



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Landmark International Women's Conference in Meghalaya to Commemorate the UN Year of the Woman Farmer

Shillong, Meghalaya | June 26–27, 2026

Leaders, policymakers, farmers, researchers, and advocates from across the world will gather in Meghalaya on June 26–27, 2026, for the **International Conference on Women Farmers and Sustainable Organic Agriculture**, a landmark event commemorating the **2026 United Nations Year of the Woman Farmer**.

Co-hosted by the **Government of Meghalaya** and **IFOAM – Organics Asia**, the conference will bring together distinguished delegates, experts, and speakers from **10 countries**, highlighting the vital role of women farmers in ensuring food security, environmental sustainability, rural development, and resilient agricultural systems.

The event will be graced by **Shri. Conrad K Sangma, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya** and **Madam Karen Mapusua, President of IFOAM – Organics International**, who will serve as Guests of Honour alongside national and international dignitaries.

Under the theme **“Women Farmers Leading Change Globally for Organic Food Systems”**, the conference will provide a platform for dialogue on policy innovation, market opportunities, climate resilience, organic agriculture, and the recognition of women's contributions to farming communities worldwide.

Speaking ahead of the event, organizers emphasized that women constitute a significant proportion of the global agricultural workforce, yet continue to face barriers in access to land, finance, technology, markets, and decision-making processes. The conference seeks to spotlight successful initiatives, share best practices, and inspire stronger commitments toward empowering women farmers at local, national, and international levels.

The gathering also highlights Meghalaya's growing reputation as a leader in sustainable and organic agriculture and its commitment to supporting women as key drivers of rural prosperity and community well-being.

The conference is expected to conclude with a joint declaration calling for enhanced recognition, support, and investment in women farmers as essential contributors to achieving sustainable development, food security, and climate resilience.

About the Organizers

Government of Meghalaya

The Government of Meghalaya has been at the forefront of promoting sustainable agriculture, rural development, and women-led initiatives that strengthen livelihoods and environmental stewardship across the state.

IFOAM–Organics Asia

IFOAM–Organics Asia is the regional body of IFOAM-Organics International representing organic stakeholders across Asia and working to advance organic agriculture, sustainable food systems, and international cooperation throughout the region.

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