Bamboo Forest Management Plan

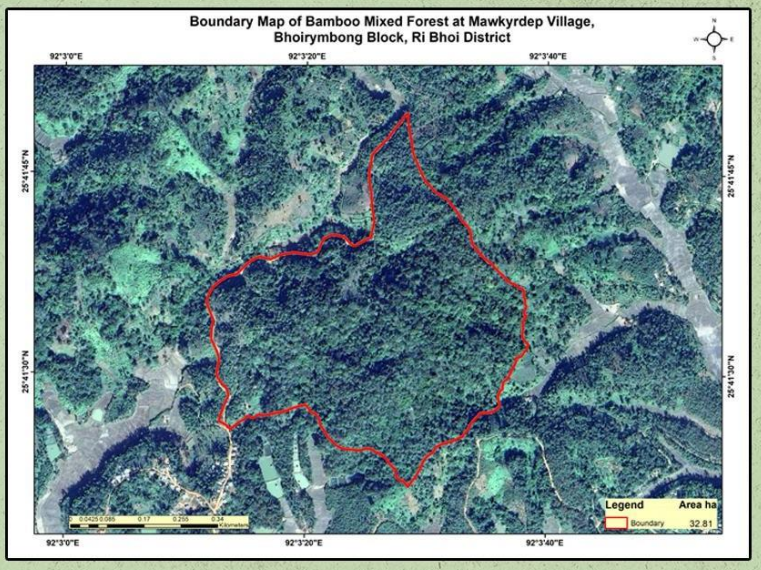
for

Mawkyrdep Village

Ribhoi District, Meghalaya

(in partial fulfillment of the application for FSC Forest Management Certification)





prepared by Mawkyrdep BFMC with the assistance from

Centre of Excellence
for
Natural Resource Management & Sustainable Livelihoods

Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA)
Government of Meghalaya

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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

BFMC	Bamboo Forest Management Committee
CoE (NRM&SL)	Centre of Excellence for Natural Resources Management And Sustainable Livelihoods
CF	Clump Forming
DFO	Divisional Forest Officer
FM	Forest Management
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
ha	hectare
MBDA	Meghalaya Basin Management Agency
NCF	Non-Clump Forming
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PCCF	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
PPS	Probability Proportional to Size
RFSS	Regional Forest Stewardship Standard
SHG	Self-Help Groups
VBMC	Village Bamboo Management Committee
VCF	Village Community Facilitators
WP Act	Wildlife Protection Act

Bamboo Forest Management Plan for Mawkyrdep Village, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya

1. Introduction

Mawkyrdep is a small Khasi village situated in the southern part of the Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya, with a close-knit community that depends largely on bamboo, farming, and small-scale forest resources for their livelihoods. The people of the village follow traditional customary practices under the Village Council headed by the Rangbah Shnong, which plays a central role in decision-making, resource management, and conflict resolution. The community values cooperation, sustainability, and cultural traditions, and women play an active role in households as well as in community groups such as Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Bamboo is especially important, not only as an economic resource but also for housing, farming practices and cultural activities.

1.1. Location Map

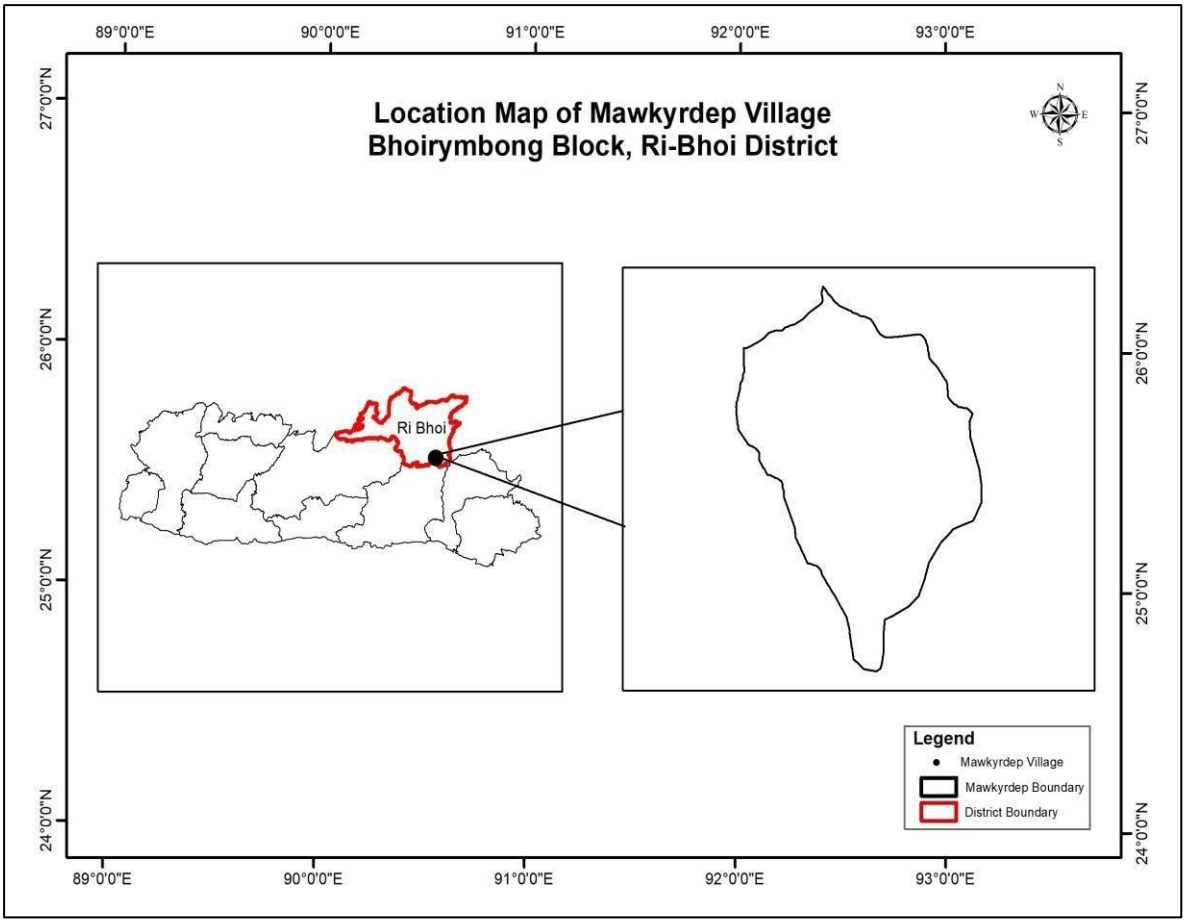


Figure 1:Location map of Mawkyrdep village

1.2. Scope of Bamboo Forest Management Plan

This manual describes the management system for the Bamboo Forest under the Mawkyrdep Village Council which adheres to the principle laid down under the RFSS standards of FSC (Annexure I).

The applicable standards upon which this management plan is based are:

- FSC-STD-30-005 V2-0 FM Groups Standard
- FSC-STD-IND-RAP-V1.0-2022_Small Holder_ Plantations EN_ The FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for Smallholders in India
- FSC-STD-50-001 V2-1 EN Requirements for use of the FSC trademarks

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1.3. Demography

The total population in Mawkyrdep is 773. Out of this, 378 are males while the female count is 395. The female literacy rate in the village is 85.65%, whereas the male literacy rate is 91.35%. The overall literacy rate stands at 88.44%.

Table 1:Demography

Demography of Population	Number
Number of Female	395
Number of Male	378
Total Population	773
Total Number of Families	145

Literacy Category	Literacy percent (%)
Female Literacy Rate	85.65%
Male Literacy Rate	91.35%
Overall Literacy Rate	88.44%

Source: Meglife, Bhoirymbong Block

1.4. Socio-economic Conditions of Mawkyrdep village

Mawkyrdep Village, situated under Bhoirymbong C&RD Block of Ri Bhoi District, Meghalaya, approximately 42 km from Shillong and 70 km from Nongpoh, is a predominantly Khasi Scheduled Tribe settlement governed under the traditional Khasi administrative system of Raid Madan Kyrdem. The village follows a strong community-based natural resource management system through the Village Dorbar and Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC), with agriculture, forestry, and livestock rearing forming the backbone of the local economy. Comprising approximately 145 households with a population of around 773 people, the village has a relatively young and economically active workforce, with women playing a significant role in household decision-making and economic activities under the matrilineal Khasi social system. The primary livelihood activities include farming and livestock rearing, while forests provide bamboo, fuelwood, medicinal plants, fodder, wild edible plants, and other non-timber forest products (NTFPs) that supplement household incomes. Additional income is generated through government employment, private sector

jobs, teaching, small businesses, wage labour, and government welfare programmes, with income levels varying according to land ownership, crop productivity, market access, and seasonal employment opportunities. Land ownership follows the customary Khasi tenure system comprising community forests, clan-owned land, private land, with community forests managed collectively under customary institutions to ensure sustainable resource use. The village has access to basic infrastructure including roads, electricity, schools, drinking water, sanitation facilities, mobile connectivity, healthcare services, and government welfare schemes, although residents rely on nearby towns for higher education, specialized healthcare, banking, and larger markets. Strong local institutions such as the Village Dorbar, Rangbah Shnong, BFMC, Village Executive Committee, Self-Help Groups, and youth and women's organizations support community governance, conflict resolution, forest conservation, and implementation of development programmes. Despite challenges such as small and fragmented landholdings, dependence on rain-fed agriculture, limited market access, inadequate post-harvest infrastructure, restricted access to finance and modern technologies, climate variability, and limited value addition to bamboo products, Mawkyrdep has good potential to improve livelihoods through bamboo certification, bamboo-based enterprises, biochar production, agroforestry, medicinal plant cultivation, beekeeping, community nurseries, eco-tourism, climate-smart agriculture, skill development, and women-led enterprises. The implementation of the Bamboo Forest Management Plan (BFMP) and Group Management System (GMS) is therefore expected to strengthen sustainable bamboo management, diversify livelihood opportunities, improve household incomes, enhance climate resilience, and ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable utilization of the village's bamboo forest resources.

1.5. Tribes

The people of Mawkyrdep belong to the Khasi tribe, one of the major indigenous tribes of Meghalaya. The Khasi community follows a matrilineal system, where family lineage and inheritance pass through the mother’s line. Traditional governance is exercised through the Rangbah Shnong (Head of Village Council), which manages community affairs, land resources including farms, and conflict resolution. The tribe maintains a close relationship with nature, and bamboo plays an important role in their livelihood, culture, and daily life (Annexure II & III).

2. Forest cover in the village

The total geographical area of the village is 157.14 ha which comprises 56.71 ha of forest cover. The forest in the village supports diverse plant and animal life. The forest in the village has a patch of 32.81 ha which is rich in bamboo species. In addition to bamboo, the forests comprise a mosaic of community, and private forests, reflecting the traditional land tenure system practiced by the local Khasi community. The village landscape is dominated by sub-

tropical broad-leaved forests interspersed with extensive bamboo patches, particularly in secondary forest areas and former jhum fallows. Bamboo is abundant throughout the village and constitutes one of the most important forest resources for local livelihoods and sustainable forest management.

The forest vegetation is characterized by a mixture of native tree species such as *Schima wallichii* (Dieng Ngan), *Emblica officinalis* (Dieng Soh mylleng), *Castanopsis spp.* (Dieng sohot.), *Toona ciliata* (Dieng Sali), *Erythrina indica* (Deing Song), *Michelia champaca* (Dieng Rai), *Rhus javanica* (Dieng Sohma), *Ficus spp* (Dieng Jri), *Pinus kesaya* (Dieng Kseh), *Citrus reticulata* (Dieng Syiem), *Gmelina arborea* (Dieng Laphiang), *Albizzia odoratissima* (Dieng Kreit), *Quercus serrata* (Dieng Rting**),** *Sterculia villlosa* (DiengTluh) along with naturally occurring Bamboo, wild fruit species, shrubs, climbers, ferns, orchids, and medicinal plants. Bamboo species, form dense clumps in many parts of the forest and play an important ecological and economic role. The forest provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, such as Bulbul, Sparrow, Hoopoe, Minivet, Woodpecker, Owl, Jungle fowl, Monkey, Wildcat, Rabbit, Jackal, Squirrel, Rodent, Yellow throated marten, snake, Gecko and numerous insect species typical of the subtropical forests of Meghalaya. Several perennial springs and streams originate within or pass through the forest, making it an important watershed that supports agriculture and domestic water supply for the village. The presence of natural regeneration, diverse understory vegetation, and bamboo contributes to soil stabilization, groundwater recharge, and carbon sequestration.

Forest management activities include assisted natural regeneration, enrichment planting, forest fire control lines, boundary demarcation, nursery development, and in-situ and ex-situ conservation of rare and endangered plant species, if any. These interventions have strengthened biodiversity conservation and promoting sustainable management of forest resources. The village has also adopted measures to regulate extraction of timber and non-timber forest products, ensuring that the forest continues to provide ecological, economic, and cultural benefits to present and future generations.

The village council has decided to apply for FSC Forest Management Certification for the bamboo forest with an extent of 32.81 ha. This combination of bamboo, trees, grasses, and wildlife highlights the ecological richness and biodiversity value of the village forest. There are pure patches of bamboo as well as bamboo occurs in interspersed manner along with other tree species. The bamboo species in the forest include *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*.

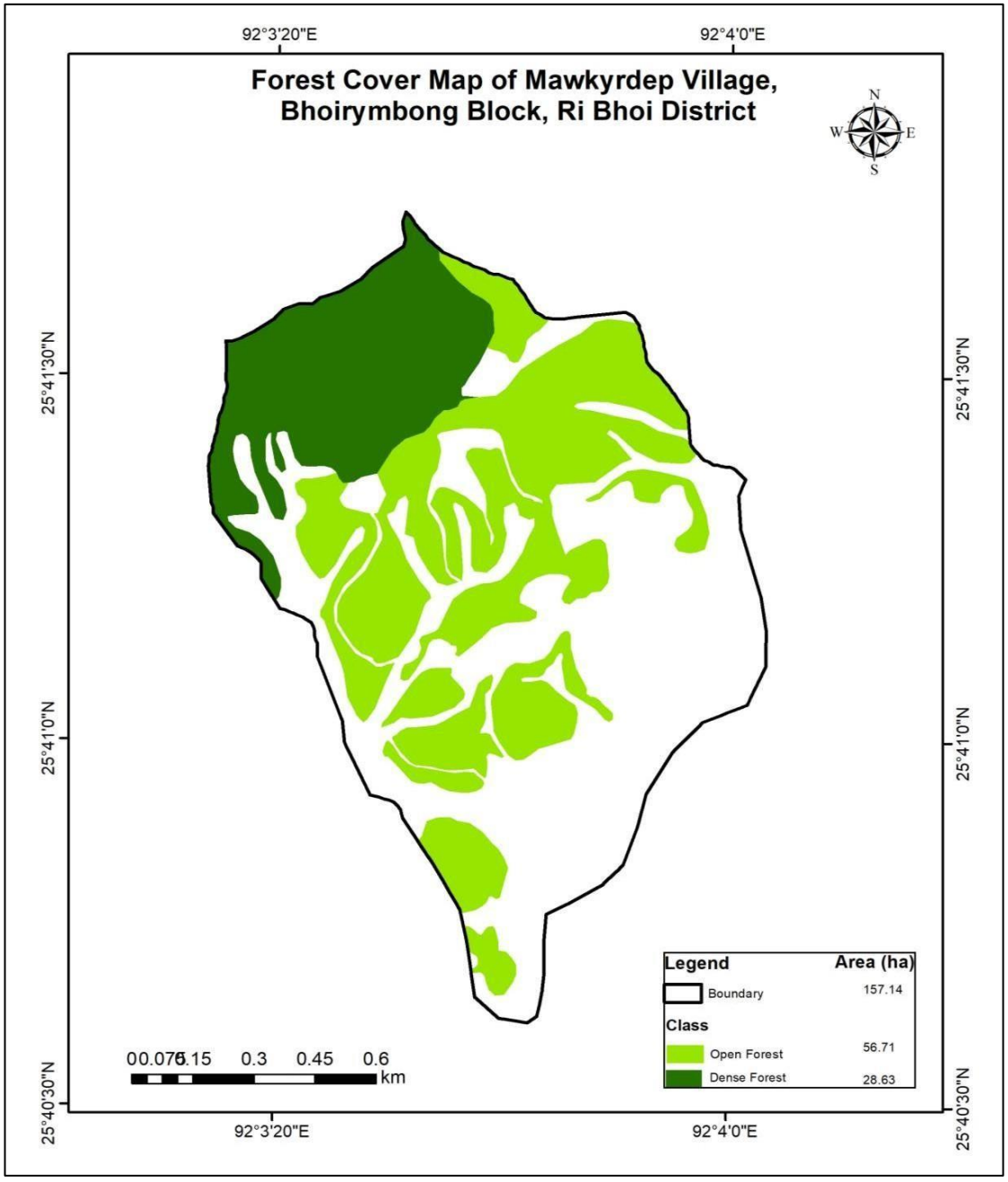


Figure 2:Forest cover map of Mawkyrdep village

3. Bamboo Forest in Mawkyrdep Village and it's management

3.1. Bamboo Resource Inventory

The bamboo inventory in Mawkyrdep village was conducted to assess the available bamboo resources and inform sustainable harvesting plans. The process began with the identification of bamboo forest boundaries by Village Community Facilitators (VCFs), followed by the preparation of GIS-based maps. Using a stratified random sampling method and Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) approach, 30m x 30m sample plots were established across bamboo-dense areas. Trained VCFs collected data from these plots, including the number of clumps and culms, culm age and diameter, species identification, and green biomass measurements. Only mature culms (typically 3 - 4 years old) were considered for sustainable harvest estimates. The collected data was validated and analyzed by district and state-level teams to determine the sustainably harvestable yield and prepare a village-level bamboo resource inventory. This inventory forms the scientific basis for the management and harvesting guidelines outlined in the forest management plan (Annexure IV). This data will guide sustainable harvesting and ongoing management.

Table 2:Bamboo Resources Inventory Results

Sl. No.	Name of Bamboo Species	Estimated Number of Culms	Green Weight (in tonnes)	Dry Weight (in tonnes)
1	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	29832	436	231

3.1.1. Clump density in the forest

Table 3:Clump density in the forest

1	Estimated number of clumps in the forest	1485
2	Number of clumps per ha	45
3	Average size of clumps (Sq. m)	7.2
4	Average spacing between the clumps (m)	14.9

As evident from the above tables the clump density per hectare is low (only 45 per ha). Therefore, there is a scope for planting more bamboo seedlings in the inter clump spaces, for improving the stocking and overall yield. It is proposed that the number of clumps in the forest will be increased by 5077 in the next 3 years by planting approximately 1692 bamboo seedlings per year. Clump density after improved stocking will then rise to nearly 200 clumps per hectare.

3.1.2. Sustainably Harvestable Bamboo

Based on bamboo resource inventory data, the quantity of harvestable bamboo is estimated by considering the maturity of culms, the harvesting cycle and conservation factor taking into account uncertainty in the future yield. As given in the table below, the

quantity of sustainably harvestable bamboo from the bamboo forest of Mawkyrdep Village is 115 tonnes per year. Normally, 3 - 4 years old culms are selected for harvest to ensure sustainability and regeneration. Estimation of sustainably harvestable yield has been done taking harvesting cycle as 4 years. A conservation factor of 0.8 has also been used to make all allowance for unforeseen events like fire, damage due to storms etc.

Table 4:Sustainably harvestable yield

Current Harvestable yield (annually)	115 tonnes per year

As mentioned in the foregoing section, the existing clump density in the forest is much below the optimum density which the forest can support. Presently the clump density is at 45 per ha. Considering various factors into account like cost, improved productivity from the forest, increased carbon sequestration resulting into the possibility of increased revenues from carbon credits. It has been proposed to increase the clump density to 200 clumps/ha in 3 years. The table below presents the increased yield after the improved stocking.

Table 5: Projected Sustainable Harvestable yield after improved Stocking (6th year onwards)

Harvestable yield (Calculated after planting of 200 seedlings per ha to increase stocking)	509 tonnes per year

3.1.3. Silvicultural System

The silvicultural system for bamboo in Mawkyrdep follows a clump management approach focused on selective culm harvesting to promote healthy regeneration. Only mature culms (3–4 years old) are harvested, retaining younger ones to support growth. The horse-shoe method has been prescribed for extraction of culm which also ensures regular cleaning of dead or congested culms and thus ensures clump vitality. This system enhances natural regeneration, improves yield, and supports long-term sustainability aligned with the FSC standards.

3.1.4. Guidelines for Harvesting of Bamboo

Species such as Dendrocalamus hamiltonii is monitored for density, and culm condition. Only 3 - 4 years old culms are harvested for sustainability. Harvesting must follow the "Horse-shoe" method, starting from the inner part of the clump and moving outward as depicted in Fig.3

(i) Harvesting must follow the "Horse-shoe" method, starting from the inner part of the clump and moving outward as depicted in Fig.3

(ii) Only mature culms (3–4 years old) should be harvested; younger culms and those under 4 cm in diameter should be retained.

(iii) Retain at least 6 culms per clump for regeneration, and avoid removing more than 50% of culms in one go.

(iv) Diseased or drying culms must be removed to prevent fire hazard.

(v) Culms must be cut low from the ground just above the first node (30 cm above ground) to avoid rot.

(vi) Cutting around the periphery is discouraged to prevent imbalance in clump growth.

(vii) Use sharp tools, and consider introducing thin-bladed saws for clean cuts.

(viii) Avoid harvesting during the rainy season to protect emerging shoots.

(ix) While harvesting the culms, the persons engaged in the task should use appropriate protective gears like helmets, thick rubber gloves, gumboots etc.

(x) Care should be taken while extracting culms in such a way that rhizome structure is not damaged.

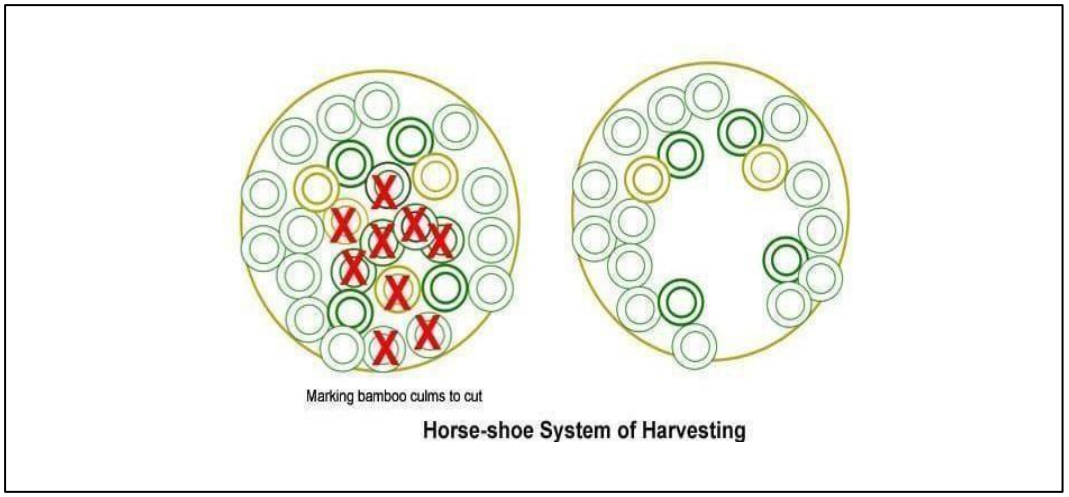


Figure 3:Horse-shoe system of harvesting

This method involves cutting select culms in a semi-circular pattern within the clump while retaining support culms on the periphery, ensuring structural balance and regeneration support. (Annexure V)

3.1.5. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was conducted in the village Mawkyrdep between 13th July 2026 following two methods:

(i) Transect survey cum sample plots-based observation

(ii) Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)

Environmental Impact Assessment based on above two methods has revealed that shifting cultivation practice is the only potential cause of environmental damage in the village. Shifting cultivation is a traditional farm of agriculture practice being followed by

the tribal people in the village since ages. Previously shifting cultivation in the village used to be practiced with long fallow cycle of 10-12 years. But with rise in population and fragmentation of families the rotation cycle of shifting cultivation has reduced 1-2 years. With the long fallow cycle shifting cultivation is not environmental degrading agriculture practice as it allows adequate time for the forest to regrow on the abundant agriculture land after 2-3 years of agriculture cultivation.

However, with the reduced cycle the jhum land becomes prone to soil erosion, loss of fertility, weed infestation, reduced water percolation. Thus, shifting cultivation is a potential problem of environmental degradation.

Guidelines for checking environmental degradation in Mawkyrdep village

(i) Environmental awareness campaign: The BFMC of the village has been advised to conduct environment awareness campaign 2-3 times in a year. In the campaign, the villagers are sensitized on the environmental issues like forest fires, soil erosion, water conservation, climate change etc.

(ii) The village practicing shifting cultivation are also persuaded to switch over to a settled form of agriculture and agroforestry and horticulture plantation.

(iii) It has also been planned to onboard these community persons who adopt settled form of cultivation under Agroforestry models to the Agroforestry carbon initiative already landed in the State.

(iv) Landslides: Because of factors such as felling of trees, forest fires, shifting cultivation and also due to development activities like rod construction, dam construction, some hills have become denuded and thus they are prone to landslides. Landslides not only lead to massive soil loss but they also create major disturbance in the ecology and socio-economic life of the people.

(v) In Mawkyrdep village few instances of soil erosion occurs during heavy rainfall have been observed. The BFMC has been sensitized to take lead in landslide stabilization works also even though it may not be directly linked to Bamboo Forest Management practices. If the community decides these BFMC may take up the landslide affected area in the village for stabilizing it by planting bamboo.

(vi) Soil erosion: Environment issue of soil erosion has been observed in Mawkyrdep village. BFMC with the involvement of community may take the lead in treating such soil erosion affected areas. Measure for controlling soil erosion include contour trenching, gully plugging, bunding and planting native species known for soil binding properties. Planting of grasses like vetiver, lemon grass is also recommended.

(vii) Forest fire: The BFMC members will ensure that the bamboo forest is well protected from forest fires. The community members will take due care especially in the fire season by patrolling and creating fire lines, removing

inflammable dry biomass from the forest floor. Clearance of dry biomass on the periphery will be undertaken before the onset of fire season, i.e. November and December. The BFMC will also create awareness in the whole village for taking all precautions to prevent forest fires.

Transect survey was done using diagonal line as shown in the following map (**Figure 4**). In these transect survey visual observation were taken 20m strip (either side).

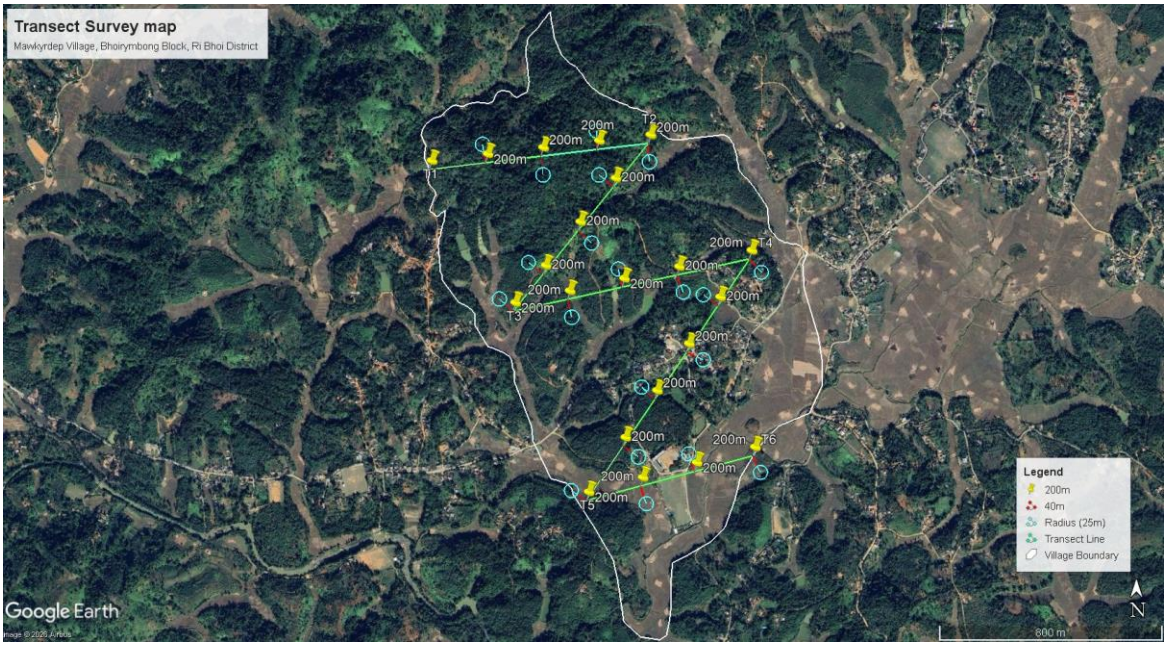


Figure 4: Transect Survey Map of the Village Forest Area of Mawkyrdep Village

3.1.6. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) for assessing High Conservation Value (HCV)

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) for High Conservation Value (HCV) exercise was carried out in Mawkyrdep Village, Bhoi-Rymbong Block, Ri Bhoi District. The questionnaire covers information about biodiversity, cultural value sites, water resources, invasive species, NTFPs, hunting, environmental concerns, and community conservation practices. The assessment was carried out by group consultation with community members using a questionnaire for facilitating discussion. The PRA aimed to capture local traditional knowledge, cultural values, and community perception to support sustainable forest management. In all, 8 community members participated.

Objectives

The objectives of the PRA were to:

(i) Identify areas and natural resources with High Conservation Values.

(ii) Document traditional ecological knowledge related to forests and bamboo.

(iii) Identify ecological, cultural, and social values requiring protection.

(iv) Understand community conservation practices and forest use.

Methodology

The PRA was conducted through village meetings and focused group discussion involving community members. Information was collected using questionnaire for facilitating covering biodiversity, rare species, wildlife, cultural heritage, water resources, invasive species, non-timber forest products (NTFPs), hunting, environmental concerns, and existing conservation practices. Field observations and participatory discussions were used to verify the information provided by the participants.

The methodology for the transect survey is as follows:

As shown in the map, the coordinates of end points of each segment of the transect line were generated from the GIS layer and with the help of GPS navigation along the transect line was ensured. As shown in the map sample observation points on either side of the transect line at a spacing of 200 m were taken. The observations were taken in a structured format. A copy of which is given in Annexure XV.

The PRA involved representatives from different sections of the community, including:

(i) Village Council members

(ii) Traditional leaders

(iii) Elders and traditional knowledge holders

(iv) Women representatives

(v) Bamboo growers

(vi) Farmers

The following are the findings:

A. Rare, Endangered, Threatened Plant Species

Rare, plant species such as Rsang (Tree) and *Calamus* sp. (Tnger/ Cane) along with Sohlynnar & Sohstar (Fruit trees) are found in the village. Their numbers have declined due to habitat loss and overexploitation. The common plants found in the area are as follows

Trees:

Schima wallichii (Dieng Ngan), *Emblica officinalis* (Dieng Soh mylleng), *Castanopsis* spp. (Dieng sohot.), *Toona ciliata* (Dieng Sali), *Erythrina indica* (Deing Song), *Michelia champaca* (Dieng Rai), *Rhus javanica* (Dieng Sohma), *Ficus* spp (Dieng Jri), *Pinus kesaya* (Dieng Kseh), *Citrus reticulata* (Dieng Syiem), *Gmelina arborea* (Dieng Laphiang), *Albizzia odoratissima* (Dieng Kreit), *Quercus serrata* (Dieng Rting), *Sterculia villlosa* (DiengTluh)

Shrubs/ Herbs:

As per the information given by the community, the presence of plant species in the area has declined over the last few decades. A few rare orchids are also found in the area such as *Rhynchostylis retusa* (Tdongmiaw), Langbyrkhaw (white flowers) and Blue Vanda. The community has also stated that a few medicinal plants, such as *Swertia chirayita* (Charita) and Jatler have declined in their number due to over utilization.

B. Wildlife and Biodiversity

The community reported the occurrence of various mammals, birds, reptiles, and other wildlife within the village forests. Participants also identified wildlife movement routes and habitats that require protection. With the exception of birds' nests, other evidence of animal sightings through footprints, burrows, and feeding signs were not reported. Rare wild animals that are found in the forest include Thew iong, Wild cat, Squirrel, Bat (Lymbit), Yellow throated marten (Phyllad).

The common bird species include Jungle Fowl, Minivet (Simsyiem), Owl, Kynchir (Hen-like) while rare sightings of birds such as Jyllop and Amur falcon (migratory bird) have also been reported.

C. Cultural and Historical Sites

The PRA revealed that there are no sacred forests, sacred groves or sacred trees present in the village or its vicinity. Old churches, monuments, memorial stones, or traditional places of worship were not reported to be present in the village.

D. Water resources

The village's water sources comprise 5 community-identified natural springs—Umdait-ta, Krem muid, Umthadan, Umsarang and Kharbihkhiew. Additionally, two rivers are also present in the village viz., Wahkhap Phadar, Wahumnuih. Community members noted that although several of these springs previously experienced severe depletion, targeted watershed management interventions by the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) have successfully restored their flow and discharge. Consequently, the village currently faces no major water scarcity.

E. Invasive Alien Species

Community members identified several invasive plant species within the village forests, *including Ageratina adenophora* (Lantana iong)*, Lantana camara* (Lantana saw)*, Chromolaena odorata* (Lantana lieh), *and Mikania sp.* (Repuji). Despite their presence, participants noted that these invasive species currently do not adversely impact bamboo growth or natural forest regeneration.

F. Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)

PRA documented key Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) harvested by the

community for household consumption, traditional practices, and income generation. The primary NTFPs collected include honey, bamboo, wild banana, wild mushrooms, *Colocasia*, *Castanopsis indica* (*Soh-Ot*), and *Emblica officinalis* (gooseberry / *Sohmylleng*). Among these, wild mushrooms and *Emblica officinalis* serve as the primary drivers of NTFP-based household income.

G. Hunting and Wildlife Pressure

Hunting is strictly prohibited within Mawkyrdep village. To enforce this ban, the village council maintains robust compliance measures, including prominently displayed signboards, regular updates during village council meetings, and periodic announcements broadcast over the public address (PA) system to keep all community members informed.

H. Additional Environmental Concerns

The community members informed that instances of soil occur during monsoon season. These concerns were considered during the preparation of management prescriptions. Natural bamboo regeneration within the village forest is healthy and satisfactory.

I. Community Conservation Practices

The village actively protects designated forest areas, with conservation measures regularly monitored and enforced by Village Council members in collaboration with the community.

The village has formally designated specific forest patches as protected conservation areas to safeguard local biodiversity and ecosystem services. Management responsibility is shared directly between the local leadership and the broader community. Strategic protection measures focus on preserving core canopy cover, preventing habitat fragmentation, and maintaining critical environmental buffers, particularly around local watersheds and spring recharge zones.

To ensure long-term environmental sustainability, the village operates under a strict, community-agreed code of resource management. Key prohibitions and regulations include:

(i) Strict limits on logging, restricting timber extraction exclusively to designated community-use zones under prior approval.

(ii) A total ban on hunting local wildlife to allow native fauna populations to regenerate and thrive.

(iii) Prohibitions against dumping waste, disturbing vegetation, or engaging in destructive activities near natural springs, streams, and rivers.

(iv) Enforcement of this regulation relies on a blend of traditional authority, collective decision-making and proactive community outreach which is achieved through the concerted efforts of:

(v) The Village Headman (Rangbah Shnong) and the Village Council (Dorbar Shnong) that hold primary executive oversight, regularly monitoring forest areas and addressing non-compliance or boundary encroachments. The active participation of the community members has been crucial in accomplishing the objective of conservation.

(vi) Governance rules are periodically reviewed, adapted, and reinforced during general village council meetings, ensuring community consensus and shared ownership over conservation goals.

(vii) To minimize accidental infractions and build widespread awareness, regulations are continuously communicated through:

(viii) Prominently placed at key village transit points and forest entry routes.

(ix) Periodic announcements made directly to residents.

(x) Educational discussions integrated into routine community gatherings to emphasize the ecological and economic benefits of forest preservation.

The findings of the PRA were incorporated into the Bamboo Forest Management Plan and Group Management System. The information was used to identify High Conservation Values, develop sustainable harvesting guidelines, formulate biodiversity conservation measures, protect cultural and water resources, and establish monitoring indicators. The PRA also serves as a baseline for future monitoring and adaptive management of the forest.

The PRA demonstrated that the community possesses extensive traditional knowledge of its forest resources and actively participates in their conservation and sustainable use. The integration of community knowledge with scientific assessment has strengthened the identification and management of High Conservation Values, ensuring that ecological, cultural, and livelihood values are maintained while supporting sustainable bamboo management under FSC certification.

J. Management guidelines for conservation of HVCs observed in Mawkyrdep village

For objective identification of HCV's, mainly HCV 1, HCV 4 and HCV 5 in Mawkyrdep village and its vicinity, are detailed two-fold/ track exercises were undertaken. One, the transect survey-based observations on a sampling basis. A transect survey map was prepared using GIS. The map is shown in the figure. A field survey team comprising two technical staff from Centre of Excellence (CoE) and two members from the village community carried out the field survey along the transect line.

The guidelines for conservation of the HVC's are as follows:

Floral

(i) The BFMC will conduct repeated awareness campaigns for sensitizing the

community persons about the importance of conserving the identified rare endangered and threatened plant species namely Rsang (Tree) and Calamus sp. (Tnger/ Cane) along with Sohlynnar & Sohstar (Trees). Since the plant species are already declining, it has to be ensured by the community members that the plants should not be over exploited.

(ii) The BFMC will also make an effort to create a small nursery/ garden for preserving these plants within the village as an in-situ conservation practice.

(iii) The BFMC will also conduct plantation drive during rainy season, i.e. May to August involving community members particularly children. In such drives, degraded areas, areas prone to landslides and areas prone to soil erosion. Fruit trees will also be included in the plantation activity.

(iv) In case it comes to notice of BFMC that there is an incidence of any disease or insect attack on the plant species than they will take suitable measure for controlling the nearest forest department office.

Faunal

(i) BFMC will conduct regular programmes at least annually for sensitizing the community members about the importance of protecting wildlife found in the village and its vicinity in any form, including birds, reptiles, insects and mammals.

(ii) No wild animals will be killed for meat or food consumption.

(iii) BFMC will organise and educate the community member to remain vigilant about any wildlife hunting attempt by outside people. In case they get any intimation about any unlawful activity in this respect they will immediately inform the Wildlife wing of the Forest Department (Divisional Forest Officer, Wildlife Contact Number: 0364-2226375; Email ID: wildlifemegh@yahoo.com)

(iv) In case any offspring of wild animal is found abundant then BFMC members will make every effort to hand over the same to the Wildlife division of the Forest Department.

Natural Water Resources

(i) The BFMC with the help of village community members will protect and manage natural water resources within the village and its vicinity. There are three water springs in the village which are the main source of water for the community members. BFMC with the involvement of village community will develop water spring source by creating spring chamber and maintaining the same. Efforts will also be done on regular basis for ensuring conservation in the spring shed area.

(ii) BFMC with the support of village community will also take necessary measures for protecting riparian buffers along the streams and rivulets.

Cultural & Historical Site

Not Applicable. No sacred forests, sacred groves, cultural or historical sites were reported to be present in the village.

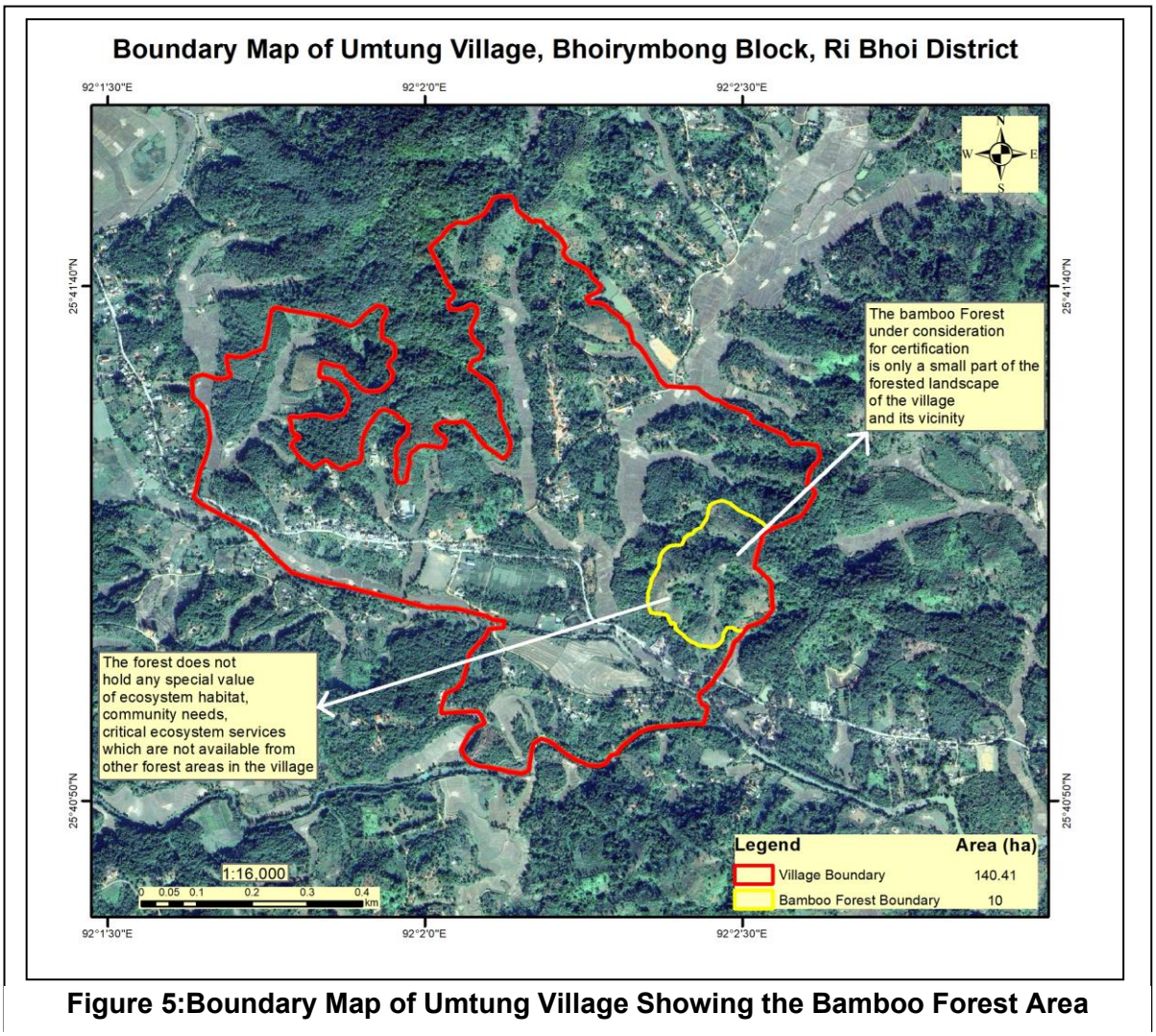


Figure 5:Boundary Map of Umtung Village Showing the Bamboo Forest Area

The following native vegetation map **(Fig 6)** further illustrates this point, distinguishing the earmarked native forest cover (9.5 ha, shown in green) from the Bamboo Forest Management Area boundary (10 ha, shown in red) within the total village boundary of 140.41 ha:

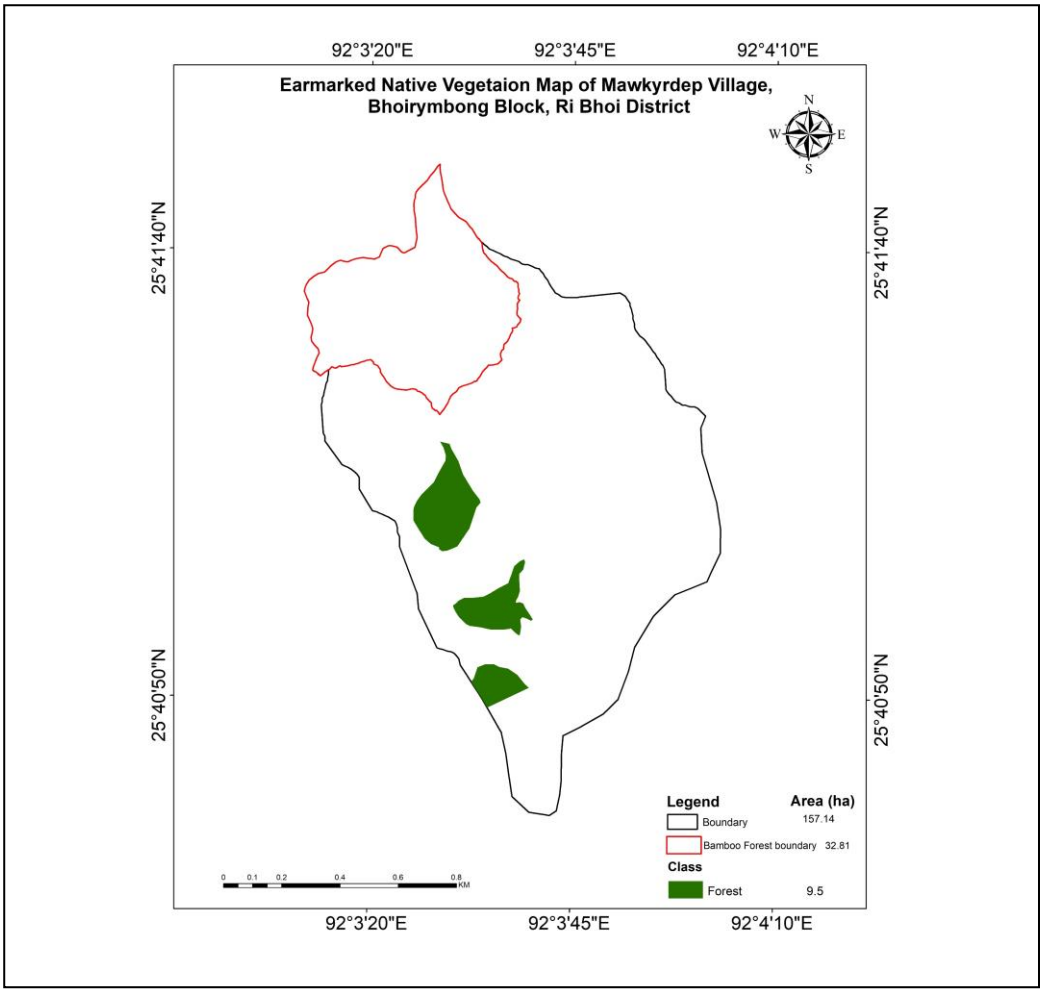


Figure 6: Earmarked Native Vegetation of Mawkyrdep Village

3.1.7. Evidence that no deforestation in the forest has taken place after 1994

The following satellite image of the Bamboo Forest of the period 1994 clearly shows and the map shown in the (Figure 7) which is of the current period clearly shows that the forest has remain intact. Since the year 1994 and no deforestation of felling of trees has taken place in the forest. This fact was also corroborated by the community member during the consultative meeting held with them on 19th may 2026 (Annexure XII).

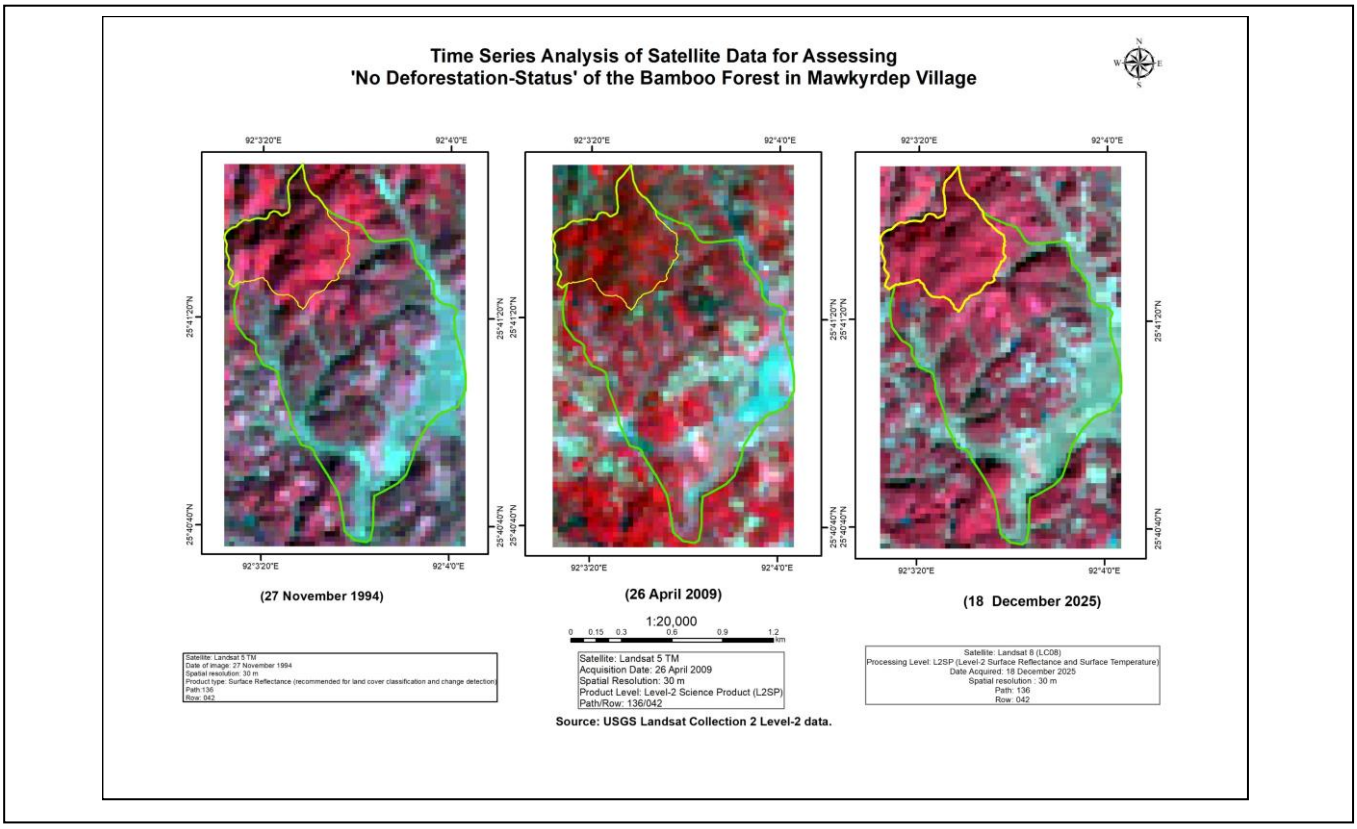


Figure 7:Satellite Imagery Showing Forest cover map of Mawkyrdep

3.1.8. Other Management Prescriptions

(i) Community members will maintain a record of bamboo harvesting done from the forest in a Bamboo control form given at the Annexure VI.

(ii) When bamboo is harvested, care should be taken that the cut and bundled culms are removed in such a manner that the extraction process does not cause any damage to the soil or biodiversity at large. The culms should preferably be removed by carrying manually on shoulder or small wheeled carts.

(iii) The progress of the implementation of the Bamboo Forest Management Plan will be monitored in terms of the following parameters.

Sl. No.	Parameters/ Observation	Periodicity
a.	Occurrence of forest fire	six monthly
b.	Number of culms harvested	quarterly
c.	Number of bamboo seedling planted	six monthly
d.	Weeding/cleaning carried out in the forest	six monthly

(iv) For the purpose of adaptive management observations on certain parameters will be recorded.

Sl. No.	Parameters/ Observation	Periodicity
a.	Any pathological infestation	six monthly
b.	Any entomological infestation	six monthly
c.	Premature dying/splitting of bamboo culms	quarterly

(v) The resource inventory information presented in the section 3.1 shows that clump density in the forest is 45 per hectare only which is low. To improve the stocking of bamboo in the forest, it is proposed to carry out planting of Bamboo seedlings of species like *Bambusa tulda, Bambusa jaintiana* and *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii* in the inter-clump spacing. It is proposed to plant 5077 bamboo seedlings in the next 3 years.

(vi) It is prescribed that in case a genetically modified species or plants will not be used for the enrichment planting

(vii) Use of chemical fertilizers should also be avoided. In the rare circumstances even if it has to be used, only the bare minimum quantity of any chemical fertilizers should be used.

(viii) However organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides maybe used in the plantations/ forest as and when required.

(ix) Use of Biological Control Agents should be avoided. In the rare circumstances even if it has to be used, only the bare minimum quantity of any biological control agents should be used.

(x) Only native species of bamboo will be planted for regeneration and improving standing

of the bamboo clumps (Annexure VII & VIII).

3.2. Bamboo Forest Area Distribution among Group Members

Bamboo forest proposed for sustainable management and certification is distributed among the members of the Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC). The distribution of the bamboo forest area for each group member is shown in (Fig.8).

3.3. Bamboo Forest Health

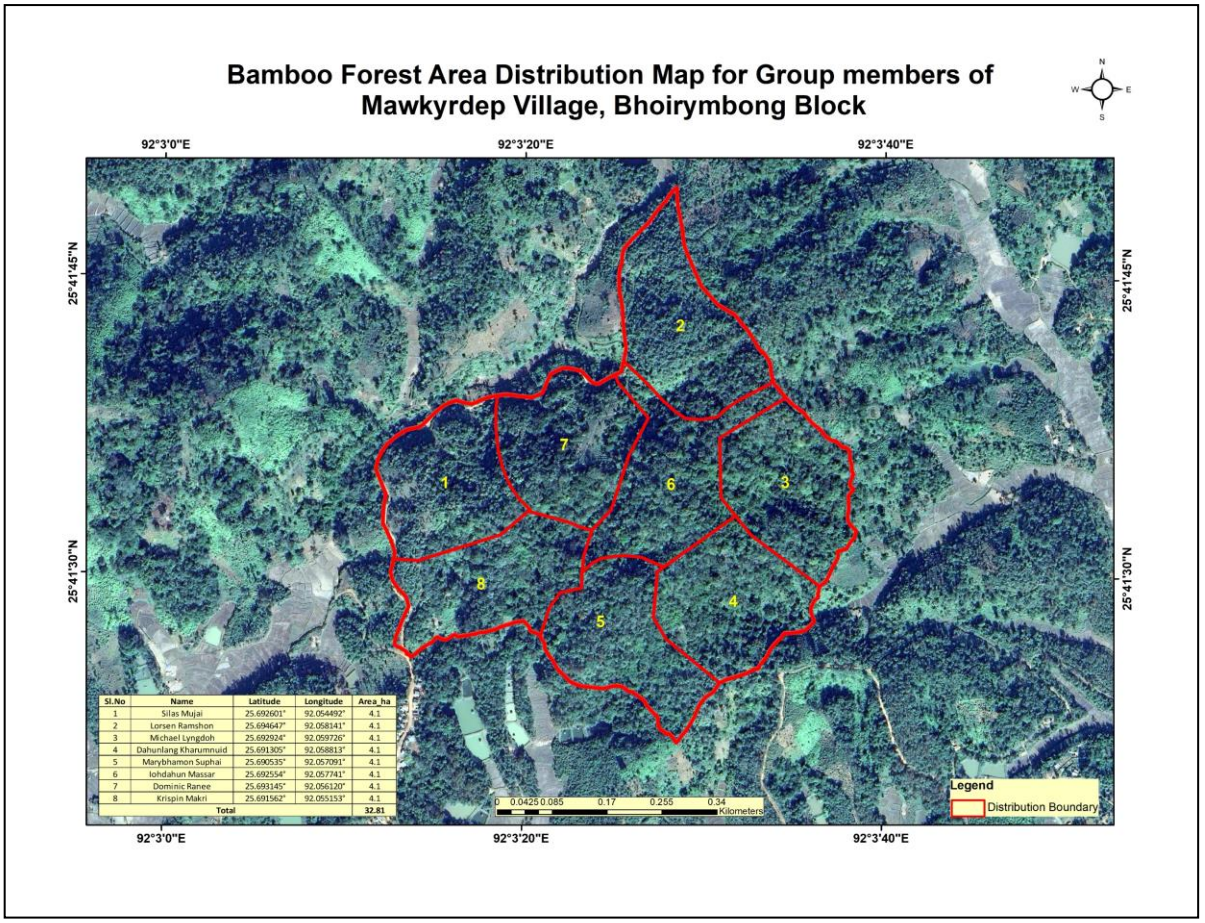


Figure 8:Bamboo Forest Area Distribution Map for Group Members of Mawkyrdep Village

Regular observations will be undertaken to detect any insects or fungal infections on the bamboo clumps. In case such infections are noticed spray of suitable insecticides/ fungicides preferably the herbal preparations will be done and affected culm will be removed. The BFMC should contact nearest Forest Department Office for appropriate treatment of the disease, BFMC members may also contact DFO, Silviculture Division, in Shillong for this purpose.

3.4. Invasive Species

Invasive species have a tendency to encroach bamboo forest lands and by doing so they suppress growth and regeneration of the native species in early stages. Spread of invasive species is damaging to Bamboo Forest and biodiversity. Dried biomass of invasive species becomes fire hazard. The BFMC therefore will organize drives for eradication of such invasive plants by uprooting or cutting them by involving community members at least twice in a year. The invasive species present in the area are *Chromolaena odorata, Mikania micrantha, Lantana camara.*

3.5. Soil

The bamboo plantation area in Mawkyrdep village has loamy soil, which is well- drained, moderately fertile, and suitable for bamboo growth. To maintain soil health, organic matter will be added regularly, mulching will be practiced to retain moisture, and erosion control measures such as contour planting will be applied on slopes. Periodic soil monitoring will guide nutrient management to ensure sustainable bamboo production. (Annexure VIII)

3.6. Water Quality/ Riparian Habitat

Six perennial springs (Umthadan, Ranap Lum Jingtep, Krem Summuid, Um daitta, Wah Sarang and Wah Khah) are available within the bamboo forest area. These springs provide a reliable year-round water source for bamboo maintenance and nursery activities. Water quality is generally good, with clear flow and no visible signs of contamination. Regular monitoring is recommended to ensure continued quality and sustainability. The BFMC will take all measures to protect existing water bodies within the forest. It will also ensure that Riparian zones are well protected within the forest (if any) or in the vicinity. Care will be taken not to disturb course of water in the streams and rivers passing through the community forest. forest (Annexure VIII). On 30 meters of either side of the rivers/ streams, the group member will ensure that the vegetation in any form is not uprooted or damaged. The group member will also ensure that the bank of the rivers/ streams is not eroded. Drainage Map of Mawkyrdep Village can be found in Fig. 12.

3.7. Biodiversity

BFMC members will ensure that the existing biodiversity in the forest is fully protected special care will be taken of rare, endangered and threatened plants. Areas where such plants are growing will be delineated by way of small bamboo fencing. The BFMC will also ensure that no damage is done to the native ecosystem by any practice prescribed for bamboo management (Annexure VIII).

3.8. Wildlife Habitat

Only stray incidence of small animals like foxes and civet are reported. The bamboo forest otherwise does not have other wild animals. Among the bird species, the common birds found in the forest are myna, eagles. It is recommended that all the wildlife species

as scheduled under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, should be preserved. Being protected under the law, killing and harming them is punishable offence under the WP Act, 1972. It should be collective responsibility of the villagers under the watch of the BFMC (Bamboo Forest Management Committee) members to monitor all wildlife species including Birds, Reptiles, Mammals. In case BFMC comes to know about any persons having committed any offence by killing or harming the wild animals, then it is the duty of the BFMC to immediately report the matter to the nearest Forest Department official. The BFMC should be particularly watchful for the hunters/poachers from outside the village. Contact numbers of the concerned F&E Department officials are given in the table below:

Table 6:Contact details of Wildlife Officials

Designation	Contact Number	Email ID
PCCF (Biodiversity & Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Shillong	0364-2227311 (F), 0364-2226460	wildlifeinfoeghlt@yahoo.com pccfmegh@gmail.com
Divisional Forest Officer, Wildlife	0364-2226375	wildlifemegh@yahoo.com

3.9. Forest Fire Protection

The BFMC members will ensure that the bamboo forest is well protected from forest fires. The community members will take due care specially in the fire season by patrolling and creating fire lines, removing inflammable dry biomass from the forest floor. Clearance of dry biomass on the periphery will be undertaken before the onset of fire season i.e November to December. BFMC will also create awareness in the whole village for taking all precautions to prevent forest fires.

3.10. Environmental Protection

The Bamboo Forest Management Plan (BFMP) will also take care of other environmental concerns. It will be ensured that activities under BFMP do not cause adverse environmental impacts in the land and water bodies in the vicinity of bamboo forest. Fire protection measures like creation and maintenance of fire line, removal of inflammable dry biomass and patrolling in the sensitive areas, will be part of the BFMP duties itself. BFMC will also organized awareness campaigned for environmental protection and fire risk reduction. Environmental Protection activities will also include prevention of river/stream pollution, plastic pollution and soil erosion.

3.11. Site Access, Road & Trails

Current access is via earthen road from the village. Trails are narrow and steep. Improvement of trails through graveling and culvert installations will be undertaken in due course of time to ensures year-round access to the forest for harvesting while preventing

erosion and waterlogging.

3.12. Diversifying Bamboo based Economy

Initially the focus of the bamboo forest management will be on producing bamboo culms in a sustainable and environment friendly manner. Gradually steps will also be taken to diversify bamboo-based enterprises in the village by procuring basic bamboo processing machines and imparting training to the bamboo craftsmen. This will generate more income

to the community members by selling value added products like slivers, agarbatti sticks, treated culms, handicrafts etc.

4. Monitoring

4.1 Management activities and condition of management units

BFMC will be responsible for management activities as per the following tables:

Table 7:Monitoring of management activities

Sl. No	Monitoring	Frequency	Remarks
1	Growing stock	Annual	Measurement of volume, density, and growth compared to previous data.
2	Protection from forest fire	Annual	By recording incident of fire and area burnt
3	Survival percentage of seedlings planted	Annual	By actual count
4	Soil health	Annual	Visual observation
5	Invasive species	Annual	Identifying invasive species in any area affected by them.

4.2 Social & Environmental Impacts

The bamboo forest Committee (BFMC) will record and review these indicators periodically to ensure equity and sustainable livelihood benefits for the community as per the following tables:

Table 8:Monitoring of Social & Environmental Impacts

Sl. No	Monitoring	Frequency	Remarks
1	Income generated from bamboo and related activities	Annual	Average annual income
2	Employment opportunities created for community members	Annual	Actual number
3	Participation of local stakeholders, including women and SHGs, in forest management activities	Annual	Actual number
4	Safety	Annual	Incidence of injury, if any
5	Disturbance to biodiversity	Annual	Observation by transect survey

6	Plastic pollution	Annual	Number of plastic materials observed during transect survey

Table 9:Record Keeping of all the FSC Products Sold

Sl. No	Bamboo culms number		Date of sale	Name of Purchaser	Address of Purchaser	Remarks
	Species	Number				

5. Periodic Revision of the Management Plan

The Bamboo Forest Management Plan (BFMP) shall be revised periodically after every five (5) years to ensure its continued relevance, effectiveness, and alignment with the prevailing ecological, social, and economic conditions.

The objectives of periodic revision are as follows:

a) Updating of resource inventory based on field assessments and monitoring data.

b) Determination of sustainable yield as per the latest status of bamboo resources.

c) Revision of management prescriptions considering emerging challenges, environmental changes, and community requirements, if any.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

The Group Entity acts as the central administrative body holding the group certificate on behalf of the Resource Management Units (RMUs), responsible for ensuring all group members comply with FSC Forest Management standards.

Resource Management Unit (RMU)/ Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC) acts as body that has ownership rights over the bamboo forest(s) and is also responsible for managing the overall resource for the process of certification. The highest level of decision-makin g in the village is the Rangbah Shnong (Headman), heading the Village Council. For bamboo forest management activities, the Village Council will form a Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC).

A Group Member in the FSC certification scheme is an individual who is part of a larger group holding a single, shared certificate. The individual member retains specific responsibilities to ensure compliance with FSC principles

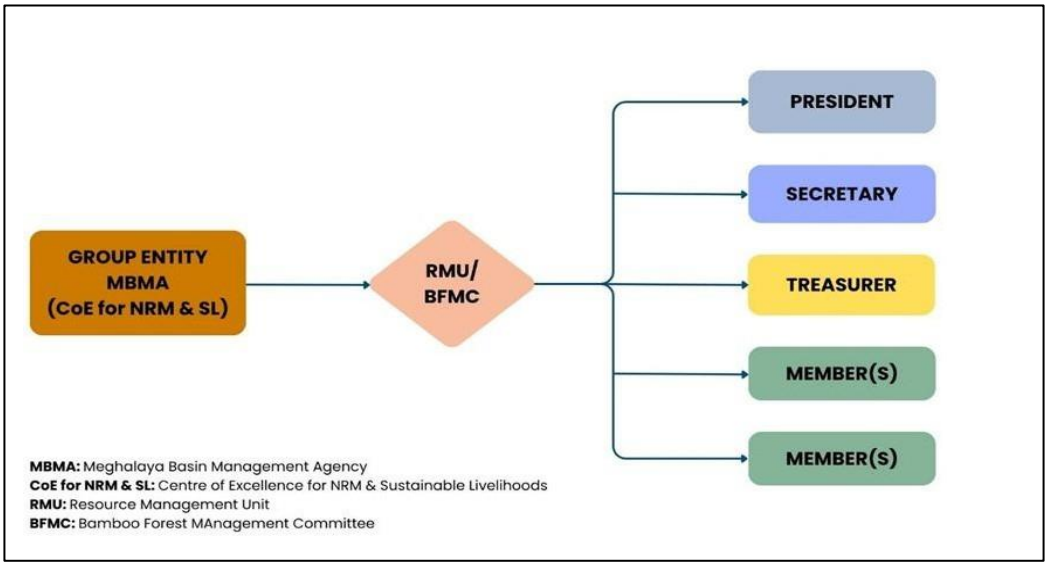


Figure 9:Structure of the Organisation

6.1 Group Entity: Centre of Excellence (NRM & SL), MBMA

Key responsibilities of the Group Entity include:

(i) Develop the framework and maintain written procedures for membership, covering organizational structure, eligibility, and withdrawal/ suspension.

(ii) Maintain written procedures for managing the group and a public policy of commitment to FSC Principles and Criteria.

(iii) Ensure sufficient human and technical resources to manage the group, including defining the maximum number of members.

(iv) Provide members with documentation, including the FSC standard, group rules, an explanation of the certification process, and cost structure.

(v) Identify training needs and provide training and communication strategies to help members implement FSC standards.

(vi) Act as the primary contact for the certification body, FSC, and ASI when required.

(vii) Implement a documented monitoring system to ensure continued compliance with FSC standards.

(viii) Conduct regular (at least annual) on-site monitoring visits to a sample of group members.

(ix) Issue corrective action for non-compliances identified during internal audits and monitor their implementation.

(x) Maintain up-to-date group records for at least five years, including member lists, consent forms, training records, maps, and monitoring reports.

(xi) Implement a system for tracking and tracing forest products from group members to ensure non- certified material is not mixed with FSC-certified products.

(xii) Provide consent for trading of bamboo when all criteria have been met by RMUs.

(xiii) Verify the credibility and authenticity of the buyer before issuing the consent.

(xiv) Approve use of the FSC trademark for RMUs working with the certification body.

(xv) Ensure invoices for FSC-certified material are issued correctly and filed by members.

(xvi) Evaluate every applicant to ensure compliance with standards before adding them to the group.

(xvii) Ensure all actors within the group understand their responsibilities.

(xviii) The group entity holds the certificate and ensures that no confusing or incorrect certificates are issued to members.

6.2 Resource Management Unit (RMU)/ Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC)

A body that has ownership rights over the bamboo forest(s) and is also responsible for managing the overall resource.

(i) The primary responsibility of an RMU is to implement centralized, homogeneous, and sustainable forest management on behalf of members, ensuring compliance with FSC Principles and Criteria.

(ii) Ensure that their management units are not included in any other FSC certificate.

(iii) Implementing, and keeping up-to-date management plans for all units in the RMU/ BFMC.

(iv) The RMU must take control over key management activities, including harvesting, planting, and silvicultural practices, to ensure they meet FSC standards and are consistent with sustainable forest management practices.

(v) Implementing a documented, regular (annual) monitoring and internal audit system to verify that management units continue to comply with FSC requirements.

(vi) Establishing a tracking system to ensure that non-certified material is not mixed with FSC-certified material, and that all bamboo can be traced from the forest to the point of first sale.

(vii) Ensuring all forest workers and community members operating in the RMU receive necessary training, supervision, and safety protection.

(viii) Maintain records of forest management activities, including harvest volumes, planting, and sales of FSC-certified material, for at least five years.

(ix) Actively engaging with local communities and other affected parties to identify and resolve conflicts over tenure, use rights, and management impacts.

6.3 Group Member

A Group Member in the FSC certification scheme is an individual that is part of a larger group holding a single, shared certificate. The individual member retains specific responsibilities to ensure compliance with FSC principles (Annexure I).

The responsibilities of an FSC group member generally include:

(i) Implement the relevant FSC requirements within their own forest management unit.

(ii) Follow the written procedures, guidelines, and rules established by the Group Entity.

(iii) Sign a declaration of consent committing to FSC principles and authorizing the Group Entity to manage the certification on their behalf.

(iv) He/ She will be responsible for implementing all the prescriptions given in the Bamboo Forest Management Plan (BFMP).

(v) Utilize the tracking system defined by the Group Entity to ensure non-certified material is not mixed with FSC-certified material.

(vi) Participate in internal monitoring visits conducted by the Group Entity (usually annually).

(vii) Cooperate with the third-party certification body during their evaluation of the group, which includes allowing site access to auditors.

(viii) Implement necessary corrective actions for any non-conformities identified during internal or external audits.

(ix) Use of the FSC trademark and logo only with the prior approval of the Group Entity and the certification body.

(x) Ensure all sales invoices for FSC-certified material contain the required information (including the group certificate code).

(xi) Attend training activities and familiarize themselves with the FSC standards and group procedures provided by the group manager.

6.4 President

(i) The President has overall responsibility for ensuring conformity with forest management certification standards and group rules.

(ii) He/ She oversees all operational forest management activities (e.g., planting, harvesting) within the RMU to ensure they meet certification standards.

(iii) Maintains all necessary documentation, implements internal monitoring, and tracks conformance with the group certification standard.

(iv) The President identifies training needs and records/ closes out any non-conformities found during internal or external audits.

(v) He/ She serves as the key contact between group members, group auditors, and the certification body.

(vi) In some cases, he/ she will be responsible for training, evaluating, and supervising work within the group.

6.5 Secretary

(i) Maintains secure, organized records of all certification applications, assessments, and decisions, ensuring they are available for audits.

(ii) Files and manages all committee correspondence, reports, and official documents.

(iii) Liaises with the President to convene meetings, prepare agendas and schedules meetings well in advance.

(iv) Records accurate minutes, documenting discussions, motions, and decisions made regarding certification.

(v) Circulates meeting materials, agenda items, and minutes to group members.

(vi) Ensures the RMUs/ BFMCs certification activities align with governing documents, legal requirements, and industry standards.

(vii) Responds to queries regarding the certification process, procedures, and status.

(viii) Prepares annual reports or updates on certification activities.

(ix) Communicates certification decisions to stakeholders and ensures follow-up actions are completed.

(x) Assists in auditing and verifying the accuracy of certification documents before final approval.

6.6 Treasurer

(i) Manage bank account of the RMU and ensure funds are deposited in the Bank correctly.

(ii) Provide regular, accurate financial updates to the committee regarding income, expenses, and cash flow, highlighting any budgetary deviations.

(iii) Maintain up-to-date, detailed financial records, including receipts, invoices, and bank statements, ensuring they are prepared for annual audits or legal requirements.

(iv) Authorization of payments whenever required.

(v) Asset management.

(vi) The Treasurer should have a grounded understanding of budgeting, accounting practices, and financial reporting.

6.7 Maps

Fig 10: Satellite image showing the bamboo forest boundary.

Fig 11: Distribution map of inventory sample plots.

Fig 12: Drainage map of Mawkyrdep village.

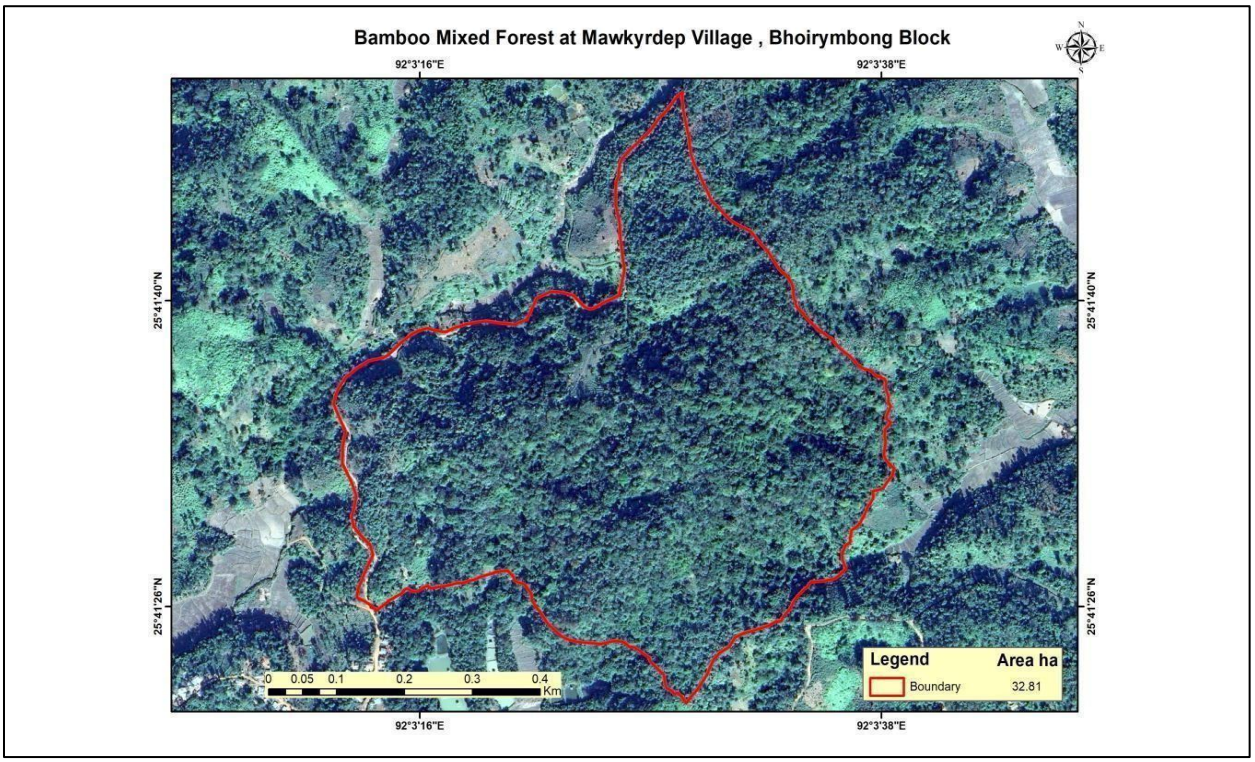


Figure 10: Satellite image overlaid with boundary of bamboo forest

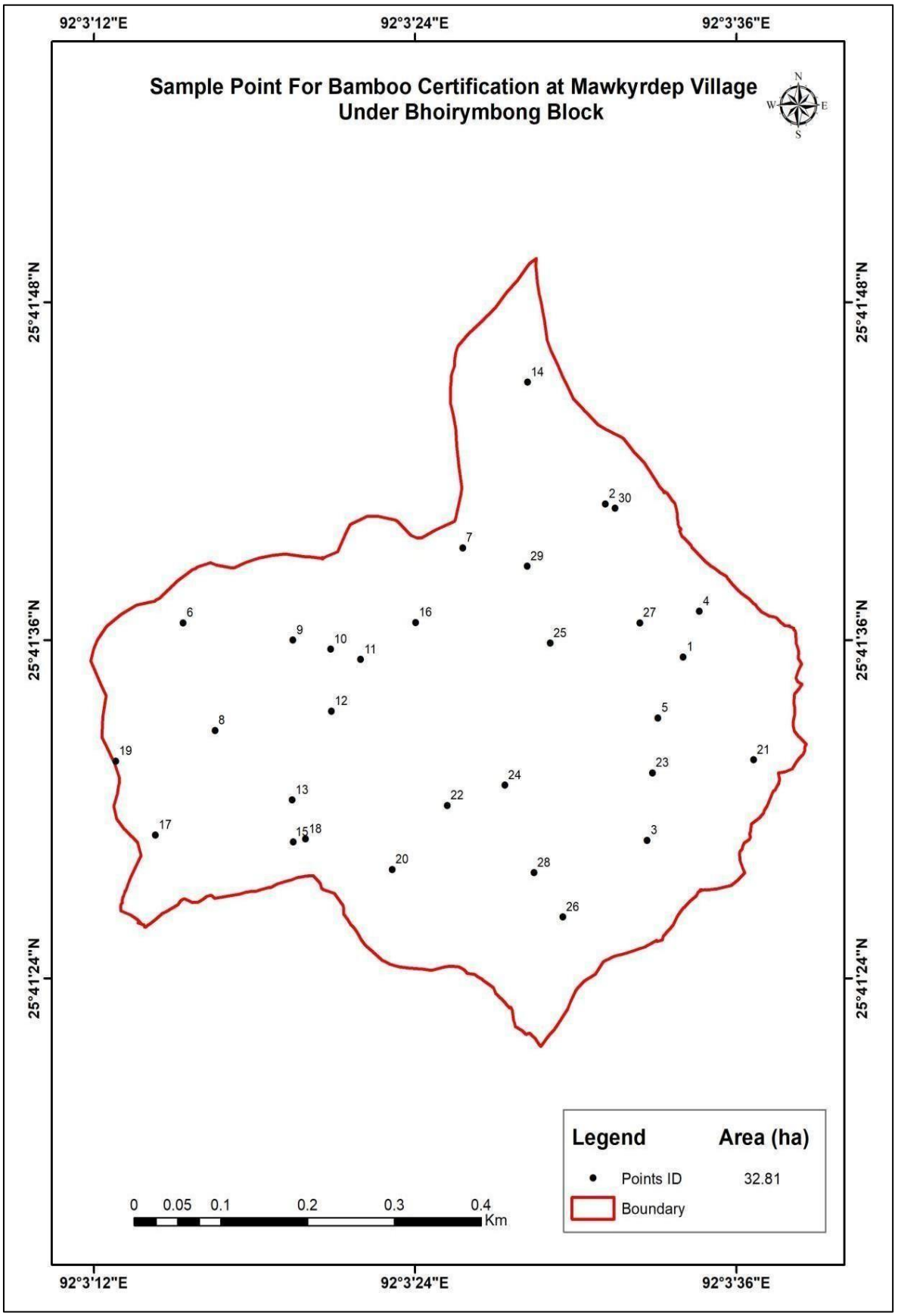


Figure 11:Bamboo Forest map showing the location of sample plots

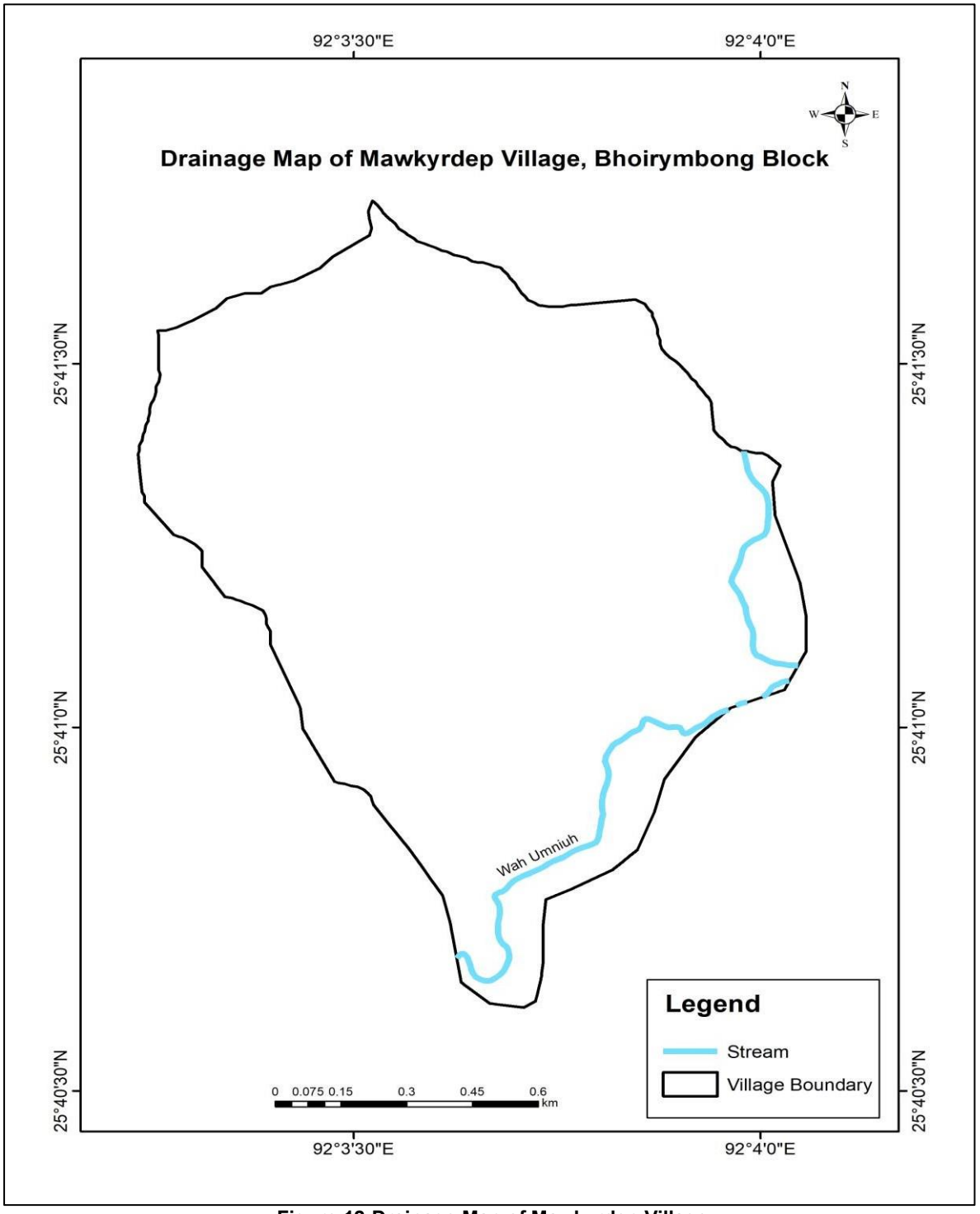


Figure 12:Drainage Map of Mawkyrdep Village



Figure 13:Bamboo resource inventory exercise at Mawkyrdep village

Annexure– I Self-Declaration of Commitment to FSC Principle

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Silas Nujori, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Silas Nujori

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: S. Nujori

Contact Information: 7005023195

ID Proof Details: DHS 0670752

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Michael Lyngdoh, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Michael Lyngdoh

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdop

Signature: M Lyngdoh

Contact Information: 8837303043

ID Proof Details: DHJ 069098

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Marybhamon Suphai, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Marybhamon Suphai

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdop

Signature: M. Suphai

Contact Information: 8787358764

ID Proof Details: 4872 7666 2760

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Krispin Makri, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Krispin Makri

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyndep

Signature: _____

Contact Information: 6909030823

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0669382

Date: 19-05-2021

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Dahunlang Kharummuid, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Dahunlang Kharummuid

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: D Kharummuid

Contact Information: 6009831924

ID Proof Details: 9589 8526 0520

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Dominic Rangee, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Dominic Rangee

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyndep

Signature: Rangee

Contact Information: 8787748188

ID Proof Details: DHJ0711895

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Tohdahun Massar, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Tohdahun Massar

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: I massar

Contact Information: 98638 06701

ID Proof Details: 5293 6072 7820

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– I

SELF-DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

I Josren Ramshon, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria, and to comply with the relevant FSC Policies and Standards within my Management Unit.

By voluntarily participating in the FSC certification process, I confirm my intent to manage my forest resources responsibly, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This includes environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and economic viability as outlined in the FSC system.

This commitment shall be documented in a publicly available format and made freely accessible to all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory agencies, and certifying bodies.

By choosing to participate in the FSC certification system, the smallholder confirms their conformity with the requirements of this criterion and their active role in supporting sustainable and responsible forest management.

This declaration affirms that I understand and accept the obligations and benefits of being part of the FSC system, and that I will continue to operate in conformity with its requirements.

Name of Smallholder: Josren Ramshon

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: J.Ramshon

Contact Information: 7627969570

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0670877

Date: 19-05-2026

CHAPTER 5

Judicial System in the Khasi and Jaintia Districts : The Rules of 1953

Detailed provisions as to the judicial system in the Khasi and Jaintia areas are to be found in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953, hereinafter referred to as Rules. Topic-wise discussion follows.

Constitution of courts

There are three classes of courts[1] in the areas within the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills Autonomous District, to be constituted by the District Council, for the trial of suits and cases between the parties all of whom belong to a scheduled tribe or tribes, other than suits and cases to which the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 5 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution apply. These courts are—

(i) Village Courts.
(ii) Subordinate District Council Courts and Additional Subordinate District Council Courts.
(iii) District Council Court.

Village Courts

There is a Village Court for each village. Each Village Court shall be composed of—

(a) the recognised *dolloi*, *sirdar*, *siem raid* (*bhoi*), *basan*, *lyngdoh*, *lyngskor* or headman of the village;
(b) not less than two, and not more than six, members as may be decided and elected by the majority of the village adults in an

1. Rule 4.

Postal Registration No. N. E.—771/2006-2008



The Gazette of Meghalaya

EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 49 | Shillong, Friday, May 29, 2015, | 8th Jyaistha, 1937 (S. E.)

PART-IV

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
LAW (B) DEPARTMENT
ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

The 29th May, 2015.

No.LL(B)39/2015/21.–The Meghalaya Local Administration (Empowerement of Traditional Institutions, Traditional Bodies and Headmen in Governance and Public Delivery System) Ordinance, 2015 is hereby published for general information.

MEGHALAYA ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 2015.

Promulgated by the Governor on the 29th May, 2015.
Published in the Gazette of Meghalaya Extra-Ordinary issue dated 29th May, 2015.

THE MEGHALAYA LOCAL ADMINISTRATION (EMPOWERMENT OF TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS, TRADITIONAL BODIES AND HEADMEN IN GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC DELIVERY SYSTEM) ORDINANCE, 2015.

An

Ordinance

to provide for association of traditional institutions, traditional bodies and headmen in the Government developmental programmes and delivery of public services, wherever required and to the extent necessary, in the interest of public at large and for matters connected therewith.

Annexure – IV Sample Plot Data

Plot ID	Latitude	Longitude	Approx. Size of Clump (m)	Type of Land	Species		Number of Culm in different girth classes			
					Local Name	Botanical Name	1-15 (cm)	15-30 (cm)	>30 (cm)	Total
278011/DF/1	25.693163	92.059449	4.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	16	9	10	35
278011/DF/1			5.3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	18	11	12	41
278011/DF/2			6.3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	15	50	65
278011/DF/2	25.694673	92.058641	4.4	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	15	4	0	19
278011/DF/2			3.3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	6	5	0	11
278011/DF/3	25.691356	92.059076	4.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	10	12	22
278011/DF/3			5.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	106	28	0	134
278011/DF/4			6	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	15	10	6	31
278011/DF/4	25.693614	92.059616	3.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	5	0	15
278011/DF/4			3.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	10	2	17
278011/DF/5			4.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	31	10	0	41
278011/DF/5			5.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	36	9	0	45
278011/DF/5	25.692562	92.059188	4	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	7	0	18
278011/DF/5			3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	5	6	22
278011/DF/5			3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	14	10	7	31
278011/DF/6			1.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	30	0	0	30
278011/DF/6	25.6934	92.0542	0.95	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	47	9	0	56
278011/DF/6			1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	5	0	12
278011/DF/7			1.05	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	21	0	0	21
278011/DF/7			1.75	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	8	0	25
278011/DF/7			1.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	31	0	0	31
278011/DF/7	25.69424	92.05716	3.05	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	25	0	0	25
278011/DF/7			2.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	0	0	11
278011/DF/7			3.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	20	7	0	27
278011/DF/8			6.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	9	0	20

278011/DF/8			0.9	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	22	5	0	27
278011/DF/8			1.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	5	0	22
278011/DF/8	25.69244	92.05459	1.7	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	23	27	0	50
278011/DF/8	25.69244	92.05459	1.6	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	0	0	17
278011/DF/8			2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	30	0	0	30
278011/DF/8			2.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	14	9	0	23
278011/DF/8			1.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	15	0	0	15
278011/DF/9	25.69333	92.0554	5.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	25	6	48
278011/DF/9			4.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	9	13	5	27
278011/DF/10			1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	9	0	16
278011/DF/10	25.69324	92.05579	1.06	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	3	5	0	8
278011/DF/10			0.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	0	0	7
278011/DF/11			1.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	6	21	0	27
278011/DF/11	25.69314	92.0561	2.05	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	15	9	0	24
278011/DF/11			0.95	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	21	5	0	26
278011/DF/11			0.75	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	13	0	20
278011/DF/12			7.7	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	15	22	47
278011/DF/12	25.69263	92.0558	4.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	16	0	21
278011/DF/12			1.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	41	0	52
278011/DF/13			4.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	2	31	3	36
278011/DF/13	25.691754	92.055391	3.6	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	4	17	0	21
278011/DF/13			3.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	25	0	25
278011/DF/13			4.95	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	12	0	29
278011/DF/15	25.69134	92.055403	5.4	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	22	0	29
278011/DF/16	25.693505	92.056672	3.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	8	0	13
278011/DF/18			2.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	6	1	12
278011/DF/18	25.69137	92.05553	2.75	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	3	10	0	13
278011/DF/18			2.1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	12	0	19
278011/DF/18			1.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	9	0	0	9
278011/DF/20	25.691069	92.056431	2.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	15	0	20
278011/DF/20			4.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	16	0	27
278011/DF/21			2.55	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	13	5	25

278011/DF/21	25.69215	92.060178	2.95	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	2	8	3	13
278011/DF/21			3.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	7	6	18
278011/DF/22			2.9	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	21	7	35
278011/DF/22			3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	7	10	22
278011/DF/22	25.6917	92.057	0.95	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	2	3	5
278011/DF/22			5.45	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	21	18	5	44
278011/DF/22			3.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	4	7	10	21
278011/DF/23	25.69202	92.05913	3.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	20	17	0	37
278011/DF/23			5.3	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	14	0	21
278011/DF/23			4.1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	9	20	0	29
278011/DF/23			2.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	31	19	0	50
278011/DF/23			3.05	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	30	0	47
278011/DF/23			1.8	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	8	0	0	8
278011/DF/24			0.4	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	0	4	4
278011/DF/24			0.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	1	6	0	7
278011/DF/24			0.9	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	1	5	0	6
278011/DF/24			1.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	8	2	10
278011/DF/24			3.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	0	0	17
278011/DF/24	25.6919	92.0576	3.1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	20	0	20
278011/DF/24			1.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	8	0	8
278011/DF/24			3.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	29	0	29
278011/DF/24			1.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	12	5	0	17
278011/DF/24			4.06	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	3	15	11	29
278011/DF/25			4.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	40	0	45
278011/DF/25			2.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	14	5	0	19
278011/DF/25			1.8	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	4	8	0	12
278011/DF/25			2.75	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	15	0	2	17
278011/DF/25	25.6933	92.05807	3.1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	21	15	0	36
278011/DF/25			3.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	7	6	24
278011/DF/25	25.6933	92.05807	1.2	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	2	1	3
278011/DF/25			3.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	13	7	4	24
278011/DF/26			4.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	19	15	0	34

278011/DF/26	25.691036	92.0579	4.7	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	9	20	0	29
278011/DF/26			1.4	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	11	0	0	11
278011/DF/26			0.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	0	0	5
278011/DF/27			3.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	50	0	60
278011/DF/27			1.8	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	8	10	0	18
278011/DF/27			4.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	18	0	28
278011/DF/27	25.6935	92.059	4.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	16	25	0	41
278011/DF/27			1.9	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	0	7	17
278011/DF/27			1.15	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	9	0	16
278011/DF/28	25.691	92.0579	5.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	17	17	0	34
278011/DF/28			7.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	45	7	52
278011/DF/29			2.65	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	4	1	5
278011/DF/29			4.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	4	92	4	100
278011/DF/29			2.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	4	4	7	15
278011/DF/29	25.694059	92.057829	0.85	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	10	0	0	10
278011/DF/29			5.05	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	21	6	34
278011/DF/29			2.25	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	3	0	8
278011/DF/29			2.6	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	20	0	20
278011/DF/30			3.35	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	7	11	15	33
278011/DF/30	25.69463	92.05874	3.1	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	0	21	6	27
278011/DF/30			5.5	Community	Siej Lieh	*Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*	5	32	21	58

Annexure– V Trainings

TRAININGS

1. Health and safety practices to protect workers

1. The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.
2. The smallholder and his or her temporary workers, employees, family members, business associates and volunteers have safe work practices.
3. The smallholder and his or her temporary workers, employees, family members, business associates and volunteers use appropriate safety equipment.
4. The smallholder or their named representative keeps a record of any accidents.
5. The smallholder changes practices that have caused, or will likely cause, accidents in the smallholder's forest.
6. If hunting or other dangerous activities are part of the forestry activities, the smallholder identifies the dangerous activities and implements safety measures to protect the public where hunting or other dangerous activities related to NTFP activities are carried out

2. Health and safety practices to effectively implement the Management Plan

1. The Organization shall demonstrate that workers have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the Management Plan and all management activities.
2. The smallholder provides training and supervision so that temporary workers, employees, family members, business associates and volunteers can work safely and effectively in the tasks that they do.

3. Training on Implementation of the Bamboo Forest Management Plan (BFMP): Horseshoe Method

4. Training on Environmental Stewardship, covering key areas such as:

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Water Resource Management
- Soil Protection
- Forest Fire Prevention and Control

5. Training on the Management Plan

1. The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the management plan free of charge. Excluding confidential information, other relevant components of the management plan shall be made available to affected stakeholders on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling.
2. If requested, the smallholder provides public information from the management plan to a person who requests it at no cost to the requestor.

6. Training of stakeholders for engaging in the Management Plan

1. The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall engage interested stakeholders on request.
2. The smallholder informs affected and interested stakeholders about management planning and monitoring.
3. If requested, the smallholder carries out culturally appropriate consultation with affected and interested stakeholders.

7. Training on Monitoring Activities

1. The Organizations Hall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring free of charge, excluding confidential information.
2. If requested, the smallholder provides results of monitoring to a person who requests them at no cost to the requestor.

Annexure– VI Control Form for Regulating Bamboo Yield

Control Form for Regulating Bamboo Yield								
Village Name: **Year:**			**Block:** **Area of Bamboo Forest: ha**		**District:**			
Sl. No	**Total prescribed yield for the whole year (Number of culms & weight)**	**Harvesting**					**Number of culms destroyed due to fire or illegal felling etc.**	**Remarks**
		Date	**Number of culms harvested**	**Cumulative number of culms harvested**	**Approximate weight of harvested culms**	**Total number of culms harvested in year & estimated weight**		
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Silas Myai, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Silas Myai

Location of Management Unit: Mawbyrdep

Signature: S. Myai

Contact Information: 7005023195

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0670752

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Michael Lyngdoh, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Michael Lyngdoh

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdop

Signature: Michael Lyngdoh

Contact Information: 8837303043

ID Proof Details: DHJ0669028

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Marybharon Suphai, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Marybharon Suphai

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyndop

Signature: M. Suphai

Contact Information: 8787358764

ID Proof Details: 4872 7666 2760

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Krispin Makri, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Krispin Makri

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: K. Makri

Contact Information: 6909030823

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0669382

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Dahunlang Kharumnuid, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Dahunlang Kharumnuid

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyndep

Signature: Dkumnud

Contact Information: 6009831984

ID Proof Details: 9589 8526 0520

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Dominic Ramee, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Dominic Ramee

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: _____

Contact Information: 8787748188

ID Proof Details: DHJ0711895

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Iohdahun Massar, the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Iohdahun massar

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdop

Signature: I Massar

Contact Information: 98638 06701

ID Proof Details: 5293 6072 7820

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS

I Losren Ramsthon the undersigned smallholder, hereby declare my commitment to the responsible management of forest resources within my Management Unit in alignment with the principles of conservation and ecosystem restoration.

In alignment with FSC requirements, I confirm that:

I support the identification and protection of representative sample areas of native ecosystems within the broader landscape in which my bamboo forest is situated.

However, I acknowledge that the area of my bamboo forest is relatively small and therefore cannot independently contain a representative native ecosystem. Despite this, I remain committed to participating in broader conservation initiatives as part of a collective effort.

This commitment reflects my dedication to sustainable forest management that maintains ecological balance, supports biodiversity, and upholds the long-term health of the environment.

Name of Smallholder: Losren Ramsthon

Location of Management Unit: Mawlaydep

Signature: L.Ramsthon

Contact Information: 7627969570

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0 670877

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Silas Mujai, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Silas Mujai

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: S. Mujai

Contact Information: 7005023195

ID Proof Details: DHJ 0670752

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Michael Lyngdoh, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Michael Lyngdoh

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: Michael Lyngdoh

Contact Information: 8837303043

ID Proof Details: DHJ0669028

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Marybhamon Suphai, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Marybhamon Suphai

Location of Management Unit: Mawbyrdep

Signature: M. Suphai

Contact Information: 8787358764

ID Proof Details: 4872 7666 2760

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Krispin Makri, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Krispin Makri

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: K. Makri

Contact Information: 6909030823

ID Proof Details: DHS 0669382

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Dahunlang Khaumnid, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Dahunlang Khaumnid

Location of Management Unit: Mawkynsdep

Signature: Dkumnid

Contact Information: 6009831934

ID Proof Details: 9589 8596 0526

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Dominic Ranee, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

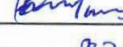
I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Dominic Ranee

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: 

Contact Information: 8787748188

ID Proof Details: DHJ07 11895

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Iohdahun Massar, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Iohdahun Massar
Location of Management Unit: Mawkyndop
Signature: I Massar
Contact Information: 98638.06701
ID Proof Details: 5293 6072 7820
Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– VIII

SELF-DECLARATION ON THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE SPECIES AND BIODIVERSITY

I Losren Ramshon, the undersigned smallholder, affirm my commitment to the conservation of native species, their natural genotypes, and the overall biological diversity within my forest area.

In accordance with FSC requirements, I declare that:

I have implemented appropriate measures to control hunting, fishing, trapping, and collection activities within my forest area to prevent any harm to native species and their habitats.

These measures aim to ensure the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and to avoid any loss of biodiversity.

This declaration reflects my dedication to responsible and ecologically sound forest management that safeguards biodiversity for current and future generations.

Name of Smallholder: Losren Ramshon

Location of Management Unit: Mawkyrdep

Signature: L.Ram

Contact Information: 7627969570

ID Proof Details: DHJ0670877

Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure– IX List of Animals, Birds, Tree Species, NTFPs present in Mawkyrdep

List of Animals, Birds, Tree Species, NTFPs present in Mawkyrdep						
Sl. No.	**Animals**	**Sl. No.**	**Birds**	**Sl. No.**	**Name of Tree Species in Local Language**	**NTFPs**
1	Squirrel	1	Owl	1	*Schima wallichii* (Dieng Ngan)	*Bamboo*
2	Jungle Fowl	2	Sparrow	2	*Emblica officinalis* (Dieng Soh mylleng)	*Wild Mushroom*
3	Kynchir (Hen-Like)	3	Eagle	3	*Castanopsis* sp. (Dieng sohot.)	*Colocassia*
4	Thew iong	4	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	4	*Toona ciliata* (Dieng Sali)	*Wild Banana*
5	Wild cat	5	Minivet	5	*Erythrina* indica (Dieng Song)	*Castanophis indica (Soh-Ot)*
6	Bat (Lymbit)	6	Red vented Bulbul	6	*Michelia champaca* (Dieng Rai)	*Emblica officinalis* (Goose berries/ Sohmylleng)
7	Yellow Throated Marten (Phyllad)	7	Dove	7	*Rhus javanica* (Dieng Sohma)	
8	Snakes	8	Hill Mynah	8	*Ficus* sp. (Dieng Jri)	
9	Lizards	9	Jyllop (Rare)	9	*Pinus kesaya* (Dieng Kseh)	
10	Geckos			10	*Citrus reticulata* (Dieng Syiem)	
				11	*Gmelina arborea* (Dieng Laphiang)	
				12	*Albizzia odoratissima* (Dieng Kreit)	
				13	*Quercus serrata* (Dieng Rting)	
				14	*Sterculia villlosa* (Dieng Tluh)	

Annexure– X List of BFMC Members

List of BFMC Members of Mawkyrdep Village

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Area (ha)
1	Mr. Losren Ramshon	President	4.1
2	Mr. Michael Lyngdoh	Secretary	4.1
3	Mrs. Dahunlang Kharumnuid	Treasurer	4.1
4	Mrs. Iohdahun Massar	Member	4.1
5	Mr. Krispin Makri	Member	4.1
6	Mrs. Marybhamon Suphai	Member	4.1
7	Mr. Dominic Ranee	Member	4.1
8	Mr. Silas Mujai	Member	4.1

Annexure XI Transect Survey Form

Transect Survey Form

Village …….. District ……

Date …….. Area of the Village ……

Sl No	Observation on Plastic Pollution	Burning of Solid Waste	Open Grazing	Manufacturing Units	Water Pollution	Unauthorized falling of trees	Rare threatened Endangered and Endemic Species	Soil Erosion	Sites of Cultural Importance
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									

Annexure XII Non-Conversion of Natural Forest

Community Member Resolution

Non-Conversion of Natural Forest

Resolution

Date: 19-05-2026
Village: Mawkyrdep Village
Block: Bhoirymbong Block
District: Ri Bhoi, Meghalaya

It is certified that no conversion of natural forest has taken place in the identified bamboo forest after November 1994. The forest has remained intact for the last 33 years.

Headman (Village Authority):

Name: Jibairios Ramshoh

Signature: _____

Official Seal: Rangbah Shnong Mawkyrdep Raid Mader Dwar Syiemshe

---

Members Present:

1. Name: Michael Lyngdoh
   Signature: Lyngdoh
2. Name: Losren Ramshoh
   Signature: L. Ramshoh
3. Name: Dominic Rapsang
   Signature: _____
4. Name: Berry Bhamon Suphai
   Signature: M. Suphai
5. Name: Tohdahun Massar
   Signature: T Massar

Place: Mawkyrdep
Date: 19-05-2026

Annexure XIII Stakeholder Consultation

Resolution

Date: 04 June 2025
Village: Mawkyrdep Village
Block:Bhoi Rymbong C & RD block
District: Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya

In a meeting held on 4th June 2025, the Village Council (Dorbar Shnong) along with other stakeholders discussed and passed the resolution in connection with sustainable bamboo forest management and certification which are as follows: -

1. Formation of Village Bamboo Management Committee (VBMC):

The Dorbar Shnong hereby expresses its willingness and commitment to manage bamboo forests sustainably by forming a **Village Bamboo Management Committee (VBMC)**.

The VBMC will consist of 5 members:

- 1 President
- 1 Secretary
- And 4 Executive Members (including at least 2 female member)

Members will be representatives from the village households, Self Help Groups (SHGs), and bamboo-based enterprise if any.

The committee shall be entrusted with the responsibility to:

a) Ensure sustainable management of bamboo forest according to the approved Bamboo Forest Management Plan.
b) Oversee and coordinate all bamboo-related management and certification activities in the Village.
c) Collaborate & cooperate with the facilitating agency, government departments, and certification bodies.
d) Ensure transparent decision-making and equitable benefit-sharing from bamboo resources.

2. Commitment to Environmental Safeguard:

The Dorbar Shnong and VBMC commit to adhere to the principles of environmental and social safeguards, including:

i. Avoidance of adverse impacts on biodiversity, water sources, and ecological balance.

ii. Promotion of practices that align with **climate resilience, ecosystem restoration**, and **carbon sequestration goals**.

iii. Take all measures to prevent forest fires, if forest fires take place, then make all efforts to control the same at the earliest.

iv. Any bamboo based enterprise/industry established in the Village should not cause air, water, or sound pollution. There should not be discharge of any harmful chemicals/ substances to the water or soil.



3. Commitment to Social Safeguard:

i. Protection of traditional and cultural rights of all community members.

ii. Ensuring inclusive participation of **vulnerable groups like women, and people with disabilities** in decision-making and benefit-sharing.

iii. Women will be given equal representation in the activities of bamboo management, utilization enterprise etc.

iv. VBMC will ensure equitable sharing of benefits from bamboo forest or its utilization.

4. Creating Awareness

i. The VBMC will mobilise community members about the importance of bamboo management, rule and regulation laid out by the them, certification, and its benefit in the village.

ii. Fire safety tips.

iii. Sustainable bamboo harvesting.

iv. Environmental and Ecology

5. Free, prior and informed consent (EPIC)

All the community members of the Mawkyrdep village have been explained about the objectives and management activities including certification. All their queries have also ben answered to their satisfaction. All this was done in the meeting held on the 4th June 2025 at Mawkyrdep village. At the end of the meeting the community members offer their consent to the bamboo management initiatives in the village and also to the certification.

4/06/25

Signature
Headman
Mawkyrdep Dorbar Shnong

Rangbah Shnong
Mawkyrdep
Raid Madan Kyrdem
Khyrim Syiem Ship

Signature
Secretary
Mawkyrdep Dorbar Shnong

Secretary
Shnong Mawkyrdep
Raid Madan Kyrdem
Ri-Bhoi District

Sd/-
Signature
Treasurer
Mawkyrdep Dorbar Shnong

1 Dahmulang Kharumnid.
2 Iohdahem massar Imassar
3 Belinsha kharumnid
4 Marybhanon Suphai
5 Sweety Suphai

1. Dominic Ranee
2 Albinus Suphai
3 Banshanai Maring
4 Rangshanbor kharbihkhein
5 Silas Muyai

DORBAR SHNONG MAWKYRDEP

Raid Madan Kyrdem, Khyrim Syiemship
Ri-Bhoi District - 793116

Ref. No .....

Date 29-11-2025

Resolution

Ka Dorbar Shnong Mawkyrdep ha ka jingialang kaba la long ha ka Dt. 29-11-2025, da kawei ka jingmut, la ia mynjur lang ban thaw ia kawei ka Committee ban peit kyrpang ia ki Siej kiba don hapoh khlaw Shnong.la kane ka Committee la tip kyrteng kum ka Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC) bad kan hap hapoh ka jingpeit jingkhmih ka Dorbar Shnong.La mynjur ruh ba kane ka Komiti kan nang pyniaid noh sha khmat ia ki kam na ka bynta katei ka project. Ha kane ka sngi la jied ruh ia kine ki nongkit kam harum :-

1.Losren Ramshon :- President .....
2. Michael Lyngdoh :- Secretary .....
3.Dahunlang Kharumnuid :- Treasurer .....
4.Belinsha Kharumnuid :- Member .....
5.Marybhamon Suphai :- " .....
6. Iohdahuh Massar :- " .....
7. Krispin Makri :- " .....
8. Albinus Suphai :- " .....
9. Dominic Ranee :- " .....
10. Silas Mujai :- " .....
11.Bansharai Maring,:- " .....

La pynwai ia ka jingialang da U Rangbah Shnong.

Mawkyrdep.
29-11-25.

Losren Ramshon,
President.

M. Lyngdoh.
Secretary
Shnong Mawkyrdep
Raid Madan Kyrdem
Ri-Bhoi District

J. Ramshmon
Rangbah Shnong.
Shnong Mawkyrdep
Raid Madan
Khyrim Syiemship

List of participants present in the stakeholder meeting with Mawkyrdep Village Council held on the 04th June, 2025

Sl .No.	Name	Male/ Female	Designation	Signature
1	Michael Lyngdoh	M	Secy Dhorp	
2	Pamphelon Khonbhkhin	M		
3	Iohdahun Massar	F		I. Massar
4	Marybhamon Suphai	F		Suphai
5	Ribelin Ramshon	F		R. Ramshon
6	Genevive Ramshon	F		G Ramsha
7	Monica Suphai	F		M Suphai
8	Raymon Nongsiej	M.		R N
9	Shontilang Makri	F		S. Makri
10	Mida Kharumuid	F		M. K.
11	ENRI DIPO KAR	M		K K
12	Silillemasharing	M		
13	Paula Ramshon	F		Ramshon
14	Banisha Kharumuid	F		B. K
15	Mondalin. Nongsiej	F		M. N
16	Rosina Mujai	F		Mujai
17	Balamon Mujai	F		B. M
18	Dananesty Ramshon	F		D Ramshon
19	Johkynti Nongrum	F		
20	Melina Nongrum	F		M. Nongrum
21	Matida Nongkynrih	F		M. Nongkynrih
22	Dislar Suphai	M		
23	Meristella Ramshon	F		
24	Hastin Nongkynrih	M		H N
25	Albinus makri	M		A. Makri
26	Pdiangkun Suphai	F		Suphai
27	Jopeth Nongrum	M		

28	Albinus Suphai	M		
29	Dominic Rancee	M		
30	Sri MS. Mujau			SS
31	Dahunlang Kharummuid	F		
32	Belinsha Kharummuid	F		
33	Shailina Khriam	F		S. Khriam
34	Aihunlang Kharummuid	F		
35	Tasuklang Maring	F		Maring
36	Diaman Seroy	F		
37	Rebhalang Mossar	F		R. Mossar
38	Sweety Suphai	F		
39	Shaidalin Nungerum	F		P. Nongerum
40	Banshanai Maring	M		

41. Aquilyne Bicam F
42. Deimonchi Ochari. F
43. Jysmin K. R. L. Nongpiur M

Stakeholder Consultation for bamboo Forest Management Plan in Mawkyrdep village 4th June 2025

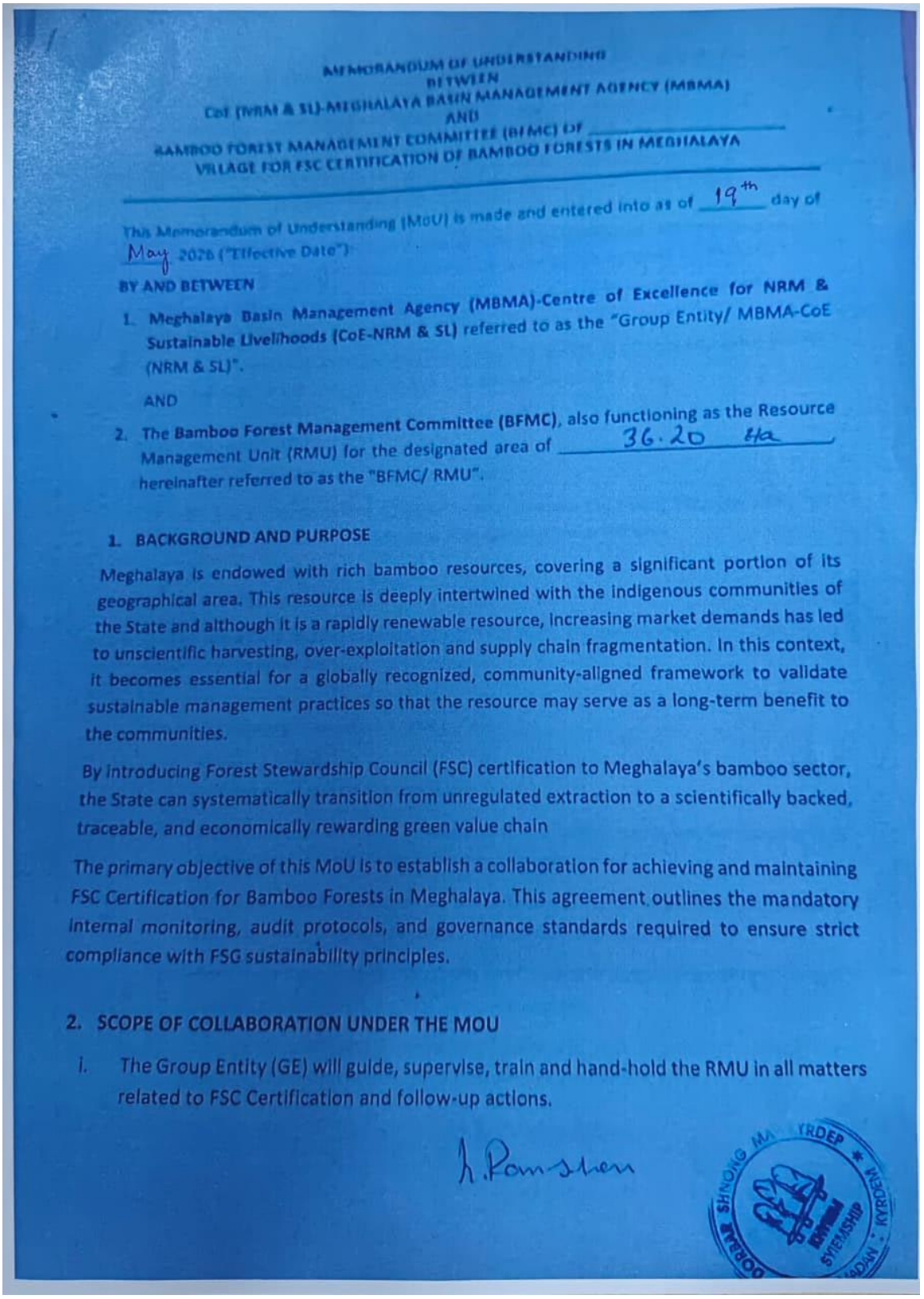






Annexure – XIV Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
CoE (NRM & SL)-MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY (MBMA)
AND
BAMBOO FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (BFMC) OF _____
VILLAGE FOR FSC CERTIFICATION OF BAMBOO FORESTS IN MEGHALAYA

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made and entered into as of 19th day of May 2026 ("Effective Date")

BY AND BETWEEN

1. **Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA)-Centre of Excellence for NRM & Sustainable Livelihoods (CoE-NRM & SL)** referred to as the "Group Entity/ MBMA-CoE (NRM & SL)".

AND

2. The **Bamboo Forest Management Committee (BFMC)**, also functioning as the Resource Management Unit (RMU) for the designated area of 36.20 Ha hereinafter referred to as the "BFMC/ RMU".

1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Meghalaya is endowed with rich bamboo resources, covering a significant portion of its geographical area. This resource is deeply intertwined with the indigenous communities of the State and although it is a rapidly renewable resource, increasing market demands has led to unscientific harvesting, over-exploitation and supply chain fragmentation. In this context, it becomes essential for a globally recognized, community-aligned framework to validate sustainable management practices so that the resource may serve as a long-term benefit to the communities.

By introducing Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification to Meghalaya's bamboo sector, the State can systematically transition from unregulated extraction to a scientifically backed, traceable, and economically rewarding green value chain

The primary objective of this MoU is to establish a collaboration for achieving and maintaining FSC Certification for Bamboo Forests in Meghalaya. This agreement outlines the mandatory internal monitoring, audit protocols, and governance standards required to ensure strict compliance with FSG sustainability principles.

2. SCOPE OF COLLABORATION UNDER THE MOU

i. The Group Entity (GE) will guide, supervise, train and hand-hold the RMU in all matters related to FSC Certification and follow-up actions.

f. Review whether any complaints regarding malpractice (such as illegal felling of bamboo, financial discrepancies, unauthorized trade, etc.) have been received, and evaluate if the BFMC took timely, suitable corrective action.

g. Inspect general office registers, verify transit/ depot check-gate management workflows, and assess the implementation of training schedules for local communities.

h. Translates technical standard requirements into everyday language, training farmers on sustainable harvesting techniques, ecosystem preservation, and safety standards.

i. Help in formulating long-term forest management and environmental impact assessment strategies tailored to local bamboo species.

3.2. BFMC / RMU

To maintain eligibility within the FSC certification cluster, the BFMC/ RMU agrees to:

i. The RMU is expected to follow all the directions and advisories issued by CoE.

ii. The RMU is responsible to implement sustainable forest management practices on behalf of members, ensuring compliance with FSC Principles and Criteria.

iii. Ensure that their management units are not included in any other FSC certificate.

iv. Maintain updated registers for accounts, grievance logs, and daily forest operations.

v. Provide unrestricted access to forest sites, maintain administrative records and provide necessary support during internal audit by the GE.

vi. Act immediately on any non-compliance or corrective action requests issued by the GE.

vii. Implementing a documented, regular (annual) monitoring and internal audit system to verify that management units continue to comply with FSC requirements.

viii. Establishing a tracking system to ensure that non-certified material is not mixed with FSC-certified material, and that all bamboo can be traced from the forest to the point of first sale.

ix. Ensuring all forest workers and community members operating in the RMU receive necessary training, supervision, and safety protection.

x. Maintain records of forest management activities, including harvest volumes, planting, and sales of FSC-certified material, for at least five years.

xi. Actively engaging with local communities and other affected parties to identify and resolve conflicts over tenure, use rights, and management impacts.

H. Ramachandran

SHNONG M
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ii. Conduct a routine internal monitoring audit of the BFMC/ RMU at least once every calendar year.

iii. Conducting comprehensive, district-wise resource mapping to identify key commercial bamboo species and estimate harvestable stock.

iv. Establish clear guidelines to align FSC requirements with community-centric land tenure systems, identifying community forests, clan lands and village council-managed areas.

v. Adapting the FSC Standard for India to the local socio-ecological context of Meghalaya, ensuring zero conversion of natural forests and the preservation of biodiversity.

vi. Mapping the custody chain from the bamboo forests to the transit point for collection by the vendors.

vii. Internal monitoring officials designated by CoE (NRM & SL)-MBMA will conduct comprehensive site visits to evaluate operational compliance.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1. CoE (NRM & SL)-MBMA/ Group Entity shall:

i. The GE acts as the body that officially holds and renew the Forest Management (FM) certificates on behalf of the Resource Management Units (RMUs).

ii. The GE is responsible for ensuring that all group members comply with FSC RFSS-Forest Management standards.

iii. It shall act as the liaison between the BFMC/ RMU, the certification body (FSC) and other outside agencies.

iv. Thoroughly conduct internal audits, document and report on the following parameters during their routine visit:

a. Maintain written procedures for managing the group and a public policy of commitment to FSC Principles and Criteria.

b. Verify whether all bamboo harvesting and forest management activities are strictly aligned with the approved management plan.

c. Assess the implementation of all community rights protections, fair labour practices and occupational safety measures for forest workers.

d. Inspect account books, vouchers and financial ledgers to ensure proper, transparent bookkeeping is actively maintained.

e. Verify that biodiversity protection measures, soil and water conservation efforts and waste management practices are observed as prescribed.

...whenever deviations from the BFMP or any significant matter in ... with ratification process.

4. ... AND MALPRACTICE CONSEQUENCES

... formal audit reveals evidence of unaddressed malpractice—including but not limited to financial discrepancies, ecological damage or standard safety violations—the GE reserves the right to recommend corrective measures or even suspend the specific BFMC/ RMU from the FSC Certification Group until formal remediation is verified and in the extreme terminate the MoU.

5. VALIDITY AND AMENDMENTS

This MoU shall remain valid for a period of **10 (ten)** years from the date of signing. It may be amended, modified, or extended at any time by the mutual written consent of both Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have signed this Memorandum of Understanding on the day, month, and year first above written.

6. SIGNATURES AND WITNESSES

For the Group Entity (MBMA-CoE):

Name: (For MBMA-CoE) Lavinia Mary Dikhar

Designation: Technical Specialist

Signature: (19th May 2026)

For the BFMC/ RMU:

Name: Losten Ramshon

Designation: President

Signature: _____

In the presence of Witnesses:

In the presence of:

1. Jibanius Ramshon –
2. Michael Lyngdoh –

L. Ramshon

Annexure - XV Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) High Conservation Value (HCV)

PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL (PRA)
HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE (HCV)

VILLAGE: MAWKYRDEP **BLOCK: BHOI-RYMBONG**

DISTRICT: RI-BHOI DISTRICT **DATE: 13/07/26**

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: 7

A. Rare, Endangered & Threatened Plant Species

1. Are there any rare or endangered plant species found in the village forest or its vicinity?

   Yes, the village forest and its immediate surroundings harbour a few rare and ecologically significant native plant species, categorized as follows:

   i. Endangered – Rsang (Tree) & *Calamus sp.* (Tnger/ Cane)

   ii. Rare – Sohlynnar & Sohstar (Fruit trees)

2. What are their local names?

   i. Rsang (Tree)

   ii. Tnger (Cane)

   iii. Sohlynnar (Sohmyndong like)

   iv. Sohstar (grape alike)

3. Where are these plants usually found?

   The rare and endangered plants found in the forests on the village.

4. Are these plants becoming less common over time?

   Yes. The occurrence of these plants have declined over time.

5. Are there any rare orchid species in the forest?

   Yes. The local orchid species reported within the village forest include the following:

   i. *Rhynchostylis retusa* (Tdongmiaw, pink flowers)

   ii. Langbyrkhaw (white flowers)

   iii. Blue Vanda

6. Are there any medicinal plants that have become difficult to find over a period of time?

   Yes, the community members have observed a noticeable decline in the availability of several traditional medicinal plants in the village forest over recent years. Examples include:

   i. *Swertia chirayita* (Charita)

   ii. Jatler (declining)

B. Wildlife and Biodiversity

1. Which bird species are commonly found?

Commonly observed bird species in and around the village forest include:

i. Jungle Fowl (Rare)
ii. Minivet (Simsyiem)
iii. Owl
iv. Kynchir (Hen-like)

2. Are there any rare or migratory birds?

Additionally, the following bird species were observed although not frequently

i. Jyllop has been reported as rare
ii. Amur falcon (migratory bird)

3. Which wild mammals occur in the forest?

The following wild animals were reported to be observed by the community members during the PRA:

i. Thew iong
ii. Wild cat
iii. Squirrel
iv. Bat (Lymbit)
v. Yellow throated marten (Phyllad)

4. Are snakes, monitor lizards, or geckos present?

Yes. Snakes and other small reptiles have also been occasionally observed in the forest that are listed below:

i. Snakes- Bsein saw, bsein iong and bsein um
ii. Lizards- Kniang bshiah
iii. Geckos- Kniang ap ing

5. Have you sighted wildlife or observed footprints, scats, burrows, nests, or feeding signs?

Only bird's nests were observed.

6. Are there wildlife corridors or important habitats?

No, there are no wildlife corridors or important habitats.

C. Cultural and Historical Sites

1. Are there any sacred forests, sacred groves, or sacred trees?

No sacred forests, sacred groves or sacred trees were reported to be present in the village.

2. Are there old churches, monuments, memorial stones, or traditional worship places?

Old churches, monuments, memorial stones, or traditional places of worship were not reported to be present in the village.

3. Approximately how old are these sites?

Not applicable.

D. Water Resources

1. Are there natural springs, streams, rivers, or wetlands?

   Yes, the village has natural water resources, including perennial springs, streams and rivers. Key water sources located within the village bounday include:

   i. Springs (6) - Umdait-ta, Krem muid, Umthadan, Umsarang, Kharbihkhiew, Wah Khah

   ii. Rivers (2) - Wahkhap Phadar, Wahumnuih

2. Are they perennial or seasonal?

   The springs are perennial and serve as the main water source for the community members.

3. Have any springs dried up?

   While several natural springs previously faced severe water depletion, targeted watershed management interventions implemented by the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) have successfully restored their flow and discharge.

4. Are there water scarcity or water quality issues?

   There is no major water scarcity in the entire village at present.

E. Invasive Alien Species

1. Are invasive plant species present?

   Yes, several invasive plant species are present within the village.

2. Which invasive species are common?

   i. *Ageratine adenophora* (Lantana iong)

   ii. *Lantana camara* (Lantana saw)

   iii. *Chromolaena odorata* (Lantana lieh)

   iv. *Mikania* (Repuji)

3. Do they affect bamboo growth or forest regeneration?

   The presence of invasive plant species does not affect bamboo growth or forest regeneration

F. Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)

1. Which NTFPs are collected?

   i. Wild Mushrooms

   ii. Bamboo

   iii. Colocassia

   iv. Wild Banana

   v. *Castanopsis indica* (Soh-Ot)

   vi. *Emblica officinalis* (Goose berries/ Sohmylleng)

2. Which are most important for household income?
    i. Wild Mushrooms
    ii. *Emblica officinalis* (Goose berries/ Sohmylleng)
3. Has availability declined over time?

    Yes.

G. Hunting and Wildlife Pressure

1. Does hunting occur in the village?

    Hunting in the village has been prohibited.

2. Are there village regulations on hunting?

    Yes, there are strict hunting regulations in place which have been made aware to the community members through signboards and general information/ awareness during village council meetings.

    Periodic general announcements are also broadcasted through PA system for the information of the public

H. Additional Environmental Concerns

1. Are there landslides, soil erosion, gullies, illegal logging, or mining impacts?

    Instances of soil erosion occur during heavy rainfall.

2. Is bamboo regeneration satisfactory?

    Natural bamboo regeneration within the village forest is healthy and satisfactory.

I. Community Conservation Practices

1. Does the village protect certain forest areas?

    Yes. The village actively protects designated forest areas, with conservation measures regularly monitored and enforced by Village Council members in collaboration with the community.

2. Are there community conservation rules?

    Yes. There are strict hunting regulations in place, prohibition of illegal felling of timber, protection of water bodies, etc.

3. How are these rules enforced?

    These rules and regulations are actively enforced through the coordinated efforts of the following community members:

    Overseen by the Village Headman and the Village Council, along with the active participation of community members.

    Regular community meetings have also served as a means for collective decision-making and enforcement.

    The rules and regulations are made public through public notices, informational signboards, and routine awareness programs to ensure all community members are aware.

J. Community Environmental Concerns

1. Is there any kind of pollution in the village?

   No major overall pollution is present in the village.

2. If so, what are the causes?

   Not Applicable.

3. Do you see that Bamboo Forest Management in the village will cause any environmental damage?

   Bamboo Forest Management activities are not expected to cause any environmental damage.

Annexure XVI Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Environmental Impact (EI)

PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL (PRA)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (EI)

VILLAGE: MAWKYRDEP **BLOCK: BHOI-RYMBONG**

DISTRICT: RI-BHOI DISTRICT **DATE: 13/07/26**

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: 7

A. Soil Erosion

1. Is soil erosion observed?

   Yes. Soil erosion is observed, primarily during the monsoon season.

2. Main causes

   Heavy rainfall has been the primary cause of soil erosion.

3. Conservation measures

   Contour trench, Contour bunding

B. Mining / Quarrying

1. Mining/ quarrying present?

   Mining or quarrying activities does not take place within the village.

2. Type

   NA

3. Environmental impacts

   NA

4. Legal/Illegal

   NA

C. Forest Fire

1. Occurred in last 5 years.

   Yes. A total of 4 forest fire occurrences have been recorded within the village forest boundaries over the past 5 years.

2. Frequency

   Annual occurrence, mainly during the dry winter months.

3. Area burnt

   Approximately 40% to 50% of the village forest area has been impacted during major fire events.

4. Causes

   Anthropogenic Factors: Accidental fire spread originating from neighbouring/ adjacent forest lands or un-extinguished fires.

5. Resources damaged

   Medicinal plants, sapling, grown trees, wildlife.

6. Fire prevention measures

Fire-Control Lines

D. Landslide

1. Landslide occurrence

   Landslides were not reported to occur in the village.

2. Frequency

   NA

3. Causes

   NA

4. Damage

   NA

5. Mitigation measures

   NA

E. Shifting Cultivation

1. Whether practiced?

   Shifting cultivation is practiced in the village.

2. Number of Households involved

   10 – 12 households are actively engaged in shifting cultivation in the village.

3. Area (ha)

   Area covered under shifting cultivation is approximately 0.5 - 1 Acre

4. Current cycle in years

   Current Cycle: 2 years (specifically for ginger: 1 crop, 2 years gap, then planting/ plowing again)

5. Previous cycle

   NA

6. Environmental impacts

   NA

F. Any Plant/ Small-scale Industries

1. Type

   There are no small scale industries in the village.

2. Industries

   NA

3. Employment

   NA

4. Environmental impacts

   None

G. Charcoal Making

1. Whether practiced?

   No

2. Households involved

   NA

3. People involved

   NA

4. Raw material source

   NA

H. Overall Environmental Impact Ranking

Issue	High	Medium	Low	None
Soil erosion			✓	
Mining				✓
Quarrying				✓
Forest fire			✓	
Landslide			✓	
Shifting cultivation		✓		
Small industries				✓
Charcoal making				✓

I. Community Recommendations

1. Major environmental problems

   Slash and burn practices

2. Suggested mitigation measures

   Transition to organic fertilizers/farming

   Avoid chemical inputs (e.g., No Urea / DAP alternatives)

3. Organizations to support

   MBDA, ICAR

4. Other suggestions

   None

Annexure – XVII Photos of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) fieldwork for High Conservation Value (HCV)










RIBHOI
07.13.24

Water bodies in Mawkyrdep village



Umthadan (Spring)



Wahsarang (Spring)



Wah Khah (Spring)

The Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Natural Resource Management & Sustainable Livelihoods (NRM & SL) under the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) is an institution devoted for strengthening Natural Resource Management (NRM) in Meghalaya and beyond.

Visit us: https://coenrm.megplanning.gov.in/

email: coe.nrm.meg@gmail.com

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MBMA
Meghalaya Basin Management Agency