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Organization of the
United Nations



Ministry of Agriculture
& Farmers Welfare
Ministry of Environment,
Forest & Climate Change



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GREEN-AG PROJECT, MIZORAM
STATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM

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No.B.13014/5/2019-DTE(AGR-GEF6)


:

Dated Aizawl, the 27th August, 2024

MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of 8th State Steering Committee (SSC) on Green-Ag, Mizoram is scheduled to be held on **4th September, 2024 (Wednesday) at 11:00 am** in the **Secretariat Conference Hall-I, MINECO, New Capital Complex**. All the members are requested to make it convenient to attend the meeting.

- Enclosed: 1) Agenda Note
2) List of members
3) Note on Green-Ag Project


(Dr RENU SHARMA)
Chief Secretary
& Chairman,

State Steering Committee,
Green Ag Mizoram, Aizawl

Memo No.B.13014/5/2019-DTE(AGR-GEF6)

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Dated Aizawl, the 27th August, 2024

Copy for information and necessary action to:

- 1) Secretary, Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Department
- 2) Secretary, Planning and Programme Implementation Department
- 3) Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department
- 4) Secretary, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Mizoram
- 5) Secretary, Horticulture Department, Mizoram
- 6) Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Mizoram
- 7) Secretary, Rural Development Department, Mizoram
- 8) Secretary, Finance Department, Mizoram
- 9) Secretary, Land Resources, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Mizoram
- 10) Secretary, Fisheries Department, Mizoram
- 11) Secretary, Sericulture Department, Mizoram
- 12) Secretary, Tourism Department, Mizoram
- 13) Secretary, Public Works Department, Mizoram
- 14) Secretary, Commerce & Industries Department for Dte. of G&MR
- 15) Secretary, School Education Department
- 16) Secretary, Women & Child Development Department
- 17) Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Water Resources Department
- 18) Member Secretary, Mizoram State Biodiversity Board (SBB)
- 19) Representatives of Central Agriculture University
- 20) Representatives from National Project Management Unit (NPMU)
- 21) FAO Representatives
- 22) Deputy Commissioner, Lunglei
- 23) Deputy Commissioner, Mamit
- 24) State Technical Coordinator, Green-Ag Mizoram


(VANLALTHLAMUANA)
State Project Director
& Member Secretary,
State Steering Committee,
Green Ag Mizoram, Aizawl.

Order of the proceeding

Chairman : Welcome address and self-introduction
State Technical Coordinator : Project overview
About the project, information is annexed

Agenda notes for 8th State Steering Committee

1. **Approval of the 2024-2025 Annual Work Plan and Budget:** The Annual Work Plan and Budget was worked out in Delhi with the support of National Project Management Unit- Food and Agriculture Organization (NPMU-FAO) in the month of April 2024. The total proposed plan and budget for the current year is Rs. 9,98,91,418. (Annexed)
2. **Ex-post facto approval of procurement of turmeric rhizome:** Procurement of any kind is to be pre-approved by the SSC meeting. However, as turmeric is a seasonal plant, and with the given requirement for sowing, procurement has been done before the approval of the SSC. Therefore, it is put up for ex-post facto approval.
3. **Policy dialogue:** The following topics were put up for approval for the policy dialogue. Policy dialogue is an activity where consultants, firms or education institutes, etc. are hired to conduct case studies and submit their findings to FAO, and the same will be used to inform and discuss priority issues and challenges in order to strengthen the enabling framework and institutional structures to mainstream biodiversity, Climate Change Management, Sustainable Forest Management and Land Degradation in Indian Agriculture. The topics are as follows:
 - a. **Integrated Farming System in Compact Area Development Approach:** Integrated farming systems (IFS) are being developed with a contiguous water shed-based agriculture potential area location-specific focus to increase the jhum cycle and thereby upscaling settled agricultural practices, thus achieving climate resilience, etc., and also implementing ease of doing business (so as to facilitate common infrastructures such as link roads, irrigation systems, and collection centers).
 - b. **Comprehensive/ Holistic Development Approach Policy (Farm to Fork/Plough to Plate):** The Farm to Fork concept for the supply line and vice versa for the demand side is being envisaged as a more sustainable and responsible approach to achieve food and nutritional security and also increase their incomes. In this concept, technical aspects along with sociological aspects such as the Gram Panchayat Development Plan, ITK, and grass root plan (bottom-up approach) shall be adopted in a systematic manner. It emphasizes the use of locally grown, seasonal, and sustainably produced ingredients to create healthier, environmentally friendly, and flavorful dishes.
 - c. **Market prospect of Ginger, Turmeric, Broom Grass, Mizo Chilli & Lemon grass with special reference to Value Chain & Value Addition:** The North East Region (NER) of India holds immense potential in agriculture and horticulture. It is known as Organic By Default. However, this potential has not been suitably exploited, as evident from low Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contribution, high unemployment, meagre exports and overall underutilization of monetary and natural resources. To unlock the true potential, it's important to understand the bottlenecks and prepare a comprehensive, actionable roadmap considering all stakeholders.

4. **Convergence with concerned line departments:** The Green-Ag project is formulated to be a gap funding. It seeks to align with other schemes to mainstream biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation, Sustainable Forest Management and Land Degradation. It catalyzes a transformation in Indian agriculture for Global environmental benefits; therefore, convergence is the key to its successful implementation. The Green-Ag project prepared a Green Landscape Management Plan (GLMP) where all concerned line departments could take a pivotal role in achieving its goals. Detail convergence expected will be presented in the form of a PowerPoint.
5. **Agriculture Policy:** The Mizoram state does not have its own Agricultural Policy which is important for the successful navigation of achieving self-sufficiency in food production. The Government constituted an expert team from all the concerned Agriculture and its allied departments under the chairmanship of Dr. Saithantluanga (Retired Director, Agriculture Department). The experts formulated a draft Agricultural Policy, which was shared with FAO, and comments were received. The comments were deliberated by the expert team and agreed to incorporate them into the draft policy. The draft Agricultural Policy is put up for future deliberation and a way forward plan.
6. **Group Insurance:** The project landscape is located in remote places under the Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mamit and Thorangtlang Wildlife Sanctuary, Lunglei. The road conditions are very bad and the work involves extensive travel. During monsoon, vehicles hardly reach the villages. In this regard, it is proposed to get approval from the meeting for group insurance for all the staff. There is a total of 44 staff (including new recruitment).
7. **Investment plan related initiative:** Monitoring and surveillance for African Swine Fever, as well as farm biosecurity measures: The initiative includes a community investment strategy for pig farms. A consultant was employed by the FAO to study the viability of piggeries in the surrounding area. The consultant's investment plan indicates that the piggery is prepared for implementation in the designated locations. However, the activity is stopped till the ASF subsides because of its incidence.
8. **Customization of the procurement processes:** To handle high-value procurement that cannot be handled by the Local Procurement Committee (due to the Committee's expanding procurement limit, such as FOCUS and MzSRLM), the Project should establish an Internal Procurement Committee with representatives from SPMU, GLIU, and one or two experts in procurement/finance from the State Department in place of DPAB, etc.
9. **Recruitment of Community Resource Persons (CRPs):** 10 new CRPs recruitment. The Green-Ag project employs Community Resource Persons stationed in the villages. Language barriers are a challenge due to the diverse linguistic groups, including Mizo, Bru, and Chakma. Native Chakma speakers are needed to interpret materials and provide instruction. Currently, we have 2 Bru native speakers. Due to the remote and inaccessible nature of the villages, we may consider revising the ToR for CRP recruitment, particularly the eligibility requirements. This would allow recruiting local residents for CRPs as follows:
 - Mandate local village domicile (from 1 or 2 villages each CRP is supposed to look after).
 - Fluency in the local language (Eg: Chakma)
 - Educational qualification may be relaxed to HSLC level.
 - Owning a two-wheeler vehicle preferred
 - Past experience as an extension worker desirable
 - Prefer strong practical knowledge of agriculture and animal husbandry
 - Advertisement may be posted in local Village Council offices and BDO office notice board etc. for seven (7) days

A committee that consists of the chairman of the VIC, one representative from the VIC, the STC, and GLIU TL may be formed in order to evaluate resumes, conduct interviews, and ultimately recommend appointments. This is a tentative composition of the committee. Recommendation from such a selection committee will guarantee transparency, community participation and compliance with the eligibility criterion.

The previous eligibility criterion for recruiting Community Resource Persons (CRPs) according to the advertisement is **“Basic Agriculture Training (BAT) certificate holder/Veterinary Field Assistant (VFA) certificate holder/Bachelor Degree in Agriculture/Natural Resource Management, Rural Livelihood having at least 3-5 years’ experience in the field. To be recruited from the selected villages, if not available from nearby villages”**.

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subject etc.

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NOTIFICATION

Dated Aizawl, the 28th August, 2023

No.B.13016/2/2020-AGR/148 : In supersession of this Department's Notification No.B.13016/2/2016-AGR dt.22.01.2021 and as per Guidelines of Global Environment Facility (GEF) 6 of Mizoram State Summary Sl.No.55 Table No.5 (Technical Support Group) and in the interest of public service, the Governor of Mizoram is pleased to re-constitute State Steering Committee for GEF 6 consisting of the following members as below:-

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------|
| 1. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Mizoram | - | Chairman |
| 2. Secretary, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Mizoram | - | Co-Chairman |
| 3. Director of Agriculture & State Project Nodal Officer | - | Member Secretary |
| 4. Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department | - | Member |
| 5. Secretary, Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department | - | Member |
| 6. Secretary, AH & Vety Department | - | Member |
| 7. Secretary, Horticulture Department | - | Member |
| 8. Secretary, Social Welfare Department | - | Member |
| 9. Secretary, Rural Development Department | - | Member |
| 10. Secretary, Finance Department | - | Member |
| 11. Secretary, Land Resources, Soil & Water Conservation Department | - | Member |
| 12. Secretary, Fisheries Department | - | Member |
| 13. Secretary, Sericulture Department | - | Member |
| 14. Secretary, Tourism Department | - | Member |
| 15. Secretary, Public Work Department | - | Member |
| 16. Secretary, Commerce & Industries Department for Dte. of G&MR | - | Member |
| 17. Secretary, School Education Department | - | Member |
| 18. Secretary, Women & Child Development Department | - | Member |
| 19. Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Water Resources Department | - | Member |
| 20. Member Secretary, Mizoram State Biodiversity Board | - | Member |
| 21. Representative of Central Agriculture University (CAU) | - | Member |
| 22. Represent from National Project Management Unit (NPMU) | - | Member |
| 23. Food & Agriculture Organization, representative | - | Member |
| 24. Deputy Commissioner, Lunglei | - | Member |
| 25. Deputy Commissioner, Mamit | - | Member |
| 26. State Technical Coordinator | - | Observer |

Directorate of Agriculture (CH)
Receipt No: 2479
Date: 12/9/23

Sd/- Dr. LALROZAMA, IAS
Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram
Agriculture Department

Dated Aizawl, the 28th August, 2023

Memo No.B.13016/2/2020-AGR/148

Copy to:-

1. Secretary to the Governor of Mizoram.
2. P.S. to Chief Minister of Mizoram.
3. P.S. to Minister, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Mizoram.
4. Sr. P.P.S to Chief Secretary, Govt. of Mizoram.
5. Controller Printing & Stationery with 2(two) spare copies for publication in the Mizoram Gazette.
6. Director of Agriculture with a request for circulation amongst all members.
7. All members concerned.
8. Dy. Director; i/c. Extension, Directorate of Agriculture for uploading on the website.
9. Guard File No.28.

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Under Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram
Agriculture Department

What is Green-Ag?

Project title: Green-Ag: Transforming Indian Agriculture for Global Environmental Benefits and the Conservation of Critical Biodiversity and Forest Landscapes

Project Duration: 2019 - 2026

National Executing Agency: Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW), Govt. of India

Operational Focal Point for India: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India

Project Implementing Agency: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Project Objective: To catalyse transformative change of India's agricultural sector to support achievement of National and Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) and conservation of critical biodiversity and forest landscape.

Project Brief Description:

The Agriculture sector has made immense progress in contributing to the country's food security. India is one of the largest exporters of agricultural produce. Over the years, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP has diminished considerably. However, it continues to be the largest source of livelihood in India.

The Government of India (GoI) invests significantly to boost agricultural production by promoting modern intensive agricultural practices, which has facilitated the country to make great strides in production and productivity, thus emerging as a net exporter of food grains. However, the current farming practices are proving to be increasingly unsustainable due to resource intensive practices mostly dependent on external inputs. Consequently, there is a growing pressure on the ecology, especially, critical habitats and Protected Areas of high biodiversity importance along with pronounced negative impacts on natural resources like land, soil, and water, particularly groundwater aquifers. On the other hand, the GoI and other partners invest significantly in Protected Area management to support and conserve a host of globally significant species. Thus, these different streams of Government's investments are often misaligned and incompatible with each other leading to agricultural and environmental activities acting at cross-purposes, resulting in net economic loss to the country and wasted financing.

The Green-Ag Project aims to catalyze the sustainable transformation of India's agriculture, without compromising the country's food security and farmers' income. The project seeks to mainstream biodiversity conservation, climate change, and sustainable land management objectives and practices into Indian agriculture to enhance multiple global environment benefits. The project supports harmonization between India's agricultural and environmental sector priorities and investments so that the achievement of National and GEBs can be fully realized without compromising India's ability to strengthen rural livelihoods and meet its food and nutrition security requirements. The project also aims to bring greater coherence between the Government's policies, investments and institutions concerned with conservation and agricultural production at landscape level, so that they become mutually compatible.

The Green-Ag Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through its sixth funding cycle. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) is the National Executing Agency and FAO is the Implementing Agency. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is the GEF Operational Focal Point and coordinates all GEF Projects in the country.

The Project adopts a landscape approach by incorporating participatory governance and community based natural resource management at grassroots levels, for sustainable management of natural resources, land-use systems, and improved livelihood options. More specifically, it is being implemented in five high-conservation-value landscapes, wherein each landscape includes a mix of conservation and production areas. The Project States include Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.