

05 December 2025

# Newsletter

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Government of Meghalaya  
Meghalaya Basin Development Authority | Meghalaya Basin Management Agency

The Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA) and Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) implement citizen-centric, community-driven projects to improve the quality of life for Meghalaya's citizens, bridge developmental gaps, and promote natural resource management, catchment area protection, forest management, agroecological practices, and market development. Incorporated under the State's Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department, MBMA and MBDA partner with multilateral agencies, banks, non-profits, UN organizations, government departments, and community groups to implement their works.

Coverage spans across Meghalaya through Externally Aided Projects (EAP) such as the IFAD-supported Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project (Megha-LAMP), the JiCA-funded Project for Community-based Forest Management and Livelihood Improvement in Meghalaya (MegLIFE), and the KfW Development Bank-funded projects - the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) and the Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Area in Meghalaya (MegARISE) Project.

State programmes being implemented include the Promotion and Incubation of Market-Driven Enterprises (PRIME), the Farmers Collectivization for Upscaling Production and Marketing Systems (FOCUS), the Smart Village Movement (SVM), the Grassroot Level response Towards Ecosystem Enhancement and Nurturing (GREEN Meghalaya), the Cluster Development Programme (CDP), the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) in Meghalaya, and the Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission (MSBM).

## EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

**Megha-LAMP**  
Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project

**MegLIFE**  
Project for Community-based Forest Management and Livelihood Improvement in Meghalaya

**MegARISE**  
Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Areas in Meghalaya Project

**SLM**  
Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project

## WORKS

### PRIME

Promotion and Incubation of Market Driven Enterprises

### FOCUS

Farmers Collectivization for Upscaling of Production and Marketing Systems

### SVM

Smart Village Movement

### GREEN Meghalaya

Grassroot Level response Towards Ecosystem Enhancement and Nurturing Meghalaya

### CDP

Cluster Development Programme

### PMJVM

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission in Meghalaya

### MSBM

Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission

## STATE PROGRAMMES



**MeghaLAMP**  
Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project



**GREEN**  
MEGHALAYA  
Grassroot Level Response towards Ecosystem Enhancement and Nurturing Meghalaya

**Smart Village Movement™**  
In Alliance With Berkeley Haas



**PRIME**  
MEGHALAYA



# KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



## 18-MEMBER INDONESIA DELEGATION VISITS MEGHALAYA UNDER MLAMP-YESS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

From 2nd to 4th of December 2025, an 18-member delegation from Indonesia, including Mr. Yoga Mahardika, Third Secretary for Economic Affairs at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, YESS project staff, government officials, and professors, visited Meghalaya as part of an exchange programme between India’s MLAMP and Indonesia’s YESS Programme. The visit aimed to deepen understanding of MLAMP interventions and explore practices that could be adapted into IFAD-supported initiatives in Indonesia to strengthen community livelihoods. During the field immersion in West Jaintia Hills, the delegation visited the Laskein PRIME Hub, a Turmeric Processing Unit, and the Laskein and Sohphoh IVCS. The visits offered firsthand insights into community-driven entrepreneurship, value addition, and market access. The processing unit team presented on their business activities, funding, implementation processes, and marketing strategies, followed by an interactive question and answer session. A similar presentation and interaction were conducted at the Sohphoh IVCS, providing the delegation with detailed understanding of local community enterprises and operational models.

Indonesian Delegation Visits Meghalaya

# KEY UPDATES

## PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



### MULTI-DEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS SILTATION AT MAWPHLANG DAM

“ On 2nd December 2025, a meeting was held in the DC’s Chamber to address the increasing problem of siltation affecting the Mawphlang Dam, which plays a key role in the Umiew catchment. The discussion focused on identifying the direct causes of silt deposition and developing practical solutions through coordinated action among departments. The meeting included representatives from the Additional Deputy Commissioner’s Office, the Project Director of District Rural Development Agency, Disaster Management and Mineral Resources, State Pollution Control Board, Public Health Engineering Department, Divisional Forest Officers (Social and Territorial), National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, and India Meteorological Department. The participants emphasised the importance of using the baseline survey prepared by the Water Resources Department, locating villages that are contributing to siltation, and improving convergence and accountability among all involved agencies. The main objective was to reduce siltation through targeted measures and collective responsibility to ensure the long-term stability of the Mawphlang Dam and the wider Umiew catchment. ”

#### Multi-Departmental Initiative

# SNIPPETS

PROJECT FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT IN MEGHALAYA



## SHOWCASE OF LOCAL INNOVATION: SILSIKA IVCS AT ALL INDIA COOPERATIVE WEEK CLOSING CEREMONY

On 20th November 2025, Silsika Integrated Village Cooperative Societies participated in the closing ceremony of the All India Cooperative Week and the exhibition-cum-sale at Matchakolgre, Tura, displaying locally made products such as fruit wine, pickles, broom, honey, dakmanda, rikitok, and other traditional items. The event offered members a platform to engage with buyers, gain exposure, and build confidence while strengthening cooperative collaboration and opportunities for value addition. The programme received a positive response and concluded successfully.



### Digital VDV Assessment Executed Seamlessly in South West Garo Hills

On 28th November 2025, the Village Data Volunteer (VDV) online examination was conducted smoothly in South West Garo Hills, Ampati, with systematic arrangements and adequate technical support throughout. The initiative reflected the district's emphasis on efficiency, transparency, and the effective use of digital assessment systems.



### 2nd Springshed Management Workshop Focuses on Hydrogeological Assessments and Field-Based Learning

The 2nd Workshop on MegLIFE Springshed Management was conducted on 27th and 28th November 2025. The MegLIFE Spring Consortium (MLSC) team facilitated sessions on spring hydrogeology and the identification of recharge zones to support the development of treatment plans. The workshop also served as a platform to discuss expectations, share field experiences, and examine challenges observed during implementation.



### Capacity-Building Session Held at Umsning to Promote Sustainable Piggery

On 28th November 2025, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) convened at the Umsning Block Project Management Unit (BPMU) to deliberate on strengthening piggery activities through improved hygiene, feeding practices, and overall management. The session also highlighted the importance of livestock insurance and available departmental support, motivating members to pursue piggery as a viable and sustainable livelihood option.

# SNIPPETS

PROJECT FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT IN MEGHALAYA



## BAMBOO NURSERY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP CONDUCTED AT NONGSANGU

On 1st December 2025, a one-day workshop on Bamboo Nursery Macro Propagation was held at Nongsangu, Umsning BPMU, bringing together caretakers from four Village Project Implementation Committees. The programme covered rhizome- and sapling-based planting, macro propagation techniques, nursery management, and scaling production for livelihood improvement. Species authenticity and DNA-based verification were also discussed. Participants concluded with practical demonstrations, enhancing skills for improved bamboo nursery practices.



## Community Engagement Boosted Through IVCS Awareness Session in Mowkaiaw

On 1st December 2025, an Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (IVCS) meeting was held at Mowkaiaw Village Project Implementation committee (VPIC) with the State Project Management Unit team to strengthen community engagement and awareness. The session underscored the benefits of purchasing IVCS shares, encouraging greater participation and financial involvement among members.



## Garro Hills VPIC Members Equipped with Practical Skills for Enhanced Bamboo Production

On 2nd December 2025, a specialized awareness and hands-on training session on Bamboo Macro Propagation was held for (VPIC) members of the Garo Hills Region. The programme focused on advanced macro propagation techniques and bamboo disease management, equipping participants with practical skills to improve cultivation and ensure sustainable bamboo production.



## Field Assessment in Laskein VPICs Focuses on Community Engagement and Project Impact

On 2nd December 2025, a field assessment was conducted across four VPIC under Laskein BPMU to review interventions and document achievements. The team evaluated project activities, engaged with communities, and identified best practices supporting sustainable development.

# SNIPPETS

PROJECT FOR COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT IN MEGHALAYA



## VPIC-LED FIELD EVALUATION AT IANGKAR VILLAGE AIMS TO STRENGTHEN PROJECT OUTCOMES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

On 1st December 2025, a field assessment was conducted at Iangkar VPIC in Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills, to review the progress of ongoing project activities. The team evaluated community infrastructure, water conservation structures, and plantation initiatives, emphasizing quality, maintenance, and community participation. The assessment highlighted the need to complete ongoing works, improve site management, and foster collective efforts for sustainable project outcomes.

## Successful Business Plan Activity Showcases Community Support in West Garo Hills

On 3rd December 2025, a project team from West Garo Hills conducted a business plan activity under the Income Generating Activities (IGA) initiative. A vehicle issue on the return journey caused a brief delay, and the local community provided timely support to ensure the team's safety and continuity. The incident highlights the collaborative efforts of the field team and community in advancing project objectives.



# KEY UPDATES

## PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



### 33 PARTICIPANTS FROM 11 VPICs TRAINED IN MUSHROOM CULTIVATION UNDER UMIEW CATCHMENT

On 27th November 2025, a training session was held at the Mushroom Development Centre for 33 participants representing 11 VPICs under the Umiew Catchment. Led by Bah K. Ryntathieng, the session covered the complete mushroom cultivation process from substrate preparation and spawning to growth management and harvesting. Hands-on demonstrations enhanced participants' practical skills and prepared them to adopt mushroom cultivation as a livelihood activity, contributing to capacity building efforts under the MegARISE project.

### 15 Participants from 5 VPICs Trained in Vermicomposting under Umiew Catchment

A vermicomposting training was conducted at the BRDC Farm for 15 participants representing 5 VPICs under the Umiew Catchment. Facilitated by Mrs. Reccica D. Lyngkhai, the session covered the essential steps of producing and managing vermicompost as a sustainable farming input. Participants engaged in hands-on demonstrations on bed preparation, earthworm handling, and unit maintenance, strengthening their technical skills and confidence to adopt vermicomposting as a livelihood-supporting activity under Financial Participatory Appraisal (FPA) 2, contributing to ongoing capacity building efforts in the catchment.



# SNIPPETS

## PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



### 100% NURSERY SETUP COMPLETED IN THREE VILLAGES UNDER RONGRAM BLOCK

On 27th November 2025, the Monitoring and Evaluation team from Ganol conducted a nursery follow-up visit to Sropgre, Aranggre, and Selbalgre under Rongram Block. All three villages have completed 100% of their nursery setup. The Sropgre Community Nursery emerged as the best-performing site, demonstrating excellent maintenance and full adherence to prescribed guidelines.



### FPA Contests Conducted by Umiew CMU in Khatarshnong Laitkroh and Myllichem Blocks

On 28th November 2025, the Umiew Catchment Management Unit (CMU) team conducted FPA Contests 2 and 3 at Steplakrai Village, Khatarshnong Laitkroh Block, with 9 participants in Contest 2 and 6 in Contest 3. On 1st December 2025, contests were held at Madan Ingsylem and Mawnianglah under Myllichem Block, with 27 participants in Contest 2 and 21 in Contest 3.



### CMU Engineers Conduct Field Inspection of FPA Contest Winning Ideas

On 2nd December 2025, CMU engineers conducted a field inspection at Mawtharia, Mawrashe, Lyngkien Myllichem, Wahpein, and Kyrdemkhla VPICs. The visit assessed the site feasibility of the winning ideas from FPA Contests 2 and 3 at Lyngkien Myllichem, Mawtharia, Kyrdemkhla, and Wahpein.



### Field Visit Conducted to Initiate FPA2 Activities in Mawphlang Block

On 28th November 2025, CMU Field Engineers and an External Expert conducted a field visit to Laitpynter Lummane and Marbisu Pdengshnong under Mawphlang Block to initiate FPA2 activities. The team discussed plans, estimates, and operational procedures with VPIC members to ensure smooth and effective implementation of the work.



## GREEN FIELD ASSOCIATES CONDUCTS PES AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ACROSS MEGHALAYA

From 27th November to 4th December 2025, Green Field Associates carried out extensive PES awareness programmes across Meghalaya, covering villages in East and West Jaintia Hills, West and East Khasi Hills, Ri-Bhoi, and Garo Hills districts. Conducted under multiple blocks including Saipung, Mawshynrut, Chokpot, Songsak, Nongstoin, Laskein, Gambegre, Samanda, Thadlaskein, Mairang, Umling, Bhoirymbong, and Sohiong, the programmes aimed to enhance community understanding of ecosystem services, promote sustainable resource management, and support ongoing PES interventions throughout the state.

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