



COMMUNITY BASED SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION (COSFOM)

NEWSLETTER

Forestry Measures

Issue no. 02, July 2025

01

Planting for the future

Project plantations are increasingly located within springshed areas to combine tangible benefits like firewood and timber with springshed rejuvenation.

02

Village forest stewards

Shokvao village granted recognition certificate from the Hon'ble Governor, Manipur, for outstanding forest protection during the 76th Van Mahotsav Festival.

03

Benefits from plantations

First project supported Oak plantations are sustainably harvested for coppicing. Obtained firewood is reducing logging pressure on natural forest resources.

01



Planting for the Future

Increasing pressure on natural forests has led to increased water shortages in hill areas, threatening the very survival of rural communities. In response, the Project is taking an integrated approach combining forest plantations with springshed management to enhance the ecological benefits of tree planting. Local communities are at the heart of this effort. They are growing seedlings in decentralized village nurseries and planting trees around critical springsheds.

Trees play a vital role, their roots help channel rainwater into the ground, recharging springs, stabilizing soil, and reducing the risk of erosion.

By restoring forests and protecting water sources together, the Project is helping communities to have climate resilience and secure water for generations to come.





Village Forest Stewards

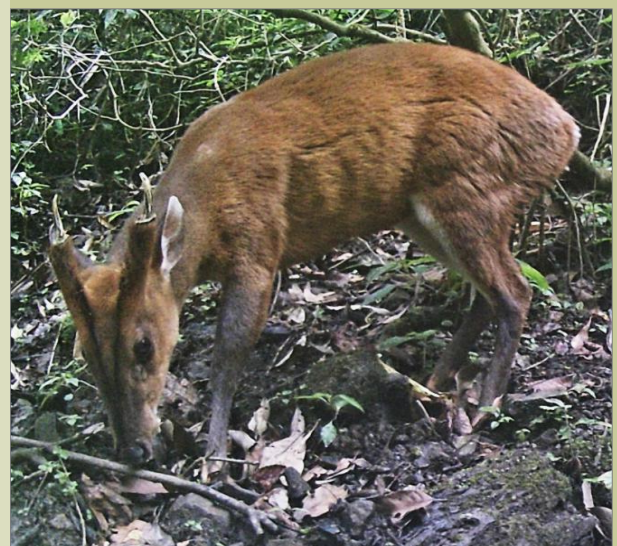
Shokvao Village received Certificate of Recognition from the Hon'ble Governor of Manipur for its outstanding efforts in forest fire protection through the Forest Area Closure initiative under the COSFOM Project, during the Grand Finale of the 76th Van Mahotsav, 2025 Festival.

The project is encouraging these initiatives through Forest and Riparian Area Closures, providing financial support for village forest wardens.

Youth Leading the Way

Increased awareness on the value of biodiversity has led to effective village-based forest protection regulations and hunting bans. Increased sighting of wildlife is providing a clear prove and sight of hope for future generations.

Youth groups and local NGOs are increasingly leading awareness campaigns and becoming the stewards of local biodiversity.



Picture courtesy: ENFOGAL Ukhru



Benefits from Plantations

Extensive firewood consumption is posing a real threat to natural forest resources in the hills and is impacting water availability and risks of landslides.

To help reduce this strain, the Project is promoting reforestation to substitute firewood from natural forest through sustainably managed plantations.

Oak plantations when managed as coppice can be regularly cut every 5-7 years where trees are repeatedly cut down to the stump (coppiced), allowing them to regrow from the remaining root system.

Growing Trees and Livelihoods

Project villages are taking the lead in reforestation by managing their own local nurseries from collecting seeds in nearby forests to planting young trees in their village woodlands. This hands-on approach not only strengthens community ownership but also builds local skills in nursery management.

In some villages, nurseries have grown into small enterprises. Households and neighbouring communities are purchasing saplings, creating new income opportunities for nursery managers.

