

Organic silk: development potential for handicraft and trade in North-East-India

Public-Private-Partnership starts sustainable textile production in Meghalaya

In Meghalaya, a beautiful country in the north-east corner of India, 12.5 % of the rural tribes are living below the breadline. Besides that the climate change restricts, by raising temperature und decreasing precipitation, the recent agricultural activities (e.g. the fish breeding). Now it is planned to install a sustainable and fair textile chain from silk rearing up to production of clothing as an alternative chance for earned income.

The natural resources to intensify the silk production exist and the handicraft's tradition of silk rearing processing offers an excellent basis to introduce innovative techniques and to manufacture new products. Local stakeholders and NGOs are involved to create together with the German Development Collaboration (GIZ) as project partner fair and social conditions for the handicrafts women.

Dr. Matias Langer, CEO of Seidentraum, reports: „It is so beautiful to see the dedication the women in Meghalaya work with. They are enjoyed about the interest in their silk products and they are open for every kind of support“.

It is planned to intensify the organic silk rearing, to introduce manual spinning wheels and frame looms and to improve the dyeing techniques with local plants. The project „Socio-economic empowerment of rural women artisans working in the eri silk value chain in Meghalaya“ is carried out under the umbrella of German-Indian development collaboration and is part of the measures of the climate change adaptation in the North-Eastern regions of India.

Designers and brands are welcome as partners in the course of product design. The marketing of the organic textiles in Europe takes place by Seidentraum, fairs and retailers.



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