



Sustainable Springshed Management in the North Eastern Region

Climate Resilient Water Management

India International Water Week 2026

New Delhi

23 September 2026

NEIDA
NORTHEAST INITIATIVE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
An initiative of TATA TRUSTS

NORTH EAST INITIATIVE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The North-East Initiative Development Agency (NEIDA) operates in the mountain states of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland and is an associate organization of the Tata Trusts. NEIDA was institutionalised and registered as a not-for-profit organization under the Societies Act, 1860, in 2012. Since then, we have worked alongside rural communities driven by the shared vision to improve the quality of life while nurturing the strength and resilience already present within these communities.

AREAS OF WORK

Rural Livelihoods | Drinking Water and Sanitation | Grassroots Sports Development



OUTREACH

> 1 Lakh Households | 700 Villages | 3 States

Instagram | Facebook | Youtube | LinkedIn | Website

OFFICES

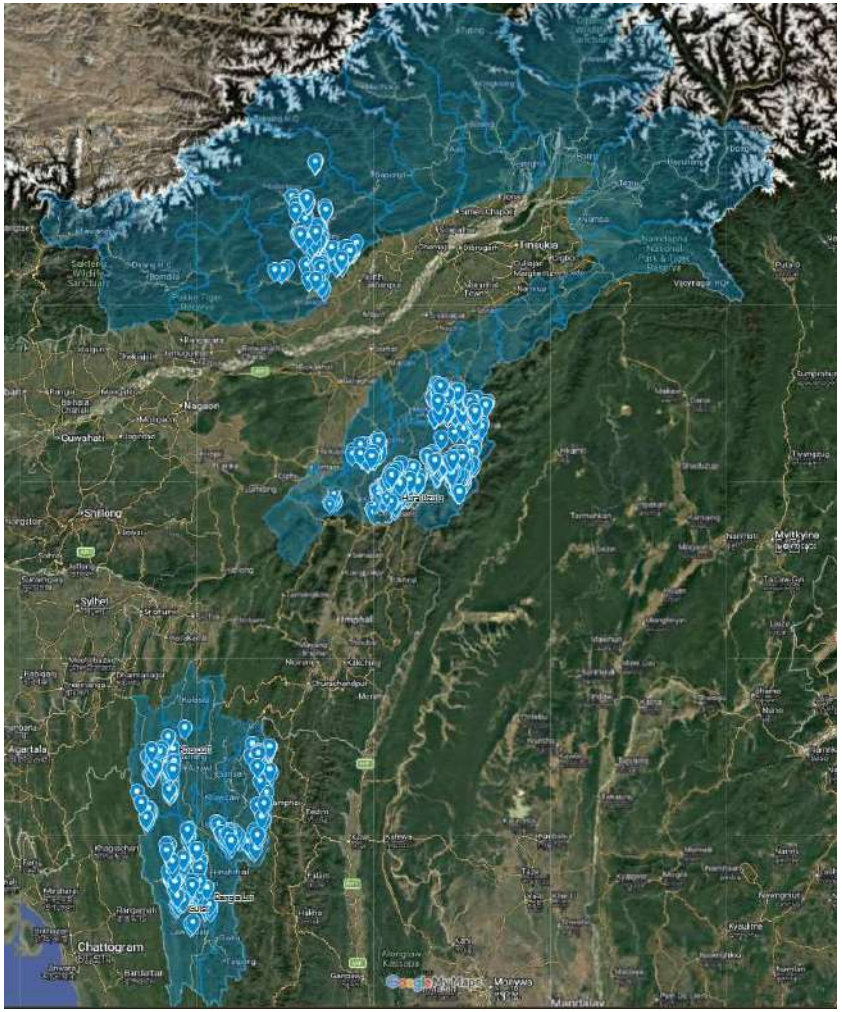
- Nagaland: Head office in Kohima & 3 Field office
- Mizoram: Regional office in Aizwal and 3 Field offices
- Arunachal Pradesh: Regional Office in Itanagar

Other Details

- Registered under the Registration of Societies (Nagaland Third Amendment) Act 2008
- Sec 80G (5) of Income Tax Act 1961
- Under 12 A of Income Tax Act 1961
- **Statutory Auditor:** M/s B S R and Co LLP
- **Internal Auditor:** PKF Sridhar & Santhanam LLP

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NEIDA's Footprints: Mountain Springs Initiatives



States	No. of Districts	No. of Blocks
Nagaland	5	16
Mizoram	4	8
Arunachal Pradesh	2	4
Total	**11**	**28**

Partnership / Convergence with State Governments

Funding support:
Tata Trusts, NABARD, CSR support – ICICI, NSEF, Titan, TataAIG, Axis Bank Foundation

Knowledge Partners: ACWADAM, PSI

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Participatory approach to Springshed Management

Provide water security by addressing the problem of dying springs through spring rejuvenation and conservation

Need Assessment

Villages perched on mountain tops at altitudes of 500 to 2,500 msl.
Springs are the lifeline for drinking water and agriculture of the mountain communities



During the winter months (November – April) **60% households spend 1-3 hours everyday fetching water^ (**NEIDA study)



Five million springs across India, nearly 3 million are in the IHR alone | **nearly 50% of the springs drying up**
(Niti Aayog 2017)



Interventions

Preparatory Phase

- Community outreach
- Spring inventory and shortlisting of springs
- PRA Exercise
- Baseline assessment
- Stakeholder mapping and taking necessary permissions at village level (Village Council, landowners etc.,) for spring treatment
- Geo-hydrological surveys and technical assessment

Planning and Training

- Development of Detailed Technical Report
- Community Training
- Village Level User/Management Groups
- Training of para-workers at village level and building their capacities
- Spring catchment treatment as per DTR
- SBCC Campaigns

O&M and Monitoring

- Define roles & responsibilities for O&M
- Development of system for operation and maintenance through community participation
- Monitoring of spring discharge and water quality

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456 village communities involved



1869 springs inventoried



556 PRA exercises conducted



450 Paraworkers trained



415 WATSAN/WUGs trained



SBCC campaigns on Springshed

Implementation of treatment measures



Contour line mapping



Construction of SCTs



Construction of bench terraces



Construction of stone bunding



Palisade



SCT

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Environmental & Socio-Economic Impacts



828 Springs Treated

Improved water access for 38,900+ HHs

1365 Hectares

Spring Catchment treated



~23% increase in spring discharge during lean season

Increased overall water availability

5% increase in green cover (2017–2025)

453ha catchment areas protected/conserved





Increase in water availability through Springshed Management





Water from springs rejuvenated through Springshed Management programme is being used by communities to manage their agricultural farm, develop fishery ponds and has even enabled community members to initiate terraced paddy cultivation, sustained by the spring water

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Monitoring System









- Rainfall
- Water quality
- Spring discharge
- Soil Moisture

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Sustainability of the project



Awareness through SBCC tools like posters, banners and videos in local dialects



Handholding support and building capacities of Springshed Committees





Promoting the adoption and development of O&M Plans or Protocols of the springshed areas and
Conservation or protection of the recharge areas.

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Thank you