



iSAWMMFANG

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A Quarterly Bulletin of FOCUS Mizoram Volume No:1 Issued No:1 1st of January to 31st March, 2021

LAUNCHING OF FOCUS PROJECT SAITUAL DISTRICT



The District Agriculture Office cum DMU, FOCUS was inaugurated by Shri. R. Lalzirliana, Hon'ble Minister for LR, Soil & Water Conservation at Keifang (Tribal Girls Hostel) on the 2nd

February, 2021 (Tuesday) at 10:00 am. The Hon'ble Minister was accompanied by Shri. L. Thangmawia, MLA & Vice Chairman, Human Resource Development Board.

The launching function of Focus Project was chaired by Mr. Lalhmingthanga, IAS, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Mizoram, Agriculture Department and Co-Chairman SCRAM (Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram) at Keifang Venghlun Branch YMA Zawlbuk, Saitual.

The Guest of honour, Shri. L. Thangmawia, MLA, have stressed about his interest in FOCUS for the sustainable development of the Mizoram economy as a whole. He wished all the field staff a grand success in their Project activities and to take all the drawback as a challenge and request the villagers to change their mind set of getting aide. During the function the Chief Guest, Shri. R. Lalzirliana, Hon'ble Minister, after launching the FOCUS Project stressed the need for forest conservation and wildlife protection

The afternoon session of Start Up Workshop was successfully utilized for discussion and presentation of the various sector like Finance and Account, Procurement, Planning Monitoring & Evaluation and Knowledge Management from the Sectoral concern of PMU Staffs. Various queries were clarified during the session itself.

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LAUNCHING OF FOCUS PROJECT KHAWZAWL DISTRICT



The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Mizoram Shri. Tawnluia inaugurated the District Agriculture Office at Electric Veng, Khawzawl and launched the FOCUS Project in a short function organised at Zaingen Veng YMA Hall, Khawzawl on 5th February, 2021. The function was chaired by Mr, Lalhmingthanga, IAS, Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Mizoram, Agriculture Department and Co-Chairman SCRAM (Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram).

The Chief Guest, Shri. Tawnluia, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, during his short speech have warmly welcomed the FOCUS Project for the District and beliefs that it will have a good impact on the overall development of Khawzawl District. He also requested the prominent citizens, farmers and various line departments to work hand in hand in order to bring sustainable social and economic development. During the programme, the Guest of Honour, Shri. C. Lalrinsanga, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture also stressed about the various development that has been undertaken in the newly formed Khawzawl District and further requested the DMU Staffs to sincerely performed on the task assigned to them in order to have a fruitful and positive outcome. The programme was followed with an appetizing lunch.

The afternoon session of Start Up Workshop was successfully utilized for discussion and presentation of the various sector like Finance and Account, Procurement, Planning Monitoring & Evaluation and Knowledge Management from the Sectoral concern of PMU Staffs. Various queries were clarified during the session itself.

FAREWELL FUNCTION OF Mr. LALHMINGTHANGA



On 15th, February, 2021 (Monday) PMU FOCUS, Mizoram have bid farewell to Mr. Lalhmingthanga, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Agriculture Department & Co-Chairman SCRAM as he is retire from his service on superannuation pension by the end of February, 2021 in a small function organised at PMU office (SPD Chamber). His outstanding work and contribution to FOCUS Project will always be remembered and wishing him the very best future endeavors.



FAREWELL & WELCOME OF COUNTRY DIRECTOR



The support, encouragement and contribution of Ms. Rasha Omar have a great impact on FOCUS Project.

On 25th February, 2021 the FOCUS project has bid farewell to Ms. Rasha Omar, Country Director of India, IFAD and Head of the South Asia Hub through informal Virtual meeting and warmly welcomed the new Country Director Mr. Ulac Demirag.



ORIENTATION TRAINING OF DMU, SAITUAL



One day orientation training was conducted on 1st March, 2021 at the Office Chamber of State Project Director, FOCUS for DMU Saitual. A total of 16 DMU staff has attended the training. State Project Director stressed the need for conducting Gram Sabha for getting FPIC, selection of Lead Farmers and mobilization and formation of FIG are the first prioritized activity which has to be conducted at the earliest possible. Mrs. R. Vanlalruati, Manager-G&CI has started the session through power point presentation on the process of FPIC, selection and eligibility criteria of lead farmer and process of FIG formation.

TRAINING ON FIG OPERATIONAL MANUAL

Staff training on FIG operational manual was organized by FOCUS, DMU, Mamit on 10th December, 2020 at DAO conference hall and to FIG Office Bearers & Lead Farmers on the said topic & books of account training during 8th to 31st January, 2021.

In Serchhip District the training was conducted on 10th February, 2021.

DIGITAL TRAINING MATERIALS

An amount of 4800 Printed leaflets (12 topics) and 40 Pendrives (Video Clips) were received from SAMETI (State Agricultural Management & Extension Training Institute) on 21st January, 2021. The said training materials were then distributed to the Project Districts-FOCUS.



APEDA EXPORT PROMOTION CONFERENCE CUM BUYERS/SELLERS MEET



FOCUS Project participate on the APEDA Export promotion Conference and have displayed the Agricultural products on the stall allotted during buyers/sellers meet on 2nd March, 2021 at Aijal Club.

AGRICULTURE SECTION

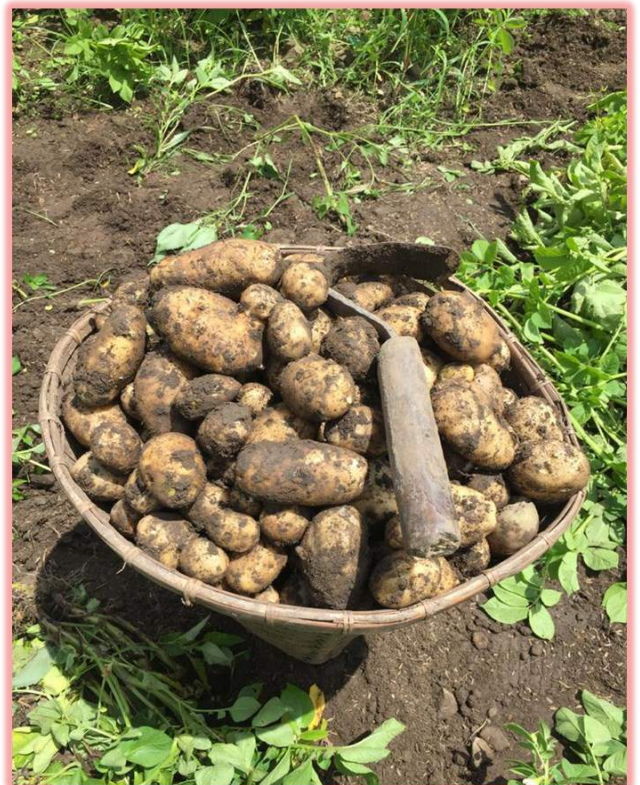
POTATO CULTIVATION

During the month of March 2020 a total no of 215 Qtls of Potato was allocated in 11 Villages of Champhai District, 83.5 quintals in Kolasib district and another 341.5 quintals in Mamit district during rabi season in WRC/TRC areas covering 298 households of 15 villages.



MONITORING MECHANISM

Proper monitoring was also undertaken during the cultivation period and was successfully harvested during end of February and beginning of March 2021. A total of 81.24 quintals of seed tuber (Varying from 20 to 50 gram) was both for Chuhvel and Saikhawthlir Village to be cultivated in Ngopa Village during April 2021.



RABI CROP UNDER WRC/TRC

Quality Rabi seeds such as Field pea, Rajma, French bean, Cabbage, Tomato, Cauliflower, Brinjal, etc were distributed during the month of November. The said seeds were then distributed to members of the WRC/ TRC FIG.



CASSAVA CULTIVATION



Cassava cultivation was taken up by 165 villages of the Project districts covering 264.91 ha.



IMPROVED SOIL FERTILITY

4217 quintals of Slaked lime were distributed to the Project districts so as to improved the soil fertility for cultivation covering 1906 hhs (975.5 Ha)



MONITORING OF ARHAR



Priority was given to regular monitoring of Arhar since cultivation till harvesting.

HORTICULTURE SECTION

CURRENT JHUM IMPROVEMENT

During 2019-2020 a number of 566540 Arecanut seedlings were distributed to 4015 Hh in Mamit and Kolasib Districts, a total number of 29337 seedlings of M. Orange were supplied to 1332 Hh in Champhai and Serchhip Districts along with 66900 Banana suckers to 509 Hh in Serchhip and Champhai Districts.



VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

- ⇒ Mizo Chilly: A total no of 18.69 qnt of mizo chilly seeds were distributed to 543 households.
- ⇒ Turmeric: 729.4 qnt of rhizomes were distributed to 970 households.
- ⇒ Ginger: 2212 qnt of rhizomes were distributed to 1212 households.



A marketing cell has been setup to promote value-chain crops and to identify market for the same. They will strive to help FIGs create market linkages and promote themselves as Producer Organization.



SETTLED AGRICULTURE-SUPPORT TO EXISTING ORCHARD

To promote the existing Orchard/plantation in the four Project District, Orange seedling and Arecanut were supply to 1174 FIGs. 1648 Hh in Kolasib and 1000 Hh in Mamit district were supplied with Arecanut seedlings @500 seedlings per household. Also 500 Hh in Champhai, 1532 Hh in Serchhip, 100 Hh in Kolasib and 282 Hh in Mamit district were provided M. Orange Seedlings @100 seedlings per household.

Other ongoing project in collaboration with DOH is also currently undertaken.

LAND RESOURCES, SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SECTION

VILLAGE FOREST CONSERVATION



Nursery establishment cover 10 ha through 17 beneficiaries at Champhai, 12 ha through 24 beneficiaries at Kolasib, 10 ha through 20 beneficiaries at Serchhip, 9.5 ha through 25 beneficiaries at Mamit, 7.5 ha through 14 beneficiaries at Khawzawl and 2.5 ha through 4 beneficiaries at Saitual district, which gives 51.5 ha through 99 beneficiaries in total under FOCUS Project.



Planting and maintenance covered 57.5 ha through 105 beneficiaries at Champhai, 18 ha through 185 beneficiaries at Kolasib, 19.5 ha through 210 beneficiaries at Serchhip, 10 ha through 15 beneficiaries at Mamit, 14 ha through 28 beneficiaries at Khawzawl and 20 ha through 40 beneficiaries at Saitual district, which gives 134 ha through 583 beneficiaries in total.



Protection of water sources covered 99 sites at Champhai, 72 sites at Kolasib, 65 sites at Serchhip, 9 sites at Mamit, 61 sites at Khawzawl and 12 sites at Saitual district, which gives 318 sites in total.



SUPPORT TO LANDLESS HOUSEHOLDS

Bunding covered 57.5 ha through 115 beneficiaries at Kolasib district.



Bench Terracing covered 115.2 ha through 540 beneficiaries at Champhai, 60 ha through 120 beneficiaries at Kolasib, 27 ha through 58 beneficiaries at Serchhip, 19 ha through 38 beneficiaries at Mamit and 37.8 ha through 252 beneficiaries at Khawzawl district, which gives 259 ha through 1008 beneficiaries in total.



Water harvesting structure covered 11 FIGs at Champhai, 27 FIGs at Kolasib, 3 FIGs at Serchhip, 12 FIGs at Mamit, for FIGs at Khawzawl and 5 FIGs at Saitual district which gives 62 FIGs in total



ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY SECTION

LIVESTOCK VALUE CHAIN & LIVESTOCK SUPPORT

RURAL BACKYARD POULTRY UNIT:-



The Rainbow Rooster (Dual Purpose Breed) day old chicks were procured from ZPDS Hatchery, Tanhril since March 2020 till date. The chicks were then brooded for 4 weeks at the FOCUS Poultry Brooding Unit at the Project Districts. The main

purpose of the Poultry Brooding Unit is the management of chicks from one day old to about 4- 8 weeks of age, and it involves the provision of heat and other necessary care *during chicks' early growing period*. Each identified farmer received 20 birds, feed, feeder and waterer. The Project have distributed 78600 brooded birds to 3930 households.



FOCUS Poultry Brooding Unit– Mamit



Eggs from the distributed Rainbow rooster birds



Distribution of Brooded Chicks to beneficiaries– Rural Backyard Poultry



FOCUS Poultry Brooding Unit– Serchhip District

PIG BREEDING UNIT

The Project have identified 48 nos of Pig Progressive farmers in the Project Districts. The ongoing **Pig sty construction** have been operated in convergence between **FOCUS & MGNREGA**. However, the Pig Breeding Stocks (6 female piglets) will be supplied to the identified Pig Progressive Farmers on **50% subsidy**.

18 nos. of Pig Progressive Farmers have undergone training and exposure visit to DLG Mysore . The next batch of Pig Progressive Farmers for exposure tour have been delayed due to Covid-19 Pandemic.



1st batch of Pig Progressive Farmers Exposure & Training on Pig Breeding Operations at DLG, Mysore (21st Oct – 1st Nov, 2019)
&
Ongoing construction of Pig sty (Pig Breeding Unit)

VACCINATION

This activity is implemented in convergence between FOCUS Project and Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department. The activity is funded through CSS - FMD Control Programme, Classical Swine Fever Control Programme, ASCAD (Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases), Peste des Petits Ruminants Control Programme, Brucellosis Control Programme.



CAHW performing Vaccination on Cattle

STRENGTHENING VETERINARY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR LIVESTOCK HEALTH



Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits for CSF

This activity is implemented in convergence between FOCUS Project and Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department. The diagnostic kit for Classical Swine Fever (CSF) is under CSS where the AHVD have procured rapid diagnostic test kit and distributed to the DVOs. However, the diagnostic kits for Porcine Reproductive & Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) are yet to be procured.



CAHW performing Ear Tagging

MITHUN DEVELOPMENT



Mithun Shelter

This activity is implemented in convergence between FOCUS Project and MNREGA. The cost of construction of fencing of grazing areas is shared between FOCUS project and MGNREGA, however, the construction of Mithun Shelter and Water Supply facilities will be provided on 50% subsidy to the identified Mithun Societies/FIG. Moreover, the Mineral Block Demonstration have been conducted by the project.



Water Supply Facilities

Demonstration have been conducted by the project.



Water Supply Facilities



Water Supply Facilities



Inauguration of Newly Constructed Mithun Shelter at Village Level



Hands on Training on Mineral Block Demonstration to Mithun Societies

FOCUS Officers and Staff meeting with Mithun Societies regarding the construction of Mithun Shelter, Water supply facilities, fencing of grazing areas and Mineral block demonstration which is a new technology in the state. The Mithun Development programme have been carried out by FOCUS Project in collaboration with AH & Vety Dept. and MGNREGA for the benefit of the Mithun Farmers.



BOAR SEMEN STATION (PIG AI UNIT)



On going Civil Construction of Boar Semen Station, Biosecurity Fencing and Changing Room, Semen Laboratories & Equipments at District, Solar and Cold Chain Facilities at Districts, Manpower (Manager, Lab Assistant, Boar attendant), Training and Capacity Building. This activity is implemented in convergence between FOCUS Project and AH & Vety Department.



VFA & CAHW CAPACITY BUILDING

The Veterinary Field Assistants (VFA) under FOCUS project attended 5 days technical training (Theory & Hands On Training) conducted by the Master Trainers in the Districts. The VFAs were distributed with minor surgical instruments, first aid equipment's as well as mini portable refrigerator for main-

taining cold chain while conducting mass vaccination.

The Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) were identified in each village covered under the project. All the CAHWs were trained with basic animal husbandry practices and were equipped with basic veterinary first aid kits. The CAHWs are expected to monitor the health of livestock in their village and act accordingly.



VFA training and Distribution of Cold Chain Equipment's & Veterinary first aid kits
16th to 20th March, 2020



Training of CAHW on Veterinary first aid and basic animal husbandry practices