

## **Green Energy Action Research in Nongriat and Wahsohra**

Under the MLAMP Energy Action Research two Hydrogers were installed in Nongriat (Shella Bholaganj, East Khasi Hills) and Wahsohra (Laitkroh Khatarshnong, East Khasi Hills) respectively. These hydrogers are of 3 kW capacity manufacture by Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy Studies (**CERES**), Nagaland Empowerment of Power through Energy Development (**NEPeD**) Nagaland.

Both the Hydrogers were installed with the help of the Green Energy Volunteers who had undergone training and exposure visit to project sites in Nagaland.

**Nongriat:** Nongriat is a village in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, with only 34 Households and a total population of 130. Bay-leaf is the main product of the villagers and each family can harvest approximately 120 Kg of bay-leaf in a month which is sold at Rs. 23 / Kg. Nongriat is perhaps best known for its two living root bridges; one an impressive double-decker suspension bridge. These are crafted by hand, as the Khasi people have done in the Khasi Hills for centuries, intertwining and weaving together the aerial roots of the trees (Diengjiri) on opposite sides of a stream-filled gorge. The Double Decker has been featured on international television programs such as the Human Planet series filmed in 2008 by BBC Wales, and a documentary by Mr. Osamu Monden in June 2004 for Asahi TV in Japan.

Nongthymmai, Tyrna, Mawshamok, Nongkroh are the neighbouring MLAMP villages.

The community in Nongriat installed Mobile Recharging Stations and Street Lights which will light up most of the footpaths in and around the village. Nongriat village is famous for its Double Decker Living Root Bridge which had attract thousands of tourists in the recent years. The street lightings will improve the stay of the community as well as the tourist who are staying in Nongriat.

**Wahsohra:** Wahsohra is a village situated at N25.34502 and E091.75096, at the Laitkroh Khatarshnong C&RD Block, East Khasi Hills. The village comprises of only 11 Households which are not connected to the grid. The Major livelihood activities of the villagers are Weaving Bamboo Products and Agro Forestry.

There is at least one person in each household practicing bamboo weaving. The product include baskets, knup (traditionally styled umbrella covering the entire length of the body), star (strap used for carrying goods on the back) etc. Most of the weavers are engaged in weaving activity during the rainy days, after plantation season/harvesting season or in the morning and evening (before going to the crop fields/after coming from the crop fields). Weaving after the sunsets is a major problem for the weavers; as they have to stress their eyes working in the candle's / lamp's dimmed light. Thus affecting their productivity. This situation has a more negative impact on the children's studies and the health of their eyes.

To improve the situation and the livelihood, the installation of a Pico Hydro Power is proposed in the village as an action research.

There are 11 Households in Wahsohra village which will benefit from the Hydroger as each Household will be connected with at least a 5 LED bulb each for lighting purposes. As one of the livelihood activities of Wahsohra village is weaving bamboo products, electricity will help in

improving the livelihood activity as each weaver will have more time in extending their working hours in the evening.

#### **Installation of Solar Power at INR office**

The INR office has installed Solar Power for powering all the computers in the office. This is one of the activities that the Institute encourages all institutions to take up because Solar Energy is one of the renewable sources of energy (Green Energy).

<b>Details of the Solar Power installed in INR</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Solar Panel	3 kW
Battery	920 AH