

Environment and Social Development Organization - ESDO, +880-2-9122729

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## Events



### 29<sup>th</sup> Founding Day Celebration

An elegant and stunning program was arranged at Araaz Restaurant & Banquet with all the well-wishers of ESDO on 6th July, 2019.

Though ESDO's 29th founding day was on 6th June, 2019. But due to EID vacation, we celebrated our special day just after

one month later in this year.



## Make Mercury History!

### Round table meeting with media on Mercury in product

A roundtable meeting with media on "Harmful effects of mercury containing products on health and environment" held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 at National Press Club, Dhaka jointly organized by (DoE) and (ESDO). Former Secretary of People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Chairperson of ESDO, Syed Marghub Murshed was present as the Chief Guest of the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Dr.

A.K.M. Rafique Ahammed, Director General, DoE, Dr. S. M. MunjurulHannan Khan, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC as Guest of Honor, Mr. SaifulAlam, President, National Press Club, as Special Guest, Project Director of MIA Project, DoE, Dr. MasudIqbal Md. Shameem, as Panel Speaker Professor Md. AbulHashem, Former Chairman, Chemical Division, BSTI, Dr.

Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General, ESDO and UNEP Mercury WasteExpert, Siddika Sultana, Executive Director of ESDO and Executive members of press were present at the meeting



**Say NO  
to Plastic**

## Awareness Campaign & workshop on Mercury amalgam

Considering the serious health and environment impact, mercury dental amalgam needs to be banned as soon as possible. An awareness and consultation workshop on “Harmful effects of Mercury amalgam on health and environment” was jointly organized by Department of Environment (DoE) and Environment and Social

Development Organization-ESDO demanded the ban of dental amalgam for the sake of public health and environmental protection on 30<sup>th</sup> July’19 at auditorium, DoE, Paribesh Bhaban, Dhaka. The workshop was organized in the line of creating public awareness and ratification of Minamata

convention on Mercury in Bangladesh. Many important persons were present.



## School Awareness Program

On 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 2019 ESDO organized an environmental awareness campaign entitled “Environmental Education and Awareness Program” at Uzampur Government Primary School, Uttarakhan, Dhaka. A total number of 60 students participated in this program along with 7 teachers and few members from the local development committee. The campaign was

launched at about 11 am and lasted for the next 4 consecutive hours. At the beginning of the campaign an introductory session was conducted through which a short description about ESDO and its activities was delivered to the students. The introductory session was followed by a presentation and question-answer session. The session intended to educate the children about the harmful

impacts of environmental pollutants on human health and environment. At the end of the campaign, the students expressed their solidarity with ESDO to work towards establishing toxic free sustainable green Bangladesh.

**60 Students, 7  
Teachers and 4  
hours!**



## National Workshop on Mercury added products

Mercury containing skin lightening cream flooded in Dhaka market; that has the potential risk to health and environment. Considering the severe health threats posed by mercury, manufacture and use of mercury added products should be strictly prohibited. Focusing on the issue, an awareness and consultation workshop entitled ‘‘Harmful effects of Mercury Added Products on health and Environment’’ was jointly organized by Department of Environment (DoE) and Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO) 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at National Press Club, Dhaka. Upon the revelation of high level of mercury containment in the ready available skin lightening products in Bangladesh, the participants urged for immediate preventive actions in this regard for the sake of public health and environmental protection. The workshop was chaired

by Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General at ESDO. Farida Yeasmin, General Secretary of National Press Club was present as the Guest of Honor.



## World Cleanup Day- Brand Audit of Single Use Plastics

Single use plastic creates immense havoc to human and environment in Bangladesh. 100 students of Begum Rokeya University-BRUR are collected 135 kg single use plastics packaging within an hour in the campus. It was determined 130 brands of 90 producers which include corporations like Unliver,



Coca-Cola, PRAN, ACME, Bombay Sweets Company, Perfetti Van Melle Bangladesh Pvt Limited, Ifad Multi Products Limited, Olympic company, British American Tobacco-Bangladesh, Bashundhara Paper Mills Limited etc. As part of global brand audit under the Break Free From Plastic movement, Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO organized a Brand Audit event and ‘‘World Cleanup Day’’ together with BRUR in Rangpur on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. Vice

chancellor of Begum Rokeya University, Professor Dr. Major Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah formally inaugurated the brand audit campaign and urged the Government to take necessary steps to protect our environment against plastic pollution.

## PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS



### Workshop in Marine litter and micro plastics

Plastic waste and especially marine plastic litter is an environmental problem occurring on a global scale today. The ubiquitous transboundary movement of plastic wastes and microplastics is becoming a major concern as their property of durability makes their particles remain for long period of time. On this issue, on September 18-19, 2019, a project launching

event was organized by BRS-NORAD and SR-Asia on “Marine litter and microplastics: promoting the environmentally sound management of plastic wastes and achieving the prevention and minimization of the generation of plastic wastes.

### Stakeholders Awareness Raising Meeting on Environmentally Sound Management of Poly Chlorinated Bi-phenyls (PCBs)

An awareness raising meeting on ‘Environmentally Sound Management of Poly Chlorinated Bi-phenyls (PCBs)’ was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June in Chameli Conference Room, Department of Environment (DoE). The program was organized by DoE to meet with stakeholders specially power sector industrial

persons. The meeting was a part of inception workshop held on 29<sup>th</sup> June. ESDO representatives presented a presentation there, how ESDO can involve in this project. We shared its previous working experiences on how it manage awareness campaigns and maintain websites.



### Workshop on Environmentally Sound Management of Mercury Lamp Sources

A workshop was held on environmentally sound management of mercury containing light sources at 16 July, 2019 in Department of Environment. The purpose

of the workshop was to discuss and publish the Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment Report for Bangladesh and environmentally sound

management of CFL light in Bangladesh. Minamata Initial Assessment Report is an initiative to make the convention worthy for Bangladesh.



## Symposium on Green Chemistry and Sustainable Chemical Management for Bangladesh Textile Growth

A symposium entitled 'Green Chemistry and Sustainable Chemical Management for Bangladesh Textile Growth' was held at the International Convention City, Bashundhara, Dhaka on 5 September 2019 (Thursday) from 2:30pm to 5:00pm. The program was organized by CEMS Global and ESTex-BUET will provide the platform for stakeholders to discuss the key elements of chemical management and safety based on national and international policy and rules, developing chemical safety and

security culture, using eco-friendly chemicals and adopting cleaner production options. Siddika Sultana, Executive Director and Shazia Jannat, Junior Program Associate of Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO attended the symposium. The symposium was held in order to achieve the safe use of chemicals and to control hazards to the workers, the community and the environment, it is important that the

factories and chemical suppliers adopt sustainable chemical management in chemical production, supply chain and application stages.



*"ESTex-BUET will provide the platform for stakeholders to discuss the key elements of chemical management and safety based on national and international policy and rules."*

## Symposium and Workshop on Textile chemical safety, security and management

Environmental Sustainability in Textile Industries (ESTex), Department of Chemical Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Conference and Exhibition Management Services Limited (CEMS) jointly arranged a 'Symposium and Workshop on Textile Chemical Safety and Management', at the Crystal Ball Room, Hotel Intercontinental, Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 4th July

(Thursday) 2019 from 9:00am – 6:00pm. In the first half of the event there were a Symposium and open discussion. Workshop was held after lunch. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO) attended the symposium. In the open discussion, he suggested that with Sika, an UN Sustainable Development Organization and Bangladesh. Government,

the private sectors had to participate for managing safety of the chemicals released by textile industries.



**Ban  
Lead  
Paint!**

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP

*"51 NGOs and local government people were participated in two days' workshop with half of dental amalgam issue."*

## International workshop on chemical pollution: Plastic, Mercury and PFAS

An international workshop was held on "Chemical Pollution: Plastic, Mercury & PFAS" from August 11 to 13 at an Ancient village Xixi south town of Huizhon District of Huangshan city of Anhun province, organize by Toxic Free China, BFFP China. 51 NGOs and local government

people were participated in two days' workshop with half of dental amalgam issue. The participant had high interest on amalgam and positive to phase out for children and women now and support phase out amalgam soon. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary General of Environmental and Social Development

Organization (ESDO) also participated as an international expert both in the workshop and meeting.



## International conference on Pacific Basin Consortium

The 18th International Conference of the Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health: *Assessing and Mitigating Environmental Exposures in Early Life*, was held 16 – 19 September 2019 in Kyoto, Japan. Dr. Shahriar Hossain, Secretary

General of Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO) participated in this conference.



## Annual meeting of Asia Pacific Nations Network

On 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2019, Siddika Sultana, Executive director of Environment and Social Development Organization-ESDO attended in the Annual Meeting of International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists-Asia Pacific Nations Network and gave a presentation on APNN

2019- country report of Bangladesh. In her presentation she highlighted the contribution of women in STEM sectors of Bangladesh.



**Don't  
use  
Mercury  
in  
products**

## Asia Pacific regional workshop on Lead in Paint

Lead is a cumulative toxicant that poses serious risks to human health and development, with children being especially vulnerable. Lead-containing paint remains one of the major sources of lead exposure for children globally and was identified as one of the international Emerging Policy Issues of focus by Strategic Approach for International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

Since then, the international community, governments, industry and nongovernmental organizations have been working together to promote the establishment of lead paint laws in all countries. The goal of the Lead Paint Alliance is to phase out the manufacture, import and sale of paints containing lead and eventually to eliminate the risks from such paint. To achieve this goal globally,

the Lead Paint Alliance is encouraging countries to eliminate lead in new paints by establishing and enforcing lead paint laws. This workshop provided an overview of the Lead Paint Alliance recommended actions and available advice to support the establishment of lead paint laws in the Asia-Pacific region.

*"The goal of the Lead Paint Alliance is to phase out the manufacture, import and sale of paints containing lead and eventually to eliminate the risks from such paint."*



## Workshop on international young woman scientist

2019 MAPWiST and YWS camp was held on 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at EwhaWomens University, South Korea. The program was organized by the Association of Korean Woman Scientists and Engineers - KWSE. It was three day long program and the program includes: Natural History Museum, Research Institute Tour,

One Minute Pitch (OMP) and Poster Presentation, Luncheon & Research Talks with National Geographic, Group Mentoring, Welcome Dinner, Opening Ceremony, Plenary Session, Networking Luncheon, Policy Forum, Panel Discussion, Country Exhibition, Farewell dinner and Awards Giving Ceremony etc. As a

representative of ESDO, Juthi Rani Mitra (Program Associate) joined the camp to present her research work and represent Bangladesh.



**Ban  
Mercury  
Amalgam**

# ESDO ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

## Team Orientation and Training

An orientation and training was held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2019 at ESDO office. On the first day the workshop covered the background of ESDO, introduction to each other's, 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.

These two days were hosted by ESDO Secretary General Dr. Shahriar Hossain and Shahnaz Monir, Executive Committee

Member, Director International Program. We learned many research work related activities and how to work with team as well as individually.



*"Team orientation and training hosted by ESDO Secretary General Dr. Shahriar Hossain and Shahnaz Monir, Executive Committee Member, Director International Program."*



## Beach sampling in Cox's Bazaar under IPEN plastic monitoring project

Under the provision of IPEN Global Plastic Monitoring Project, a beach sampling activity has been carried out in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh on 5-6 August, 2019. The purpose of the respective activity was to collect plastic pellets and fragments from standard trashes along the high tide line on sandy beaches. Considering the research

purpose, two prime locations along the Cox's Bazaar shoreline have been identified to be potentially suitable for the execution of the sampling activity – Cox's Bazaar Sea Beach & Inani Sea Beach. Beach plastic pellets and fragments were collected from several points under these two major location.

Survey Method: IPEN Plastic Pallet and

Fragment sampling protocol.

Objective: To raise global awareness about hazardous chemicals related to plastics through generation of data on persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and/or EDCs within plastic pellets and fragments.

*"To raise global awareness about hazardous chemicals related to plastics through generation of data on persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and/or EDCs within plastic pellets and fragments."*



## Survey on Lead Paints in Local Markets of Bangladesh

The survey was mainly focused to identify the imported paint companies from India to Bangladesh in some local shops at the market. Survey was conducted 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 in Mohammadpur at Dhaka. Survey Location: Town Hall market shops, Mohammadpur-Dhaka Survey Method: Questionnaire survey Objective: To know the brand name of paint

importing companies and to get information on other non-brand importing companies from India to Bangladesh.



**Eliminate Chemical Toxics!**

# 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.



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#### We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.esdo.org](http://www.esdo.org)

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