

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES AS AGENTS OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SUSTAINABILITY IN NORTH- EAST INDIA

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Have you ever gone for a walk and come across a charming Little Library on the edge of the street

Introduction

“People are at the center of sustainable development,” states the UN General Assembly in their 2014 Sustainable Development Goals ([SDG's](#)). For a society to be truly sustainable, it must also be “just, equitable and inclusive.”



Libraries play an important role in promoting literacy, education and lifelong learning, promoting Community Development: Libraries are often seen as community hubs

What and Why of Community Outreach?

Community Outreach and engagement are two distinct ways to connect with your community.

Community outreach involves providing professional services, or services of a specific expertise, to a group of people who may not otherwise have access to those services.

Community Outreach for Improving the Lives of Communities

Community outreach acts as important agents as it can empower people to participate in decision making that affects their lives and advocate for their rights and interests.

Community outreach is reflected in the improved social, education, health and economic outcomes of those who benefit from outreach programs.

Little Free Library as agents of community outreach



Promoting literacy
Building social connection
Encouraging diversity and inclusivity
Supporting education
Empowering community-led initiatives
Promoting cultural exchange

Little Free Libraries for sustainable development

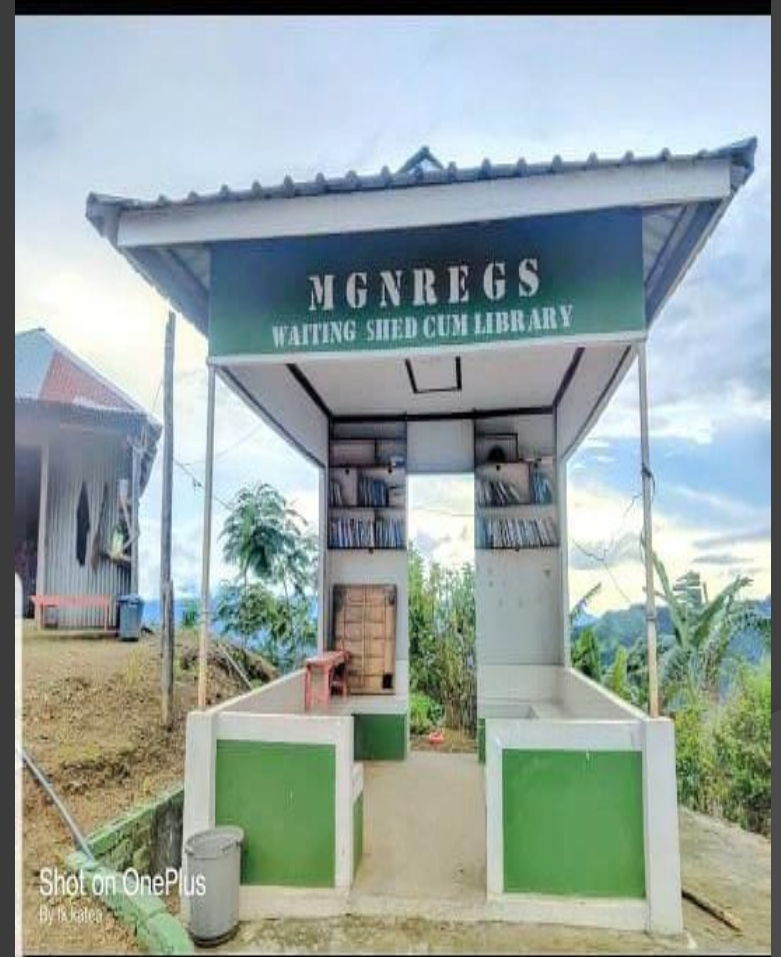
“People are at the center of sustainable development,” states the UN General Assembly in their 2014 Sustainable Development Goals ([SDG's](#)).

Promoting literacy and education	Encouraging community engagement	Reducing waste and promoting reuse	Supporting local economies	Promoting environment awareness	Fostering resilience and self-reliance
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Little Free Library Initiatives in Mizoram

- Inspired by the global movement that began Hudson, Wisconsin in 2009, the challenge of installing non-profit mini roadside libraries in Aizawl, Mizoram was felt to help the community and to impart best practices to the society for no personal gains.

Little Libraries in Aizawl





Little Free Library Initiatives in Arunachal Pradesh

- Inspired by the several 'Little Free Libraries' (LFLs) that have sprung up in Aizawl by members of a small library movement in Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh also took this initiative. The venture in a state with a fairly high literacy rate has led two sisters in the border state of Arunachal Pradesh to follow suit by establishing Little Free Libraries in three remote districts- Papum Pare, Kurung Kumey and Tirap.

Little Free Library Initiatives in North East India



Conclusions

- Little Free Libraries exemplify the synergy between community engagement and sustainability practices, creating invaluable hubs of knowledge exchange and neighborly connectivity.
- The initiatives of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh on Little Free Library cultivates community bonds and promote literacy through accessible book exchanges in public areas, contribution to more inclusive and informed society

Come and join the Little Free Library Movement and bring change to our society

Thank you

