



Newsletter

20 March 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

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



46 IVCS STRENGTHENED ON GOVERNANCE, SUSTAINABILITY, AND FINANCIAL VIABILITY

A total of 46 Integrated Village Cooperative Societies (28 from East Khasi Hills and 18 from Ri-Bhoi District) participated in a one-day workshop held on 18 March 2026 at KJPA Auditorium Hall, Shillong. The programme engaged Chairmen and Secretaries to strengthen institutional systems and improve cooperative performance.

The workshop focused on governance strengthening, long-term sustainability, and financial viability of Integrated Village Cooperative Societies, with emphasis on enhancing operational efficiency, accountability, and market readiness.

The session was conducted in the presence of Shri. Augustus S. Suting, Deputy Project Director, MeghaLAMP, Shri. Teibor Kharshiing, Consultant, and Shri Larikupar Lyngdoh, Assistant General Manager, Rural Finance, whose inputs highlighted the role of institutional strengthening in achieving sustained outcomes.

The programme was led by Smt. Aity Mary Khongjee and Shri. Marlam Kharmudai, District Project Managers, ensuring structured facilitation and effective district-level coordination.

IVCS Strengthened on Governance, Sustainability, and Financial Viability

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



4 VILLAGES COVERED | JOINT INSPECTION ASSESSES ESMF COMPLIANCE AND FIELD INTERVENTIONS

A joint inspection was conducted on 12 and 13 March 2026 across four villages, Mawrashe, Mawkhanpasir, Pomkaniew, and Demthring, as part of preparations for the upcoming KfW mission. Key intervention sites assessed included the water reservoir at Wahryngkap in Mawrashe, protection walls, vermicompost units, water tanks, irrigation dams, plantation sites, stone masonry retaining walls, and other conservation structures.

The visit focused on assessing interventions in line with the Environmental and Social Management Framework and evaluating their functionality, benefits, and impact on the wider community. The inspection was carried out jointly by the State Project Management Unit, Catchment Management Unit, and Implementation Support teams to inform mission readiness and ensure alignment with programme standards.

SNIPPETS

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



SITE INSPECTION CONDUCTED | CHILLI NURSERY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

A site inspection was conducted on 16 March 2026 at the KfW demonstration plot under Kentra Cooperative Society Limited, Kharkutta Block, North Garo Hills, to review progress on chilli nursery bed preparation and land development activities.

The visit assessed implementation progress and field readiness to support effective demonstration and scale up of cultivation practices.



DPR PREPARATION SUPPORTED | TECHNICAL SURVEY COMPLETED

On 18 March 2026, Technical Assistants conducted a survey at Kharkutta Songital to support preparation of the Detailed Project Report for a proposed irrigation project.

Key site conditions were assessed and preliminary data collected to inform planning and implementation.

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



FIELD VISIT TO ASSESS FEASIBILITY OF PROPOSED FPA SITES

On the 12th, 13th, and 14th of March 2026, the Community Support Associate (CSA) and Apprentice Field Engineers (FEs) from Umiew visited the villages of Mawlynnei Nongkrem, Nongkyndong Nongkrem, Lumdewsaw, Lyngkienshyiap, Kyndong Nongkyntir, and Jalynteng to assess the feasibility of the sites for proposed FPA activities.

And on the 18th March 2026, the team visited Mawngap Mawsmi, Laitpynter Lumpata, Laitpynter Lummane, and Nongrimsadew to assess the feasibility of sites for the proposed FPA activities and to inspect the ongoing construction works under the VLMAP activities.

66 PARTICIPANTS COVERED | FPA 2 AND 3 CONDUCTED ACROSS MULTIPLE BLOCKS

Financial Participatory Appraisal 2 and 3 sessions were conducted from 11 to 18 March 2026 across multiple blocks, strengthening financial planning and community level decision making.

Sessions covered Umlympung, Thangsning, Iewshyllong, Powlakrai, Nongthymmai Lumthangding, and Angalgre villages.



2 VILLAGES COVERED | PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL CONDUCTED

On 13 and 19 March 2026, the Umiew Catchment Management Unit team conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal exercises at Baniun village under Myllem Block and Laitjem under Mawphlang Block, East Khasi Hills District.

The exercise supported community level planning through participatory assessment of local resources, needs, and development priorities.



SNIPPETS

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



VPIC REVIEW CONDUCTED | ROLES, COORDINATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION STRENGTHENED

A review meeting with Village Project Implementation Committees, Village Community Facilitators, and project staff was held on 10 March 2026 at Block Project Management Unit Tluh, Saipung Block to assess village level performance and strengthen coordination.

The session focused on roles and responsibilities, project components including plantation, sustainable land management, income generation, and financial management. Orientation was provided to new members, with emphasis on transparency, record keeping, and accountable fund use.

The meeting reinforced active participation and coordination for effective and accountable implementation at the community level.

400 KG INCREASE IN GINGER YIELD | SALT IMPROVES SOIL AND PRODUCTIVITY

On 13 March 2026, a field meeting with Agroforestry and Sloping Agricultural Land Technology farmers at Mooshrot village under Laskein Block Project Management Unit assessed the impact of Sloping Agricultural Land Technology practices. Farmers reported reduced soil runoff, improved soil fertility, and increased crop productivity. Ginger yield increased from 800 kilograms to 1,200 kilograms following adoption.

Findings indicate improved soil conservation and will inform targeted capacity building under the MegLIFE Project.



AGM CONDUCTED | STRENGTHENED GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL PRACTICES AT IVCS

The Annual General Meeting of Mulait Bri Sumer Integrated Village Cooperative Society was held on 14 March 2026, focusing on governance, business planning, and effective use of revolving funds and loan facilities.

Discussions emphasised transparency, accountability, and active member participation. Members were also encouraged to access support schemes to strengthen livelihoods.



2 IVCS COVERED | GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL PRACTICES STRENGTHENED

A joint visit on 11 and 14 March 2026 at Saipung and Mulait Bri Sumer Integrated Village Cooperative Society strengthened bookkeeping, financial discipline, and governance.

Guidance covered cash handling, documentation, roles and responsibilities, and computerization. Management expressed interest in further capacity building.

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



5 IVCS COVERED | 122+ MEMBERS TRAINED ON BANANA PRODUCTION AND VALUE ADDITION

Trainings conducted on 16-17 March 2026 across five Integrated Village Cooperative Societies in North Garo Hills (Dokua, Tangamgipa, Korepara, Jiban and Kentra) strengthened capacities on banana production, value addition, and integrated pest and disease management.

A total of 122 Producer Group members (52 at Korepara and 70 at Jiban) participated, along with members from other cooperatives. Participants gained practical skills in producing banana-based products such as chips and jams, along with improved knowledge on quality control, packaging, and market-oriented strategies to enhance income and competitiveness.

The sessions combined theoretical and practical learning, focusing on scientific cultivation practices, pest and disease management, and product diversification.



MULTIPLE SITES COVERED | PES ACTIVITIES AND MRV EXERCISES CONDUCTED

Green Field Associates conducted key Payment for Ecosystem Services activities across multiple locations, including Measurement, Reporting, and Verification exercises at Wahlang village under Sohiong Block, East Khasi Hills, and Umksieh village under Umsning Block, Ri Bhoi District.

Demarcation activities were also completed at Laitpynter village under Mawphlang Block to support effective planning and implementation.

Local Slipper Unit Drives Income and Access in Remote Village

Story Contribution by:  MeghaLAMP
Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project

1,500 Pairs Sold Monthly

In Aruakgre village, North Garo Hills, limited access to markets once made even basic footwear difficult to obtain. Located 13 kilometres from the nearest weekly market and over 30 kilometres from the nearest town, residents often relied on worn out or repaired slippers, reflecting deeper access and affordability challenges.

In July 2024, Songchet Nangrime Integrated Village Cooperative Society Limited established a local slipper making unit to address this gap. With an initial investment of ₹50,000 under the Collective Marketing Centre Business Plan, the unit began production using locally trained members.

The unit now produces approximately 60 pairs per day and sells around 1,500 pairs monthly, generating a net income of ₹37,500. Two workers and two sellers are engaged, creating local employment and performance based earning opportunities.



Beyond income, the initiative has significantly improved access. Residents from nine surrounding villages can now purchase affordable slippers and straps locally, reducing travel time and expenses while retaining money within the community.

The intervention demonstrates how small scale value addition can address essential needs, strengthen local economies, and build community ownership. Planned upgrades in machinery, raw material procurement, and market expansion are expected to further improve production efficiency and scale.

This initiative highlights a practical model of rural enterprise where local demand, collective action, and targeted investment translate into measurable economic and social impact.

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