

Newsletter

27 March 2026

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 KW 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

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



MOU OPERATIONALISATION WITH NABARD

Partnership operationalised to strengthen programme convergence and implementation delivery.

Following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), senior officials from the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) and the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA) convened at the MBDA Conference Hall, Nongrim Hills to review operational details and define implementation modalities.

MBMA designated as the implementation agency to anchor delivery of support under NABARD, ensuring structured execution across interventions.

All ongoing projects aligned under a common framework to strengthen cooperative institutions, enable their integration into larger value chain systems, and improve access to market opportunities.

Convergence approach reinforced to enhance coordination, optimise resource utilisation, and deliver measurable improvements in community level outcomes.

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



2 LOCATIONS VISITED TO STRENGTHEN FIELD COORDINATION AND COMMUNITY PROCESSES

On 20 March 2026, the Ganol team, conducted field visits to Balnangre Village under Rerapara Block and Bongpara Village Project Implementation Committee (VPIC), South West Garo Hills.

At Balnangre, discussions focused on the immediate need to appoint a new Village Community Facilitator (VCF) to ensure continuity and avoid delays in project implementation. The community committed to convene a meeting and complete the selection process at the earliest.

At Bongpara, key concerns related to the Memorandum of Agreement and No Objection Certificate were clarified. It was reiterated that no project activities will be undertaken without due community consent. The VPIC agreed to extend full cooperation, submit the required documents, complete Financial Participatory Appraisal phases two and three, and support upcoming plantation activities.

Visits to Strengthen Field Coordination and Community Processes

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



19TH MARCH 2026 | LAITJEM VILLAGE, MYLLIEM BLOCK

A Participatory Rural Appraisal exercise was successfully conducted by the Umiew team with active participation from women, men, and youth of the community, enabling inclusive engagement and strengthening local inputs for planning.

70 PARTICIPANTS COVERED | FINANCIAL PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL SESSIONS CONDUCTED ACROSS MAWPHLANG BLOCK

A total of 70 participants were covered through Financial Participatory Appraisal 1, 2, and 3 sessions conducted at Mawngap Lumparing Village under Mawphlang Block on 20th March 2026. An additional session was conducted at Smit Village on 24th March 2026, strengthening financial planning and community engagement.



3 VILLAGES COVERED | FPA 2 & 3 CONDUCTED IN RERAPARA BLOCK

Financial Participatory Appraisal Contest 2 and 3 were conducted across Andarkona, Noonmati, and Koraitola Villages under Rerapara Block on 23rd and 24th March 2026, to strengthen community participation and reinforce financial planning practices.



8 VILLAGES COVERED | FIELD ASSESSMENTS INITIATED ACROSS THREE BLOCKS

On 19th and 20th March 2026, the Umiew Engineers conducted field visits across Khatarshnong Laitkroh, Myllem, and Mawryngkneng Blocks to assess site feasibility and initiate the implementation of Village Level Micro Plan and Financial Participatory Appraisal activities.

SNIPPETS

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



2 SELF HELP GROUPS COVERED | VACCINATION AND EAR TAGGING COMPLETED IN BAGHMARA BLOCK

On 25 March 2026, vaccination and ear tagging activities were completed for two Self Help Groups in Era Aning Village under Baghmara Block. The exercise was carried out by the veterinary team, strengthening animal health management and ensuring systematic identification of livestock. This effort supports improved disease control, monitoring, and productivity among beneficiary groups, contributing to more sustainable rural livelihoods.

1 VILLAGE COVERED | NURSERY MONITORING AND BAMBOO SEEDLING PREPARATION SUPPORTED

A field visit to Sasatgre Village under Rongram Block monitored nursery activities and supported bamboo seedling preparation, with focus on site selection, nursery bed management, and soil sterilization to improve plantation outcomes.



600 KILOGRAMS HARVESTED | ₹31,200 INCOME GENERATED THROUGH AGF MODEL 6

A project beneficiary from Umsning Block reported a successful harvest of 600 kilograms of broomsticks under AGF Model 6, introduced in 2024. The produce was sold at ₹52 per kilogram, generating a total income of ₹31,200 through consistent implementation and proper care. This outcome demonstrates the model's potential as a sustainable and economically viable approach for strengthening rural livelihoods and encouraging wider community adoption.



1 VILLAGE COVERED | BAMBOO PLANTATION PROGRESS REVIEWED IN SAIPUNG BLOCK

A field visit to Tlangpui Village under Saipung Block reviewed bamboo plantation progress, including Assisted Natural Regeneration and boundary plantations, with guidance provided to improve management and survival rates.

SNIPPETS

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



2 DAY REVIEW CONDUCTED | STRENGTHENED FOCUS ON QUALITY, COORDINATION, AND IMPACT

The two day Physical Review Meeting brought together project teams to assess ongoing progress and identify priorities for improved implementation. Discussions focused on strengthening monitoring systems, ensuring accurate reporting, and improving overall quality of execution across activities.

Key areas reviewed included community infrastructure, natural resource management, and livelihood initiatives, with emphasis on sustainability and community participation. The meeting also highlighted the need for site specific planning, timely execution of works, improved maintenance, and smoother financial processes to address field level challenges and operational bottlenecks.

Overall, the review reinforced a collective focus on stronger coordination, improved planning, and delivering consistent, long term outcomes on the ground.

5 VILLAGES COVERED | 10 APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED UNDER SEED SCHEME IN ZIKZAK BLOCK

On 20th March 2026, community members from five villages in Zikzak Block submitted 10 applications under the SEED Scheme and applied for Integrated Village Cooperative Society warehouse registration, supporting small enterprise development and improving market linkages for sustainable livelihoods.

4 VILLAGES COVERED | LIVESTOCK VACCINATION AND EAR TAGGING STRENGTHENED IN UMLING BLOCK

Livestock vaccination and ear tagging were conducted across Lumdieng, Umden Manipur, Bleishiah, and Umden Khasi villages in Umling Block to improve disease prevention, traceability, and herd productivity.



2 LOCATIONS COVERED | PES ACTIVITIES PROGRESS ACROSS MEGHALAYA

Green Field Associates continued Payment for Ecosystem Services activities across Meghalaya, with partial demarcation completed at Laitmawroh Village under Khatarshnong Laitkroh Block and Artificial Regeneration collection carried out at Dangsapara Village under Zikzak Block.

These efforts reflect ongoing field engagement and steady progress in programme implementation across locations.



CHAMOMILE TEA PRODUCTION STARTED UNDER AROMA MISSION

Samansu Aroma Enterprise from Nongrim Umksih Village initiated chamomile tea production under the Aroma Mission, promoting value added agro based products and local entrepreneurship. This initiative reflects the potential of aromatic crop cultivation while creating livelihood opportunities and supporting sustainable enterprise development.



Project for Community-Based Forest
Management and Livelihoods Improvement in
Meghalaya

76 STUDENTS CONTINUE LEARNING AS COMMUNITY ENSURES SAFE AND UNINTERRUPTED EDUCATION



Siangkhnai RCLP School, established in 1974, serves 76 students from Nursery to Class V. In recent years, the school faced challenges as several students experienced recurring health issues, affecting regular classroom activities. Medical consultations were carried out, with visits from the Health Department, but no clear cause was identified. As a precautionary measure, the community decided to shift classes to alternative locations. Classes III to V are now being conducted in the JICA-supported Community Hall developed under the MegLIFE project, while lower classes continue in nearby community spaces and households.

The Community Hall has provided a more spacious and comfortable learning environment, supporting regular classes with fewer disruptions. Teachers have observed improved attendance and better student engagement since the shift.

This highlights how community infrastructure created under the MegLIFE project is supporting both education and overall well-being in the village.



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