

A REPORT ON VISIT OF ICIMOD AND ICFRE OFFICIALS TO MIZORAM UNDER REDD+ PILOT PROJECT

A team of ICIMOD, Nepal and consultants from ICFRE visited Mizoram during 30th August to 6th September, 2017 for REDD+ pilot project activities. The team on their arrival on 30th August had a brief discussion and planning meeting with the Director, ARCBR and DFO, Aizawl for further activities related to project. The team had a consultation meeting with local communities of various villages for REDD+ Governance study in the State of Mizoram and also conducted socio-economic survey and interaction with the local communities of Reiek, Ailawng, Chungtlang, Khawhrihnim, Thiak, Phulpui and Sihphir villages in context to cost benefit analysis of REDD+ in Mizoram State. The following participants executed the work under REDD+ Pilot Project in Mizoram

Mr. M. Z. Singson, ARCBR
Mr. Saurabh Sharma, SFD, Mizoram
Mr. Nabin Bhattarai, ICIMOD
Dr. Nemit Verma, ICFRE
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Mr. Lalhriatpuia, SFD, Mizoram

During the field visits, ARCBR in collaboration and coordination with State Forest Department selected two different sites for the shaded grown coffee plantation. Each site covers an area of 10 ha under community forest at Ailawng and Reiek village. It was decided that since plantation season i.e. April/May has already elapsed during current year thus, coffee plantation will be created in next year. In the meanwhile, advance works and nursery will be established in the current year for raising seedlings for plantation at proposed sites.

Under CBFMS Governance studies, a total of 32 governance questionnaires in local level were filled. For local level Governance questionnaires, 3 villages were visited viz. Ailawng, Reiek and Chungtlang. Thirty five Governance questionnaires are distributed to forest officials also for feed back.

Under Cost and Benefit studies, a total of 500 questionnaires in local vernacular language have been distributed in 7 villages viz., Ailawng, Reiek, Chungtlang, Khawhrihnim, Thiak, Phulpui and Sihphir. The Village Council Presidents (VCPs) have agreed to take this responsibility in getting all the forms filled by villagers. All the 7 VCPs were trained with practical and theoretical exercises. The distributed questionnaires will be collected as soon as completed by the villagers. After collecting the questionnaires, information will be translated in English and data will be entered in computer.

A life story on shifting cultivation of a local person was recorded in Mizo and written version made in English.

Site for the turmeric processing plant for the local communities of Ailawng village has also been selected.

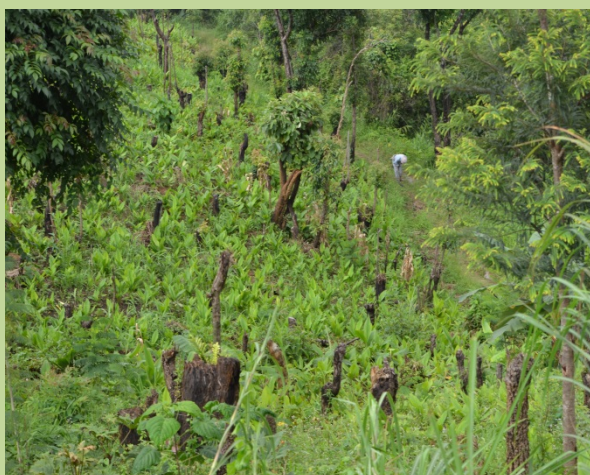
Some photographs from field visit:



Facilitator explaining the questionnaires to community people in Mizo language



Solar dryer at Reiek village.



Turmeric cultivation in Reiek village



Field crew collecting information on the life story for shifting cultivation



Road condition due to prolonged monsoon and landslides



Local community in consultation meeting and busy in reviewing the questionnaire



Bamboo shoots ready for market supply. This is the first harvest of shifting cultivation process



Proposed site for the installation of turmeric processing plant at Ailawng village.



Landscape of REDD+ Himalaya project site



Village council members reviewing the cost and benefit questionnaire in Sihphir village.