

Newsletter

April-June 2023

Let's do it together

Towards Green Movement



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ESDO's 33 Years of Glory!



ESDO marked a significant milestone on June 6th, 2023, as it celebrated 33 years of completion. The establishment of ESDO in 1990 reflects a strong dedication to forging a sustainable future for our planet. Throughout its journey, ESDO has achieved remarkable advancements in its efforts to advocate for the protection of the environment, promote sustainable practices, and enhance awareness of the challenges confronting our global community.

To commemorate this special occasion, ESDO hosted a dinner event that brought together distinguished guests. Among the attendees were Habibun Nahar, the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Syed Marghub Morshed, the Chairman of ESDO and former Secretary to the Government of the Republic of Bangladesh, esteemed actor Jayanto Chattopadhyay, ESDO board members, government officials, academics, environmental activists, former ESDO members, and the current ESDO team. The dinner provided an opportunity for these prominent individuals from various fields to gather and celebrate together.

Plastic

Meeting with Super Shops

ESDO recently conducted a visit with the Chief Executive Officer of Meena Bazar Supermarket to raise awareness about plastic-free stores and zero-waste lifestyles. Meena Bazar, a prominent and widely recognized supermarket in Bangladesh, has successfully transitioned to a reduced plastic policy. They have already initiated changes, such as introducing reusable bags in their superstore, and have implemented the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) strategy to gradually shift away from plastic packaging. ESDO actively advocates for and supports renowned superstores in the country, encouraging them to take action and contribute to restocking the system. Notably, Unimart, a prominent superstore in Bangladesh, has taken the lead by promoting refills nationwide, serving as an exemplary model for adopting the refill method.



Environmental Education Camp under Plastic Free Campus (PFC) Project at Lalmatia Girls High School



ESDO successfully conducted the inaugural session of an environmental education camp on May 10th and 11th, 2023. This camp was organized as part of ESDO's Plastic Free Campus (PFC) project and took place at Lalmatia Girls High School. The event spanned two days and included an opening ceremony. Notable attendees at the opening ceremony included representatives from the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (DSHE), Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. (MTBL), members of the ESDO board, as well as the school's principal, teachers, and students. The camp aimed to provide comprehensive environmental education and create awareness among the participants.

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<https://bansup.esdo.org/environmental-education-camp-under-the-plastic-free-campus-pfc-project-at-lalmatia-girls-high-school/>

Book Launching Ceremony of Plastic Free Campus Project

ESDO, in collaboration with MTBL and MAUSHI, organized a book launching ceremony for the Plastic-free Campus Project. The event commenced with an inauguration by Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, the esteemed Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Education materials such as student books, mentor's handbook, posters, handouts, stickers, information cards, bookmarks, and puzzles, developed by ESDO, were officially unveiled during the ceremony held on May 22nd, 2023, at the Jute Diversification Promotion Center (JDPC) in Farmgate, Dhaka.



These pieces of information are crucial in raising awareness among the younger generation and driving the transition Education, and Communication (IEC) materials play a crucial role in raising awareness among the younger generation and driving the transition away from the plastic culture toward sustainable alternatives. The event witnessed the participation of policymakers, experts, representatives from the Department of Environment (DOE), JDPC, students, and teachers from Lalmatia Girls High School and College, as well as members of the media. The launch of these materials signifies a significant step forward in combating plastic pollution and engaging the youth in environmental conservation efforts.



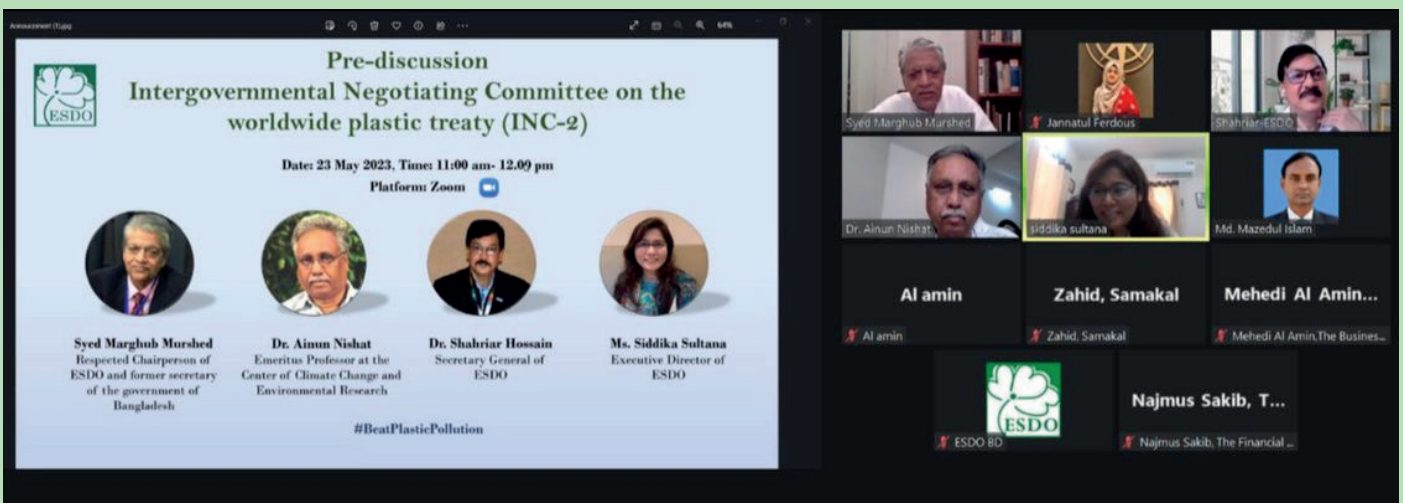
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<https://esdo.org/book-launching-ceremony-of-plastic-free-campus-project/>

Media Briefing on Pre-Dialogue About the Second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on the Global Plastic Treaty (INC-2)

ESDO hosted an online media briefing to facilitate a re-dialogue regarding the second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) on the global plastic treaty. The event focused on discussing pertinent issues and potential solutions for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) meetings responsible for developing the comprehensive text of the new plastics treaty. Recognizing the need to tackle the root causes of plastic pollution, the briefing emphasized the necessity of implementing a transformative systems change.

The event witnessed the presence of esteemed individuals including Syed Marghub Murshed, the honorable Chairperson of ESDO and a former government secretary of Bangladesh, Dr. Ainun Nishat, Executive Professor at the Center of Climate Change and Environmental Research, Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO, and Mazedul Islam, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



During the discussions, various global initiatives were explored, aimed at mitigating plastic pollution by reducing plastic production and consumption, transforming the delivery of goods through refill and reuse models, ensuring accountability for polluting entities, promoting transparency in plastic production and trade, and urging affluent nations to spearhead the zero-waste transition and support other countries in their efforts. The implementation of a comprehensive global plastics treaty would effectively curtail the relentless production of plastic by major polluters and preserve valuable oil and gas resources. Ultimately, such efforts would contribute to a cleaner and safer environment, benefiting us all.

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<https://bansup.esdo.org/media-briefing-on-pre-dialogue-about-the-second-intergovernmental-negotiating-committee-on-the-global-plastic-treaty-inc-2/>

Environmental Education Camp of Plastic Free Campus (PFC) Project at Rangpur Zilla School & Rangpur Girls High School



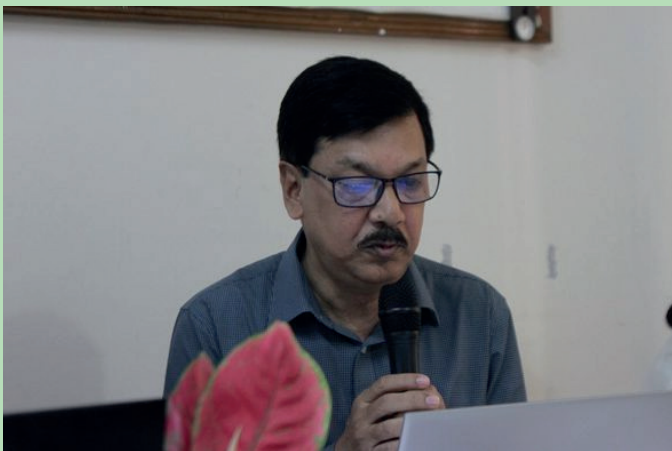
ESDO successfully organized an environmental education camp on May 24th and 25th, 2023, under its Plastic Free Campus (PFC) project at Rangpur Zilla School and Rangpur Girls High School. The camp spanned over two days and commenced with an opening ceremony on the first day, graced by the esteemed presence of the Mayor of Rangpur City. The event brought together ESDO members, as well as the Principal, Teachers, Students, and volunteers from Rangpur Zilla School and Rangpur Girls High School, all gathering to mark the inauguration of the camp.



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Debriefing Meeting on Reflection on the Second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) on the Global Plastic Treaty

ESDO arranged a Debriefing Meeting to reflect on the Second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) outcomes on the Global Plastic Treaty. The primary objective of this meeting was to discuss the key elements and provisions required for the "zero drafts" of the new treaty, which would be reviewed during INC-3. Additionally, the meeting included a comprehensive discussion of the proceedings and outcomes of INC-2 and the statements delivered by ESDO and Bangladesh during the conference. The event was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Industry, international organizations such as WHO and UNIDO, the Embassy of Sweden, as well as media representatives.



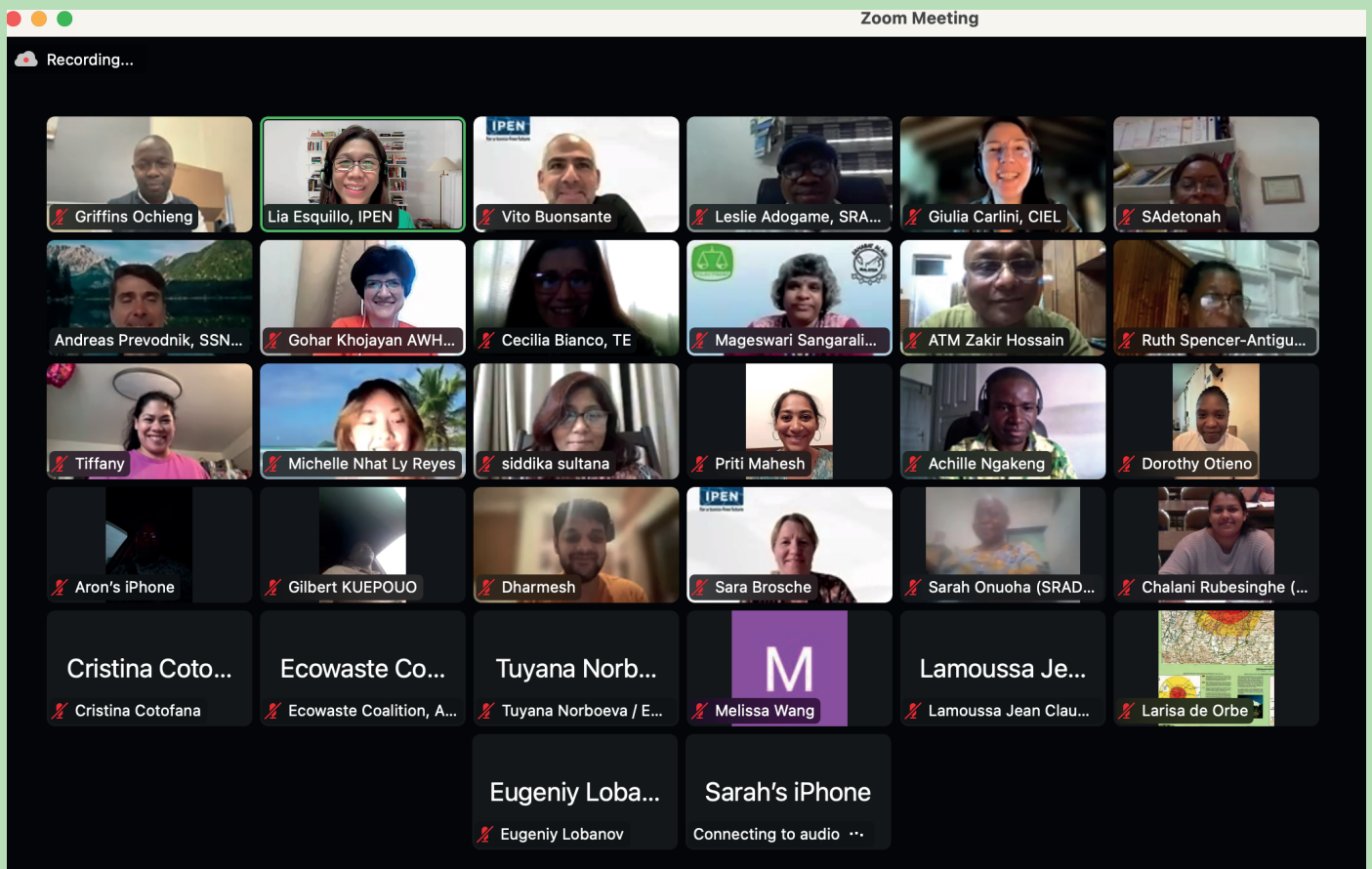
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<http://bansup.esdo.org/debriefing-meeting-reflection-on-the-second-intergovernmental-negotiating-committee-inc-2-on-the-global-plastic-treaty-paris-2023/>

IPEN INC-2 Debrief and Next Steps

IPEN successfully organized the second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) aimed at developing a legally binding global treaty on plastic pollution, specifically addressing the issue in marine environments. The meeting took place on June 14th and primarily focused on reviewing the outcomes of contact group-2 from INC-2. During the discussions, it was emphasized that plastic producers should follow the polluter principle and be held responsible for the costs associated with plastic pollution, including both current and past pollution. As a result, it was agreed upon that regional meetings would be conducted, likely in conjunction with the Regional Meeting in preparation for the Minamata Conference of Parties (COP).

Representing ESDO, Siddika Sultana, the Executive Director, actively participated in the session and provided valuable suggestions for the future steps of INC-3.



Chemical

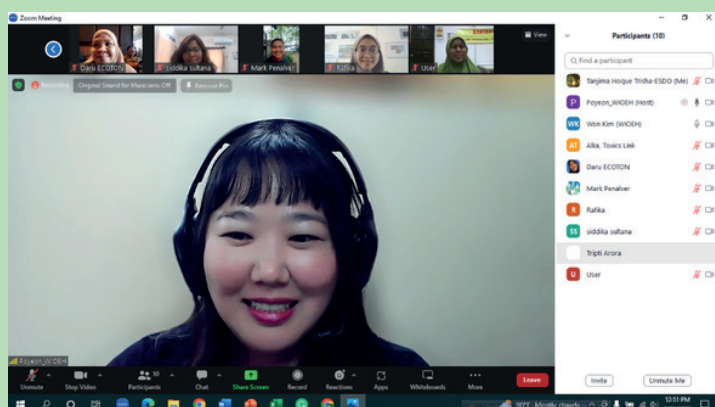
Expert Consultation for EEB Project

The ESDO team organized an Expert Consultation Meeting on May 3rd, 2023 led by Prof. Dr. Abul Hashem to address the issue of identifying potential sources of mercury emissions in Bangladesh. The meeting included discussions on two specific sub-activities: 1.3 - Consultation with the beauty parlor association, and 1.4 - Conducting an assessment through Lumex Analyzer data collection, validation, and the development of a report on area identification.

During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Abul Hashem advised the research team to coordinate with the Department of Environment (DoE) in order to gain access to the beauty parlors. Once the team establishes contact with the DoE, they will be able to engage with the parlor association. The team plans to prepare a consent paper, which will be submitted to the DoE, enabling them to proceed with the necessary procedures.



Meeting on [WIOEH] EDC II Project Induction and Recruitment Session



The Wonjin Institute for Occupational and Environmental Health (WIOEH) scheduled a meeting on 7th May 2023 to initiate the collaborative Asian Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDC) Season 2 study. Representing ESDO, Project Associate Tanjima Hoque Trisha participated in the meeting. The speaker introduced the specific compounds that will be identified and studied. The discussion revolved around determining the number and types of products selected for sampling. The session's primary focus was to delve into the background and health effects associated with these substances.



Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities: Public Engagement on Waste Management and Waterlogging in Dhaka City

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University organized a workshop on May 16th, 2023. The objective of the workshop was to conduct a study that aimed to identify the root causes of waterlogging and improper waste management in Dhaka city. The research team shared their practical experiences in carrying out school activities and surveys related to the study.

The workshop commenced with registration and a welcome address, followed by an interactive session using a polling system to facilitate an open discussion. All participants expressed their opinions on waste management and waterlogging in Dhaka city through the poll.

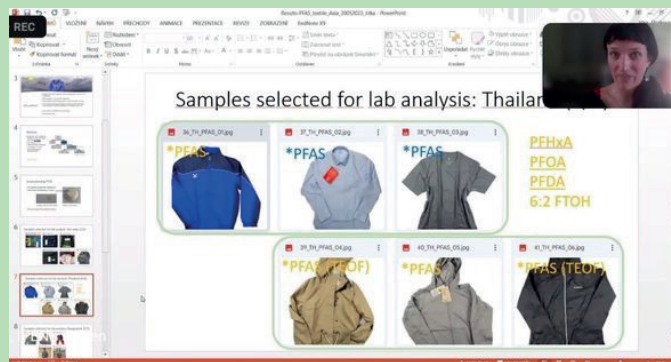
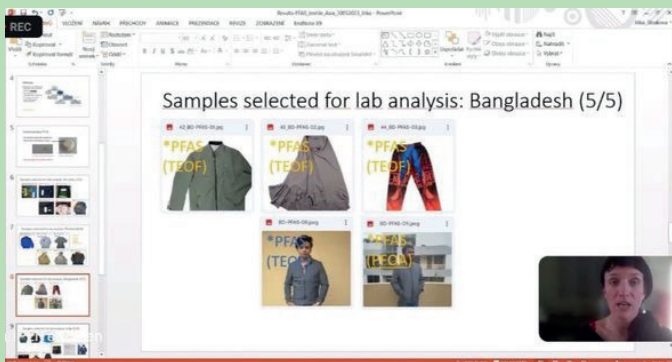
Social media platforms have emerged as popular channels for the sale of such products. It is important to note that these products pose significant harm to individuals, potentially leading to skin diseases, kidney problems, and other chronic illnesses.



Siddika Sultana, the Executive Director of ESDO, shared her real-life encounters and discussed the health consequences associated with the usage of products containing chemicals. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, the Secretary General of ESDO, provided insights into the regulations governing the use of chemicals in products. He emphasized that all skin-lightening creams must adhere to the guidelines set by BSTI, ensuring that the mercury content does not exceed the limit of 1ppm and hydroquinone remains below 5ppm. Any violation of these limits would result in the product being considered toxic.

PFAS in Synthetic Outdoor Clothes: Result Sharing Meeting

In collaboration with ESDO, IPEN conducted a meeting on May 30th, 2023, about collecting various types of synthetic outdoor garments to detect the presence of PFAS chemicals. The primary objective is to gather evidence regarding the utilization of PFAS chemicals in clothing, contribute to the global ban on PFAS as a group of substances, facilitate national bans on PFAS, and encourage companies to cease the use of PFAS. Six samples were collected in Sri Lanka, and three were found to contain PFAS. In Thailand, six samples were collected, and all tested positive for PFAS chemicals.



ESDO collected five samples from Bangladesh, and all of them were found to have PFAS chemicals. In India, out of nine samples, five contained PFAS. Researchers shared their insights on strategies to avoid these types of garments or chemicals during the production process.

TIC / Consultative Meeting at DGHS

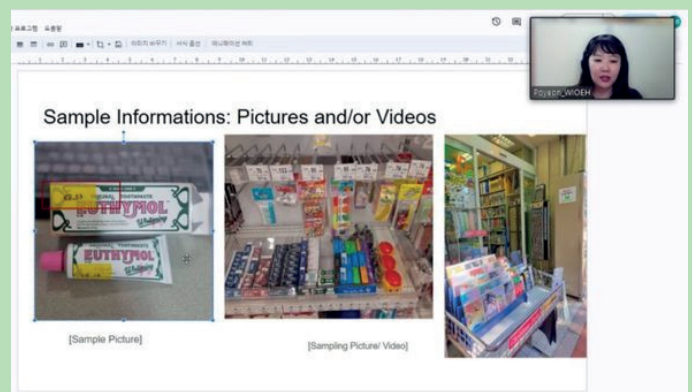
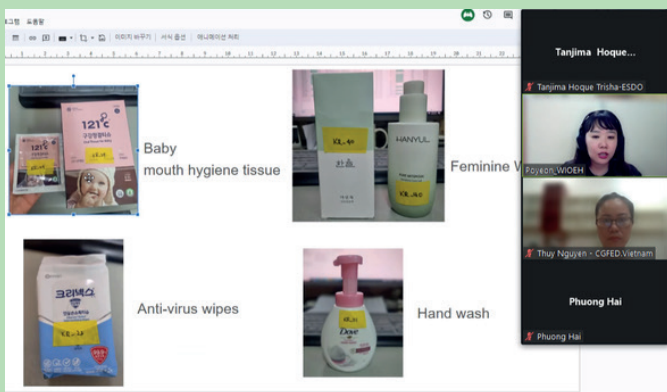
The PECP-TIC convened on Wednesday, May 24, at 10 am in the PMR, DGHS Conference Room. During the meeting, they discussed ongoing initiatives, and plans for the World Environment Day program, and unveiled the schedule of events for the next five to six months. Representatives from UNICEF, ICDDR,B, IEDCR, Pure Earth, and ESDO provided an overview of their respective initiatives related to lead poisoning. They also outlined their intended plan to measure lead levels in the blood.

As per the representatives, each organization will actively participate in various seminars and events as part of the World Environment Day program in collaboration with UNICEF. Additionally, in conjunction with the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA), Barcik Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (BARCIK), Green Saver, Bandhu, Work for a Better Bangladesh Trust (WBBTrust), and Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), ESDO will organize a presentation to share their work on plastics.



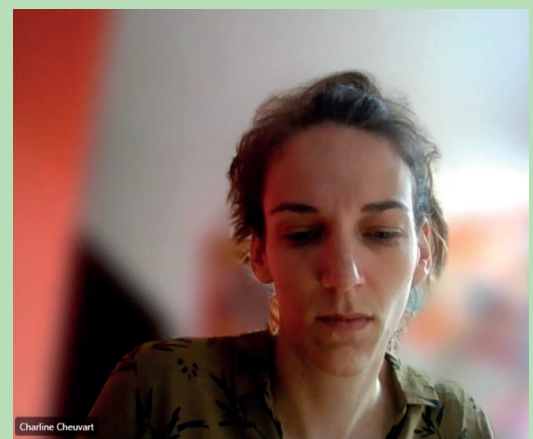
Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals (EDC II) 2023 Project Guidelines Meeting

On June 15th, 2023, the Wonjin Institute for Occupational and Environmental Health (WIOEH) organized a meeting to disseminate the project guidelines. As part of the study, several samples will be collected from various market areas in Bangladesh. The primary objective of the research is to assess the levels of toxic chemicals present in these products. Items such as body wash, face wash, mouthwash, deodorant, and more will be collected and subsequently sent to the laboratory for analysis.



ESDO- EEB Project Progress Meeting

ESDO is currently engaged in the project titled "Elimination of mercury-added products from Bangladesh." As part of a follow-up meeting, the Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO and the European Environment Bureau (EEB) convened online on June 21st, 2023. The meeting was attended by Charline Cheuwart, Project Officer from EEB, Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO, and Tanjima Hoque Trisha, Project Associate of ESDO. They provided updates on the progress of the project activities and shared their thoughts and recommendations for future steps. The participants also discussed the upcoming Minamata COP5, scheduled for October 2023, and explored ways for Bangladesh to participate and share its activities. The main focus of the discussion revolved around planning the next phase of efforts to eliminate mercury-added products from the country.



Field Activities

A Step Towards Ensuring Food Security in the Future: Toxic-free Organic Farming at Betgari Union in Rangpur District, Bangladesh



During the months of March, April, and May 2023, the farming plot exclusively utilized compost for cultivation. The farmer took pleasure in observing the growth of the crops and expressed their willingness to continue employing compost in their farming practices in the long term. In stark contrast to neighboring crops cultivated with artificial fertilizers, the crops in the organic agricultural allotment exhibited clear signs of better health. The plot featured a variety of crops including potatoes, spinach, brinjal, cauliflower, green chilies, carrots, onions, and garlic. The predominant crop in the area was Desi 29 Paddy, accompanied by brinjal, green chilies, and pumpkin greens. The first week of June marks the anticipated harvest of Desi 29 Paddy. As local residents living near

the farming plot witness these positive results, they are gradually encouraged to embrace organic farming methods. Individuals who have sampled the vegetables from this organic farm have praised their delicious taste and noted the absence of the unpleasant scent often associated with chemically fertilized vegetables.

Follow-up on the Service of the Biogas Plant at Betgari Union in Rangpur District, Bangladesh



The installation of the first biogas plant in Pramanik Para, located in Betgari, has been successfully implemented. The recipients of this facility express their satisfaction with the service provided. They report that the gas production rate in the plant has increased, meeting their daily energy requirements. Currently, they are benefiting from the service for approximately four to five hours each day.

Similarly, the beneficiaries of the second biogas plant are also highly content with the service they receive. They enjoy a consistent and reliable supply of biogas for four to five hours daily. Additionally, they are able to utilize the fertilizer produced as a by-product of the plant in their crop fields.

These beneficiaries have experienced improved livelihood opportunities through this service. Moreover, the availability of organic fertilizer generated by the biogas plant has sparked interest in transitioning towards organic farming practices. As a result, other members of the community are expressing enthusiasm for setting up their own biogas plants and seeking assistance from ESDO.



ESDO Arranged a Program Called Company Visit for LP4Y (Life Project for Youth)

ESDO's Rangpur office organized a day-long workshop to support the visit of LP4Y's young participants. The workshop took place on April 18, 2023, at the ESDO Rangpur Office, where the ESDO team hosted and arranged the event. A total of 12 youth trainees from LP4Y actively participated in the workshop. In attendance were Alison Magniez, Country Coordinator, LP4Y, Merie MetroSavilli, Green Village leader, LP4Y, and Sharmin Sultana, Project Manager Integrator, LP4Y. The workshop was divided into three main segments: a PowerPoint presentation on environmental awareness and adopting a zero-waste lifestyle, individual testimonies, and mock interviews.

The young participants gained valuable knowledge about current environmental issues and the importance of embracing a zero-waste lifestyle through the workshop, the young participants gained practical knowledge about current environmental issues and the importance of adopting a zero-waste lifestyle. The testimonies shared during the session inspired them to stay focused on their career goals. Additionally, the mock interviews helped boost their confidence and prepared them for their future professional endeavors. While the workshop's primary objective was to support the youth participants in their upcoming professional lives, it also fostered a strong network between ESDO and LP4Y, paving the way for potential future collaborations and opportunities to work together.



Zero-Waste Community Field Visit by Korean Volunteer

From 5th May to 9th May 2023, a group of Korean volunteers embarked on a visit to the zero-waste communities of Rangpur and Betgari. The visit, hosted and organized by the ESDO team, involved engaging with the community, interacting with the younger generation, and conducting focus group discussions (FGDs) with members of the green club. The action plan for the visit spanned three days, each with specific objectives.

On the first day, the volunteers visited the Betgari community and conducted case studies on organic farming and the biogas plant. This experience proved invaluable to the Korean volunteers as it was their first time immersing themselves in a rural community in Bangladesh. They gained insights into the rural culture of Bangladesh and witnessed firsthand the community's efforts in establishing a zero-waste lifestyle.

The second day comprised visits to the ESDO Rangpur Office, interactions with the younger generation on environmental awareness and the significance of a zero-waste lifestyle, as well as a visit to the Rangpur community. The young participants received education on current environmental issues, the importance of embracing a zero-waste lifestyle, and learned about Korea's initiatives in establishing such a lifestyle.

On the third day, the volunteers returned to Betgari to engage in an FGD with green club members and conduct a case study on composting for business purposes. While the primary objective of the visit was to provide support and guidance to the volunteers for their future professional endeavors, it also fostered a strong network between ESDO and KIDC, paving the way for potential future collaborations.



Entrepreneurs Day of LP4Y



On the 16th of May 2023, GV (Green Village) Bangladesh joyfully celebrated its inaugural Entrepreneurs Day, also known as E Day. The event gathered 130 participants, including representatives from various NGOs and organizations such as RDRS, ESDO, Friendship, and DYDF, as well as catalysts, youth, and, of course, the entrepreneurs themselves. These entrepreneurs are talented young individuals who have completed three months of professional training but have yet to officially graduate.

During the event, entrepreneurs and partners took the stage to share their inspiring testimonies and stories of personal growth, aiming to motivate the youth and spread a sense of positivity. As a representative of ESDO, MD. Asif Imran, the Project Associate, shared his testimony regarding the program. It was a moment of pride for ESDO as they received the Partner of the Year award from LP4Y as a token of appreciation for their unwavering support.

Zero Waste Community of Betgari Started selling Compost

The residents of Betgari community actively engage in compost production, generating a significant surplus that can be utilized for their own agricultural purposes. Due to the high-quality and increasing demand for their compost, they have recently begun selling it, marking their first venture into the market with a price set at 35 kg.



Survey

Menstrual Hygiene Survey



Associate Professor Asrafi Bintay Akram, affiliated with Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science & Technology University, has been selected as a fellow under the guidance of Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Head of Research and Senior Technical Advisor at ESDO. This fellowship, which will run from March to May, focuses on researching waste management strategies for sanitary napkins in Dhaka and Dinajpur districts. The specific research will cover 12 wards in Dinajpur Sadar over a three-month period, starting from March 1, 2023.

This research project holds great importance in the fields of environmental health and sustainability, with the potential to significantly impact the well-being of the residents of Dhaka, Dinajpur district, and beyond. By shedding light on the magnitude of the problem and the associated risks, it aims to raise awareness and encourage further research and actions to address this issue on a national level.

ESDO took the initiative to conduct a survey in Dhaka, with a team of five volunteers from the Girl's Guide Association. Shanon Iffat Alam, the Research and Campaign Associate, was assigned the responsibility of overseeing the project and discussing the questionnaires with the volunteers. Additionally, Habiba Islam Liza, the Admin and Accounts Associate, provided valuable assistance to the team throughout the process.

National Seminar

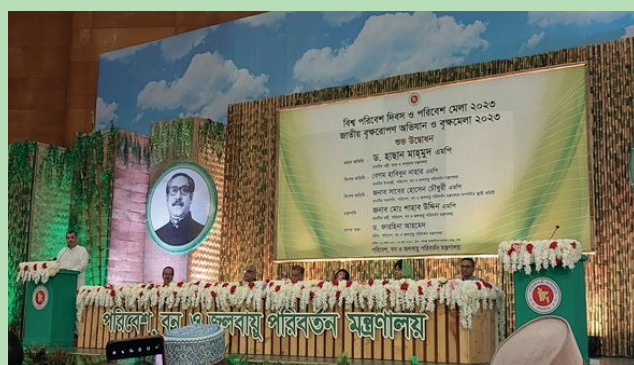
World Environment Day and National Tree Plantation Campaign 2023

World Environment Day and National Tree Plantation Campaign 2023 was inaugurated on 05 June 2023, Monday at 11.00 am at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Sher-E-Bangladesh Nagar, Dhaka.

The event was graced by Dr. Hasan Mahmud, MP, the Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, who attended as the Chief Guest. Ms. Habibun Nahar, MP, the Honorable Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, the Honorable Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, were present as Special Guests. Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin, MP, the Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, chaired the program.

World Environment Day serves as a global platform to raise awareness about environmental protection and inspire individuals, groups, and governments to take meaningful actions. During the event, a documentary showcasing the various initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was presented.

The central theme of this year's World Environment Day was "Beat Plastic Pollution." The esteemed guests highlighted the adverse effects of plastic usage, deforestation, and noise pollution. They also emphasized the importance of the four laws and fourteen regulations related to environmental protection. The Chief Guest mentioned the government's target to reduce the use of Single Use Plastic by 80% by 2026. Furthermore, the introduction of "Natural Resource Accounting" to measure environmental degradation was announced. Representing ESDO, Habiba Islam, the Admin and Accounts Associate, attended the ceremony on behalf of the organization.



Seminar on Adopting Circular Economy for Sustainable Plastic Management in Bangladesh

To commemorate World Environment Day 2023, a seminar titled "Adopting Circular Economy for Sustainable Plastic Management in Bangladesh" was jointly organized by The World Bank, UNIDO, Unilever, the Government of Bangladesh, and the Department of Environment. The event took place at the DOE Auditorium, Department of Environment, on June 8, 2023. The main focus of the seminar was on this year's World Environment Day theme, "Solution to Plastic Pollution." The seminar began with a welcome address by Abdoulaye Seck, the Country Director of Bangladesh and Bhutan at the World Bank. The Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change graced the event as the Chief Guest.

The program included two keynote presentations followed by panel discussions. The first presentation was delivered by M Masrur Reaz, Chairman and Founder of Policy Exchange Bangladesh. He highlighted various aspects such as the shift towards a Circular Economy, global regulations accelerating the transition to circularity, the role of consumerism in

driving the growth of the global plastic market, the risks of plastic pollution without adequate safeguards, the potential of a circular economy to promote sustainable plastic growth, case studies of how different countries are addressing the issue (such as the Philippines and Thailand), an overview of the plastic scenario in Bangladesh, the connection between SDG commitments and plastic management, the benefits of adopting a circular economy, and policy priorities.

During the panel discussion, Shamim Ahmed, President of the Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers & Exporters Association, emphasized the significant presence of over 6,000 plastic companies in Bangladesh. He mentioned that the prospects of the plastic industry are expanding alongside global demands. He further highlighted that the plastic industry has proposed a division to advance circular economy practices. Habiba Islam, the Admin and Accounts Associate at ESDO, participated in the seminar on behalf of the organization.

Action Aid: World Environment Day 2023 Celebration Beat Plastic Pollution, Promote Transition, Fund Our Future

To address the pressing issue of plastic waste, promote the transition towards a more sustainable economy, and safeguard the future, ActionAid Bangladesh marked World Environment Day on June 5, 2023, in Dhaka and its operational regions.

The event in Dhaka featured discussions among young individuals and climate experts, encompassing various aspects of climate change, the pivotal role of youth in combating environmental challenges, and the budget analysis of the new fiscal year, with a specific focus on climate change mitigation. Participants voiced their urgent call for action to tackle the plastic crisis and expressed their commitment to reducing their carbon footprints.

The event culminated with a powerful performance by young individuals, highlighting the detrimental impact of plastic waste in our daily lives. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, participated as a panel discussant in the representation of ESDO alongside his colleague Maliha Hoque, Program Associate of ESDO.



Joint Seminar with Bangladesh Environmental Lawyer Association “Stop Using Single-Use Plastic and Start Using Eco-Friendly Alternatives”

To commemorate World Environment Day, BELA collaborated with ESDO and six other organizations to organize a seminar aimed at addressing the current state of plastic pollution in Bangladesh and inspiring youth to take a stand against it. The Deputy Minister of MoEFCC graced the event as the chief guest, while the Director General of DoE served as the session chair. The seminar witnessed the participation of students from various schools, colleges, and universities, along with representatives from the media.





Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, delivered a presentation on plastic pollution during the seminar, focusing on potential solutions to combat this issue. ESDO's Executive Director, Siddika Sultana, actively participated as one of the panel discussants, accompanied by her colleagues Maliha Hoque, program associate of ESDO, and Shanon Iffat Alam, research and campaign associate of ESDO.

Walton's Private Sector Dialogue on World Environment Day 2023

In celebration of World Environment Day 2023 and to emphasize the urgency of addressing plastic pollution, Walton, a prominent electronics company in Bangladesh, partnered with UNDP to organize a Private Sector Dialog titled "Sustainable Solution to Plastic Pollution." Mr. Shamsul Alam, Chairman of Walton Group, graced the event as the Chief Guest, while a representative from UNDP moderated the seminar. As a panel discussant, Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, participated in the event.



Seminar on Plastic Pollution in Forests and Other Natural Ecosystems: Way Forward on 21 June 2023

Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, delivered a valuable keynote presentation on June 21, 2023, based on recent scientific evidence on plastic pollution in forests and natural ecosystems. He addressed the current scenario, sources, usage, waste generation, disposal, toxicity, and environmental consequences.

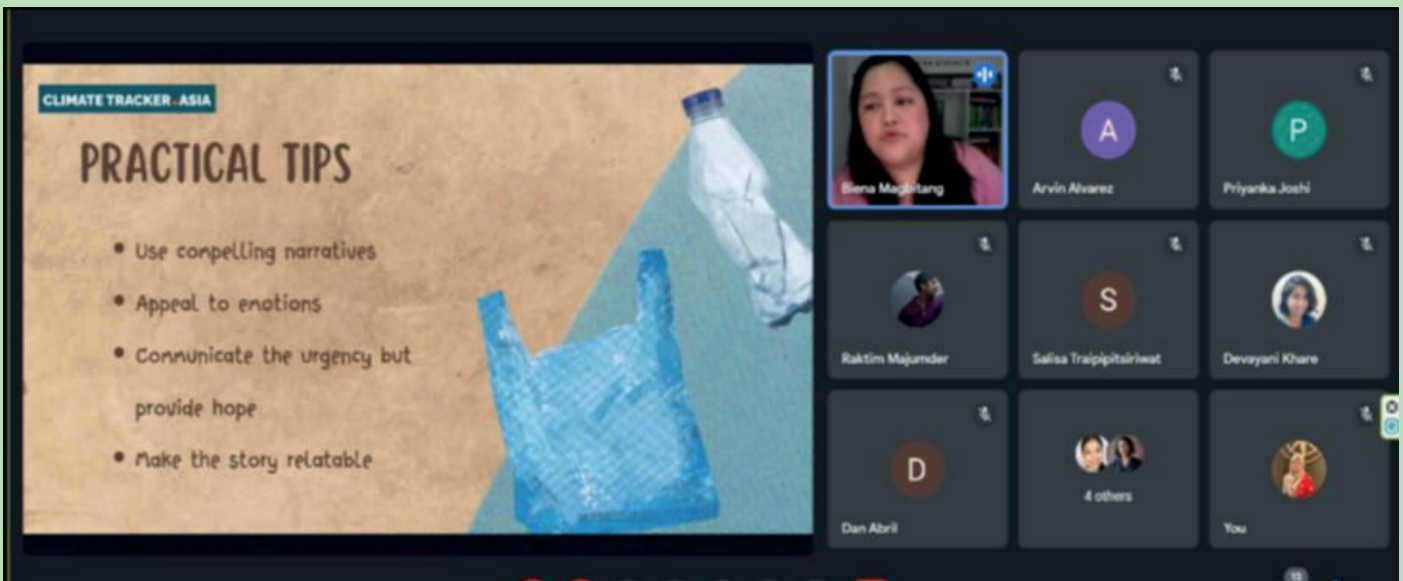


Microplastics and transboundary pollution were also discussed, along with ESDO's research findings and proposed solutions. Mr. Mostafa Yousuf from The Daily Star presented on synthetic plastic, its consumption, pollution causes, critical hotspots, impacts on wildlife, oceans, and rivers, plastic pollution laws, waste management issues, and a way forward.

The seminar enhanced awareness, improved understanding of the impacts, identified policy gaps, and emphasized the need for partnerships and alliances. The interactive discussion involved participants from various sectors and successfully raised awareness among stakeholders about the threats of plastic pollution in Bangladesh's natural ecosystems.

Webinar & Meetings

Workshop on Climate and Solutions Journalism



Climate Tracker and Break-Free from Plastic organized a virtual meeting on April 19, 2023 via Zoom to address a project activity focused on climate and solution journalism. The session involved a comprehensive review of the training materials from recorded sessions and discussions on additional materials provided by the trainers. The event proved successful, with active participation from networking countries, enabling participants to understand the progress in climate and solutions journalism.

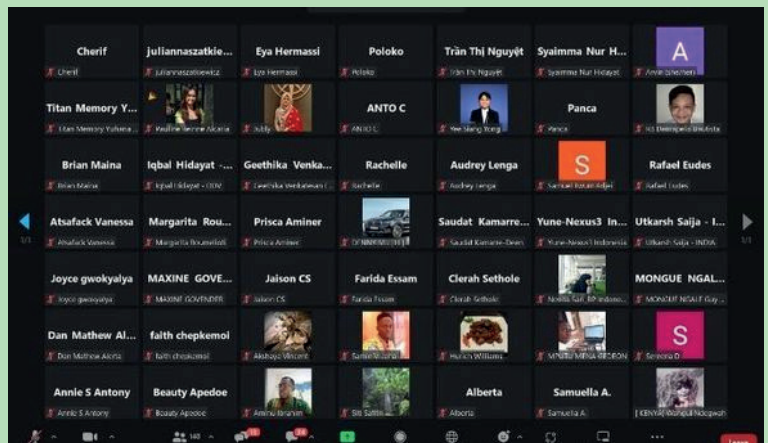
The Break Free from Plastic Youth Summit 2023

BFFP organized a global two-day long webinar, from April 14 to 15, 2023 bringing together participants from around the world for the Youth Summit 2023. The webinar shed light on the detrimental impact of plastic pollution, which contributes to the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. Through interactive sessions, participants shared knowledge about the history and life cycle of plastic, along with the efforts of civil society groups worldwide to combat this issue.



In March 2022, the United Nations approved an agreement to establish the first-ever global plastics pollution treaty, paving the way for comprehensive and legally binding measures throughout the life cycle of plastic. The webinar explored the technical aspects of this treaty, its current coverage, and its implications for organizations dedicated to ending plastic pollution. The youth participants demonstrated their ability

to drive the climate movement and inspire others to join in the cause. During the webinar, participants learned how to amplify their voices in the treaty process and utilize platforms to maximize their contributions. ESDO's Education Camp activities for banning single-use plastic were shared and discussed, with active participation from ESDO members.



Empowering youth voices to engage with different stakeholders is crucial for advocating an ambitious Global Plastics Treaty. Participants also gained insights into how various campaigns across different work streams collectively contribute to the global treaty process and how to leverage these campaigns to influence policy. With a comprehensive understanding of the pathways to end plastic pollution, participants attended workshops covering topics such as the Plastic Pollution Primer, the Global Plastics Treaty, Campaigning for an Ambitious Global Treaty, and Global and Regional Opportunities.

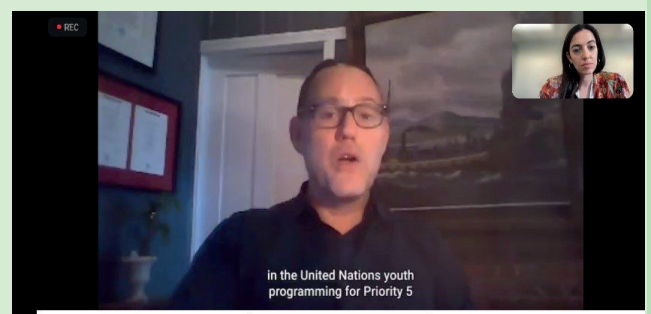
Courtesy Visit from the Representative of Collective Leadership Institute to Discuss Collaboration Opportunities

On June 8, 2023, Douglas F. Williamson, the managing partner of Collective Leadership Institute and an expert in sustainability communication and environmental filmmaking, paid a visit to ESDO. During this courtesy visit, discussions were held regarding potential collaboration opportunities between Douglas and ESDO. The meeting was attended by ESDO's Secretary General, Dr. Shahriar Hos-sain, Executive Director Siddika Sultana, and Head of Program Monowarul Islam. Various topics were explored, highlighting areas of potential collaboration with Douglas. To familiarize him with ESDO, a presentation on ESDO's projects and activities was delivered by one of the program associates.

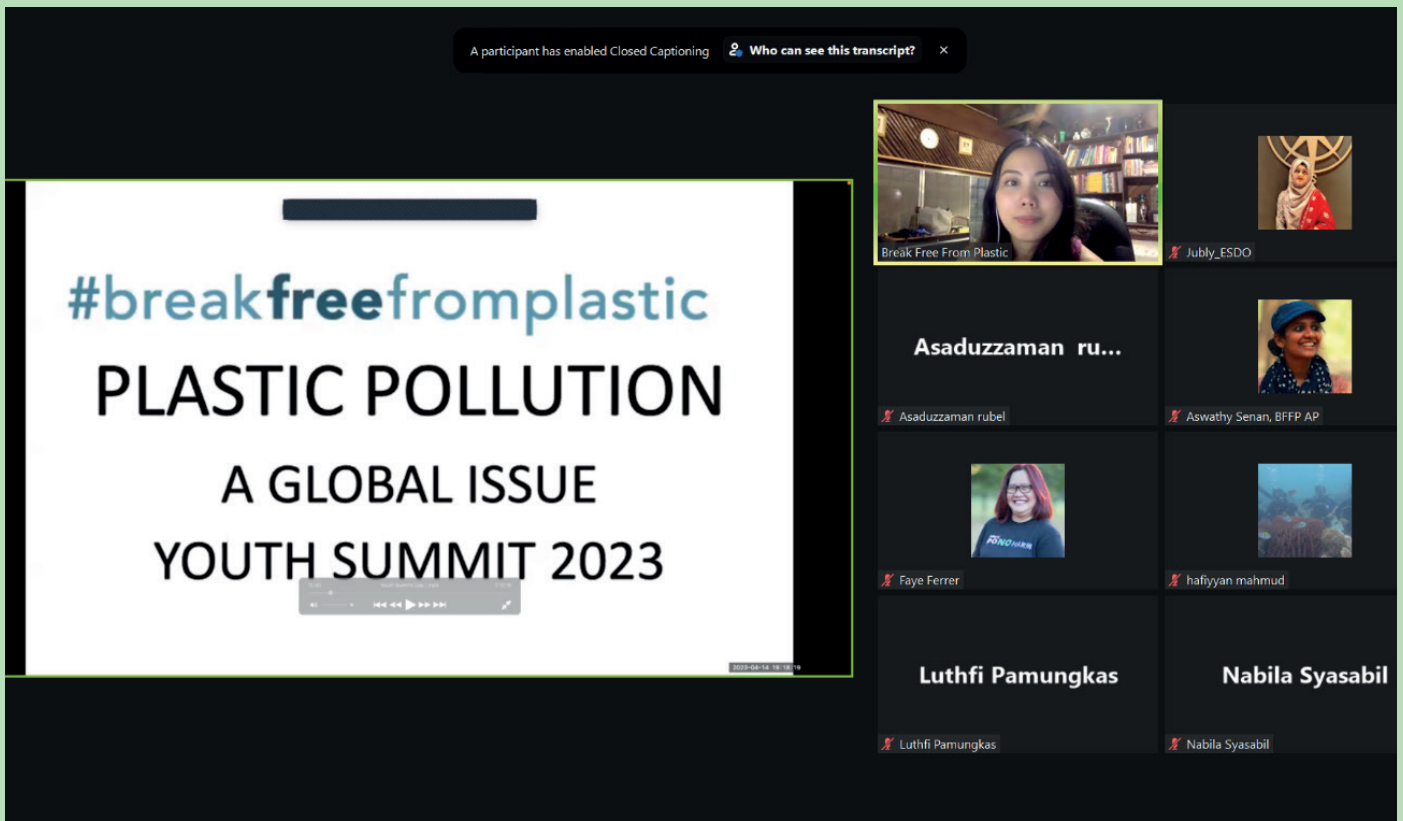


Webinar on Accelerating the COVID-19 Recovery and Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda with and for Youth

The United Nations, Youth 2030, and ECOSOC Youth Forum recently hosted a webinar on April 26, 2023, focused on expediting the COVID-19 recovery and ensuring the complete implementation of the 2030 Agenda in collaboration with the youth. During this event, young individuals had the opportunity to present their evaluations, aspirations, and suggestions for member states to consider as they prepare for the SDG Summit in September 2023. This forum served as a platform for young people to express their perspectives and concerns, as well as mobilize efforts towards creating a fairer, greener, and more sustainable world, guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Break Free From Plastic Youth Toolkit for Reaching Out to National Delegates in the INC-2



BFFP organized a webinar on May 19, 2023 focused on the second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee Meetings (INC-2) held in Paris. During this event, young leaders had the opportunity to inform their representatives about their demands for INC-2 and subsequent INC meetings until the end of 2024. This was considered a crucial time to establish relationships with national delegates.

This toolkit aims to equip young people with resources and guidance to effectively communicate with their national delegates attending the INC meetings. It aims to assist young individuals in initiating connections with relevant government officials and provide support throughout their engagement, including access to country-specific experts, guidance, and consultation. Jannatul Ferdous Jubly, a Project Associate and member of ESDOs, actively participated in this conference.

International Webinar on Plastics and Chemicals under the Stockholm Convention BRS COPs



The International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) organized a webinar on May 4, 2023, titled "Plastics and Chemicals Under the Stockholm Convention: Impact on the Ground and Potential Synergies and Gaps in Relation to a Future Plastics Treaty." This webinar served as a side event during the 2023 Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions. The event was supported by the Geneva Environment Network. It aimed to provide an overview of the current situation and offer guidance for media interviews, focusing on the development of a collective approach to address chemicals about a future plastics treaty.

False Solutions Exposed Webinar Series

Break Free From Plastic organized a comprehensive five-part webinar series addressing various aspects of plastic pollution. The first installment, titled "Greenwashing and Solutions Financing," took place on June 21, 2023. The webinar focused on examining the concept of "solutions to plastic pollution," particularly in the context of the Asia-Pacific region. The discussions critically analyzed and exposed false solutions that are gaining traction while advocating for safe, effective, and sustainable alternatives. False solutions often divert attention



and resources away from genuine systemic changes, including public financing, infrastructure development, and institutional support. Leaders from different organizations shared their experiences with false solutions, and participants had the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarity on debunking misconceptions and identifying real solutions to plastic pollution. Maliha Hoque, Program Associate, and Jannatul Ferdous Jubly, Project Associate, from ESDO actively participated in this insightful webinar.

Meeting with OSHE Foundation

ESDO and OSHE Foundation convened for an introductory meeting on April 6, 2023, with the primary objective of familiarizing themselves with each other's activities and exploring potential opportunities for close collaboration. The meeting was attended by Mr. A. R. Chowdhury Repon, Executive Director of OSHE Foundation, Mr. Md. Alam Hossain, Director of OSHE Foundation, Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO, and Monowarul Islam, Head of Programme at ESDO.

Consultation on Target 3 of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, focusing on OECM, Organized by IUCN

On May 9, 2023, a consultation session titled "Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and a roadmap for establishing Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in Bangladesh" took place at Sheraton Dhaka, located at 44 Kamal Ataturk, Banani, Dhaka. The keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Vinod B. Mathur. ESDO's Head of Program, Monowarul Islam, played an active role in participating in the event.

Final Dissemination Workshop on “Developing Bangladesh National Red List of Plants and Developing a Management Strategy for Invasive Alien Species of Plants in Selected Protected Areas”, Organized by IUCN

The Final Dissemination Workshop on the National Red List of Plants took place on May 14, 2023, at the Hoimonti Auditorium, Ban Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. This event was organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with the support of the Sustainable Forests and Livelihoods (SUFAL) project.

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Md. Amir Hossain Chowdhury, Chief Conservator of Forests at the Bangladesh Forest Department. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Mr. Md. Shahab Uddin, M.P., Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Ms. Habibun Nahar, M.P., Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Farhina Ahmed, Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Mr. Sanjay Kumar Bhowmik, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, attended as Special Guests.

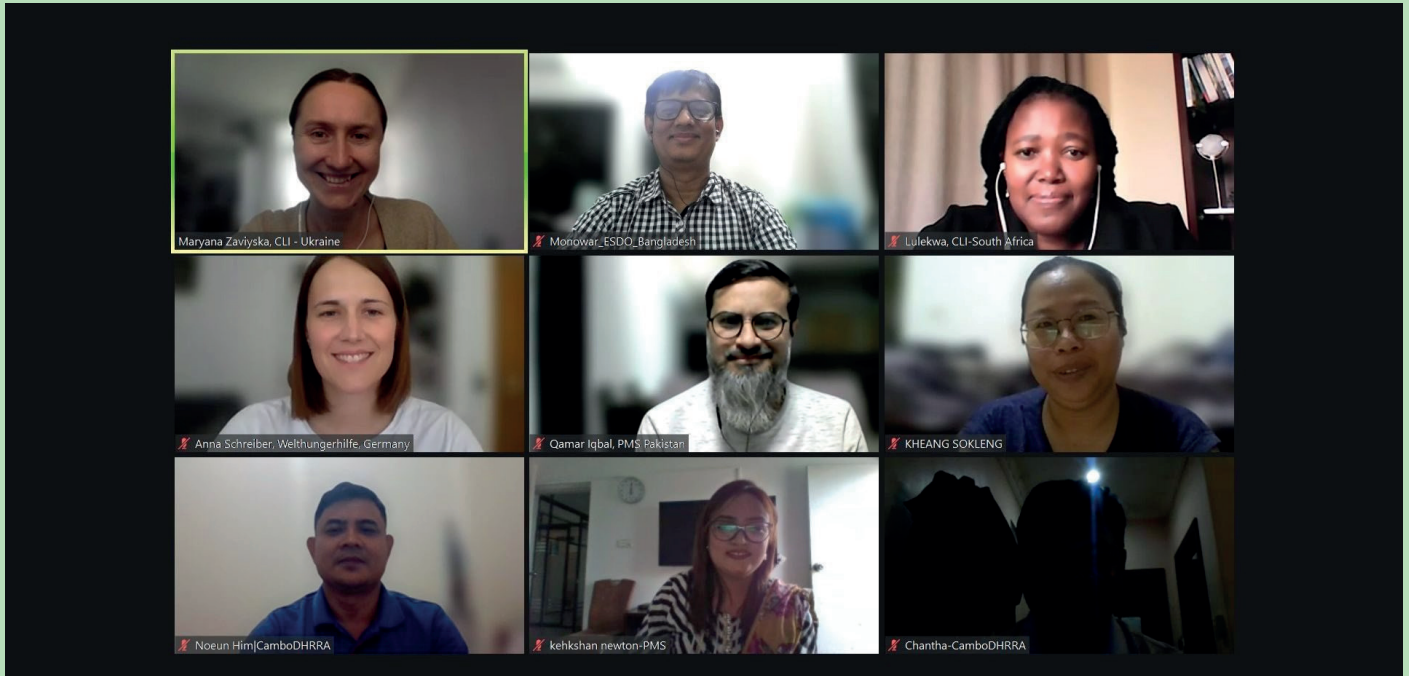
Mr. Raquibul Amin, Country Representative and Head of the South Asia Sub-Region at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), provided a brief overview of the Plant Red List Component. Mr. Gobinda Roy, Project Director of the SUFAL Project at the Forest Department, delivered the welcome speech. ESDO's Head of Program, Monowarul Islam, actively participated in the event on behalf of the organization.

Online Training on “MSP Focus Session on Power Differences and Potential Conflict”, Organized by Collective Leadership Institute, Germany



Collective Leadership Institute (CLI), based in Germany, organized an online training session titled "MSP Focus session on Power Differences and Potential Conflict" on May 4, 2023. The training focused on two key sessions: a Case Study on COP 15, which was the 2009 Climate Summit in Copenhagen, and Managing Difficulties in Complex Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships. The sessions were skillfully facilitated by Ms. Lulekwa Gqiba and Ms. Mai ElAshmawy, both from CLI.

Online Training on “MSP Advanced Training”, Organized by Collective Leadership Institute, Germany



The Collective Leadership Institute (CLI), based in Germany, organized an online training session called "MSP Advanced Training" held on May 16 and 17, 2023. The training covered various key sessions, including introductions and an overview of the program, implementing MSP using the Dialogic Change Model, establishing a collaboration ecosystem within an MSP, managing the transition from Phase 2 (formalizing the collaboration ecosystem) to Phase 3 (implementation and evaluation), facilitating MSP structures that support implementation, principles of Phase 3 in the Dialogic Change Model (DCM), achieving goals through effective collaboration and established learning cultures, conducting quality checks in your MSP (part 1 & 2), principles of Phase 3 in making collaboration ecosystems produce results, process architectures, using the Dialogic Change Model in Phase 4 to sustain impacts, and reflection and certification. The sessions were expertly facilitated by Ms. Lulekwa Gqiba and Ms. Maryana Zaviyska from CLI.

False Solutions Exposed Webinar Second Series

Break Free From Plastic organized a comprehensive five-part webinar series aimed at addressing the issue of plastic pollution. The webinars shed light on various "solutions" proposed to tackle the problem. These discussions critically examined the proliferation of false solutions in Asia while emphasizing the importance of safe, effective, and long-lasting alternatives. The second installment of the series, held on June 28, 2023, focused on "Waste Burning & Advanced Recycling."

REC

Why waste incineration is a false solution.

Madhuvanathi Rajkumar



Jane Bremmer



Zero Waste Australia

Zero Waste OZ was created by members of the National Toxics Network to address Australia's unsustainable waste management systems and low recycling rates. With a strong technical background in the chemicals and waste nexus, and working towards a "Toxics Free Future" at a local, state and international level, these representatives bring expertise and valuable insights about our materials production processes and the ever-increasing generation of waste that is harming our environment, our health and our oceans especially for indigenous communities and other vulnerable communities in Australia.

During the webinar, the experts from different organizations shared their experiences and insights into false solutions regarding plastic pollution. One key aspect highlighted was the limited effectiveness of most compostable plastics, as they are certified to break down only in specialized industrial composting facilities, and may not decompose in home compost piles or the natural environment. While major bans specifically targeting biodegradable or compostable plastics are currently rare, certain jurisdictions have implemented bans on single-use plastics or thin plastic bags, regardless of the material, including biodegradable and compostable plastics.

Participants in the webinar had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the topic, addressing misconceptions surrounding false solutions and seeking real and effective approaches to combat plastic pollution. ESDO's Project Associate, Jannatul Ferdous Jubly, actively took part in this informative webinar.

Discussion on The Risk of Polythene-Plastic Pollution in Bangladesh and Actions To Be Taken as Remedies

Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA) organized a programme entitled "The Risk of Polythene-Plastic Pollution in Bangladesh and Actions To Be Taken as Remedies" in the Sagar-Runi auditorium of the Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital on 25 June 2023. ESDO's Head of Program, Monowarul Islam actively participated in the discussion and shared his thoughts on the plastic pollution scenario in Bangladesh and possible mitigation strategies.



BFFP AP Policy Working Group

Executive Director of ESDO, Siddika Sultana attended the discussion and focused on the debriefing that was organized by ESDO after INC-2. She also focused on the false solution that recycling is good for the country.



Where are we with the Plastics Treaty?

Environmental Investigation Agency

2023 APNN-Country Report Bangladesh

2023 APNN-Country Report Bangladesh



Executive Director of ESDO, Siddika Sultana joined the webinar and shared the summary report of the APNN country report of Bangladesh, WiES Bangladesh. WiES Bangladesh is working towards promoting women's rights and empowerment in the fields of science, technology, engineering, entrepreneurship, and mathematics in Bangladesh. By focusing on these areas, WiES Bangladesh aims to provide a platform for women to have their voices heard and contribute to these fields, which traditionally have been male-dominated. She also focused on the mission and recent activities of WiES Bangladesh.

International Intervention

Connecting the dots: Youth and the National Implementation Plans (NIPs) BRS COPs 2023 Side Event

What is the Chemicals & Waste Youth Platform (CWYP)?

Chemicals, waste and pollution-focused youth constituency, convened by the UN Major Group for Children and Youth

- Operationalised: February 2021
- Goal: Engage youth in the design, implementation, monitoring, follow-up and review of chemicals and waste agenda policies at all levels
- Membership: Universal in nature, 600+ youth organisations & individuals



A side event took place at the 2023 Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, which was jointly organized by the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), AKO Foundation, and Africa Youth Alliance for Chemicals and Waste (AYACW), with support from the Geneva Environment Network. The purpose of this event was to emphasize the significance of inclusive and participatory National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Conventions, with a focus on incorporating the voices and perspectives of young people. The Environment and Social Development Organization - ESDO youth team actively participated in the seminar and shared their viewpoints.

Persistent Organic Pollutants pose a threat to future generations. Therefore, implementing the Stockholm Convention is essential to promote intergenerational equity and work towards a future free from toxic substances.

However, the engagement of young people in this area remains limited. It is crucial to involve youth in discussions concerning chemicals and waste, as their participation is often overlooked. Many young individuals lack the opportunities to fully develop their potential and contribute effectively to the development agenda. As outlined in the Stockholm Convention's Article 7, parties are obligated to formulate and implement plans for fulfilling their commitments under the convention.

During the event, the importance of ensuring that NIPs are inclusive and participatory, with the active involvement of young people, was highlighted. This entails providing youth with the necessary skills, platforms, and opportunities to engage in decision-making processes.

2023 Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions (BRS COPs)

The BRS Triple COP, which included the 16th meeting of the COP to the Basel Convention, the 11th meeting of the COP to the Rotterdam Convention, and the 11th meeting of the COP to the Stockholm Convention, was held in Geneva, Switzerland from May 1 to 12, 2023. During this event, Dr. Shahriar Hossain and Siddika Sultana, representing IPEN and ESDO respectively, contributed to discussions on hazardous waste, illegal trade, and the transboundary movement of plastic waste.

On May 9, Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO, delivered a statement on behalf of the organization. The focus of her speech was on six natural mineral fibers commonly known as asbestos. She highlighted the connection between Chrysotile, a type of asbestos, and various forms of cancer, particularly lung cancer, which is frequently diagnosed in relation to asbestos exposure, as well as ovarian cancer. Furthermore, she emphasized the necessity for further research to establish the link between asbestos and asbestos-related diseases.



Second Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution INC-2

INC-2, the second Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee Meeting, was held at the headquarters of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France, from May 29 to June 2, 2023. The event brought together a significant number of participants, with over 1,656 attendees representing 169 countries, the European Union, and more than 300 observer organizations. Representatives from ESDO, including Secretary General Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Executive Director Ms. Siddika Sultana, and Research and Campaign Associate Shanon Iffat Alam, were present at the event. During the session, Ms. Sultana made an intervention.

Siddika Sultana highlighted the views expressed by member states and their groups regarding the components of the Plastics Treaty. A large majority of these entities (approximately 74%) supported measures for protecting human health, and over half of the submissions (64%) advocated for some form of chemical control in plastics. In order to safeguard public health and the environment from the impacts of plastics throughout their life cycle, the Plastics Treaty should focus on key areas such as health protection, reduced production, the banning of single-use and problematic plastic products and packaging, restrictions or prohibitions on plastic waste trade and transboundary movement, funding for implementation and promoting alternatives, as well as incorporating essential principles and chemical controls.



The final decision of INC-2 mandated the INC Chair, Meza-Cuadra, to draft an initial version of the international legally binding instrument (ILBI), assisted by the Secretariat, for consideration at INC-3. This draft should take into account the opinions expressed at INC-1 and INC-2 and encompass a wide range of options. Additionally, members and observers were requested to submit their proposals on the way forward for the treaty text to be included in INC-3. The resolution also encouraged the Secretariat to solicit ideas from observers and members on topics that were not covered in the options paper, including principles, scope, and any outstanding issues that need resolution between meetings.

ESDO's Statement at the 2nd Session of INC-2



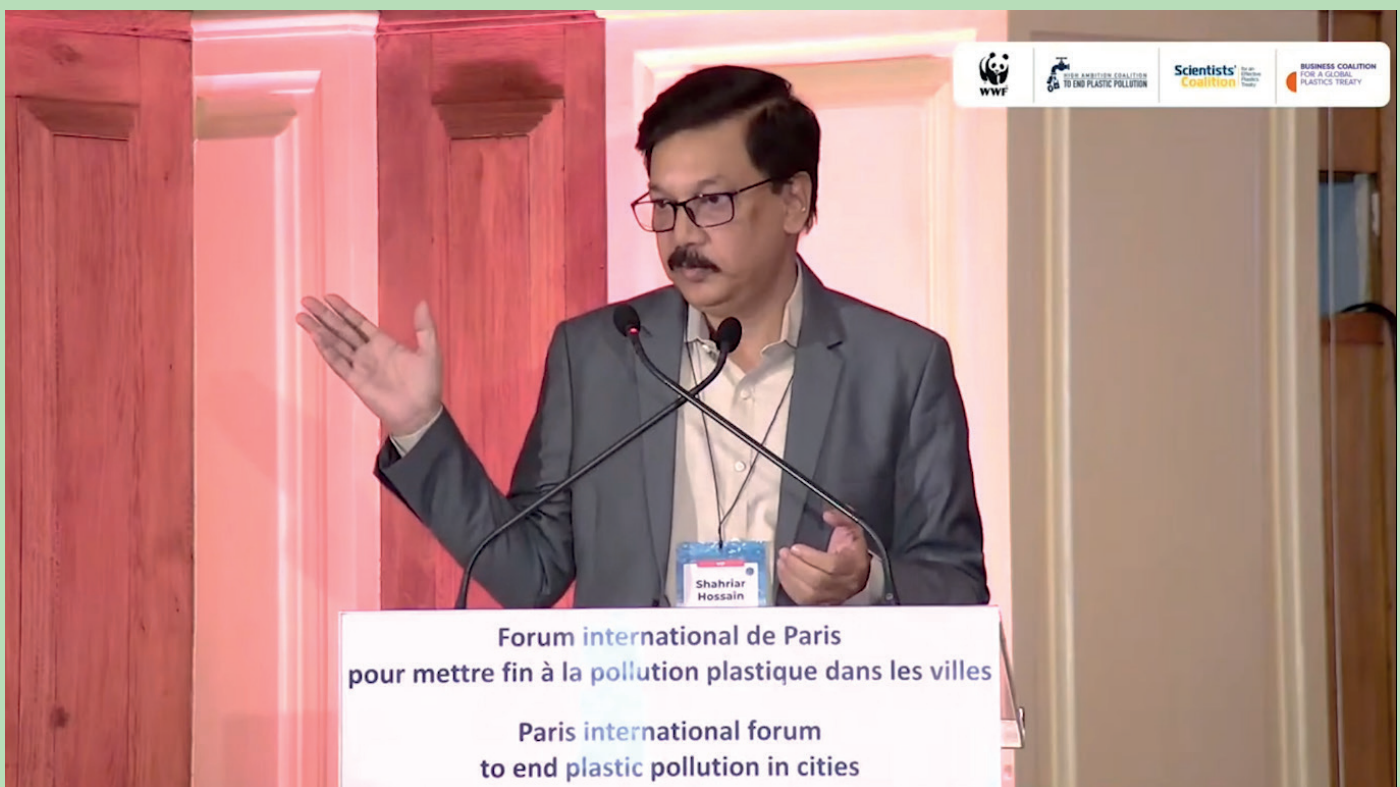
The second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) aimed at developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, particularly in the marine environment, was attended on 29 May, 2023, by the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO). Siddika Sultana, the Executive Director of ESDO, delivered a statement during the committee proceedings. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, the Secretary General of ESDO, also participated in the negotiations.

ESDO emphasized that plastic pollution encompasses more than just the visible damage caused to oceans and the accumulation of waste. It also involves the presence of chemical compounds that pose risks to both human health and the environment. The proposed objectives put forth by ESDO for consideration in the INC include prohibiting the production, marketing, and promotion of toxic plastics throughout the entire life cycle, phasing out problematic plastic items, banning the production and use of single-use plastic products, promoting environmentally friendly alternatives to plastic, and regulating the recycling of toxic plastics throughout their life cycle.

[Read More](#)

<https://esdo.org/esdos-statement-at-the-2nd-session-of-international-legally-binding-instrument-on-plastics-pollution-including-the-marine-environment/>

High Ambition Briefing at INC - 2



Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General, Environment and Social Development Organization - ESDO shared his thoughts on High Ambition Briefing at INC - 2 in Paris, France.

[Watch](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wtqMDae3M0A>

Participation in International Network

ESDO is successfully communicating with international organizations and collaboratively working with them. IPEN, one of the international networks of ESDO, has recognized ESDO's activities and initiatives in their South Asia Snapshot (January-June,2023)

Science Policy Panel



IPEN has engaged in the science-to-policy (Science-Policy) discussions under the BRS and Minamata Conventions, SAICM, and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) for many years. In March 2022, UNEA adopted a resolution calling for the establishment of a new Science-Policy Panel to support action on chemicals, waste, and pollution.

SAICM IP4.2

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) is a unique global strategy to create a world where chemicals are no longer produced or used in ways that harm human health and the environment. Fourth Meeting of the Intersessional Process for SAICM (IP4.2) took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 27 February to 3 March, 2023. Three regional POs: ESDO, Bangladesh; CEPHED, Nepal and OSHE, Bangladesh actively participated in the discussion.



BRS COPs 2023

The 2023 BRS Conference of Parties (COPs) addressed the pressing issues of chemicals and wastes in the context of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. The BRS COPs held in Geneva, Switzerland from 1-12 May brought together over 1,500 participants from a diverse range of stakeholders to address urgent global challenges related to chemicals and wastes.

During the 2023 (TripleCOP) meetings, the Basel Convention discussed technical guidelines on managing plastic waste, which aligns with efforts for a new treaty on plastic pollution. The Rotterdam Convention faced challenges in listing chemicals, prompting discussions on its effectiveness. An intersessional process was established to gather information on obstacles faced in listing decisions, but a proposal to create a new Annex listing chemicals without consensus failed to gain the necessary majority. Under the Stockholm Convention, parties agreed to eliminate the production and use of Methoxychlor, with no exemptions, while Dechlorane Plus and UV-328 were granted exemptions for specific uses. The Convention also achieved a significant milestone with the adoption of a compliance mechanism.

IPEN participating organizations from the region actively participated in the conference. Toxics Link, India, ESDO, Bangladesh and CEPHED, Nepal actively participated in the BRS COPs and associated side events, and contributed to discussions advocating for sustainable management of chemicals and wastes.

Webinars

ESDO, Bangladesh organized a webinar on "Chemicals in Agriculture and Textile: Affecting the Health and Development of Women" to celebrate women's day. Along with Siddika Sultana, and other ESDO team regional POs; Ram Charitra Sah, CEPHED; Chalani Rubesinghe, CEJ and Tripti Arora, IPEN were the key speakers of the webinar.



Differentiated ex



- Women in textile production are exposed to chemicals since they make an high proportion of workforce in textile industry which can be around 45 to 68 percent.
- Personal care products are typically targeted towards men or women, and women generally use more personal care products than men. There is a wide variety of chemicals found in these products that raise health concerns.
- Women are exposed to multiple endocrine disrupting chemicals in cosmetics (mercury, formaldehyde, parabens), sanitary napkins (phthalates, solvents), utensils (PFAS), personal care products(triclosan, BPA), paint (lead) and much more.



Zero Waste Women in the Asia Pacific Region

GAIA released a new publication VISION & GRIT, Exceptional Zero Waste Women in the Asia Pacific Region in celebration of all the incredible women championing #zerowaste and making a difference in their communities and who have helped make the world we live in a better place. Siddika Sultana from ESDO, Bangladesh was quoted in the report.

EXCEPTIONAL ZERO WASTE WOMEN IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

#ThisIsZeroWaste

VISION & GRIT

EXCEPTIONAL ZERO WASTE WOMEN IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

www.no-burn.org/going-zero-waste

[Read More](#)

Reflections in Honor of International Women's Day: Honoring Women of IPEN

On this year's International Women's Day, IPEN initiated a blog series highlighting the contributions of women in the field of chemicals. Olga Speranskaya, IPEN Senior Advisor and Co-Director, who also serves as a co-chair of the Women's Caucus, continued the blog series by featuring Siddika Sultana, co-founder and executive director of the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) in Bangladesh. In her blog post, Olga Speranskaya acknowledged Siddika Sultana's significant work in addressing gender inequality and women's rights, particularly within the textile sector, since 1999.



Speranskaya emphasized that women within IPEN have a unique role, as they work closely with communities exposed to various hazardous chemicals from multiple sources. Siddika Sultana is recognized as one of these dedicated fighters who fearlessly strive to protect marginalized populations and develop new strategies to mitigate the risks associated with harmful chemicals and waste exposure.

The textile industry, known as one of the largest polluters globally, employs hazardous chemicals throughout its production processes, from raw materials to waste disposal. The use of these chemicals has been linked to several health issues affecting both men and women working in the sector. Some conditions, particularly those impacting reproductive health, disproportionately affect women. Given that women constitute the majority of the industry's workforce, it is crucial to understand the effects of textile chemicals on women's health and the relationship between chemical exposure and related health consequences.

Siddika Sultana has observed that women workers in the textile sector face different treatment compared to their male counterparts. They often encounter injustices and lack access to proper care, making it challenging for them to tend to their sick children at home. Siddika collaborates with various Bangladeshi groups to address these issues, advocating for workers' rights and gender equality in the textile industry. Her commitment lies in empowering women by raising awareness about their rights, the dangers of workplace chemical exposure, and the importance of gender equality.

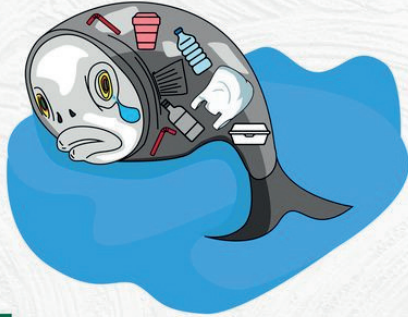
SocialMediaPost

Facebook and Instagram



More Than 10 million Tonnes of Plastic Enter the Oceans Every Year

Roughly 40% of the ocean's surface is now covered in plastic debris and if our plastic consumption continues, it is estimated that by 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean.



Let's stop oceans plastic pollution and save the aquatic animals



**Eid Ul Adha
Mubarak**

Let's avoid polythene bags and use eco-friendly bags and containers for meat storage and distribution on this Eid



Environment and Social Development Organization- ESDO

**Eid Ul Adha
Mubarak**

On This Eid, let's use plastic alternatives for meat distribution and inspire others to do the same.



Environment and Social Development Organization- ESDO

**EID UL ADHA
Mubarak**



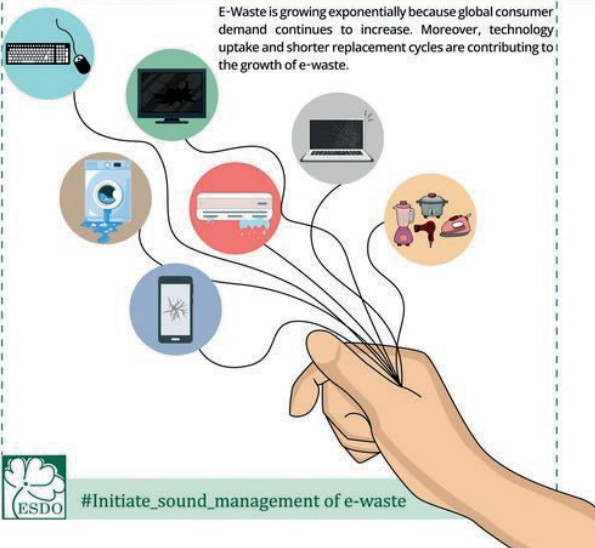
May this special day fill your life with joy and happiness



Environment and Social Development Organization- ESDO

E-waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams

E-Waste is growing exponentially because global consumer demand continues to increase. Moreover, technology uptake and shorter replacement cycles are contributing to the growth of e-waste.



#Initiate_sound_management_of_e-waste

**Eid Ul Adha
Mubarak**

Let's help the cleaners by managing our Qurbani waste to keep our city clean



Environment and Social Development Organization- ESDO



<https://www.facebook.com/esdo.official>



<https://www.instagram.com/esdobd/>



<https://twitter.com/esdobd>



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