



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25



NAGALAND FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT
Forest Office Complex
Kohima, Nagaland – 797001

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Annual Report 2024-2025

Nagaland Forest Management Project

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artworks
NAGALAND

Foreword



It is my privilege to present the Annual Report of the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) for 2024–25. The year has been marked by steady progress in Forestry Interventions, livelihood enhancement and institutional strengthening.

The year has been the 8th year of the Project wherein, all components of the Project have been taken up. Besides the regular Forestry Interventions, emphasis has been laid on livelihood improvement programmes of SHG members and also capacity building programmes of JFMC members through inter-district exchange programmes. I am happy to state that more than 100 local species had been taken up under this Project, thereby maintaining endemic biodiversity.

During this year, a major exercise—Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) was carried out by External Evaluators. During this exercise, all aspects of the Project have been examined and evaluated after field visits across the state on sample basis. The MTE Report has provided deep insights into the functioning of NFMP which inter-alias includes the need to plug gaps wherever required. The MTE Report has also been shared with both Government of India and JICA–India.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the Chief Secretary (who is also Chairman of the High Power Committee), our dedicated Project teams, partner organizations and the people of Nagaland whose commitment have been central to all achievements. With their continued support, NFMP will remain focused on fostering ecological sustainability and enhancing community well-being across the State.

I convey my congratulations and best wishes to the NFMP team and all stakeholders for yet another year of continued progress and success.


(DHARMENDRA PRAKASH), IFS
Chief Project Director
Nagaland Forest Management Project.

From the Desk



I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) for the year 2024-25. This year has been marked by significant progress across all components of the Project with a strong emphasis on community participation, capacity building and sustainable livelihood enhancement.

We have successfully implemented the Forestry Intervention components, covering thousands of hectares across the State. Our nurseries, managed by dedicated Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs), have supplied quality saplings to support these efforts, showcasing community ownership. Equally important has been our focus on sustainable livelihoods. Through Income Generation Activities (IGAs), supported by Revolving Funds, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of all DMUs have successfully engaged in enterprises such as piggery, poultry, weaving, tailoring, food processing and collective vegetable farming. Convergence with allied departments and agencies has amplified these efforts, resulting in skill-based training, exposure visits and market linkages that directly benefit rural households.

This year also saw significant training programmes conducted across various DMUs. The trainings have strengthened community capacity, encouraged sustainable practices and promoted entrepreneurial skills. Significant progress was also made in implementing Entry Point Activities (EPAs) and constructing Water Harvesting Structures (WHSs), both of which have contributed to strengthening community infrastructure and improving water security. A highlight of the year has been the increased role of women and community institutions in both Project planning and execution. Women-led SHGs have emerged as key drivers of livelihood activities, ecological restoration and awareness generation. Notable achievements of the year was the inauguration of the Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco-Park, winning the SKOCH Award 2024 and successfully completing the Mid-Term Evaluation of the Project.

These milestones were made possible through the unwavering commitment of our Project teams, field staff, JFMC members, SHGs and partner organisations. As we move forward, we remain committed to scaling up these initiatives, deepening our partnerships and ensuring that our work continues to benefit both the people and the forests of Nagaland.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Senthil Kumar'.

(M. SENTHIL KUMAR), IFS

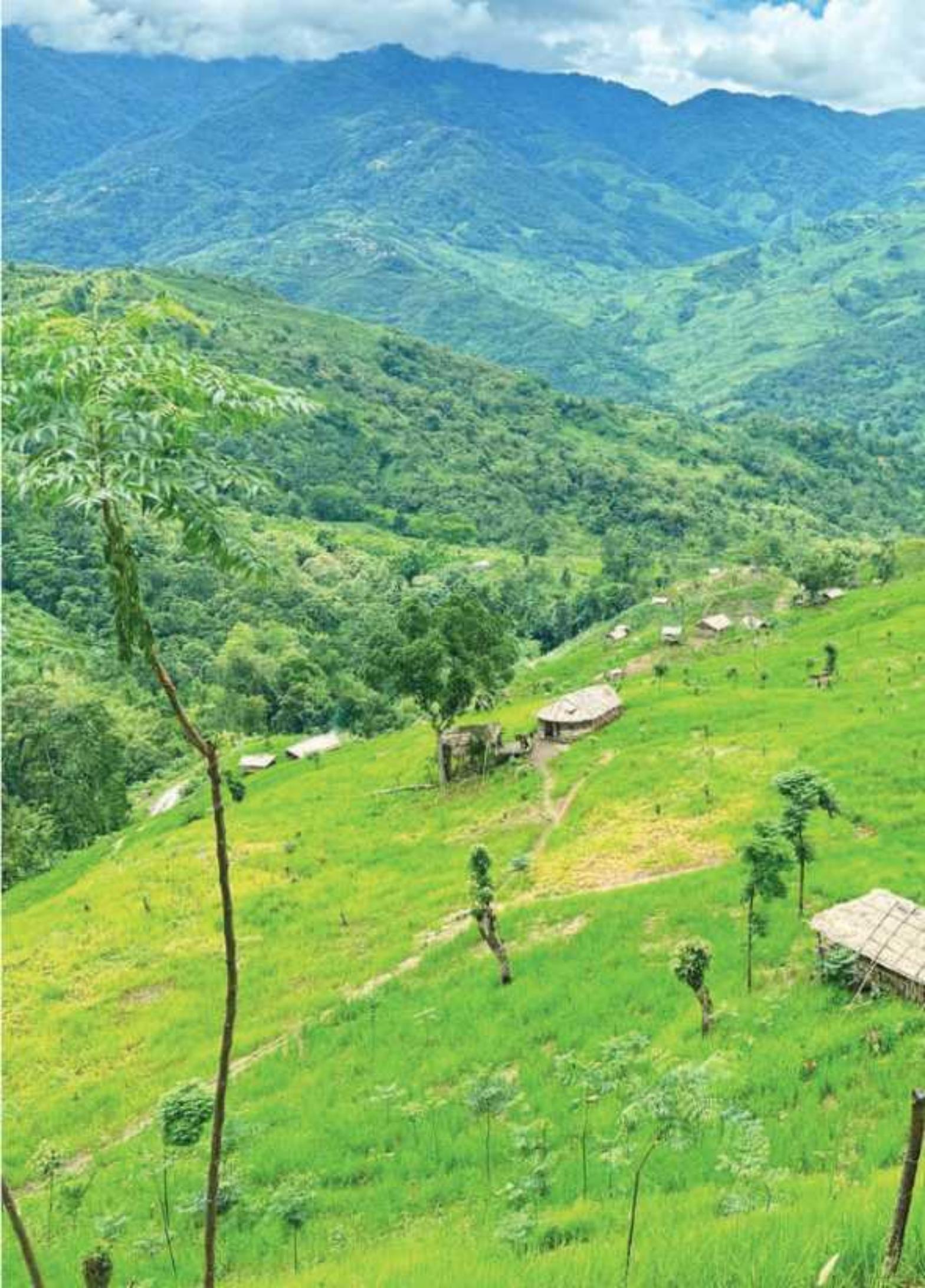
Project Director

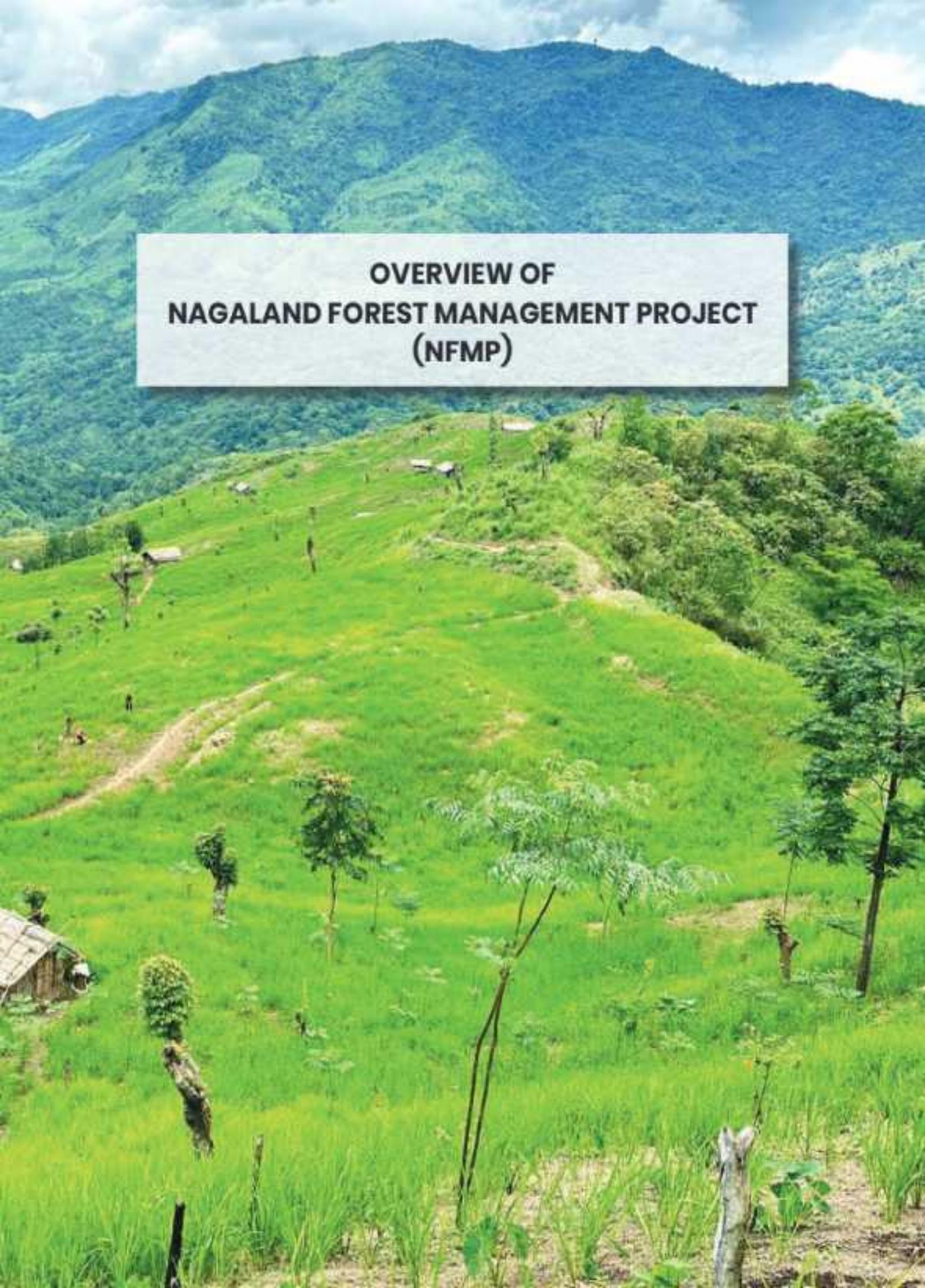
Human Resource Development, Research & Extension
Nagaland Forest Management Project.

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**OVERVIEW OF
NAGALAND FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT
(NFMP)**

Overview of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP)

Nagaland Forest Management Project

Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) 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 11 districts of the state spanning over 22 Forest Range and Beats. Duration of the Project is 10 years.

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 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 (ISFR, 2023) forest cover in the state was 12,222.47 sq.km. which is 73.72 % 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 125.22 sq.km, between 2019 and 2023, 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.

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.

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 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 and Longleng, covering 11 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 were selected by applying the criteria of Jhum intensity and forest cover. Villages within selected ranges/independent beats are 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 follow 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)

Table 1 :**Forest Division- wise number of ranges/independent beats and villages selected under the Project**

Name of the Forest Division	Number of Ranges/ Independent Beats	Number 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

Components of the Project

The Project has four 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.

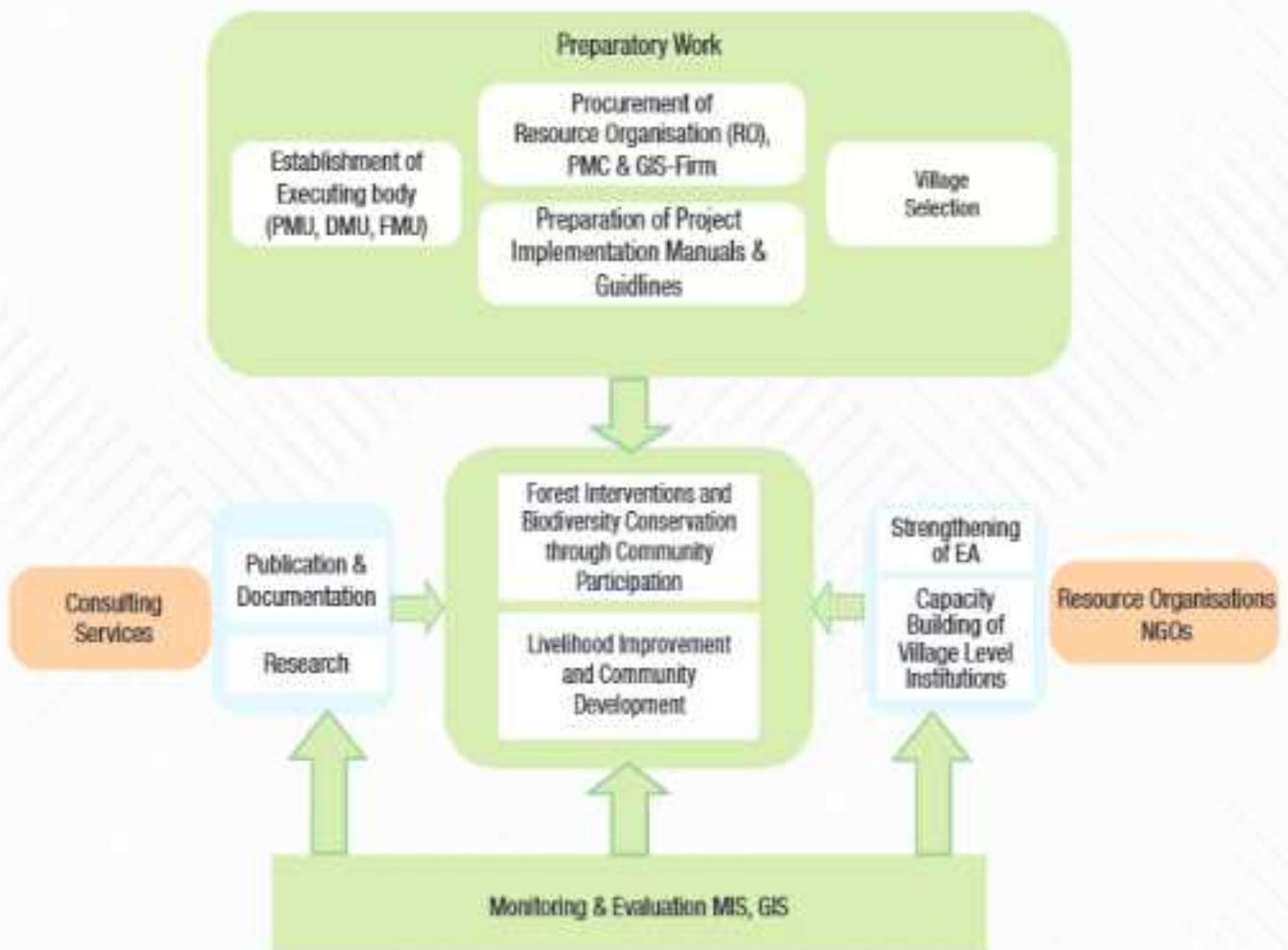
The Subscribers to Memorandum of Association of the Society, members of the Governing Body and Heads of DMUs are members of the Society. In addition, the State Government may nominate any official of the Government from time to time as member of the Society.

Table 2 : Components, sub-components & activities of NFMP

SN	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.	Livelihood Improvement and Community Development in 185 Project villages, average 3 SHGs per village	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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

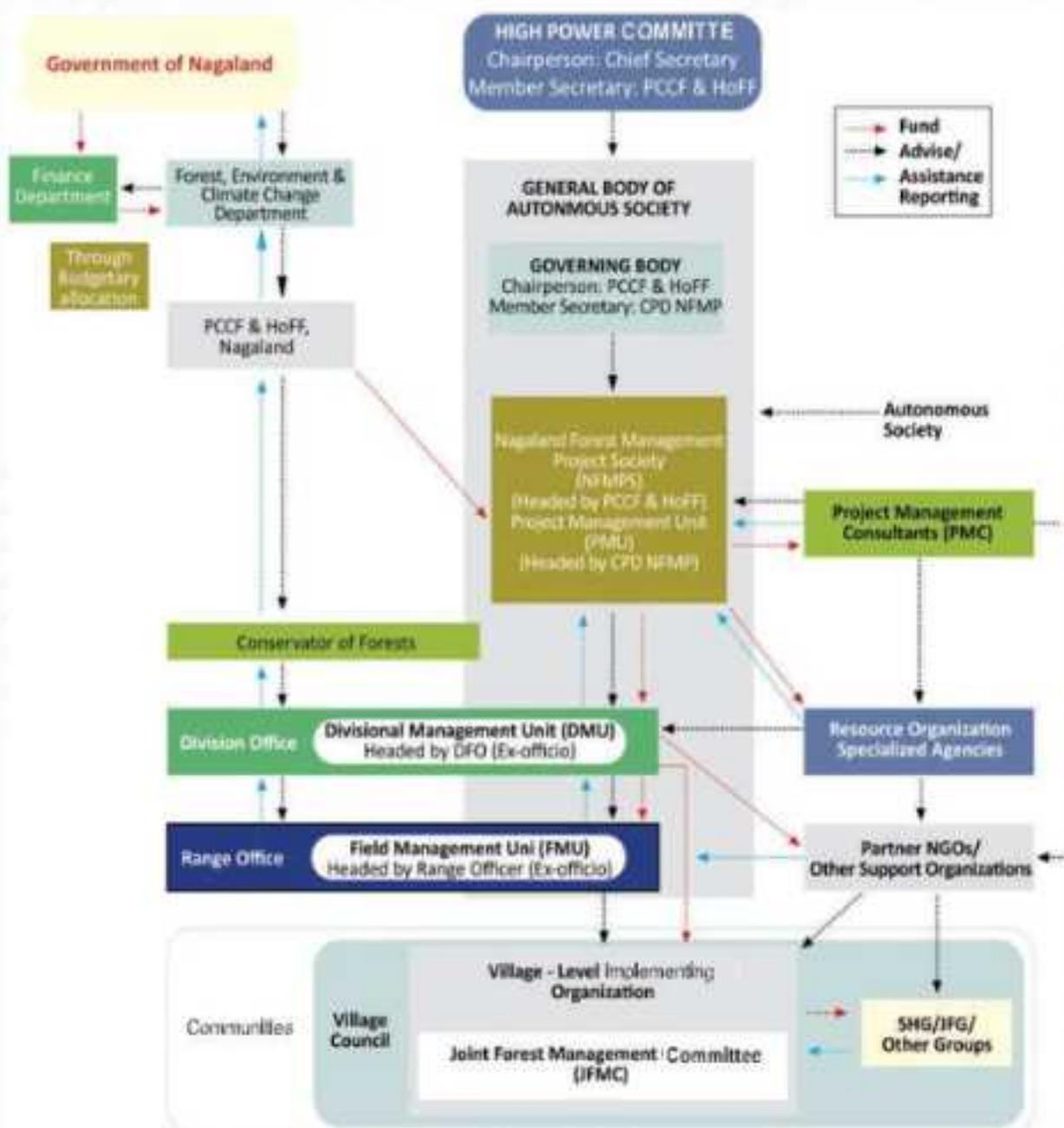
NFMP Outline

Project coordination : High Power Committee, Executive Body



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 following organogram:



Powers and Functions of NFMP Executive body

High Power Committee (HPC)

- Approval of Operational Manual of the Society
- Approval of Annual Work Plan of the Society
- Approval of Annual Budget & Accounts of the Society
- Facilitate convergence with other Departments & Schemes to achieve the objectives of the Society
- Approval of such Programs and Plans for furtherance of the objectives of the Society
- Any other functions that may be added at the later stage by the HPC.

Governing Body (GB)

- To monitor the financial and physical progress of the programs of the Society
- Provide guidance to the PMU in preparation of Operational Manual.
- Provide guidance to the PMU in preparation of annual plans and proposals to be placed before HPC for approval
- Provide guidance to the PMU in preparation of annual plans and proposals to be placed before HPC for approval.
- Guidance and initiatives for changes in Forest Policy and rules based on the basis of lessons learned from the Project.
- Overall supervision for timely and effective implementation of the Project Activities

Project Management Unit (PMU)

- Administration, Finance and Procurement;
- Implementation and Monitoring & Evaluation; and Human Resource
- Development, Research and Extension

Divisional Management Unit (DMU)

- Manage, control and supervise implementation of the Project at division level
Prepare Annual Work Plan at DMU level(DMU)
- Facilitate reporting, information flow, financial transactions regarding the Project
Provide technical assistances to FMUS
- Selection, recruitment and coordination with NGOs

Project Management Consultancy (PMC)

- 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,
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Preparation of annual planning of activities and budgeting based on the assessment of requirements at FMUS, DMUs and PMU.
- Support PMU in financial management and reporting
- Developing strategy for sustainability of project.
- Assist PMU, DMUs, and FMUs.

Field Management Unit (FMU)

- Manage, control and supervise implementation of the Project at Range level Prepare Annual Work Plan at FMU level
- Provide technical assistances to JFMCs and JFMC federations Coordinate with Range level NGO support teams. Assist and guide field staff in JFMC/JFG/SHG/IGA formations
- Assist and guide field staff in conducting baseline Assist and guide field staff in Micro-planning Assist and guide field staff in project implementation
- Prepare periodic physical and financial progress report/Any other works that may be assigned by the DMU Head.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)



Project Management Unit (PMU)

Chief Project Director cum CEO

*Project Director
(Administration, Finance & Procurement)*

*Deputy Project Director
(Administration 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

Project Director

(Implementation, M&E & 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 plan 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.

*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.

*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 MUs 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, develop the thematic maps required 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

Project Director

(Human Resource Development (HRD), Research & Extension)

Deputy Project Director

Documentation, Publication & Research (DPR)

- 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 staff 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.

1.1 Visit of Officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mission Members, India

Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mission Members, India visited Tseminyu district on 10th April, 2024 to review the implementation of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP).

At Tseminyu village, the delegation visited different Forestry Intervention Model Areas and interacted with JFMC members. During a brief reception organized in the village, Shri Tokita Yuji, Director, Country Assistance Planning Division II, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan, expressed appreciation for the village community's cooperation and support in implementing the Project.

Shri Wakamatsu Eij, Senior Representative, JICA India Office, also addressed the gathering and conveyed his happiness with the positive response of the community towards the Project. The delegation also visited Terogvunyu village, where they inspected the Entry Point Activity (village gate) under NFMP and interacted with Self Help Groups (SHGs) involved in Income Generation Activities.

Other members of the visiting officials were Shri Hosaka Shun, Second Secretary, Economic Wing, Embassy of Japan in India and Smt. Uda Chikako, Senior Development Policy Planning Officer of Country Assistance Planning Division International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Smt. Sushma Sen Adarshi, Development Specialist, JICA India Office. The visiting team was accompanied by Shri Temjenyabang, IFS, CCF & Project Director (NFMP), Shri Supongnukshi Ao, CCF (Environment, Biodiversity & Research), Nagaland Forest Department Officials, DMU Kohima Officials and Support Staff, PMC members and FNGO Team members.



Delegates from Japan & NFMP officials with the Tseminyu village community members



1.2. Inauguration of Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco Park

The soft inauguration of the Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco-Park was held on 8th May 2024, with Shri Suzuki Hiroshi, Ambassador of Japan to India, as the special guest.

Ambassador Suzuki paid tribute to those affected during World War II in Nagaland and expressed gratitude for the support in repatriating Japanese soldiers' remains, highlighting ongoing cooperation through the Kohima Japan Bone Collection Team. The Eco-Park, part of the Nagaland Forest Management Project, is supported by Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) from the Government of Japan. Ambassador Suzuki expressed hope that the Peace Memorial would strengthen Indo-Japan relations and promote youth exchange as a bridge between the two nations.



Dignitaries during the inauguration of EcoPark, Kohima

Chief Minister Shri Neiphiu Rio remarked on the evolution of Naga-Japan relations from wartime conflict to enduring friendship and praised Japan's collaboration over five decades, now extending to forestry, health, and other bilateral projects.

The Eco Park in Kohima was officially inaugurated on December 1, 2024, by Shri Neiphiu Rio and Shri Ono Keiichi, Ambassador of Japan to India. Located in a historical area at the City Centre, the Eco Park will serve as an urban space and a testament to the partnership between Japan and India.



Dignitaries during the soft inauguration of Kohima Peace Memorial & EcoPark, Kohima

1.3. 13th JICA National Workshop of Forestry Projects in India

Shri M. Senthil Kumar, IFS, Project Director (HRD), NFMP Nagaland along with Shri Rajesh Kumar, IFS, DMU Head, Mon represented Nagaland at the 13th JICA National Workshop of Forestry Projects in India, held from November 13-15, 2024 at Shillong, Meghalaya. The workshop, attended by states with JICA-assisted Forestry Projects, focused on cross-learning and sharing experiences in Forestry Project implementation.

During the workshop, Nagaland presented a PowerPoint on "Mitigating Impacts of Jhum Cultivation for Sustainable Forest Management," outlining the Project's models and their impacts on sustainable forest management.

1.4. Mid-Term Evaluation of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP)

A Mid-Term Evaluation of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) was conducted from October 2024 to January 2025 by a team consisting of Shri Arun Kumar Bansal, IFS (Retd.), Chief of Mission, Dr. Sashilila Ao, Consultant and Ms. Tsonchumi Odyuo, Consultant. The team visited six DMUs—Mokokchung, Peren, Phek, Tuensang, Wokha and Zunheboto to review the progress of the Project and to ensure that they are aligned with the Project's objectives and identify areas for improvement. Field visits included inspections of Forestry Models, Entry Point Activities (EPA) and Water Harvesting Structures (WHS), along with interactions with JFMC and SHG members.

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) Review Meeting of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) was held on 25th January 2025 at the Project Management Unit (PMU), Kohima. The MTE Team presented key observations, identified gaps and shared findings along with recommendations to strengthen the Project implementation. The meeting was attended by the Chief Project Director, Project Directors, Deputy Project Directors of NFMP and representatives from the Project Management Consultant (PMC) team.



MTE Team, CPD, PDs, DPDs & PMC Representative at the MTE Review Meeting

1.5. Recruitment of Resource Organization on Jhum and Biodiversity (ROJB) Staff

Resource Organization on Jhum and Biodiversity (ROJB) is an institution established under Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) and will engage with State, National and International institutions to undertake knowledge collation, research and documentation on Jhum and biodiversity in the state. Overall, it will have an institutional arrangement to have adequate interface with Government Departments/Projects, Academic Institutions and NGOs involved in similar work, for working on the problems/challenge faced by shifting cultivators, Village Councils and to provide them with right information and innovative options to address their problems/challenges. The ROJB Office is located within the State Environment and Forestry Training Institute (SEFTI) Campus in Dimapur. ROJB Team comprises Director cum Forestry/Biodiversity Expert, four (4) Experts and Support staff, who were recruited during December 2024 and January 2025.

1.6. Exposure Visit by SCATFORM Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM)

A team comprising Livelihood Coordinators and Community Organizers from Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM) undertook an exposure visit to the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) from 11–18 February 2025. The objective of the visit was to facilitate knowledge exchange and to gain insights into best practices in sustainable forest management and community-based livelihood initiatives implemented under NFMP.

The delegation visited DMU Kohima, Wokha, Dimapur and Peren, accompanied by DMU Heads, Support Staff, FMU and FNGO representatives. The team visited Forestry Intervention Models, Entry Point Activities (EPAs) and Water Harvesting Structures (WHS) and interacted with Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs).



Tripura JICA Project (SCATFORM) Team with NFMP Officials during the Exposure Visit

1.7. Nagaland Forest Management Project wins SKOCH Award 2024

The Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) was conferred the SKOCH Award 2024 in recognition of its significant contributions towards forest ecosystem improvement and income generation initiatives in Nagaland. The award was presented during the 100th SKOCH Summit, held at Silver Oak Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi on 15th February, 2025. The award was received on behalf of Nagaland Forest Management Project by Shri Anjo Konyak, Deputy Project Director (AFP), NFMP and DCF (HQ).



Shri Anjo Konyak, DPD (AFP), NFMP receiving the SKOCH Award

The SKOCH Award is one of India's most prestigious independent honours, recognizing achievements in governance, technology, economic development and social sector. Known for its rigorous, outcome-based assessment process, the award acknowledges states and organizations that have demonstrated excellence in these fields.

1.8. NFMP Hosts Interactive Session with Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and External Affairs

On 18th February 2025, a high-level meeting was convened at the State Biodiversity Board Conference Room, Forest Office Complex, Kohima, with the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and External Affairs, Shri Kirtivardhan Singh.

The meeting was chaired by Shri Dharmendra Prakash, PCCF & HoFF, and attended by key officials from the Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (DEFCC), Government of Nagaland and representatives from NFMP and the Project Management Consultant (PMC). The Hon'ble Minister also visited the GIS Lab of NFMP, where he was briefed on data capture and processing. He lauded the efforts of NFMP for in-house GIS and MIS development.



Felicitating Hon'ble Union Minister of State during the interactive session

1.9. Governing Body (GB) Meeting

The Governing Body (GB) meeting of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) was held on 25th March, 2025 at the Conference Hall, Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) & Head of Forest Force (HoFF). The meeting was chaired by Shri Dharmendra Prakash, IFS, PCCF & HoFF and Chairman of the Governing Body, NFMP and attended by the members of the Governing Body and special invitees.



GB members & special invitees during the Governing Body (GB) meeting

1.10. High Power Committee (HPC) Meeting

The High Power Committee (HPC) meeting of Nagaland Forest Management Project Society (NFMP) was held on 28th March, 2025 at the Chief Secretary's Conference Room, Nagaland Civil Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Shri J. Alam, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Nagaland and Chariman of HPC. The meeting was attended by HPC members and special invitees.



HPC members & special invitees attending the High Power Committee (HPC) meeting

2. GIS CELL REPORT

The GIS (Geographic Information System) Cell, PMU, under the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) plays a critical role in leveraging geospatial technologies for effective forest management, biodiversity conservation, monitoring and support to field-level operations. GIS Cell (PMU) has undertaken a variety of tasks to enhance project implementation during the financial year 2024–2025. The following section highlights the key activities performed and milestones achieved. Below is a structured summary of the forty (41) activities undertaken during the reporting period:

2.1 Application & Workflow Development

- Prepared a new guideline for the NFMP Web Portal.
- Tested API for MIS & GIS application integration.
- Observed beta test on approval mechanism.
- Shared testing URL and credentials for approval mechanism review.
- Approved changes to be made in the Geoportal.
- Developed colour codes (RGB) for five models on WebGIS Server.
- Bug fixing and enhancement of software features.

2.2 Training & Capacity Building

- Conducted training on Postgre SQL for GIS Team (PMU).
- Provided online and physical training on WebGIS & Mobile App to all FMUs & DMUs.
- Online sensitisation of approval mechanism workflow to all DMUs.

2.3 Data Management & Integration

- Continuous updating of NL Forest files from mobile application to webserver.
- Database coding and addition of attributes to various datasets.
- Addressed data uploading issues across platforms.
- Updated and deployed mobile application and GIS web portal.
- Reviewed and commented on data uploads via mobile application.
- Prepared and processed various maps and layers.
- Created datasets in raster/vector format for application server.
- Reviewed and updated Batch-I to Batch-III village datasets.
- Data upload review for polygon maps for DMU/PMU evaluation.
- Managed mobile app issues and troubleshooting.

2.4 Imagery & Mapping

- Procured LISS-IV satellite imagery from NRSC Hyderabad.

- Prepared Sentinel data for change detection module.
- Completed pre-filled maps for Batch-III & Batch-IV.
- Completed Microplan maps and Treatment Model for Batch-III and submitted to respected Divisions.
- Procured raster/vector data (DEM, LULC, drainage, etc.) from NGIS&RC.
- Prepared Elephant estimation grids for Nagaland.
- Prepared location and inventory maps for treatment areas.

2.5 Coordination & Communication

- Held mid-reviews for all FMUs & DMUs.
- Discussed Hexagon upgrade proposal and GIS software improvements.
- Reviewed partnership agreement between Hexagon & NFMP.
- Communicated with developers on approval mechanism feedback.
- Defined Terms of Reference (ToR) and AMC with Hexagon.
- Meeting conducted with Hexagon GIS Developer on Data Catalogue Management.

2.6 Infrastructure & System Development

- GIS Lab Upgrade: Installed 3 new high-performance workstations and upgraded data storage servers (3 TB capacity).
- Data Sources: NRSC Bhuvan, Forest Survey of India (FSI), Survey of India, NGIS&RS, and field surveys.

2.7 Visits & Reviews

- Deployed GIS team Anamoa Imsong (GIS Operator) & Vitoto (GIS Operator) to Mokokchung DMU and Mon DMU.
- Hosted visit by Tripura & West Bengal Forest Officers for knowledge sharing and Dr. Hinotoli V Sema, GIS Expert (PMU) highlighted on the progress of GIS.
- Attended training and workshop on handling of Van System tools for data collection (Forest-plus 3.0) conducted by USAID in collaboration with Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change and presented PowerPoint by Dr. Hinotoli V Sema, GIS Expert (PMU) on GIS activities under NFMP.
- Attended a one-day conference organised by the Working Plan Division on Harnessing technologies for Forest Fire Management empowering local communities.
- Meeting with technical team from NESAC to understand Geospatial activities under NFMP
- Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh visited the GIS cell and Dr. Hinotoli V Sema, GIS Expert (PMU) highlighted the progress of GIS.

Number of Activities- GIS Cell (PMU) under NFMP

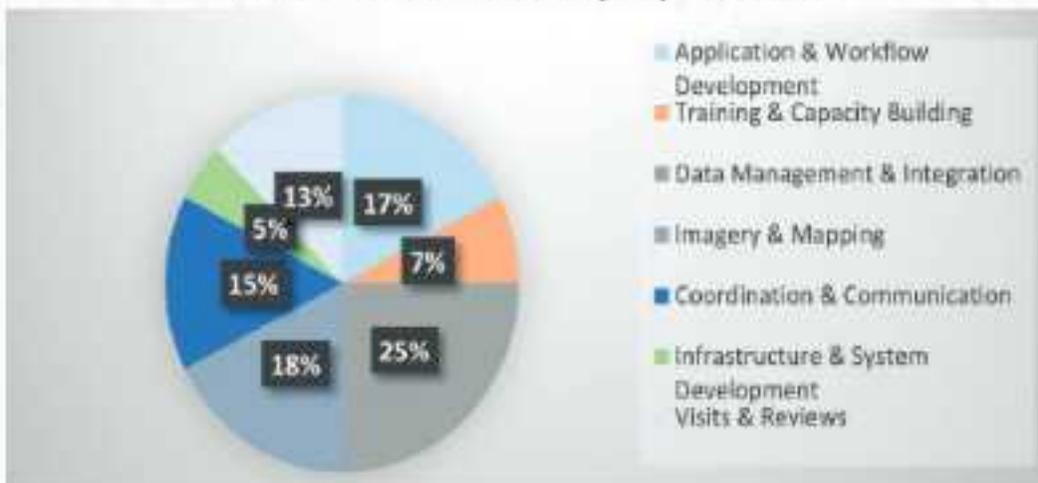


Table 3 : Activity Distribution by Category

Category	No. of Activities
Application & Workflow Development	7
Training & Capacity Building	3
Data Management & Integration	10
Imagery & Mapping	7
Coordination & Communication	6
Infrastructure & System Development	2
Visits & Reviews	6
Total	41



Training on mobile application WEB GIS at GIS Cell, PMU, NFMP



GIS Expert, PMU, NFMP demonstrating the GIS Lab

CONVERGENCE



Convergence

Convergence is essentially a concept, indicating merging of different departments, 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.

Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) incorporates the principle of convergence to enhance forest conservation and improve livelihood across the state.

DMU DIMAPUR

During the Financial Year 2024–2025, DMU Dimapur organized skill-based training programmes in convergence with both government and private sector agencies. These initiatives were conducted across various JFMCs under DMU Dimapur, targeting SHG members as well as other interested JFMC members to enhance their livelihood opportunities through practical and market-relevant skills.

1. Training on Soap, Lotion, Shampoo and Liquid Disinfectant Making

DMU Dimapur in collaboration with Nagaland Tool Room and Training Centre (NTTC), conducted training on Soap, Lotion, Shampoo and Liquid disinfectant making in three NFMP–JICA Project villages (Piphema Old, Hekheshe and Ruzaphema). The training focussed on the process of making soap, lotion, shampoo and liquid disinfectants, branding and packaging skills.



Participants during the Skill Training at DMU Dimapur



Soaps made by the participants

2. Training on Cutting and Tailoring

FMU Medziphema Beat and FNGO YouthNet in convergence with Ascend Skill Dimapur, organized one day training on Cutting and Tailoring training on 29th March, 2025 at Sirhi Angami village. Participants were trained on fabric selection, taking precise body measurements, fabric structuring, cutting and stitching techniques. Training materials such as measuring tapes, scales and cloth fabric were distributed during the session.



Participants during the Cutting & Tailoring Training at Sirhi Angami village

DMU KOHIMA

Under DMU Kohima, convergence with different sectors has significantly impacted the Project villages by enhancing livelihood opportunities and promoting sustainable development. Several impactful initiatives successfully implemented are as follows:



Animal Health Service Camp conducted at Zisunyu (Batch-IV) village under Tseminyu

1. Animal Health Service Camps

Under Tata AIG and Integrated Livelihood Programme-Phase 2, animal health service camps were held at various NFMP villages with an objective to provide accessible and timely health care services, with a focus on pig health management. It also provided preventive care support for African Swine Fever (ASF), awareness on bio-security measures and training on feed management, medicine usage and hygiene practices in pigsties.

2. Plantation Drive and Oyster Mushroom Cultivation

In convergence with NABARD Spring Shed based Watershed Development Programme, a plantation drive and training on oyster mushroom cultivation was carried out at Terogvunyu village (Batch-II). The plantation drive covered the JAF and PEC Models of the village, resulting in improved soil and water conservation and ecological restoration. The training on oyster mushroom cultivation provided hands-on training to existing SHGs for sustainable livelihood development through Income-Generation Activities (IGA).



Plantation drive and Training on Oyster Mushroom cultivation under NABARD spring shed held at Terogvunyu village (Batch-II) under Tseminyu

3. Livestock Support by Njon Nyegi FPO

Njon Nyegi Farmers' Producer Organization (FPO) supplied 1,280 chicks to farmers from Phenwhenyu village (Batch-II) under Tseminyu, in response to the community's request. The FPO not only ensured market access for selling the chicks in Kohima but also supported income generation for the farmers.

4. Livestock Management Training

A convergence programme "Kiosk Activity and Training on Livestock Management" under Cluster Based Business Organization Project in collaboration with Nagamaiki Smallholder Pig Producer Company Limited and Godrej Agrovet Nagaland was conducted at various NFMP villages under Kohima. The objective of the training mainly focused on piggery and poultry management practices to the farmers. The key topics of the training were importance of breed selection, feeding and housing management, common diseases and healthcare practices and income generation opportunities.

5. Improved Agricultural Practices Training

Under the Integrated Livelihood Project-Phase 2, a convergence training on improved agricultural practices for Rabi crops was conducted at Tseminyu village (Batch-III). The training benefited farmers and SHG members by providing hands-on techniques for pest control management to prevent crop damage and cultivation of winter crops aimed at income generation.

6. SHG Capacity Building

Training on SHG product branding and packaging was imparted to SHG members by Nzon FPO at Zishunyu village. The session included hands-on demonstrations, emphasizing the importance of maintaining hygiene, preventing contamination and the need for FSSAI registration to gain consumer trust. The importance of effective branding in marketing and establishing a unique product identity was also shared to the participants.



Delivery of chicks by Nzon Nyegi FPO at Phenwhenyu village



Kiosk Activity & Training on Livestock Management at Terogyunyu village

DMU LONGLENG

DMU Longleng collaborated with various Government departments such as Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), Rural Development (RD), Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services as part of convergence activity.

1. Training on Livestock Management

Training on Livestock Management was conducted by DMU Longleng with support from FNGO LEMSACHENLOK in convergence with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Longleng, at Hukphang village on 6th September, 2024. The session aimed at strengthening SHGs by providing knowledge on the benefits and risks associated with rearing pigs, broiler chicken and cattle. Vaccines were also distributed to SHG members engaged in piggery farming.

2. Farmers' Training on Terrace Line Transplanting

A training on Terrace Line Transplantation was conducted for farmers of Yachem village on 7th June, 2024 by DMU Longleng and FNGO LEMSACHENLOK, in collaboration with Department of Agriculture, Longleng. The training focused on improved techniques in terrace line transplantation and its benefits. Farmers were also encouraged to adopt sustainable farming practices.



Participants of Livestock Management Training at Hukphang village



Hands-on demonstration of Terrace Line Transplanting at Yachem village

3. Promoting Sustainable Agriculture through Winter Vegetables and Fruits

On 15th May 2025, training on winter vegetables and fruits was successfully conducted at Longleng by DMU Longleng and FNGO LEMSACHENLOK, in convergence with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Longleng. The training aimed to equip local farmers and community members with technical knowledge and practical skills in cultivating winter crops, thereby promoting sustainable agricultural practices. The training saw active participation from SHG members and representatives of JFMCs from Hukphang, Pongching, Mongtikang and Yachem villages.



Participants with the resource person Dr. Ram during the Training on Winter Vegetables & Fruits at KVK Office, Longleng

DMU MON

Free Medical Health Camp

As part of the Convergence activity, NFMP-JICA FNGO Mon, in collaboration with The Hans Foundation Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) Mon, organized a free Medical Health Camp at Totok Chingha village on 12th September, 2024. The Camp extended essential healthcare services to 99 individuals, including women, children and the elderly. The participants were offered free medical checkups and medications.



Free Medical Health Camp organised at Totok Chingha village

DMU PEREN

As part of NFMP's approach to promote convergence with allied departments, DMU Peren collaborated with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Peren, KudaTech Skill Training Centre, Dimapur and District Industries Centre (DIC), Peren, to conduct livelihood-oriented training programmes for Self-Help Group (SHG) members.

1. Skill Training Programme on Loin Loom, Jewellery and Bamboo Basket Making at Peletkie Village

A skill training programme themed "Reviving the Traditional Art" was conducted on 27th July, 2024 at Peletkie village (Batch-II). This initiative was a collaborative effort between C-CERP(FNGO), JFMC, SHGs and DMU Peren, with active support from District Industries Centre (DIC), Peren.

Key Highlights of the Training were:

- 22 children (12 girls and 10 boys) participated in the hands-on traditional skill training.
- Focus was on preserving cultural identity and transferring traditional knowledge to younger generations.
- Promotion of indigenous skills as future livelihood opportunities.



Participants during the Skill Training Programme on Loin Loom, Jewellery & Bamboo Basket Making at Peletkie village

2. Capacity Building and Cluster Development of SHGs

A one-day training was organized on 14th November, 2024 at Peletkie village in collaboration with KVK Peren, with a focus on improved vegetable cultivation and sustainable pest management. The training attended by 16 SHG members featured:

- Field visits to inspect King Chilli and Taro crop cultivation.
- Technical sessions by Dr. Patu K. Zeliang and Dr. Prashant Kalal on nutrition, organic pest control and agronomic practices.
- Distribution of agricultural inputs like seed packets, sprayers, watering cans and tools to participating SHGs.

A follow-up training was held on 22nd January, 2025, covering topics related to agronomic and pest management practices of Chairatsi (Naga King Chilli) and Colocasia. In addition to technical training, cluster development activities were initiated to promote value addition, income generation and market access for SHGs, particularly focusing on Chairatsi (Naga King Chilli).

- A temporary shed for drying was constructed from 5th–7th February, 2025.
- Market linkages were explored through assessments in Jalukie, Chümoukedima and Dimapur.
- Procurement and drying trials of 9.8 kg of raw Chairatsi from New Jalukie were conducted on 14th–15th February, 2025 at the FNGO Office using a dehydrator provided by KudaTech Skill Training Centre, Dimapur.

These efforts led to the formation of the Chairatsi Processing Cluster under Tening Range JFMC, aimed at promoting value addition and local enterprise development for SHGs. The convergence approach greatly enhanced the effectiveness of implementation. KVK Peren provided valuable technical expertise, while KudaTech Skill Training Centre, Dimapur, supported the initiative by loaning a dehydrator machine free of cost for drying trials, with the understanding that the equipment would be returned post-trial.



Participants during the Cluster formation Programme at DMU Peren



FORESTRY INTERVENTIONS



Forestry Interventions

Forestry Interventions, one of the components under Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) aims to strengthen forest conservation through afforestation, biodiversity protection and sustainable community involvement. It has a targeted area of 79,096 ha. It is intervened through five models, viz., Jhum Agro-forestry (JAF), Jhum Fallow Forestry (JFF), Jhum Conversion to Forestry (JCF), Jhum Conversion to Community Conservation Area (JCC) and Protection and Expansion of CCA (PEC). The various models are being taken up through detailed discussion with the Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) and village members. An outline of each model is given below:

- Jhum Agro-Forestry (JAF):** Integrates tree planting in Jhum (shifting cultivation) areas to support forest regeneration.
- Jhum Fallow Forestry (JFF):** Allows degraded fallows to regenerate under managed conditions.
- Jhum Conversion to Forestry (JCF) and Jhum Conversion to Community Conservation Area (JCC):** Aimed to restore the abandoned Jhum plots to bring them under permanent land use by facilitating the secondary succession process.
- Protection and Expansion of CCA (PEC):** Community-led conservation, restoration and expansion of Community-Conserved Areas (CCAs).

Establishment of JFMC Nurseries: The nurseries for Batch-I, Batch-II and Batch-III villages have been successfully completed, covering a total of 143 villages.

TABLE 4 : PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENT FOR PLANTATION UP TO MARCH 2025

DMU	Model 1 Jhum Agro Forestry	Model 2 Jhum Fallow Forestry	Model 3 Jhum Conservation to Forestry	Model 4 Jhum Conservation to CCA	Model 5 Protection and Expansion of CCA	Grand Total
Unit	Ha	Ha	Ha	Ha	Ha	Ha
Project Target	10325	4594	4594	3697	55886	79096
Mon	535.33	367.71	439.72	467.45	2591.53	4401.74
Tuensang	832	625	348	90.75	3696	5591.75
Longleng	372	205	65	80	2617	3339
Kiphire	781.81	389.39	165.11	254.08	2537.38	4127.77
Mokokchung	544.61	230.08	304.01	264.96	3694.69	5038.35
Wokha	629	382	222	194	799	2226
Kohima	172.48	252.7	199.16	262.94	1215.05	2102.33
Zunheboto	638.93	317.15	275.91	219.51	2408.09	3859.60
Peren	346.03	185.13	226.83	194.24	2526.86	3479.08
Phok	112.62	153.8	114.4	107.9	1657.4	2146.12
Dimapur	256.57	123.55	115.94	102.74	1055.47	1654.27
Total	5221.38	3231.52	2476.07	2238.57	24798.47	37966.01

DMU KOHIMA

Plantation and Nursery Establishment

Under Batch-I, II and III, a total of 172.48 hectares has been covered under JAF Model, while JFF Model accounts for 252.7 hectares. The area covered under JCF Model stands at 199.16 hectares, with 262.94 hectares brought under JCC Model and 1215.05 hectares under PEC Model.

Nursery Establishment

The establishment of nurseries under NFMP by JFMCs has played a vital role in promoting native and climate-resilient species suited to local conditions. A notable example of good practice is from the JFMC of Terogvunyu village (Batch-II) under Tseminyu, where neem saplings are being raised in the nursery. Given the natural abundance and ease of germination of neem in the area, the community members have taken the initiative to cultivate them as part of broader efforts to restore degraded lands. The plantation of neem by the community offers sustainable solution to address environmental degradation, making it ideal for degraded or fallow lands and aiding local climate resilience efforts.



Successful plantation at JFF Model, Ehunnu village

Another effective nursery practice is at Tuophema village, where the JFMC members employ a traditional method to raise khokon (*Duabanga grandiflora*) saplings. In this method, khokon seeds are sown on an inclined nursery bed to ensure sufficient sunlight for germination. Bamboo is used to support the bed, after which a mixture of soil, cow dung and dried jute bags are incorporated. The seedlings are carefully nurtured during the early growth stages before being transferred to poly bags.

DMU MOKOKCHUNG

Plantation under FMU Mokokchung & FMU Changtongya Beat

In 2023, two plantation models were successfully implemented in Longkong Village. Under Longkong JFF Model, an area of 25.38 hectares was covered, with saplings distributed to 16 households. Similarly, Longkong JCF Model covered an area of 25.73 hectares, with 18 households. In both models, the saplings were raised in local nurseries and plantation was carried out by the beneficiaries. The planted saplings, along with naturally grown saplings, have been regularly maintained, with periodic gap replacement and maintenance works undertaken to ensure healthy growth.

A total of approximately 31,000 saplings of different species were planted in these two FI Models, achieving a survival rate of up to 95%.

In Yaongyimsen village (Batch-II), JAF Model was implemented over 55.46 hectares during the plantation year 2021. Saplings raised in the nursery were distributed by the JFMC to the beneficiaries who were mainly villagers engaged in Jhum cultivation in the JAF Model area. Besides poly plantation, assisted natural regeneration was maintained. Gap plantation activities were carried out in the subsequent years. Notably, it was observed that direct sowing of seedlings in the Model area had a success rate of 90% survival which was higher compared to transplanting nursery-raised saplings.

Similarly, in Merangkong village (Batch-II), JAF Model covered 58.54 hectares during the 2021 plantation year. Saplings were distributed to Jhum-farming beneficiaries by the JFMC. As in Yaongyimsen, both poly plantation and assisted natural regeneration methods were practiced, followed by gap plantation in the following years to enhance plant survival and density. In these FI Models, saplings of species such as *Duabanga grandiflora*, *Bogipoma*, *Phoebe Sp* and *Choerospondias axillaris* were planted, with a survival rate of 90% .



Longkong JFF Model Plantation Year 2023



Longkong JFF Model Plantation Year 2024



Yaongyimsen JAF Model Area



Merangkong JAF Model

Nursery Establishment

Aliba JFMC Nursery established in 2022, is fully maintained by the JFMC members. Saplings were raised both in polybags and as naked-rooted stock. Major species cultivated in the nursery were *Baccaurea ramiflora*, *Psidium guajava*, *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Melia azedarach*, *Artocarpus chaplasha*, *Choerospondias axillaris* and *Duabanga grandiflora*.

Aliba village has adopted three Forestry Models under NFMP— Jhum Conversion to Forestry (JCF), Jhum Conversion to Community Conservation Area (JCC) and Protection & Expansion of Community Conservation Area (PEC). During the plantation season of 2023, saplings from the nursery were supplied to all three Model sites. At the start of the nursery activity, FMU staff provided training and mobilization support to JFMC members on nursery establishment, maintenance, polypacking, seed sowing and related techniques. Equipped with this knowledge, the JFMC successfully raised the required number of saplings.

As of March 2024, the nursery produced approximately 25,000 polybag saplings and 35,000 naked-rooted saplings. Over time, matured saplings have been distributed and planted across different organizations and communities. The Aliba JFMC continues to raise saplings to support ongoing plantation efforts, including gap replacement during planting seasons, ensuring sustainability and consistent replenishment of the Forestry Model areas.



Aliba JFMC Nursery in 2023 & 2024



Sapling distribution from Aliba JFMC Nursery during 2023 & 2024



**INCOME GENERATION
ACTIVITY (IGA)**

Income Generation Activity (IGA)

Income Generation Activities (IGAs) are smaller form of economic activities taken up by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) that generate additional or supplementary income for SHG members. By offering practical, context-specific, and scalable livelihood options, IGAs help to transition SHG members from passive dependents to active decision-makers and contributors to their local economies.

Under the Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), IGAs are being actively promoted to build financial resilience and improve the overall socio-economic well-being of rural households. These activities include a diverse range of income-enhancing options such as piggery, poultry farming, weaving, tailoring, food processing, handicrafts, kitchen gardening and other need-based enterprises that are locally viable and sustainable.

A key component of this initiative is the provision of a Revolving Fund to SHG members. This fund acts as seed money, enabling members to take up activities, which are not only profitable but also help them to unlock the opportunities, independence and economic growth. Access to the Revolving Fund has enabled many SHG members to not only generate income but also build financial literacy, savings discipline and entrepreneurial skills. Beyond economic gains, IGAs have contributed to broader goals such as women's empowerment, food security, social cohesion and community-led development. The following table presents the number of SHGs supported by NFMP in targeted villages (Batch I-III) across 11 DMUs.

Table 5 : Total number of SHGs supported by NFMP in targeted villages (Batch I-III) under NFMP

SN	DMU	Total No. of Villages/JFMC	Total No. of SHGs
1.	Dimapur	7	21
2.	Kiphire	14	41
3.	Kohima	10	30
4.	Longleng	9	27
5.	Mokokchung	14	42
6.	Mon	15	45
7.	Peren	9	27
8.	Phek	13	39
9.	Tuensang	22	66
10.	Wokha	14	42
11.	Zunheboto	16	48
	Total	143	428

DMU DIMAPUR

Income Generation through Exhibition and Sales Events

During the financial year 2024–25, SHGs under DMU Dimapur actively participated in various public events to exhibit and sell their products, thereby promoting local enterprise and enhancing livelihood opportunities.

Unity SHG from Hekheshe Village, under Medziphema Beat, took part in the 78th Independence Day celebration held on 15th August 2024 at Medziphema Town. The group showcased and sold a variety of items such as pineapple, vegetables, pickles and fast food. Similarly, SHG products from Piphema Beat were sent for exhibition-cum-sale at the Forest Department Stall during the 76th Republic Day celebration on 26th January 2025 in Kohima.



SHGs under DMU Dimapur participating in exhibition & sales events



SHG products for sale

Empowering Rural Women through Livelihood Initiatives

Phezou SHG, comprising 9 members from Piphema Old village, undertook white Pekin duck rearing as their Income Generation Activity (IGA) for the 2nd cycle of the Revolving Fund (RF). With support from the FNGO Youthnet, a business plan was prepared for a loan period of 6th months and the SHG received an RF amount of ₹ 50,000 on 2nd April 2024. The group purchased 90 white Pekin ducklings, of which 84 survived. Between June and August 2024, the ducks were sold at ₹ 800 per piece, generating a total income of ₹ 67,200. After repaying the Revolving Fund loan, the SHG earned a net profit of ₹ 15,950.



Duckery by Phezou SHG, Old Piphema village

Juli SHG from Medziphema village (Batch-I) under FMU Medziphema Beat came in association with NFMP in 2024. Recognizing the market potential for traditional handloom products, the group selected traditional weaving as their Income Generation Activity (IGA). With assistance from the FNGO team, a business plan was prepared for a 12-month loan cycle, and the group received a Revolving Fund of ₹ 50,000 on 4th April 2024. The fund was used to procure necessary weaving equipment and raw materials. Capitalizing on their traditional knowledge and weaving skills, the SHG successfully completed 28 orders of mekhala sets and shawls for both men and women. These products were sold within their village and nearby villages, enabling the SHG to earn a profit of ₹ 66,000 after repaying the Revolving Fund along with interest.



Weaving by Juli SHG, Medziphema village

These initiatives not only contributed to income generation but also served as valuable platforms for SHG members to showcase their entrepreneurial skills and promote traditional products to a wider audience.

DMU KOHIMA



IGA – poultry, Kekhrie Krotho SHG of Zhadima 'A' village



IGA – Weaving, Hezou SHG of Tuophema village



IGA – Poultry, Kerhun SHG of Terogvunyu village

1. Empowering Women Through SHG Revolving Funds

Under Batch-I of DMU Kohima, Zhadima 'A' village of Chiephobozou Range, Dzevi Krotho SHG were able to save the profit in their bank account and loan out among the members with minimal rate of interest. This inter loaning has helped them to improve and build financial discipline. Likewise, members of Kekhrie Krotho SHG reinvested their profit after completing the 1st cycle of the Revolving Fund to expand their existing livelihood activities. The Kerhe Krou SHG channelled their earnings into ginger and local garlic cultivation, adding diversity to their income sources.

Tsiekhe SHG of Tuophema village (Batch-I) under Chiephobozou Range invested their profit in vegetable cultivation, while Hezou SHG and Nourhe SHG used their profit for inter-loaning. The interest collected was shared among members, helping them to meet personal financial needs.

For Batch-II villages, Gwasa SHG of Terogvunyu village took up potato and yam cultivation using profits from their 1st Revolving Fund cycle. Kerhun SHG members distributed crate of eggs to their members during Christmas season. Some SHG members have also decided to produce value-added products such as yongchak (tree bean) and king chilli pickle with their profits, highlighting a growing interest in micro-enterprises and sustainable livelihood options.

DMU LONGLENG

Strengthening Rural Livelihoods through Profitable IGAs in Longleng

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Longleng have been actively involved in a diverse range of Income Generation Activities (IGAs) such as piggery, ginger cultivation, poultry farming, betel nut nursery, tapioca cultivation, millet farming, mustard leaf cultivation, oyster mushroom cultivation as well as value-added products like tapioca chips, ginger candy and orange juice production.

These initiatives have not only generated substantial profits but have also had a meaningful impact on improving household incomes and strengthening the financial stability of the SHGs. These activities have contributed to the development of an entrepreneurial mindset among rural women, encouraged skill enhancement and diversification of products, and promoted stronger group cohesion within the SHGs.



SHGs under DMU Longleng engaged in Income Generation Activities (IGA)

DMU MOKOKCHUNG

1. Terotonaro SHG's Path to Progress

Terotonaro SHG from Longkong village (Batch-III) under DMU Mokokchung has shown commendable progress in their income-generation journey through food processing and soap making. Initially, the group focused on producing soap loofah and ginger candy. However, after receiving a Revolving Fund loan of ₹50,000 under NFMP, the SHG strategically diversified its activities to ensure sustainability by making use of locally available resources.

In response to customer's demand, they expanded their product line to include herbal powder made from locally sourced herbs and roselle leaves, as well as bath salts. Their consistent hard work and dedication throughout the financial year 2024–25 paid off significantly. A key driver of their success was the strong market linkage and support provided by the Nagaland Development Outreach FNGO and Nagaland State Rural Livelihood Mission (NSRLM), which enabled the group to achieve a substantial

turnover. The SHG successfully marketed and sold a variety of products like ginger candy, soap, loofah, herbal powder, bath salts and roselle, thereby enhancing their livelihood.



Troteonaro SHG of Longkong village

2. Empowering Livelihoods through Soap-Making: Pangjemer SHG

Pangjemer SHG from Aliba village undertook Aloe Vera soap making as their 1st Income Generation Activity (IGA) after receiving a loan of ₹50,000 under NFMP. The group initiated the activity in March 2024 and within a span of 12 months, successfully produced 3,148 pieces of Aloe Vera soap. Through convergence with NSRLM and support from NFMP loan, the SHG achieved a turnover of ₹1,47,680. Encouraged by the strong market demand, the SHG aims to scale up production in the coming months to further enhance their income and meet growing customer needs.

The regular income from sales has improved household financial security, allowing members to contribute to family expenses, children's education and savings. Through hands-on experience in production, packaging and marketing, the members have also gained valuable entrepreneurial skills and confidence.



Pangjemer SHG Aloe vera Soap ready for sale

3. Piggery as a Profitable Livelihood Activity of Shisa Ajem SHG, Salulamang village

Shisa Ajem SHG from Salulamang village (Batch-II) successfully undertook piggery as their Income Generation Activity (IGA) with a Revolving Fund loan of ₹50,000 from NFMP. The group reared 8 pigs, collectively weighing 782 kgs, and sold them at a rate of ₹300 per kg, generating a total turnover of ₹2,34,600.

From the profits earned, each SHG member received ₹18,700 as their individual share. This initiative significantly contributed to improving household income and many members were able to utilize their earnings to support their children's education.

Good Practices Adopted

To ensure sustainable and profitable piggery operations, the group adopted the following best practices:

- Maintained clean and hygienic pig sties with proper drainage systems.
- Used dry concentrated feed supplemented with kitchen waste and green forage.
- Conducted regular veterinary check-ups and followed proper de-worming schedules.
- Maintained systematic records of feed, expenses and regular monitoring.



Shisa Ajem SHG of Salulamang village undertook Piggery as their IGA

4. Cassava Value Chain Development by SHGs

Two SHGs (Yimrongmedem and Molongajem) from Yaongyimsen village (Batch-II) successfully undertook cassava farming as their Income Generation Activity (IGA). Each group cultivated 1 hectare of land by planting about 3,000 cassava saplings. Through collective effort, the SHG members carried out regular weeding, cleaning and maintenance of the crop. Yimrongmedem SHG initiated value addition by frequently harvesting cassava to produce cassava chips, which were sold in the village and nearby towns, providing a steady recurrent income of around ₹3,000. Upon full maturity, each SHG harvested nearly 14,000 kgs of cassava tubers, which were marketed locally at ₹10 per kg, generating a revenue of ₹1,40,000 per group.

What makes this initiative unique is the value chain approach adopted by the SHGs. Apart from selling fresh and dried cassava (also used as animal feed), the groups ventured into processing cassava into chips and snacks. On average, they produce and sell about 200 packets of cassava chips every month, generating an additional monthly income of around ₹18,000 per group.

This initiative has not only provided the SHG members with a steady income but also established cassava processing as a profitable and sustainable business, creating new opportunities for women-led entrepreneurship at the village level.



Cassava farm at Yuongyimsen village



Yimrangmedem SHG members engaged in processing cassava into chips



Ready-to-sell cassava chips

DMU MON

Strengthening Livelihoods of SHGs through Market Linkages

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) under NFMP in DMU Mon are engaged in a number of Income Generation Activities (IGAs) such as garlic, chilli, betel nut, tea leaves, mushroom and broom cultivation, piggery and poultry rearing. To support and promote these grassroots enterprises, a Sales Day event was jointly organized by NFMP and the Nagaland State Rural Livelihood Mission (NSRLM) Shom-ai BLF BMMU Mon Block on 27th July 2024.

This initiative aimed to provide a platform for SHGs to showcase and sell their products, thereby enhancing their income and strengthening local market linkages. A total of 13 SHGs under NFMP participated in the event, collectively generating a profit of ₹40,125.

Additionally, during the 78th Independence Day celebration on 15th August 2024 at the Local Ground, Mon, DMU Mon facilitated a stall for SHGs to exhibit and sell their produce. Three SHGs from Totok Chingha village participated by setting up vegetable stalls and earned ₹8,050 in a single day an encouraging outcome for organic produce sellers.



SHGs participating in Sales Day events



Different IGAs of SHGs under DMU Mon

DMU PHEK

Collective Vegetable Farming as a Profitable Livelihood Activity

Under DMU Phek, several SHGs have successfully adopted Collective Vegetable Farming as a sustainable and Income-Generation Activity (IGA) by drawing on traditional knowledge and leveraging NFMP support. Notable examples are SHGs in Lephori and Meluri villages, along with others under the Meluri Division, where community and individual lands were utilized for seasonal vegetable cultivation.

Comprising primarily of women members, these SHGs are either traditionally skilled or trained through NFMP interventions such as input supply, technical guidance and market linkage facilitation. Based on soil suitability and market demand, crops like cabbage, tomato, chilli, brinjal, cucumber, beans and many other vegetables were cultivated.

Through organized planning and collective effort, these SHGs have achieved:

- Generated income ranging from ₹15,000 to ₹35,000 per group per season.
- Consistent supply of fresh vegetables to local markets and nearby towns
- Reduced dependency on external vegetable sources, promoting local self-reliance.
- Strengthened group cohesion and collective decision-making.

This initiative not only improved household incomes, but also socially and economically empowered the SHG members involved. In addition to vegetable farming, the SHGs have diversified into animal husbandry, food processing, handicrafts and floriculture, using traditional skills, resulting in a diversified steady income. The Livelihood Intervention under NFMP highlights that with the right support systems and knowledge, SHGs can transform traditional practices into profitable, sustainable ventures.



SHG members working in the field and harvested crops from their IGA

DMU WOKHA

“Freshly Wokha”: A Profitable SHG-Led Marketing Initiative Driving Rural Livelihoods

Under the NFMP, DMU Wokha has successfully launched the “Freshly Wokha” initiative, significantly contributing to income generation and rural empowerment through SHGs. This initiative has fostered sustainable market linkages and strengthened economic independence for women by promoting SHG products across various platforms. Through strategic participation in high-profile events and the establishment of the “Tssentsü Nature Outlet,” DMU Wokha has successfully amplified the visibility of SHG products, ensuring financial empowerment for rural women and enhancing consumer trust in locally made goods. During 2024-25, the SHG products were sold on events such as Independence Day, Mini Hornbill Tokhü Emong Festival, Republic Day and National Integration Camp generating a total profit of ₹82,600.

These events not only generated substantial revenue but also provided valuable consumer feedback, enabling SHGs to refine product quality and packaging. The relentless efforts of DMU Wokha, FNGO Natural Nagas and SHG members have translated into increased sales and brand recognition, strengthened consumer confidence and women empowerment.

A major milestone was the inauguration of the “Tssentsü Nature Outlet” on 2nd February 2025, which now serves as a permanent marketplace for SHG products. The outlet acts as a hub for product sorting, grading and packaging ensuring year-round income and sustainability for SHGs in Wokha.



SHGs products for sale during Republic Day 2025



Inauguration of “Freshly Wokha” Tssentsü Nature Outlet”

DMU ZUNHEBOTO

Livelihood Progress by Mughani SHG

Formed in 2018 under NFMP, Mughani SHG from Mukalimi village in Zunheboto district is a 10 member women’s group actively engaged in micro-enterprises and agriculture. Starting from humble beginnings, with members collecting ₹250 each through daily labour earnings, the group has steadily grown into a vibrant enterprise. With support from NFMP in the form of Revolving Fund (RF), capacity-building and market linkage facilitation, the SHG has diversified its activities from ginger farming to food processing,

soap making and rice cultivation, fostering self-reliance and improving the socio-economic status of its members.

In 2024, Mughani SHG entered the 2nd cycle of its Revolving Fund, a total amount of ₹50,000 with a focus on food processing as the primary Income Generation Activity (IGA). The SHG ventured into producing value-added products such as King Chilly pickle, Yongchak pickle, Ginger Candy and Wild Fruit candies. These products were processed using local ingredients and the group effectively utilized the training and branding support provided by FNGO YouthNet . Labelling, packaging and pricing were professionally handled, significantly enhancing product appeal and market reach. The group participated in the 76th Republic Day Celebration on 26th January 2025 at Zunheboto Town Public Ground, earning a total income of ₹59,920. The SHG was also selected to represent Zunheboto district at the Hornbill Festival 2024, offering a wider platform to showcase their products and boost brand visibility.

One of the major achievements of Mughani SHG was the purchase of a solar dryer worth ₹63,000, with profits earned through the 1st cycle business plan. The equipment improved processing efficiency and also serve as an additional revenue stream as the group rents it out to other entrepreneurs for ₹100 per use. Their products like ginger candy and pickles have become popular in social events and local markets, positioning Mughani SHG as a rising local enterprise.



Value-added products of Mughani SHG

Solar dryer purchased by Mughani SHG

**ENTRY POINT ACTIVITY (EPA) &
WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE (WHS)**



Entry Point Activity (EPA) & Water Harvesting Structure (WHS)

Entry Point Activity (EPA) under Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) is an important activity carried out at the beginning of the Project in the target villages. It is a means of winning people's trust and building people's confidence. People's participation means identifying, planning, budgeting, implementing, monitoring and maintenance by the people. It helps to build trust between the Project team (like DMU, FMU and FNGO) and the local community. It is aimed at addressing the immediate and felt needs of the community. By identifying and addressing pressing needs, EPAs can provide long term solutions. Depending on the local context, EPA can take many forms such as village gate, approach road, resting/marketing shed amongst others. Such activities make a visible difference in the daily lives of the community members. Similarly, the establishment of Water harvesting Structures (WHS) are crucial for improving water security and sustainability. It also reduces the burden on women and children who often have to fetch water from long distances. A total of 154 EPA and 138 WHS has been completed till date in the targeted villages (Batch I-III) under NFMP. DMU-wise data is given below:

Table 6 : Total number of EPAs and WHS completed in targeted villages (Batch I-III):

SN	DMU	Total EPA completed	Total WHS completed
1.	Dimapur	7	7
2.	Kiphire	14	14
3.	Kohima	13	8
4.	Longleng	9	9
5.	Mokokchung	18	11
6.	Mon	15	15
7.	Peren	9	9
8.	Phek	13	13
9.	Tuensang	22	22
10.	Wokha	14	14
11.	Zunheboto	20	16
	Total	154	138

DMU DIMAPUR

Construction of Check Dam at Ruzaphema Village, Medziphema Beat

Ruzaphema is one of the Batch-III villages under NFMP in DMU Dimapur, falling under Medziphema Beat. The village comprises 435 households with a population of 1,096 and is located 29 km from the district headquarters, with Medziphema being the nearest town.

As part of the EPA, a check dam was constructed in Ruzaphema village to address the recurring issue of drinking water shortage during the winter season. This initiative was jointly taken up by the JFMC, Village Council (VC) and Village Development Board (VDB). The total cost of the Project was ₹5,00,000, of which ₹1,00,000 each was contributed by the Village Council and the VDB, while the remaining ₹3,00,000 was funded by NFMP.

The main purpose of constructing the check dam was to create a sustainable water source for multiple purposes such as drinking water supply, water harvesting, irrigation, fishery development, ecological regeneration and protection of the ecosystem in and around the dam area. The dam, built on community land, harnesses a perennial water source and has a storage capacity of approximately 300 million litres. Its dimensions are 80 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth and 18 feet in height.



Before and after pictures of Check Dam (EPA) at Ruzaphema village

DMU KIPHIRE

Construction of Women Society Guest House at Keor Village



Women Society Guest House at Keor village

Under NFMP, Community Development Activities (CDAs) have been successfully completed in 14 out of 18 selected villages under Kiphire Forest Division. Based on identified needs, the EPAs were selected and executed in alignment with the Project's aims and objectives. Among these, Keor village stands out for its remarkable community participation and commitment in the execution of the EPA, specifically the construction of a Women Society Guest House.

Keor village, situated in a remote area, faces numerous challenges in terms of infrastructure and overall development. One of the significant issues the village encountered was the lack of facilities to accommodate visitors or dignitaries for overnight stays. In response to this, the village community identified the construction of a Women Society Guest House as a priority project.

This initiative not only addressed the immediate need for guest accommodation but also became a significant step towards women empowerment and inclusive community development. The construction of the EPA witnessed active involvement from all sections of the village, with men playing an instrumental role through various committees in ensuring the success of the EPA.

The total cost of constructing the Women Society Guest House amounted to ₹8,34,500. Of this, ₹3,00,000 was sanctioned under the EPA component of NFMP, while the remaining ₹5,34,500 was contributed by the Village Council and other local organizations. In addition to financial contributions, individuals and groups from the village, transcending gender and status, contributed materials, labour and wages to ensure the successful completion of the EPA. The collaborative efforts from all members of the community played a key role in the timely and efficient construction of the Women Society Guest House.

The Women Society Guest House is expected to bring multiple benefits to the village. The facility serves not only as a reliable accommodation option for guests and visitors from various walks of life but also as a community resource that will support the village's social and economic activities. The infrastructure enhances the village's capacity to host events, dignitaries and other visitors, but also improves its overall image and development prospects.

DMU KOHIMA

Road Construction

Road connectivity plays a vital role in rural development, offering immediate and tangible benefits. Recognizing this, the JFMC members of Tsosinyu village (Batch-III under Tseminyu Division) undertook the construction of a one-kilometre road as part of the EPA. This initiative demonstrates that roads in rural areas serve purposes far beyond transportation, as they are important lifelines for economic growth and social connections.



Construction of road & resting shed at Tsosinyu & Tseminyu villages (Batch-III) respectively

In Tseminyu village (Batch-III), the JFMC identified the need for a proper resting shed and successfully constructed one near the village cemetery under the EPA component. This structure now serves as a designated space for conducting funeral services and for managing the village cemetery. Additionally, the procurement of plastic chairs under the same component has significantly benefited the community, providing necessary resources for public gatherings and events.

DMU LONGLENG

Installation of Water Filtration Plants in Yachem Village

Yachem village of Longleng district like many other Naga settlements located on hilltop, faces challenges in accessing clean and safe drinking water. A Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) conducted under NFMP revealed this critical need. Additionally, a prior study by the Department of Soil and Water Conservation had identified high iron concentration in the village's water sources.

In response to these findings, the Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC), in collaboration with the Yachem Village Council and the Jal Jeevan Mission under the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), undertook the construction and installation of Water Filtration Plants at three key locations within the village. The project received technical assistance from a support team based in Guwahati, Assam.

This intervention has effectively addressed the issue of clean water scarcity in Yachem village. The community has expressed deep appreciation to the Forest Department and NFMP-JICA Project for their efforts in ensuring access to safe and potable drinking water, marking a significant improvement in the village's quality of life.



DMU Team Longleng and JFMC members at EPA Water Filtration Plant in Yachem village

DMU MOKOKCHUNG

Successful Implementation of Converged EPA - WHS in Aliba Village

Aliba village under Mokokchung district 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. With the introduction of NFMP in the village, the component of community development in the form of EPA and WHS provided an opportunity to the village to direct their efforts in the development of water provision for all.



Tsiingi Tsiba before the intervention



Pipeline connected from the source to the village settlement area

Aliba JFMC played an active role in engaging the villagers, led by the Village Council, in planning and decision-making. A joint decision was made to converge both the EPA and WHS components and utilize the combined fund of ₹6,00,000 towards the common cause of improving water facility in the village. The community resolved to rejuvenate the former perennial spring, Tsūngi Tsūba, and enhance its water holding capacity. The intervention included the construction of two filtration units, a main water reservoir, distillation of the water source and repair of the surrounding retaining structures. The entire process was closely supervised and monitored by JFMC members and the Village Council.

A major challenge was the pumping up of the reserved water, since the source is much below the village settlement. Contribution from the community were in terms of time, labour, donation and moral support. Pipeline materials were procured, connected to water source and brought up to the settlement area. For effective water delivery to the village, a 125 KVA transformer and a 15 HP pump were installed to lift water from the source to the settlement. Within the village, 3 storage tanks, with a capacity of 66,000 litres, were set up to ensure adequate and equitable distribution. The pipeline connection work was completed by April 2024.

The successful installation of water supply system in Aliba village was made possible through the convergence of NFMP, the dedicated efforts and contributions of the Aliba villagers and the support of various departments and organizations. With a total investment of approximately ₹23,00,000, this collaborative approach effectively addressed the acute water scarcity that had long affected the village, especially during the dry season.



Inauguration of water supply system by DFO cum DMU Head, Mokokchung



Water Harvesting Structure at Aliba village

List of Departments/organizations involved

1. Forest Department (EPA+WHS)
2. Rural Development Department for Link Road
3. Land Resources Department for trenches and catchment area
4. NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) for rejuvenation at the site
5. WATSAN (Water and Sanitation) for maintenance of pipeline
6. Village Council/Church/Citizens of the village and well wishes in cash and kind.

DMU Tuensang

1. Construction of RCC Community Kitchen in Chendang Village

Chendang village took a significant step in community development by constructing a permanent RCC community kitchen. The Community Kitchen was constructed with the sanctioned Project fund of ₹3,00,000 and collective contribution by the villagers, amounting to ₹10,82,000. The newly constructed two-storey RCC building is designed to serve multiple community needs. The ground floor functions as a go-down for storing essential commodities such as grains, cooking supplies and emergency relief materials. The upper floor serves as a fully functional community kitchen, catering to public gatherings and ensuring food support for community events.

The structure not only supports day-to-day community activities but also acts as an emergency relief centre during times of crisis such as natural disasters, thereby enhancing the village's preparedness and resilience. The entire project is a testament to the strength of community participation and self-reliance. The initiative has also improved food security for the underprivileged and established a centralized system for better storage and resource management.



RCC Community Kitchen at Chendang village

2. Construction of Rostrum in Chare village

With the intervention of NFMP, the 1st activity undertaken in Chare village marked a significant success, strengthened by the active and positive participation of the community. Following thorough discussions, the JFMC and the village community collectively identified the construction of a rostrum as a priority need. Strategically located at the centre of the village near the public ground, the structure was envisioned to serve both functional and communal purposes. The entire village community participated actively, contributing labour and support throughout the construction process. In addition to the sanctioned project fund of ₹3,00,000, the community voluntarily contributed ₹2,30,000 towards the completion of the structure.



Rostrum at Chare village

The completed rostrum is a two-storey structure, with the upper level used for public functions, events and festivals, while the ground floor serves as a storage unit. The rostrum also functions as a waiting shed for villagers and passersby, further enhancing its utility.

DMU ZUNHEBOTO

Construction of Sunday School Building as EPA at Shesulimi Village

Construction of Sunday School Building as an Entry Point Activity (EPA) at Shesulimi village, FMU Pughoboto was successfully inaugurated on 4th February 2025. This construction was carried out through active participation of key local stakeholders; Village Development Board (VDB), Village Council, the Church and other community members.



Inauguration of Sunday School Building (EPA) at Shesulimi village

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION



Community Contribution

Community contributions are foundation of sustainable development and social change. Voluntary efforts such as time, labour, money, materials and knowledge that the community offers are crucial in supporting shared goals. These contributions play a powerful role in transforming communities into active agents of change. When people contribute their own resources, a strong sense of ownership is developed, which leads to protection and maintenance of community assets. Community contributions promote unity, cooperation and support, transparency and good governance. Whether it's construction of a school, digging a well, improving roads or other development initiative, the active participation and contribution of community makes all the difference.

Active community contribution in various forms has ensured that every small effort makes a big difference. Under NFMP, members of the community consisting of JFMC, Village Council, women and youth group take part in Project activities such as nursery work, plantation and creation of Entry Point Activity (EPA)/ Water Harvesting Structure (WHS), maintenance work amongst others, mostly in the form of labour, time and natural resources available in the village. The contribution of labour has drastically reduced the costs of the developmental projects as it minimizes the need for expensive hired labour force. Various works under the Project has brought people working in harmony for benefit of the entire community. Community contribution empowers the members to grow; it also gives them a voice in decision making and builds leadership from within. Further, community contribution creates synergies that lead to stronger and more sustainable outcomes.

DMU KIPHIRE

Airgun Surrender Programme at Nitoi village

Nitoi village under Kiphire Forest Division undertook a noteworthy initiative through the voluntary surrender of airguns. This initiative stemmed from a visit by the Kiphire Forest Division to obtain Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the implementation of NFMP in the village.

During the visit, a series of deliberations were held between the Forest Department and the village representatives, covering a broad range of topics. One of the key discussions focused on the status of the community reserve forest managed by the village. The Forest Department sought information regarding the extent of protection afforded to the reserve forest and the overall condition of the village's flora and fauna. It was found that the village possessed a significant number of airguns, which were found to be directly contributing to the decline in the local avian population. This concern prompted the village elders to seek a solution to address the issue of airgun use.

In response to the issue raised, the Forest Department proposed organizing an Airgun Surrender Programme to mitigate the negative impact of airgun hunting on local wildlife. This proposal was discussed in depth during a subsequent Village Council meeting, where the council members passed a resolution addressing the matter.

The resolution passed by the Village Council included the imposition of a penalty of ₹15,000 for individuals caught hunting birds with airguns. Additionally, the Council resolved to enforce this restriction for a period of five years, with the possibility of extending it in the future. The Council's decision demonstrated their commitment to protecting the local avian population and preserving the biodiversity of the area. On the occasion of Wildlife Week-2024, an airgun surrendering programme was organized at Nitoi village on 2nd October 2024, where, as per the assurance of the Village Council, a total of 20 airguns were surrendered and handed over to the safe custody of the Village Council.



The proactive participation of the Nitoi village community in the Airgun Surrender Programme has had a positive impact on the surrounding villages. This initiative has sparked a change in the outlook of neighbouring communities, instilling in them a greater sense of responsibility for conservation efforts. The successful implementation of the programme is expected to encourage broader participation in environmental preservation and wildlife protection activities in the region.



Airgun Surrender Programme at Nitoi village

DMU KOHIMA

Significant community contributions were witnessed during the implementation of EPAs in various villages under DMU Kohima. At Gwachonlo village (Batch-IV), the community actively participated in the construction of road carried out under EPA. The villagers contributed labour and locally available materials, playing a vital role in the smooth and timely execution of the activity.



Similarly, in Tsosinyu village (Batch-III), the construction of a village road under EPA saw strong community involvement. The villagers extended support by providing manual labour and assisting in transporting materials, showcasing their ownership and commitment to local development.



Community contribution during EPA - construction of roads at Gwachonlo & Tsosinyu villages

DMU LONGLENG

Staff of DMU Longleng conducted a site inspection at Yachem village on 30th November 2024, where clearing and tending activities were undertaken at PEC (Protection and Expansion of Community Conserved Areas) Model. The work was carried out by the JFMC in close coordination with the Yachem Village Council and the Yachem Staff Union. The initiative reflects the strong sense of responsibility and commitment maintaining plantations and managing natural resources sustainably.



Community working at the PEC Model area at Yachem village

In Tamlu village, the PEC Model has proven effective in the fight against deforestation. Active community monitoring and protection efforts have helped curb illegal logging, uncontrolled land-use changes and other environmentally damaging practices, ensuring the long-term conservation of the village's forest resources.

At Ametchong village, community members are making commendable strides in ecological restoration under the Jhum Fallow Forestry (JFF) Model. Covering an area of 40 hectares, the village is transforming previously fallow Jhum land into managed forest areas, marking a significant step towards sustainable land use and forest regeneration.

DMU PHEK

Construction of Community Graveyard Resting Shed in Yisisotha Village

The construction of the Community Graveyard Resting Shed in Yisisotha village stands as a remarkable example of collective community contribution under NFMP. Recognizing the need for a dignified space to conduct burial services, the village came together to transform a long-felt necessity into reality through shared effort, resources and values.

In the absence of a proper resting facility at the graveyard, families faced difficulties especially during challenging weather conditions while conducting final rites. This underscored the urgent need for a dedicated structure where community members could halt and carry out burial services with respect and dignity.

The project was initiated on a community-driven platform, led by the JFMC and actively supported by the people of Yisisotha village. Villagers contributed both labour and materials, turning the project into a shared mission. The uninterrupted flow of manpower and raw materials, backed by strong community will, ensured timely and quality completion of the resting shed.



Community Graveyard Resting Shed, Yisisotha village.

WOMEN PARTICIPATION



Women Participation

In every society, women form the foundation not only of families but also of communities and cultural traditions. Today, the significance of women's participation in all aspects of life cannot be underestimated. Both progress and development become achievable when women are included as equal partners. Their active participation in the economic sector whether through farming, handicrafts or Self-Help Group (SHG) activities plays a crucial role in boosting household incomes and strengthening communities. By empowering and supporting women, we can ensure that we are building a strong community and a balanced society.

Within the framework of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP), women in beneficiary villages have played a crucial role in fostering resilient and thriving communities. Moving beyond traditional household roles, they have emerged as key agents of change by participating in SHGs, Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) and engaging in a variety of Income Generation Activities (IGAs) to support their families. This involvement has not only enhanced their leadership in local decision-making but has also expanded their social capital and agricultural knowledge.

Women-led SHGs under NFMP have taken a leading role in implementing IGAs and the income generated from these initiatives has provided much-needed financial stability to their families. These activities have significantly improved their quality of life while boosting their confidence and belief in the Project. Their contributions highlight the transformative impact of women's empowerment on both family well-being and community development.

DMU KIPHIRE

Under DMU Kiphire, women have played a vital role in the successful plantation activities, working alongside men and contributing significantly at every stage. Their active involvement includes raising and maintaining nurseries, clearing fields and weeds, digging pits and staking, transporting and planting saplings, as well as maintaining plantation sites. Their dedication to nursery maintenance and participation in cleanliness drives has been widely acknowledged and appreciated by DMU Kiphire.

Women's continued involvement has also been evident during plantation drives organized on occasions such as World Environment Day. They have voluntarily taken responsibility for maintaining JFMC areas, EPA sites and WHS demonstrating a strong commitment to community development.

Through these efforts, women have not only strengthened community service but have also built self-confidence, gained access to resources, enhanced their knowledge and developed leadership skills. Their participation has been instrumental in addressing key community challenges, including those related to climate change.

By promoting gender equality and empowering women to take on impactful roles, DMU Kiphire has brought about a significant shift in both forest and community development with special focus on participation of women, all the while sensitising the broader mass to inculcate these practices for a sustainable future.



Women Participation in the Maintenance of WHS



Women Participation in the Cleanliness drive during World Environment Day



Women Participation during World Environment Day at Azetso Village (Batch-III)



Women participation during Plantation at Pokphur village (Batch-II)



Women Participation during Plantation at Kisetong Village (Batch-III)

DMU KOHIMA

Under DMU Kohima, NFMP has actively facilitated the inclusion of women in decision-making at the grass root level for inclusive development. Women are given equal opportunity and platforms during Project visits, trainings and programmes to share their experiences, contributions and achievements. Their voices play a vital role in shaping decisions that benefit the entire community.

At all programmes or events under the Project, women are often seen at the forefront, gracefully setting the tone, creating comfort and ensuring that every guest feel valued. Their involvement in nursery work and plantation activities is not only crucial to the success of the Project but also reflects their deep-rooted connection with the land.

Women's participation in NFMP activities under DMU Kohima has led to positive and tangible outcomes. It has strengthened their capacity, improved their confidence, enhanced leadership skills and contributed to financial literacy. By encouraging women's involvement in leadership and decision-making roles, the Project has helped to break traditional barriers, paving the way for more equitable, empowered and inclusive communities.



Women from Gwachonlo village participating during the construction of EPA



An SHG member of Ehumu village sharing her experiences



An SHG member of Terogvunyu village sharing her experiences with Project Officials



Woman taking part at maintenance work at Seiyhamu village

DMU MOKOKCHUNG

Women from targeted villages of Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) under DMU Mokokchung have emerged as key agents of transformation. Their involvement spans a wide spectrum of activities from Income Generation Activities (IGAs) like piggery, poultry, food processing, aloe vera soap making and cassava farming to participating actively in microplanning, plantation drives, nursery maintenance and water conservation initiatives.

These women not only contribute to the economic upliftment of their members but also enhance the overall socio-environmental landscape of their communities. They have shown remarkable adaptability by transitioning to alternative IGAs when faced with challenges like disease outbreaks or market limitations, demonstrating resilience and innovation. Whether producing traditional woven items, value-added agricultural products or engaging in conservation and sustainable farming practices, these women have played a vital role in promoting sustainable livelihoods.

Their participation has gone beyond economic activities, they have helped shape decisions in JFMC meetings, supported community institutions like churches and student bodies and raised awareness on forest conservation and biodiversity. Women are also contributing to transparency and accountability by managing SHG and JFMC finances, maintaining records and encouraging other women to take on leadership roles. Importantly, they have developed strong social capital, fostering mutual support and financial independence through pooled savings and corpus funds. These internal savings mechanisms have provided a safety net for emergencies and further investment in livelihoods, empowering women to pursue their goals with greater confidence and self-reliance.



SHG members of DMU Mokokchung involved in different activities under NFMP

MISCELLANEOUS



Miscellaneous

TRAINING

DMU LONGLENG

Training on NFMP Orientation and JFMC Constitution & Management and NFMP Record Keeping and Financial Management at Batch-III Villages

DMU Longleng organised Trainings on NFMP Orientation, JFMC Constitution and Management, NFMP Record Keeping and Financial Management at Tamlu, Ametchong and Yachem villages on 20th September 2024, 21st September 2024 and 23rd September 2024 respectively.

DMU MON

Trainings for Batch-III JFMCS and SHGS

The Training for Batch-III JFMCs and SHGs under DMU Mon was conducted from 5th October -28th October 2024. The training was conducted under two main categories:

1. JFMC General, which included sub-topics such as Orientation on NFMP, JFMC Constitution and Management and JFMC Record Keeping and Financial Management.
2. Self-Help Group (SHG) Module I and II.



Participants under DMU Longleng & Mon attending various Training programmes

DMU PEREN

Awareness Programme on Waste Management

During the Amur Falcon Festival, DMU Peren in collaboration with the BNHS and ZycusInfotech organised a demonstration under the theme "Convert Waste into Wealth and Gold", at St. Xavier College, Jalukie on 23rd November 2024. The initiative aimed to promote sustainable domestic waste management.

The focus was on household waste segregation and composting as a tool for health and environmental safety. The key topics covered were:

- Waste types and their impact on the environment.
- Segregation techniques and composting methods.
- Benefits of compost use in agriculture and pollution control.



Demonstration during the "Convert Waste into Wealth" Programme at Jalukie

DMU WOKHA

“Run for Hornbill against Time” – A Race for Conservation and Community Empowerment

On 7th December 2024, the 2nd Edition of “Run for Hornbill Against Time” brought together conservationists, government officials and local communities in a powerful display of environmental awareness and cultural pride. Organized by the Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Nagaland, in collaboration with DMU Wokha, the event successfully merged ecological advocacy with livelihood promotion, reinforcing the bond between nature and people.

The 5.4 km race, from New Police Reserve Junction (Phesama) to Kisama Heritage village, saw 266 participants from churches, NGOs and government departments. Flagged off by Shri Dharmendra Prakash IFS (PCCF & HoFF, Nagaland), Pledge for Conservation was administered by Shri Supongnukshi IFS (CCF, EBR), inspirational speeches by Dr. Aparajita Datta (IUCN Hornbill Specialist Group), Shri Shanavas C, IAS (Industries & Commerce) and Major Vijay Singh (Assam Rifles). While the run highlighted the urgent need to protect the endangered Hornbill, DMU Wokha also promoted “Freshly Wokha” SHG Products by opening a stall.



Participants during the “Run against Time” Race











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