



19 December 2025

# Newsletter

## 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 KfW 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

## WORKS

### 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



**MeghaLAMP**  
Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project  
14 September 1999-2020



**GREEN**  
MEGHALAYA  
Grassroot Level Response towards Ecosystem Enhancement and Nurturing Meghalaya

**Smart Village Movement™**  
In Alliance With Berkeley Haas



**PRIME**  
MEGHALAYA





# KEY UPDATES

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



## TWO-DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT ASSOCIATES (CSA)

A two-day training programme for Community Support Associates (CSAs) of the Umiew and Ganol Catchments was successfully conducted on 15th and 16th December 2025. The first day focused on classroom-based sessions covering an overview of the Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA), MegARISE project objectives, TADA rules, the Plantation Plan 2026, various plantation models, and the roles and responsibilities of CSAs.

The second day comprised hands-on practical training conducted at a MegARISE project village, Laitkyrhong, under Mawkynrew Block in East Khasi Hills District. The practical sessions included guidance on plot selection, site demarcation, handling of GPS devices, selection of appropriate plantation models, and identification of forest and non-forest cover areas. The training was facilitated by Shri G.S. Raju, IFS (Retd.), Project Management, MBDA, along with a Technical Specialist and the Manager – Environmental Management, SPMU, and GIS of Umiew. A total of 29 CSAs participated in the training.



## PILLINGKATA B IVCS PARTICIPATES IN EXPOSURE VISIT TO GUJARAT

A three-day capacity-building programme on leadership, governance, management and operational systems for IVCS/SCS under Ri Bhoi District was conducted at the Prime Hub, Umdihar, in two batches. The first batch was held from 8-10 December 2025, followed by the second batch from 11-13 December 2025.

The programme focused on strengthening understanding of byelaws, good governance practices, effective management, and proper office setup and filing systems. Shri M. Shabong, Junior Cooperative Officer from the ARCS Office, Nongpoh, delivered a session on the Model Bye Laws and good governance during the first batch.



## PILLINGKATA B IVCS PARTICIPATES IN EXPOSURE VISIT TO GUJARAT

Pillingkata B IVCS from Umling Block, Ri Bhoi District, was selected to participate in an Exposure Visit for PACS members held in Gujarat from 13th to 15th December 2025, as part of the International Year of Cooperatives 2025. The programme was organised by the Cooperation Department, Government of Meghalaya. Shri Chanbha Chulet, Chairman, and Shri Kolsi Kathar, Secretary, represented the IVCS during the exposure visit.



## 72ND ALL INDIA COOPERATIVE WEEK OBSERVED AT NONGSTOIN

The Office of ARCS, MBMA and MCAB, Nongstoin, organized the 72nd All India Cooperative Week on 19th November 2025 at Nongpyndeng, Nongstoin, in the presence of Hon'ble Minister Shri M. Dkhar, Shri R. Yanthan, IAS, RCS, Shri A. S. Suting, Deputy Director, MBMA, and other officials. Stalls by IVCS, CLFs and Cooperative Societies were also set up. Stalls were also set up by IVCS, CLFs and Cooperative Societies to showcase their activities and products.



## PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL (PRA) CONDUCTED AT UMIEW AND GANOL CATCHMENT

On 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025, the Ganol team conducted a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) at Ghatgre & Dalupara Village under Rerapara Block, South West Garo Hills District.

On 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025, the Umiew team conducted a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) at Umlympung 12 Mer Village, located in Khatarshnong Laitkroh Block and Lumsohriew Village under Mawphlang C&RD Block. The programme witnessed active engagement from the local community, whose enthusiastic participation throughout the PRA process ensured that the identified priorities genuinely reflected their needs and aspirations.



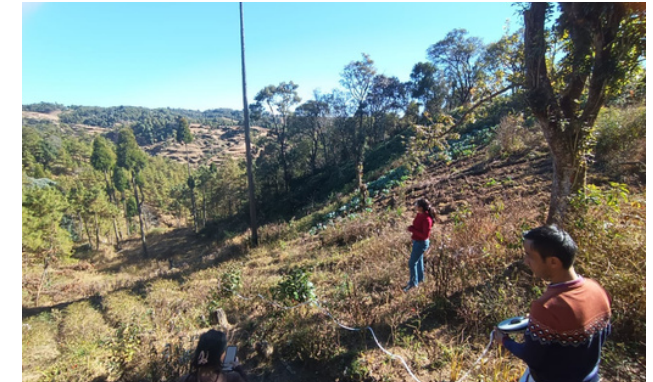
## FPA & VLMAP IMPLEMENTATION BY GANOL ENGINEERS

Engineers from the Ganol Catchment visited Jongdikgre and Sanchongre villages on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to initiate implementation of the winning ideas under FPA-2 and FPA-3. Further visits were conducted on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to Aguragre, Jendragre (Mukdangra, Rerapara Block) and Bongpara to assess site feasibility for Village-level Micro Action Plan (VLMAP) activities.



## MEETING WITH LOCAL PURCHASE COMMITTEE

A meeting with Local Purchase Committee members was held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at the MBDA Conference Hall to discuss participatory approaches for completing procurement within stipulated timelines. The focus was on timely completion of works and regular submission of Utilisation Certificates (UCs). Members' queries were addressed and suggestions were shared to streamline the process and avoid delays.



## FIELD VISIT BY UMIEW ENGINEERS TO MULTIPLE VILLAGES

The Umiew Team, along with Mr R. Mawdong Rangslang, Junior Engineer, Water Resources Department, conducted a series of field visits between 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to assess site feasibility for VLMAP and FPA activities. The visits covered Rangsyuin Mawlmeng, Laitpynter Lumpata, Laitpynter Lummane, Marbisu Pdengshnong, Mawngianglah, Madan ling Syiem, and Mawtyllup villages across Mawphlang and Khadarshnong Blocks, including inspections of ongoing works under FPA-2 and FPA-3.



### TRAINING UPDATE: VCF PLANTATION TRAINING PROGRAMME – BATCH 2

In preparation for the 2026 plantation season, a two-day Tree Plantation Training Programme was organised for Village Community Facilitators (VCFs) under the MegARISE Project. The training was conducted on 10-11 December 2025 at Pomlakrai Rngi Shyllong and was facilitated by the CMU Umiew team. The training sessions focused on key thematic areas, including community mobilisation, plantation models, site suitability assessment (AR/ANR), plot demarcation, advance work, planting methods, and plantation maintenance.

On the second day, a practical field demonstration was conducted at Pomlakrai Rngi Shyllong, where participants actively engaged in hands-on exercises related to the topics covered on Day 1. The field session provided practical exposure to plantation site identification, plot demarcation, and proper planting techniques, reinforcing classroom learning through real-time application.

The overall objective of the training was to strengthen the technical knowledge and practical skills of VCFs, enabling them to effectively support and implement plantation activities during the upcoming season.



### FPA CONTEST HELD AT GANOL & UMIEW CATCHMENT

The Umiew Team, along with Mr R. Mawdong Rangslang, Junior Engineer, Water Resources Department, conducted field visits from 11-17 December 2025 to assess site feasibility for VLMAP and FPA activities across villages in Mawphlang and Khadarshnong Blocks, including inspections of ongoing works under FPA-2 and FPA-3.



### STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON ADDRESSING SILTATION THREAT TO MAWPHLANG DAM

A meeting was held on 17th December 2025 at Umtyngar Village by Synjuk Ar Liang Wah (Wah Umiew) and Wah Umtyngar, bringing together sand and stone mining owners and village members to address rising siltation affecting the Mawphlang Dam and nearby rivers. The discussion highlighted a reported 30% increase in siltation from mining activities and emphasized the need for community-led mitigation measures to be incorporated into Village Level Micro Action Plans (VLMAPs).



### INTERACTIVE AWARENESS SESSION ON PLANTATION IN BOTH CATCHMENT

An interactive plantation awareness session was conducted on 16th December 2025 at Maweitnai Village, Myllem Block, focusing on participatory planning and preparedness for the 2026 plantation season. The Ganol team also held plantation awareness programmes on 16th and 17th December 2025 at Digranggre and Chibragre villages, highlighting plantation targets for the coming year and strategies to achieve them.



## GREEN MEGHALAYA+ CONDUCTS TWO-DAY STRATEGIC REVIEW RETREAT

A comprehensive training programme for VDVK members was conducted at Porshieh Prime Hub, WKH from 1st to 5th December 2025. The training focused on enhancing the skills and capacities of members in areas such as leadership, governance, financial management, and operational planning. Participants actively engaged in interactive sessions, group discussions, and practical exercises aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of Village Development and Welfare Committees (VDVKs) in implementing community-driven initiatives and promoting sustainable development at the village level.

## GREEN FIELD ASSOCIATES CONDUCTS STATEWIDE PES AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ACROSS MEGHALAYA

Green Field Associates carried out a comprehensive series of PES awareness programmes across Meghalaya, covering multiple districts, blocks, and villages in a coordinated manner. In East Garo Hills District, activities were conducted in Dalbot Rongbok and Danal Songgitcham villages under Songsak Block, and in Chima Gradek and Sobokgre villages under Samanda Block, while West Garo Hills District saw programmes in Kosak Jembragre (Gambegre Block) and Nengja Bolchugre (Gambegre Block). In Ri Bhoi District, awareness programmes were organised across Bhoirymbong Block (Umsohmatan, Mynri Umsning, Nongtraw, Kyrtem, Lumshyap, Mawdwar, Mawker, and Lamalong villages), Umsning Block (Umkra, Syngku, Umsiang Mawpdeng, Amjong, Tilamih, and Umkei villages), and Umling Block (Umkilai, Umkyrpiang, and Pahampdem villages). In West Khasi Hills District, programmes were conducted in villages under Nongstoin Block (Mawsiangbah, Nongeitthamah, Mawphansin, Mawliehdein, and Maweitksar villages) and Mawshynrut Block (Riangna, Riandim, Rongjambi, and Nongrim Hills villages). In Eastern West Khasi Hills District, awareness activities covered villages under Mairang Block including Madanmaroid, Nongrmai, Mawiong Nongkhlaw, Mawkawah Nongwahre, and Mawriangtynnai. Additionally, in West Jaintia Hills District, PES awareness programmes were organised in Niawkmai and looksi villages under Laskein Block. These extensive outreach efforts strengthened community-level awareness and participation in PES initiatives across diverse geographic regions of the state.





Meghalaya Basin Management Agency  
Meghalaya Basin Development Authority

*wishes you a*

# Merry Christmas

and happy holidays!



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