

PRESS NOTE

REDD+ Himalaya Project

**Stakeholders Consultation Meeting for Integration of REDD+ in
the Land Use Planning Activities in the State of Mizoram**

Date: 17/12/2019

**Venue: Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan,
Bethlehem Vengthlang, Aizawl, Mizoram**

Forest Research Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (FRC-BR), Bethlehem Vengthlang, Aizawl, Mizoram hosted a one day *Stakeholders Consultation Meeting for Integration of REDD+ in the Land Use Planning Activities in the State of Mizoram* on 17.12.2019. The meeting was jointly organized by Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, Environment, Forests and Climate Change department, Govt. of Mizoram and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu.

Sh. T. J. Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E, F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram graced the occasion as chief guest. Delegates of the meeting included officials from forest department, agriculture department, horticulture department, land resources department, Mizoram REDD+ core team members, Mizoram University professor, Environmental NGOs, Farmers' Association etc. Dr. R. S. Rawat, ICFRE attended the meeting via video conferencing due to the cancellation of flight.

Inaugural session commenced by the formal welcome of Sh. T. J. Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State with a bouquet of flower. Delegation of ICIMOD was formally welcomed and felicitated by Sh. T. J. Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister. Dr. Bhaskar Karky, ICIMOD formally welcomed all the delegates in his welcome address and also mentioned the background of REDD+ activities in Mizoram. Dr. R. S. Rawat delivered his address to gathering via video conferencing. Sh. Liandawla, PCCF, Mizoram addressed the gathering and expressed the importance of REDD+ activities in the context

of Mizoram. Dr. K. Kire, APCCF, Mizoram gave a short presentation on SRAP-Mizoram.

Sh. T. J. Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister started his address by defining the concept of REDD+ under UNFCCC. He mentioned that Mizo people depend upon forests for livelihood & food security and expressed his concern on the pressure on forests due to shifting cultivation, uncontrolled fires, unregulated felling, changes in land use pattern etc. He, then, commended the achievements of the Trans-boundary REDD+ Himalaya project which was jointly implemented in Mamit district of Mizoram by ICFRE, ICIMOD and Mizoram forest department. He further commended the efforts of ICFRE for developing Mizoram State REDD+ Action plan which will be helpful in implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy in the state. As a closing remark to his address, he congratulated the FRCBR, Aizawl for organizing this stakeholders consultation meeting and wished success for the same. After his address to the gathering, Hon'ble Minister formally released the Mizoram State REDD+ Action Plan (SRAP) document. Also, since it was his maiden visit to FRC-BR office, Hon'ble Minister inspected the campus and apprised himself of the past and current research activities of the centre.

After the inaugural session was over, technical session commenced and it included presentations from ICIMOD team and Director, Land resource department, Govt. of Mizoram. Also, delegates of the meeting participated in group exercise in the post lunch session.

Highlights of the meetings can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/kO5Dm4ww7FU>

Local media coverage can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/foZAZr2bTi4> and <https://youtu.be/ef7rj-yG5DI>

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Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting for integration of REDD+ in the land use planning activities in Mizoram

Date : 17th December, 2019

Venue : Forest Research Centre on Bamboo and Rattan, Bethlehem Vengthlang, Aizawl (Mizoram)

Time : 9.30 AM – 4.00 PM

Chief Guest: Pu TJ Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Mizoram

PROGRAMME:

TIME	TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSON
9.30 – 10.00 A.M.	Registration	
10.00– 11.00 A.M	Inaugural Session	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introduction to Meeting: Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist, ICFRE • Introductory Remarks & REDD+ Himalaya Project: Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky, ICIMOD • Address by PCCF, Mizoram • SRAP-Mizoram- by Dr. K. Kire, APCCF, Mizoram • Release of Mizoram State REDD+ Action Plan by Chief Guest • Address by Chief Guest • Vote of Thanks by Dr. Sandeep Yadav, Scientist, FRCBR 	
11.00 – 11.30 A.M	High Tea and Group Photo	
	Technical Session	
11.30 –12.00 P.M.	Overview of REDD+ and REDD+ Himalaya Project implementation in India	Dr. R.S. Rawat, Scientist, ICFRE
12.00 -12.30 P.M.	Operationalization of State REDD+ Action Plan of Mizoram through exploring the potential donors/funding	Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky, Programme Coordinator, ICIMOD
12.30 -1.00 P.M.	Land use planning and land-based developmental activities in Mizoram	Director/Representative, Land Resource, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Mizoram
1.00-2.00 P.M.	Lunch Break	
02.00– 3.00 P.M.	Group exercise for identification, prioritization & integration of REDD+ in land use planning & land-based developmental activities in the state of Mizoram	Mr. Nabin Bhattarai, ICIMOD, Mr. Niroj Timalisina, ICIMOD, Mr. M.Z. Singson, SFD Mizoram, Dr. Sandeep Yadav, FRCBR, Dr. Groveen Arora, ICFRE
03.00 –3.30 P.M.	Summarize Outputs of the Group Exercise and recommendations	Mr. Nabin Bhattarai, ICIMOD, Mr. Niroj Timalisina, ICIMOD, Dr. Sandeep Yadav, FRCBR, Dr. Groveen Arora, ICFRE, etc.
03.30 – 4.00 P.M	Way Forward and Closing Remarks	Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky/ Dr.R.S. Rawat
	Vote of thanks	HR Bora, Head, FRCBR, Aizawl
	Followed by Tea	

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Chief Guest, Sh. T. J. Lalnunluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E,F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram and other delegates on the dais



Sh. T. J. Lalnunluanga, Hon'ble Minister felicitated delegates from ICIMOD.

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Dr. Bhaskar Singh Karky, ICIMOD delivering his welcome address



Sh. Liandawla, PCCF, Mizoram delivering his address

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Dr. R. S. Rawat, Scientist-in-charge, BCC division, ICFRE participated via video conferencing



Sh. T. J. Lalnunluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E,F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram released Mizoram State REDD+ Action Plan

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Group Photo of the participants of meeting



Sh. T. J. Lalnuntluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E, F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram also inspected FRCBR building and visited its laboratories

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Sh. T. J. Lalnunluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E,F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram expressed that tissue culture can play an important role in mass propagation of important bamboo species in Mizoram which will be helpful in raising quality bamboo plantations



Sh. T. J. Lalnunluanga, Hon'ble Minister of State, E,F & CC, Govt. of Mizoram inspecting a cloth made of bamboo viscose fibres developed by FRC-BR with the help of local weavers