

Newsletter

15 May 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

*IFAD Delegation Visits Megha LAMP
Project Sites in Ri Bhoi*

13TH and 14TH May
2026



A delegation from International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) conducted a two day field visit across project locations under the Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project in Ri Bhoi district to explore community led livelihood and agricultural initiatives. The delegation included Donal Brown, Assistant Vice President, IFAD; Reehana Raza, Regional Director, APR, IFAD and James Marc de Sousa Shields, Country Director, IFAD India.

The team visited the Integrated Village Cooperative Society and Collective Marketing Centre at Umwang, and later inspected the upcoming Organic Spice Unit at Bhoirymbong along with other value addition activities supported under the project.

During the visit, Dr. Brown highlighted Meghalaya's strong potential for high value agricultural products and appreciated community led agro processing initiatives involving turmeric, black pepper, cashew, and pineapple products. He also stressed the importance of branding and packaging to help local products reach larger domestic and international markets.

Ms. Raza appreciated the progress made through IFAD's long standing partnership with Meghalaya and emphasised the need for continued investments that support smallholder farmers, producer groups, and rural enterprises across the state.

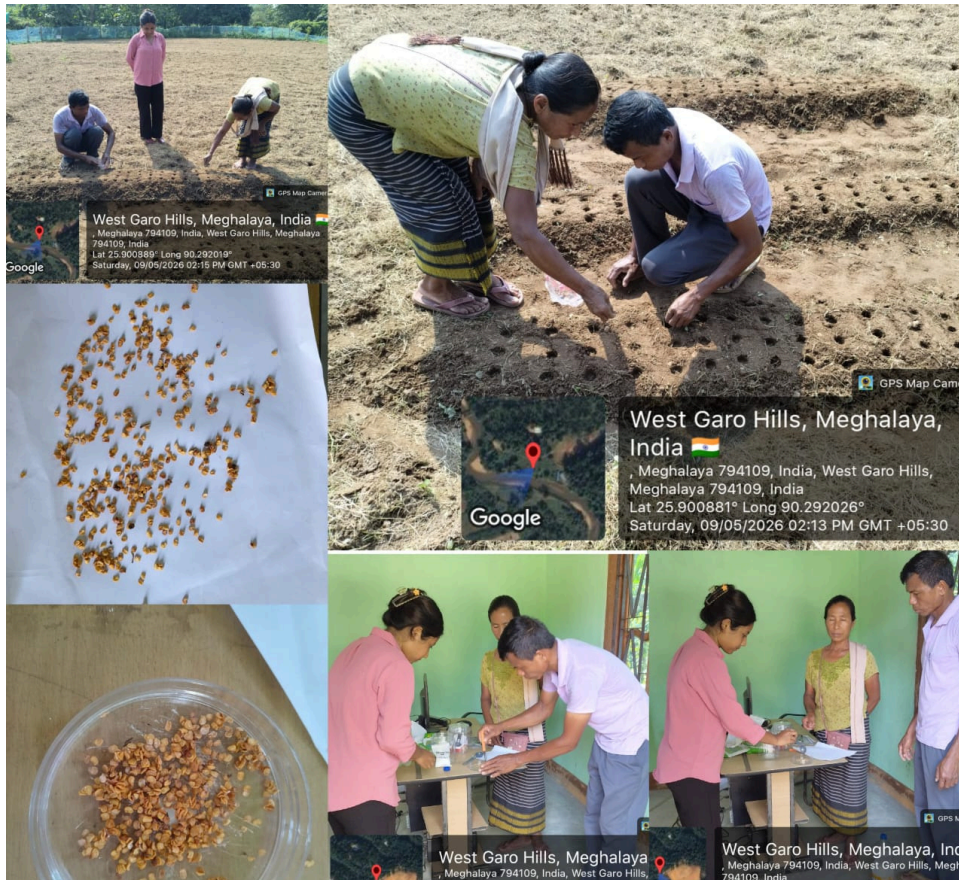
Taking forward the spirit of the IFAD India partnership to strengthen rural prosperity and resilience, Assistant Vice President of IFAD, Dr. Brown, also met with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri. Conrad K. Sangma, in Shillong to discuss ongoing IFAD supported initiatives in the state and explore new areas of collaboration.

On the second day, the delegation visited Jirang to interact with farmers and entrepreneurs and toured to Jirang PRIME Hub, model farm initiatives, and the Jirang Organic Agro Farmers Producer Company Limited.



KEY UPDATES

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



CHILLI SEED TREATMENT DEMONSTRATION CONDUCTED AT JAKUSAN IVCS

On 9th May 2026, a field demonstration on chilli seed treatment was conducted at Jakusan IVCS in Tikrikilla Block.

The demonstration focused on the chilli variety Sakata KING HOT 1102 and showcased three seed treatment methods: Traditional, ICAR and Kyiem. Under the ICAR method, seeds were treated using Trichoderma and neem leaf extract and kept for 30 to 40 minutes before sowing. The Kyiem method involved seed treatment using Bio NPK.

The activity aimed to build awareness on improved seed treatment practices to support better crop establishment and productivity.

ICS REGISTRATION TRAINING CONDUCTED AT RONGTENABAK IVCS

On 13th May 2026, a field visit was conducted to Rongtenabak IVCS along with the Clover Team for the training of ICS staff. The training focused on the proper filling of application packets for ICS registration, along with orientation and guidance on the ICS Manual and ICS documentation procedures.

The session aimed to strengthen documentation practices and improve the overall registration process for ICS implementation at the field level.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAMME HELD AT NARINGGRE IVCS

A community mobilisation and awareness programme was conducted at Naringgre IVCS under Rongjeng Block, with participation from around 65 farmers.

The session covered key aspects of the SLM project, including the certification system, geo fencing, organic farming benefits and project support mechanisms. Farmers expressed interest in joining the initiative and agreed to proceed with land demarcation.



LAND PREPARATION PROGRESS AT DEMONSTRATION PLOTS IN WEST JAINTIA HILLS

Land preparation activities were carried out at the Laser demoplot in West Jaintia Hills on 5th May 2026. The work included field ploughing ahead of bed preparation, followed by planned furrow liming, seed treatment and cultivation activities scheduled through 12th May 2026.

Similarly, bed preparation for turmeric cultivation was undertaken at Mulum Nongkynrih in West Jaintia Hills on 4th May 2026. Bed preparation and liming activities were expected to be completed within the week, followed by seed treatment and cultivation.

SNIPPETS

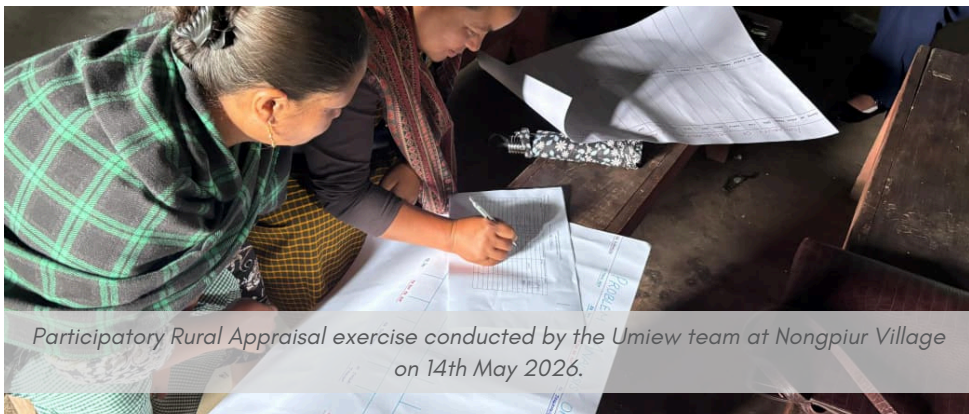
PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



MONITORING VISIT CONDUCTED AT POMKANIEW VPIC

The Umiew Catchment Management Unit, along with Shri. Gideon Kharmawphlang, IAS Retd. Executive Director (Technical), MBMA/MBDA, Project Associate, and SPMU Engineer visited Pomkaniew VPIC on 7th and 8th May 2026 to monitor ongoing erosion prevention works along the Umtyngar River.

The team reviewed construction progress and discussed measures to improve drainage and reduce waterlogging behind the retaining wall. Suggestions and recommendations were shared with village members for necessary follow up action.



Participatory Rural Appraisal exercise conducted by the Umiew team at Nongpiur Village on 14th May 2026.

FPA PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED IN MAWPHLANG AND MAWRYNGKNGENG BLOCKS

On 12th May 2026, the Umiew Catchment conducted the FPA 2 Sustainable Livelihood programme at Ladmawreng VPIC, with participation from around 20 contestants. The programme saw active involvement from community members across different age groups, reflecting strong interest in sustainable livelihood activities.

Similarly, on 14th May 2026, the team conducted FPA 1 at Umphyrnai VPIC, where 59 children participated in the contest.



Soil and Water Conservation Interventions Proposed at Waram Songma VPIC

On 12th May 2026, the Ganol Catchment Management Unit team conducted a Village Livelihood Micro Action Plan preparation exercise at Waram Songma VPIC.

During the exercise, the community proposed several Soil and Water Conservation interventions, including a cement concrete retaining wall, spring chamber, reinforced cement concrete check dam, dug out pond and water storage tanks.



SNIPPETS

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



PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED UNDER MEGLIFE PROJECT

On 11th May 2026, the Meghalaya Society for Social Audit and Transparency conducted a public hearing at Khliehriat under the MegLIFE Project to review development activities across five Village Project Implementation Committees in Saipung Block. The programme reviewed plantation, water conservation and community infrastructure activities, while highlighting transparency, community participation and coordinated efforts for sustainable development.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN NORTH AND WEST GARO HILLS

On 11th May 2026, Annual General Meetings of Tangbang IVCS and Wagipara Chadembe IVCS Ltd were conducted with participation from officials, project representatives and community members. The meetings focused on strengthening cooperative governance, improving institutional coordination, encouraging savings practices and enhancing member participation for long term financial sustainability.

CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING CONDUCTED ACROSS GARO AND KHASI REGIONS

From 5th to 8th May 2026, a four day capacity building training programme was conducted across the Garo and Khasi regions to strengthen the skills and knowledge of field teams involved in community based development activities. The sessions focused on practical learning, project implementation strategies and improving field level engagement. The programme aimed to enhance coordination, strengthen community support and improve the overall effectiveness of field interventions.



BAMBOO RHIZOME PLANTATION CONDUCTED IN UMSNING BLOCK

On 7th May 2026, a bamboo rhizome plantation activity was carried out under Umsning Block as part of ongoing efforts to promote sustainable land development and environmental restoration. The initiative aims to strengthen green cover, support livelihood opportunities and encourage community participation in sustainable plantation practices.



Vaccination drive for layer hens at Seng Kynthei 2 Self Help Group at Bleishiah, Umling, Ri Bhoi

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



PRIMEHUB WESTERN REGION DISCUSSES CROP SELECTION AND MARKET LINKAGES

A one day workshop was conducted on 8th May 2026 at SMELC, Dakopgre, West Garo Hills, under PrimeHub Western Region focused on value chain crop selection, product development and market linkage opportunities for farmers and producer groups.

The workshop discussed crops suited to the Western Region based on climate, demand and market potential. Key focus crops included black pepper, bay leaf, pineapple, Khasi mandarin, banana, areca nut, cashew nut, ramie and cotton.

Sessions also explored value addition opportunities such as spice packaging, juice making, chips, pickles, jam, and processing and grading of areca nut and cashew nut products. The programme highlighted the role of Meghalaya Basin Management Agency and the Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project in strengthening value chains and improving market access for farmers across the Western Region.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



PES ACTIVITIES ADVANCE ACROSS MULTIPLE DISTRICTS

Field monitoring, verification visits, plantation follow ups, and certificate handovers were carried out across multiple districts in Meghalaya under ongoing Payment for Ecosystem Services activities led by Green Field Associates. The field engagements covered villages across Dambo Rongjeng, Mawkynrew, Mawthadraishan, Khliehriat, Shella, Tikrikilla, Mairang, Kharkutta, Dalu, Baghmara, Rerapara, Mawshynrut, Umling, Jirang, Songsak, Samanda, Wapung, Thadlaskein, Pynursla, and Gasuapara Blocks. Activities focused on strengthening community participation, improving documentation and verification processes, and supporting conservation linked livelihood efforts across the state.

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