



# Newsletter

04 April 2025

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

# ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

04 April 2025

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), the KfW Development Bank-funded Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) and the Protection of Vulnerable Catchment Area in Meghalaya (MegARISE) Project, and the recently-concluded World Bank-funded Community Led Landscape Management Project (CLLMP).

State programmes being implemented include the Promotion and Incubation of Market-Driven Enterprises (PRIME), the Farmers Collectivization for Upscaling Production and Marketing Systems (FOCUS), and the Smart Village Movement (SVM).



**MeghaLAMP**  
Meghalaya Livelihoods Access to Market Project  
10 September 2016 - 2020



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

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



**PRIME**  
MEGHALAYA





## Meghalaya hosts Tri-Partite Review Meeting (TPRM)

Meghalaya hosted the Tri-Partite Review Meeting (TPRM), reviewed by a five-member team from the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, led by Smt. Manisha Sinha, Additional Secretary, and Shri. Prasanna V. Salian, Director. The meeting, held at Ri Kynjai, assessed the progress of IFAD-assisted projects across the country and was followed by a workshop on India's 2026-2032 Country Strategy.

Dr. Vijay Kumar D., IAS, Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Planning Department, and Project Director, MeghaLAMP, attended the meeting alongside officials from NITI Aayog and key ministries, including the Ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Women & Child Development, and the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. Discussions focused on project achievements, challenges, and strategies to strengthen rural development initiatives, including potential project extensions and enhanced support for rural communities.

Participants included officials from IFAD-funded projects in Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Odisha and Jammu & Kashmir.

## Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) reviews JICA-assisted projects in Meghalaya

The DEA team visited Laitmynsang and Pashang to witness firsthand the communities' dedication to environmental conservation. They toured key project sites, interacted with local stakeholders, and observed the impact of ongoing initiatives. The visit highlighted the communities' appreciation for MBDA and MegLIFE's support in fostering sustainable development and strengthening resilience through conservation efforts.





## Key Members from the KfW Development Bank visit Shillong for Appraisal of KfW-funded Projects in Meghalaya

The Appraisal Mission 2025 for the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project ran from 4 March to 12 March 2025, where the KfW Development Bank team visited project villages to review progress, observe key interventions, and engage with farmers and producers supported by the project. The team also held important meeting with the SLM project and the Government of Meghalaya. During the Mission, KfW also visited intervention sites of the MegARISE project where they engaged with communities and inspected the project's nursery initiatives.

## 200 Farmers Attend Exposure Visit at Nokma Ice Cream Factory, Tikrikilla, West Garo Hills

At Muktidata Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Tikrikilla, farmers from IVCS' in Selsella Block spent three days exploring innovative farming methods, smart resource use, and creative marketing strategies—all aimed at boosting productivity and sustainability.



# SNIPPETS FROM THE FIELD

04 April 2025

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

### DPMU, South Garo Hills Participates in Mega Camp

DPMU, South Garo Hills joined the Mega Camp in Baghmara, highlighting govt. services, supporting SHGs & showcasing IVCS products.



### Building Stronger IVCS

IVCS members joined hands with Van Dhan Vikas Kendra (VDVK) in Tura, Ampati, Williamnagar & Baghmara to develop business plans, explore markets & identify key forest products.



### Boosting Financial Literacy (FLP) in IVCS

Financial Literacy Programs were hosted at Mawkasain, Saitsohpen, Laitkyrhong & Iaryntihlang FACT IVCS, East Khasi Hills to boost savings, lending, and member engagement.



### Strengthening IVCS Governance

Ri Bhoi led a workshop at PRIME Hub, Umdihar with 132 participants on Annual General Meeting, audit, and financial discipline. North Garo Hills' Bakrime IVCS engaged 150 members on finances and MLAMP activities. West Garo Hills' Polpola IVCS hosted 50 participants.

### Strengthening Piggery Services

Two Day Service Provider Piggery workshop conducted on March 25th 2025 to strengthen piggery services and management at East Khasi Hills.



Latitude : 25.568043°  
Longitude : 91.884279°  
Date : 03/25/2025 02:08 PM  
Note : Two days district Level Meeting cum Workshop for

# SNIPPETS FROM THE FIELD

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

04 April 2025



New community halls in Garo Hills!

Gitokgre & Bansingre in Samanda Block and Noonmati in Zikzak Block are now ready to host local gatherings and initiatives!

## IVCS Business Plan Mela

564 SHGs and 74 IVCS from Khasi-Jaintia & Garo Hills explored market opportunities at the IVCS Business Plan Mela, an initiative by MegLIFE. The event helped communities map out business plans, strengthen value chains, and move toward financial independence.



## Springshed Management Review.

As MegLIFE prepares to implement 1368 civil works, a comprehensive training and field demonstration was conducted for 31 Field Engineers to enhance their expertise and ensure effective execution.



# SNIPPETS FROM THE FIELD

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT

04 April 2025



## Community-Led Plantation Initiatives

Umiew Catchment, Mar 18, 2025: Plantation consultation held with landowners in Kharnongwah & Mawkohmon, Mawphlang Block.

Ganol Catchment, Mar 24, 2025: Awareness program in Dura Kalakgre saw 30 volunteers offering Jhum land for plantations. Site verification completed for 8 plots, with interest in agroforestry & water retention species.

## Ganol Team Plantation & Nursery Inspection

On March 25, 2025, the team verified plantation sites, marked boundaries & inspected nurseries across multiple villages in South West & West Garo Hills. A total of 21.5 hectares was identified for plantation from three VPICs.



## Ganol Team Field Visit

On March 20, 2025 the team visited Waribokgre & Digranggre, mobilizing for plantations, inspecting nurseries & guiding VCFs on spring mapping & land demarcation. Villagers expressed willingness to contribute land, reinforcing shared ecological goals.



# SNIPPETS FROM THE FIELD

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT MEGHALAYA PROJECT

04 April 2025

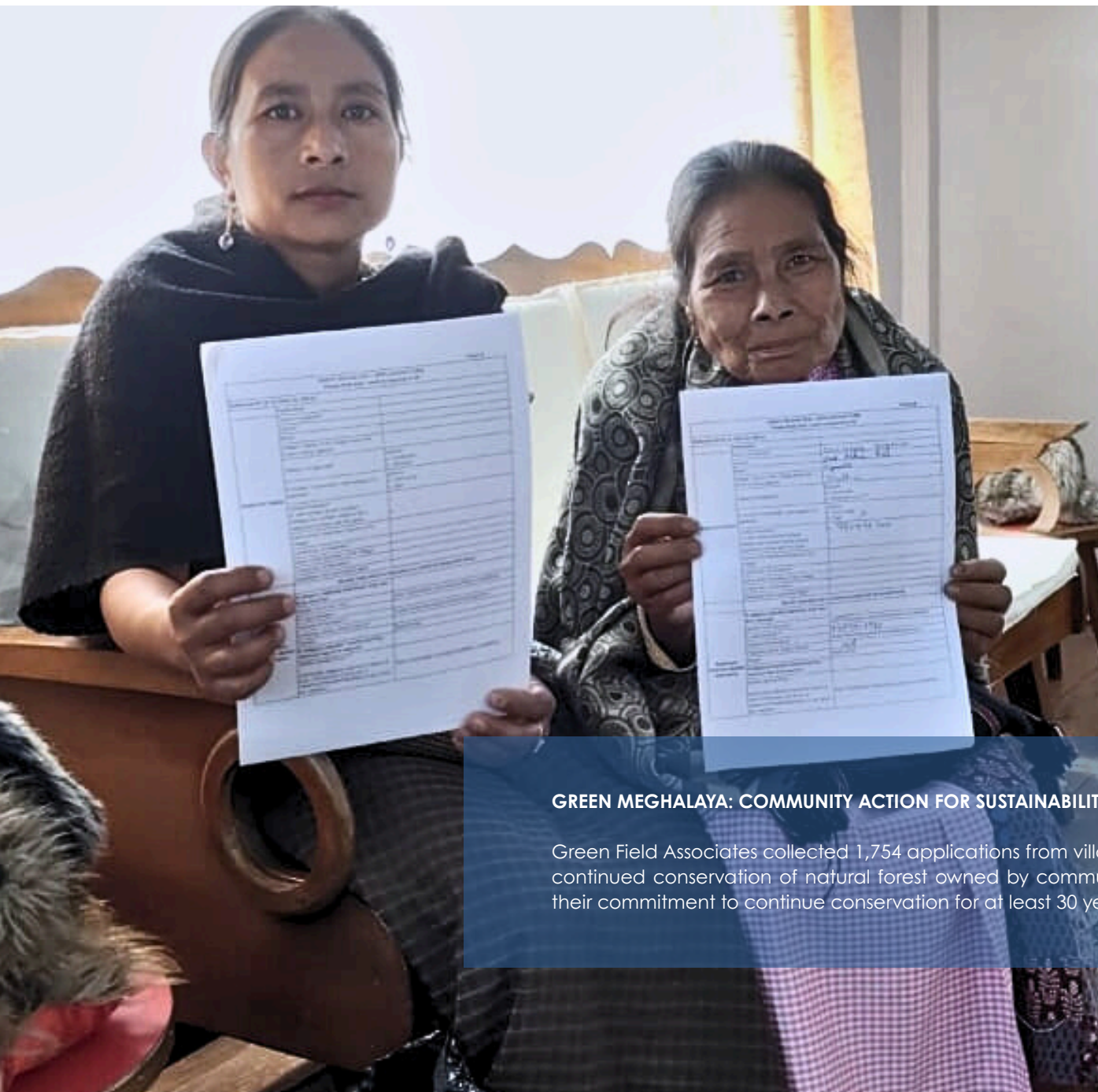


## Meeting with NGO partners of SLM

A meeting was held on 28 March 2025 at the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya Project (SLM) in Shillong, to review project progress and finalize work plans for NGO partners in the coming months. Attended by SLM officials, partner implementing agencies, NGO heads, and MBMA staff, the discussion focused on key deliverables. A primary task assigned to the NGOs was the identification of villages with agroecological potential for the next phase of the project by leveraging their strong grassroots presence.

# SNIPPETS FROM THE FIELD

## GRASSROOT LEVEL RESPONSE TOWARDS ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT AND NURTURING MEGHALAYA



### GREEN MEGHALAYA: COMMUNITY ACTION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Green Field Associates collected 1,754 applications from villages across February and March 2025, to encourage continued conservation of natural forest owned by communities, clans and private individuals and incentivize their commitment to continue conservation for at least 30 years.



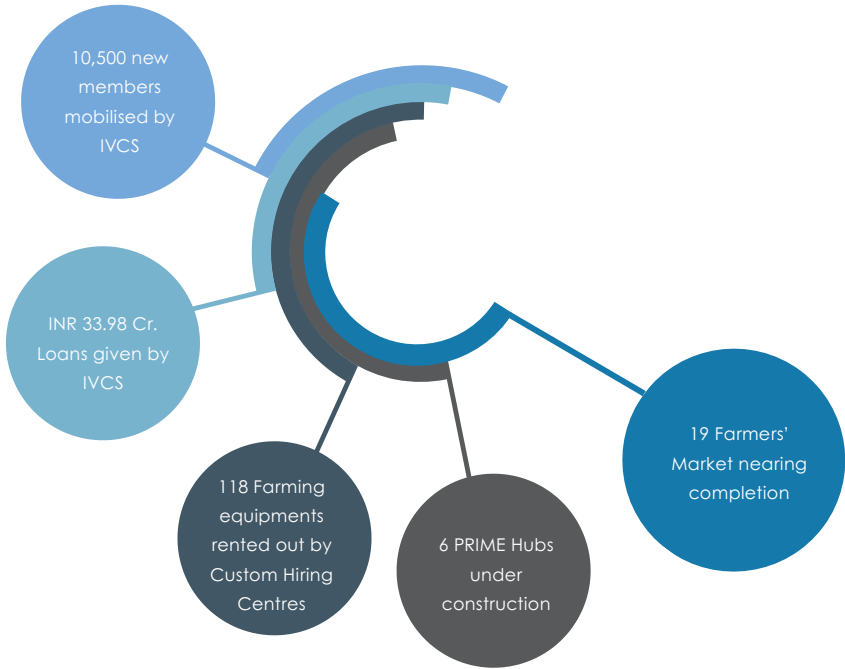
### GREEN MEGHALAYA AWARENESS DRIVE

Green Field Associates conducted awareness programs across blocks, to promote reforestation, biodiversity conservation & community-led afforestation. The initiative also focused on green belts, sustainable farming & urban green spaces.

# MARCH ACTIVITY AND PROGRESS OVERVIEW

MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT

04 April 2025



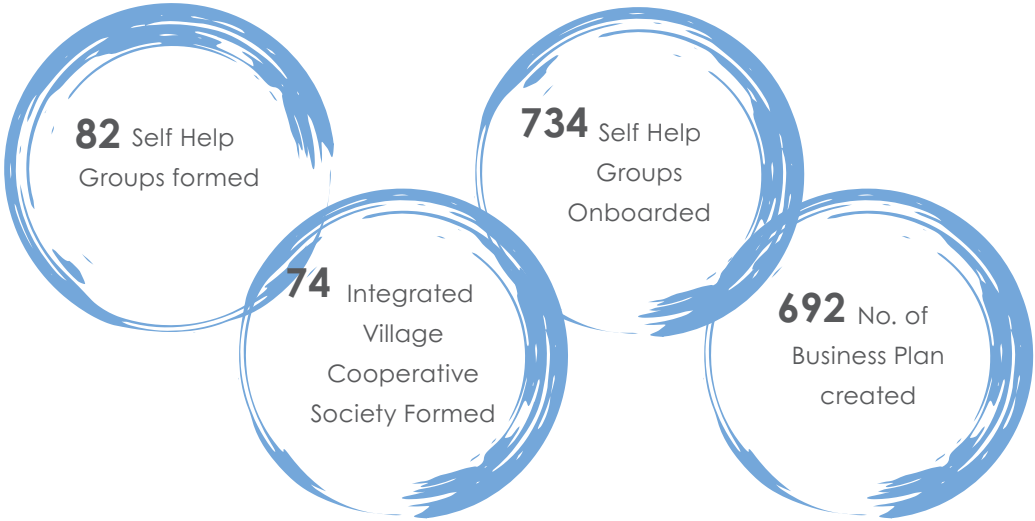
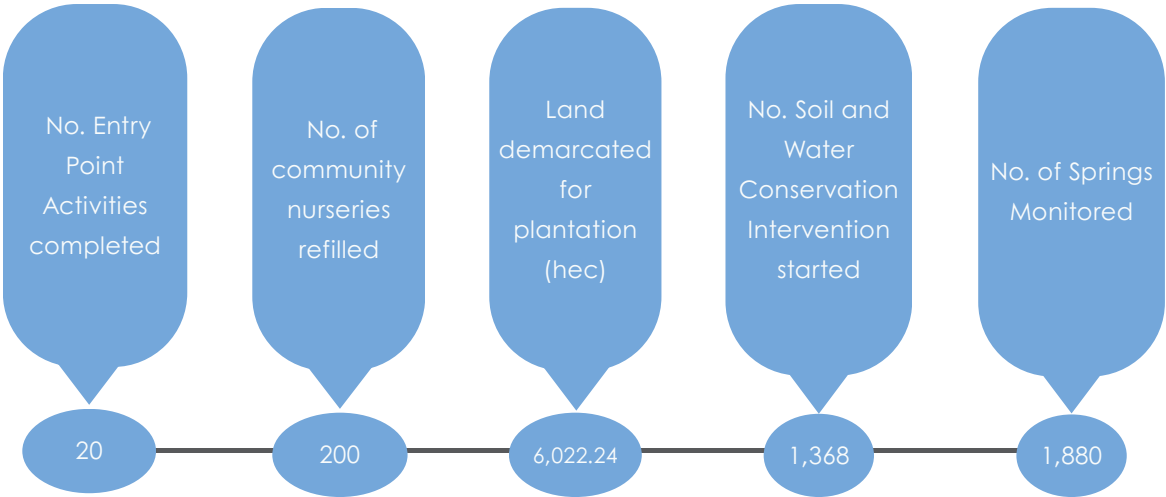
## Products Traded in Kilogram (KG) by IVCS

Khasi					
Ginger	Potato	Bay leaf	Mandarin	Pineapple	Turmeric
3,31,957 kgs	27,413 kgs	1,69,322 kgs	75,962 kgs	4,87,273 kgs	4,000 kgs
Jaintia					
Vegetablest	Arecanut	Black pepper	Broomstick	Banana	
35,902 kgs	71,634 kgs	4,360 kgs	41,580 kgs	9,405 kgs	

# MARCH ACTIVITY AND PROGRESS OVERVIEW

04 April 2025

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



# MARCH ACTIVITY AND PROGRESS OVERVIEW

04 April 2025

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CATCHMENT AREAS IN MEGHALAYA PROJECT



**193** Project Awareness  
completed

**32** Nursery established

**193** Ground Truthing  
completed

**112** Village Community  
Facilitator Identified

**126** Village Project  
Implementation Committee  
Formed

**86** Critical Springs  
identified

**58** Participatory Rural Appraisal  
Exercise Conducted



## ANNOUNCEMENT!

### Introducing Health Cube Devices for Employee Well-Being.

MBDA/MBMA is launching Health Cube screenings to promote preventive healthcare for all staff. These portable diagnostic devices will help detect health concerns early, ensuring timely intervention. Trained lab technicians will conduct quarterly screenings across all units. A district-wise schedule will be shared soon—let's prioritize our health together!

# STORY OF THE WEEK

## MEGHALAYA LIVELIHOODS AND ACCESS TO MARKETS PROJECT



### Agri Tools available:

- Power Tillers (3 units)
- Tractor (1 unit)
- Bush Cutters (2 units)
- Pump (1 unit)
- Sprayer (1 unit)
- Manual Seeder (1 unit)
- Rotary Tiller (1 unit)

### Rental Rates:

- Tractors: Rs. 1,500 per hour
- Power Tillers: Rs. 300 per hour
- Sprayers: Rs. 100 per day
- Bush Cutters: Rs. 200 per day

### Employment Generated:

- The CHC has employed 3 full-time farm machinery operators

### Monthly & usage trend:

- Monthly Usage:  
Approximately 10 to 50 members
- Peak Usage: May and June

### Revenue Generated:

- The CHC has accumulated a revenue of Rs. 48000 to date



### STRENGTHENING RURAL LIVELIHOODS THROUGH INTEGRATED SUPPORT IN UMWANG VILLAGE, RI BHOI

Established in 2019, Umwang Pyllun IVCS Ltd. has transformed rural livelihoods across five villages in Ri Bhoi. With 167 members and a strong savings base, it provides financial access through loans while promoting gender inclusivity, with women making up 41% of its members.

The IVCS supports farmers through the Umwang CMC, which has marketed over 120 MT of pineapple, 55 MT of ginger, and 136 MT of bay leaves. Collective marketing activities have improved incomes for 109 pineapple farmers, 160 ginger farmers, and 98 bay leaf farmers by ensuring better pricing and direct market access. Additionally, the Umwang CHC has introduced modern farming equipment, reducing labor efforts and improving productivity, particularly benefiting women farmers.

Backed by the IFAD funded Meghalaya -Livelihood and Access to Markets Project and the KfW-funded Sustainable Livelihood Management Meghalaya Project, the IVCS is now transitioning to organic pineapple farming, aiming for National Programme for Organic Production certification to unlock new market opportunities.

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[Meghalaya Basin Development Authority MBDA](https://www.youtube.com/Meghalaya%20Basin%20Development%20Authority%20MBDA)



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