

Newsletter

29 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



KEY UPDATES

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



9 Trained Women Launch Food Van Enterprise at Garobadha Market

Nine trained women members of Dosadil Van Dhan Vikas Kendra officially launched their food van enterprise on 28 May 2026 at Garobadha Market in South West Garo Hills, creating new livelihood opportunities through community-led entrepreneurship.

The food van was handed over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad K Sangma, on 8 February 2026 under the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission of the Government of India.

Dosadil Integrated Village Cooperative Society Limited, a women-led cooperative, was registered in 2023 during Phase III mobilization under the Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project. The cooperative later formed the Van Dhan Vikas Kendra in 2025 to further strengthen enterprise and income generation activities.

To prepare for the venture, nine members completed a 10 day Catering and Culinary training programme at the Institute of Hotel Management, Shillong, and have now started managing and operating the food business through the newly launched food van.

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



18 PARTICIPANTS ATTEND TWO DAY TRAINING ON BOOKKEEPING AND MIS REPORTING

A two day training programme for Village Community Facilitators and Bookkeepers was conducted on 21 and 22 May 2026, covering participants from nine Village Project Implementation Committees.

The first day focused on bookkeeping and financial documentation, while the second day covered Appverse platform usage, Management Information System data entry, and reporting practices.

SNIPPETS

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



2 COMMUNITY GROUPS SHOWCASE ORGANIC PRODUCTS AT MONTHLY FARMERS' MARKET IN EAST KHASI HILLS

Kyntiewlang Self Help Group of Pashang Village and Laitdiengsai Integrated Village Cooperative Society of Laitdiengsai Village took part in the monthly farmers' market on 23 May 2026 under Mawkynrew Block, East Khasi Hills District.

Organized by the 1917 Integrated Technology Enabled Agriculture Management System in collaboration with the Meghalaya Farmers' Empowerment Commission, the market provided a platform for local producers to showcase and sell organic products.

The participation was supported by the Block Project Management Unit Income Generation Activities team as part of ongoing efforts to support local entrepreneurship and rural livelihoods.

3 Community Institutions Reviewed During Field Visit in West Jaintia Hills

A joint field visit to Lapangap Integrated Village Cooperative Society, Sanaro Integrated Village Cooperative Society, and Phawa Self Help Group under Thadlaskein Block, West Jaintia Hills District was conducted on 20 May 2026 by the State Project Management Unit Income Generation Activities team and SELCO Foundation representatives, along with District and Block Project Management Unit officials.

The visit reviewed turmeric and ginger cultivation, piggery, bamboo products, processing, marketing, and bookkeeping activities, with discussions focusing on production improvement, machinery adoption, and financial management.



BOOKKEEPING AND MOBILISATION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED ACROSS 4 VILLAGES IN UMLING BLOCK

Mobilisation and bookkeeping activities for Self Help Groups were conducted across four villages under Umling Block, including Umrang Rongkru, Lumdieng, Umden Nongtluh, and Umden Khasi, to strengthen group participation and basic financial management practices.



Ongoing staking and pit digging demonstrations at plantation sites under Umling Block to support improved land preparation practices and plantation development activities.

SNIPPETS

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



11 VPICS PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC HEARING IN RI BHOI DISTRICT

A public hearing involving 11 Village Project Implementation Committees was organised by the Meghalaya Society for Social Audit and Transparency on 27 May 2026 in Ri Bhoi District, with participation from officials of the State, District, and Block Programme Management Units of Umling and Umsning Blocks.

The programme provided a platform for community representatives to share feedback, review development activities, and strengthen transparency, accountability, and coordination in project implementation.



2,000 Bamboo Saplings Distributed During Plantation Activities in South West Garo Hills

A total of 2,000 bamboo saplings were distributed by Mandadrop Village Project Implementation Committee under Kharkutta Block from Dokongsi C Village Project Implementation Committee–Arengh Nursery on 27 May 2026 to support community plantation activities.

The programme also included the distribution of black pepper, forestry, and bamboo seedlings across Betasing and Zikzak Blocks in South West Garo Hills District as part of ongoing plantation and livelihood activities.

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



2 PROPOSED INTERVENTION SITES ASSESSED UNDER VLMAP IN DEMTHRING

Two proposed intervention sites under Village Livelihood Management and Asset Plan were assessed on 22 May 2026 during a field visit by the Catchment Management Unit and State Programme Management Unit teams to Demthring Village Project Implementation Committee.

The visit, conducted along with Village Project Implementation Committee members and landowners, reviewed proposed works for a stone masonry retaining wall at Umjaliang and a minor irrigation dam with irrigation canal at Umruru to support erosion control, water conservation, and irrigation improvement for agricultural activities.



56 CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN FPA CONTEST AT RONGGK MRONGGRE VILLAGE

A total of 56 children participated in FPA Contest 1 conducted by the Ganol Catchment Management Unit team on 22 May 2026 at Ronggek Mronggre Village under Rerapara Block, South West Garo Hills

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



2 VILLAGES ENGAGE IN PES DIALOGUE UNDER LAITKROH BLOCK

Communities from Tiewlieh and Mawmysiang villages under Laitkroh Block participated in a dialogue on 25 May 2026 to explore the adoption of the Payment for Ecosystem Services model. The discussion focused on sustainable agriculture, soil and water conservation measures, agroforestry, and the protection of springs and forest areas. The programme was led by Dr. S. Ashutosh, Indian Forest Service (Retd.), Director of Centre of Excellence, along with representatives from the Centre of Excellence, State Programme Management Unit, Catchment Management Unit, and Green Field Associates. The team also visited Lum Nongkhlaw under Kyndong Nongkyntir, a forest area covering over 30 hectares currently under the Payment for Ecosystem Services initiative.



PES FIELD ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED ACROSS MULTIPLE DISTRICTS IN MEGHALAYA

Green Field Associates conducted a series of Payment for Ecosystem Services field activities across multiple districts in Meghalaya, including certificate distribution to village authorities and collection of beneficiary application forms and supporting documents from participating communities. The activities covered villages under East Garo Hills, West Khasi Hills, East Jaintia Hills, Ri Bhoi, East Khasi Hills, and North Garo Hills districts. In addition, hydrogeological mapping and water quality testing were carried out at Aminda Ading Village under Gambegre Block in West Garo Hills District. The initiative supported community coordination, documentation, monitoring, and ongoing environmental conservation and natural resource management efforts.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



PROPOSED WEAVING AND PROCESSING UNIT SITE INSPECTED IN NORTH GARO HILLS

The Van Dhan Vikas Kendra State Programme Management Unit team conducted a site inspection on 25 May 2026 at Rongdan Integrated Village Cooperative Society Limited under Resubelpara Block, North Garo Hills District, led by Shri Surab Boss and team.

The visit focused on finalisation of the site and Detailed Project Report for the proposed Weaving and Processing Unit at Harinkata. The team reviewed field conditions, discussed implementation aspects, and interacted with local weavers to understand requirements for strengthening weaving activities and livelihoods.



Irrigation Bringing New Hope to Farmers of Jongksha Village

Farmers of Jongksha Village under Shlem Jingkyrmen VO and Rympei Treikam CLF, East Khasi Hills, are experiencing positive changes in agriculture through the irrigation interventions supported by the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS) under the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM).

For many farming households, irregular rainfall and water scarcity had long affected vegetable cultivation and limited farming opportunities. Today, with the introduction of the SPODI drip irrigation system, farmers are now able to access water more efficiently and cultivate crops more confidently throughout the growing season.

The drip irrigation established in a 1.5-acre community demonstration plot, is equipped with a pump and pipeline network that distributes water effectively across the cultivated fields. The intervention has not only improved irrigation access but has also encouraged collective farming within the community.

The demonstration plot has also promoted collective farming, allowing community members, including landless farmers, to work together and participate in farming activities.

Farmers shared that the intervention has reduced their dependence on rainfall and improved their confidence in cultivation. The successful implementation of the irrigation system highlights the importance of community participation, improved water management, and sustainable farming practices in strengthening rural livelihoods.



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