

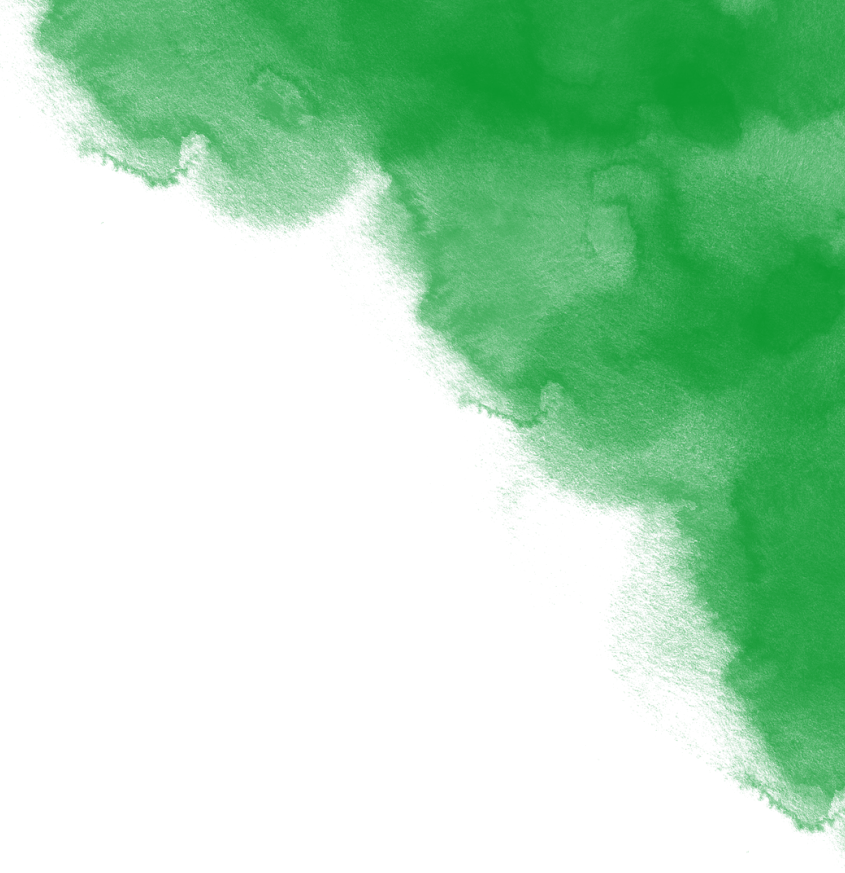
A Year of Collaboration and Impact: Towards a Sustainable Planet



Annual Report '**2024**'



Environment & social development organization-ESDO



Contribution and Copyright

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Overview



The Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) has concluded another impactful year in 2024, reaffirming its dedication to environmental conservation and social development. With a focus on strategic initiatives, ESDO made significant strides toward its mission. ESDO conducted critical studies supported by international partners. With the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), it unveiled high mercury levels in skin-lightening creams in Bangladesh.

Another study, in collaboration with the Wonjin Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health (WIOEH), highlighted excessive parabens in toothpaste and handwash. Partnering with UNICEF, ESDO launched the “Addressing Children’s Environmental Health” initiative to tackle lead poisoning and promote green practices.

In collaboration with FEMNET, ESDO implemented the “Multi-actor Partnership for Improved Due Diligence in the Textile Sector” project in Ashulia and Savar, focusing on labor practices and sustainability. Internationally, ESDO participated in pivotal events such as the COP 29, emphasizing methane emission reduction through zero-waste strategies.

ESDO also contributed to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5) of the Global Plastic Treaty, challenging myths about plastic recycling and bioplastics. ESDO expresses deep gratitude to its global partners, whose support has been vital to the success of its initiatives. As 2025 approaches, ESDO remains determined to advance its mission, fueled by renewed energy and a vision for a sustainable future for communities worldwide.



Mission

Our mission is to encourage and promote an environmental movement involving diverse social groups through a participatory democratic structure while offering them ideas, information, and leadership for addressing the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution (particularly plastic pollution), as well as promoting a secure, environmentally friendly, and toxic-free world



Vision

Our vision is to see Bangladesh, along with every developing nation in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by working to protect and conserve nature and life from toxic and plastic pollution; reduce poverty; increase literacy and education; empower women in rural communities, improve health services through sustainable environmental livelihood; ensure environmental health; enhance climate resilience; and promote Through these various initiatives, ESDO aims to create a better and more sustainable future for communities around the world.



Table of Contents

1	Major project partners.....6	8	Quick Assessment on Methane.....23
2	Our Coverage & reach.....7	9	Plastic Reduction Initiative in Sundarbans Transboundary.....26
3	New Collaboration in this year.....9	10	Mercury-Free Dentistry for Environmental Health.....28
4	Lead poisoning in Bangladesh.....11	11	Assisting in the Implementation and Enforcement.....30
5	"Silent Poison: Traces of Lead in Childhood Treasures".....14	12	Zero Waste.....32
6	Strengthening Due Diligence Implementation.....17	13	Publications.....35
7	Environmental Footprint of Single-Use Plastic Bottles.....21	14	Achievement.....36

Major Project Partners



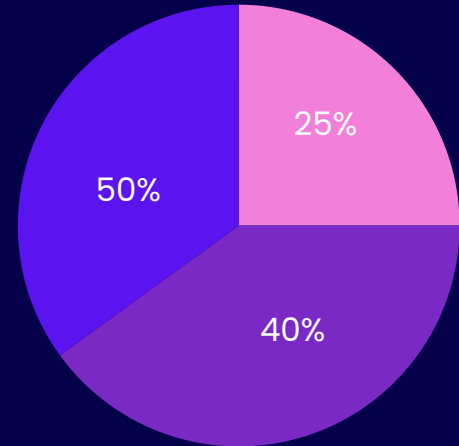
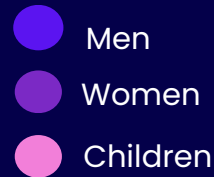
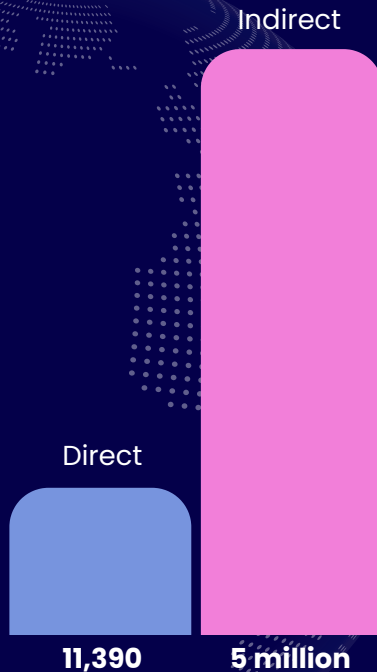
From the bottom of our hearts, Thank you!

Our Coverage

ESDO has conducted impactful work across **Sylhet, Mymensingh, Dhaka, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, and Chittagong**, addressing environmental and social issues. A map visually highlights these locations and their significance.



Our Reach



ESDO's outreach encompasses 100% engagement, with 40% women, 25% children, and 35% men, demonstrating a strategically inclusive impact.

ESDO has directly impacted **11,390** people and indirectly reached **5 million**, promoting environmental sustainability and social development nationwide.

ESDO reaches its audience via **advocacy, community programs, workshops, campaigns, surveys** and **strategic partnerships**, ensuring inclusive and impactful engagement.

New Collaboration in this year



Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU)

On October 3, 2024, the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) and BAN Toxics have signed an MOU to collaborate health risks from heavy metals in children's toys and products.



BAN Toxics

Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO and Southeast University agrees to develop and promote academic and education partnerships through students, faculty, research, and professional exchanges on 17 October, 2024



Southeast University

Our Projects



Teesta River, Photo- ESDO

Lead Poisoning in Bangladesh

The joint initiative by ESDO and UNICEF, "Addressing Children's Environmental Health with a Particular Focus on Lead Poisoning in Bangladesh," addresses the alarming issue of lead contamination that poses severe health risks, especially to children. With Bangladesh ranking fourth globally in lead-related fatalities, the project targets industries like paints and batteries, where lead exposure remains rampant, and informal recycling practices exacerbate the issue. The initiative spans from December 2023 to December 2025, aiming to reduce lead exposure through regulatory reforms, industry engagement, and public awareness.

Objectives: The project focuses on analyzing existing policies, identifying gaps, and implementing solutions to mitigate lead poisoning. Key goals include: Reforming VAT and tax structures to incentivize lead-free practices. Establishing comprehensive standards for industrial paints (below 90 ppm lead content). Enhancing occupational safety and health (OSH) standards in the used lead-acid battery (ULAB) recycling sector. Formalizing informal recycling practices to reduce environmental and health hazards. Conducting awareness campaigns and capacity-building workshops to influence policymakers and stakeholders.

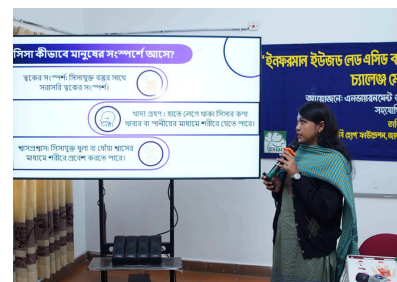
Key Activities: Research and Policy Development: Desk reviews, Key Informant Interviews (KIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to assess gaps in policies and industry practices. Develop draft legislation and tax reform proposals through consultation workshops. Standards and Compliance: Create roadmaps for implementing and monitoring industrial paint standards consultation workshops. Standards and Compliance.

Create roadmaps for implementing and monitoring industrial paint standards. Analyze the lead demand-supply chain and propose strategies to formalize informal recycling sectors. Stakeholder Engagement: Host workshops with government, industry, and civil society to align on policy recommendations. Convene media roundtables and journalist training sessions to increase awareness. Community Awareness: Conduct grassroots campaigns to educate workers, communities, and businesses on lead risks.

Organize capacity-building programs for regulators and industries. Outcomes: Analytical report on VAT and tax schemes for lead-containing products prepared, finalized and submitted. Draft legislation act on tax/reforms on lead containing products prepared and submitted. Study report on landscape analysis on existing legislation, polcies and standards on lead poisoning submitted and finalized. Policy brief on landscape analysis on lead poisoning standards and legislation finalized and submitted. Draft guideline on Paint regulation has been prepared and submitted to BSTI. Successfully conducted around 30 KIs,20 FGDs and 10 Consultation workshops with relevant stakeholders Achieved social media reach about 2.63 million till now.



Our Interventions



Workers and community members collaborate in the workshop to address the health, environmental, and economic challenges of informal ULAB recycling, promoting sustainable solutions.



Workshop on strengthening regulations and creating a roadmap for enforcing the 90 ppm lead standard in industrial paints, ensuring a safer and lead-free environment.



Desk reviews, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to assess gaps in policies and industry practices

"Silent Poison: Traces of Lead in Childhood Treasures"

On September 30, 2024, ESDO and Ban Toxics conducted a market survey across Chak Bazar, New Market, Bashundhara City, and Orchid Plaza, focusing on toys, stationery, and cosmetics targeted at children. The sampling included items made of painted materials, plastics, and metals, which are known for potential lead contamination. This assessment aimed to identify hazardous materials in everyday products used by children and develop strategies to reduce associated risks in the future.

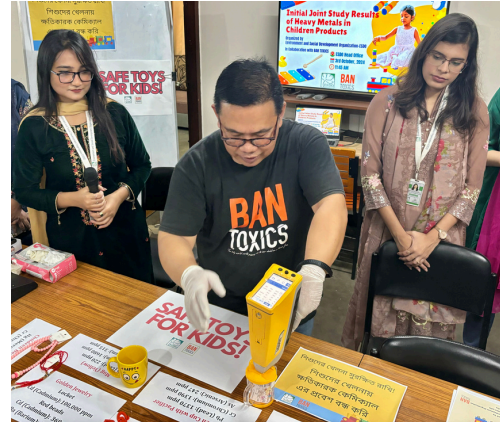
On October 3, 2024, the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) and BAN Toxics presented a joint study highlighting significant health risks from heavy metals in children's toys and products. Held at the ESDO Head Office, the media briefing brought together experts and media representatives.

Testing of 250 children's products revealed that 63% contained lead, with 59% of those exceeding the international standard of 90 ppm. Items such as drinking cups, school supplies, toys, and learning materials showed dangerously high levels of lead (up to 1,380 ppm) and other heavy metals like chromium, arsenic, and cadmium, posing significant health risks to children. Even high-end stores were not free from these toxic substances.

On October 29, 2024, the groundbreaking report "Silent Poison: Traces of Lead in Childhood Treasures" was launched at CIRDAP. The report shed light on hazardous lead levels in children's products, emphasizing the urgent need for action to protect children's health. The event was followed by a collaborative policy brief workshop, which focused on implementing regulations to combat lead poisoning and create a safer environment for children.



Our Interventions



ESDO and Ban Toxics conducted a market survey across Chak Bazar, New Market, Bashundhara City, and Orchid Plaza, focusing on toys, stationery, and cosmetics targeted at children



On October 29, 2024, the groundbreaking report "Silent Poison: Traces of Lead in Childhood Treasures" was launched at CIRDAP



Bottola khal,Tonga Bari, Photo- ESDO

Strengthening Due Diligence Implementation in the Textile Sector in Bangladesh

Project overview: The textile and apparel sector in Bangladesh faces severe human rights and environmental health risks, especially in Ashulia, home to 1,100 textile factories. Inadequate wastewater treatment and toxic chemicals like heavy metals and microplastics from dyeing and finishing processes endanger local communities.

To address these issues, ESDO, BILS, and Germany-based FEMNET launched the "Strengthening Due Diligence Implementation in the Textile Sector in Bangladesh" project (2023–2026). The initiative aims to improve working conditions for RMG workers and reduce environmental hazards. Key activities include core group formation, Worker-Based Monitoring (WBM), Community-Based Monitoring (CBM), and stakeholder collaboration.

An Inception Workshop highlighted project goals, while a series of webinars covered legal obligations under the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and the German Supply Chain Act. The CEM approach, tested in India, empowers communities to document and report pollution.

On November 17, 2024, a Partnership Meeting among FEMNET, ESDO, and BILS at BILS and ESDO offices reviewed project progress, certification studies, financial monitoring, and an online progress-tracking platform. Continuous engagement from government, unions, and community leaders is vital to strengthen due diligence, safeguard worker

health, and ensure sustainability in the RMG sector.

Objectives: Enhance the working conditions for RMG (Ready-Made Garment) workers in Bangladesh. Reduce health hazards faced by workers in textile factories. Minimize the environmental impact of textile factories on surrounding communities in Bangladesh.

Outcomes: Worker-Based Monitoring (WBM) and Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) are being used to document pollution, health risks, and labor violations, enabling communities and workers to advocate for better conditions.

The Container Group, comprising unions, government bodies, and community representatives, was formed to reinforce due diligence and improve working conditions and environmental health in Ashulia's RMG sector.

Webinars and workshops have raised awareness on environmental due diligence, the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, and the German Supply Chain Act, enhancing participants' understanding of compliance obligations.

Partnership meetings among FEMNET, ESDO, and BILS established strategies for certification studies, financial monitoring, and the development of an online progress-tracking platform to ensure effective project implementation.

Our Interventions



Collecting water samples from the *Ghoshbag*, *mollabazar* & *Kathgora* area to assess industrial pollution in *Ashulia*. Tests revealed hazardous chemicals like Alkylphenol and heavy metals, highlighting critical environmental and health risks.



Engaging with the community to understand their concerns and gather insights on the environmental and social challenges they face.



FEMNET team visited Ashulia garments industry to witness firsthand the environmental and labor challenges faced by the community.



ESDO organized a workshop introducing the Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) Toolkit to address the industrial pollution in Ashulia.



Empowering communities through counseling & Raising awareness, addressing concerns, and for a sustainable future.



Mongla Bagherhat, Photo- ESDO

Environmental Footprint of Single-Use Plastic Bottles: The Pollution and Health Hazards Across the Full Lifecycle

The study “Environmental Footprint of Single-Use Plastic Bottles: The Pollution and Health Hazards Across the Full Lifecycle” sheds light on the far-reaching environmental, health, and socio-economic impacts of single-use plastic (SUP) bottles, focusing on their entire lifecycle, from production to disposal. Conducted by the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), the research emphasizes the urgent need to address the challenges posed by these pervasive pollutants, particularly in countries like Bangladesh, where limited waste management infrastructure and rapid urbanization exacerbate the crisis.

The study highlights the significant environmental footprint of SUP bottles, which are primarily made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a non-biodegradable material. From the extraction of fossil fuels to their manufacturing, the production process releases substantial greenhouse gases, contributing to global warming. The findings indicate that the country consumes 3.15 to 3.84 billion SUP bottles annually, with only 21.4% recycled. The remaining 78.6% contribute to widespread pollution, releasing microplastics and harmful chemicals into ecosystems and food chains, highlighting the urgent need for sustainable solutions. Improper disposal and low recycling rates further aggravate the situation, with millions of bottles ending up in landfills, water bodies, and urban drainage systems.

This contributes to flooding, soil degradation, and marine pollution, including the alarming accumulation of microplastics in ecosystems. The Bay of Bengal is particularly affected, with evidence of high levels of microplastic contamination, threatening biodiversity and the livelihoods of coastal communities. The health risks associated with SUP bottles are equally concerning. The study reveals that harmful chemicals like bisphenol A (BPA), phthalates, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) leach into beverages, especially when bottles are exposed to heat or reused. These chemicals are linked to endocrine disruption, reproductive issues, organ toxicity, and even carcinogenic effects. Additionally, the ingestion of microplastics, which have been detected in human tissues, poses long-term health risks that are still not fully understood.

To tackle these challenges, the study emphasizes the need for sustainable alternatives, stricter regulations, improved recycling systems, and public awareness campaigns. It also advocates for a significant reduction in the production and consumption of SUP bottles, aligning with global efforts to combat plastic pollution. This study serves as a critical call to action, urging policymakers, businesses, and citizens to prioritize environmental health and sustainability over convenience. Through such initiatives, ESDO reaffirms its commitment to building a cleaner, healthier future.

Our Interventions



Collecting data for the study

“Environmental Footprint of Single-Use Plastic Bottles: The Pollution and Health Hazards Across the Full Lifecycle”



Launching the study “Environmental Footprint of Single-Use Plastic Bottles: The Pollution and Health Hazards Across the Full Lifecycle”

Quick Assessment on Methane from Landfills in Dhaka and Recommendations for Integrating Lowering Organic Waste Methane in NDC

The Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), in collaboration with the Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA), conducted an insightful study titled Quick Assessment on Methane from Landfills in Dhaka and Recommendations for Integrating Lowering Organic Waste Methane in NDC. This initiative sought to address the growing concern of methane emissions from unmanaged organic waste in Dhaka's two largest landfills, Matuail and Amin Bazar. Methane, a potent greenhouse gas, has significant implications for global warming, and this study underscored the importance of curbing emissions as part of Bangladesh's climate commitments under the Paris Agreement.

The study revealed that around 70% of the waste generated in Bangladesh is organic in nature. Due to inadequate segregation and improper disposal methods, such as open dumping, organic waste in landfills decomposes anaerobically, producing substantial amounts of methane. Field assessments and data analysis provided a comprehensive understanding of the waste composition and management practices at these landfills. Furthermore, stakeholder consultations with waste workers, policymakers, and local authorities revealed critical operational and policy gaps that hinder effective methane mitigation.

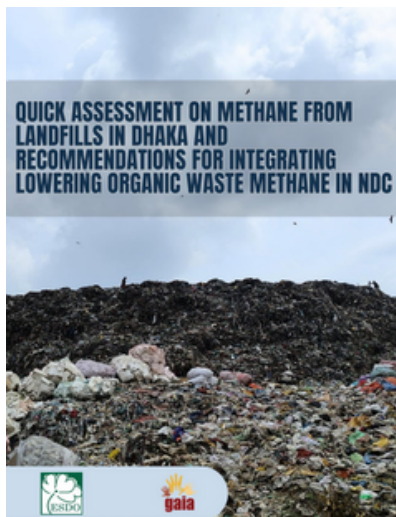
The findings emphasized that Dhaka's current waste management framework lacks the necessary infrastructure and policy integration to address methane emissions systematically. To bridge this gap, ESDO proposed actionable recommendations focused on both immediate and long-term solutions. These included mandatory segregation of organic waste at the source, promotion of decentralized composting and anaerobic digestion systems, and capacity building for waste workers and municipal authorities. Importantly, the study recommended integrating methane reduction strategies into Bangladesh's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and aligning them with international frameworks such as the IPCC guidelines.

This study serves as a roadmap for reducing methane emissions through sustainable waste management practices, with a particular emphasis on zero-waste approaches. It highlights the transformative potential of community participation, policy reform, and technological innovations in achieving tangible environmental outcomes. The initiative has positioned ESDO as a leading voice in advocating for low-carbon waste management systems, contributing significantly to the global fight against climate change.

Our Interventions



Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on - "Quick Assessment on Methane from Landfills in Dhaka & Recommendations for Integrating Lowering Organic Waste Methane in NDC"



ESDO, in collaboration with the GAIA, conducted an insightful study titled Quick Assessment on Methane from Landfills in Dhaka and Recommendations for Integrating Lowering Organic Waste Methane in NDC.



A comprehensive strategy to reduce methane emissions in Bangladesh.



Poshur River, Photo- ESDO

Plastic Reduction Initiative in Sundarbans Transboundary International Natural Ecosystems (PRISTINE)

The Sundarbans, a UNESCO World Heritage site shared by India and Bangladesh, is a vital mangrove ecosystem home to endangered species like the Bengal tiger. While it protects against coastal erosion and storm surges, rising tourism and single-use plastic waste threaten its delicate balance.

A project titled “Plastic Reduction Initiative in Sundarbans Transboundary International Natural Ecosystems (PRISTINE)” is being implemented by the Environment and Social Development Organization - ESDO and the Arannayk Foundation (AF), with support from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), to address the issue.

This project is designed to address transboundary plastic pollution in the Sundarbans by piloting innovative solutions. Rooted in PARLEY AIR principles (Avoid, Intercept, Re-design), it introduces recycling technologies in upstream Mongla (Site-1) to engage waste pickers and prevent plastic from reaching the Sundarbans and the Bay of Bengal. At downstream ecotourism sites (Harbaria and Karamjal, Site-2), behavior change and awareness activities curb pollution. With a focus on 40% women beneficiaries, the project aims to improve eco-tourism plastic management and strengthen government partnerships for lasting impact.

Project Goal: Plastic pollution reduction in the Sundarbans transboundary international natural ecosystems.

Project Objectives: To create improved recycling management system and industry standard through innovation.

-To intercept plastic waste at the upstream of the Sundarbans before entering the sea.

-To avoid and intercept single use plastics (SUP) in tourist hotspots of the Sundarbans.

Project Outcomes: Baseline information regarding relevant stakeholder, plastic waste amount and management system acquired.

-Implementation of innovative mechanisms and improved plastic recycling market chain to intercept plastic waste and operationalize circular plastic economy in Rupsa - Pasur River System at Mongla Sub-district-Reduced single-use-plastic (SUP) usage at tourist hotspots at Sundarbans to control transboundary pollution. As part of the project implementation, ESDO conducted a stakeholder analysis in Site-1 from September 22-27, 2024. The activities included FGDs, KIIs, and surveys with participants such as local community residents, boat owners, tour operators, waste traders and waste pickers.

Our Interventions



Focus Group Discussion with *fisherman* community regarding plastic pollution scenario in Mongla



Key Informant Interview (KII) with a leaseholder (Ijaradar) of Karamjol Wildlife Breeding Center



Engaging local communities and volunteers in a dynamic effort to tackle single-use plastic (SUP) pollution



An impactful human chain and rally to creating a Plastic-Free Future by fostering public awareness and advocating for corporate accountability

Mercury-Free Dentistry for Environmental Health

Mercury-Free Dentistry for Environmental Health” project, implemented by the Environment and Social Development Organization in collaboration with the Asian Centre for Environmental Health and the World Alliance for Mercury-Free Dentistry, aims to eliminate the use of mercury dental amalgam in Bangladesh.

Objectives: This project works towards achieving this goal by focusing on the following objectives

To promote mercury-free dental practices by encouraging dentists and dental institutions to adopt safe alternatives.

To emphasize the emerging need to revise dental education curricula to support the phase-out of mercury-containing dental amalgam.

To assess the current situation of mercury-added products in the country, evaluate the availability of suitable mercury-free alternatives, and advocate for the use of these alternatives among the public in Bangladesh.

To raise awareness about the harmful effects of mercury and establish national alliances with healthcare professionals to support mercury-free dentistry.

To engage policymakers to formulate and implement a national policy to phase out mercury in dental care.

As part of the project, ESDO has organized seminars, workshops, attended international conferences, and hosted events focused on mercury-free dentistry and curriculum advancement, engaging government officials, academics, media, and the public.



Outcomes:

The contributions of this project led to significant progress in promoting mercury-free dentistry. Key outcomes included advocating for strategies to phase out dental amalgam, emphasizing the emerging need to revise dental education curricula and advance dental education strategies for amalgam phase-out, while raising awareness about mercury pollution. Efforts also focused on incorporating mercury-free practices into dental education and fostering collaboration among relevant stakeholders.

Furthermore, ESDO provided technical support and international insights, assisting countries in their transition to mercury-free dentistry, contributing to national policy shifts, and supporting global efforts to reduce mercury exposure in dental care

Our Interventions



Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of ESDO, and Ms. Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO, represented the World Alliance joined Vietnam's initiative to ban mercury-containing dental amalgam by June 2025, supporting global mercury reduction under the Minamata Convention



A workshop on "Advancing Dental Education Strategies for the Phase-Out of Dental Amalgam" was held on April 4, 2024, at the Directorate General of Medical Education.



Promoting mercury-free solutions for a safer, healthier, and sustainable future.

Assisting in the Implementation and Enforcement of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Bangladesh

The “Assisting in the Implementation and Enforcement of the Minamata Convention on Mercury in Bangladesh” project, implemented by the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO), is a significant initiative aimed at addressing the use of mercury and its impact on both the environment and public health in Bangladesh. This project also supports the Bangladesh government in its efforts to ratify the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Objectives: This project works towards achieving this goal by focusing on the following objectives:

- Raise awareness among the public, industries, and stakeholders in Bangladesh about the hazards of mercury and mercury-containing products.
- Promote mercury-free products to reduce environmental mercury pollution.
- Protect human health and minimize mercury exposure risks through the promotion of mercury-free products.
- Align with the Minamata Convention on Mercury to reduce mercury use and emissions.
- Support sustainability goals by encouraging the use of mercury-free products and reducing industries' ecological footprint.
- Increase consumer awareness about the risks of mercury and the availability of mercury-free alternatives.
- Implement education campaigns and outreach programs to inform the public about the benefits of choosing mercury-free products



Outcomes:

1. As part of the project, a study was conducted to assess mercury concentrations in skin-lightening creams, cosmetics, jewelry, and other children's products. The research, led by the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) in collaboration with BAN Toxics, a Philippine-based organization, revealed dangerously high mercury levels in these products.
2. A market survey and monitoring were conducted to identify banned skin whitening creams still available in the market. The Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) had previously banned 17 skin whitening creams due to their dangerously high mercury levels.
3. In addition, IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials were developed to raise awareness among the public about the dangers of skin-lightening creams and the associated health risks of mercury exposure.



Betgari village, Photo- ESDO

Zero Waste

In 2024, the Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) spearheaded impactful initiatives to promote sustainability, waste management, and environmental education in Bangladesh. Key milestones included transforming Shahpara and Pramanicpara into Zero Waste Villages, where innovative practices like twin-pit composting and biogas plants not only managed waste effectively but also supported organic farming. These efforts reduced methane emissions, demonstrating the environmental and economic benefits of zero-waste living. To spread the zero-waste movement, ESDO hosted the *Zero Waste Village Documentary Showcasing* in Tushvandar, engaging 50 participants in discussions about sustainable living.

Dr. Fahmida Khanom, Additional Secretary of MoEFCC, visited ESDO's Zero-Waste Village in Betgari, Rangpur on April 27, 2024. The visit highlighted waste segregation, composting, and biogas processing initiatives. Dr. Khanom participated in discussions on managing single-use plastics, with villagers proposing a centralized collection system. The event reinforced Bangladesh's commitment to sustainability and tackling plastic pollution. Through grassroots engagement, innovative waste management practices, and fostering partnerships, ESDO's 2024 programs inspired widespread behavioral change and reinforced Bangladesh's commitment to sustainability. These initiatives advanced the country's progress toward achieving SDG targets on waste management, climate action, and sustainable development, setting a precedent for environmentally conscious communities and scalable, impactful solutions.

Community consultations and capacity-building workshops in Betgari and Rangpur strengthened waste segregation, composting practices, and green job creation, with 450 people committing to adopting a zero-waste lifestyle. The Plastic-Free Village initiative in Shahpara and Pramanicpara also reduced reliance on single-use plastics, providing eco-friendly alternatives and fostering a circular economy.

Collaborations with government officials, NGOs, and community-based organizations (CBOs) amplified the reach of these efforts. A notable highlight was the baseline survey comparing methane emissions between zero-waste and non-zero-waste villages, which provided critical insights to guide future policy and replication efforts.



ESDO's Intervention



Zero Waste House: A sustainable model promoting waste segregation, composting, and the 4Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse) to minimize environmental impact and inspire eco-friendly living.



a growing momentum toward environmental sustainability, focusing on waste management, organic farming, and reducing plastic waste. Each initiative highlights the importance of community engagement, education, and collective action in tackling environmental issues.



Noyonjoli Khal, Photo- ESDO

ESDO's International Participation



"Siddika Sultana, ESDO's Executive Director, played a key role in the **4th Meeting of the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership (PWP) Working Group**, actively contributing to global efforts to combat plastic waste and drive sustainable solutions."



"Dr. Shahriar Hossain, ESDO's Secretary General, actively engaged in the **3rd Meeting of the Basel Convention Household Waste Partnership (HWP)**, lending his expertise to advance global strategies for sustainable household waste management and environmental protection."



At COP29, in Azerbaijan ESDO led impactful initiatives on methane mitigation and a just transition, co-hosting a side event with GAIA Asia Pacific. The event, held in the Bangladesh Pavilion, showcased community-led strategies from Bangladesh, Ghana, India, and the US to reduce methane emissions and update NDCs.

Dr. Shahriar Hossain presented a policy brief, emphasizing decentralized solutions like biogas and composting. Panelists highlighted zero-waste approaches and environmental justice, reinforcing ESDO's commitment to sustainable waste management and fair transitions globally."



ESDO's at INC-5





Dr. Shahriar Hossain at INC-5, Photo-ESDO

Rick Wake
Deputy Special Pre
United
for Climate
America

ESDO's International Youth Ambassadors



"The Break Free From Plastic (BFFP) Youth Ambassador Program (October 2023–March 2024) empowered 108 young leaders from 19 countries to combat plastic pollution through training, workshops, and campaigns. Out of 200+ applicants, 50 ambassadors graduated, executing 30 campaigns on zero waste, policy advocacy, and plastic-free campuses, engaging over 1,800 participants globally.

From ESDO, three youth representatives, Md. Asif Imran, Maliha Hoque, and Jannatul Ferdous Jubly were recognized as youth ambassadors, contributing to key BFFP initiatives like the INC-3 and INC-4 Youth Campaigns.



Publications in this year



Achievement in this year



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