

Newsletter

19 June 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

MPOWER

Meghalaya Multisectoral Project For Adolescent Wellbeing, Empowerment And Resilience

SLM

Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project

IESALD

Integrated Eco-tourism and Sustainable Agri-based Livelihood Development 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

Horticulture Cluster Development Programme

PMJVM

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission in Meghalaya

MSBM

Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission

MAM

Meghalaya Aroma Mission

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Decentralised Green Energy Development Project

STATE PROGRAMMES

Inauguration of NORTH EAST INDIA'S LARGEST ORGANIC SPICE PROCESSING PLANT

Organized by Meghalaya Basin Management Agency and
Eastern Ri Bhoi Organic Farmer Producer Company Ltd

BREAKING

Union Finance Minister Inaugurates Eastern Ri Bhoi Organic Farmer Producer Company Limited

Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman today inaugurated the Eastern Ri Bhoi Organic Farmer Producer Company (FPC) Limited at Umsli Lumdaitkhla village under Bhoirymbong Block, Ri Bhoi. As Northeast India's first organically certified spice processing unit, the facility will strengthen value addition, expand market access, and benefit 5,500 organic farmers across Meghalaya through enhanced processing and marketing of organic spices.



“Delighted to have Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, Smti. Nirmala Sitharaman ji with us to inaugurate North East India's largest Organic Spice Processing Plant of the Eastern Ri Bhoi Organic Farmer Producer Company Ltd. at Lumdaitkhla, Bhoirymbong. Meghalaya's Lakadong turmeric, ginger and black pepper have earned recognition across India and beyond for their exceptional quality. This state-of-the-art processing facility marks a significant step towards strengthening our organic agriculture ecosystem by enhancing value addition, improving market access, and ensuring that our farmers receive greater returns from their produce. By bridging the gap between farm output and commercial markets, the plant will create new opportunities for growth, livelihoods, and sustainable prosperity in one of Meghalaya's most important agricultural sectors.”

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Conrad K. Sangma

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA PROGRAMME FOR WELL-BEING, EMPOWERMENT AND RESILIENCE



FACILITATION SKILLS WORKSHOP STRENGTHENS PROGRAMME DELIVERY CAPACITY

District Project Managers of MPOWER and Capacity Building Managers of MegLIFE participated in a two day Facilitation Skills Workshop held from 11 to 12 June 2026 to strengthen facilitation and stakeholder engagement for effective programme implementation.

The workshop focused on designing and leading inclusive learning sessions, strengthening communication, managing group dynamics, facilitating challenging conversations, and promoting meaningful dialogue with communities and stakeholders.

Through exercises and participatory learning, participants gained facilitation tools and approaches to support collaboration, capacity building, and effective programme implementation across project areas.

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



90 COMMUNITY MEMBERS TRAINED TO STRENGTHEN PROJECT GOVERNANCE IN UMIEW CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT

Umiew Catchment Management Unit conducted a series of training programmes in June 2026 to strengthen project governance and implementation across participating Village Project Implementation Committees.

Sixty Executive Committee members from 15 Village Project Implementation Committees participated in five training batches held on 2, 4, 9, and 11 June. The sessions covered the project overview, roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee, Local Purchase Committee and Village Community Facilitators, project implementation processes, Environmental, Social, Health and Safety, Gender and Social Inclusion, and the Grievance Redress Mechanism. Interactive discussions provided participants with the opportunity to clarify roles and address implementation challenges.

An additional 30 Local Purchase Committee members from 9 Village Project Implementation Committees attended three training batches conducted on 3 and 12 June. The programme focused on procurement procedures, documentation requirements, transparent fund utilisation, and practical exercises to strengthen procurement and financial management at the community level.



129 COMMUNITY MEMBERS STRENGTHEN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE SKILLS IN GANOL CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT

A total of 129 community members from 31 Village Project Implementation Committees participated in bookkeeping and Executive Committee training programmes conducted by Ganol Catchment Management Unit in June 2026 to strengthen financial management and project governance.

Two batches of two day bookkeeping training were held on 10 to 11 June and 15 to 16 June at the Extension Training Centre, Dakopgre, Tura. The programme brought together 57 participants from 31 Village Project Implementation Committees and covered financial management, muster roll preparation, maintenance of books of accounts, cash book management, and practical bookkeeping exercises.

Executive Committee training was also conducted on 11 and 16 June at the MegARISE Office, Akonggre, with 72 participants from 10 Village Project Implementation Committees. The sessions focused on committee roles and responsibilities, governance, project implementation, and decision making to strengthen community led project management.

KEY UPDATES

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



Six Villages Reached Through Sustainable Land Management Awareness Programme

The Enterprise Facilitation Centre team conducted a series of community mobilization and awareness programmes on Sustainable Land Management Project from 4 to 8 June 2026 across six villages under Ranikor Community and Rural Development Block in South West Khasi Hills District.

The programmes were held at Dommawlein, Pyndenwar, Tlongpleng, Raibah, Mawpud, and Lower Mawpud to introduce the project, raise awareness on sustainable land management practices, and encourage community participation in project activities.

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



Technical Workshop Strengthens Capacity of Field Engineers

From 15th-17th June 2026, SPMU, MBMA, in collaboration with BOLDMOVE, conducted a three-day Technical Workshop for Field Engineers to strengthen technical competencies and field implementation skills. The workshop covered stakeholder engagement, project management, mental health, sustainable waste management, documentation, technical site inspection, quality control, and material quality.

The programme also included exposure visits to engineering works at Mawkasiang, Mawkhanu, and Lariti, providing participants with practical field experience and insights into engineering best practices to support effective project implementation.



SNIPPETS

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



Field Monitoring Reviews Progress of Agroforestry Demonstration Plots

A field monitoring visit was conducted on 16 June 2026 in Rongchek Manda and Jingamgre villages under Samanda Community and Rural Development Block, East Garo Hills, to review the progress of agroforestry demonstration plots established under different plantation models.

The visit assessed plantation growth and implementation progress to support sustainable land use, improve land productivity, and strengthen rural livelihoods.



CONSERVATION POND CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES IN UMSNING

Construction of a conservation pond under Umsning Community and Rural Development Block is progressing well. The intervention is expected to improve water conservation, strengthen irrigation support, and create livelihood opportunities through enhanced agricultural productivity and fishery activities.



FIELD VISIT REVIEWS PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY LED DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN EASTERN WEST KHASI HILLS

Shri Gavade Sachin Shankar, Indian Forest Service, Additional Project Director, MegLIFE, along with the Block Project Management Unit team, visited Mawiongjadap village under Mairang Community and Rural Development Block, Eastern West Khasi Hills District, on 12 June 2026 to review the progress of ongoing development interventions.

The team interacted with Village Project Implementation Committees, Self Help Groups, plantation beneficiaries, and community members involved in springshed management and bamboo based livelihood activities. The visit provided an opportunity to review progress, discuss implementation challenges, and assess community led efforts to improve natural resource management and strengthen sustainable livelihood opportunities.



**Soil and Water Conservation Structure Construction at Ravagre Village
Project Implementation Committee, Tikrikilla Community and Rural
Development Block**

SNIPPETS

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



AWARD WINNING SALT FARM DEMONSTRATES SUSTAINABLE FARMING PRACTICES

A Sloping Agricultural Land Technology Farm of the Year 2024 award winning farmer from Nongrim Umksih village under Umsning Community and Rural Development Block, Ri Bhoi District, continues to demonstrate the benefits of sustainable farming through the successful adoption of Sloping Agricultural Land Technology practices.

The farm integrates Indigofera hedge rows, fruit trees, ginger, and yam to improve soil fertility, increase crop productivity, and promote sustainable land management, demonstrating the potential of integrated farming systems to support resilient livelihoods.

Cooperative Mobilisation Programme Promotes Stronger Community Institutions

An awareness programme on cooperative mobilisation was conducted on 17 June 2026 at Kharkutta Community and Rural Development Block, East Garo Hills, under the Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project and MegLIFE initiatives.

The programme focused on strengthening Integrated Village Cooperative Societies through improved record management, bookkeeping, access to cooperative credit and Livelihood Improvement Facilitation Company loans, trial marketing, and awareness of government schemes to support sustainable community livelihoods.



Bookkeeping Training Strengthens Financial Management of Self Help Groups

A cluster based bookkeeping training programme was conducted in Zikzak Community and Rural Development Block, South West Garo Hills, to strengthen financial record management among Self Help Groups.

The training focused on accurate bookkeeping, financial planning, and transparent record management to improve accountability and support effective community led development.



SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



62 VILLAGE COMMUNITY FACILITATORS REVIEW PROJECT PROGRESS

Sixty two Village Community Facilitators participated in the monthly review meeting conducted by Ganol Catchment Management Unit on 12 June 2026.

The meeting reviewed the progress of plantation activities, household surveys, refresher training, Management Information System honorarium updates, and other operational priorities to support effective project implementation.



FIELD VISITS REVIEW READINESS FOR PLANTATION ACTIVITIES

Field visits were conducted on 15 and 16 June 2026 to review the progress of advance plantation works across beneficiary plots. The visits assessed site readiness, monitored ongoing field activities, and provided technical guidance to support timely implementation.

A model demonstration was also conducted for farmers to showcase recommended plantation practices. Most sites were found to be progressing well, with advance works nearing completion and plantation activities scheduled to commence the following week.

SNIPPETS

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM HELD IN EAST GARO HILLS

The District Project Management Unit, East Garo Hills, conducted a Multi Stakeholder Platform meeting on 12 June 2026 at the District Rural Development Agency Hall, Williamnagar, under the KfW Sustainable Land Management Project.

Village representatives, Rural Local Bodies, and officials from line departments discussed opportunities under the project's four intervention windows, implementation priorities, and potential challenges to support coordinated planning and effective project implementation.



PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING ASSESSES GEOFENCING PROGRESS

A Performance Review Meeting was conducted on 17 June 2026 in Khliehriat, East Jaintia Hills, under the Sustainable Land Management Project to review the progress of geofencing activities.

Representatives from the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency, District Project Management Units, district and block level nodal officers, and partner organisations reviewed progress against targets, implementation challenges, reporting, staffing requirements, and agreed on a time bound action plan to accelerate geofencing activities through improved coordination.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



18 WOMEN TRAINED IN MINOR FOREST PRODUCE VALUE ADDITION

Eighteen women members of Sonaru Van Dhan Vikas Kendra participated in a one day training on Minor Forest Produce value addition under the Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana on 12 June 2026 at Dangkong Garo, North Garo Hills.

The training focused on processing locally available Minor Forest Produce into value added products, including mango, jackfruit, and bamboo shoot pickles. Participants received hands on training in processing techniques, food hygiene, packaging, storage, and basic marketing to improve product quality and market readiness.

The programme aimed to strengthen livelihood opportunities and promote entrepreneurship among Van Dhan Vikas Kendra members through value addition of locally available forest produce.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION UNDER PES

Green Field Associates carried out a range of Payment for Ecosystem Services activities, including land and forest demarcation, beneficiary verification, Memorandums of Understanding signing, Monitoring, Reporting and Verification exercises, field assessments, community consultations, certificate distribution, and collection of supporting documents. These activities supported the effective implementation of the Payment for Ecosystem Services initiative, strengthened community participation, and improved monitoring and management of natural resources across participating villages.



RAINCOATS DISTRIBUTED TO SUPPORT MONSOON FIELD ACTIVITIES

Raincoats were distributed to Village Community Facilitators across several Community and Rural Development Blocks in Meghalaya to support field activities during the monsoon season.

The distribution will help facilitators continue community based conservation and development activities safely and efficiently by improving protection from adverse weather conditions and ensuring uninterrupted field engagement.



Growing Success Through Natural Farming

Kong Wadlynti Syiem, Umkrem Village, Eastern West Khasi Hills

Supported by the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, Kong Wadlynti Syiem transformed her 0.66-acre farm into a thriving natural farming demonstration site. Despite facing recurring pest infestations, her commitment to chemical-free farming helped her overcome challenges and build a sustainable source of income.

HER JOURNEY

Kong Wadlynti began practicing natural farming through the support and training provided under the SLM Project. Initially, pest attacks threatened her crops and tested her resolve. Instead of turning to chemical pesticides, she applied natural pest management techniques and continued improving her farming practices.

Today, her farm produces a variety of fresh vegetables throughout the year. The produce is sold at DC Market, Mairang, and nearby villages, generating regular income for her household while supplying consumers with healthy, naturally grown vegetables.

HER SUCCESS SHOWS THAT:

- ✓ Natural farming can be productive and profitable
- ✓ Sustainable practices reduce dependence on chemicals
- ✓ Women farmers can become leaders and role models
- ✓ Local markets create reliable livelihood opportunities



● IMPACT AT A GLANCE ●



0.66

Acres under natural farming



Multiple Vegetable Crops grown year-round



Regular Market Linkages with DC Market, Mairang



100%

Natural Farming Practices

sustainability

IN THE *workplace*



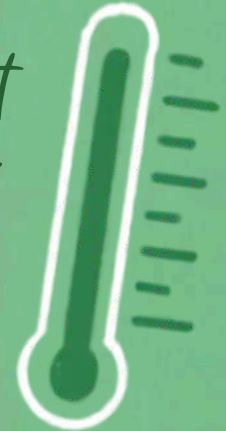
*Turn off tech
overnight &
on weekends*



*Implement
an office
recycling
program*



*Don't overheat
or overcool the
office.*



*Reward
office
efforts*



Encourage carpooling

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