

Newsletter

05 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

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

Cluster Development Programme

PMJVM

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission in Meghalaya

MSBM

Meghalaya State Bamboo Mission

STATE PROGRAMMES



KEY UPDATES

INTEGRATED ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE AGRI-BASED LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



Master Trainers Equipped for Khasi Mandarin and Pineapple Plantation under IESALD Project

Selected master trainers, farm managers, and project staff from Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, and Garo Hills participated in a one day training programme on Land Preparation and Layout for Planting of Khasi Mandarin and Pineapple on 1 June 2026 at the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam.

Organised by Meghalaya Basin Management Agency in collaboration with the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, the training was conducted as part of the preparatory activities for establishing Khasi Mandarin and Pineapple plantations under the Asian Development Bank supported Integrated Eco-tourism and Sustainable Agri-based Livelihood Development Project.

Technical sessions led by Dr. H. Rymbai covered land preparation, field layout, pit digging, pit filling, and scientific planting techniques. Participants also took part in practical demonstrations designed to strengthen field level implementation and plantation management skills.

The programme follows the recent Memorandum of Understanding signed between Meghalaya Basin Management Agency and the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region to provide technical support and capacity building under the project. Additional trainings on orchard management, crop husbandry, plant protection, and nutrient management are planned in the coming months. The training concluded with the distribution of certificates to participants.

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



Honey Entrepreneur Shares ₹21 Lakh Success Story at State Level Beekeeping Seminar

A two day State Level Seminar on Scientific Honey Beekeeping Integrated with Oilseed Mission concluded on 4 June 2026 at NEHU Tura Campus. The programme was organised by the National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Hyderabad, and the Department of Agribusiness Management and Food Technology, NEHU Tura Campus, in collaboration with Meghalaya Basin Development Authority under the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission.

The seminar brought together faculty members, students, government officials, development practitioners, farmers, and entrepreneurs to discuss scientific beekeeping practices, value addition, marketing opportunities, and the role of beekeeping in livelihood development.

A key highlight of the programme was the experience shared by Smt. Randitha Sangma, who showcased her range of infused honey products made with ginger, turmeric, and lemon. Through value addition and marketing, she generated nearly ₹21 lakh in revenue during 2025 from less than seven kilograms of honey, transforming a small enterprise into a significant source of family income.

Technical sessions covered community based beekeeping interventions, extension services, capacity building, and migratory beekeeping practices. The valedictory session highlighted the importance of bees in pollination, agricultural productivity, and livelihood enhancement.

KEY UPDATES

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



World Environment Day Marked with Plantation of Fruit and Agroforestry Saplings

A plantation drive was organised at Okbima, Keragalram under Resubelpara Block, North Garo Hills on 5 June 2026 to mark World Environment Day. The programme was organised by SeSTA Resubelpara with support from Meghalaya Basin Management Agency, the Horticulture Department, Agriculture Department, and Royal Northern Riders MC North Garo Hills. Community members, village leaders, and representatives from the supporting organisations participated in the plantation of cocoa, chambil, plum, avocado, Amrapali mango, lemon, chikoo, and guava saplings. The initiative promoted environmental conservation and increased awareness on the importance of protecting natural resources.

KEY UPDATES

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



MEGLIFE COMMUNITIES MARK WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY WITH LARGE-SCALE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION ACROSS MEGHALAYA

On World Environment Day, 5 June 2026, communities supported under the MegLIFE Project joined hands across Meghalaya to undertake a wide range of environmental initiatives, including plantation drives, bamboo planting, assisted natural regeneration, cleanliness campaigns, environmental awareness activities, and community-led learning events. Bringing together community members, students, self-help groups, village institutions, and local stakeholders, the celebrations highlighted the power of collective action in advancing environmental stewardship and sustainable natural resource management.

As part of the initiative, restoration and plantation efforts covered 22.30 hectares and 9.68 hectares in Chokpot Block, 5.20 hectares in Mairang Block, 1.09 hectares in Umling Block, and 15.71 hectares in Kharkutta Block, 15.71 in Mandadrop village under Kharkutta Block, 1.09 hectares in Umden Nongtluh VPIC under Umling Block in Ri Bhoi District. These efforts contribute to landscape restoration, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience while supporting the MegLIFE Project's goal of planting and regenerating over one million trees across Meghalaya.

KEY UPDATES

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



28 PARTICIPANTS ATTEND TWO DAY TRAINING ON BOOKKEEPING AND MIS REPORTING

A two-day training programme for Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) and Bookkeepers was successfully conducted on 26-27 May 2026. The first day focused on bookkeeping fundamentals and financial documentation, while the second day covered the use of the Appverse platform, MIS data entry, and reporting procedures. The training was attended by representatives from 15 Village Project Implementation Committees (VPICs), with two participants from each VPIC. A total of 28 participants took part in the programme.

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT & SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



DPD Reviews Cooperative and Sustainable Farming Activities in North Garo Hills

Shri Augustus Suting, Deputy Project Director, visited Kenra IVCS Ltd under Kharkutta Block, North Garo Hills on 5 June 2026. The visit was coordinated by the District Project Management Unit team.

During an interaction with members of the Integrated Village Cooperative Society, discussions were held on the progress of livelihood activities, cooperative operations, and future plans. Members shared their experiences and challenges related to farming, marketing, and cooperative management. The Deputy Project Director encouraged members to strengthen collective efforts and improve regular collection and marketing activities through the cooperative.

The team also visited Sustainable Land Management demonstration plots, including off season vegetable and chilli cultivation sites. The field inspection reviewed crop performance, adoption of improved farming practices, and opportunities to enhance productivity and income generation.

The visit was attended by the Integrated Village Cooperative Society Secretary, Van Dhan Vikas Kendra members, and local farmers.

SNIPPETS

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



SPMU SHILLONG TEAM VISITS MENDIMA IVCS WEAVING CENTRE

On 29th May 2026, a team from the State Project Management Unit (SPMU), Shillong, visited the Mendima IVCS Weaving Centre to review ongoing weaving activities, interact with artisans, and assess the progress of project-supported weaving initiatives. The visit highlighted the commitment of local weavers in preserving traditional Rabha weaving while strengthening livelihoods through organized production and market linkage support.

The delegation included Design Hub Managers, a Store Manager, media personnel, and a camera coordinator, who interacted closely with the weavers and observed weaving processes, traditional loom setups, product quality, and ongoing production activities. Technical guidance was provided on design improvement, finishing techniques, colour coordination, and emerging market trends to enhance the appeal and marketability of woven products.

Discussions also focused on maintaining product quality, timely production, documentation, inventory management, packaging, and product display. The team encouraged artisans to introduce innovative designs while preserving the cultural identity of Rabha handloom traditions. The visit served as a valuable platform for knowledge sharing, motivation, and strengthening sustainable livelihood opportunities for rural women engaged in weaving.



FIELD VISIT TO GINGER DEMONSTRATION PLOT

On 2nd June 2026, a field visit was conducted to the ginger demonstration plot at Rongsang Dadenggre OPCS Ltd. The crop was observed to be growing well, with weeding activities underway to support healthy growth and proper field management.

I prefer this response

CROP MONITORING AT TANGBANG IVCS DEMO PLOT

On 2nd June 2026, neem oil was applied at the Tangbang IVCS Demo Plot, Dadenggre Block, as a preventive and curative measure against pests in maize and brinjal crops. The maize crop was healthy, with minor yellowing of lower leaves due to dry weather, while the brinjal crop was at the vegetative to early flowering stage with some insect damage but no disease symptoms observed. Regular monitoring and timely interventions are supporting healthy crop growth.



SNIPPETS

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



PUBLIC HEARING REVIEWS PROGRESS OF MEGLIFE INTERVENTIONS IN RI BHOI DISTRICT

A Public Hearing was organised by the Meghalaya Society for Social Audit, Transparency and Accountability (MSSAT) on 27 May 2026 at the DPMU Office, Ri Bhoi District, bringing together representatives from five project-supported communities—Umden Nongtluh, Umden Khasi, Jermanai, Umnongkrem, and Pamlatar—under Umling and Umsning Blocks. The programme served as a platform for reviewing the progress of interventions under the Meghalaya Livelihoods and Access to Markets Project (MegLIFE), sharing experiences, and gathering community feedback on activities related to natural resource management, water conservation, livelihood enhancement, and community development. The event reinforced transparency, stakeholder participation, and community ownership, while promoting collaborative solutions to strengthen the long-term impact and sustainability of development initiatives in Ri Bhoi District.

Silsika IVCS Strengthens Black Pepper Value Chain

Rongram, 3 June 2026: A major boost to black pepper cultivation and post-harvest management was achieved with the provision of a black pepper threshing machine to Silsika IVCS in Rongram Block under a government-supported horticulture assistance programme. The equipment is expected to significantly reduce the time and labour required for post-harvest processing while improving the quality and market readiness of black pepper produce. By enabling more efficient processing and value addition, the initiative is set to boost productivity, support local farmers in maximizing returns from their harvests, and contribute to the growth of community-based agricultural enterprises in the region.



ADVANCING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

For a press release, you can shorten it to:

On 3 June 2026, a coordination meeting was convened with key stakeholders from East Garo Hills and North Garo Hills to strengthen community-based institutions through improved digital systems and operational processes. The initiative is expected to enhance transparency, record management, and service delivery, contributing to stronger local governance and greater access to development opportunities for communities.



SNIPPETS

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



PLANTATION ACTIVITIES STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY-LED CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Community-led plantation activities were undertaken across project-supported areas in East Garo Hills, North Garo Hills, East Jaintia Hills, and West Jaintia Hills. The initiative included the plantation and distribution of Assam lemon saplings in selected villages, including locations within environmentally sensitive areas such as elephant corridors. Conducted with active community participation, the activity aimed to promote sustainable land-use practices, enhance green cover, and support long-term environmental sustainability and livelihood development.

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



FPA CONTEST 1, 2, AND 3 CONDUCTED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

On 25th May 2026, the Ganol-CMU team successfully conducted FPA Contest-1 at Balnangre Village under Rerapara Block. The event saw enthusiastic participation from local children, with 43 participants in the contest.

And on the 26th May 2026, the FPA Contest-2 & 3 were conducted at Ronggek Mrongge Village under Rerapara Block, South West Garo Hills District.



MODEL DEMONSTRATION EXERCISE AT ANGALGRE AND MRIGRE

On 29th May 2026, forester along with CSA visited **Angalgre VPIC** where a **model demonstration exercise** was conducted for the villagers. During the session, **Model Nos. 1, 3, 5, 13, 16, 23, and 24B** were demonstrated and explained in detail.

And on the 30th May 2026, the team visited Mrigre VPICs where the demonstrations were carried out for Model 1, Model 13, and Model 16.

PLANTATION ADVANCE WORK CARRIED OUT AT TWO VPICs AT GANOL CATCHMENT

On 27th May 2026, the CSA and Forestry teams visited Selsella Alotgre VPIC under the Ganol catchment area to conduct an advance work assessment. During the field visit, the team assessed the site conditions and identified that Model No. 13 is feasible for implementation.

On 28th May 2026, the team visited Urenggre VPIC to inspect the plantation advance work. During the field inspection, it was observed that the plantation plot of Smti Plebesh Ch. Marak is suitable for implementing Model 23 plantations.

SNIPPETS

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



FIELD MONITORING VISIT REPORT – VLMAP WORKS

On 1st June 2026, the Field Engineer from Ganol CMU, along with the Drone Team, conducted a regular monitoring visit to the ongoing VLMAP works at Wadagre and Nokatgre villages. The team inspected the construction progress of the RCC Check Dam at Wadagre and the Stone Masonry Retaining Wall at Nokatgre. During the visit, the physical progress of the works was assessed, and drone-based monitoring was carried out to capture site conditions and document the status of implementation.



FIELD MONITORING BY CATCHMENT PROJECT MANAGER

On 2 June 2026, the Umiew CMU team, along with the CPM, visited Laitkynsew, Mawjriong, and Lumkyntung VPICs under Khadarshnong-Laitkroh C&RD Block for inspection and monitoring of project activities. All three VPICs have initiated advance work for plantation activities.

SNIPPETS

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT



AWARENEDD | SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT | NARTIANG | WJH

On 29th May 2026, a discussion meeting was held with the Village Organisation (VO) under Tylli Kawi CLF at Nartiang Village, West Jaintia Hills. Facilitated by staff from the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS), the session focused on promoting natural farming practices, improving agricultural production, and creating awareness about the KfW-supported Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project and its role in fostering climate-resilient livelihoods.



TRAINING ON ORGANIC CERTIFICATION AND POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT HELD AT NONGSTOIN

one-day training programme on Organic Certification and Post-Harvest Management was held at Trysem Hall, Nongstoin, on 3rd June 2026 for 60 farmer beneficiaries of the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya (SLM) Project from Eastern West Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills and South West Khasi Hills.

The programme focused on strengthening farmers' understanding of PGS and NPOP certification systems, post-harvest management practices, and value addition techniques to reduce losses and enhance income opportunities. Training was delivered through technical presentations, videos, interactive sessions, a skit play and handout distribution. The programme received positive feedback from participants and contributed to building awareness and capacity for sustainable organic farming.



SNIPPETS

INTEGRATED ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE AGRI-BASED LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



FIELD TEAMS TRAINED FOR SCIENTIFIC CULTIVATION OF HIGH VALUE SPICES

A series of one day training programmes on land preparation and layout for planting were conducted for master trainers, farm managers, and project staff under the Integrated Eco-tourism and Sustainable Agri-based Livelihood Development Project during 2 to 4 June 2026.

Organised by Meghalaya Basin Management Agency in collaboration with the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, the trainings focused on scientific cultivation practices for cinnamon, large cardamom, and black pepper.

The training on cinnamon was held at Kbet Nongbri Village under Umsawnongbri Integrated Village Cooperative Society Ltd., Ri Bhoi District on 2 June. This was followed by a training on large cardamom at Ladiker Village under Pyndenglitha Integrated Village Cooperative Society Ltd., East Khasi Hills on 3 June. The final session on black pepper was conducted at the Meghalaya Basin Management Agency office, Nongrim, on 4 June.

Participants were trained on land preparation, field layout, and recommended planting practices to support the successful establishment of spice plantations under the project. The programme aimed to strengthen field level technical capacity and ensure effective implementation of upcoming plantation activities.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



COMMUNITY FOOD CART CREATES LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GARO HILLS

The food cart operated by Rongdan Integrated Village Cooperative Society and Van Dhan Vikas Kendra in North Garo Hills has started providing an additional source of income for its members. The group prepares and sells a variety of fast food items, catering to customers from nearby villages and commuters passing through the area.

The initiative has created an opportunity for members to engage in a collective enterprise while generating regular income. By managing food preparation, sales, and daily operations, the group is gaining experience in running a small business and expanding local livelihood opportunities.

SNIPPETS

MBDA/MBMA PROGRAM



FIELD TEAMS EQUIPPED WITH RAINCOATS FOR CONSERVATION WORK

As part of its commitment to strengthening community-led conservation efforts, the project provided raincoats and protective field gear to Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) and field teams working on ecosystem conservation activities. The support enhances the capacity of frontline personnel to carry out field engagements, environmental monitoring, and conservation initiatives effectively across diverse terrain and weather conditions, contributing to the sustained implementation of natural resource management efforts.



PES FIELD ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED ACROSS MULTIPLE DISTRICTS IN MEGHALAYA

A series of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) activities were carried out across multiple blocks in the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Hills regions of Meghalaya to strengthen community-led conservation efforts. A key highlight was the distribution of raincoats to Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) in Jirang and Bhoirybong Blocks, along with additional rain gear for field teams, enabling them to continue PES and conservation activities during the monsoon season. The programme also included community consultations, field verification visits, boundary demarcation, documentation support, and recognition of local leaders. Implemented across several villages, these initiatives enhanced community participation, strengthened local stewardship of natural resources, and supported the effective implementation of ecosystem conservation efforts across the state.

"From Farm to Market: Women SHGs Turn Local Produce into Profitable Enterprises"

Two Self-Help Groups from Mawkynrew Block earned over ₹4,000 each in a single day by showcasing value-added and locally grown products at Farmers Markets supported by the Government of Meghalaya.



Pynroishaphrang SHG, Khlieh-a-sem

A group of 10 women impressed buyers with fresh, naturally grown strawberries - plump, sweet and aromatic. They also showcased a variety of farm produce including mustard leaves, garlic and fish mint.



Lamjingshai SHG, Pashang

A group of 12 members presented their signature product - locally processed finger millet powder, packed with nutrition and information. They also displayed seasonal produce like bayberry, green garlic (jyllang), mulberry and banana flower.



Both SHGs turned local, seasonal and indigenous produce into real income.

Their success shows that:

- ✓ Quality and value addition stand out
- ✓ Direct markets build confidence and trust
- ✓ Collective effort multiplies returns



● IMPACT AT A GLANCE ●



22

Women
Entrepreneurs
Empowered



2

SHGs
Participated in
Farmers Markets



₹4000+

Profit Earned by
Each SHG in a
Single Day



Local Produce

Transformed into
Market-Ready
Products



Increased

Confidence, Skills
and Market
Linkages

Follow us on



mbma.org.in | mbda.gov.in



[mbmashillong](https://www.facebook.com/mbmashillong)



Meghalaya Basin Development Authority MBDA



[mbda_meghalaya](https://twitter.com/mbda_meghalaya)



[mbda_shillong](https://www.instagram.com/mbda_shillong)

