

FOSTERING CLIMATE RESILIENT UPLAND FARMING SYSTEMS IN THE NORTH EAST



FOCUS - MIZORAM



Annual Report

2019 - 2020

CONTENT

Sl.No	Title
1	Preface
2	Introduction
3	Component wise progress and outcome
5	A. JHUM IMPROVEMENT A.1 Better Jhum and Conservation A.2 Settled Agriculture
6	B. VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT AND MARKET ACCESS B.1. Crop Based Value Chain B.2. Livestock Value Chain B.3 Market Access
7	C. PROJECT MANAGEMENT C.1. Coordination Committee : Project Steering Committee C.2. Project Management Committee C.3. District Level Coordination Committee C.4. Organisation and Staffing
8	Activities under Counterpart funding
9	Women empowerment
10	Institution building and mobilization of Farmer Interest Groups
11	Environment and climate change
12	Knowledge Management
13	Monitoring and Evaluation
14	AWPB implementation
15	Financial Management
16	Conclusion
17	Glimpses of activities during 2019-20

PREFACE

Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming Systems in the North East (FOCUS) is a project funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), under the United Nations with its Headquarter in Rome, Italy. In order to implement this Project, Govt. of Mizoram established a society for Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM) under the Department of Agriculture where the Chief Secretary is the chairman.

The Project Agreement was signed on 19th January, 2018 for a total of USD 35.25 million which will be implemented for 6 years in the four (4) out of eight (8) districts of Mizoram namely Champhai, Kolasib, Serchhip and Mamit. The overall goal of the Project is to increase agricultural income of 64,500 households and would cover all 272 villages in the four districts comprising a population of 3, 22,500. The FOCUS Project will raise farmer's income, increase resilience to climate change by promoting cultivation practices that are both productive and environmentally sustainable and at the same time strengthen the capacities of community based institutions. Four (4) Departments viz. Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary and Soil Water Conservation Departments will work together for the holistic growth of the various sectors in improving Jhum cultivation, more sustainable settled agriculture, support village livestock development, improved market access and value chain development.

The Report gives a synoptic view of the organizational structure, functions and activities undertaken by the project during FY 2019-2020. The Report also mentions the special initiatives taken during the year for fulfilling the aims and objectives of the project. The work done during the reporting period has been documented in this Annual Report. I hope that this Report will be useful for future reference and also enlighten the 4 line Departments in knowing the nature of works of FOCUS- Mizoram so that better coordination and work can be done in the years to come.

I do acknowledge the effort and devotion of my Colleagues in preparing this Annual Report 2019-2020.

9th September, 2020



(R.K. NITHANGA)

State Project Director, FOCUS – Mizoram.

**Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming Systems
in the Northeast (FOCUS)**

State: Mizoram

**Annual Project Progress Report
2019-20**

A. BACKGROUND

Project objectives

The overall goal of the project in Mizoram is to increase agricultural income of 64,500 households, and to enhance their resilience to climate change. This would be achieved through the development objective of increasing the environmental sustainability and profitability of farming systems practiced by highland farmers.

Project description

The project have three components: (i) Improved jhum management; (ii) value chain and market access; and (iii) project management and knowledge services

Component 1: Improved Jhum Management

Improved Jhum Management will aim to promote proven and emerging climate resilient best practices.

Better jhum and conservation support:

- (i) capacity building of staff, lead farmers and farmers;
- (ii) land use planning to develop rational and sustainable systems for village land utilisation;
- (iii) better jhum management through introduction of a package of improved practices for soil and fertility management, crop production, agro forestry and fallow management; and
- (iv) community forest conservation with re vegetation and soil conservation.

Settled agriculture support:

- (i) existing rice cultivation on the lowlands through short duration seeds, fertility improvement techniques and improved cropping intensity; and
- (ii) existing orchards and plantation through demonstration of soil and water conservation works, improved planting materials and planting of high value trees. In Mizoram, the poorest households in each village will be supported to get access to land for settled agriculture. The project in total will support 15,190 ha of existing terrace cultivation, 15,190 ha of upland settled agriculture and 2,720 ha of settled agriculture to landless.

Component 2: Value chain and market access

Value chain development support:

- (i) Production support for clusters of market orientated spices (chilli, turmeric and ginger), including supply of planting materials and training;
- (ii) Marketing support for a range of cash crops (chilli, ginger, turmeric, cardamom, oranges, other fruit, bamboo and other jhum crops with marketable volume);

(iii) Livestock support largely covering pigs with support for breeding, feed improvement, and animal health; and

(iv) Innovation support for testing and dissemination of innovative technologies and approaches for agriculture, livestock and marketing. The project will support 3,600 ha of spice production support in Mizoram.

Market access infrastructure support construction of market infrastructure using climate resilient building techniques. The project will support building agriculture link roads in Mizoram.

Component 3: Project Management and Knowledge Services:

The project is implemented by societies established within the Department of Agriculture (DoA) in Mizoram. To facilitate cross learning, the project in each state, will engage Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to generate knowledge on upland farming systems and their response to climate change and to create a learning platform for other states in NER. In addition, IFAD will provide a grant to both states for the engagement of FAO for capacity building and provision of technical assistance. FAO will be requested to contribute from its own resources for this technical assistance sub project.

B. PROJECT AREA

In Mizoram, the project is implemented in the four out of eight districts namely, Champhai, Mamit, Serchhip and Kolasib. The remaining four districts of the state, namely Aizawl, Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Saiha, have not been considered due to the on-going implementation of other major projects.

A saturation approach will be followed to ensure comprehensive land use planning for the entire village landscape and provision of support services to address the needs of 77% of the households who are involved in farm activities. In total the project would cover all 272 villages in the four project districts, covering 11 blocks and would support 64,500 households comprising a population of 322,500 persons in these districts.

Not found any variation compared to project design.

There is no overlapping with other project funded by international agencies.

C. OUTREACH AND TARGETING

From the total 64500 target households, a total of 32104 are reached out, while in veterinary sector about 99233 animals/livestock are vaccinated and get benefit from the project. 50% women representation in community institution is mandatory and about 10394 women benefitted from the project.

Geographical Targeting: The project adopts geographic targeting by excluding the districts which are covered by other major development projects. The project area in a district are selected primarily based on high levels of jhum cultivation with an aim to increase the jhum cycle and at the same time increase the number of years of jhum cultivation to make a gradual shift towards settled agriculture.

Social Targeting: The project adopts social targeting approach by excluding the households with permanent government jobs for assistance. The target group categories include all tribal households involved in jhum farming and those unable to take up jhum cultivation on account of labour shortages and other vulnerable households having persons with disability and other challenges. A saturation approach will be followed to ensure comprehensive land use planning for the entire village landscape and provision of support services to address the needs of 77% of the households who are involved in farm activities. In total, the project will support 64,500 households comprising a population of 322,500 persons in these districts.

D. PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES BY COMPONENT

1. Jhum Improvement

1.1 Better Jhum and Conservation

Sl. No	Activity	Achieved	Against AWPB 2019-20
A.	Better Jhum		
1.	Fallow Management		
i.	Legume Cover crop- Annual	-	6800
ii.	Legume Cover crop- Perennial	3506.75 Ha	6800
iii.	Low cost bunds	CSS	
2.	Current Jhum Improvement		
i.	Bunds, SWC	CSS	
ii.	Supply of quality seeds	-	27200HH
iii.	Supply of quality planting material, orchards	5347HH	27200HH
iv.	Supply of planting materials (tree crops)	CSS	54,400

Activities under CSS may be carried out only after consultation with the Line Departments currently undergoing the component. Such activities include:

- Fallow Management :** i) Low cost bunds
Current Jhum improvement: i) Bunds, Soil Water Conservation
 ii) Supply of planting materials (tree crops)

Steps taken to implement the following activities:

1) Preparation of land use maps and land suitability maps by MIRSAC.

MIRSAC has completed preparation of land use and land suitability maps. The respective DMUs have received the map but hasn't been utilised by the Village Councils/ Jhum FIG as MIRSAC is yet to conduct training in regards to this.

2) Mobilization of FIGs:

- 204 Jhum FIGs have been mobilised.
- All the FIGs received project support of Rs. 30,000.00
- Most FIG utilised some amount of funds for setting up the institution.

Sl. No.	Name of the district	No of FIG	No of household
1.	Champhai	93	4807
2.	Kolasib	6	418
3.	Serchhip	40	1414
4.	Mamit	65	4459
	Total	204	11098

3) Preparation of PLUP by the Jhum FIG.

- PLUP is completed in all the villages.
- Some DMUs are yet to submit the final compilation of PLUP to PMU.

4) Engagement of Lead Farmer, training of Lead Farmer and training of jhum farmers.

- All the Jhum FIGs have Lead Farmers
- Role out training plan was prepared by the PMU and shared with the FAO.
- Training of Lead Farmer is yet to be conducted. Regards to training, manual prepared by the FAO was received where handouts/ training materials on selected topics for use of Village level workers and farmers will be prepared in English by the FAO.
- Serchhip DMU conducted training on Cultivation of Arhar (*Cajanus cajan*) at Farmers Training Hall, DAO Office, New Serchhip on 22nd May, 2019. Mr. K. Laltnanmawia, SDAO was the Resource person.

5) Planning and implementation of soil and water conservation works in both fallow jhum and current jhum plots.

All the soil and water conservation works in jhum are under CSS. Currently, no such fund provision is there under the concern Line Department.

6) Provision of seeds and seedlings to Jhum FIG for cultivation on fallow jhum and current jhum plots.

Seeds: 250 quintals of Arhar (*Cajanas cajan*) seed (var.P-992) was cultivated under fallow management. Other crops were not cultivated under jhum due to shortage of fund.

FALLOW MANAGEMENT: Under the activity Legume cover crop- Perennial, Arhar seed (P-992) was proposed for cultivation as it can be grown in all the project districts. The total targeted area during 2019-20 was 6800 hectares in which 3506.75 hectares was covered by the 4 districts as under:-

Sl No.	Name of the District	Target area (in Ha)	Actual area covered within the District (in Ha)	Seeds distributed in Quintal
1.	Champhai	2600	1366	100
2.	Kolasib	1301	700	50
3.	Serchhip	1050	740	50
4.	Mamit	1849	700.75	50
	Total	6800	3506.75	250

CURRENT JHUM IMPROVEMENT: Under the activity Current Jhum, Supply of quality planting material, orchard- Arecanut and M.Orange were supplied under this head. A total of Rs 1,30,99,500/- for Arecanut and Rs 40,00,500/- for M. Orange was released. Arecanut seedlings were estimated at Rs 20/- per seedling and budded M. Orange as Rs 120/- per seedling.

Sl. No	District	Target (HH)	Achieved (HH)
1	Champhai	1500	165
2	Serchhip	1167	1167
3	Kolasib	3608	717
4	Mamit	5125	3298
	Total	11,400	5447

Target allotted was not met due to unit cost being Rs 1500/- which was inadequate for one unit (household). Therefore, DPMs combined units supply to one household.

The project has supplied 5,66,540 seedlings of Arecanut and 2,93,337 seedlings of oranges to 4,015 households and 1332 households respectively.

7) Activities undertaken on community conservation/village forest areas including nursery development, soil and water conservation measures, source protection, planting of seedlings and protection measures.

- i) Operational guidelines for Village Forest Conservation was prepared and the activities were scheduled to be implemented from 1st quarter of FY 2020- 2021.
- ii) **Protection of water sources (Check Dam):** Sites identified for Check Dam are as Annexure-I.
- iii) **Planting and maintenance:** Fund amounting to Rs.2,62,500/- only being released to DMUs as-

Sl. No.	Name of the district	Name of village	Area in Ha
1.	Champhai	N Khawbung	10
		Zotlang	10
2.	Kolasib	Sekhan	2
		N Chhimluang	7
3.	Serchhip	Chekkawn	3.5
		Khawlailung	10
4.	Mamit	Khawrihnim	10
	Total	7	52.5

The DMUs are requested to clearly indicate the implementation procedure, controlling and assurance factor and enclosed in the sanction order for the actual disbursement of fund to the concerned VCs.

*Field activities were not carried out and there is no utilization of fund due to Covid-19 outbreak

Details of the successes achieved in implementation of this sub-component and also issues faced during implementation that require resolution

Achievements:

- Jhum Operational Guidelines was prepared.
- Growing of leguminous crop (Arhar) under Perennial cover crop was the only activity.
- Monitoring report was submitted by the DMU
- Arhar was successfully grown in Serchhip district as the farmers were already familiar with the crop. The District Agriculture Office, Serchhip was able to buy back the seeds from the farmers.

Issues faced:

- Pest infestation was reported by the DMUs. Pod borer found in Mamit District at the flowering stage while Blister beetle was the major pest in Serchhip District.
- Issues related to fund was also the main problem. All the agricultural and horticultural crops have its own recommended cropping season and funds were not available during the particular time. Therefore, several activities were withheld due to this problem.

Details of results achieved against the outcome indicators for this sub-component.

Sl. No	Activity	Achieved	2019-20 target
A.	Better Jhum		
1.	Fallow Management		
i.	Legume Cover crop- Annual	-	13,600
ii.	Legume Cover crop- Perennial	3506.75 Ha	13,600
iii.	Low cost bunds	CSS	13,600
2.	Current Jhum Improvement		
i.	Bunds, SWC	CSS	54,400
ii.	Supply of quality seeds	-	108,800
iii.	Supply of quality planting material, orchards	5347HH	54,400
iv.	Supply of planting materials (tree crops)	CSS	54,400

Summary of recommendations made during the last supervision mission under this sub-component and compliances to these recommendations.

Recommendations by IFAD	Action taken

<p>PLUP based FIG support</p> <p>Start train the district level staff and village level workers to prepare a PLUP for each village which is a perspective plan for each village through joint village level planning by the district level officers of all the four Directorates involved in project implementation and Block Development Officers. The plan should focus on requirements of each FIG funded using MGNREGS, CSS convergence and FOCUS funded activities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PLUP conducted in all the villages. 2. Meeting on Convergence of MNREGA with FOCUS and MOVCD-NER with all the Block Development Officers, CEO - MzSRLM, FOCUS and MOM Officers was held on 10th February, 2020 under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Agriculture & RD, GOM/ Co-Chairman, SCRAM.
<p>MiRSAC maps</p> <p>Request MiRSAC to provide village level land resource and land use maps and land suitability maps for each village and provide the same to all the villages. This will have to be used as a tool for PLUP preparation. Complete delivery of maps to all villages. PMU to release funds immediately to MiRSAC.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MiRSAC completed preparation of land use and land suitability maps but hasn't been utilised by the VCs and FIGs as training to the respective VCs was not yet conducted. 2. Fund already released to MiRSAC upto the 3rd Installment.
<p>Training of VLWs</p> <p>Start training all VLWs in simple technical aspects related to important crops – Prepare materials detailing package of practices for various crops and livestock in Mizo language – Engage local consultants (retired agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry staff). Use these Consultants for training of VLWs and district level staff.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roll out training plan was prepared by the PMU and shared with the FAO. 2. Regards to training, manual prepared by the FAO was received where handouts/ training materials on selected topics for use of Village level workers and farmers will be prepared in English by the FAO.
<p>Jhum Planning</p> <p>The project activities are currently revolving around private jhum and there is a need to focus on improving common jhum lands. Issue an instruction to this effect to all DMUs.</p>	<p>Based on the suggestions made on the meeting of all DPMs with the Mission Director, FIGs already formed were revisited and restructured by the DMU. The number of Jhum FIG also decreases due to this.</p>
<p>Jhum activities</p> <p>Focus on low cost log bunding, high value tree crops (such as <i>Taxas bacatta</i>, <i>Mesua ferra</i>, etc) on the periphery of other crop plots and leguminous cover crops in addition to regular crops.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low cost bund in jhum are under CSS. Currently, no such fund provision is there under the concern Line Department. 2. High value tree for farmers such as <i>Parkia roxburghii</i> (tree bean) is

	suggested for cultivation in Jhum for the FY 2020-21.
Village forest conservation Fast track activities related to village forest conservations including the development of in situ nurseries.	1. Operational guidelines for Village Forest Conservation was prepared. 2. The DMUs are requested to clearly indicate the implementation procedure, controlling and assurance factor and enclosed in the sanction order for the actual disbursement of fund to the concerned VCs

1.2 Settled Agriculture

No physical achievement has been made as per the reporting period.

WRC/TRC

1) Mobilization of FIGs: Number of WRC/TRC FIGs mobilised, No. of WRC/TRCFIGs have received project support of Rs 30,000. Utilization pattern of these funds by WRC/TRCFIGs.

- 189 WRC/TRC FIGs are currently mobilised.
- All the FIGs have received project support of Rs. 30,000
- Most FIG utilised funds for setting up the institution.

Sl. No.	Name of the district	No of FIG	No of household
1.	Champhai	90	2877
2.	Kolasib	25	503
3.	Serchhip	32	1043
4.	Mamit	42	1177
	Total	189	5800

2) Training of WRC/TRC farmers.

- Role out training plan was prepared by the PMU and shared with the FAO.
- Training of farmers is not yet conducted. Regards to training, manual prepared by the FAO was received where handouts/ training materials on selected topics for use of Village level workers and farmers will be prepared in English by the FAO.

3) Planning and implementation of soil fertility measures and other support to WRC/TRC farmers.

-Potato is cultivated at Champhai district only since the district has potential climatic condition. Based on the report submitted by the DMU Champhai, potato cultivation is as under:

- i. Total no of village covered = 11
- ii. Total household cultivating potato = 80
 - Ngur (6no) Dungtlang (6no) Mimbung (6no)
 - Vapar (6no) Lianpui (6no) Murlen (20no)
 - Tualcheng (6no) Kawlbem (6no) Samthang (6no)
 - Hnahlan (6no) Teikhang (6no)
- iii. Total tubers distributed = 215 quintals
- iv. Area covered = 40 Ha (0.5ha per HH)
- v. Beneficiary FIG = WRC/ TRC
- vi. Most of the tubers were infested by potato cutworms. They were treated under the supervision of FOCUS staff using Chlorpyrifos. This treatment was reported as successful and the pest infestation was under control.

Orchard/Settled Agriculture

A total of 245 FIGs has been established. Grand of Rs 30,000 has been released. No utilization of funds during 19-20 due to late release of funds.

Trainings have not been conducted due to delay FIG functionality in regards to member and Bank details which has been sorted. FIGs shall be provided training as soon as possible.

Roll out training plans were made but implementation has been delayed due to COVID – 19 outbreak.

- i. 10 existing nurseries were initially identified for support under the project.
- ii. 5 nurseries from Kolasib district
- iii. 4 nurseries from Mamit district
- iv. 1 nursery from Serchhip district
- v. Convergence plan made for Pit Digging for quality planting materials - Arecanut, M. Orange, Papaya etc for pit digging under MANREGA.
- vi. Target allotted for each District
- vii. Beneficiaries identified for existing Orchards
- viii. Project target for existing Orchards is aimed to be completed.
- ix. Guidelines made for implementation of this sub-component

VILLAGE FOREST CONSERVATION

- iv) *Protection of water sources (Check Dam):* Sites identified for Check Dam are as *Annexure-I.*

v) **Planting and maintenance:** Fund amounting to Rs.2,62,500/- only being released to DMUs as-

a. Champhai	N.Khawbung	10Ha
	Zotlang	10Ha
b. Kolasib	Serkhan	2Ha
	N.Chhimluang	7Ha
c. Serchhip	Chekawn	3.5Ha
	Khawlailung	10Ha
d. Mamit	Khawrihnim	10Ha
	TOTAL	52.5Ha

The DMUs are requested to clearly indicate the implementation procedure, controlling and assurance factor and enclosed in the sanction order for the actual disbursement of fund to the concerned VCs.

*Field activities were not carried out and there is no utilization of fund due to Covid-19.

vi) **Nursery establishment:** Sites identified for Nursery Establishment are as *Annexure-II*.

Operational guidelines for Village Forest Conservation were being prepared and the activities were scheduled to be implemented from 1st quarter of FY 2020-'21.

Planning and implementation of irrigation support: All the District Project Managers were requested to identify one site at each village that requires renovation of their 'water storage and delivery system' under 'Settled Agricultural land' and to submit the report and estimation in consultation with the Irrigation Department at each district. If renovation is not required, a newly proposed 'water storage and delivery system' (eg: water harvesting structure, water harvesting ponds, check dams, pipelines, canals, etc) with full report and estimation were requested.

*Field activities were not carried out due to the unavailability of fund during the FY 2019-20.

SUPPORT TO LANDLESS

Mobilization of FIGs: Number of FIG formed-

a. Champhai	9	
b. Kolasib	22	
c. Serchhip	6	
d. Mamit	19	
	TOTAL	56

The FIGs under landless were supported with a revolving fund of Rs.30,000/- per FIG.

FIGs at Champhai districts had an expenditure of Rs.2,000/- per FIG for opening bank account, cash book and meeting minute book.

2) **Identification of land for landless:** All the VCs were requested to allocate the land for supporting landless household at their respective village. Identification of Landless Area which can be leased by the VCs on all Districts are as *Annexure-III*.

- 3) **Bunding:** DMU, Mamit had identified a total of 20 land areas at 3 villages and DMU, Serchhip had identified a total of 31 land areas from 1 village for bunding. (See *Annexure-IV*)
- 4) **Bench Terracing:** Land identified for Bench Terracing are as *Annexure-V*

*Most of the Village Councils at Kolasib and Mamit District does not have free land to lease for the Landless FIG, which create difficulty in implementation of the activity under support to landless household. Besides, site allotment advisory board were not in proper function. Furthermore, the goals for some of the activities under support to landless household were based on village wise. This creates an issue as all the VCs were not able to lease land for the Landless FIG.

Field activities were not carried out due to the unavailability of fund during the FY 2019-20.

5) Aide Memoire: The project had planned activities related to land allocation, training, nursery management and SWC measures and these activities are yet to start. Consultation with the VCs for allocation of land to landless were being undertaken and site identification for each activities were in processed.

2. Value chain development and market access

2.1 Value chain development

No physical achievement has been made as per the reporting period. Clusters were identified for each value chain crop.

Achievements under this till the end of the reporting period is the identification of clusters for each value chain crop. 14 Clusters are identified as follows:

	Ginger	Tumeric	Mizo Chilli
Champhai	3		3
Kolasib		2	1
Serchhip	1		1
Mamit		2	1

Clusters are to be extended to 30 in the future. Physical achievements were not made due to delay/inavailability of finance during cropping season. Hence actions for physical target achievements had to be postponed to the next year.

During the reporting period, main activities taken was cluster identification. Staffs from district and village level were detailed to identify areas with potential. Conent of the villages was taken and farmers were selected.

Crop based value chains

1) Identification of value chain clusters

Chilli Cluster	Turmeric Cluster	Ginger Cluster
<p>Champhai</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – Hmunhmeltha, N.Khawbung</p> <p><i>Cluster 2</i> – Vapar, Hnahlan, Zote, Ngur</p> <p><i>Cluster 3</i> – Leisenzo, Lianpui</p>		<p>Champhai</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – N. Khawbung, Vapar, Zote, Ruantlang, Ngur, Khuangphah, Mualkawi, Vaikhawtlang.</p> <p><i>Cluster 2</i> – Farkawn, Khankawn, Leisenzo, Sesih</p> <p><i>Cluster 3</i> – Kawkulh, Dulte, Puilo</p>
<p>Serchhip</p> <p>Khawbel, Thentlang, Hmuntha</p>		<p>Serchhip</p> <p><i>Cluster 2</i> – Sailulak, Leng, Bawktlang, N. Vanlaiphai, Lungkawlh</p>
<p>Kolasib</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – Bukpui, Lungmuat, N.Chaltlang, N.Hlimen</p>	<p>Kolasib</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – Bualpui North, Kawnpui, Khamrang, Lungmuat</p> <p><i>Cluster 2</i> – Bairabi, Meidum, Vairengte, Bilkhawthlir</p>	
<p>Mamit</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – Kanghmun, South Sabual, Bawngthah, Bawlte, Darlung</p>	<p>Mamit</p> <p><i>Cluster 1</i> – Thinghlun, Rengdil, Bungthuam, Zalnuam, Thuampui, Zamang, Zawlnuam, Zengpui, Zolnuam Bawrai</p> <p><i>Cluster 2</i> – Kawrthah South, West Bunghmun, Darlak, Tuidam, Kawrtethawveng</p>	

2) **CRP Engagement:** CRPs were not engaged during the reporting period due to delay in implementation of Value Chain Development.

3) Support provided to value chain farmers in terms of supply of seeds and seedlings for production expansion.

Pre arrangement has been made for supply of planting materials. Seeds will be procured by FIGs and ready to be sown during April – May 20-21. All provisions for each district were made. However due to COVID-19, implementation was delayed. Funds were release at the fac end of the Financial Year/reporting period but due to constraints in movement (due to COVID -19) expenditure has not been made.

4) Support provided for marketing including establishment of marketing unit and marketing infrastructure.

Recruitment of staffs by the Department of Horticulture is under process.

5) Establishment of innovation fund and support provided under innovation fund.

This activity is not yet initiated.

Issues faced during implementation of Sub-Component

- i. Main Issues faced during implementation is delay in release of finance.
- ii. Due to low unit costs, farmers could not receive their expected amount. If this could be sorted by increasing unit costs.

Recommendations made during the last supervision mission under this sub-component and compliances to these recommendations.

- i. Improved Soil fertility measures have been planned and is ready for execution
- ii. Adequate number of fruit trees (not less than 100) is planned to each unit/household is planned to be supplied by increasing unit cost.
- iii. Consultation with VCs for allocation of land to landless has been conducted in different villages and number of landless FIGs is planned to be increased.

Livestock value chain:

1. Engagement of CAHW and Training :

-272 nos. of CAHWs were engaged in the 4 project districts –

SI No	District	No of CAHW	Date of Engagement
1	Champhai	104	September 2019
2	Kolasib	52	August 2019
3	Serchhip	42	July 2019
4	Mamit	74	July 2019

-One day orientation training of CAHWs was conducted in all the project districts on the day of engagement.

-All the CAHWs were engaged in Mass Vaccination Programme of AHVD as well as assisting in all the Livestock related activities in their respective villages.

2. Establishment of pig breeding units and training of pig breeding farmers and distribution of piglets.

- The project have identified 48 nos. of progressive farmers –

- a) Champhai – 18 nos.
- b) Kolasib – 12 nos.
- c) Serchhip – 10 nos.
- d) Mamit – 8 nos.

-These progressive farmers will be the beneficiaries of Pig Breeding Unit.

-18 Nos. of Pig Progressive Farmers including 2 Staff of FOCUS as Tour guide from Kolasib and Serchhip Districts have undergone Exposure Visit & Training to DLG, Mysore on 25th to 27th October, 2019.

3. Establishment of boar semen station.

A boar semen station in each FOCUS districts with an investment cost of 440 Lakhs (100 Lakhs – IFAD ; 340 Lakhs - NLM) and an operating cost of 124 Lakhs (116 Lakhs – IFAD ; 8 Lakhs - NLM) is proposed by AH & Veterinary Department. This activity is proposed to be implemented during the 2nd quarter of 2020-21 where 59% of the total cost will be contributed from NLM and 41% from IFAD.

4. Establishment of mithun shelter, fencing and mineral block demonstration.

Operational guideline for community ranching of Mithun was prepared with a total budget of Rs 2144957 per village where 42% will be borne by IFAD, 35% from the community and 24% from AHVD- CSS. The operational guideline was approved by IFAD and this activity is proposed to be undertaken in 15 villages (10 villages in Champhai District and 5 villages in Serchhip District) during the 1st quarter of 2020-21.

5. Diagnostic kit supply and vaccination of pigs, mithun, cattle, goats and poultry birds

A total nos. of 103656 doses of vaccines were given with a total amount of Rs 19, 97,417/- expenses from AHVD CSS including Assistance to State Control of Animal Diseases, FMD Control Programme, Classical Swine Fever Control Programme, Peste des Petits Ruminant Control Programme, Brucellosis Control Programme during 2019-20 (As per report from Director, AH & Veterinary). The vaccines given include Ranikhet Disease vaccine, Anti rabies vaccine, Canine Distemper Vaccine, Swine Fever Vaccine, Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine, IBD vaccine, PPR vaccine, HS vaccine, BQ vaccine, Bruvac and Goat Pox vaccine for Cattle, Mithun, sheep and goat, pig, poultry and dogs.

6. Training on meat handling, equipment and slaughter slab construction.

Operational Guidelines for Slaughter Slab construction preparation is in progress. As per the meeting minutes of Technical Officers with the State Project Director on 21 August, 2019, the villages to be selected for the construction of slaughter slab were surveyed based on the population, geography, roads and accessibility.

Details of the successes achieved in implementation of this sub-component and also issues faced during implementation that requires resolution.

-Training of VFA is conducted during 16th – 20th March, 2020.

-Equipment of VFA and cool box is distributed to all the 50 nos. of VFAs.

-Equipment for CAHW is procured already which is proposed to be distributed after the technical training of CAHW (proposed to be conducted in July 2020-21).

-Engagement and Orientation Training of CAHW is completed during July – September, 2019 to all the 272 CAHWs identified.

-Rural Backyard Poultry Unit is implemented. A Poultry Brooding Unit is constructed in each of the project districts amounting to Rs 6, 65,300 in each district. As COVID 19 response, day old Rainbow Rooster chicks from ZPDS Hatchery, Tanhril, Aizawl is procured which is then brooded in the district brooding unit. The brooded chicks were distributed by District AH & Veterinary Officer accordingly from funds of AHVD CSS as well as from FOCUS.

-Rapid Diagnostic kits for Classical Swine Fever (CSF) were procured by AHVD CSS-RKVY. The rapid test kits (1472 units @Rs 99360.00) were in operation in the entire project districts under the supervision of the District AH & Veterinary Officer.

-Ensiling of Cassava leaves and tubers for pig feed under the activity component of feed and fodder demonstration unit is proposed. The CIP and CIAT have been intimated by IFAD, requirements requested by CIP have been sent and is waiting for response.

Issues:

-In Procurement, NCB is a time consuming activity, therefore, Community Ranching of Mithun and Boar Semen Station activities implementation may be delayed.

-Slaughter slab construction was proposed to be implemented through Rural Development Schemes including MGNREGA as convergence, however, there are no such schemes for this activity. Seeking fund for this activity is still in progress.

-Goatery under Other Livestock and fish culture financial rule is CSS:GoM 90:10. Seeking Converging Fund for this activity is still in progress.

Summary of recommendations made during the last supervision mission under this sub-component and compliances to these recommendations.

1) *“The project is preparing guidelines for establishment of pig breeding and brooding units. The project has also identified 15 mithun clusters in Champhai and Serchhip districts and arrangements for procurement of fencing materials are being made”*(Aide Memoire)

Operational guideline for Rural Backyard Poultry has been approved by IFAD and Poultry Brooding Unit in each project districts have been constructed and in progress.

Operational guideline for Community Ranching of Mithun has been approved by IFAD. The initial procurement for fencing has been cancelled due to the requirement of NCB. However, fencing of Mithun grazing ground with barbed wires may be procured by the community as mentioned in the operational guideline.

2) ***“The project has also prepared a proposal for establishing boar stations as proposed in the project but as funding is available for infrastructure development from Central Sector Scheme, the project is seeking funding for equipment and operating costs including salary of staff to be engaged for managing these stations for three years. This proposal is reasonable and the project may get the same approved by the Project Management Committee (PMC) and include it in the AWPB for 2020-21” (Aide Memoire)***

-The establishment of Boar Semen Stations/Artificial Insemination (AI) Units as well as its operations is included in the AWPB 2020-21 as suggested.

3) ***“Fodder and Forage - Integrate cultivation pig feed specific cassava varieties and other fodder species for goats and also conduct training in silage making for pig feeding using local materials”.(Aide Memoire)***

- Ensiling of Cassava leaves and tubers for pig feed under the activity component of feed and fodder demonstration unit is proposed. The CIP and CIAT have been intimated by IFAD, requirements requested by CIP have been sent and is awaiting for response.

2.2 MARKET ACCESS

1) ***Engineering Cell:*** As provided in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM) under FOCUS, Engineering Cell under Directorate of Agriculture (Crop Husbandry) is formed to oversee and supervise all the engineering works scheduled in the PIM. The Engineering Cell is headed by Mr.Lalchhanliana, Executive Engineer (Agri. Engg) with the following supporting engineering staff:

- a. Mr. P.I.Sabu - JE, DoA
- b. Mrs. Sangkungi - JE, DoA
- c. Mrs. R.Lalduhsaki - JE, DoA
- d. Mrs. B.Lalthakimi - JE, DoA

PMU, FOCUS has allotted one light vehicle for the Cell, and also released Rs.12.00 lakh for road survey on 20.01.2020.

The project has nominated an Engineering Cell within the Directorate of Agriculture (DoA) to oversee and supervise all market access infrastructure proposed under the project. These activities have been proposed from the second year of the project. In this regard, all DPMs were requested to identify the link road which was a total of 200kms for gravelling in consultation with other line departments, Department of Rural Development and Public Works Department and with reference to the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

E. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

District	No. of women in FIG fold	No. of women in FIG management committees	Percentage of women representation in FIG fold
Champhai	2200	348	16.9%
Kolasib	3725	702	37.2%
Serchhip	1641	632	27.5%
Mamit	2828	1429	27.7%
Total	10394	3111	26.58%

Both men and women could be included in FIG and even in the management committee. Men and women actively participate in their respective FIG without any gender bias.

During the reporting period, not much activity was conducted to reduced drudgery of women. The period was spent for preparing operational guidelines in every component and sector. However in way forward, tools and equipments especially friendly for women is planned to be given to women member FIG and in rural backyard poultry, 100% beneficiaries will be women.

G. Environment and Climate change

For planting and maintenance of Village Forest Conservation, a sum of Rs. 2, 62,500/- only was release to 7 project villages, a total of 52.5 Ha is projected to be covered for mitigating climate change.

H. Project Management

A meeting of the Project Management Committee, Fostering Climate Resilient Upland System (FOCUS) was held on 3rd September, 2019 at 01:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Mr. Lalhmingthanga, Commissioner & Secretary, Agriculture, Govt. of Mizoram. The important decisions taken in these meeting are mentioned under-

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision/Recommendation
1. Presentation of Progress Report on Focus-Mizoram as on 30 th August, 2019.	<p>The CEO, FOCUS-Mizoram presented the Progress of FOCUS-Mizoram through Power Point presentation. This progress report is for the period from 25th January, 2018 to 30th August, 2019.</p> <p>The Chairman called for any reaction/observation/comments on the presentation.</p> <p>It was stated that as some</p>	<p>The Committee thanked the CEO for the report.</p> <p>Any resignation letters from employee must be promptly forwarded to Project Management Unit (PMU).</p> <p>Action : DMUs</p>

	employees resigned from the District Management Unit(DMU) in Kolasib and Serchhip, employees' strength presented in the report may not be correct.	
2. Convergence of FOCUS with CSS	It is reported from the CEO that preliminary convergence meeting with Rural Development Department, Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department has already taken place and there is a positive response from these three departments. The Chair-man informed the Committee that activities of FOCUS project can be converged with MGNREGS as 60% of works under MGNREGS is Natural Resource Management.He further stated that a meeting with RD officials with FOCUS officials for convergence may be held at the earliest and informed the Govt. of India's keen interest in convergence of various schemes for optimum usage of resources.As requested from the chairman, all the line departments, viz., Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest, Land Resources Soil and Water Conservation and Animal Husbandry and Vety reported that convergence with FOCUS with their activities can be explored. It was reported that some convergence has already taken place with AH&Vety. DPM, Kolasib informed the meeting that the district is undertaking convergence with other schemes.	Detail Convergence Plan is to be prepared within the month of September, 2019. Action – DMUs DMU, Kolasibto submit a full report of their convergence works to PMU.

<p>3. Market Access Infrastructure Climate resilient roads.</p>	<p>DD, LR&S, WC (FOCUS) stated that 200 kms of existing road are selected for gravelling, drainage and protective works. As of now, Rs 6 lakh is available for survey of roads from the total budget of Rs 12 lakh. She further stated that the project provisioned Engineering Cell, Agriculture Department to take up the survey.</p> <p>It is noted that no budgetary allotment is made for Engineering Cell, DoA in the AWPB 2019-20.</p>	<p>Directorate of Agriculture (CH) may expedite setting up of Engineering Cell. If problems arise, PMU is to make alternative arrangements.</p> <p>Action : MD/PMU</p>
<p>4. Establishment of Marketing Cell</p>	<p>An amount of Rs 50,80,000/- was released to Department of Horticulture for setting up of Marketing Cell. DD, Horticulture Dept., reported that advertisement for recruitment of staff was done and the applications were received. The process of scrutinizing eligible candidates is in progress.</p>	<p>The Department of Horticulture must submit the eligible candidates to PMU within September, 2019. The FOCUS Selection Board will take necessary action to recruit staff for Marketing Cell, DoH.</p> <p>Action: Marketing Cell, DoH.</p>
<p>5. Establishment of nursery for tree plantation.</p>	<p>The CCF, Deptt. Of Environment, Forest and Climate Change reported that the deptt., can provide seedlings for tree plantation. However, he stated that the amount mentioned @ 25 per seedling is not relevant for the current market and has to be raised @ Rs 60 per seedling.</p> <p>With the higher rate of seedlings, it was agreed that target as stated in the AWPB 2019-20 cannot be achieved</p>	<p>The selection of nurseries for tree plantation must be done by conforming to procurement criteria. Instead of reducing the target, the differences in the price of seedlings may be met from other sources within the same activity.</p> <p>Action : PMU & DMUs</p>
<p>6. Animal Mass vaccination – AH&Vety Department</p>	<p>Jt. Director, AH&Vety reported that the physical and financial target of FOCUS Vaccination Programme within FOCUS</p>	<p>The physical and financial plan needs to be modified in line with the revised GoI's vaccination schedule and</p>

<p>converged with FOCUS</p>	<p>districts with operation modality was submitted to State Project Director, FOCUS. And stated that FOCUS through its funded employees, mass vaccination for live animals can be carried out. He also pointed that the Govt. of India has revised the vaccination rate to be implemented all over India.</p> <p>The CEO reported that mass vaccination in convergence with AH&Vety will start from this month in the project covered districts and notice for the same was circulated through the leading newspapers in Aizawl.</p>	<p>rate. The AH&VetyDeptt.,is to submit a new physical and financial plan to PMU.</p> <p>Action:AH&VetyDeptt.</p>
<p>7. Boar Semen Station</p>	<p>DD, AH&Vety(FOCUS) explained that there is onlyRs 3 lakh per unit for Boar Semen Station in AWPB 2019-20 against the initial estimate submitted by AH&Vety Dept., which amounts to Rs 94.944 lakh. The department was asked to revise the plan and two new plans, viz., New Construction of Boar Semen station @ Rs 250.813 lakh and Renovation of existing Boar Semen Station @ 68.228 lakh were submitted.</p> <p>JD, AH&Vety stated that Boar semen station needs highly technical inputs and precision techno-logy as it can affect piggery development in the State. As such, a budget @ Rs 3 lakh per station cannot meet even the basic requirements and requested the Committee to approve their proposal which includes</p>	<p>After deliberation at length, the proposal for renovation of existing Boar Sement Stations with a total amount of Rs 68.228 lakhs for the 4 (four) Boar Semen Stations and laboratory with AI delivery @ Rs 23.65056 lakhs per unit were approved. Since, there is budgetary allocation of only Rs 12.0 lakhs for boar pens, the meeting recommended revision of AWPB 2019-20 incorporating the amount proposed for renovation, However, NOC may be obtained from IFAD.</p> <p>Action : PMU</p>

	renovation of District Boar Semen Stations along with machinery and lab equipment, cold chain facility @ Rs 68.228 lakh and Rs 23.65056 lakh respectively.	
8. Deployment of staff to AH&Vety Dept., under Livestock Value Chain Component of the project.	It is reported that 36 nos of VLW (AH&Vety) were deployed to DVOs office of Champhai, Kolasib, Serchhip and Mamit and 4 nos of Animal Husbandry Manager(AHM) are posted to the same DVOs' office.	The arrangement reported is approved.
9. Other AH&Vety activities.	<p>DD, AH&vety(FOCUS) reported that</p> <p>1) Exposure Tour for 48 Progressive Farmers in 2 batches during October & November, 2019 at DLG, Mysore is proposed.</p> <p>2) Request for Quotation to 5 Local Suppliers for supply of Barbed Wire under the activity of Mithun Development-existing herd is issued.</p> <p>3) In the Project Implementing Manual (PIM), the term 'Poreine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) is printed as 'PPR' which is a different disease. The test kit at stated in PIM is also antibody-based application which needs to be rectified to antigen based rapid test kits.</p> <p>It is proposed that antigen based rapid test kit be procured and request for quotation may be issued to the following firms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genesis Enterprise, Millennium Centre - MN Enterprise, Millennium Centre - Dunamis, Vaivakawn - Bethesda, Dawrpui - Hitech, Aizawl 	<p>Sl. No 1) 2) & 3) is approved.</p> <p>Changing of PPR to PRRS and antibody-based application to antigen-based application in PIM is approved. The approval of IFAD is to be sought for making changes in PIM.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action : PMU</p>

<p>10. Deployment of staff from line departments.</p>	<p>CEO explained that Horticulture, AH&Vety and LR,S&WC each has deployed a Deputy Director in FOCUS and Agriculture Dept., deployed State Project Director and Deputy Director. However, a Deputy Director from Agriculture was re-instated in the parent Department recently. He also reported that Agriculture Dept., deployed 1 driver and a poen, AH&Vety deployed 1 driver and LR,S&WC even though deployed a driver, he is yet to join. Chairman informed the Committee that arrangements will be made to re-deploy Deputy Director from Agriculture Dept.</p> <p>JD, LR,S&WC dept., explained the driver deployed for FOCUS cannot join due to medical grounds and the dept., is unable to provide a substitute</p>	<p>Chairman directed the CEO to solve the inadequacy of drivers in FOCUS for the time being from its own resources until the line departments can provide/deploy the drivers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action : PMU</p>
<p>11. Leguminous cover crop-annual</p>	<p>CEO explained that Rs 1.02 crore has been allotted during 2019-20 and released to DMUs for purchase of Arhar seeds. As of now, Rs 49.39875 lakh is unutilized in the DMUs.</p> <p>It was agreed that other legumes crops such as soybean, cowpea, French bean, field pea and other pulses may also be purchased and cultivated from the balance/unutilized fund.</p>	<p>It was agreed that DMUs should submit a detailed proposal to PMU for utilization of the balance fund in respect of Legume cover crop-Perennial.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action : DMUs</p>
<p>12. Crop for Value Chain Development</p>	<p>DD, Horticulture (FOCUS) explained and presented various checklists of value chain intervenetion, which were mentioned in the Project Implementing Manual (PIM). She</p>	<p>Procurement for seedlings of crops under Value Chain Development is to be carried out. The rate adopted should be the concerned department's Schedule of</p>

	<p>stated that seedlings of crops for Value Chain Development viz., Mizo chilli, ginger and turmeric needs to be pre-identified and reserved while they are still in the field.</p> <p>These crops are to be cultivated in cluster areas with market accessible linkage roads. The possibility of hiring/loaning refrigerated vans for this activity from Department of Horticulture should be explored</p>	<p>Rate (SoR)/ DPAB's current rate.</p> <p>Action : PMU & DMU</p>
13. FIG promotion	<p>It was reported that as many as 1148 Farmer Interest Groups may be promoted during 2019-20. An amount of Rs 0.3 lakh per FIG is allotted for promotion and Rs 30 lakh is available as of now. This accounts only for promotion of 100 FIGs.</p> <p>In this connection, DD, Horticulture (FOCUS) stated that Community Resource Person (CRP) has to be engaged as stated in the PIM.</p>	<p>The available amount, i.e.,Rs 30 lakh be released for the promotion of Jhum based FIGs depending on the number of FIGs in the Districts.</p> <p>Action : PMU & DMUs</p> <p>Community Resource Person (CRP) may be engaged only if the need arises.</p>
14. Procurement of planting materials/seeds /inputs	<p>FM, FOCUS stated that the procurement of planting materials/seeds/inputs comes under Community Procurement where the responsible institution is FIG &VC (Village Council) as per the Procurement Plan, 2019-20. He urged that the procurement criteria be followed scrupulously as it affects the Withdrawal Application of IFAD loan reimbursement.</p> <p>CEO mooted the possibility of procurement through private</p>	<p>After deliberation at length ,it was approved that procure-ment is to be done centrally at the PMU level. The Horticulture Department will identify a reliable private nursery for issue of Request for Quotation (RFQ).</p> <p>Action : PMU &DoH</p>

	nurseries. DD, Horticulture Dept., stated that from the Department's experience, it is risky to expect raising of nurseries by the farmers as they have always failed	
15. Bifurcation of District	It was raised that since 3 new Districts have been created by the State Government, there is a change in the area covered by Serchhip and Champhai districts. The meeting considered whether to con-form to the territorial jurisdiction of these new districts or to continue with the existing areas for project activities.	It is agreed that the project activities will continue as per the existing/old district areas until further orders.

The Fourth Meeting of the Project Steering Committee/ Governing Council, SCRAM, a society for the implementation of FOCUS Project under IFAD was convened under the Chairmanship of Shri Lalnunmawia Chuaungo, Chief Secretary and Chairman, SCRAM at the Chief Secretary's Conference Room, MINECO, Aizawl at 10:00 AM on 29th May, 2019. The important decisions taken in these meeting are as under-

- 1) The meeting approved the proposal for recruitment of Manager, Finance and Manager-Planning (Monitoring & Evaluation)
- 2) The meeting approved the proposal for engagement of Chartered Accountant for Internal Auditor. However, the meeting felt it necessary to consider logistic issues, travel expenses and ease of carrying out auditing work while selecting Chartered Accountant.
- 3) Project Management Unit(PMU) proposed to constitute Local Purchase Committee interms of GFR-2017, Rules 155 comprised of the following of members:
 - a) State Project Director, FOCUS & CEO, SCRAM–Chairman
 - b) Deputy Director (Accounts) Directorate of Agriculture (Crop Husbandry) - Member
 - c) Deputy Director (Horticulture) SCRAM- Member

The meeting approved the proposed constitution of a Local Purchase Committee with the composition aforesaid. The Local Purchase Committee so constituted shall follow the procurement methods and guidelines spelt out in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

- 4) Shri. R.K Nithanga, SPD, FOCUS presented the proposed component-wise activities for utilization of funds during the current year 2019-20. After discussion at length, the Governing Council approved the component-wise activities. It was resolved that Lead Farmers' honorarium should be paid through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) only.

- 5) The meeting emphasized the importance of sustainability in any project and the need to take measures towards this end during the course of implementation. PMU was asked to develop a suitable model for village slaughter slab taking into account ease of operation and maintenance, low cost but effective technology, proper waste disposal and hygienic meat handling for possible replication across the State, particularly in rural areas.

It was also resolved that PMU may explore the possibility of using existing departmental Centres of Excellence for training of Lead farmers and plant nursery activities.

Some of the issues faced by the project on project implementation are mentioned under:

- 1) As the project staff is engage on contract basis, staff turnover is the main issue.
- 2) For recruitment at Manager Level, lack of eligible candidate is an issue.
- 3) As per the project design, middle level officers are to be deployed in DMU, but are not yet deployed till date.
- 4) Lack of coordination with line departments.

In compliance with Supervision Mission recommendation, the following activities are undertaken-

- 1) Deputy Director (Agri) joined on 15.1.2020
- 2) VFAs, CAHWs and AHMs are deployed to District Veterinary Office.

The details of knowledge generation activities has been undertaken by the project during the reporting period-

Sl. No.	Date	Venue	Name of training	Participants
1	13.07.2019	Bhubaneshwar, Odisha	Training on e-withdrawal and NOTUS application	1) Mr. Lalmuansanga, Manager (Finance & Accounts) 2) Mr. David Golianpianga, Audit Officer
2	17.10.2019 to 18.10.2019	Manila	Regional congress on Roots & Tuber crops for food security and climate resilient in Asia	Mr. R.K. Nithanga, State Project Director
3	10.12.2019 to 12.12.2019	New Delhi	Procurement Training	1) Dr. Lalhmingthanga, Deputy Director (AH & Vety.) 2) Mr. Lalmuansanga, Manager (Finance & Accounts) 3) Mr. David Golianpianga, Audit Officer

4	12.12.2019 to 14.12.2019	New Delhi	Financial management training at UN House	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mr. Lalmuansanga, Manager (Finance & Accounts) 2) Mr. Peter Zoramthanga, Account Officer, PMU 3) Ms. Agnes Lalrintluangi, Asst. Manager (Finance), Kolasib DMU 4) Mr. James Zosangliana, Asst. Manager (Finance), Serchhip DMU
5	25.10.2019 to 27.10.2019	DLG Farm, Mysore	Exposure visit cum training of pig progressive farmer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mr. Malsawmkima, Animal Husbandry Manager, DMU Mamit 2) Daniel PZ Liana Vaiphei, Support to CSS Operation 3) 18 pig progressive farmer from Kolasib and Serchhip District.
6.	13.1.2020	New Delhi	TPRM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Lalhmingthanga IAS, Co-Chairman, SCRAM & Commissioner of Agriculture 2. Mr. Vanlalchhuanga, Finance Commissioner 3. Mr. R.K.Nithanga, SPD

The project disseminates the project information through leaflet, developing package of practices, and electronic media. For observing International Women's Day 2020, the project organised television show inviting renowned Women Leaders among the Mizo's to deliver a speech on gender related topic, which was broadcasted in the largest cable network in Mizoram while the same was also uploaded in their youtube channel.

I. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

As the project faced a problem in collaboration with ICAR, instead of collaborating with ICAR, the project agreed to collaborate with KVK. On our request, Director of Agriculture(R&E) called a meeting of PMU and all heads of KVKs on 31st March, 2020 to discuss the matter but could not meet due to COVID-19 outbreak.

Various training of trainers is organized by FAO during the reporting period. The details are mentioned in the table below-

Sl.No	Name of training	Training period	No. of participants
1.	Training on Horticulture	3-7 September 2019	16
2.	Training on Veterinarian	23-27 September 2019	25
3.	Training on SALT	7-11 September 2019	21
4.	Training on Agronomy	14-18 October 2019	18
Total			80

In compliance with supervision mission recommendation, FOCUS write to FAO and seek statement of expenditure.

J. M&E

Baseline Survey is conducted by FAO on 18th -21st Sept 2019. ATMA is engaged for conducting baseline survey. A 21 member team from ATMA have conducted the baseline survey in four districts of Mizoram. At the end of December 2019, data collection of 632 households out of the 1600 households have been completed and submitted to the FAO,

Requirement Analysis for MIS Application is conducted by RMSI Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore from 28th – 30th Sept 2019. After this, MIS development is under process. RMSI Pvt. Ltd have provided Hardware requirement for MIS hosting. Procurement of hosting service is under process.

Summary of recommendations made during the last supervision mission under project management and compliances to these recommendations.

Baseline Survey	Baseline survey in under process and is not finalised yet.
MIS Development	MIS Development is under process. Information regarding AWPB, Physical and Financial Formats, Logframe etc. have been shared with RMSI Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore
Hardware Requirement	Hardware Requirement for MIS Hosting have been shared by RMSI Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore and is under procurement. National Informatics Center, Mizoram State Unit is approach for Cloud service.
Reporting	Ongoing

K. AWPB implementation

Details as to the coherence of implementation with AWPB of 2019-10.

Explain the component wise achievement against AWPB targets

Sub- Component	AWPB Budget (Rs Lakhs)	Achievement (Rs Lakhs)	Percentage of Achievement (%)
Better Jhum and Conservation	3509.12	1,262.35	35.97
Settled Agriculture	2101.88	264.45	12.58
Value Chain Development-Crop	100.38	0	0.00
Marketing Support	185.4	8.86	4.78
Value Chain Development-Livestock	3980.05	99.35	2.50

Market Access Infrastructure	4358.55	11.58	0.27
Project Management	909.89	591.83	65.04
Total	15145.27	2,238.42	

IFAD Grant is included, being WA No 1 for FAO. (USD 388,897 x INR 68 = INR 2,64,44,996/-

L. Financial Management

Details of cumulative project expenditure by financier

Financier	Expenditure until 31.3.2019 (Rs Lakhs)	Expenditure during April 2019 to March 2020 (Rs Lakhs)	Cumulative expenditure until 31.3.2020 (Rs Lakhs)
IFAD Loan	143.32	1,265.76	1,409.08
State Govt Contribution	9.17	307.10	316.27
CSS	0.00	401.10	401.10
Convergence	0.00	0.00	0.00
Beneficiary contribution	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	152.49	1,973.96	2,126.45

IFAD Grant is not included

Details of cumulative project expenditure by component

Component	Expenditure until 31.3.2019 (Rs Lakhs)	Expenditure during April 2019 to March 2020 (Rs Lakhs)	Cumulative expenditure until 31.3.2020 (Rs Lakhs)
Jhum Improvement	84.48	1,526.80	1,611.28
Value Chain and Market access	0.00	119.79	119.79
Project Management	68.01	591.83	659.84
Total	152.49	2,238.42	2,390.91

IFAD Grant is included, being WA NO 1 for FAO. (USD 388,897 x INR 68 = INR 2,64,44,996/-

Details of disbursement under IFAD loan

Category	IFAD loan allocation (USD)	Withdrawal unit 31.3.2019 (USD)	Withdrawal during April 2019 to March 2020 (USD)	Cumulative withdrawal until 31.3.2020 (USD)
Works	1,11,00,000.00			0.00
Grants and Subsidies	11,00,000.00			0.00
Goods, Services and Inputs	90,00,000.00		4,59,292.61	4,59,292.61
Salaries and allowances	57,00,000.00		8,90,994.75	8,90,994.75
Training	49,00,000.00		2,54,370.90	2,54,370.90
Authorised allocation		20,00,000.00		20,00,000.00
Unallocated	35,00,000.00			0.00
Total	3,53,00,000.00	20,00,000.00	16,04,658.26	36,04,658.26

IFAD Grant is not included

M. Conclusion

The Progress and achievement during 2019-20 was very less due to the fact that the State Government was not well aware of the financing system of the Project that delayed release of fund from the Budget. The year 2019-20 was the year of preparatory, such as setting up the project, recruitment of manpower, Office establishment, procurement of office equipments, furniture, vehicles, etc. This preparatory activity was followed by Start-up workshop, official launching of the project, Orientation training of the newly recruited manpower followed by formation of FIGs, identification of lead farmers, CAHWs and other Project management activities. When the Project was ready to take off for field activities, there was no fund release for field activities. With the pressure from MOF, GOI, the state Government released fund from the budget at the fag end of financial year. Nevertheless, the project prepared for next planting season and scouting seeds and planting materials availability in the villages, particularly for Value Chain crops.

Some key supports required from IFAD to accelerate project implementation are summarized as follows:-

- IFAD must provide General Guidelines for implementation of its funded Projects which one can refer in implementing the project.
- IFAD may simplify its complicated procedures as regard to Finance, procurement, project implementation, etc. so that field activities, release of fund for field works, etc. can be speeded up.
- IFAD must make provision of incentives/remuneration for Government Officers on deployment so that Officers are more devoted to the project.
- Appointment or deployment of a full fledged State Project Director for the Project should be compulsory. He should be deployed purely for the Project without having any other project/scheme engagement or dual charge with the Project. As per PIM, SPD should be Joint Director level of the State Government Service, this should be strictly maintained for better administration.