

Tbeh Jingshai

kindling a light

Narratives from **NORTH EAST NETWORK**

April - July 2025

Dear Readers,

We are back with another edition of Tbeh Jingshai - bringing you tales from North East Network. From spaces where women collectivise and youth dreams to workshops held in lush green fields, the past few months have been mostly about action on the ground. We invite you to read ahead and be part of these tales with us!

A poem to begin with!

“A couple of women leaders, on a mission to Beijing,
Voices raised, emotions high, decisions made.
Back come they, determined, Beijing tones must ring;
Born then, North East Network! a woman’s mate”
- Darilyn Syiem, Former Regional Coordinator, NEN

[Click here to read the entire poem](#)

Frisbee for All: Workshop for Mirdan Youth Collective, Assam



35 members of the Mirdan Youth Collective from Darrang, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Kamrup (R), and Udalguri districts came together for an inspiring workshop that used Ultimate Frisbee as a tool to challenge gender norms and promote equal participation. As an inclusive, non-contact and team-based sport, Ultimate Frisbee provided the perfect platform for learning and growth. Facilitated by resource persons from the ant, the sessions offered a safe space where young girls and boys could play, learn, and engage on equal footing - nurturing values of teamwork, respect and leadership both on and off the field.

Raising Dialogue for a Gender-Just Future in Meghalaya



In May 2025, NEN organised a series of interface meetings across East Khasi Hills, Eastern West Khasi Hills, and West Khasi Hills, engaging around 60 key stakeholders including village headmen, ASHAs, Anganwadi workers, women's groups, and community members. These conversations focused on gender equality, gender-based violence, and legal remedies; with an aim to strengthen the support system for survivors of gender-based violence through collective efforts.

NEN Farm School (NFS): Sowing Seeds in 7 Districts of Nagaland



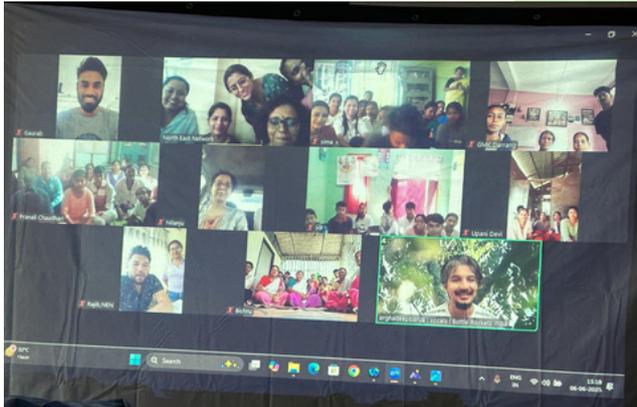
As NFS expands, we move from district to district shaping a meaningful learning journey grounded in agroecology and community food systems. In collaboration with 7 partner organisations from the districts of Tseminyu, Peren, Longleng, Tuensang, Noklak, Shamator, and Kiphire, around 130 participants came together for shared learning and collective action. This initiative has equipped participants to lead locally-driven change and take steps toward strengthening community-based food systems.

Our partners in this journey: Kenono Foundation, Lemsachenlok Society, SEWA Nagaland, North East Initiative Development Agency, Rongmei Baptist Association, Better Life Foundation and Pathso Nokeng Student's Union.

World Environment Day 2025

Restore Nature for a Greener Tomorrow

This World Environment Day, NEN has brought together women, youth, partners and communities to raise awareness about restoring ecological balance and to inspire collective action toward a greener, more resilient planet.



ASSAM

160 participants from 6 districts gathered online to reflect on local instances of environmental degradation through interactive discussions, film screenings, and the release of zines.

MEGHALAYA

140 participants, including youth, farmers, and students, engaged in tree plantations and environmental awareness activities across 3 districts.



NAGALAND

369 participants from 5 districts undertook community-led initiatives - from marathons and plantation drives to plastic pollution awareness programmes and cleanliness drives.

Taking Forward Feminist Voices



Nilanju Dutta from NEN participated as a panelist in "Experts Consultation on Advancing Feminist Engagement with Law and its Practice for Gender Justice and Responsive Institutions " organised by SAWF IN (South Asian Women Foundation India) in New Delhi.

With a commitment to creating safe and inclusive workplaces for women, Anurita Pathak Hazarika, Executive Director of NEN, led an awareness programme on the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013. This programme was organised by the Assam Police Border Organisation Headquarters in Guwahati for its staff.



All That is Green - A Photo Series

Documenting Plants in Laitkseh

42 plant varieties were documented through agro-biodiversity walks organised by NEN in Laitkseh, West Khasi Hills and Wahlielong, Eastern West Khasi Hills.



Under the Tepu (Tepor/Thempwr) Tenga Tree

32 women farmers from Udalguri district gathered under a Tepu Tenga tree to explore natural farming techniques through experiential learning.

Food is about culture identity, community and resilience. This photo series below reflects learning, foraging, cooking and sharing in the recent NFS sessions organised across 7 districts of Nagaland.



Hear from our Intern

“My internship at NEN was enriching and insightful. Working with dedicated professionals and participating in field activities helped me develop new perspectives and skills essential for my journey as a social work professional.” - Bandita Phukon, Birangana Sati Sadhani Rajyik Vishwavidyalaya, Assam



SPEAKING UP FOR HER RIGHTS

Reflecting on her journey, Bina (name changed) speaks about the discrimination she faced. “If I were a man, my relatives wouldn’t have tried to take away my rights,” she asserts. She expresses deep gratitude for her mother, who, despite bearing the heavy expenses of her own medical treatment, had the foresight to save every penny and purchase a property in her daughter’s name. “If she hadn’t done that, I wouldn’t be where I am today,” she emphasises.

SCAN HERE TO
READ MORE



#HER STORY



[Click here to watch Small steps, Big impact](#) - a video released during World Environment Day

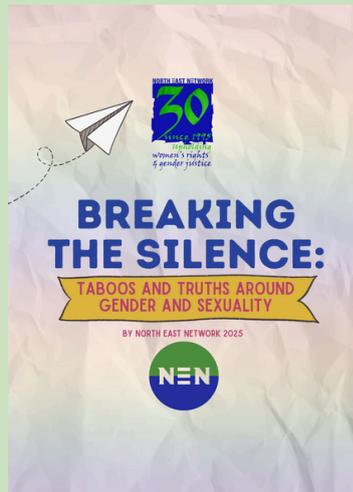
Through Saneki Weaves - a livelihood initiative of NEN, we strengthen rural livelihood of women in Assam while celebrating the richness of local resources and skills in every product we make.

[Explore more!](#)

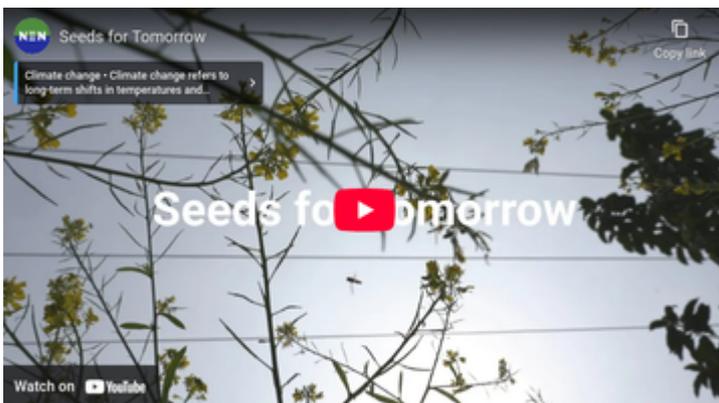


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As we move ahead, we carry with us hopes and dreams for a gender equal and gender just future.

YouTube: [NEN Assam](#) | [NEN Meghalaya](#) | [NEN Nagaland](#)

