



Contents

- Plastic Monster Campaign 1
- Awareness Workshop 1
- International workshop 2
- PSG Meeting on Mercury 2
- International Convention 3
- Green City Planning workshop 3
- Conference on plastic 4
- Orientation 4
- Awareness activity 5
- New Intervention 6
- About ESDO 7



Plastic Monster Campaign

Single-use plastics are threatening the planet's health. People are waking up to the devastating effects of the persistent material has on the natural environment. The plastic monster campaign was a worldwide joint action of

#breakfreefromplastic which was initiated to combine the world against single use of it was mainly an awareness movement to motivate mass people and to raise their voice against single-use plastic pollution in terms of saving the health and

environment. Another motive of this campaign was to alert Nestlé and Unilever to stop using single-use plastic. This program was held in front of the National Parliament, Dhaka to raise awareness among people about single-use plastic products and its adverse effects



Awareness and Consultation Workshop

The title of MIA project workshop was "Awareness and Consultation workshop on Mercury Pollution in Bangladesh: Effects on Health and Environment". Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA), a project of Department of Environment (DoE) of Bangladesh funded by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and

Global Environment Facility (GEF) conducted primary assessment and awareness with the help of various organizations in Bangladesh. Environment and Social Development Organization (ESDO) along with Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)

carried out preliminary research on sources of mercury pollution, effects on Human health and Environment in Bangladesh. ESDO arranged Awareness and Consultation workshop on Mercury Pollution in Bangladesh: Effects on Health and Environment.



On 28th April 2019, A stakeholder workshop was jointly organized by Department of Environment (DoE) and Environment and Social Development organization (ESDO) on "Mercury Pollution in Bangladesh: Effects on Health and Environment".



Mercury Pollution in Bangladesh: Effects on Health and Environment



"Be a part of the SOLUTION, not part of the POLLUTION!"



International Workshop on Plastic waste

ESDO along with CSOs urged the developed countries to stop dumping plastic waste in developing nations and ban single-use plastic globally. On behalf of CSOs Siddika Sultana, Executive Director, ESDO & Director of Asian Center for Environmental Health

made an intervention at BRS COP in Geneva. The 2019 meetings of the Conferences of the Parties (COP) to the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions from 29 April to 10 May at Geneva, Switzerland wrapped up the first week with discussions

of several waste issues, with extensive time both in plenary and a contact group devoted to work on marine plastic litter and micro plastics. Siddika Sultana said, "Plastic is literally choking our oceans. The carnage whales washing up with stomachs full of plastic and so on.

PSG Meeting on Mercury

A PSG meeting was held on for mercury project. Government officials from Department of Environment, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Bangladesh Dental Society (BDS) and ESDO were present there. In this meeting, there was a discussion about national action plan and timeline for phasing out mercury

added products in Bangladesh. Participants of meeting discussed about current status of mercury use in measuring devices, batteries, skin lightening cream, switches and relays and also about their alternatives. ESDO focused to assist DoE to early ratify the Minamata Convention and phasing out mercury added products by 2020. The

main objectives of this movement are-support the ratification process in the country, develop a strategy for implementing a Mercury-added Product Phase out Plan.

International Convention on Mercury

An international conference on Minamata Convention, which was organized to prevent health damage and environmental pollution caused by mercury on a global scale, was held. On this conference, about 40 Minamata mercury waste experts have gathered.

About 40 Government officials and researchers from various countries that signed the Minamata

Convention, including Japan, the United States, China and Indonesia joined in this conference. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO) has also participated in this conference. The treaty includes the proper management of batteries, thermometers and fluorescent lamps that use mercury of a certain concentration or more when they become waste. Experts were mainly discussed about the proposed international rules for waste management, such as the concentration regulated by the Convention and the concentrations causing health defects. This rule is expected to be formally decided at the conference.

"About 40 Govt. Officials and researchers joined!"



Workshop on Green City Planning

MD Tanvir Hasnine, Program Associate of Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO participated in a workshop on Green City Planning for Sustainable Urban Development at Jeju, Korea from 8 May to 11 May. Its mission was to strengthen the capacities of government officials, academician, NGOs and civil society

leaders, thus empowering them to advance sustainable development. The workshop aims to enhance participants' knowledge and skills to build green and sustainable urban cities through appropriate policy planning.





Conference on Plastic Building Material

Siddika Sultana,
Executive Director
of Environment and
Social Development
Organization-
ESDO attended in a
conference on Green
and Sustainable
Chemistry at the first
Stakeholder Forum of
the International

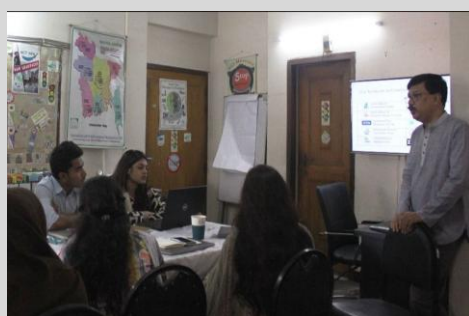
Sustainable Chemistry
Collaborative Centre
(ISC3) in
Bonn, Germany on 21-
22 June 2019. It was a
new platform for us to
collaborate with more
than 110 experts from
Africa, Asia, Europe
and North and South
America and to discuss

the emerging concept
of sustainable
chemistry and engage
in the transformative
activities of the ISC3.
Its mission was to raise
awareness and foster a
new sustainability-
oriented mindset in
chemical sciences and
beyond.

Orientation and Workshop



*“Three days
orientation and
workshop was
hosted by Secretary
General of ESDO
Dr. Shahriar
Hossain ”*



An orientation and
workshop was held on
11, 16 and 20 April at
ESDO office. On the
first day the workshop
covered the
background of ESDO,

introduction to each
others, story sharing
on plastic, lead and
other toxic chemicals,
briefs ongoing projects
of ESDO, interpersonal
communication, role
play on two different
issues. The second day
was started with the
ice-breaking activity
that is warm up our
self, study planning,
preparation of
presentations, writing
training on news and
institutional reports,
team building activities

and report back. The
last day of the
workshop was mainly
on the brainstorming
project ideas and
discussions.
These three days were
hosted by ESDO
Secretary General Dr.
Shahriar Hossain and
Dr. Gregory Howard, a
chemical expert from
the USA. We learned
many research work
related activities and
how to work with team
as well as individually.

Awareness activities on Mercury

ESDO team has visited five Dental Chambers named Oro Save Dental Care, Sign Dental Care, Techno Dental Centre, Life Care Dental Unit, Tooth Fairy (Your Dental Clinic) and recognized them as mercury-free dental chamber by pasting 'Mercury_Amalgam_Free_Dental_Chamber' logo

sticker poster in association with Bangladesh Dental Society (BDS).

*"Mercury Amalgam
Free Dental
chamber"*



New Interventions



A meeting was organized with PORTICUS and ESDO as a follow-up of the round table meeting on 8, May 2019 organized by PORTICUS in Dhaka. Mr. Abdallah Naeefy, Grant Manager of PORTICUS, Bangladesh and Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General and Ms. Siddika Sultana, Executive Director, ESDO, Dr. Greg Howard, Senior Research Fellow and Ms. Jafrin Morshed, represents two organizations in the meeting. This meeting focused identification and outline for a future project on plastic pollution and zero-waste city for sustainable waste.



A seminar was organized with the presence of a Representative of Member of Government officials and NGO at Chameli Conference Room, Department of Environment, Agargaon, and Dhaka. The major concentration of the seminar was to involve every Government officials and NGO to celebrate the environment day, 2019. The seminar was acted as the instigator to formulate a national plan for the effective standards and control measures and the best practices in the air quality management and monitoring to improve air.



ESDO team has visited the Charigram and Govinda village of Manikgonj District of Bangladesh where they have found a high level of lead. From the field visit they have observed how they process raw waste materials and use lead in the processing of raw material to collect gold and other precious metals. Around 6000 people of that area are directly involved with this work. Children and pregnant women are at high risk of lead contamination.

6 Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO



As part of Plastic related project, ESDO research officials measured sachets of various products to know the difference between actual and given weights of the products. We measured 12 products in total.



A survey on Plastic Recycling was conducted in the plastic factories which are located in Lalbagh. They mainly do the collecting, washing, and recycling of different types of plastic such as plastic bags, shoes, pipes etc.



Total 7 samples of water were collected from Dhaka and Gazipur district of Bangladesh to test PFAS concentration in water samples. Water samples were collected from river, lake and pump.



→ **“A cordial meeting with President of World Alliance for Mercury Free Dentistry, Charlie Brown and U.S Senator Mr. Sherrod Brown.”**



For lead testing, samples were collected from the cosmetics shop and general store. A log sheet listing the names of the heavy metals (Lead, Chromium, Mercury, etc) both in children products and in candies. Some other samples were given for testing BPA those are the baby products.



On 29th June, ESDO has participated in a meeting and an inception workshop on Environmentally Sound Management of Poly Chlorinated Bi- Phenyls (PCBs). In that meeting, they have discussed the awareness-raising campaign and workshop, ESDO represented a presentation.



A grand Iftar Party was arranged at ESDO premises on 23rd May. It was a big program of above 40 guests and ESDO officials.

ESDO

About Our Organization

ESDO is working to promote the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development since 1990. It should be mentioned that ESDO is the first organization to ban the polythene

bag in 2002. After that ESDO's activity continues with different issues like – mercury-free dentistry, single-use plastic pollution, and micro beads, Lead-containing products. In this quarter, the focal point of ESDO was to phase out

Mercury free product and Plastic pollution through consultation, plastic monster campaign to raise awareness among the general people, government officials, stakeholders and policymaking.

Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO

Address

House-8/1, Level-5,
Block-C, Lalmatia-
1207, Dhaka.

Phone

+880-2-9122729

Fax

+880-2-9130017

E-mail

info@esdo.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.esdo.org

