

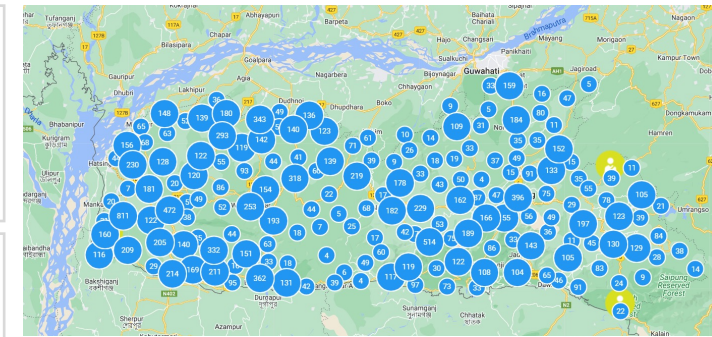
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY FOR IMPROVED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE: The Meghalaya State Watershed & Wasteland Development Agency (MSWWDA) collaborated with the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBMA) in partnership with the SOCION to sensitize, train and build capacities of village level cadres across all 6400 villages on Natural Resources Management.

ACCOMPLISHMENT: MBMA and MSWWDA led technical and implementation efforts supported by Socion in an advisory capacity to develop a detailed approach to empower over 14,000 Village facilitators across the state, enable them to use the tools and knowledge provided to develop NRM plans for the communities they serve.

OUTCOMES:

- Over 15000 VCF (Village community facilitators) trained and NRM plans initiated across the state and a digitally verifiable record of their accomplishments available for key stakeholders across the state
- A data driven process that ensures accountability at all levels combined with a virtual vetting of plans (using data from CLART) and interventions by experts before each plan is approved
- Over 800 NRM plans were created and verified, and the State is now taking steps to formalize the VCF's to form a statewide NRM cadre that can be leveraged for other NRM or related programs in the future.
- Non-personal data generated from the project is available for open use www.widget.socion.io



“Until now, data-driven governance has largely been theoretical. When the Meghalaya government adopted the PDA tool, we actually started to witness what it meant. Also, Institution building is resource intensive and there are high costs involved. We saw a need to have a single platform, to not just anchor all the knowledge and resources but also pass it to future Programs” *Officer on Special Duty, Meghalaya Basin Management Agency*

“Recently, in our annual work plan, we were able to use the insights from our data to increase utilization significantly, from 18% to 62%!” *Deputy Project Director, Meghalaya Basin Development Authority*