

Newsletter

21 Aug 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

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

Photo by : Zevian Paul Syiemlieh,
Knowledge Management, MBMA

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

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



HIMA MARBISU FARMERS MARKETS INAUGURATED

The Hima Marbisu Farmers Market was inaugurated on 14 August 2026 at Lwai Village under Mawphlang C&RD Block, East Khasi Hills, under the Elaka Marbisu Sirdarship, Lwai. The inauguration was attended by Shri Abhilash Baranwal, IAS, Deputy Commissioner and District Project Coordinator, East Khasi Hills.

The Farmers Market provides a platform for local farmers to sell their agricultural produce directly, encouraging collective marketing and improving access to markets. It is expected to support better opportunities for farmers to market their produce locally and generate income for rural households.



KEY UPDATES

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



MTR REVIEW MEETING REVIEWS PROJECT PROGRESS AND PRIORITIES

A Mid-Term Review (MTR) meeting was held on 18 August 2026 under the chairmanship of Shri Samuel Raju Geddam (Retd. IFS) to review progress against project objectives, assess key achievements and identify areas requiring further attention. Discussions focused on implementation, data and documentation, financial planning, and aligning ongoing activities with the project's intended outcomes.

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA MULTISECTORAL PROGRAMME FOR ADOLESCENT WELLBEING, EMPOWERMENT AND RESILIENCE



WORLD BANK-MPOWER TRAINING AND ORIENTATION

From 17-20 August 2026, MPOWER conducted a four-day training programme with the World Bank team and key departmental stakeholders to review project progress and implementation priorities. Discussions covered procurement, monitoring and evaluation, the adolescent wellbeing tool, MTTA action planning, disbursement projections, adolescent clubs and human resource engagement. The programme also provided an opportunity to coordinate next steps across the different programme areas.

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



THREE DAY POULTRY FARMING TRAINING HELD AT UPPER SHILLONG

Umiew Catchment Management Unit conducted a three day training programme on poultry farming from 12-14 August 2026 at the Veterinary Vocational Training Centre, Upper Shillong, with 12 participants from six Village Project Implementation Committees. Facilitated by veterinary experts, the training covered poultry farming practices, feeding, housing, disease prevention, biosecurity and farm management. Participants also visited a poultry farm for practical exposure before receiving certificates at the close of the programme.

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA STATE BAMBOO MISSION

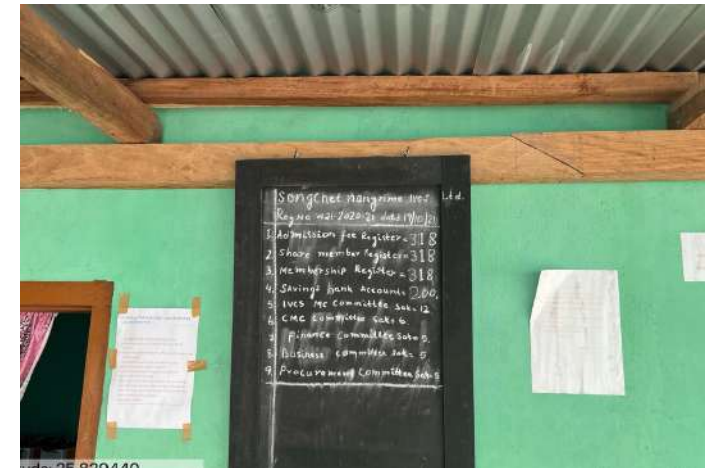


MSBM EXPLORES COLLABORATION WITH NECBDC AND RUTAG

The Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission (MSBM) visited the North Eastern Council for Bamboo Development and Coordination (NECBDC) on 18 August 2026 to meet the newly appointed Mission Director and discuss collaboration on streamlining and strengthening bamboo aggregation centres across Meghalaya. The team also visited the Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG), School of Agri-Rural Technology, IIT Guwahati, to explore livelihood technologies and practical solutions for rural communities, with discussions on potential knowledge exchange and technologies that could support livelihood development and bamboo-based activities in Meghalaya.

SNIPPETS

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



SLM AWARENESS PROGRAMME AT IMBENG ADAP VILLAGE

An awareness programme on the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project was conducted at Imbeng Adap Village under Songchet Nagrime IVCS, Kharkutta Block, North Garo Hills. Of the village's 37 households, 25 were already members of the IVCS. Following the session, the remaining households expressed interest in joining the IVCS and participating in the SLM Project. Data collection and geo-fencing of interested farmers' land have since been initiated.

SNIPPETS

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



INTEGRATED SALT MODEL FARM TRAINING HELD IN SHILLONG

An Integrated SALT Model Farm Training was conducted on 17 August 2026 at Bethany Society, Shillong, focusing on soil fertility restoration and farming practices. The training covered the preparation of organic fertilisers and pesticides, along with practical demonstrations by field staff. Participants gained hands-on knowledge of organic input preparation and soil fertility management for field-level application.

CLUSTER-LEVEL VALUE CHAIN RANKING SURVEY CONDUCTED IN UMSNING

From 17-19 August 2026, a Cluster-Level Value Chain Ranking Survey was conducted across the Quinine, RRTC and UCC clusters of Umsning Block in consultation with relevant line departments. The assessment involved FGDs and interactions with IVCS, farmers, SHG members, headmen and VPIC members to assess production trends, market opportunities, value addition, resource availability, employment potential and women's participation. The exercise also provided communities with an opportunity to discuss challenges and receive guidance from departmental officers to support planning of livelihood activities.



VALUE CHAIN RANKING SURVEY AND FGD HELD IN KHLIEHRIAT

A Cluster-Level Value Chain Ranking Survey and Focus Group Discussion was held on 13 August 2026 at DC Hall, Khliehriat, with line departments, SHGs, IVCS and VPIC representatives to assess livelihood activities and identify potential value chains. Discussions covered challenges related to disease, market access, transportation and limited processing facilities, while turmeric, coffee, mandarin, bamboo and livestock were identified as key opportunities. The exercise helped identify priority value chains and areas for convergence in future livelihood interventions.



SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



VPIC MEETINGS HELD IN NEW DENGASI AND ASINAGRE

On 14 August 2026, the Ganol Catchment Management Unit team conducted Village Project Implementation Committee meetings at New Dengasi and Asinagre under Rerapara Block. Discussions covered the Grievance Redressal Mechanism, roles and responsibilities of the committees, Household Survey, record maintenance and ongoing works. Both Village Community Facilitators reported that the Household Survey had been completed, and the team advised committee members to keep all records and registers updated.



FOLLOW UP FIELD VISIT TO POMLAKRAI

A follow up field visit was conducted on 13 August 2026 at Pomlakrai Umiew to review proposed interventions, followed by visits to the plantation site and vermicomposting unit at Pomlakrai Mawtharia. The activities were progressing well, with the plantation site recording an estimated 95% survival rate.

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



FIELD VISIT TO LARRY ORGANIC AND MELLIM BEEKEEPING SOCIETY

On 20 August 2026, the Deputy Commissioner, South West Garo Hills, Kum. Anendya Raajsshre, IAS, along with officials from the Agriculture Department and MBMA, visited Larry Organic and Mellim Beekeeping Society to interact with local entrepreneurs and farmer-members.

Larry Organic, currently the only biofertilizer unit in the Garo Hills region, produces biofertilizers and biopesticides suited to North East India and employs six staff members. The unit has also supplied biofertilizer to MBMA for Lakadong Turmeric cultivation. The Deputy Commissioner advised the concerned departments to explore procurement and market linkages.

Mellim Beekeeping Society, established in 2022, has around 280 farmers engaged in honey production. It collected 2,500 litres of honey in 2025, with production falling to about 900 litres this year due to unfavourable weather. The Society also has two Master Trainers supporting beekeepers across South West Garo Hills. The Deputy Commissioner advised the Society to improve production and market linkages through convergence with PRIME Meghalaya and the Horticulture Department.

SNIPPETS

CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



NHB EVALUATES LAKADONG TURMERIC CLUSTER IN WEST JAINTIA HILLS

The National Horticulture Board conducted a programme evaluation visit to the West Jaintia Hills Lakadong Turmeric Cluster to review interventions under the Cluster Development Programme. The team reviewed the Quality Control & Analysis Laboratory, Integrated Packhouses, Custom Hiring Centres and Demonstration Plots, and appreciated the infrastructure and equipment established under the programme. Discussions also focused on strengthening the Lakadong Turmeric brand, expanding international markets and building the capacity of the Lakadong Turmeric Union and cooperatives to manage the infrastructure.

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA STATE BAMBOO MISSION



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED BAMBOO FACTORY AT UMDEN NONGTLUH

A community consultation was held with the Rangbah Shnong of Umden Nongtluh, along with members of the Council, representatives of Self Help Groups and Federations, community leaders and officials from the Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission, to discuss the proposed bamboo factory. Discussions covered the proposed business model, the 6 hectare site, employment opportunities, conservation and customary land rights, and the possible role of the existing Integrated Village Cooperative Society in anchoring the enterprise. As the final decision rests with the village general assembly, further consultations and exposure visits will be held to support informed decision making, while alternative sites will also be explored.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



GREEN MEGHALAYA+ BENEFICIARY ORIENTATION PROGRAMMES HELD ACROSS MEGHALAYA

From 12-19 August 2026, a series of Green Meghalaya+ and beneficiary orientation programmes were conducted across blocks in East, West and South West Khasi Hills, Ri Bhoi, East Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills. The programmes covered PES, Normal, Target 10 and Target 30 beneficiaries, with sessions focusing on programme objectives, Green Meghalaya+ activities, beneficiary awareness, and the signing and collection of MoUs.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2

ZERO HUNGER

End hunger, achieve food security,
improve nutrition and promote
sustainable agriculture

Aligned with India's Viksit Bharat 2047
and Meghalaya's Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 2



Nearly **733 million** people worldwide
still face hunger (UN, 2023).



Nutrition is essential for good health,
learning and a better quality of life.



Sustainable agriculture protects our
planet, supports livelihoods and
builds resilient communities.



Together, we can build a world
where **no one** goes to bed hungry.

WHY IT MATTERS



Hunger and malnutrition limit people's
ability to **learn, work and thrive**.



Food security and good nutrition
strengthen **health and immunity**.



Sustainable food systems drive **inclusive
economic growth** and reduce inequality.



Climate-resilient agriculture helps
protect our planet for future generations.

WHAT WE CAN DO



MEGHALAYA IN ACTION



Promoting **climate-smart and
natural farming** to improve productivity
while caring for the environment.



Strengthening **farmer collectives
and cooperatives** for better access
to markets and resources.



Encouraging local foods and
nutrition-rich diets for healthier
communities.



Conserving our **land and water
resources** for a sustainable and
food-secure future.



Zero Hunger is not just a goal,
it's our **shared responsibility**.



A nourished today,
a **sustainable** tomorrow.



*Together, let's grow a better future
for people and **our planet**.*



SOURCES:

1. Government of Meghalaya – SDG Initiatives
<https://meghalaya.gov.in/sdg>

2. Meghalaya State Planning Board – SDG Initiatives
<https://megplanning.gov.in/sdg-initiatives>

3. United Nations – SDG 2: Zero Hunger
<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

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