

Newsletter

16 Oct 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



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

Photo by : Zevian Syiemlieh,
Knowledge Management, MBDA

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

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA MULTISECTORAL PROJECT FOR ADOLESCENT WELLBEING, EMPOWERMENT AND RESILIENCE



EXPLORING CSR PARTNERSHIPS AND INNOVATIVE FINANCING FOR MEGHALAYA'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The meeting with Former IAS officer Dr Bhaskar Chatterjee and Mr Bhushan Reddy during their 3-day visit, starting 12 October 2026 in Shillong, focused on exploring CSR partnerships, institutional collaborations, and innovative financing to strengthen Meghalaya's development programmes. Key discussions covered Early Childhood Development (ECD), MPOWER, behavioural science, housing and sanitation, and technology-enabled community engagement; the social audit component in CSR activities; strengthening skill development and employability through MSSDS & PRIME; and a formal visit to IIM was made to meet the director of the institution

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT VLMAP PREPARATION AT GANOL VILLAGES (6–9 & 14 OCTOBER 2026)

From 6 to 9 & 14th October 2026, the Ganol CMU team conducted VLMAP preparation exercises at Waribokgre Village under Rongram Block, and Dalupara and Angalgre villages under Rerapara Block. VPIC members and villagers actively participated in identifying community priorities, including a retaining wall along the Upper Wadhajora Stream at Dalupara and a check dam at Angalgre. The team also conducted project re-awareness, Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) mobilisation, and reviews of village records and registers. On 10th Oct, at Dabakgre village, which has a total of 93 households, community members actively participated in the planning process.



The FPA-1 contests were successfully conducted at Rngi Myliem on 7 October 2026 and Mawnarian Village, Myliem Block, on 8 October 2026, witnessing enthusiastic community participation, particularly from children.

At Rngi Myliem, around 100 participants took part in the drawing competition. The following day, Mawnarian Village hosted drawing and storytelling competitions, with a total of 125 contestants participating.



LIVELIHOOD MISSION TO CMU-GANOL (7–9 OCTOBER 2026)

A three-day Livelihood Mission was conducted at CMU-Ganol from 7 to 9 October 2026, involving the IC Team, Livelihood SPMU team and CMU staff. The team visited seven VPICs to observe physical structures and livelihood activities, including aquaculture and poultry farming, and discuss community mobilisation and benefit-sharing mechanisms. The mission concluded with a review meeting at the MBDA Conference Hall, Tura, focusing on VLMAP preparation, livelihood planning and observations from the field visits.

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT

LIVESTOCK (PIGGERY) TRAINING CONDUCTED AT RONGKHON

The Ganol CMU successfully conducted Livestock (Piggery) Training from 29 September to 6 October 2026 at the Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Rongkhon, with 61 participants. The training was facilitated by Dr Pamela R. Marak, Veterinary Officer, and covered pig rearing systems, breeding, feeding, housing, disease management, vaccination, and biosecurity practices. Certificates were distributed to all participants upon completion of the training.



On 12 October 2026, the Ganol CMU Engineering Team visited Matchurigre-B, Selbalgre, Rengsangre, and Agilanggre VPICs along with Shri Gideon, Executive Director (Technical), MBDA, and the SPMU Engineering Team.



REVIEW MEETING WITH CSA (ENVIRONMENT) AND SPMU TEAM

On 14 October 2026, the CMU Umiew team met with the CSA (Environment) and SPMU team at the CMU Block Office, Mawnianglah, to review progress on ongoing activities and plan for the 2027 plantation season.

The meeting reviewed key activities, including resurvey, master roll preparation, forest demarcation, potato farming, fruit tree plantation, community forest demarcation, and Miyawaki plantation. Discussions also focused on awareness programmes and strategies to plan and implement plantation activities effectively in 2027.

SNIPPETS

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



RANGPHLANG SHGS TAKE LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTS TO MARKET THROUGH SKILL TRAINING

Lamjingshai SHG and Nangkiewshaphrang SHG of Rangphlang Village, Mawkyntew Block, East Khasi Hills, are making progress in developing food processing enterprises by transforming locally available agricultural produce into value-added products such as chips, juices, sauces and pickles. Following training facilitated by Malai Sohmata Cooperative Society, a training partner of the Meghalaya State Skill Development Society (MSSDS), from 26 June to 14 October 2026, the groups have begun showcasing and selling their products at the monthly Farmer's Market organised by 1917 iTEAMS at the Directorate of Fisheries compound. During a recent field visit, the Income Generating Activities (IGA) team of the Block Project Management Unit (BPMU), Mawkyntew, interacted with members to review their progress. The initiative is helping the SHGs apply their newly acquired skills, add value to local produce and create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods.

MEGLIFE MTE REVIEWS PROGRESS IN LAITMYNSANG

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) of the MegLIFE Project was conducted on 9-10 October 2026 at Laitmynsang Village, Mawkyntew C&RD Block, East Khasi Hills, by a third-party evaluation team to assess project progress and community-level impact. The team held discussions with Self-Help Group (SHG) members and representatives from 15 households to understand community participation, livelihood benefits and future needs. Field visits to three Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) plots and various Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures helped assess plantation conditions, functionality and maintenance. The evaluation will help identify areas for improvement and strengthen the implementation of project interventions in the village.



MTE – MEJOLGRE NOKAT VPICS

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Mejolgre Nokat Village under Dambo Rongjeng Block to assess plantation growth and survival under AGF interventions, review Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) sites, and interact with households, VPIC and SHG members. The team also verified key village records, including the Village Entry Signboard, Microplan and Village Report. Despite challenging terrain during the plantation inspection, the evaluators assessed plant survival, height and diameter, recording an approximate survival rate of 95% based on their sample plot assessment.

MTE – DOPANANGGRE AND DARENGAGRE VPICS

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) teams visited Dopananggre and Darengagre VPICs in Dalu Block, West Garo Hills, on 8 and 10 October 2026 to assess plantation growth, inspect Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures and review project implementation. The assessments included sample plot establishment under Agroforestry (AGF) and Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) interventions, discussions with Self-Help Group (SHG) and VPIC members, and individual interactions with 15 households in each village to understand project benefits and community experiences. The team also reviewed SHG registers and village microplans as part of the evaluation process.

SNIPPETS

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



MTE PREPARATION VISIT – SIMSENG BALKOL VPIC

A monitoring visit was conducted at Amkoi Village, West Jaintia Hills, on 13 October 2026 to review preparations for the ICOMOS evaluation of its Living Root Bridges. The community has made steady progress in improving site readiness, with signboards installed, pathways cleared and railings provided along steep stretches to improve visitor access and safety. The visit also identified a few remaining areas requiring attention, along with recommendations to facilitate the evaluation visit and improve the pathway at Amkadhon to reduce pressure on the living root bridge structure. These ongoing efforts reflect the community's commitment to preserving its living root bridge heritage and preparing for the upcoming evaluation.

MEGLIFE MTE IN SROP ADDIGRE

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Srop Addigre Village, Group-2, Rongram Block, West Garo Hills, on 8 October 2026 to assess project progress. The team inspected two Agroforestry (AGF) plots established in 2024 to assess sapling growth and survival, along with Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures to verify their condition and functionality. Discussions with Self-Help Group (SHG) and Village Project Implementation Committee (VPIC) members provided insights into project benefits, implementation challenges and community feedback. Despite heavy rainfall, the field assessment was completed with active community participation.

MEGLIFE MTE IN NONGTHYLLEP

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Nongthyllep Village, Group-1, under Mairang Block, Eastern West Khasi Hills District, on 12 October 2026 to assess project progress. The team inspected two Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) plots established in 2024 and assessed sapling growth and survival. Discussions with SHG, IVCS and VPIC members, along with interviews with 15 households, gathered feedback on project benefits, implementation challenges and areas for improvement. The team also inspected Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures to assess their condition and functionality.

MEGLIFE MTE IN MAWLUMKHRI

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Mawlumkhri Village, Mairang Block, Eastern West Khasi Hills District, on 13 October 2026 to assess project progress. The team inspected two Artificial Regeneration (AR) sites established in 2023 to assess sapling growth and survival. Discussions with SHG, IVCS and VPIC members, along with interviews with 15 households, gathered feedback on project implementation, livelihood and environmental benefits, and areas for improvement. The team also inspected Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures to assess their condition and functionality.

MEGLIFE MTE IN MAWJARAIN

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Mawjarain Village, Group-1, under Mawkyrwat Block, South West Khasi Hills District, on 14 October 2026 to assess project progress. The team inspected two Artificial Regeneration (AR) plots established in 2024 to assess sapling growth and survival. Discussions with Self-Help Group (SHG) and Village Project Implementation Committee (VPIC) members, along with interviews with 15 households, gathered feedback on project benefits, implementation challenges and areas for improvement. The team also inspected Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures to assess their condition and functionality.

SNIPPETS

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



MTE PREPARATION VISIT – SIMSENG BALKOL VPIC

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Asil Songgital Village under Songsak Block, East Garo Hills, to assess project progress through six Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) sample plots, inspections of Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) sites, and verification of registers. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with community members and Self-Help Group (SHG) members provided insights into project implementation and community experiences. At a spring-tapped chamber, the team observed villagers collecting drinking water and using the facility for daily needs, highlighting its practical value to the community. SHG members also participated actively in discussions throughout the day, with some attending alongside their young children.

MEGLIFE MTE IN TAIDANG AND GULPANI SONGMONG

The Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) team visited Taidang and Gulpani Songmong villages under Rongara Block, South Garo Hills, on 14 October 2026 to assess project progress and community benefits. Interactions with households and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) gathered feedback on livelihood improvements, future needs and areas for further development. The team also inspected plantation sites to assess sapling survival and verified Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) structures established under the MegLIFE Project.





FIELD ACTIVITIES ACROSS MEGHALAYA

Green Field Associates (GFAs) under the PES initiative continued field activities across Meghalaya, collecting Activity Reports (ARs), bank statements, account details and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) from beneficiary villages. The activities covered Lumdawshken, Nongsteng, Kunongrim and Suktia-Nongla villages in Shella Block; Nongbirlum in Jirang Block; Mawtangden in Mawkyrwat Block; Jingamgre in Samanda Block; Dimit Warikatchi and Dobu Chitimbing in Songsak Block; Nongryngkoh and Umtong in Mawkynew Block; Raid Mawlam in Pynursla Block; Umshiauw in Umsning Block; Lyngkhoh in Mawphlang Block; Mawrapad in Mawsynram Block; Dienchynrum and Umshong in Khliehriat Block; and Pynai in Pynursla Block. The teams also conducted a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) visit to the forest of Raid Buam under Umladkhur village, Amlarem Block, West Jaintia Hills. Beneficiary meetings and community-level coordination further supported documentation and verification under the PES initiative.



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SDG 9**INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR MEGHALAYA

Connecting communities, strengthening local enterprises and turning ideas into opportunities.

**FIVE FOCUS AREAS****01 Resilient infrastructure**

Reliable roads, services and facilities that withstand shocks.

**02 Inclusive industry**

Help small enterprises access finance, technology and markets.

**03 Innovation and skills**

Support practical research, new ideas and technical capabilities.

**04 Cleaner production**

Use resources efficiently and adopt sustainable technologies.

**05 Digital connectivity**

Expand affordable access to information and communications.

TOWARDS 2030

Stronger infrastructure. Sustainable enterprises. Wider access to innovation.

A LOCAL PATHWAYConnect
communitiesEnable
enterprisesAdd value
locallyExpand
opportunities

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