. Members of the SHGs have viewed that from the income Generating Activities (IGA) refers to small-scale enterprises or ventures which are aimed at generating income and improving livelihoods, particularly in rural or marginalized communities. These activities are critical for enhancing economic stability, reducing poverty, and fostering community development. IGAs are beneficial as they provide additional sources of income, which can be vital for families struggling to meet their basic needs. IGAs empower individuals, especially women and youth, by providing them with skills and economic independence. Choosing the right IGA for members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) depends on several factors including local resources, market demand and the skills and interest of the members. Identifying and implementing profitable IGAs is crucial for the sustainability and success of SHGs. Investing in skills training, business management, and marketing strategies can enhance the success and profitability of the chosen IGA. By engaging in profitable IGAs, SHGs can significantly enhance their economic stability and contribute to the overall development of their communities profit they made after taking up the IGA, they were able to meet the financial requirements of their households. They have also observed that with the introduction of NFMP, and the trainings they received, they are able to boost their capacity building apart from meeting financial needs.

With the success of first round of IGA of Revolving Fund, the second cycle is also in the offing, which is expected to give a major boost to the SHGs members to enhance their livelihood activities and income.

Some of the profitable IGAs of SHGs:



Hezou SHG Tuophema weaving



Zhadima 'A' Kerhe Krou SHG-Poultry



Nsunyu Kecha Zie- Piggery



Tsiekhe SHG Tuophema Poultry & Shiitake mushroom



Kerhun SHG Terogvunyu - Poultry



Mehaiwa Zie SHG Kandinu - Rice mill

Innovations:

Innovations at the village level can be impactful, addressing the local needs of the community, harnessing opportunity for sustainable development and improving the well-being of local communities. Providing a conducive environment and resources for innovation in the village encourages the community to develop innovative ideas, which in turn provides solutions for the issues they face within the village and helps them in stimulating economic growth of the village.

With the aim to educate and empower the village communities, an exposure trip was organised for Zhadima 'A' (Batch I under Chiephobozou Range) JFMC members to Khonoma village. The JFMC members were introduced on how community conserved areas have a huge impact on the mutual co-existence of humans and wildlife. This innovative exposure trip provided insights into biodiversity conservations, environmental sustainability and the importance of preserving the natural habitats. The JFMC members of Zhadima 'A' gained deeper appreciation of the natural world and strengthened their commitment to conservation and protecting biodiversity and ecosystems.

Another innovation, which has an impact on the environment, is the distribution of polybag sapling in every household at Tsosinyu village (Batch III under Tseminyu range). The JFMC members distributed saplings to every households in the village, where the members of the households contributed by taking care of the saplings, by regularly watering and monitoring, thus promoting the healthy growth of the saplings. Furthermore, the saplings were then planted in the forestry intervention model areas. With the success of this innovative concept, the JFMC members are also planning to follow suit in the days to come.



Zhadima 'A' JFMC Exposure trip to Khonoma village

Lessons learnt:

Reflecting on lessons learnt from any project is crucial for development and improvement. Lessons learnt in a rural setting are perceptive, reflecting their distinctive challenges and opportunities. Rural populace demonstrates strong sense of resourcefulness, self-reliance, and fosters deep sense of connection with the natural surroundings.

The implementation of NFMP in the project villages has instilled a sense of pride and responsibility among the community members. The JFMC members along with the rest of the community members and their contributions towards the project have promoted a sense of collective pride and accomplishment. With regard to conservation, the communities have learnt that forests are critical for maintaining biodiversity, mitigating climate change and supporting livelihood of the rural masses.

Taking care of the assets created through the project in the village and having a strong sense of ownership is one of the positive impacts. In addition, capacity building of the community has been empowered through various trainings and collaborative partnership with FNGO team. With the participation of women in the project, the villages have created more inclusive and equitable communities, where both men and women have equal opportunities and access.

Case Study Title: Successes and Challenges in Pig Farming by Wekhre SHG of Kami Village:**Division: Phek****Key Successes:**

- **Effective Utilization of Pigs as Organic Fertilizer:** Pigs were successfully integrated into agricultural practices as a valuable source of organic fertilizer, contributing to enhanced soil fertility and agricultural productivity.
- **Income Diversification and Economic Stability:** Pig farming enabled farmers to diversify their income streams, reducing dependency on single agricultural activities and promoting economic stability within the community.
- **Community Engagement and Ownership:** Active participation of the community in pig farming activities fostered a sense of ownership and collective responsibility, ensuring sustainable management practices.
- **Adoption of Nature-Based Solutions:** Emphasis on nature-based solutions in pig farming practices promoted environmental sustainability and resource efficiency tailored to local conditions.
- **Partnership Contributions and Support:** Contributions from partners, including technical expertise and resources, were instrumental in overcoming challenges and achieving successful outcomes in pig farming.
- **Enhanced Livelihoods and Social Impact:** Successful pig farming initiatives improved the livelihoods of farmers, providing them with a reliable source of income and contributing to overall social and economic development of the Wekhre SHG and the Kami village.
- **Knowledge and Skill Development:** The SHG acquired valuable knowledge and skills in breeding management, feeding practices, and disease prevention through training and experience, enhancing their capacity for sustainable pig farming.

- **Improved Health and Disease Management:** Implementation of proper health management practices and vaccinations contributed to mitigating disease outbreaks, ensuring the health and well-being of the pig population.
- **Improved Health and Disease Management:** Implementation of proper health management practices and vaccinations contributed to mitigating disease outbreaks, ensuring the health and well-being of the pig population.
- **Resilience Building in Agriculture:** By integrating pig farming with other agricultural activities and sustainable practices, the project contributed to building resilience against economic fluctuations and environmental challenges.
- **Long-Term Sustainability and Future Prospects:** The success of pig farming of the Wekhre SHG lays a foundation for long-term sustainability, offering prospects for continued growth, innovation, and improvement in agricultural productivity and community well-being.

Activity/Intervention Shortcomings and Solutions:

- **Challenges Encountered:** High costs of concentrate feeds, inadequate veterinary health care, frequent disease outbreaks, and insufficient housing were major challenges.
- **Unmet Expectations:** Some anticipated results were not achieved due to these challenges.
- **Proposed Solutions:** Recommendations include improving housing conditions, ensuring quality nutrition and feed, implementing regular vaccinations, and enhancing community education on best practices.

Lessons Learned:

- **Improved Approach:** Reflecting on the experience, providing detailed feeding charts and ensuring timely vaccinations could enhance future outcomes.
- **Avoiding Common Mistakes:** Lessons highlight the importance of prioritizing health care, proper waste management, adhering to best practices, ongoing training, and avoiding overcrowding.

Follow-up Actions:

Rural pig farming initiatives must prioritize key factors such as comprehensive training, continuous education, and meticulous management practices to ensure sustained success. By implementing these practices and learning from past challenges, the efficiency and profitability of pig farming in rural areas can be significantly enhanced.

This case study underscores the significance of strategic planning, community involvement, and continuous improvement in agricultural ventures like pig farming, promoting sustainable practices and economic resilience within rural communities.

Conclusion:

The case study of pig farming of the Wekhre SHG exemplifies the transformative potential of sustainable agricultural practices in rural communities. By effectively integrating pigs into local farming systems, the initiative achieved significant milestones in both economic development and environmental stewardship.

Through the successful utilization of pigs as organic fertilizer, the SHG not only enhanced soil fertility but also improved agricultural productivity, thereby supporting food security and economic resilience. The diversification of income streams through pig farming provided farmers with greater stability and reduced dependency on traditional agricultural activities.

Furthermore, the knowledge and skills acquired by the SHG members in breeding, feeding, and health management underscored the importance of continuous education and training in agricultural development. By adopting nature-based solutions and best practices, Wekhre SHG exemplifies a model for environmentally conscious farming practices that promote resilience against economic and environmental fluctuations.

Looking ahead, the lessons learned from this initiative emphasize the importance of ongoing support, capacity building, and community empowerment in sustaining agricultural livelihoods. As the SHG continues to innovate and adapt in response to local challenges, the foundation laid by the pig farming project ensures a pathway towards enhanced prosperity and sustainable development for generations to come.

In conclusion, the success of pig farming of the Wekhre SHG not only signifies agricultural advancement but also stands as a testament to the power of community-driven initiatives in fostering holistic development and resilience in rural settings.



FMU MELURI

Title: Success story on Sahei SHG of Akhen Village:

Division: Phek (Range: Meluri)

Sahei SHG was formed in the year 2014 on 26th May under NSRLM with a member of Nine (9) including President, Secretary and Treasurer. The group holds a meeting twice or once every month. Each member contributes a sum of Rs.50-/ for the group saving account.

Before joining NFMP the members involved themselves in daily wages and different income generating activities like collection and selling of pine woods and vegetables where the income was used as a supporting source for the family expenses like paying of school fees for children, household expenses etc.

Key Success:

- Sahei SHG joined the NFMP in the year 2022 which was a big boost for their members. After joining this project, the group received Revolving Fund, a sum of Rs.50,000 on 2nd March 2023. They used this fund to start a piggery business. Despite losing one pig, they sold the remaining four for Rs.1,06,750, generating a profit of Rs.56,750.
- The revolving has significantly benefited the group's economic standing, enabling them to start small to medium enterprise. The SHG also offers inter-lending at an interest rate of 2% per month, providing necessary financial support to members.

- Beyond financial assistance, members share problems and help each other in times of need, fostering social and emotional bonds.
- The SHGs supports village institutions like church, village council. Increased participation of women in community decision-making and planning is notable.
- With regards to market linkages, they are limited within the village and products are sold only in the village due to its remote location. However, these circumstances don't make the members feel discouraged rather they are dedicated and motivated which can be also seen as key factor to their success. Unity and understanding among the members also stand as a key element to their success. The male members in the family also contribute to their success by helping them physically and morally when needed. Presently, the group is rearing three (3) pigs for their IGA, with the income earned in the first business phase.

Activity/Intervention Shortcomings and Solutions:

In the working of their IGA, time constraints and household responsibilities are some of the challenges they face during this process, however, implementing flexible scheduling for IGA activities and meetings, accommodating members' availability around their household duties, encouraged the members to delegate tasks within their households to share responsibilities effectively and foster a culture where members support each other during peak household workload periods.

The outbreak of swine flu poses a significant risk due to lack of specific treatments and veterinary facilities in the village which could lead to uncontrolled spread among livestock, affecting livelihoods and food security. Conducting awareness campaigns on preventions and Symptoms identification, establish an emergency response plan with local health authorities and veterinary services to swiftly address outbreaks, equip community health workers with knowledge and resources to identify early signs and provide initial care and initiate or support vaccination programs for livestock to mitigate the spread of swine flu. By implementing these solutions, the community can better manage and mitigate the risks associated with outbreaks like swine flu, safeguarding both economic stability and public health.

Lesson Learnt:

- Providing a clean and dry environment and keeping infected pigs separated from the healthy pigs.
- Vaccinating pigs (with swine flu vaccines) using good biosecurity measures therefore improving the immunity of pigs and are beneficial to prevention and treatment of swine infection.
- Maintaining proper animal nutrition and health programs reduces the severity of the infection.

Sahei SHG has demonstrated resilience and commitment to improving the economic and social well-being of its members and the wider community. Their journey so far showcases the power of collective effort and resourcefulness in overcoming challenges and achieving success. As they move forward, several strategic steps can further enhance their impact and sustainability.

Diversification of Income Generating Activities (IGAs):

Exploration of New Ventures While piggyery has been successful, diversifying into other IGAs like poultry farming, vegetable cultivation, or handicrafts can reduce risks and increase income stability. Organizing training programs on various IGAs can equip members with the necessary skills to explore and excel in new ventures.

Enhanced Market Linkages:

Identifying and establishing connections with markets beyond the village can increase sales and profits. This can involve collaborating with local traders or using online platforms. Value Addition Processing agricultural products or animal produce can increase their market value. For example, making pickles from vegetables or meat products from piggery can open new revenue streams.

Strengthening Financial Management and Access to Credit:

Educating members on financial management, savings, and investment can improve their financial stability and growth. Building a good credit history through the revolving fund can facilitate access to larger loans from banks or microfinance institutions for expanding their businesses.

Community and Institutional Engagement:

Active Participation in Village Institutions and continuing to engage with local institutions like the Village council and Church can enhance their influence and support within the community. Encouraging more women to join and participate in SHGs and community decision-making can further empower them and enhance community development.

Conclusion:

Sahei SHG's journey from daily wage earners to successful entrepreneurs in piggery demonstrates the potential of collective effort and proper support. By diversifying IGAs, improving veterinary and market linkages, strengthening financial management, engaging with the community, and building resilience, Sahei SHG can continue to thrive and contribute to the overall development of their village. The group's unity, dedication, and willingness to embrace new opportunities will be key to their ongoing success and growth.

Success Story: Women's Participation in New Phor Village**Division- Phek****Key Outcomes:**

- **Leadership and Representation:** A woman was selected as the vice-chairman of the JFMC, setting a precedent for female leadership.
- **Active involvement in Planning:** Women played a crucial role in preparing the village's micro plan through the women working group formed for the preparation of the same. They were integral in the selection and preparation of nursery species, ensuring ecologically suitable choices.
- **Advocacy for genuine participation:** Women objected to being relegated to preparing tea during meetings, demanding genuine participation in decision making processes.
- **Inclusivity and Empowerment:** The proactive involvement of women has led to more inclusive and effective community management.
- **Model for other communities:** New Phor village serves as a model demonstrating the benefits of women's empowerment and participation in local governance and sustainable development initiatives.

Activity/Intervention Description and Key Lessons Learned:

Brief description of the context-The Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) in New Phor was established under the Nagaland Forest Management Project as a key element to

implement the project; also, a broader initiative to promote sustainable forest management, enhance community involvement, and ensure equitable sharing of benefits derived from the forest resources. Recognizing the critical role women play in resource management and community development, there has been a concerted effort to involve them more deeply in the JFMC's activities.

Brief description of activity/intervention: The pivotal change began with the election of a woman as the vice-chairman of the JFMC, marking a significant shift towards gender inclusivity. Women's participation further extended to the preparation of the village's micro plan through the establishment of women's working group. This group was instrumental in selecting appropriate species for the nursery and preparing it, reflecting their expertise and dedication to sustainable practices.

Women have since become active participants in the JFMC's monthly meetings, voicing their opinions and taking on leadership roles in various project activities, including nursery preparation, Watershed harvesting Structures (WHS) and Entry Point Activities (EPA). Their proactive involvement has not only ensured the efficient management of these projects but also fostered a more inclusive approach to community development.

A notable turning point was when the women of New Phor challenged traditional roles assigned to them, particularly objecting to being called to meetings only to prepare tea. This act of defiance highlighted their demand for genuine participation in decision-making processes, setting a precedent for other communities.

Key Successes:

- **Enhanced Leadership Representation:** The election of woman as the vice-chairman of the JFMC established a strong precedent for female leadership and gender inclusivity within the village's governance structure.
- **Effective Microplan Development:** Women played a crucial role in the preparation of the village's micro plan through the women's working group, ensuring the plan was comprehensive and reflective of the community's needs.
- **Informed Species Selection for Nursery:** The active involvement of women in selecting species for the nursery ensured the choices were ecologically appropriate and beneficial for the community, leading to a successful nursery setup.
- **Advocacy for Equal Participation:** Women successfully challenged traditional gender roles by objecting to being relegated to preparing tea during meetings, thereby securing their rightful place in decision-making processes.
- **Inclusive Community Management:** The proactive involvement of women has resulted in more inclusive and holistic community engagement, addressing the needs and concerns of a broader segment of the population.
- **Empowerment and skill development:** Women's active participation has not only empowered them but also enhanced their skills in areas such as project management, sustainable practices and community governance.
- **Increased Community Cohesion:** The inclusion of women in leadership and decision-making roles has strengthened and community cohesion and unity, fostering a collaborative environment for addressing common challenges.

Activity/ Intervention shortcomings and solutions

- **Initial resistance to female leadership:** The election of women as the vice-chairman faced resistance from some community members who were unaccustomed to women in leadership roles.
Through consistent advocacy, demonstrating competence and support from progressive male leaders, the resistance gradually diminished. The female vice-chairman's effective leadership and decision-making skills helped in gaining wider acceptance.
- **Balancing Domestic Responsibilities:** Women had to balance their participation in JFMC activities with their domestic responsibilities, which was often challenging.
Community support systems, including shared responsibilities and flexible meeting schedules, were established to help women manage both roles effectively.
- **Traditional Gender Roles:** Women were initially expected to perform traditional roles, such as preparing tea during meetings, rather than participating as equals in discussions.
Women collectively voiced their objections demanding genuine participation. Their stance was supported by key JFMC members, leading to a cultural shift where women were recognized as equal contributors.

Lessons Learned:

- **Inclusive Leadership is crucial:** Women representation in leadership roles promotes gender equality and empowers the entire community.
- **Effective Advocacy can Drive Cultural Change:** Challenging traditional gender roles and advocating genuine participation can lead to significant cultural shifts within the community.
- **Training and Capacity Building are Essential:** Providing women with training and capacity-building opportunities is vital for equipping them with the skills needed to contribute effectively.
- **Support Systems Enhance Participation:** Establishing community support systems helps women balance their domestic responsibilities with active participation in governance and project activities.
- **Demonstrating Competence overcomes Skepticism:** Women can dispel doubts about their capabilities by demonstrating competence and achieving tangible successes in project implementation.
- **Genuine Participation leads to Better Outcomes:** Ensuring that women's involvement in meaningful and not tokenistic results in more balanced and effective decision-making processes.
- **Empowering through Responsibility:** Assigning significant responsibilities to women empowers them, enhances their confidence and fosters a sense of ownership in community projects.

Follow up actions:

- **Continuous Leadership Training:** Organize ongoing leadership and governance training for women to further enhance their skills and confidence in decision-making roles.

- **Strengthening Community Support Systems:** Develop and implement more robust community support mechanisms, such as childcare services and flexible meeting schedules to facilitate women's active participation.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress of women's participation and the impact of their contributions on project outcomes and community well-being.
- **Documentation and Dissemination:** Document the successes and challenges of women's participation in the JMC and share these findings with other communities to promote best practices and inspire similar initiatives.
- **Empowering the Next Generation:** Initiate programs that focus on empowering young girls in the community through education, mentorship and skill-building activities.
- **Promoting Gender Sensitization:** Conduct regular gender sensitization workshops for all community members to reinforce the importance of gender equality and inclusivity.
- **Creating Feedback Mechanisms:** Implement feedback mechanisms to regularly gather input from women participants on their experiences and challenges ensuring that their voices continue to shape the community's development.

Conclusion:

The active participation of women in New Phor village's Joint Forest Management Committee has led to significant advancements in community governance and sustainable development. Their involvement has not only fostered a more inclusive and equitable decision-making process but also demonstrated the transformative potential of gender equality in rural development.

Despite facing initial resistance and challenges, the women of New Phor have shown resilience and capability, proving that their contributions are vital for the community's progress. By continuing to support and empower women, the village can build in these successes ensuring sustainable and inclusive growth for future generations.

Their success story serves as an inspiring model for other communities, highlighting the profound impact that women's active participation can have on local governance and sustainable resource management. Through ongoing efforts to enhance inclusivity, provide necessary support and share best practices, other communities can replicate and adapt these achievements, fostering widespread positive change.





Figure 1 Micro Plan Working Group

Self Help Groups activities/initiatives under Kiphire:

The Divisional Management Unit Kiphire, NFMP with an objective to enhance the livelihood of the SHGs has been intervening in many areas by exploring several feasible options to improve or enhance their income. Support through RF fund, assistance in accounts and record keeping and persistent field visits has created positive impact in the functioning of the SHGs.

The intervention by NFMP, DMU Kiphire have resulted in increased income and food security for SHG members, improved agriculture productivity, enhanced entrepreneurship and women empowerment, strengthened SHG institution and networks as well as increased access to markets and sale of products both agriculture and non-agriculture products.

Consequently, in view of the need to strengthen livelihood component, funds are released to the SHGs after the preparation of Business Plan for effective results. Thus, for Batch I SHGs, RF Fund has so far been released for the activation of second cycle IGA whereas; the SHGs of Batch II Villages are currently under RF fund first cycle. The major livelihood activity of SHGs includes Potatoes Farming, Kholar, Soybeans, cabbage, Ginger, Garlic, Piggery, Poultry and Necklace making etc.

The various IGA activities undertaken by the SHGs are highlighted as under:



Necklace making by SHGs of Anatongre Batch-I (NFMP) and bean cultivation by SHGs of Azetso village Batch-III (NFMP) IGA activities



Poultry done by Arehlu SHG Pokphur village Batch-II (NFMP)

SHG's Sales Day initiatives under Divisional Management Unit, Kiphire:

Sales Day are initiated under DMU Kiphire on a routine basis and on a yearly manner to selected SHGs to provide amenities for profitable activity. Therefore, SHG sales day for Old Risethsi village was organized at Kiphire daily market on 5th July 2023 under the initiatives of Divisional Management Unit Kiphire. Sales Day is an event where Self-Help Groups (SHG) showcases and sells their products. DMU Kiphire has provided avenues for the SHGs by providing a platform, encouraging self-reliance among members and generates more income in addition to active community engagements. During this sales day initiatives on July 5th 2023, the three SHGs of Old Risethsi Batch-II village made a profit of `16400/-



Sales Day initiative for Old Risethsi village SHGs at Kiphire daily market on 5th July 2023

Sales day organized at 15th August 2023 for Old Risethsi village Batch II SHGs:

During the Celebration of 77th India's Independence Day Celebration at Kiphire Public Ground, NFMP Kiphire Division also took part in the event by putting up SHG stalls. The exhibition-cum-sales Day was carried out where plethora of organic agriculture products were exhibited and sold. During this event, the SHGs made a profit of about `10,000/-



L- MLA, Shri. Noklutoshi inspecting the stall set up by NFMP, Kiphire Forest Division.
R-SHG Old Risethsi village Batch-II on 15.08.2023

SHG products exhibition and sales at Jalukie Range Office:

DMU Peren along with 2 SHG members took part in exhibition and sales of SHG Products at Jalukie Range Office, Peren Division during the visit of Hon'ble Minister of Environment Forest & Climate Change, Labour & Employment Govt of India on 24th August 2023. The list of the SHG products sold include wooden crafts such as plates, mug, spoons, variety of local made pickles, ginger candy, ginger digestive, traditional stole, traditional necklace etc. The total products worth ₹ 3800/- were sold



Harvest Fair at Farmers' Market Piphema Old:

Harvest Fair was held on October 10th, 2023 at Piphema Farmers' Market, Piphema Old, it was a 1(one) day event which was organized by the FMU Head (Piphema Beat) Shri Bendangtemsu, with the support of the DMU staff and FNGO team. The main objective of the event was to encourage the SHGs and to promote their products that are grown locally in the village. Two (2) SHGs under NFMP-JICA took part at this event i.e Kekhrie SHG and Phezuo SHG. The event was inaugurated by Shri Beizo Soukhrie, IFS, DFO cum DMU Head, Dimapur Division. SHGs were able to generate a sum of Rs 14,770/- through their product sales during the event.



SHG Products exhibition and sales during Hornbill 2023:

DMU Dimapur participated during the Run for Hornbill event against time and Hornbill tail feather challenge event on 4th December 2023 at Nagaland Zoological Park Dimapur. During the event FNGO team exhibited the SHG products from Hekheshe village, Thekrejuma village, Piphema Old village and were able to sell products worth ` 4660/-. List of products exhibited were gooseberry candy, bamboo crafts such as wooden plates, wooden spoon, dried roselle tea, locally made pickles, dried wild apple, dried bitter eggplant, traditional mekkelas and shawls, traditional neckties, traditional earrings etc.



Arecanut Preservation by Aiko SHG at Hekheshe village, Medziphema beat:

Areca nut (Betel nut) cultivation is one of the major sources of income in the village. It is cultivated by most of the villagers since it is easily sold at the village. Aiko SHG one of the selected NFMP SHGs of Hekheshe village is engaged in preservation of Areca nut as part of their Income Generating Activity (IGA), as Areca nut is one of the most profitable income generating activities. The preservation process of Arecanut start, during the month of May and can be stored till October. The SHG members distribute equal share of Areca nut among them for preservation process. The SHG members buy Areca nut at the rate of `180 to `200 from the village itself. The betel nut is firstly stored inside a plastic sack and then stored inside a plastic bag, both the bags are tied at both ends firmly with a rope and stored for preservation. After keeping for about 10-15 days, they open the bag and throw away the water which is formed inside naturally during the span of days and replace it with fresh water and stored back. Again after 1 month they do the same process till the process is completed. The process takes around 2-3 months and once it is completed, they sell it. According to the SHG's business plan, the preservation process is for two seasons. The first one was completed in the month of October 2022. They distributed 10 pon (1 pon = 80 pieces of betel nuts) each among 10 members. They bought the betel nut at the rate of `180/- per pon and sold at the rate `350/- `400/- per pon. Almost all the betel nuts were good to sell, however some of the portions were rotten and so they could not achieve the maximum profit. The SHG generated a profit of about `20000/- from the first season. The second one was carried in the month of May 2023, where the SHG have distributed 10 pon each among the members. They bought the betel nut at the rate of `200/- per pon and sold at the rate of `350/- per pon in the month of August-September 2023 and generated a profit of about `13500/-.



Fermented Bamboo Shoot by Seivi SHG at Thekrejuma village, Piphema Beat:

Bamboo shoot is abundant in Thekrejuma village, batch I under Piphema Beat, Dimapur and it is one of the common cuisines among the villagers and Nagas in general. Seivi SHG consists of 11 members. The group started fermented bamboo shoot as one of the additional income generating activities. In the year 2020 NFMP (JICA) selected Seivi SHG and they were able to avail `50000/- as Revolving Fund for the IGA (Income Generating Activities) and as per the Business plan the group was engaged in piggery as their main IGA, the group also took up the activity of fermented bamboo shoot for additional income. For this activity, the bamboo shoot is harvested from the forest during the month of August and the SHG members gather together to process the bamboo shoot in preparation for the fermentation, the processed bamboo shoots are stored in plastic bags and put in bamboo baskets weighted down with stones for removing air, by the month of December the process is completed and final product is sold at local markets. In the year 2022 the group earned a profit of `9000/- and in 2023 they generated a profit of about `11000/- from fermented bamboo shoot.



DMU Longleng:

Awareness Program Conducted

Women Participation:

JICA has been committed to promoting gender equality and women empowerment in its developmental projects. Women has been involved in efforts such as participating in training and capacity-building programs focused to women, promoting women leadership roles in community development projects and economic empowerment. In Longleng particularly, women participation includes in:

- **Capacity Building:** Participating in training and skills development specifically targeting women to increase their participation in project activities.
- **Community Engagement:** Women actively participate in decision-making processes at the community level to ensure that their voices are heard, and their perspectives considered in project planning and implementation.
- **Economic Empowerment:** Women's economic empowerment has been developed, such as entrepreneurship programs, access to microfinance, and vocational training.
- **Leadership Development:** Women's leadership role has been improved within project committees, community organizations, and local government structures.

NFMP's approach towards gender mainstreaming aims to integrate gender perspectives into all stages of project cycles, from planning and design to monitoring and evaluation. By prioritizing women participation and empowerment, JICA contributes to broader efforts towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development.

Profitable IGA:

Considering factors such as local resources, market demand, and community needs, some of the profitable IGA's includes:

Agricultural Ventures:

The rural setting of Longleng provides opportunities for agricultural IGAs such as organic farming, horticulture, or livestock rearing such as piggery and poultry. Areca farming has also been one of the most profitable IGA. JICA projects support these initiatives through training in sustainable farming practices, access to improved seeds or breeds, and market linkages.



Millets cultivation supported by NFMP JICA Longleng

Small-Scale Manufacturing:

Supporting small-scale manufacturing enterprises, such as food processing (e.g., fruit jams, pickles), creating employment opportunities to stimulate economic growth in Longleng. JICA project offers technical assistance, access to capital, and support for quality control and packaging.

Microfinance and Entrepreneurship Support:

JICA facilitates the establishment of microfinance institutions or entrepreneurship development programs to empower local entrepreneurs, particularly women, by providing access to credit, business training, and mentorship. Some of the business activities include mushroom production, sell of NTFP, etc.

These are some IGAs that are supported under JICA projects in Longleng. The selection of IGA's depend on factors such as the local context, community priorities, market dynamics, and available resources. JICA's involvement significantly contributes to the success and sustainability of such ventures through its expertise, technical assistance, and financial support.



SHGs Training on Oyster Mushroom Cultivation FMU Longleng



On 8th September 2023 the FNGO team visited the Langnok village batch-I of NFMP/JICA to distribute the kidney beans/ Rajma to all the SHG's of Langnok village. It was organized by the Life care society under NFMP/JICA project in convergence with the dept. of agriculture Tuensang which and supported by department of Forest Tuensang.

DMU Wokha:

Women Participation:

The participation of women under Divisional Management Unit Wokha is at the forefront of the project. Women played a very important role in every activity since the implementation of the project. The participation of women under Divisional Management Unit Wokha can be categorised in four major distinct roles such as decision making, work execution, Voluntary Works and Livelihood activities.

The participation of women in decision making during the formation of the JFMCs, selection of model areas and construction of Entry Point Activity (EPA) has led to a positive outcome. Women are also highly involved during PRA exercise where they provide valuable information about their village. During activities like plantation and maintenance works, women have also demonstrated their traditional skills and knowledge which has brought positive impact in the field. Women have also played a major role in building a bridge between any Village institutions and the JFMCs during any misunderstanding.

Women have played an integral part during the execution all project works. For example, during the construction of EPA and WHS women are mostly tasked with carrying the raw materials to the construction site. During the construction of germination bed and filling of polybags women are actively involved since they are most likely to have better skills and knowledge. During plantation activity some women are tasked with carrying the plant saplings from the nursery to the model sites while some women are tasked in clearing the weeds and stackings. Maintenance and SMC work are also one of the major activities where women play an active role in executing the work.

Being a community-based village, voluntary work has always been a big part in the lives of the villagers where women play a major role during any activity or ceremonies. Since the implementation of the project, women have voluntarily took part in various activities organised by JFMCs and the Divisional Management Unit Wokha. During events like world environment day, women voluntarily take active part in activities like plantation drive, cleanliness drive and awareness campaign. Some SHGs women group have also volunteer to help their fellow SHGs by sharing knowledge, skills and business ideas.

Livelihood is one of the most important activity the women are most actively involved in. The participation of women in livelihood activities under Divisional Management Unit Wokha is one of the most successful activities under the project. The participation of women in livelihood activities have brought in valuable awareness and have inspired other women in some villages to take up livelihood activities as alternate source of income. Some of the major activities of women in livelihoods are Floriculture, Piggery, Pickle making, Fruit juice making, Jaggery processing, Organic farming, Ginger processing and traditional weaving.

The participation of women in livelihood activity not only provide a means of livelihoods for their families but they also create an awareness and inspire their fellow villagers to explore alternate source of livelihoods. They also provide positive lesson in their village by bringing in marketing skills, promotional skills and various business skills which are passed down to their children and family members.



Womenfolk actively taking part during plantation activity in Phiro Village

Profitable IGA:

Under Divisional Management Unit Wokha, Livelihood activity has delivered positive as well as negative results for the SHGs Income Generating Activities (IGA). All the SHGs Income Generating Activities (IGA) are selected after proper consultation with the respective SHGs followed by preparation of business plan. Depending on the SHGs Income Generating Activities (IGA), income generated through their IGA may vary from SHG to SHGs. Location of the village where the SHGs resides may also play an important factor in achieving positive results for the SHGs. Lack of infrastructure like good roads, transportation and marketing are some of the challenges which may have negative impact for the SHGs.

The above table shows that SHGs whose village are near the town and those SHGs village having good roads and transportation are mostly likely to have better productivity. This is also one of the main factors “Freshly Wokha- bringing consumers to producers” brand was initiated to bring in all those SHGs into the main fold and help them gain excess to all available means of productivity.



Passion fruit juice by Yingaro SHG (left) and Pickel by Yanthantju SHG



Pineapple by Among SHG (left) and Organic farm products by Mingotong SHG (right)



Products of Senjumta SHG from New Riphym and Other

Innovation:

With the aim to bring all the SHGs into single umbrella, Divisional Management Unit Wokha, launched a brand “Freshly Wokha- bringing consumers to producers” by Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Climate Change, Labour & Employment of the Government of India, Shri. Bhupender Yadav on 24th August 2024 in Peren. Under the initiative all the 42 SHG products from batch I, II and III are currently registered with the aim to bring about better management, promotion and skill development. The brand will cover all the 60 SHGs the NFMP project will be adopting under Wokha DMU.

Management:

The launching of “Freshly Wokha” is in fact attributed for managing the SHGs products into a proper business model by using all available resources into sustainable income generating activities for the SHGs under “Freshly Wokha” brand. With this in mind, SHGs outlet have been set up at Wokha Divisional Forest Office Premises to showcase, store, distribute and sale the SHGs products under “Freshly Wokha” brand.

“Freshly Wokha- bringing consumers to producers” also sought to significantly improve the quality and standard of the SHGs products by organising skill development trainings through convergence program with various departments and agencies. With the aim to improve Food safety measures, labelling and packaging “Freshly Wokha” has been registered under Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) to meet the required national standard in delivering quality products to the consumers. To further standardise “Freshly Wokha” products, SHGs products nutritional value testing has been done at Chief medical office (CMO) Kohima which will reflected in the product labelling to enhance the credibility of the products.



Lunching of “Freshly Wokha”
by Union Minister Shri. Bhupender Yadav

Promotion:

Promotional activity is also one of the main activities to promote the SHG products under “Freshly Wokha” brand through all available network and outlets. Under “Freshly Wokha” Divisional Management Unit Wokha have attended five promotional events in Wokha, Dimapur and Peren generating about 1 lakh for the SHGs. Besides the promotional events “Freshly Wokha” SHGs product outlet have been set up at Divisional Forest Office Wokha, office premises to showcase, store, distribute and sale SHGs products. Although “Freshly Wokha” outlet is yet to inaugurate, so far, around 2 lakhs have been generated through the “Freshly Wokha” outlet. Some of the main products of “Freshly Wokha” SHGs are Pickle, Fruit Juices, Dry Fruits, Traditional attire, wooden and bamboo products and Soap.



SHG promotional activity

Under Divisional Management Unit Wokha, as part of an effort to gain trust and belief from the village communities, the village elders and women are invited to cut the ribbon during the inauguration of EPA, WHS and Nursery to give them ownership of the resources as part of the main stakeholders.

Observing Mother's Day with Doyang Beat batch I and II village SHGs, distribution of raincoat and NFMP, JICA printed t-shirts to JFMCs, conducting outdoor picnic cum JFMCs monthly review meetings and organising pre-Christmas celebration are some of the innovation ideas injected to build and gain trust from the village communities. It also helps in spreading positive message to the village community there by encouraging the villagers in building a sustainable and responsible village.

Innovative practice under Divisional Management Unit Wokha is an ongoing activity with the purpose to give, show and deliver positive result. The impact of the innovative ideas injected so far under Divisional Management Unit Wokha has delivered positive results with lessons learned and noted along the way.

DMU Mokokchung:

Delightful Mokokchung:

DMU Mokokchung with the initiative of the SHG come up with the brand name called Delightful Mokokchung. Under this brand it will include all products that are being processed/marketed by various SHGs under the project. The mountain ranges in the logo represent the 6 mountain ranges of the Ao tribes, from where the products are being collected. The main motive behind this innovation is to have market linkage and supply all over the states and beyond to strengthen the economics of the SHG.. Till now the products such as ginger candy, mix herbal powder and different flavours of soaps are packaged. This product will be made available at the DMU Office.



Women participation report under DMU Mokokchung :

Aliba village:

The three SHGs namely PANGJEMER SHG, TEMETEM SHG and TEJENTEP SHG are part of the NFMP. Each group consist of 8 members and are all under Batch III. The groups have started with their 1st Cycle IGA in the first week of May 2024. Pangjemer SHG is involve in making of aloevera soap, Temetem SHG in Food Processing while Tejentep SHG is engage in the marketing of seasonal vegetables as part of their first business plan. It is observed that, Tejentep SHG is facing problems in storing their goods since they do not have an adequate storage facility within their village. During the preparation of Microplan, these women groups took active part in providing crucial information about the village and the various income generation activities being carried out in the village. They also assist the JFMC in the Nursery maintenance by watering the plants and educating other women folks on biodiversity conservation. They also assisted the JFMC during the construction of Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) in kinds. The SHG members also actively participated during the 3rd Cucumber Festival held on May 10th 2024 in their village.

Mongsenyimti village:

At Mongsenyimti village, Imrongtema, Ajajima & Mangkoterong SHG consisting of Eight (8) members each were absorbed into NFMP. Inspired by the good experience from "Towards Livelihood Improvement" initiated by DMU, Mokokchung, the SHG opted for Poultry as their first IGA. The SHG members are now in their 3rd cycle business plan. From the profit made through their first and second IGA, each group are now contributing together to raise a corpus fund of Rs. 1 lakh. These amounts will be used in the future for group activity. Apart from financial and economic support, strong social bonding was also observed among the members and they help each other in times of need. They continue to support other existing institutions in the village like the Church, Village council, JFMC, Student body and Mother's Association (Watsü) thus becoming an asset to their community. The members added that they have become more independent and they receive good support from their husbands. They assist the JFMC in nursery management, cleaning the surroundings of selected model areas & helping in gap replacement activity. They actively participate during World Environment Day by planting trees in & around the Village raising awareness among the villagers on forest conservation and quality of life. Women's contribution to flora & fauna conservation is indispensable. Their involvement not only enhances the effectiveness of conservative efforts by JFMC but also ensure sustainability of forest resources for future generation.



Chakpa village:

Hakisang, Mulungjem and Aturatsur are the three SHGs working under NFMP JICA from Chakpa village. The SHGs were formed under the National Rural Livelihood Mission. In the 1st RF loan cycle, Mulungjem and Aturatsur SHG were involved in food processing activity while Hakisang SHG were engaged in piggery. In the 2nd cycle, the SHGs decided to venture into piggery, a more viable option given their circumstances. Piggery requires relatively low investment and was manageable with their available resources. Piggery offers a flexible and profitable solution, allowing them to balance their responsibilities while generating income. The women also actively participate in activities like Nursery maintenance, plantations and other social events organized by the JFMC. They play an important role in keeping the village and its surrounding clean. Under the aegis of the Jal Jeevan Mission, the women took active part in water conservation. They constructed water harvesting structures using tarpaulins to harvest rainwater and ensured effective rainwater collection during the rainy season. They also clean the areas surrounding the water sources such as ponds and planted trees around these areas to enhance water supply.



Chungtia village:

At Chungtia, Molungateb & Yimsenlar SHG took up Piggery as their first IGA while, Eight Mothers SHG chose Poultry activity. The Women actively participated during the preparation of Microplan and assisted the JFMC during selection of EPA and WHS. They help the JFMC in monitoring the model areas and helps in timely watering of saplings in the nursery. Effective communication among the members is seen. SHG members attends JFMC meeting regularly and contributes their suggestions and ideas during decision making period. Women's participation in NFMP enables them to access affordable loan provided as Revolving Fund by JFMC making them financially independent. They regularly participate in cleanliness drive to raise awareness among the villagers fostering collective responsibility.

Longmisa village:

Tarangtet, Lensener & Shisajem SHG are part of the NFMP JICA at Longmisa. They chose poultry as their first IGA however, due to outbreak of flu, and poor market linkage they opted for Silkworm rearing thereafter. The SHG members come together regularly to discuss relevant issues like health, education for children and welfare of the groups. The women representatives attend JFMC meetings regularly. Often, their opinions are not only well received but are taken into action. The women group actively participates in different programs organized by JFMC and the FNGO.



Changtongya new village:

Kosalar SHG became a model of success. Starting with a small loan and a few piglets, the group expanded its operations within a few years. They diversified into breeding and selling piglets, providing a new income source. The success of Kosalar SHG inspired many other women in the village to take up pig farming. Longmatenem SHG consisting of eight members gained recognition for its high-quality, homemade food products. Using traditional recipes and organic ingredients sourced from local farmers, the group produced variety of pickles including gall bladder pickle, chilli pickle and Likok pickle that soon became popular not only within the village but also neighboring villages. Lensar Weavers SHG is another exemplary model of how collective effort and traditional skills can transform lives. Each member committed to saving Rs 200 per month to purchase raw materials to make traditional woven items like shawls and mekhela. Members use traditional backstrap looms and incorporate natural dyes sourced locally, preserving eco-friendly practices. Their journey from a small, informal group to a successful, organized entity underscores the potential of SHGs in fostering community development and cultural preservation. Each year during the world environment day, they are involved in planting of tree saplings around the village. Through participation in various NFMP activities, they got the opportunity to learn about sustainable agricultural techniques, conservation practices and entrepreneurship.

Merangkong village:

Adalenden SHG and mongsentenem SHG received training on modern farming techniques and started with the mixed vegetable farming while Suit lenden SHG ventured into piggery. With an initial fund from JICA, the SHG members pooled their resources and started with their activity. The success of these SHGs inspired others in the village to take various IGAs. The women gained confidence, respect and eventually got the opportunity to play crucial role in decision-making related to livelihood activities under NFMP JICA. Women are often primary users and managers of forest resources. Their participation in the project led to better protection and sustainable use of these resources. They contribute towards sustainable practices by integrating traditional knowledge and modern conservation techniques. Every year during the world environment day, they are involved in plantations of tree saplings around the village and cleaning of village surroundings. Their active participation contributes towards creation of social capital within the community, fostering trust, cooperation, and solidarity among members. This social cohesion strengthens the effectiveness of JFMC activities by promoting collective action, conflict resolution, and mutual support among stakeholders.

Salulamang village:

At Salulamang, Shisa Ajem and Senrenjem SHG ventured into value-added products of locally available agricultural produce. Their food processing venture significantly improved the income of the members. They later transition into piggery due to the rising demand for pork products in the local markets. Piggery offers a lucrative opportunity to generate higher returns compared to food processing activities. Similarly, Tsukir SHG also ventured into piggery by establishing small-scale pig farms. Later, upon knowing cassava cultivation to be more sustainable and requiring fewer inputs they transition towards cassava farming as their next IGA. They participate actively in JFMC meetings, discussions and contribute their insights and knowledge on forest management practices. Women's active participation in decision-making processes strengthened their position within the community. The women in the village regularly engage in cleanliness drives within the village thereby raising awareness among the communities. The women members at Salulamang were seen to manage the finances of the JFMC, including budgeting and accounting ensuring transparency in the use of funds.



Yoangyimsen village:

Infinity SHG group aimed to leverage collective effort in agricultural activities, focusing on cassava farming due to its high yield and market demand. The group established direct links with the local markets, ensuring better price for their produce. The members also started micro-credit system within the group to support members in times of need. Yimrongmedem SHG also ventured into the production of cassava-based products like snacks and animal feed. The group achieved significant financial growth, enabling members to start other small businesses. Similarly, Molongajem SHG adopted cassava farming. The group set up a small processing unit to produce cassava flour, snacks, and livestock feed. They established direct linkages with the

local markets ensuring better price and consistent demand for their products. Apart from their various income generation activities, the women actively participate in conservation activities such as reforestation, afforestation, and protection of forest areas from illegal activities like logging and poaching. They are also engaged in forest-based enterprises such as handicrafts and cultivation of medicinal plants. The women in the village were observed to play a crucial role in mobilizing the communities for various JFMC activities, including tree plantation during world environment day, clean-up drives, nursery management and tree plantations.

Sungratsu village:

At sungratsu, all the 3 SHGs were engaged in piggery in their 1st cycle RF loan but due to the sudden outbreak of swine flu in the village they transitioned to making of 'Anishi', a famous Naga cuisine made from taro leaves. Due to the high demand in the market, it significantly enhanced their income and expanded their activity. The women actively participated in nursery maintenance



by assisting the JFMC in packaging of polybags, timely watering of seedlings, clearing of weeds and transplantation of saplings from nursery beds into polybags. They also actively participated in planting of trees in and around the village areas and took initiatives in organizing plantation drives on various occasions.

Longkong village:

At Longkong, Terotonaro SHG members are engage in making of loofah soap and ginger candy. They have acquired this knowledge through trainings provided by NRLM. Apeiron SHG took up making of doughnut as their first IGA. Since there are no bakery in the village, their product is in much demand in the village. Similarly, Mulungajem SHGs took up silkworm rearing. Through this project, the women have become more financially independent. The loan provided to them through the NFMP enabled them to start small businesses. Previously reliant on forest for all their needs, the pressure on the forest has now significantly decreased. The women in the village were observed to play a significant role in waste management in the village. They have learnt to separate waste, keeping kitchen scraps for composting and manure. They do so by constructing compost pits, a practice not commonly observed among many.

Mopungchuket village:

The SHGs at Mopungchuket are now into their 3rd Cycle business plan. SHGs being a homogeneous woman group help each other socially, economically, and emotionally. With all the experiences, the SHG members are now confident to venture into new IGA and are beginning to believe in their capabilities. With the affordable loan provided from NFMP, the SHGs are empowered through various IGA creating sustainable livelihood. It inculcates inclusive approach in protecting the forest and its resources through their participation. They actively participate in activities initiated by JFMC, the members are vocal in sharing their opinions and suggestions.

Longpa village:

Kiyong, Telongjem & Nukla are the three SHGs selected to work under NFMP project. All the three SHG's falls under Batch III and hence nothing much has been done in terms of business activity. Due to the huge market demand and suitable area for rearing, all the SHGs opted for Piggery as their 1st IGA. They started with their activity in the first week of May, 2024. During the preparation of village microplan, they took active part in providing crucial information related to SHGs activities, history of the village and other prevailing situations in the village. They continue to support the JFMC in nursery maintenance, plantation activities and other programs organized by JFMC in the village.

Profitable IGA and Innovation for the year 2023-24

During the year 2023-2024, Anishi and cassava farming were observed to be the most profitable IGA under Mokokchung division. These activities were carried out by the SHGs of Sungratsu and Yaongyimsen under batch II villages of NFMP.

Sungratsu SHGs:

The SHGs of Sungratsu (3 SHGs) chose piggery as their First IGA. They received a Revolving fund of 50,000 on 17th of January, 2023 and started with their activity by procuring 6 piglets each. Unfortunately, due to the occurrence of African Swine flu, all the pigs died during the 2nd week of August, 2023. Some of the pigs weigh about 50-60 Kgs and some even less at the time of fatality.

During this critical period (influenza), FNGO, JFMC and SHGs had several rounds of meetings and had discussions on ways for SHGs to take up alternative IGA to recover the loan. After series of meetings and discussions, the SHG members came up with the idea of making Dried Yam Cake (Anuishi) as it was the right season for the activity. It involves low risk and has high demand in the market. With the remaining RF loan amount and monthly savings, all the 3 SHGs came together, collected the raw materials from among their farms and started with the preparation of Anishi as their alternative IGA.

After baking/processing, all the three SHGs equally divided the finished products among themselves and marketed differently. Each group got 118 kgs of Anishi and were sold at a price of Rs. 550 per kg. In total, they were able to produce 335 kgs of Anishi in a very short duration and earned an amount of Rs.1,94,700/-. With this profit, the SHGs were able to repay the RF loan on 18th January, 2024.

At present, all the 3 SHGs has taken up Anishi making as their 2nd IGA. In about 4 acres of land, all the 3 SHGs has planted yam to produce Anishi on a larger scale.



Preparation of Anishi

Yoangyimsen SHGs:

Two SHGs from Yoangyimsen village took up Cassava farming as their 1st IGA (Yimrongmedem and Molongajem SHG). They begin their activity by planting about 3000 cassava saplings in 1 hectare each. The SHG members worked unitedly, with regular weeding, and cleaning. Yimrongmedem SHG members would frequently harvest the cassava and make cassava chips. They would then sell the product in the village and nearby towns earning them about Rs. 3000/- recurrently. After maturation, each SHG harvested about 14,000 Kgs of cassava tuber and were sold at a price of Rs. 10/- per KG in the local markets. Through cassava farming, each group made about Rs. 1,40,000 giving them good returns and profitable investment.



Yimrongmedem SHG members making cassava chips



Cassava farming at Yoangyimsen village

Innovative IGA taken up by the SHGs under Mokokchung division:

Name of the village : Yoangyimsen

Name of the SHG : Yimrongmedem

Activity : "Suogo" Organic Green Tea (processing and packaging)

Activity Started : 2021

Training : No training received. Just visited one processing unit at Assam and started the activity

Varieties : (a) Tulsi flavor (b) Cinnamon flavor (c) Pandan Flavor (d) Tea Bag (e) Plain

How it started : Initially one SHG member was selling tea leaves from her own tea garden at a low price. Later after visiting a unit at Assam, the group came up with the idea of processing, packaging, and marketing altogether on their own at better price instead of selling off at a low price. At present they are making the green tea in different flavors and are looking forward to trying new types of flavors soon.



Organic green tea from SHGs of Yoangyimsen village

Name of the Village : Longkong
 Name of the SHG : Teroto Naro
 Activity : Loofah Soap Making
 Types of Loofah Soap : (a) Loofah Papaya (b) Loofah Potato (c) Loofah Holy basil
 Training : NSRLM 2019 Soap making training
 Why and how Loofah soap started : The main idea behind this activity is to simplify the cleansing routine using loofah. Another advantage is having two ingredients in one product making it more convenient and efficient. It is an Eco- friendly solution to personal care made using locally available products.
 Benefits from Loofah : (a) Benefits the community economically by selling the raw materials.
 (b) Considered as weed and useless but through value addition made into useful product.



Loofah soap products from SHGs of Longkong village



Mushroom Farming by Taisheang SHG Lampong Sheanghah Village Batch-II Mon Range



Ginger Farming and King Chilli Farming by Ameihong SHG Tanhai Village Batch-II, Naginimora Range



FNGO Team & FMU staff with Kongan SHGs Batch-II and Wakching SHGs Batch-II

A Growing Success Story: Longzajo SHG:

Selected from among the many SHGs in Angangba village under batch II of Longkhim Range by NFMP/JICA Project in convergence with NSRLM, the institution which is responsible for the formation of SHGs in and around Nagaland, Longzajo SHG has a track record of excellent performance and outcome since the day of their formation under the wings of NSRLM. The group was selected with proper survey and profiling and therefore showed an outstanding work spirit during the whole 18 months of IGA they carried out under the project.

The most stereotypical mindset of the society is the thinking that women folks are only meant to be the second best at everything or are only meant to be good at doing household chores but by outdoing the society's expectation and harboring their deep passion, they managed to succeed in their IGA.

Though rearing pigs is a viable source of livelihood activity it has now turned out to be a very challenging means for many, due to the widespread diseases such as African Swine Flu and Classical Swine Flu, and the same challenge was faced by Longzajo SHG's women during the whole process of the farming but despite all the setbacks and test of time, they managed to not only overcome them but excellently showed a remarkable outcome during the activity they carried out. The group also managed to minimize the input cost by using locally available rice polish, NTFPs available around the village vicinity and kitchen by-products.

During the time of severe outbreak of ASF and CSF within the village, when all the pigs in and around the village were dying, the group with their swift action quickly managed to isolate the pigs in one of the member's farms which was 5 kms away from the village. The group decided to take turns in taking care of the pigs on a rotation basis; they also restricted visitors to the farm in order to avoid transmission of the flu. For more than 12 months the group relentlessly worked on rearing the pigs. Despite lacking the scientific knowledge in rearing the pigs they succeeded in showing 100% survival rate of the pigs and all the credit goes to the group for doing an outstanding work, their quick thinking ability and team work.

Noticing the hard work of the group the FNGO Team decided to assist the group in form of basic training in rearing the pigs, they were trained on the use of Potassium permanganate (KMnO_4) crystals which can help keep the pig sty clean and free from infections, they were also given basic training on the Standard Operating Procedure for ASF & CSF, the team also procured free de-worming medication along with note on its dosage.

With RF of `50000 from NFMP/JICA and self funding of `55000, the group accumulated amazing revenue of `213670 from the sale of both finishers and piglets. The group is now left with 1 sow and 3 piglets through which they will continue to work on piggery farming to enhance their income generation. They have easily managed to repay the `50000 RF along with an interest rate of `3750. The group will also continue to explore wide range of IGAs through the profit they have generated from the piggery farming. The group now able to sustain themselves has unanimously decided to share their success with the remaining women folk by passing on the next phase of RF to another potential SHG within the village.

FNGO

FNGO Teams with SHGs from Batch-II during one day workshop seminar:

The FNGO Mon had organized one day workshop seminar with Batch-II villages SHGs. The total of 36 participants attended the workshop, 6 participants from Chi village, Totok Chingnyu village, Lampong Sheanghah village, Tanhai village, Kongan village and 5 participants from Wakching Village and 1 from Tuimei village respectively.

The workshop seminar was organized with an aim to promote self employment that can access to sustainability in enhancing the livelihood of the community. Additionally it was to emphasize the importance of uplifting the womenfolk through various schemes and activities thereby enabling the up gradation of society standard and achieve livelihood sustainability.

Furthermore, Mrs Ashim Nyamto was the resource person who imparted on the topic of resources and preservation of organic local production, food processing and its benefits.



MISCELLANEOUS

Success Story of JICA Review Mission visit to Peletkie:

Peletkie village is one among the 13 selected Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) villages under Divisional Management Unit, Peren. The NFMP was initiated in the village in 2021 as Batch-2 project village. During the initial years the community had to undergo many obstacles and challenges as they had to adapt many new ideas beyond their traditional knowledge. It was also quite challenging for them to learn various technical know-how about forestry aspects such as maintenance of JFMC book keeping, nursery techniques, maintenance of nursery & plantation journals and biodiversity conservation aspect etc.

The JFMC of Peletkie village has come a long way by overcoming all such odds and proved themselves as not only one of the best performing NFMP village but also one of the Project Model Village under DMU Peren. The village was chosen based on the overall project performance for the first ever JICA Review Mission visit to DMU Peren on 19th September 2023.

The JICA Review team was led by Hosaka Shun, second secretary, Economic Section, Embassy of Japan, Tsubakimoto Mayumi, second secretary, political science section, Embassy of Japan, Fujiwara Hidenobu, JICA representative, JICA India, Sushma Sen Adarshi, Development Scientist, JICA India. The team was accompanied by Temjenyabang Jamir, IFS, Project Director (A, F & P) NFMP and Pezaneinuo Chielie R.O Kohima Range.

On arrival of the official delegates at Peletkie village, the village community gave them a grand welcome reception with traditional song and dance at the village gate. A brief introduction of the visit was highlighted by Shri Temjenyabang Jamir, IFS, Project Director (A, F & P) NFMP. After which the team visited the JFMC office and checked the records keeping of the JFMC. The team also inspected the WHS, JAF plantation model & nursery site. Later the team visited EPA site and Mr. Hosaka Shun, Second Secretary, Economic Section Embassy of Japan inaugurated the EPA i.e., community kitchen.

There was also a fruitful interaction and discussion session chaired by Dr. Prabhat Kumar, IFS, DMU Head cum DFO Peren Division. The visiting official delegates expressed their satisfaction on the progress and the successful implementation of the project in the village and emphasized on the significant role of the community in conserving the forests and also express their gratitude for their warm welcoming and hospitality.

Exhibition stalls were also setup by three NFMP SHGs namely Mmisi, Keba & Suiyi where different kinds of IGA products like traditional item, organic vegetables and craft were displayed.





Fujiwara Hidenobu, JICA representative, JICA India, Hosaka Shun, second secretary, Economic Section, Embassy of Japan, Tsubakimoto Mayumi, second secretary, political science section, Embassy of Japan, Sushma Sen Adarshi, Development Scientist, JICA India, Temjenyabang Jamir, IFS, Project Director (A, F & P) and DMU Peren along with other dignitaries posing for the lens after the program.

A success innovative action of JFMC (NFMP), Piphema Old village:

Piphema Old village comes under Batch II of NFMP project village under Dimapur Division. Being one of the oldest village under Angami Tribe Chakroma region having a total geographical area of 2468 Ha, the total area taken up under NFMP project for implementation of all the five Forestry Intervention models is 483 ha. Over the past years, the villagers have been practicing shifting cultivation, but in more recent times, the trend has been shifted more towards sedentary farming; and thus, this understanding amongst the common villagers has facilitated in the development of a strong conservation ideas resulting in the protection of its rich biodiversity resources. Under NFMP, the PEC model demarcated area stands at 360 ha which is located about 7 kms from the village settlement area. Though, PEC model area encompasses most of the difficult steep terrain; it also forms one of the most important water catchment area for the Tzühma river and its other smaller feeding streams. In the last two years the main activity in the PEC model area includes planting of fruit bearing tree saplings as a part of enrichment planting in areas devoid of sufficient trees.

Further, to foster the efforts of the JFMC in the conservation and protection of its rich biodiversity in the present PEC area in a more holistic approach, and to facilitate regular monitoring from the JFMC members, the JFMC committee with the consultation with village council decided to construct a resting shed (Gazebo) inside PEC model with the wages contribution of JFMC members earned from the NFPM project activities. The size of the Gazebo is 12 ft x 20 ft, constructed from locally available timber with CGI sheet roofing and completed in the month of May 2024. The total cost expenditure was around 1,00,000.00 approx. Now, with the construction of the Gazebo, the monitoring of project plantation works and patrolling duty during hunting season in the entire PEC model would become much easier and more effective in future.



Awareness:

The Joint Forest Committees (JFMC) has played an important role in spreading awareness towards educating the village community towards sustainable use of forest resources. The Joint Forest Committees (JFMCs) also actively holds awareness program in collaboration with SHGs, churches, Village Council and Student bodies during events like World Environment Day. The village community also contributed by banning hunting and imposing fines for defaulters. The implementation of Livelihood activities has also reduced the dependence of forest resources for the families of SHGs communities in the villages there by contributing towards educating and encouraging others to take up such activities as an alternative source of livelihoods without excess exploitation of forest resources.



On 3rd June 2023 , Celebration of World Environment Day was held at CKS Hall, Tuensang on the Theme- “BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION “ which was attended by various Educational institutions under Tuensang District.



Plantation drive organised by Humtso Village JFMC (left) & Awareness program organised by Wokha Village JFMC(right)

Lessons Learnt:

Through our various consultative meetings and survey with FNGOs, JMFCs & SHGs, it is learnt that members of JMFCs and SHGs in various model villages are very co-operative and sincere in their service. They are hard working and dedicated towards NFMP, JICA Project, since it is said to be the only project in the state where proper site verification, review, consultation, inspection, training and suggestions are implemented properly.

Implementation of NFMP, JICA could be much convenient if modern equipments such as Tablets, Android Phones (compatible for office field work), and internet wi-fi connectivity and proper DSLR or Mirror-less Cameras can be provided in both the headquarters.

TRAINING



On 10-MAY-2023 FNGO along with DMU staffs, FMU staffs and NSRLM conducted SHG profiling at Batch III villages (Old Tsadang, Old Mangakhi & Chare).

The FNGO Team has organized one day Livelihood & capacity Building Training for Batch-II SHGs. The aim of the training was to ensure that Revolving Funds are utilized well in productive process as per their Business Plan.



The FNGO along with FMU Noklak visited the following villages- Kingjung Village, Sanglao Village, Peshu Village, and Noklak Village for SHG Profiling on 11th May 2023



Life Care Society, Tuensang in convergence with Nagaland Tool Room & Training Centre sponsored by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) and supported by Dept. of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Tuensang under NFMP/JICA conducted training on Food Processing at Old Tsadang and Mangakhi village on 22-23 January 2024. The training was opened for every individual above the age of 18 and altogether 50 individuals participated in the training.

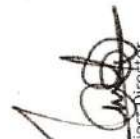
NAGALAND FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT SOCIETY (JICA)
FOREST OFFICE COMPLEX
AGRI FARM COLONY
KOHIIMA - 797 001 [NAGALAND]


CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2024

| LIABILITIES | AMOUNT | AMOUNT | ASSETS | AMOUNT | AMOUNT |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CORPUS FUND | | | FIXED ASSETS (Refer Schedule "01") | | |
| Opening balance | 184,130,181.69 | | | | 199,518,206.31 |
| Less : Deficit during the year | 13,542,839.50 | | CURRENT ASSETS: | | |
| | 170,587,342.19 | | Closing Balance: | | 69,035,393.19 |
| Add : Assets created out of grant | 22,761,483.10 | 193,348,825.29 | Cash at Bank | 68,973,704.19 | |
| | | | Cash in hand [PMU] | 61,689.00 | |
| | | | (As certified by the PMU) | | |
| UNSPENT GRANT | | 75,179,506.21 | | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | |
| Other Liabilities (Investment) (Refer Schedule "02") | | 25,268.00 | | | |
| | | | | | 268,553,599.50 |

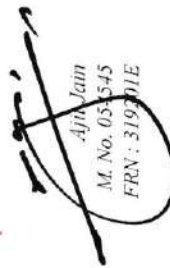
IN TERMS OF OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS : SCHEDULE "A"

PLACE : DIMAPUR
 DATE : 05-07-2024
 UDIN: 24054545BKAPDD3344


 Project Director
 Admin. Finance & Procurement
 Nagaland Forest Management Project
 Nagaland, Kohima
Project Director
 Admin., Finance & Procurement
 Nagaland Forest Management Project
 Nagaland : Kohima


 Chief Project Director cum CEO
 Nagaland Forest Management Project
 Nagaland, Kohima
Chief Project Director cum CEO
 Nagaland Forest Management Project
 Nagaland : Kohima

FOR & ON BEHALF OF
 AJIT K. JAIN & ASSOCIATES
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS


 Ajit K. Jain
 M. No. 053545
 FRN : 319311E





NAGALAND FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT



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