

**Plan Vivo
Annual Report**

Covering period: 1st Jan – 31st Dec 2015

**KHASI HILLS REDD+ PROJECT,
MEGHALAYA, INDIA**

Submitted by

Ka Synjuk Ki Hima Arliang Wah Umiam Mawphlang Welfare Society



DECEMBER 2015

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Reporting period	1 January – 31 December 2015	
Technical specifications in use	REDD+ (Dense Forests)	ANR (Open Forests)
Area under management (ha)	9,270 ha. REDD+	5,947 ha. ANR

Project indicators	Historical (2012-2014)	Added/ Issued this period (2015)	Total
No. community groups with PES agreements (where applicable) as of 31 Dec 2015	62	0	62
Approximate number of households in these community groups	4,357 (c.25,270 individuals)	0	4,357 (c.25,270 individuals)
PES payments made to participants (USD)	\$14,408.00	\$20,065.00	\$34,473.00
Investment in forest conservation & management	\$31,429.00	\$12,284.59	\$43,716.59
Total community benefits dispersed ¹			\$78,186.59
Total sum held in trust as of 31 Dec 2015 (USD)			\$93,014.41
Allocation to Plan Vivo buffer account (tCO ₂)	12,136	4,965	17,101
Saleable emissions reductions achieved (tCO ₂)	48,545	19,859	68,404
Unsold Stock at time of submission (PVC)			
Vintage 2012			9,028
Vintage 2014			2,839
Vintage 2015 (current request)			19,859
Total Unsold Stock (PVC)			31,726
Plan Vivo Certificates (PVCs) issued to date			48,545
Plan Vivo Certificates requested for issuance (2015 Vintage)			19,859
Total PVCs issued (incl. 2015 Vintage)			68,404

In 2015, the project mobilized community institutions, scientific and traditional practices to reduce dry season forest fires dramatically, while restoring recent burn areas through broadcasting alder seeds prior to the onset of the rainy season. The dozens of home nurseries are generating saplings that women's groups and students are planting on over one thousand hectares of degraded forest lands enriched through the emergence of volunteer Khasi Pine and broadleaved tree species occurring in the area supported by We Forest. The return of the Khasi hill forests and sacred groves is driven by a cultural commitment to conservation, shared by many indigenous communities in Northeast India. In 2015, an increasing flow of payments for environmental services from REDD+ and Afforestation and Reforestation (ANR) activities funded 61 grants to participating villages, many of which were used to improve their water resources and livelihood activities. The Federation of ten Khasi community governments that administers the project worked closely with a diverse set of public and private partners in 2015 to mobilize social and economic activities for communities in the project area.

¹ 100% of revenues are channelled to the indigenous Khasi community, administered by the Ka Synjuk Ki Hima Arliang Wah Umiam (Mawphlang Welfare Society), after deduction of government taxes, fees and bank charges.

Part A: PROJECT UPDATES

A.1 KEY EVENTS

Various events took place in 2015 that have enhanced the understanding of the Federation in managing the project. Participation of staff, in national and governmental programmes, visits by international professionals to the project, and various training programmes have taken place during this year. The Federation (*Synjuk*) of ten indigenous Khasi governments represents the 62 participating villages and is supported by a project management team that includes village-based extension workers and youth volunteers.

A1.1 Caring Friends Meet 2015

A conference of Caring Friends was held at Matunga, Mumbai from 9-10 January 2015. This year's theme was "Helping Good NGOs Perform Better." The Project Director attended the conference as well as the NGO workshop for grant recipients 11-12 January at Matheran Maharashtra. The grant recipients shared their progress and how partnering with Caring Friends helps make their NGO better.



A1.2 Visit of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Probationary Officers

At the request of the District authority, the Synjuk hosted two batches of IAS Probationary Officers (Trainees) from the 15-18 January 2015. These officers visited the Mawphlang Sacred Grove and were informed about the community-based projects managed by the Synjuk.



A1.3 Integrated Basin Development Livelihood Promotion Programme (IBDLP) Workshop

The Technical Assistant and four Community Facilitators (CFs) attended the workshop on Integrated Basin Development and Promotion Programme (IBDLP) organised by the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority in collaboration with the Institute of Livelihood Research and Training on 22-23 January 2015. The workshop was to help NGOs develop livelihood activities for their communities by collaborating with the Enterprise Facilitation Centres in the different blocks of the State.

A1.4 Bharatiya Vigyan Sammelan & Expo 2015

The 4th Bharatiya Vigyan Sammelan & Expo on Conservation and Information Technology was held from 5-8 February 2015 in Panjim, Goa. It was attended by the Project Director, three community facilitators and one youth volunteer. The Project Director gave a presentation on the Mawphlang



Sacred Grove and on the Synjuk's role in managing the project.

A1.5 State Level Workshop

A state level workshop was organised by the Meghalaya Biodiversity Board and Forest Department of the Government of Meghalaya from 19– 20 February 2015 at Sylvan House, Shillong. The Project Director was invited to give a presentation on the Mawphlang Sacred Grove. The effort of the Synjuk to attend such workshops is to build rapport with various institutes and departments.

A1.6 MOU with ICAR

On 10 April 2015, an MOU was signed by Synjuk representatives and ICAR for licensing of Pig bristle brush production unit for which Rs 10,000 was paid by the Synjuk to share the costs of the full licensing fee of Rs. 30,000. The Synjuk will set up a unit in Mawphlang for production. The follow-up training on pig bristle-brush production is on hold, since the officer in charge is on study leave in the USA.



A1.7 80G Registration and Certificate

The Project Director and the Accountant attended a hearing in the Income Tax Office in Kolkata from 25-27 February, 2015 for registration under section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961. On 6 May, 2015, the 80G Certificate for the Synjuk was approved by the Income Tax Department (Exemption) Kolkata (*Memo No. CIT(E)/10E/299/14-15/G-0026/15-16/271-73 Dt. 06-05-2015*). With this certificate the Synjuk is able to receive donations and present it to donors of different projects.

A1.8 Renewal of Registration for Synjuk

The Synjuk has renewed its registration for the next three years 2015-2018 as it is mandatory to be renewed every three years.

A1.9 World Environment Day 2015

- a. In celebration of World Environment Day 2015, Meghalaya Basin Development Authority organised a programme for the East Khasi Hills District, inviting innovative ideas on Greening Meghalaya. The Project Director made a presentation on behalf of the Synjuk and was awarded the 2nd Prize. On 2 June 2015 a felicitation Programme was organised at St. Paul's Higher Secondary School as a curtain-raiser programme for World Environment Day 2015.
- b. On 5 June 2015, the Synjuk was invited by Umshing Presbyterian Secondary School for an awareness programme on World Environment Day. The Project Director, Technical Consultant and the Socio Economic Specialist gave a presentation on the topics: (1)

World environment Day (2) Biodiversity Conservation and Management (3)
Cleanliness and Waste Management.



A1.10 Visit of the Director of Restoration Projects, WeForest, UK

Victoria Gutierrez, Ph.D., the Director of Forest Restoration Projects for the Belgium-based NGO WeForest, visited the Synjuk from 21-28 September 2015. Since 2014, the Synjuk has had an annual contract to reforest 500 ha per year. Dr. Gutierrez visited the ANR blocks for forest restoration and other activities within the project area. Different meetings were held with the Team members, the Community Facilitators and the Self-Help Groups. Strengthening and improving the activities of the Synjuk to grow and plant nursery seedling were discussed.

A1.11 Synjuk promotes Village Livelihoods

On 21 September 2015 a programme was held for the Distribution of 20 Kroiler Chickens to 10 selected SHGs from different villages in the project area. The Synjuk supports livelihoods that improve income, reduce forest pressure and reduce the time spent on tending animals. In forest conservation, this approach of exchanging roaming cattle for stall-fed animals is one of the best strategies to tackle degradation. The ten SHGs which received the chickens signed an agreement to restrict cattle from grazing in the forests. On 23 September fish fry were released at Tyrsad Umkseh.





A1.12 Tambourine Trust Fund

The Synjuk was able to identify the sites for conservation of in-situ medicinal plants in all 10 participating Hima and to setup nurseries in the backyard of five herbal practitioners. The GPS coordinates have been taken in the sites where the medicinal plants are growing in their habitat.

A1.13 Sport Activities

This year the Synjuk was able to allocate Rs. 50,000 for sports activities to create harmony and raise environmental awareness between the villages under the project. On 22 September, 2015 *Ka Synjuk latreilang* the joint committee of 4 villages under Hima Lyngiong organised the programme for all four villages at Lyngdoh Phanblang in which an amount of Rs. 15,000 was allocated for prizes. On 31 December 2015 Rs. 30,000 was given to TASA for the tournament of 20 villages under 2nd and 1st division. The remaining Rs. 5,000 will be spent next year.



A1.14 REDD+ Project Awareness

REDD+ Awareness programmes were conducted from 24-26 December 2105 at Mawbeh and Laitkroh Himas, as most forest fires occur in these areas. The awareness programme in the other villages will be completed by March 2016.



A1.15 Appointment of Assistant Community Facilitators

Due to the continued development and expansion of activities, Community Facilitators (CFs) are overburdened with the activities of the Project. It was decided during the Synjuk Meeting held on 11 December 2015 that the Hima that have two clusters will be assigned one assistant CF. In addition to the 9 CFs, 2 STCF, there are now 6 Assistant CFs, 2 in Hima Sohra, 2 in Hima Lyngiong, 1 each in Hima Mawphlang and Hima Mawbeh.

A1.16 New Synjuk Advisory and Technical Committees

During 2015, newly appointed Advisory and Technical Committees were revised to strengthen the project according to the terms and conditions of the Project Design Document (PDD) and the REDD+ Technical Specification (Tech Spec).

Advisory Committee

1. Dr. Kathryn Smith-Hanssen, former Administrative Director CFI, California, USA
2. Shri. Barkos Warjri, (IAS) Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya
3. Miss. Shaika Rakshi, ICCO India
4. Dr. Rocky Pebam, Scientist, NESAC
5. Mr. Banteilut Nongbri, Chairman, Rilum Foundation for Sustainable

Technical Committee

1. Dr. Mark Poffenberger, former Executive Director CFI, California, USA
2. Dr. Subhash Ashutosh, (IFS) Additional PCCF, (CCR&T), Shillong
3. Dr. Sanggai Leima, (Phd) Assistant Professor, SIRD, Shillong
4. Dr. S.V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR, Umiam Shillong
5. Mr. P. S. Nongbri, (IFS), CF, Shillong
6. Mr. Tambor Lyngdoh, CCF. KSKHAWUMWS, Mawphlang

A.2 SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

A2.1 Sales of REDD+ certificates

The project had strong sales of Plan Vivo certificates in 2015 generating additional funds for both forest conservation activities as well as community development initiatives.

A2.2 Expansion of Community Development Grant Program

During the second year of the Community Development Grant program, the funding level per village grant was increased from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 allow communities to take on larger projects.

A2.3 Fire Control

Fire control activities have been very effective with very little damage during the 2015 dry season. This resulted from an expansion of fire lines, greater community awareness, and a relatively wetter dry season.

A2.4 Increased Capacity of Project Management Team

The capacity of the management team has grown in 2015 through training programs and increasing experience with project implementation. Community capacity is also grown as members learn more about the project and how they can participate and benefit.

A2.5 FCRA clearance

The Synjuk has faced difficulties, as have many Indian NGOs, in securing authorization under the Foreign Contributions Regulations Act (FCRA). The Synjuk is now exploring establishing a trust fund to allow it to receive revenues from carbon sales abroad. While these funds would be subject to a 14.5% tax, it would allow the Synjuk to receive foreign funds at the time of sale.

A2.6 Staff Turnover

The project continues to experience a high staff turnover among young persons that are seeking better paying jobs in government. Government is seen as providing greater benefits and long-term security. The project continues to recruit local Khasi youth and fortunately has a large pool to draw on. The project views turnover as a problem, but it also recognizes that it is providing young professionals with valuable training in an innovative community-oriented resource management strategy.

A.3. PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS

A3.1 Proposed Project Expansion

The Synjuk continues to respond to requests by neighbouring *hima* to expand the area under the Plan Vivo initiative in 2016. The expansion was requested by the indigenous government (Hima) bordering the current project area and will be considered later this year.

A3.2 Legal Status

In 2015, no changes were made in the legal status of the Federation. However, in May 2015, the Synjuk received 80G approval from the Government of India allowing it to receive contributions and funds for projects from Indian organizations and individuals as a tax exempt organization. This does not apply to funds from foreign sources.

A3.3 Document Updates

Carbon Benefits: In the fall of 2015, the project worked with Plan Vivo staff to update the technical specifications for the project. This involved recalculating the projected annual carbon benefit, taking into account the actual timing of ANR activities on the ground and ensuring leakage was factored in. In addition, some revisions were made to enhance the monitoring framework (see Table A1 below).

Table A1: Document updates

Document version: Technical Specifications		
Section	Approval date	Short description of update
Carbon Benefits	September 2015	The monitoring framework was adjusted to reflect key indicators related to project impacts including annual forest fire area, length of fire lines constructed, area under ANR, and type and amount of community development grants

A3.4 Corrective Action Progress

1. CAR 02/06 (Validation Report) – increased community consultation: An ongoing effort was made in 2015 to improve understanding among community members in the project area regarding the goals and strategies of the REDD+ initiative. Short documents summarizing the project have been translated into the Khasi language and distributed to all 62 villages. Meetings were held in villages throughout the project area to discuss forest management and the role of the project. Forest conservation and restoration goal discussions are also incorporated into project activities. CF workers have been encouraged to involve community members in discussions. The project team is also in the process of

forming an Extension Board comprised of women, SHG representatives and youth to gain a better understanding of their priorities and to inform them about the project.

2. Strengthen monitoring indicator data collection and reporting: In 2015, a Technical Committee for the project was established to assist with monitoring data. It is comprised of a variety of experts in the field (see Table A2 below).

PART B: PROJECT ACTIVITIES

B 1. PROJECT ACTIVITIES GENERATING PLAN VIVO CERTIFICATES (PVC)

The activities that generate Plan Vivo certificates are all designed to mitigate important drivers of deforestation and degradation present in the Khasi Hills. Project activities and monitoring data focus on controlling key drivers of deforestation and degradation including: 1) reforestation and enrichment planting, 2) forest fire control, 3) reducing fuel wood consumption, 4) closing forest areas to grazing, 5) transforming the household charcoal industry, 6) controlling quarrying and mining, 7) thinning of ANR forest plots, and 8) tree inventory.

B1.1 Reforestation and Enrichment Planting

The technical specifications include avoided deforestation in the dense forest area and assisted natural regeneration (ANR) in the open forest zones. In 2015, the Federation increased its reforestation and enrichment planting in the open forest zone. 500 hectares of degraded land, which involves assisted natural regeneration and enrichment planting bringing the total ANR area to 1,000.65 ha (see Table B1).

Table B1: Area Protected for Natural Regeneration and Enrichment Planting 2014 and 2015

Hima/LWC - Name	ANR Area added in 2014 (ha)	ANR Area added in 2015(ha)	Total Protected ANR Area (ha)	Number of Nurseries operating 2014	Number of Nurseries operating 2015	Number of nursery saplings planted in ANR area 2015
Mawphlang	23.73	85.85	109.58	5	6	200
Laitkroh	6.8	40.7	47.5	4	4	200
Nonglwai	8.07	Nil	8.07	4	5	-
Lyngiong	11.49	270.8	282.29	6	18	200
Myllem	94.68	12.4	107.08	4	5	238
Pamsanngut	118.34	21	139.34	4	7	200
Nongkhlaw	Nil	19.50	19.50	3	6	Nil
Nongspung	9.09	3.9	12.99	4	6	266
Sohra	128.4	15.6	144	5	13	200
Mawbeh	99.90	30.4	130.3	4	7	200
TOTAL	500.50	500.15	1,000.65	43	77	1,466

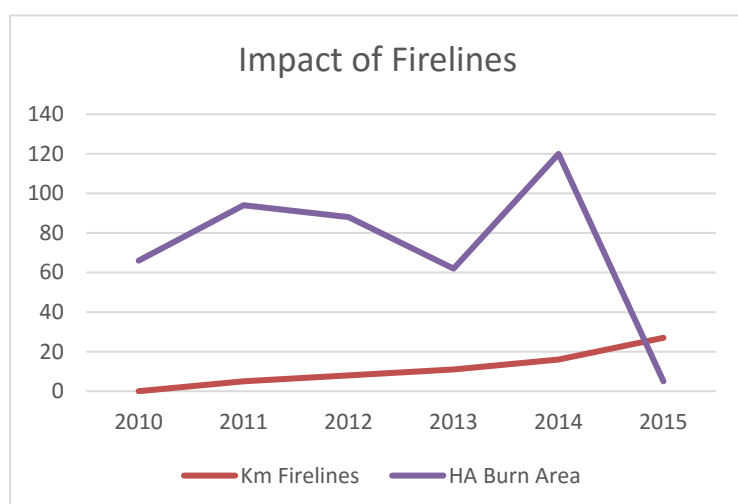
B1.2 Forest Fire Control

Community response capacity has been improving each year with the re-vitalization of the Khasi tradition of community clearing fire lines. In 2015, over 27 kilometers of fire lines were cleared, an increase from the almost 16 kilometers in 2014. During the 2015 dry season (January to May), virtually no forest was damaged due to fire. Prior to the initiation of the project, 50-100 hectares would burn each year, with 2014 proving to have an

extended dry season causing a severe fire. It is clear that this strategy is working and is proving to be an important adaptive strategy to climate change in the region (see Table B2).

Table B2: Forest fire impact and fire lines cleared

Hima/LWC - Name	Amount of Forest Burned (ha) 2014	Amount of Forest Burned (ha) 2015	Length of Fire Line Cleared (Km) 2014	Length of Fire Line Cleared (Km) 2015
Mawphlang	9.1	0.4	Nil	Nil
Laitkroh	1.9	4	Nil	Nil
Nonglwai	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lyngiong	1.9	Nil	5.6	1.8
Mylliem	Nil	0.8	2	1.5
Pamsangut	Nil	Nil	2	3
Nongkhlaw	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nongspung	Nil	Nil	5	7
Sohra	Nil	Nil	3	14
Mawbeh	107	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	119.9	5.2	17.6	27.3



B1.3 Reducing Fuelwood Consumption

Project households are heavily dependent on fuel wood collection, while wealthier families purchase fuel wood for heating and cooking. Very few households have shifted to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) or kerosene due to cost and distribution problems. Families typically use 15- 20 kg per day with heavier use during the cold winter months. In areas like the

Khasi Hills, where fuel wood consumption has outstripped forest growth, the process of forest degradation accelerates as demands increase from an expanding population. Cutting of green wood has resulted in biomass loss and undermined natural growth of forests and has been a major driver of forest degradation. In response, the Federation has instituted a range of activities to address the problem: subsidizing fuel efficient stoves and reducing the cooking of pig fodder.

After testing a variety of fuel efficient stoves, the Federation began promoting a model that can be constructed on site with locally available cement, rebar, and metal pipe. The stoves cost approximately US\$20 to build by local youth trained by the Federation. In the past the Federation has paid for all costs related to the stoves, though they may ask the homeowner to pay Rs. 200, or approximately 10% of the costs as a contribution for the material. In 2015, the Federation installed 20 stoves.

B1.4 Reducing Pressure on the Forest Areas from Grazing

The project continues to increase small grants to participating communities to transition from grazing animals to stall-fed. In 2015, the project made grants in the amount of Rs. 68,500 (\$1,008.00) for the establishment of new piggeries, goateries, and poultry raising.

B1.5 Transforming the Household Charcoal Industry

The project is helping poor households transition from forest-based, charcoal-making through the provision of charcoal briquette-making machines that can utilize agricultural waste. This strategy will reduce forest loss and raise incomes. In 2015, 20 charcoal briquette-making machines were supplied to the interested families in the urbanized communities in the project area that are known as “Special Package Villages” under the ‘Special Task’ Community Facilitators (CF). The urbanized villages lack community forests, so the project focuses on reducing their wood fuel energy consumption. To achieve this goal, each special package village will receive 5 charcoal briquette moulding machines, to produce briquettes for household consumption and for the market. The price for each briquette moulding machine is Rs. 1,100 (\$19.00). This activity was financed through Plan Vivo Certificate sales.

B1.6 Controlling quarrying and mining

The Synjuk has agreed to limit the expansion of quarries and mines in the project area. Those areas under current lease are being monitored and the lease holders are being advised regarding mitigation actions to reduce their impact on erosion and water contamination. When leases expire, the Hima have agreed not to extend existing leases when possible. In 2015, there was no increase in area under quarry or mining leases in the project area. The closure of small quarries and mines by the State government has resulted in the displacement of several hundred village members engaged in this sector. Some of them have shifted to charcoal production destroying trees in project area forests. The Synjuk is working with those families to find alternative livelihood activities.

B1.7 Thinning of Assisted Natural Regeneration Forest Plots

To assist the growth and development of regenerated seedlings and to prevent the seedlings from damage that may be caused when forest fire occurs, thinning of all the We Forest plots was done during the month of March and October at the rate of Rs. 250 per plot. The regenerated saplings growing very close to each other (< 1m) were thinned to maintain adequate space for the saplings to develop.



B1.8 Inventories of tree species present in the ANR Block and Plot

An inventory of tree species found in the ANR area was prepared by the Community Facilitators independently in their respective Hima. This gives a better understanding of the diverse plants species found in these areas (see Table B3).

Table B3: List of tree species found in the ANR areas

No	Vernacular Name	Scientific Name
1	Diengjing	<i>Lithocarpus fenestrata</i>
2	Dienglalieh	<i>Ilex khasiana</i>
3	Dienglasaw	<i>Corot hichanu</i>
4	Dienglatiew saw	<i>Rhododendron sp</i>
5	Dienglaty ndop	<i>Cinnamomum pauciflorum</i>
6	Dienglba	<i>Engelhardtiaspicata</i>
7	Diengpainkhar	<i>Erythroxylum kunthianum</i>
8	Diengpei	<i>Symplocos sp</i>
9	Diengshyeng	
10	Diengsiasia	<i>Cinnamomum bejolkotha</i>
11	DiengSnig	<i>Castanopsis indica</i>
12	Diengsohliya	<i>Myrica sp.</i>
13	Diengsohpaia	<i>Lingustrum lucidum</i>
14	Diengsynrangtuli	
15	Diengsyrted	<i>Artocarpus lacucha</i>
16	DiengTiew saw	<i>Rhododendron arboreum</i>
17	Diengtyr nem	<i>Camellia kesiwall</i>
18	Diengdoh	<i>Exbucklandia populnea</i>
19	Diengdpei	<i>Symplocos sp</i>
20	Diengkse	<i>Pinus kesiya</i>
21	Diengliengiong	<i>Alnus nepalensis</i>
22	Dienglieng	<i>Betula alnoides</i>
23	Diengngan	<i>Schima khasiana</i>
24	Diengri	<i>Quercus sp.</i>
25	Diengsai	<i>Quercus fenestrata</i>
26	Diengsohkhwangiong	

27	Diengstap	<i>Castanopsis hystrix</i>
28	Diengwah	<i>Quercus griffithii</i>
29	Jahynlaw	<i>Viburnum coryfolium</i>
30	Langlaw	<i>Viburnum cylindricum</i>
31	LanglawShrieh	<i>Viburnum sp.</i>
32	Latith	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i>
33	Sohma	<i>Rhus semialata</i>
34	Sameh	<i>Ficus neriifolia</i> / <i>Ficus clabata</i>
35	Shatmoid	<i>Wenlandiawallichii</i>
36	Sohdkhlaw	
37	Sohkhwang	
38	Sohot	<i>Castanopsis indica</i>
39	Sohphie	<i>Myrica esculenta</i>
40	Sohphoh Khasi	<i>Docynia indica</i>
41	Sohryngkham	<i>Vaccinium griffithianum</i>
42	Sohshur	<i>Pyrus persia</i>
43	Sohlynthrung	
44	Sohslieng	
45	Tluh	<i>Dapnesp</i>
46	Tyrthia	<i>Cinnamomum glaucescens</i>

B2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN ADDITION TO THOSE GENERATING PLAN VIVO CERTIFICATES

B2.1 Community Nursery Program

The Synjuk has organized, trained and funded 77 community tree nurseries, many managed by Self-Help Groups, many of which are women-run and managed. The nursery program achieves multiple goals in raising awareness about forest conservation, providing materials for enrichment planting in forest restoration areas and woodlots, and generates income for participating families. The home-based nurseries are monitored very closely by the CFs and Youth Volunteers. Endemic tree species are grown to be used for various forest related activities. The annual



monitoring is done during the month of September - October with the help of the Technical Team. In 2015, the Synjuk has set up, trained and funded 77 community tree nurseries, many managed by Self Help Groups. Many people have shown interest in the implementation of home based nurseries and the Synjuk hopes to increase the number of home based nurseries for the forthcoming year. The nursery program is co-funded by WeForest and sales from carbon certificates.

B2.2 Community REDD+ Project Awareness Building on Forest Conservation

Project staff organized 8 meetings across the 18 micro-watersheds to meet with community members and leaders and extend information on the REDD project. Attention was also given to identifying areas for forest restoration (ANR), planning fire line establishment, and understanding community resource problems and priorities.



B2.3 Increased Staff Capacity

The Synjuk capacity to mobilize community forest protection and restoration increased in 2015 as the young project staff gained field experience. In 2015, the Synjuk increased staff recruitment efforts from project villages to build local capacity and retain staff longer. Project awareness is increasing among participating communities and forest protection is improving as witnessed by increasing biomass levels from all forest inventory plots. While forest fire remains a problem, community action to address this driver of deforestation is evident in the construction of 27.3 km of fire lines.

B2.4 Improved Livelihoods

In 2015, 2 meetings for women's micro-finance groups (SHGs) were organized by the Synjuk: 1) the Tyrsad meeting was held on 12th November 2015 at Tyrsad Community Hall where 21 SHGs from 12 villages participated and 2) the Laitkroh meeting was held on 13th November 2015 at Laitkroh Community Hall in which 15 SHGs from 10 villages participated. The objective of both these programmes was mainly to bring together all the SHGs promoted/adopted by the Synjuk and to learn about their works and progress, the challenges met and to suggest ways and means to tackle the problems. Key points covered in the SHG group meeting:

- Bank loan procedures
- Options in income generating activities from farming to production to value addition

- Accountability and transparency
- Independent pursuit of goals without expectation of help
- Global warming as it relates to pollution, water and the environment, and methods in forest restoration
- How to establish, and profit, from a community nursery
- Sharing experiences between groups promoted solidarity.

The Socio-Economic Support team had successfully conducted various training in Tyrsad, Laitkroh, Synrangsohnoh and Mawphlang. Training on book keeping, maintenance of records and village registers to LWC members, federation members and SHG, the purpose of this training is to teach the members to maintain a record of the workings and accounts of the LWC for transparency and accountability. Training methods included lectures, group work, white board-base planning and project design.



While project staff and financial resources remain limited, throughout 2015 efforts have been made to build the capacity of the 60 functioning Self Help Groups operating in the project area. These include visits with the groups, training programs in bookkeeping and financial management, as well as a small grant program which supports the establishment of piggeries and other small livelihood projects (see Appendix 2).

B2.5 Tree Adoption Programme

Tree adoption programmes were held at Dympep Lower primary/Upper Primary School, Seventh Day Adventist School, Tyrsad Lower Primary School, Mawbeh Presbyterian Upper Primary School, Mawphlang Secondary School, Tyrsad Higher Secondary School, St John Vainney School and JNV School Mawphlang. The Students were given awareness about the need to conserve the forests and their contribution towards the environment.



B2.6 Medicinal plants

The activities for medicinal plant conservation have started and identification of sites for in-situ conservation of medicinal plants was completed in some of the Hima. 5 units of nurseries were constructed at 3 Himas involving 5 herbal practitioners. A list of medicinal plants located at the sites were prepared by the individual CF's. The CF's are still locating sites for medicinal plants conservation.



PART C: PLAN VIVO CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE SUBMISSION

This request for the ex-post issuance of Plan Vivo Certificate is based on estimated emission reduction from ongoing community mitigation activities.

Table C1: Statement of emissions reductions available for issuance as Plan Vivo Certificates based on activity for reporting period 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015

Vintage	Total area (ha)	Tech. Spec	tCO ₂ available from previous periods	Total tCO ₂ achieved this period	PVCs allocated to buffer account (20%)	Saleable carbon (tCO ₂)	PVCs requested for Issuance	tCO ₂ available for future issuances
2012	9,270 ha 5,947 ha	REDD+ & ANR	0	18,746	3,749	14,997	21,805	-6,808
2013	9,270 ha 5,947 ha	REDD+ & ANR	0	19,834	3,967	15,867	0	9,059
2014	9,270 ha 5,947 ha	REDD+ & ANR	9,059	22,101	4,420	17,681	26,740	0
2015	9,270 ha 5,947 ha	REDD+ & ANR	0	24,824	4,965	19,859	19,859	0
TOTAL				85,505	17,101	68,404	68,404	0

Total ex-post saleable ERR's: Net (minus 20% buffer) 68,404 tCO₂

Total ex-post buffer allocation: 17,101 tCO₂

Total ERR's achieved to date available for future issuances: 0

Table C2: Allocation of issuance request

Buyer name/ Unsold Stock	No. PVCs transacted	Registry ID (if available)	Tech Spec
Mawphlang Welfare Society	19,859	100000000002802	REDD+ & ANR
TOTAL	19,859		

PART D: SALES ACTIVITY

D1. Sales of Plan Vivo Certificates

The Federation has been making sales of its Plan Vivo certificates, primarily to buyers in Europe, relying primarily on brokers who are representing the project. Some revenues from these sales remain in the ESCROW facility provided by the Plan Vivo Foundation, due to delays in the Federation receiving Government of India approval to receive foreign funds. All sales are for ex-post certificates.

Table D1: Sales of plan vivo certificates in 2015

Date of Sale	Buyer/Broker	Unit Price (\$)	Gross Amount (\$)	Volume (tCO ₂)
03/16/2015	COTAP, USA			674
6/12/2015	Ceramica Sant'Agostino S.p.A., Italy			340
7/2/2015	C Level, UK			500
7/13/2015	Zero Mission, Sweden			251
11/4/2015	COTAP, USA			269
10/15/2015	Zero Mission, Sweden			15,000
12/10/2015	WeForest, Belgium			2,132
TOTAL				19,116

PART E: PROJECT MONITORING

Monitoring data is comprised of three main categories: 1) forest inventory, 2) mitigation activities, and 3) socio-economic activities.

E1. Forest Inventory



The project conducted the annual field-level inventories of 60 forest plots (10m x 10m) to assess changes in biomass and carbon stock levels. The measurements are conducted at the end of each calendar year. The forest plot sample includes 20 dense forest plots, 20 open forest plots, and 20 plots under Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR). The data is analyzed each year to assess changes in biomass.

Monitoring of carbon plots was done in November-December 2015. It was found that all the plots are in good condition and the trees show increase in girth. Replacement of tags was needed as they have faded, and thinning is required in some of the plots where the herbaceous community is dominated by ferns. Ferns need to be thinned out as they suppress the growth of new tree saplings and herbs.



This data indicates changes in biomass and carbon stocks in the dense forest and open forest areas. The data in Table E 1 provides a summary of forest carbon changes in each of the three categories is presented below. Detailed plot data from the forest inventory are presented in Appendix 1. A monitoring system to track changes in forest growth in the 500 ha. ANR area was completed in 2015. The co-ordinates have been given to the Synjuk's Forestry Technical Team to make the reforestation block maps. Fifteen sample plots have been identified and demarcated. The plots are thinned to assist the growth of the regenerated seedlings.

While forest inventory plots represent a relatively small sample of the larger project area, the results of the survey indicate that there has been a substantial increase in tCO₂ across all

three forest type categories. In the dense forest, between 2013 and 2015, the inventory plots showed an increase of approximately 17% of total carbon stored compared to 10% in the open forests and 50% in the actively protected and managed ANR plots. Forest inventory plot data in Appendix 1 indicate biomass increases are taking place in all 40 dense and open plots suggesting that overall trends are positive for forest recovery in the project area, as well as very rapid regeneration in the ANR plots.

Table E1: Summary of forest inventory data 2013-2015

Land use	2013 Baseline tC/ha)	2014 tC/ha	2015 tC/ha	2013 Baseline tCO2/ha	2014 tCO2/ha	2015 tCO2/ha	Change In tCO2/ha (2013-2015)
Dense forest	120	129	140	440	473	513	+16.6%
Open forest	3.47	3.75	4.11	12.7	13.8	15.09	+10.31%
ANR (open)	9.27	11.97	13.91	34	43.9	51.03	+50.08%

E2. Mitigation Activities

As mentioned above, the second type of monitoring data for the project has been the use of mitigation activity indicators that monitor impact. Table E2 reports on key activity indicators that address major drivers of deforestation in the project area.

Table E2: Mitigation impact indicators

Driver	Mitigation Activity Impact Indicators (2014)	Mitigation Activity Impact Indicators (2015)
Forest Fire	Area burned – 119.6 ha Fire lines established – 15.6 Km	Area burned – 5.2 ha Fire lines established – 27.3 Km
Fuelwood Use	20 Fuel-efficient stoves installed Cooking of pig fodder declines	12 Fuel-efficient stoves installed
Grazing and Fuelwood Collection	500.45 ha. Closed for ANR	500.15 ha. Closed for ANR
Charcoal Making	25 Briquette-making machines distributed	20 Briquette Making machines distributed
Mining and Quarrying	17.5 ha under quarries and mines – no expansion of quarry area.	17.3 ha under quarries and mines – no expansion of quarry area.

E3. Socio-Economic Indicators

The project relies on three strategies within the project area: 1) Community awareness-raising, 2) increasing staff capacity, and 3) providing small grants to micro-finance groups (SHGs) and farmers clubs. Table E3 summarises some impacts of the project in achieving the above goals.

Table E3: Socio-economic indicators

Objective	2014	2015
Community awareness-raising to increase knowledge about the REDD project	24 LWC meetings held 7 village meetings held 3 short documentary films produced	10 LWC meetings held 11 Village meetings held
Increase staff capacity to improve project management	2 new monitoring staff hired Staff participation in cross-visits and training programs	2 new monitoring staff hired
Provide small grants to increase livelihoods	60 functioning Self-Help Groups receive technical support 34 SHGs receive piggery project 1 ICCA Established for Ecotourism	63 functioning Self-Help Groups receive technical support 15 SHGs receive piglets 10 SHGs receive poultry

E3.1 Community Awareness-raising

Meetings conducted separately in different villages at Nongwah, Nongmadan, Mawspang, Kyrphei, Laitkroh, Umdiengpoh regarding the SHGs for monitoring the activities and also follow up the fund supported from the Synjuk. The socio-economic team help mobilise the funds for purchasing chickens and piglets to let their activities carried on. Through the fund received from the Synjuk, the project is able to increase the income generation of the SHG.

**E3.2 Increasing Staff Capacity**

As the project continues to expand its activities, it has been necessary to increase project staff capacity for monitoring. In 2015, two new staff were added to conduct cross-visits and trainings.

E3.3 Grants to support Livelihood Activities

One of the key activities of the project is reduce grazing pressure on the forest by transitioning from grazing to stall-fed animals while, at the same time, supporting new livelihood opportunities for low-income households. The project monitors 1) piggeries, 2) poultry producers, 3) Farmer's Clubs, 4) Local Working Committees (LWCs), 5) SHG tree nurseries, and 6) Village knowledge and records.

a. Monitoring the piggeries: Through numerous visits and photo documentation, the project monitors 1) the condition and materials of the shed, 2) the feeding process, and 3) health of the pigs and suggestions for deworming (see Appendix 2, Table 5).

b. Monitoring poultry producers: Through numerous visits and photo documentation, the project monitors 1) the condition and materials of the sheds and 2) health of the chickens and suggestions for a second round of vaccinations for (see Annex 2, Table 6).



c. Monitoring Farmer's Clubs: Farmers' Clubs disseminate innovative agricultural and animal husbandry practices to their members. Each Farmers' Club is comprised of 6 to 12 members who attend meetings, receive training from the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), and implement cropping trials and other innovative farming practices. The Farmers' Clubs field test best practices and communicate the results to other farmers in their communities. Through documenting meetings, community visits, and photos, the project monitors the impact of the Farmers' Clubs (see Annex 2, Table 7).



d. Monitoring LWCs: There are 18 LWCs that were formed to manage each of the micro-watersheds in the larger Umiam Sub-watershed. The LWCs are comprised of leaders and youth volunteers from each of the villages located in the area and are coordinated by a Community Facilitator (CF). The LWC develops a management plan for their micro-watershed and designs and implements restoration and conservation activities funded by the Federation. The LWC also provides training for community members and coordinates annual monitoring activities (see Annex 2, Table 8).



e. Monitoring SHGs: Each year the project monitors a sample number of SHG nurseries. The project monitors 1) maintenance of record-keeping and 2) awareness regarding forest restoration activities (see Annex 2, Table 9).



f. Monitoring Village Knowledge and Records: Each year the project monitors a sample number of villages. The project monitors 1) knowledge and awareness and 2) record-keeping through the village register (see Annex 3, Table 10).



PART F: PROJECT IMPACTS

F.1 Environmental Impacts

In 2015, the project worked with local communities to place another 500 ha of degraded forest under social fencing protection. By being better protected from grazing, fuel wood hacking, forest fires, and other biotic disturbance, these lands are experiencing accelerated regeneration with sample plot data showing a substantial increase in biomass during the year.

As a result of community actions, average annual forest fire area decreased from 82.8 ha during the 2010-2012 period, to 62.3 ha from 2013-2015. It is apparent that community efforts to control fire have been moderately successful. The extent and impact of human caused fires has been reduced to only 5 ha in 2015 after the Federation campaign to raise awareness and encourage the indigenous governments (*Hima*) to update and implement their forest regulations including fires. The federation is working on a strategy to better control in Mawbeh Hima, an area that faces the most difficulties with forest fire control due to its low population and remote location.

Twelve fuel efficient stoves were installed in 2015 as a pilot effort. Each stove reduces emissions by 30% to 50% and improves air quality in the home. The awareness campaign to reduce the incident of pig fodder cooking is changing behaviour throughout the project area as women abandon this unnecessary practice. Each of the 34 piggery grantees was advised not to cook pig food and inform their neighbours.

In 2014, as a result of the project, there was no expansion in the 17.3 ha area under quarries and mines in the project. The project will continue to work with the 10 hima governments to foreclose mine leases when they expire and not lease any new areas on community lands.

F.2 Socio-Economic Impacts

On 18 December 2015 the Synjuk completed an evaluation of the works of the SHGs and encouraged them to seek assistance from other organizations. Many state and national programs are operating in the area and the project team seeks to connect the SHGs with these programs.

The project is carrying out a number of activities to reward communities for participating in the REDD project and to build their livelihoods. In 2015, the project implemented the second round of block grants for each of the 62 participating villages. Each village was sent a letter by the CF, asking them to identify a community development activity plan that they wanted to undertake. Once approved, each village was provided with Rs. 20,000 (US\$300) to carry-out their project, an increase from Rs. 15,000 (US\$250) that was distributed in 2014. Sixty-seven percent of villages (41 out of 62) decided to use their funds to improve water resources including protecting and improving springs and drinking water sources, creating washing facilities, installing water tanks, and ponds (see Table F1).

Table F1: Village development projects by type 2014 and 2015

Type of Project	Number of Projects 2014-2015	Number of Projects 2015-2016
WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT		
Construction of Drinking Water well	24	18
Construction of Pond	8	4
Canal cover	1	0
Water Tank	0	6
Washing Place	0	14
FOREST MANAGEMENT		
Cleaning and weeding	8	0
Fire Lines	2	0
Fencing	1	0
Tree Plantation	2	0
Soil and Water Conservation	1	0
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES		
Waste Management bins	1	1
Community toilet	1	1
Furniture community / Hima hall	6	6
Trail side Resting place	1	0
Repairing of Foot Bridge	0	1
P.A. System	0	1
Construction of Children's Park	0	1
Footpath	0	1
Crockery item for Hiring	0	3
Public Bath	0	1
Making of Signboards	0	1
Bus Shed	0	1
Check Dam	0	1
Repairing of football ground	0	1
TOTAL	56	62

The village grant program was very successful in distributing benefits from the carbon sales to community groups. Each village prepared a grant proposal falling into three categories including water resource development, forest management, and community activities. Fifty-one village proposals were funded in 2014 at Rs. 15,000 (\$250) each for a total of \$12,750. Twenty-four villages provided local contributions totalling Rs. 100,210 (\$1,670). Nearly 65% of the villages opted for water resource development grants, primarily for wells and ponds, followed by 14 village forest management grants. Monitoring results indicate that the impact of the grants was positive in improving water access and security. Community emphasis on improving water quality and availability will make this strategy a priority for the project in the future.

In addition to the small grants program, the Synjuk coordinated with government agencies to provide agricultural support to project communities. For example, on 23rd June 2015, the Synjuk along with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) distributed 205 peach saplings to 18 individual members at Mawphlang.

Peach tree saplings were distributed to community members



PART G: ONGOING PARTICIPATION

An outstanding achievement of the project to date has been the project team's ability to mobilize the broad-based participation of indigenous leaders, women's groups, farmer's clubs and youth volunteers. The project team meets at least weekly, with special meetings for SHGs, Youth clubs, school children and other target groups. There are dozens of meetings that occur with various groups throughout the year, but of special importance are 1) general meeting of the Federation (Synjuk) that happen quarterly and 2) monthly meeting of the Community Facilitators (CFs). (see Annex 3).

G1. Synjuk Meetings

In 2015, three Synjuk Meetings were held on 10 March, 27 June and 11 December. The members of the Synjuk were briefed about the reports on the activities of the project and the progress of the project.



G2. Team Meeting and CFs Meetings

Team Meetings and the CFs meeting are held regularly. During this year, there were times when team meetings were held twice a month due to needs of project activities.



PART H: PROJECT OPERATING COSTS

In 2015, one quarter of the budget was allocated for the forest conservation extension program under the REDD+ and ANR components. In addition, 11 percent was allocated for awareness-raising projects including the school tree adoption activity and community meetings. Twenty-one percent of expenditures were allocated to support the project management team, project administration and supplies. Finally, 31 percent was allocated to direct benefit-sharing through the small livelihood grant program and the community development grant program. There was a 25% increase from 2014 (see Table H1 below).

Table H1. Project expenses 2015

Category	Amount in Rupees	Amount in US \$	Amount in Rupees	Amount in US \$
	2014	2014	2015	2015
MANAGEMENT COSTS				
Project Management Team	369,000	6,150	238,000	3,499
Administration	162,718	2,712	182,443	2683
Adjustment for bank charges		10	309	4
Sub-total	531,718	8,862	420,752	6186
FOREST CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES				
Equipment and Supplies	32,626	544	67,899	998
Forest Conservation Extension Program	732,000	12,200	85,676	1260
Plot Monitoring	43,856	731	128,120	1884
Forest Assisted Natural Regeneration	243,000	4,050	126,009	1853
Awareness Raising	302,504	5,042	7,000	103
Sub-total	1,353,986	22,567	414,704	6098
PES MADE TO COMMUNITIES				
Small Livelihood Grants	99,500	1,658	144,432	2,124
Village Development Grants	765,000	12,750	1,221,988	17,941
Sub-total	864,500	14,408	1,364,420	20,065
Total	2,750,204	45,837	2,199,732	32,349

ANNEX 1: MONITORING RESULTS FOR ISSUANCE REQUEST

Table 1: Forest plot inventory data 2012-2015 (tC/ha)

Open Forest Monitoring Plots					Dense Forest Monitoring Plots				
Plot No.	2012	2013	2014	2015	Plot No.	2012	2013	2014	2015
3	3.158	3.415	4.538	4.831	1	112	120	127	137
6	2.828	2.847	2.893	2.902	2	77	99	126	141
7	2.008	3.025	3.039	3.044	4	128	130	136	144
8	2.827	2.828	2.843	4.160	5	178	208	228	251
12	3.556	3.611	3.825	4.008	9	153	160	185	195
13	2.985	2.993	3.081	3.153	10	48	49	53	58
15	3.585	3.746	4.183	4.458	11	60	63	67	74
16	6.068	6.630	7.874	9.390	14	142	145	162	178
17	5.075	5.103	6.745	7.115	21	92	96	98	110
18	3.119	3.147	3.256	3.376	22	120	128	137	154
19	3.237	3.340	3.402	3.713	24	110	129	140	151
20	2.866	2.874	2.898	2.943	25	24	25	30	32
23	2.896	2.908	2.919	2.956	28	98	99	102	108
26	3.45	3.453	3.729	3.856	29	63	68	70	75
27	3.348	3.512	3.526	3.619	30	203	207	213	233
31	3.029	3.037	3.041	3.103	33	93	101	109	116
32	3.046	3.109	3.113	3.217	34	101	107	111	119
36	3.221	3.279	3.390	3.565	35	75	81	89	98
39	3.584	3.634	3.789	3.899	37	267	272	278	293
40	2.9	2.926	2.959	3.000	38	114	116	119	130
TOTAL	68.786	69.417	75.04	80.31	TOTAL	2258	2403	2580	2797
Average	3.389	3.47	3.752	4.114	Average	113	120	129	140
SD	0.8	0.90	1.31	1.98	SD	56.3	58.23	60.88	65.25

Table 2: ANR forest plot inventory data 2013-2015 (tC/ha)

Plot No.	ANR 2013	ANR 2014	ANR 2015
1 (41)	14.83	15.5	17.8
5 (42)	2.99	4.19	5.15
7 (43)	7.26	9.52	11.44
8 (44)	0.51	0.84	0.97
10 (45)	13.08	15.67	17.72
11 (46)	19.69	25.88	28.89
12 (47)	1.85	5.67	7.01
13 (48)	13.88	19.75	22.13
14(49)	10.32	11.1	12.81
15 (50)	12.53	14.67	16.6
20 (53)	5.02	8.88	12.46
TOTAL (tC)	101.96	131.67	152.98
Average (tC)	9.27	11.97	13.91
SD	7.63	7.27	7.94

Table 3a: ANR reforestation plot locations for 2014-2015

HIMA	Village	Group	Longitude	Latitude	Area (ha.)
Mawphlang	Umtyrniut & Mawmyrsiang	Pratniuhlieh	91:44:10.32 E	25:27:24.84 N	17.30
	Laitmawpen	Laitmawpen	91:41:15.36 E	25:26:11.76 N	6.73
Lyngiong	Mawpongkhong	Mawpongkhong	91:43:29.64 E	25:25:50.16 N	1.93
	Phanniewlahneng	Phanniewlahneng	91:42:13.68 E	25:25:00.48 N	9.56
Nonglwai	Nonglwai	Kyngdong-wah-um-ar-kum	91:43:27.84 E	25:25:07.68 N	8.07
Mylliem	Mawlum Tyrsad	Khylllem & Phodlawkhla	91:40:40.20 E	25:25:14.20 N	89.50
	Mawlum Tyrsad	Phudumblang	91:39:31.20 E	25:23:33.00 N	5.18
Nongspung	Mawrohroh	Mawpalong	91:37:45.12 E	25:23:10.32 N	3.17
	Mawrohroh	Lumlaitmawkhar	91:38:11.76 E	25:24:09.00 N	5.92
Pamsangngut	Pamsangngut	Phodsohsat	91:39:28.44 E	25:24:19.80 N	2.22
	Pamsangngut	Ranab Mawblei	91:39:22.68 E	25:24:17.28 N	5.12
	Nongwah CF	Nongwah CF	91:39:29.20 E	25:25:15.10 N	111.00
Laitkroh	Mawmyrsiang	Lumdiengsai	91:45:58.32 E	25:25:53.76 N	6.80
Mawbeh	Mawkalang	Lumhati	91:44:16.30 E	25:23:44.60 N	51.32
	Laitthemlangсах	Laitthemlangсах	91:45:48.60 E	25:23:46.32 N	6.73
	Steplakrai	Lummawshieng	91:45:05.70 E	25:25:14.40 N	41.50
Sohra	Mawstep	Kseh u Kien	91:44:29.04 E	25:22:23.16 N	7.70
	Dympep	Syllai u Bir	91:46:30.36 E	25:24:40.32 N	11.50
	Laitlyndop	Phud Umjaud	91:41:23.30 E	25:19:37.70 N	7.90
	Laitlyndop	Liewlong	91:41:28.20 E	25:19:44.80 N	2.90
	Jathang	Kharai Lum Pyllun	91:43:44.80 E	25:21:55.70 N	11.90
	Laitsohpiah	Rngi Lummawlieh	91:45:17.70 E	25:22:59.30 N	20.50
	Mawkma	Mawkma	91:42:29.10 E	25:19:22.90 N	66.00
TOTAL					500.45

Table 3b: ANR reforestation plot Locations for 2015-2016

Hima	ANR Area	Longitude	Latitude	Area
Laitkroh	Lumrawiah	91:47:40.4 E	25:27:38.2N	10 ha
	Laithynru	91:46:0.52 E	25:26:16.41 N	30.7 ha
Lyngiong	Kyndonglaitmawbah	91:42:31.7 E	25:26:49.4 N	3 ha
	Umsawmat	91:41:32.6 E	25:24:3.1 N	22 ha
	Laitmawhing	91:41:40.6 E	25:26:34.7N	10.3 ha
	Makan	91:40:0:56 E	25:21:43.6 N	103 ha
	Lumdidum	91:40:31.7 E	25:22:45.5N	108.4 ha
	Umkaber	91:42:20.16 E	25:24:36.62 N	24.1 ha
Mylliem	Mawlynrain	91:39:15.5 E	25:22:32.6N	12.4 ha
Mawphlang	Lumlaitsohphoh	91:44:2.99 E	25:26:44.90 N	55.75 ha
	Kyiem	91:44:5.57 E	25:25:36.04 N	30.1 ha
Nongkhlaw	Sohrarim	91:44:30.4 E	25:21:3.7 N	19.5 ha
Sohra	Lumriatsawlia	91:43:44.4 E	25:21:39.99 N	1.3 ha
	Lumsohsyrted	91:44:15.9 E	25:22:21.29 N	3.9 ha
	Lumpomlum	91:46:39.9 E	25:24:31.0 N	5 ha
	Mawmihthied	91:43:28.6 E	25:20:32.6 N	5.4 ha
Mawbeh	Lumphari	91:46:31.9 E	25:25:16.4N	10.5 ha
	Wakstew Das Roy (PL)	91:46:6.5 E	25:25:9.2 N	1.6 ha
	Lumwahkshaid	91:46:27.0 E	25:25:8.9 N	2.2 ha
	Laitthemlangсах	91:45:56.6 E	25:23:56.6 N	12.7 ha
	Laitthemlangсах(PL)	91:45:57.7 E	25:23:50.7N	3.4 ha
Pamsanngut	Umdewsaw	91:39:48.96 E	25:24:59.6 N	9.5 ha
	Lumdieron	91:39:17.28 E	25:24:48.2 N	11.5 ha
Nongspung	Mawkohser	91:38:13.8 E	25:24:15.27 N	3.9 ha
TOTAL				500.15

ANNEX 2: SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING RESULTS

Table 4: Small livelihood grants to self-help groups (SHGs) in 2015

Hima	SHG Name	Village	Gender Composition	Activities	Amount (Rs.)
	Latylli SHG	Dongiewrim	Female	Internal Loaning Done	200
	Sbunlang Kynter	Nongrum	Male	Piggery	200
	Hamarbabiang Lyngdoh	Nongrum	Male	Piggery	200
	Ebetsy Lyngdoh	Dongiewrim	Female	Piggery	200
	Nongsain Rangslang	Dongiewrim	Male	Piggery	200
Mawphlang	Tobinola Jyrwa	Mawkohmon	Female	Piggery	200
Lyngiong	Iatreilang SHG I	Lyngdoh Phanblang	Female	Goatery	200
	Baniarap Markylliang SHG2	Lyngdoh Phanblang	Female	Goatery	200
	Lamlynti	Wahktieh	Mix	Piggery	6,610
	Lamjingshai	Lawshlem	Mix	Piggery	6,610
Mylliem	Bankiewshaphrang SHG	Kyrrphei	Female	Local poultry	200
	Bankynshew SHG	Kyrrphei	Male	Poultry	200
	Iakyrshanlang W SHG	MawlumTyrсад	Female	Tent house	200
	Iasnokhtilang SHG1	Kyrrphei	Male	Poultry	200
	Hunlang I	Mawspang	Female	Poultry	6,610
	Hunlang II	Mawspang	Male	Poultry	6,610
	Bankynshew SHG III	Kyrrphei	Male	Poultry, Fencing Block	6,610
Pamsanngut	Treiminot	Pamsanngut	Female	Piggery	6,610
Laitkroh	Iatreilang SHG	Nongthymmai	Female	Poultry	6,610
Mawbeh	Nangkyrsoi SHG	Wahstew	Mix	Poultry	6,610
Sohra	Laweibaphyrnai SHG	Laitsohpliah	Mix	Poultry	6,610
	Iaiphyrnai SHG	Jathang	Male	Fishery	6,610
TOTAL					68,500

Table 5: Monitoring of piggeries 2015

No	Name of SHGs / farmers club	Village	Piglet Sex	Type of shed	Type of food
1	Latylli SHGs	Dongiewrim	M	Wood and tin	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables.
2	Latreilang SHG I	Lyngdoh Phanblang	F	Wood and tin	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables.
3	BaniarapMarkylliang SHG II	Lyngdoh Phanblang	F	Wood and tin	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables
4	Iakyrshanlang Women SHG	Mawlum Khongsit	M	Wood and tin	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables
5	Lasnohktilang SHG	Kyrphei	M	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables
6	Bankynshew SHG	Kyrphei	M	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
7	Ryntilang Farmers club	Nongrum	F	Wooden and tin.	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
8	Nongwah Farmers Club	Tyrsad	M	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, left over rice, pig feed, vegetables
9	Perkseah Farmers Club	Perkseah	M	Wooden and tin.	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables
10	SbunlangKynter	Dongiewrim	M	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
11	Hamarbabiang Lyngdoh	Nongrum	M	Wooden and tin.	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
12	EbetcyLyngdoh	Dongiewrim	F	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
13	NongsainRangslang	Dongiewrim	F	Wooden and tin.	Kitchen waste, left over rice, vegetables
14	TubinolaJyrwa	Mawkohmon	M	Tin and bamboo.	Kitchen waste, vegetables and pig feed
15	BankiewShaphrang SHG	Kyrphei	F	Tin and cement	Kitchen waste, pig feed, vegetables
16	Synroplang	Umtyrnuit	M	Cement shed	Vegetable pig feed
17	Lamjingshai	Lawshlem	M	Wood and tin	Kitchen waste pig feed
18	Lamlynti	Kyndong laitmawbah	F	Wood and tin	Vegetable pig feed
19	Farmers' club	Umtyrnuit	M	Cement shed	Vegetable pig feed
20	Persara	Mawliehpoh	F	Cement shed	Vegetable pig feed
21	Laitsimkhla	Mawliehpoh	M	Wood shed	Vegetable pig feed
22	Treilang	Nongwah	M	Cement shed	Vegetable pig feed
23	Kiewshaphrang	Nongmadan	M	Wood shed	Vegetable pig feed
24	Nangsan	Mawser	F	Wood shed	Vegetable pig feed
25	Treiminot	Pamsanngut	F	Wood shed	Vegetable pig feed

Table 6: Monitoring results of poultry producers 2015

#	Hima	SHG Name	Village	Gender	Remark	Received/ Purpose
1	Mawphlang	Synroplang	Umtyrniut	M/F	Agriculture and piggery	Piglet
2		Iatylli	Dongiewrim	F	Internal loaning done and piggery	Piglet
3	Lyngiong	Iatreilang I	Lyngdoh Phanblang	F	Internal Loaning, piggery	Piglet
4		Bankiewshaphrang	Lyngdoh Phanblang	F	Internal Loaning, piggery	Piglet
5		Lamjingshai	Lawshlem	M/F	Internal loaning, poultry and piggery	Poultry
6		Lamlynti	Kyndong Iaitmawbah	M/F	Internal loaning, poultry and piggery	Poultry
7	Nonglwai	Nangsan	Nonglwai	M/F	HBN and piggery	Piglet
8	Myllem	Bankiewshaphrang	Kyrrphei	F	Poultry, piggery and business.	Piglet
9		Iasnokhtilang	Kyrrphei	M	Internal loaning, piggery	Piglet
10		Bankynshew	Kyrrphei	M	Internal loaning, designing fencing block, poultry and piggery	Piglet & poultry
11		Hunlang I	Mawspang	F	Internal loaning, poultry	Poultry
12		Hunlang II	Mawspang	M	Poultry	Poultry
13		Pynroilang W	Mawlum Tyrsad	F	Business and livestock.	Fund
14		Iakyrshanlang W	Mawlum Tyrsad	F	Internal loaning, crockery set for leasing, piggery	Piglet
15	Pamsanngut	Myntoilang	Nongwah	M/F	Piggery, Poultry, Business	Fund
16		Treilang I	Nongwah	F	Piggery, poultry, agriculture	Fund
17		Lummawsiang	Nongwah	M/F	Agriculture, piggery	Fund
18		Kiewshaphrang	Nongmadan	F	Business, piggery, agriculture	Fund and piglet
19		Iatreilang	Nongmadan	F	Piggery, poultry, goater, business	Fund

20		Lurstep	Tyrsad Umkseh	F	Tea stall, production of pickles	Fund
21		Tyrsad Umkseh I	Tyrsad Umkseh	F	Livestock, agriculture	Fund
22		Treiminot	Pamsanngut	F	Agriculture, poultry and piggery	Poultry and piglet
23	Nongspung	Mawliehpoh	Laitsimkhla	F	Agriculture, HBN and piggery	Fund & Piglet
24		Persara	Mawliehpoh	F	Agriculture, HBN and piggery	Fund & Piglet
25	Laitkroh	Lamjingshai I	Mawmyrsiang	M/F	Piggery, poultry	Fund
26		Nangkiewshaphrang I	Tiewlieh Mawmyrsiang	F	Poultry, agriculture	Fund
27		lainehskhem	Laitkynsew	M/F	Internal loaning	Fund
28		Maitshaphrang	Laitkynsew	M/F	Internal loaning, molding fencing block	Fund
27	Mawbeh	Kyntiew Jingshai	Mawbeh	M/F	Business, piggery, agriculture	Fund
28		Lamjingshai I	Synrangsohnoh	F	Business, agriculture, Home base nursery	Fund
29		Nangkyrsoi	Wahstew	M/F	Agriculture, poultry	Poultry
30		labeitlang	laitthemlangsa h	M	Fish pond	Fund potential
31		latreilang	Laitsohpliah	M/F	Piggery, business, grocery	Fund potential
32		Baniaineh	Laitsohpliah	F	Poultry, agriculture	Fund
33		laiphyrnai	Jathang	M	Business, poultry	Poultry
34		Kiewshaphrang	Rngidiengsai	F	Internal loaning, fish pond	Fund potential
35		Laweibaphyrnai	Umdiengpoh	M/F	Internal loaning, poultry	Poultry
36		Senglang	Umdiengpoh	M/F	Internal loaning,	Fund potential
37		Nangiaikyntiew	Umdiengpoh	F	Internal loaning,	Fund potential
38		Nangkiewshaphrang III	Umdiengpoh	M/F	Internal loaning,	Fund potential
39		Roilang	laitsohpliah	M	Internal loaning	Fund

Table 7: Monitoring of Farmer's Clubs 2015

No	FC Name	Village	Gender	Activity
1	Ryntihlang	Nongrum	M/F	Internal loaning, piggery, home based nursery
2	Mawmyrsiang	Mawmyrsiang, laitkroh	M/F	Suggestions for forest restoration to start home-based nursery, Internal loaning, poultry, agriculture
3	Nongwah	Nongwah, Pamsnanngut	Female	Piggery
4	Perkseh	Perkseh	M/F	Piggery, agriculture

Table 8: Monitoring of LWCs 2015

No	Name of LWC	Village	No of Member	Activities and discussion	Output
1	Lyngdoh Phanblang	Perkseh	20	Conducted meeting, maintenance of meeting quarterly, improve conservation of forest	3 home based nursery, carbon plot, ANR, open forest, fireline, and tree plantation.
2	Mawlum Khongsit	Tyrsad Umkseh	23	Conducted meeting, maintenance of meeting quarterly, improve conservation of forest	2 Home based nursery, fireline, ANR, charcoal briquette.
3	Wahstew	Wahstew	16	Conducted meeting, checking the register, to utilize the fund implemented by Synjuk for village activity and improve conservation forest	2 home based nursery, tree plantation, carbon plot, we-forest plot
4	Laitmawhing	Laitmawhing	23	Formation of new LWC	Nil

Table 9: Monitoring SHGs

o	Name of SHG/FC	Village	No of units	Activities	Remarks
1	Nangsan	Mawser	1	Photo documentation	Well-maintained
2	Persara	Mawliehpoh	1	Photo documentation, weeding process	Well-maintained, species, growing up
3	laitsimkhla	Mawliehpoh	1	Photo documentation, watering process	Well-maintained, species growing up
4	Lamjingshai	Synrangsohnoh	1	Photo documentation	Well-maintained, developing growth
5	Ryntihlang Fc	Nongrum	2	Photo documentation	Well-maintained

ANNEX 3: COMMUNITY RECORD-KEEPING

Table 10: Monitoring of Village Knowledge and Record-keeping 2015

No	Hima	Village	Received
1	Mawphlang	Mawkohmon	SPL
2		Mission	SPL
3		Ladumrisain	SPL
4		Nongrum	Yes
5		Dongiewrim	Yes
6		Lyngkien Sunei	Yes
7		Mawmyrsiang	Yes
8		Wahlyngkien Ramklang	Yes
9		Kyiem	Yes
10		Umtyrnuit	Yes
11	Lyngiong	Lawshlem	Yes
12		Nongthymmai neng	Yes
13		Nonthymmai rum	Yes
14		MawpongHong	Yes
15		KyndongLaitmawbah	Yes
16		Phanniewlahneng	Yes
17		Phanniewlah rum	Yes
18		Umkaber	Yes
19		Laitmawpen	Yes
20		Laitmawhing	Yes
21		Lyngdoh Phanblang	Yes
22		Perkseh	Yes
23		Laitsohphlang	Yes
24		Umsawmat	Yes
25		Thainthynroh	SPL
26	Nonglwai	Kukon	Yes
27		Nonglwai	Yes
28	Mylliem	Mawlum khongsit	Yes
29		Kyrphei	Yes
30		Umlangmar(m)	Yes
31		Mawspang	Yes
32	Pamsanngut	Nongwah	Yes
33		Pamsanngut	Yes
34		Nongmadam	Yes
35		Tyrsad Umkseh	SPL
36	Nongspung	Mawliehpoh	Yes
37		Mawrohroh	Yes
38		Umlangmar (N)	Yes
39	Laitkroh	Mawmyrsiang	Yes
40		Laitkynsew	Yes
41		Nonthymmai	Yes
42		Mawjrang	SPL
43	Mawbeh	Mawbeh	Yes
44		Mawkalang	Yes
45		Laitsohma	Yes
46		Steplakrai	Yes
47		Synrangsohnoh	Yes
48		Wahstew	Yes
49		Laitumiong	Yes
50		Laitthemlangsa	Yes
51	Sohra	Jatahng	Yes
52		Mawstep	Yes
53		Rngidiengsai	Yes
54		Pyrda	Yes
55		Dympep	Yes
56		Laitsohpliah	Yes
57		Umdiengpoh	Yes
58		Ladmawphlang	Yes
59		Mawmihthied	Yes
60	Nongkhlaw	Sohrarim	Yes
61	Sohra	Mawkma	Yes
62		Laitlyndop	Yes

Synjuk Meeting Minutes

10 March 2015

General Meeting of the Synjuk held on the 10th March, 2015 at 10.00 am in the Office of the Synjuk in Mawphlang.

The Chairman Mr. N.K. Lyngdoh, chaired the meeting and after a formal welcome address to all members of the Synjuk, who had come for the meeting, he called upon the secretary to put forward the agenda:

Agenda as follows:

1. Last proceeding
2. Report on the Project
3. Report on FCRA & 80G
4. Financial reports (Updates)
5. Others.

N: B. Introduction of the working staff was done before the holding of the meeting: The Secretary read out the names of all staff as follows:

1. Th. Sanggai Leima (Technical Consultant),
2. Ms. Sunita Lyngdoh (Asst Technical consultant),
3. Ms Evaiahun Kharkongor (Socio Economic Specialist),
4. Ms Ridalis Kurbah (Asst Socio Economic Specialist),
5. Ms Larisa Hynniewta (Asst Socio Economic Specialist),
6. Mr. Lamphar Majaw (Accountant Federation),
7. Ms. A. Lyngdoh (Office Assistant).

Agenda 1

Last Proceeding: The secretary read out the minutes of the last proceeding which was held on the 12, December, 2014 and has been unanimously passed. Reports on the work task are as below:

LWC Bank Account: A total of 18 bank accounts have been opened up for the LWC Cluster and all the funds which has been arranged to send to the villages have been sent through these LWC accounts.

Agreement with the Villages: It's been entrusted upon the office to avail the complete numbers agreement with the villages through the CFs within the month of June 2015. For those villages within the special packages the head / Chief or the Hima representative will take the initiative that all villages have to submit before the above mention date. The Villages under special Package will be looked after by the Special task CFs.

Trust Fund: Regarding the discussion related to the Trust Fund, it has finally been decided to discontinue. The meeting resolved that the dissolution clause of the Synjuk clearly states that, the assets moveable and immovable will not be at any cost shared amongst the members, but handed over or donated to other NGOs that have the same aims and objectives. It is therefore better to register another Organization under the Synjuk with the same Aims and Objectives. The matter is entrusted to the secretary for the necessary measures so as to make this happen.

We Forest Report: The Report which has been submitted by the team has covered almost every detail regarding the Tree Plantation in the 500 ha of land in 2014-2015 and another 500 ha for the year 2015 -2016. A Report also stated that an amount of \$43,000 sent by We Forest through CFI to the Synjuk has been sent and credited to SBI bank account amounting to Rs.16,00,000/- and \$40,000 or Rs.24,00,000/- is still with CFI. These funds will be sent upon request.

Agenda 2

Report on the Project: The secretary handed the report to all the members present in the meeting and read out the same brief report on the activities of the Synjuk from 13th December, 2014 -10th March, 2015 are as follows:

1. REDD+ Project or the Carbon Project: Report submitted on the REDD+ or the Carbon offset Project has progressed to this extent is due to an all-out effort made by each and every one in the Team and active participation of all its members. It has been also mentioned in the report that the overall carbon sales of 11,000 tCO₂ with an amount of \$6 per tCO₂ and all funds have been received by the Synjuk. CFI will help to sell the remaining 8,000 tCO₂ (\$6 per ton) for this year (from the last issuance). It has been decided that this money shall also be spent in the making of Smokeless Chula and in the making of Charcoal Briquettes and for office administration. The Team have arranged for the making of Chulas (training and trial basis) and the Charcoal Briquettes at the following price ranges: Smokeless Chula Rs .1250/- each and for Charcoal Briquette Rs. 1150/-each.

Carbon Plots: The report submitted to date states that till now there are 60 Carbon Monitoring Plots and of these 20 are from Dense Forest Plot and 40 are from Open Forest. It has come to our notice that there are some plots that have been disturbed, so it has been requested to the Chief, Local Headmen and the CFs, Youth Volunteer, to tackle this problem and enhance protection against the disturbance plots faced for monitoring purposes.

2. We Forest Project: Regarding this part of the project, the Secretary has announced that \$20,000 has been received from WeForest in relation to the monitoring of 1 lakh nos. of trees in an area of 120 ha. CFI informed that We Forest has promised to provide funding for 1 million trees over a period of 3 years, which will start soon in April. A 1200 ha ANR plot has been identified for this.

We Forest funding has been used for the following purposes: 1. plantation/preserving of trees in 15 parcels of land across the 10 Hima; 2. Setting up of 43 tree nurseries (Home Based Nursery); 3. Financial help to 2 Kiosks in Mawphlang and Ladmawphlang; 4. Four awareness programmes for schools; 5. Tree adoption programme, which has enrolled 160 students for tree plantation in the coming June.

Agenda 3:

Report on the FCRA & 80G: Regarding FCRA & 80G the secretary and the accountant has shared that all the necessary documents needed for FCRA has been sent on the 7th February, 2015 and a Cristy NGO Consultant is being authorize to help the Synjuk in Delhi.

Concerning the 80G application, the office has sent all necessary documents requested by the authorities concerned on 26 February, 2015. As found out by this department there are still some further important legal documents which need to be arranged and submitted to the Income Tax Officer (exemption) Kolkata office in the month of May.

Important documents that need to be arranged are: 1) Certified True Copy of Memorandum signed by the registrar, 2) 12AA original copy, 3) ID proof of all the Synjuk members, 4) Printed photos of various activities, 5) Specific details about the donation received, 6) Name and personal details of staff members, 7) Accounts, voucher and expenses of the present year 2014-2015.

Mr. Kodin Nongrum: From his very side he encouraged the Synjuk to go ahead with anything by making themselves available anywhere that might be needed their presence for pursuance on various needs of the Synjuk to qualify themselves with all the technical aspects needed from the Indian Government. He also hopes that we should move ahead to reap the fruit of success. (And this has been entrusted by the secretary to arrange for all the necessary arrangements)

Agenda 4

Financial Account Report (updates): On the Financial report given by the Accountant he was able to explain in detail the receipts and expenditure from the 24 May, 2014 to 10th March, 2015. (Appendix 1) The Synjuk meeting approved the report. It was also decided that a copy of each be sent to all representative Hima.

Agenda 5

Others:

1) **Biodiversity Conservation Project:** Representatives from the KFW and from the Meghalaya State Biodiversity board came to meet the Secretary/ Project Director to discuss the funding from KFW through the state Biodiversity Board to the Synjuk on the Biodiversity Conservation through the Sacred Groves. After the brief explanation made by the Secretary,

the Synjuk has accepted the proposal to take up this project and doing so will help the Synjuk to received funding from its own country while waiting for FCRA. All the necessary arrangements have been entrusted to the Secretary and the Team.

It's been decided that, initially 10 Hima will be taken up as samples for the East Khasi Hill District. Members are requested to collect the names of the Sacred Groves, Villages who are rightful owners protecting them. For the estimation on the size of the plot will also be made available. The meeting also discussed these:

Sacred groves: It is a sanctified forest area, which in Khasi is called 'ba la suit la shor'. Since olden times these forests have been known and believed to be sacred ones, where the deity resides.

Lawbuh or reserve forest/Law adong or protected Forest: Lawbuh or village reserve forest doesn't seem to differ much from the Law Adong (Protected forest) because these forests are being looked after by the Local Headman or by the Village Dorbar. For this project, the Synjuk decided to ask for more clarification from KFW and the government whether we can include these types of forests or not. At present there are 8 Sacred groves or Law Kyntang in the Umiam Sub watershed. These are: Mawphlang, Lyngiong, Pamsanngut, Phodlawkhla, Umsawmat, Lyngdoh Phanblang, Sohrarim and Umlangmar.

2) **Medicinal Garden:** From the Government of Meghalaya State Medicinal Board wanted to work along with the Synjuk to make available of 400 ha area for plantation of medicinal herbs. After much deliberation it was decided to discuss with the Government, that we will divide 50 ha each for the plantation. It has been arranged that the list of the areas and in hectare to be submitted by the 30th March, 2015.

3) **Recruitment of staff for the project:** As there is lot of pressure loaded due to the absence of the Project Manager, the Synjuk has decided that the Team can recruit one at any time needed. The Team can also recruit an Assistant Accountant to help the already over loaded accounting work. This can only be done if funds are available.

4) The CFs have urged the Chiefs that they should help take interest to inform others about the success of the REDD+ Project.

5) The Synjuk has now realized that whenever there are meeting and awareness programmes of any kind, a banner with dates should be used and pictures taken as it is needed for verification. Therefore, group photographs of all the Office Bearers, Synjuk members, CFs and Staff was taken.

6) Photos/pictures on the distribution of 5 Charcoal making Briquette to Tyrsad Umkseh and Thain Thyroh Special Packages through Lyngdoh Lyngiong and 5 nos. for Mawjrong Special Package through Lyngdoh Mawphlang was also taken.

7) Renewal Certificate of Registration Societies has been done, as it is has become necessary for all NGOs to renew once in three years. In order to make it easier for those who will continue their term of office, renewed members should sign the proscribed documents.

Since the President has authorized the Vice President to continue the meeting as he have to go out for urgent work. The Vice President Mr. Pailastar Kharkongor declared the meeting over and all the members' present sign in attendance register.

23 members are present and signed the attendance sheet. //

Synjuk Meeting Minutes

27 June 2015

The minutes of Synjuk meeting held on the 27th June, 2015 at Synjuk office in Mawphlang, at 10.00 am.

The meeting was presided by Vice President Shri. Pailastar Kharkongor and after a formal welcome address to members present, he handed over to the Secretary to put forward the agenda:

The agenda for the day was as follows:

1. Last Proceeding
2. Financial Report (till March 2015)
3. Report Brief
4. Report on new NGO
5. Next step
6. Any other business (AOB).

The Secretary started up the meeting by introducing new staff that have been appointed at the Synjuk office. These are: Miss. Ibanda E. Nonhgsteng (Asst. Accountant), Miss. Lapdianghun Dohtdong (Data Entry Operator) and Miss. Norita N. Sohleng (Technical Consultant and GIS specialist)

Agenda No 1: The Last Proceeding: the Secretary read out the minutes of the last proceeding and it is unanimously passed. The finished works and activities was reported and those that need more discussion were discussed below:

The Reports:

- a. **Renewal of Registration for Synjuk:** The Synjuk has complete the Renewal of its registration of its Registration Certificate for the next three years (2015-2018).
- b. **Ka 80G Certificate:** The approval for 80G Certificate was successful. On the 6th May, 2015 the Income Tax Department (Exemption) Kolkata approved with a certificate (*Memo No. CIT(E)/10E/299/14-15/G-0026/15-16/271-73 Dt. 06-05-2015*). With this the Synjuk is able to receive more donations within India and is able to provide a certificate to those who donate for different projects.
- c. **Ka FCRA:** In the matter connecting FCRA the Synjuk has sought help from Cristy NGO Consultant, New Delhi and have paid the amount of Rs 42,500/- till its approval, but have still not received approval as the report from their end says that due to lot of complexities with the new government, there is a lot of delay in the part of approval. It was told that the IB personnel has made the third round of investigation in this regard. The Synjuk meeting, though not happy about this delay and after having to pay lot of money, nevertheless will rely on the wisdom of the office to continue with efforts to achieve the desired result.
- d. **Biodiversity Project:** Brian William from the Wildlife Fund has visited the project, and as per his observation he strongly feels that the Synjuk should be able to work in collaboration with the State Forest Department on Biodiversity for REDD, with funding from KFW. Unfortunately the State Forest Biodiversity Cell submitted the proposal late by two days and this fund for Meghalaya was dropped. They were informed that they may take this matter for consideration in August 2015. We do hope that the Biodiversity cell will take up this matter and the Synjuk will be able to work with them, as long as they put a separate expenditure line for the Synjuk.
- e. **Medicinal Garden:** The Synjuk is waiting for this to take off - the area needed for this will be made available as soon as possible. To prepare this we have decided to use the funds from the Tambourine trust and the area to be allocated will be looked into by the Team. It was reminded that 400 ha is needed for this, so 8 blocks of 50 ha will be arranged accordingly.

Further discussions on the last proceedings:

- 1) **Agreement bad ki Shnong:** Villages such as Lyngdohphanblang, Thainthynroh, Pamsanngut, Nongmadan, Tyrsad Umkseh, Mawmihthied, and Pyrda have to expedite the submission of agreement for record in the office. So as to progress things, the Synjuk have passed a resolution to take the blanket approval from Syiem Lyngdoh and Sirdars that will eventually get it done by village durbar as they have already passed but failed to submit.
- 2) **Trust Fund:** As a result of the decision in the former Synjuk meeting that the Trust Fund cannot be constituted by the Synjuk, a new NGO under the name “**Nature Conservation and Community Upliftment Society**” has been formed and its official date of formation is 25th May, 2015. It was reported that this new NGO is having the

same aims and objects as the Synjuk. The point of this is that if we face problems with the Synjuk we will rely on the second one to take over all projects that are now under Synjuk.

- 3) **We Forest Fund:** it was reported at the Synjuk meeting that all funds from We Forest for 500 ha. ANR have been paid and are still in the CFI account, awaiting an approved method to receive these funds as the Synjuk is not yet eligible to receive them by itself as long as it does not have FCRA. As an alternative, the Secretary has arranged to receive this funding through the Rilum Foundation For Sustainable Development, Smit at Rs. 10,000 per month for 8 months or up to a year depending on the FCRA result.

Agenda No 2: Financial Report: Mr. Lamphar S. Majaw, the accountant, distributed the financial report sheets to all members present in the meeting, then he read aloud the report up to March, 2015. The Synjuk passed it but will look into the matter again after auditing by CA is done. It was also recommended that the Audit for April 2014 till March 2015 will be sent and handed over for audit to Mr. D. Das and Associates.

Agenda No: 3: Report from Synjuk: Distribution of report sheets and CDs of Videos by Miss. Norita Nongbet were given to all Hima present in the meeting and the Secretary read the report point by point. This report briefed the activities from 11th March, 2015 -27th June, 2015, and is written in English. This six-page report was passed unanimously with the salute to the secretary for all his efforts in taking the Synjuk this far.

Agenda 4: The new NGO: The secretary briefed and explained carefully why this new NGO is needed. These are the points: 1. The Synjuk cannot have a Trust fund without forming a Trust (this new NGO will ultimately turn into a Trust). 2. The delay of FCRA approval for the ka Synjuk. 3. This NGO is a backup option for the Synjuk in the future.

1. Further, the Secretary reported on the formation of the new organization under the name "Nature Conservation & Community Upliftment Society". The drafted last proceeding was read out and passed by all, it will be the duty of the mother NGO (Synjuk) to see that all matters related to this new NGO are borne by the Synjuk.
2. It was also decided that regarding application of PAN CARD, 12AA certificate, 80G bad FCRA - prior permission will be initiated right away for the successful operation of the new organization.
3. After more discussion, the Synjuk has passed a resolution to form units at Hima level and these unit organizations will be registered with the government so that the allocation of funds is much easier. The office will help in preparation and particular Hima should give the list of office bearers accordingly.

Agenda: 5: Next Step: As the Synjuk is facing issues with FCRA it was reported at the meeting again that the outstanding funds and other funds will be channelled through Rilum Foundation for a period of 8 months or one year. For this the Team will have to see that funds from the USA come through Rilum Foundation for Sustainable Development, Smith at the agreed rate of Rs. 10,000 per month. It was also taken into consideration that the Synjuk should have a formal MOU with this organization.

The donations: The happiest part of the meeting is the report on donations, that we received from Caring Fiends Rs. 9,00,000/- @ Rs. 3,00,000/- per annum, for three years 2013-2014, 2014- 2015, 2015-2016. Another donation that will be received is from Tambourine Trust Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum for three years 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

Motivation from Myntri Kodin Nongrum: Mr. Kodin Nongrum delivered a speech of motivation to all CFs, staff and fellow Synjuk members, that we should not give up and will hope that everything will be fine and hope the FCRA is approved or let us have the results so that we will be able to determine our next steps. The feeling of ownership is needed so that when we work hard we will not regret.

Since there are no more agendas, the Vice President, who is the chairman, declared the meeting over. Members present are 22 and signed in the Attendance sheet, Lyngdoh Mawphlang and Lyngdoh Lyngiong informed that they could not attend as the former had two important meetings in his Hima, while the latter was just back from hospital for a gall bladder operation. //

Synjuk Meeting Minutes

11 December 2015

The minutes of the Synjuk meeting held on 11 December 2015 at 10.00 am at Synjuk office.

The meeting was chaired by the President Mr. N. K. Lyngdoh and after a formal welcome address to all Synjuk members present at the meeting, was handed over to the Secretary to read out the Last Proceeding.

Last Proceeding: The Secretary read out the minutes of the last proceeding held on the 27 June 2015 and was accepted as it is. While the other aspects that needed to be discussed were put in the agenda.

Renewing of Registration of Synjuk: Renewal of registration of the Synjuk has been completed.

The report on the activities of the Synjuk from 27 June - 11 December 2015 has been distributed to all ten Hima.

The list of members renewed for the term 2015-2017 are:

(a) Office Bearers:

1. President: Mr. N. Kingkerious Lyngdoh, Lyngdoh Hima Mawphlang.
2. Vice President: Mr. Pailastar Kharkongor, Sirdar Hima Laitkroh Sirdarship.
3. Secretary: Mr. Tambor Lyngdoh.
4. Asst. Secretary : Mr. S.Protasius Nongbet Joint Secretary, Hima Nongspung Syiemship
5. Joint Secretary: Mr. Kodin Nongrum Myntri Hima Sohra Syiemship.
6. Treasurer: Mr. Hamphrey Lyngdoh Ryntathiang, Lyngdoh Hima Lyngiong Lyngdohship.

(b) Executive Committee Members:

- i. Mr.Norsing Diengdoh, Myntri Hima Sohra Syiemship.
- ii. Mr.Rolandstar Jyrwa, Sirdar Hima Nonglwai, Nonglwai Sirdarship.
- iii. Mr.Ignasius Jyrwa, Elder Hima Nonglwai
- iv. Mr.Petrack Syiemiong, Syiem Hima Nongspung.
- v. Mr.Toles Khongsit, Headman Mawlum Tyrsad Khongsit, Myllem Syiemship.
- vi. Mr. En Nongbet, Headman Kyrphei Myllem Syiemship.
- vii. Mr.Manikstar Umdor, Sirdar Hima Pomsanngut Sirdarship.
- viii. Mr. Beni Rani Elder, Pamsanngut Sirdarship.
- ix. Mr. Erto Mawlong, Sirdar Mawbeh Sirdarship.
- x. Mr.Tanbor Wanniang, Secretary Hima Mawbeh, Mawbeh Sirdarship.
- xi. Mr.Patsha Myrthong Elder, Hima Mawbeh Sirdarship.
- xii. Mr.Ditral Marbaniang, Secretary Hima Lyngiong, Lyngiong Lyngdohship.
- xiii. Mr.Blodin Kharkongor, Hima Laitkroh, Laitkroh Sirdarship.
- xiv. Mr. T.M. Syiem, Syiem Khynnah, Myllem Syiemship
- xv. Mr. M. B. Kharlukhi, Myntri, Myllem Syiemship.
- xvi. Mr. Worphan S. Nongdhar, Sohrarim, Nongkhaw Syiemship
- xvii. Mr. Lbing Wahlang, Sordar Shnong Sohrarim, Nongkhaw Syiemship

REDD+ & Project Technical Team: Members of REDD+ Project at present are as follows:

1. Mr. Tambor Lyngdoh, (CCF cum PD)
2. Mr. Starryman Lynser (Technical Consultant)
3. Mr. Felix Pde (Technical Assistant)
4. Miss. Esterlyne Kharjana (Socio Economic Specialist)
5. Mrs. Ridalin Kurbah, (Assistant Socio Economic Specialist)
6. Miss. Violet Kharkongor (Socio Economic Reporting staff)
7. Miss. Beautiful Lyngdoh (Technical Field Reporting Staff)
8. Mr. Lamphar Majaw (Accountant)
9. Miss. Ibanda E Nongsteng (Assistant Accountant)
10. Miss. Aikmenshisha Lyngdoh (Office Assistant)
11. Mr. N.K.Lyngdoh (Special task CF)
12. Mr. H. L. Ryntathiang (Special task CF)
13. Miss. Lapdianghun Dohtdong (Data Entry Operator)

There are Advisory Committees which have been introduced at the time of revision of the Project Design Document (PDD) and the REDD+ Technical Specification (Tech Spec). The new PDD and Tech Spec will function from 2015.

The Advisory Committee includes:

1. Dr. Kathryn Smith Hanssen, Former Administrative Director CFI, California, USA
2. Shri. Barkos Warjri, (IAS) Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya
3. Miss. Shaika Rakshi, ICCO India
4. Dr. Rocky Pebam, Scientist, NESAC
5. Mr. Banteilut Nongbri, Chairman Rilum Foundation for Sustainable Development

The Technical Advisory Committee includes:

1. Dr. S.V. Ngachan, Director ICAR, Shillong
2. Dr. Subhash Ashutosh, ASST. PCCF Forest Department Meghalaya
3. Shri. P.S. Nongbri, CF, Forest Department Meghalaya
4. Dr. Sanggai Leima, Asstt. Professor, SIRD
5. Dr. Mark Poffenberger, Former Executive Director CFI, California, USA
6. Mr. T. Lyngdoh, Secretary Synjuk
7. Mr. Starryman Lynser, Technical Consultant REDD+

The report on the activities which have been carried out from 27 June to 10 December 2015 was read out by the Secretary. The reports which were distributed to all the Hima Heads were clarified:

Team Meeting: According to the report by the Secretary, team meetings were held once per month or whenever there was a need for it. Victoria Gutierrez made project visit from 20-29 September 2015 and also joined one of the team meetings.

LWC Meeting: LWC meetings were held regularly. Documentation of the meetings needs to be improved. The Synjuk advise the CFs/socio economic team to ensure proper documentation is created.

Community Facilitator (CFs): CFs meeting were held regularly every month under the leadership of the CCF. The CFs meeting is also where all CFs reports were made available. In addition, the Synjuk agreed and decided to appoint 6 Assistant CFs:

SI No	Kyrteng	Hima	Remarks
1	Smington Shangpliang	Lyngiong Lyngdohship	Joined last year
2	Betsing Rynjah	Sohra Syiemship	Joined Last year
3	Shailang Synrem	Sohra Syiemship	1/12/2015
4	Trailang Myrthong	Lyngiong Lyngdohship	1/12/2015
5	Alanchestar Kharbhoi	Mawbeh Sirdarship	1/12/2015
6	Fairbornwell Lyngdoh	Mawphlang Lyngdohship	1/12/2015

Carbon Fund: The office was able to prepare the budget for the following activities:

1. Village activities @ Rs. 20,000 for 62 villages = Rs. 12,40,000/-
2. For 20 SHGs for piggery and poultry @ Rs. 10,000/- = Rs. 2,00,000/-
3. Lump sum for Awareness Programme =Rs. 62,000/-
4. For making of 60 Smokeless Chula @ Rs. 1,500/- = Rs. 90,000/-
5. For making 20 Charcoal moulding forma @ Rs. 1,200/- =Rs. 24,000/-
6. 62 Home based Nursery @ Rs. 5,000/- = Rs. 3,10,000/-
7. Fire lines for 56 villages @ Rs. 1,000/- = Rs. 56,000/-
8. SHGs' Meet & Fest @ Rs. 10,000/- twice = Rs. 20,000/-
9. Farmers Club Meet the Expert @ Rs. 2,000/- for 11 nos. = Rs. 22,000/-
10. The Creation and Monitoring of SHGs including training in VKR lump sum Rs. 3,00,000/-.
11. It was also decided that farmers will be distributed with Electric Rice cookers and LPG so that fuel wood consumption can be reduced - these are direct interventions for using less fuel wood.

Carbon Plots: The CCF reported that there some plots that the tags were fading away and some being taken away by children, therefore during the discussion the Synjuk members and all present resolved to contact residents through awareness and public information, to ensure plots and tags are not disturbed. This should be the same for plots established under WeForest too.

Fund Exposure Trip: The Synjuk decided, in order to gain experience, to make a trip to the Rain Forest Research Institute (RFRI) Jorhat. (Dates tbc).

The Project Design Document (PDD) was distributed to all ten Hima under the REDD Project by N.K.Lyngdoh, Lyngdoh of Hima Mawphlang.

The REDD+ Project Tech Spec was distributed to all ten Hima under the REDD Project by Petrick Syiemiong, Syiem of Hima Nongspung.

Report of Accounts: The Accountant reported that since April 2015, all the money has been received through the Rilum Foundation, with which the Synjuk already has a signed agreement. The report was passed unanimously with full consent of the house.

Tambourine Trust: All activities under this trust are ongoing and the impact on medicinal herbs and plants already in progress.

Extension of Project Area: With regards to the expansion of the project area, the Synjuk in its meetings has decided that the office will send letters to all the heads of the Hima.

Distribution of Cameras: 10 Cameras were distributed to all the CFs by Myntri Kodin Nongrum of Hima Sohra. For all the activities under the Synjuk, the CFs will use these cameras during their field visits.

Ms Esterlyne G.Kharjana, socio economic specialist, distributed the project concept note to all the Hima representatives.

There was an introduction during the meeting to staff who attended from the Rilum Foundation.

Others:

In the meeting it was decided that a Unit/Hima Level Co-ordination Party will be set up in every Hima. It was also decided that a corpus fund will be sent to each Hima unit. Fund withdrawals are subject to joint signatures and operation of the Secretary of the Synjuk. (This unit will look into details of the utilization of the funds at LWC, SHGs and Farmer's Club level).

The meeting was concluded with best wishes from N.K. Lyngdoh, President as well as with Christmas and New Year wishes.

Those who attended the meeting were 18 in number, and all signed the attendance register.