

Annual Report of Brighters

01 May 2023- 30 April 2024

BRIGHTERS 

For The People and Planet

in 2023-24

Advocacy
Capacity Eco-Tour
Building Activism
Renewable Energy



Annual Report 2023-24

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Contributors

Brighters Team

Photography

Brighters Society of Bangladesh and Partners

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Acronyms

BSB	Brighters Society of Bangladesh
BYCP	Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament
BYCS	Bangladesh Youth Climate School
BGA	Brighters General Assembly
VM	Voting Member
CCM	Convener Committee Member
ECM	Executive Committee Member
DCM	District Committee Member
NBC	National Brighters Council



Saidur R Siam

Founder & Director

Brighters Society Of Bangladesh

At Brighters, our core purpose centers on creating a world founded on principles of equity, justice, and human rights. This overarching vision guides all our work and initiatives.

In a world still grappling with inequalities and violations of rights, we remain steadfastly committed to equity and justice for all people. We believe everyone deserves fair opportunities and access to their basic rights, irrespective of their background or circumstances.

Through our combined efforts, we aim to make justice more than just an abstract concept - we want it to be a tangible lived reality for everyone. We tirelessly work to amplify marginalized voices, advocate for their rights, and empower them to stand up to injustice.

In all we do, from advocacy campaigns to grassroots initiatives, we operate with the conviction that positive change is possible when people come together with resolve and compassion. Collectively, we are establishing a foundation for a world where all can thrive, free from discrimination and oppression.

We have reached more than a million people and our direct beneficiaries are around 20600 people.

As we move forward on this journey, we extend our deepest gratitude to all who support this shared vision with unwavering commitment.

Together, let us continue building a world where equity, justice and rights form the bedrock of society, not just ideals.



Fariha S Aumi

Chair

Brighters Society Of Bangladesh

I am delighted to present the 2023 Annual Report for Brighters, our dynamic, youth-led non-profit organization committed to tackling climate-related challenges. Through our collective efforts, we have made significant strides in promoting environmental sustainability and empowering communities to adopt eco-friendly practices.

As the world continues to grapple with the ever-increasing challenges posed by climate change, our organization has remained steadfast in its commitment to creating a sustainable and resilient future. Through our unwavering efforts, we have continued to empower young people, raise awareness, and drive positive change in our communities.

The past year has been a testament to the power of collective action and the unwavering determination of our dedicated volunteers, staff, and supporters. Together, we have implemented numerous initiatives, campaigns, and programs aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change and promoting sustainable practices.

One of our significant achievements in 2023 was the successful launch of our "Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament - BYCP" program, which aimed to equip young leaders with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to become agents of change in their respective constituencies in Bangladesh. Through this initiative, we have trained and empowered hundreds of young individuals, enabling them to spearhead local climate action projects and inspire others to join the movement.

Furthermore, our "My Planet My Responsibility" campaign gained significant traction, reaching thousands of households and encouraging them to adopt eco-friendly practices in their daily lives. From promoting not to use single-use plastics to advocating for responsible waste management, our efforts have contributed to raising awareness and driving behavioral change.

Additionally, we have successfully completed the "Barefoot Research" program to advocate for safe water in the Kallayanpur slum area. This initiative aimed to empower local residents by providing them with crucial knowledge and tools to ensure the availability of safe and clean water, furthering our commitment to improving community health and environmental sustainability.

In addition to our local initiatives, we have actively participated in national and international dialogues, advocating for stronger climate policies and increased investment in sustainable development. Our representatives have attended various conferences and forums, amplifying the voices of young people and pushing for ambitious climate action.

As we look ahead, the challenges posed by climate change remain daunting, but our determination to overcome them has never been stronger. We will continue to harness the power of youth, innovation, and collaboration to create a more sustainable and equitable world for present and future generations.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team, volunteers, partners, and supporters who have made our achievements possible. Your unwavering commitment and belief in our cause have been instrumental in driving our success.

Together, we will continue to champion the cause of climate action, inspiring others to join us in building a brighter and more sustainable future for all.

Thank you for your continued support and solidarity.



Organizational Overview

About Brighters

Brighters is a youth-led non-profit organization founded in 2016. We focus on climate advocacy, education, environmental sustainability, and urban resilience. With 20,000 volunteers, climate activists, and 600 Climate Action Ambassadors and Voting Members, we are active in 51 districts. We have organised programs in 64 districts to address climate issues. Our vision is a sustainable world where people reach their highest potential. We empower children, youth, and women through leadership and education to fight inequality, and injustice, and ensure a better future for all. Join us in creating a brighter, more sustainable world!



Our Vision

A world with sustainability and Justice.

Our Mission



To empower the youth & next generation to build a sustainable & just future for the people & planet by eradicating inequality and injustice.

Our Values



Courage

We have confidence in young people's willpower to confront falsehoods, misinformation, and climate injustice wherever it manifests itself.

Teamwork



We take care of ourselves and our communities, honor one another in our non-violent approach to this work, and share that spirit and learning with others one has all the answers, so we value the experience and knowledge of our partners and our communities. That's why we listen to them so we can learn and evolve together.



Innovation

We believe young people can think of a better future free from environmental injustice, safe from climate chaos, widely available in biodiversity, and prosperous for all.

Integrity



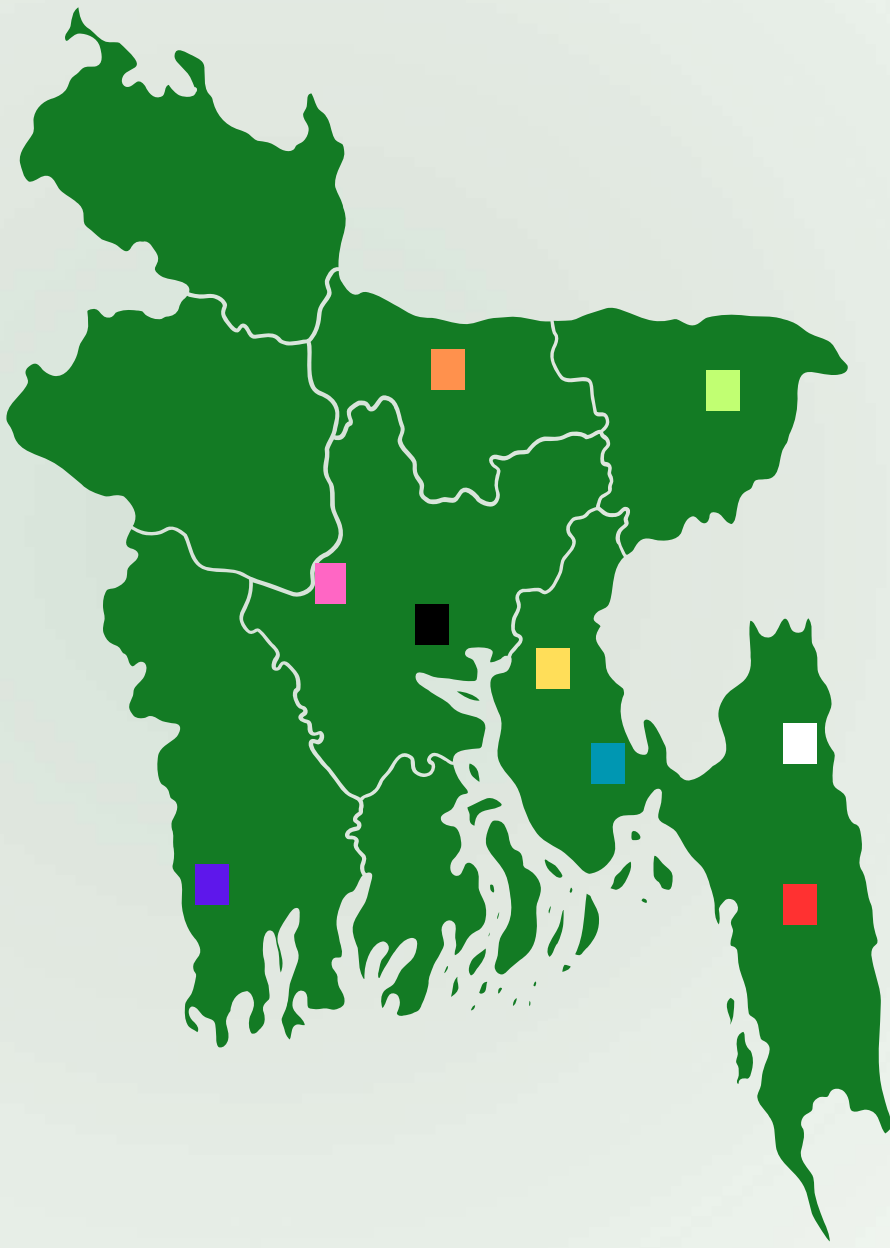
Our work emerges from a clear-minded adherence to truth—the scientific truth that provokes our sense of urgency about the climate crisis, and the moral truth that defines our responsibility to one another, to all life, and to future generations to be honest, kind, and just.



Working Areas & Projects

Working Area

- Dhaka
- Chittagong
- Comilla
- Narayanganj
- Satkhira
- Mymensingh
- Rangamati
- Sylhet
- Manikganj



Key Highlights

The background features a large, faint circular pattern on the left side. On the right side, there is a vertical, jagged, abstract shape composed of various shades of green, teal, and purple, resembling a stylized tree or a modern architectural element.

Total Reach



13,56,728



38.73%



42.87%



18.4%



Our Programs



Climate justice & Just Transition

Brighters tackles climate injustice and enhances community resilience by actively involving young people and diverse stakeholders across local, national, and global platforms. Our interventions adopt an integrated approach, combining climate awareness, advocacy efforts, and grassroots solutions. In 2023, key areas of focus included improving climate literacy, amplifying youth perspectives in climate decision-making processes, and championing climate justice principles in policy reforms. Through our wide-ranging initiatives, we engaged and empowered more than 15,000 young individuals and community members, driving positive change towards a more resilient and equitable future.

Highlights



Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament - BYCP

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Global Climate Strike

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Special Feature

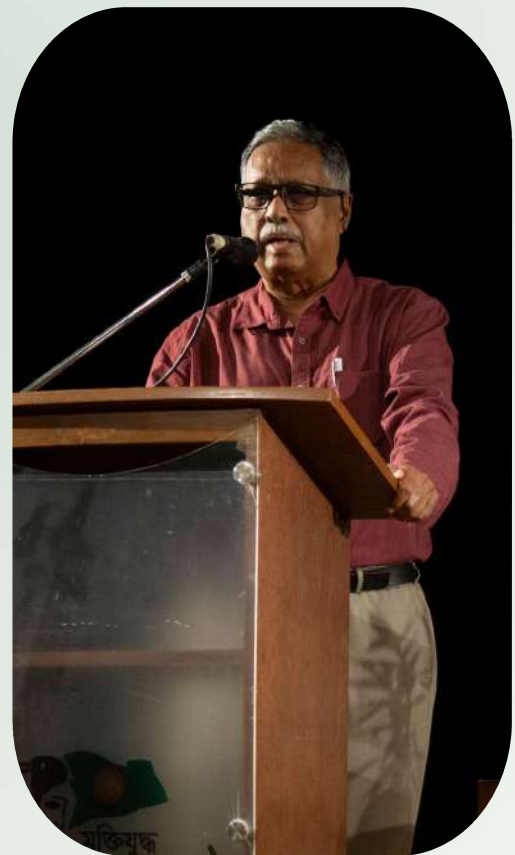
Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament - BYCP



The Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament (BYCP), a flagship initiative by Brighters Society of Bangladesh, Change Initiative, and Save the Children Bangladesh, marks a groundbreaking stride in addressing the nation's climate challenges, particularly in the realm of renewable energy. Inaugurated on 29 August, 2023, this first-ever climate-based parliament led by Bangladeshi youth witnessed the presence of 170 young individuals from diverse constituencies, who raised concerns about local climate issues, proposed eco-friendly solutions, and shared their aspirations for the BYCP. Honorable Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Saber H Chowdhury, graced the occasion, expressing excitement over the program's potential to elect 10,000 registered "Youth MPs" across 300 constituencies to champion climate change, sustainability, and environmental causes.



Through a structured platform, the BYCP empowers youth engagement, capacity building, and solution-driven action, fostering collaboration among diverse backgrounds to tackle environmental challenges, raise climate awareness, and engage policymakers. With a focus on constituency-specific climate vulnerabilities, the program aims to promote environmental education, advocate for policy reforms, and foster sustainable development practices, ultimately enhancing community resilience and driving tangible solutions for climate resilience at the grassroots level.



Story of BYCP

"The voices or demands that we youths make from the grassroots level are often not addressed to the policymakers at the national level. However, the Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament provides a platform where youth can raise their voices directly to policymakers on climate change issues in their area and work together to find sustainable solutions to climate issues in their communities."



Asaduzzaman Tohin is a dedicated Climate activist from Bangladesh. He has been involved in the Climate Justice movement from 2021. He is the regional coordinator of Dhaka-Mymensingh region in Brighters Society of Bangladesh. Tohin is One of the Youth M.P Of Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament. He belongs from Dinajpur-6 constituency which is one of the drought prone areas of Bangladesh. With a focus on constituency-specific climate vulnerabilities, the BYCP program aims to promote environmental education, advocate for policy reforms, and foster sustainable development practices, ultimately enhancing community resilience and driving tangible solutions for climate resilience at the grassroots level. Representing his constituency, he championed the plight of farmers grappling with prolonged dry spells. With unwavering determination, Tohin advocated for alternative livelihoods, drought-tolerant crops, community seed banks, and rainwater harvesting measures. His grassroots efforts resonated, amplifying the call for clean water access and climate-resilient solutions. Through the BYCP's structured platform, Tohin empowered youth engagement, fostered collaboration, and drove policy reforms, positioning environmental education and sustainable development practices as the cornerstones of a resilient future.



Education: Focused on Climate, Environment & Just Transition

Brighters prioritized climate education and capacity building through innovative projects like Climate Times (Bangladesh's first Bengali climate website), thought-provoking climate comic books, eco-tourism experiences, and the Bangladesh Youth Climate School (BYCS). These initiatives aimed to raise awareness, nurture environmental stewardship, and empower youth as agents of change, equipping them with knowledge and skills to tackle climate and environmental challenges while championing justice and equity.

Highlights



Climate Times

Climate Times was Bangladesh's pioneering Bengali climate website launched by Brighters.

It served as a valuable knowledge hub, providing up-to-date news, resources, and insights on climate change, environmental issues, and sustainable practices in the local language. By making climate information accessible to the masses, Climate Times empowered communities to understand and respond to climate challenges effectively.

Comic Book



Brighters developed engaging and educational comic books to raise climate awareness among youth and general audiences.

These comic books used storytelling and visuals to simplify complex climate concepts, making them relatable and easy to understand. Through captivating narratives, the comic books encouraged readers to reflect on their environmental impact and adopt eco-friendly habits.

Highlights



Eco Tourism

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BYCS



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Special Feature

Climate Comics



The Brighters Society of Bangladesh, in collaboration with ActionAid Bangladesh, has pioneered a groundbreaking "Climate Comics" initiative to promote climate education and awareness through Bangladesh's first-ever Bengali comic book focused on climate change. Recognizing the need for an accessible and engaging platform, Climate Comics aims to educate people of all ages about the basics of climate change, its impacts, and the importance of taking action towards a sustainable future. The comic book series features three main stories: "Battery Birombona," covering climate change causes, disasters, health effects from pollutants, and youth activism; "Sufi Pagal's Jungle," highlighting the importance of trees and forests, and protests against deforestation; and "Koyla Kelenkari," exploring the harmful effects of fossil fuels, environmental disasters from coal-based power plants, and collective awareness to protect life and nature.



By leveraging visual storytelling and relatable narratives, Climate Comics makes complex climate information more understandable and engaging, especially for those who find the subject matter uninteresting or difficult. Since its launch in December 2022, the initiative has reached over 10,000 youths and children through online and offline platforms, with printed copies distributed to youth hubs and "climate cafes" in 25 schools, allowing students to learn about climate impacts on their lives. With over 5,000 direct beneficiaries in its first edition and the potential to reach hundreds of thousands more through its online presence, Climate Comics aims to foster a deeper understanding of climate change and inspire people to take action towards building a sustainable future.



Special Feature

Climate Times



Brighters Society of Bangladesh has launched 'Climate Times', a climate-oriented website in Bengali language, to promote climate education among the youth, especially in remote areas, under the 'Youth Engagement in Democracy' project. The website aims to bridge the knowledge gap surrounding climate change by providing informative articles on various climate-related topics like causes, mitigation processes, human rights, migration, advocacy, policies, impacts on agriculture, ecosystems, public health, and food security. With over 50 articles uploaded so far and more in the pipeline, reaching 5,018 people and directly benefiting 6,058 individuals, Climate Times serves as a knowledge powerhouse in native language for young people, professionals, and enthusiasts, facilitating learning, research, and analysis on climate change.

নিউক্লিয়ার এনার্জি জলবায়ু পরিবর্তনের সাথে উপযোগী?

নিউক্লিয়ার বলতে আমরা কি বুঝি।

নিউক্লিয়ার বলতে মূলত ২ টা বিষয় বୁঝানো হয়। প্রথমটি হলো কোনো পরমাণুর মূল (core) আর আরেকটি হলো নিউক্লিয়ার এনার্জি। জলবায়ুর সাথে আমরা যখন নিউক্লিয়ার শব্দটা ব্যবহার করি, তখন আমরা মূলত নিউক্লিয়ার এনার্জিকেই বুঝিয়ে থাকি।

পরমাণুর মূল (core) ই মূলত নিউক্লিয়াস এবং এই নিউক্লিয়াস এ থাকে প্রচুর্ভিতের শক্তি বা এনার্জি। নিউক্লিয়ার এনার্জির কথা যখন আসে তখন মূলত দুই ধরনের এনার্জির কথা বুঝানো হয়। একটি হলো নিউক্লিয়ার ফিশন এনার্জি এবং অন্যটি হলো নিউক্লিয়ার ফিউশন এনার্জি। নিউক্লিয়ার এনার্জি সাধারণ সোর্সের এনার্জির তুলনায় পরিমাণে অনেক বেশি। বর্তমানে এই এনার্জি কাজে লাগিয়ে বিভিন্ন কাজ করা হয়ে থাকে; যেমন: বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন।

Nuclear energy is
an important part

Catering to rural youth with limited access to capacity-building workshops, the website's focus on informative Bengali content contributes to raising climate awareness, fostering a climate-conscious mindset, and empowering the youth to take action towards a more sustainable future.

5,018

টোটাল ওয়েবসাইট রিচ

6,058

টোটাল সোশ্যাল মিডিয়া রিচ

3,000

টোটাল এনগেজমেন্ট

Special Feature

Capacity Building Program

Bangladesh Youth Climate School

The Bangladesh Youth Climate School (BYCS) was established by Brighters to build capacity and empower young climate leaders. BYCS offered comprehensive training programs, workshops, and mentorship opportunities focused on climate science, advocacy, and leadership skills. This initiative equipped youth with the knowledge, tools, and confidence necessary to drive climate action, influence policies, and inspire their communities towards positive change.

February

Training on
Introduction to
Research
Methodology &
Data Collection

April

Training on
Grassroots to
Global : Youth
Leadership for
Climate Action

May

Training on
Grassroots to
Global : Youth
Leadership for
Climate Action

May

Training on
Public
Speaking &
Storytelling

May

Training on
Funding for
Youth-led
Climate Action

June

Training on
Proposal
Writing

Education Story

“From the ‘Battery Birombona’ in the comic book, I learned a lot about the effects of batteries on the environment, what diseases can be caused due to their harmful effects, what are the types of environment and what is climate change etc. Next is sufi Pagol Jungle. From this story I get to know about the benefits of trees. Next is the coal scam. From this story I get to know the harmful effects of burning coal on our environment, harmful effects on animals, diseases etc. These make me more nature-conscious and motivated and aware to protect the environment.”



Sayem Siddique, a passionate child advocate from the Brighters Society of Bangladesh, embarked on his activism journey early, driven by a deep love for nature and a desire to protect it from pollution. The impacts of climate change resonated with him profoundly, fueling his determination to bring about positive change in his community. Through the "Climate Comics" initiative, Sayem effortlessly grasped complex climate topics through engaging visual narratives, while "Climate Times" provided him with in-depth knowledge and analysis on subjects like carbon tax and green entrepreneurship. These complementary initiatives fostered a deeper understanding of climate change within him, raising his awareness and promoting a climate-conscious mindset. Empowered by this comprehensive approach to climate education, Sayem became a well-informed and passionate child advocate, striving to bridge knowledge gaps, reach remote areas, and inspire widespread awareness and action towards a sustainable future.



Youth Mobilization

Mobilizing Youth to Foster Youth led innovations & Initiative to fight Climate Injustice

Brighters mobilized youth to drive climate action and address climate injustice through innovative initiatives. The Bangladesh Youth CoP engaged young people in climate policy dialogues. Friend Raiser debates explored links between climate change and human rights. The Youth Climate Conservation (YCC) program nurtured youth-led conservation efforts and nature-based solutions. These initiatives empowered youth leadership, fostered collaboration, and amplified young voices in combating climate injustice.

Highlights



Bangladesh Youth COP 2023

Brighters and ActionAid Bangladesh organized the Bangladesh Youth CoP 2023 to amplify youth voices on climate action. Around 1,000 youth participants contributed to developing a Green Manifesto emphasizing renewable energy adoption ahead of national elections. The event provided a platform for youth to influence energy and climate policies towards a sustainable future.

Friend Raiser Debate on Climate Change & Human Rights



Recognizing the interconnectedness of climate change and human rights, Brighters organized Friend Raiser Debates that encouraged critical thinking and discourse among youth on the social and ethical dimensions of the climate crisis. These debates fostered in-depth conversations and raised awareness about climate justice, highlighting the disproportionate impact of climate change on marginalized and vulnerable communities.

Highlights



Climate Awareness Campaign

This campaign focused on educating and raising awareness among the general public about the impacts of climate change and the importance of taking individual and collective actions to address this global issue. Through various outreach activities, events, and multimedia content, the campaign aimed to increase knowledge about climate change causes, effects, and potential solutions while motivating people to adopt more sustainable lifestyles and support climate action initiatives.



Youth Climate Conservation (YCC)

Through the Youth Climate Conservation (YCC) program, Brighters nurtured youth-driven conservation initiatives and nature-based solutions within local communities. This initiative fostered a sense of environmental stewardship and promoted sustainable practices among young people. By enabling youth to take tangible action in protecting and restoring ecosystems, YCC empowered them to play an active role in mitigating the impacts of climate change and preserving biodiversity.

Special Feature

Bangladesh Youth COP 2023



The Bangladesh Youth CoP 2023, organized by Brighters Society of Bangladesh & ActionAid Bangladesh, was a flagship event aimed at amplifying the voices of climate-conscious youth and marginalized communities in the country. The primary objective was to develop a Green Manifesto emphasizing renewable energy adoption ahead of the 2024 national elections. Under the theme "Make noise, Raise voice for green Manifesto," the event highlighted the crucial role of renewable energy in mitigating climate change, reducing carbon emissions, ensuring energy security, creating employment opportunities, and promoting sustainable development. It provided a platform for Bangladeshi youth to express their demands, gain advocacy skills, and influence policy decisions related to a just energy transition. Through a grand opening, workshops, consultations, and sessions across various regions, the event covered topics such as coastal vulnerabilities, women's empowerment, climate impacts on agriculture, urban resilience, and energy transition.



Approximately 1,000 youth participants from different parts of Bangladesh contributed their perspectives and recommendations for the comprehensive Green Manifesto. The event emphasized the urgency of transitioning to renewable energy sources, addressing the impacts of fossil fuel usage, and ensuring climate justice and sustainable development. The resulting Green Manifesto, reflecting the youth's aspirations and demands, was distributed to political parties before the elections, aiming to influence their election manifestos and shape a sustainable energy future for Bangladesh. Overall, the Bangladesh Youth CoP 2023 successfully established a platform for Bangladeshi youth to actively participate in policy discussions, advocate for renewable energy adoption, and drive meaningful change in national energy policies.

Youth COP Story

“For us Youth CoP is a movement, a call to action for us to shape the future we want to see.”



Taslima Islam Nipa is a prominent Climate advocate in Bangladesh. For seven years, she has been tirelessly advocating for a greener and more sustainable future.

As the Regional Coordinator of the Brighters Society of Bangladesh's Dhaka-Mymensingh Division, Taslima has been actively involved in the Bangladesh Youth COP, a platform that amplifies the voices of grassroots youth on the national level. For young leaders, Youth COP is a platform to develop knowledge, skills and leadership qualities – which will be used to build a sustainable, environmentally friendly future for all. Through her unwavering efforts, she has inspired countless young people to embrace their role as catalysts for change, promoting climate justice, sustainable development, and renewable energy. Driven by a deep commitment to empowering the youth, Taslima has played a pivotal role in the creation of the Green Manifesto, a powerful document that encapsulates the demands of Bangladesh's grassroots youth. This manifesto, rooted in environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, and social issues, has the potential to shape government policies and foster positive transformations in education, health, and societal norms.



Environmental Right, Sustainability & Resilience

The Environmental Rights, Sustainability & Resilience program promotes environmental awareness, sustainable practices, and advocacy for environmental rights through community engagement, campaigns, research studies, and policy advocacy efforts focused on issues like clean water access and waste reduction.

Highlights



Community Event on Eco-system Restoration

We hosted community events to raise environmental awareness and resilience, engaging local residents in activities designed to promote sustainable living and environmental stewardship.

My Planet My Responsibility Campaign to End Plastic Pollution



This campaign successfully promoted eco-friendly practices and responsible waste management, encouraging thousands of households to adopt sustainable habits and reduce their environmental footprint.

Highlights



Study on “Assessing Clean Water Accessibility And Rate Of Water-borne Disease in the Kallayanpur Slum Area”

We conducted an in-depth study to evaluate clean water accessibility and the prevalence of water-borne diseases in the Kallayanpur slum area. The findings from this research have been instrumental in advocating for improved water quality and access, directly influencing policies to ensure the right to clean water for this vulnerable community.

Townhall Meeting : Right to Clean Water, Advocacy to Access



This advocacy program aimed to ensure access to safe and clean water for community members. Through a townhall meeting format, it raised awareness about the fundamental human right to clean water and advocated for improved water quality and accessibility, especially in underserved areas. The program empowered community members to voice their concerns, learn about water-related issues, and collectively push for policy changes and resources to address water contamination and inadequate water supply affecting their communities.

Special Feature

Study on “Assessing Clean Water Accessibility And Rate Of Water-borne Disease in the Kallyanpur Slum Area”



The study conducted by Brighters Society of Bangladesh in a collaboration with Manusher Jonno Foundation and Global Research & Marketing aimed to assess the access to clean water and prevalence of waterborne diseases among the slum dwellers of Kallyanpur, Dhaka. This research empowers people in the community and brings out the voice of the grassroots. Data was collected from 299 sample households, focus group discussions, in-depth interviews, and a case study. The findings unveiled a distressing reality. Despite most households depending on WASA tubewells for drinking water, the supply was severely limited to merely 1-2 hours per day, and the water quality was compromised due to contaminants. Compounding the issue, the monthly water bills, ranging from 301 to 500 taka, imposed a substantial financial burden on families with low incomes. Alarmingly, a staggering 39% of reported disease cases were attributed to contaminated water sources this year alone. The sanitation situation painted an equally concerning picture.



Only 34% of residents had access to hygienic, functional toilet facilities, with some toilets being shared by up to 15 families at once. The lack of running water in toilets perpetuated the problem of open defecation. Handwashing facilities and water treatment systems were woefully scarce, despite 33% of residents receiving hygiene training from NGOs. The study highlighted the urgent need for increased funding and improved policies to address this water and sanitation crisis. Recommendations included installing water booths and more taps, constructing additional communal toilets with separate facilities for men and women, promoting capacity building on sanitation and water management, improving pipeline quality and waste management, and fostering collaboration between the government, NGOs, and communities to expand interventions. Ensuring access to clean water and proper sanitation is a fundamental human right, and addressing these issues through multisectoral approaches is crucial for protecting the well-being and rights of the Kalyanpur slum residents.

Special Feature

Right to Clean Water, Advocacy to Access



Brighters, in collaboration with MANUSHER JONNO FOUNDATION, conducted a social study to assess the availability of clean water and the rate of water-borne diseases in the Kalyanpur new market slum area. The research revealed that clean water was scarce, and the people were suffering from various water-borne diseases due to consuming polluted water. Based on the findings, Brighters' research team recommended installing more water booths and taps, constructing communal toilets with separate facilities for men and women, promoting capacity building on sanitation and water management, improving pipeline quality, and discarding contamination. To share the research results and advocate for change, Brighters organized an event titled "Securing Rights: Clean Water Access and Disease Prevention in Kallyanpur Slum" on March 10 at Bangladesh Film Archive, Agargaon, where a Town Hall Meeting "Right to Water, Advocacy to Access" was conducted. The event brought together community members, politicians, researchers, volunteers, development workers, and stakeholders.



After sharing the research summary and a documentary, guest speakers Asif Chowdhury and Zakia Haque, research specialists, provided suggestions. Farzana Sultana from Manusher Jonno Foundation pledged support for program implementation. Notably, about 15 community members participated, voicing their opinions on their right to clean water and demanding more water booths. The counselor assured cooperation and initiatives to ensure clean water access. Following the town hall, Brighters facilitated meetings with community leaders, stakeholders like "Bumijo", and consultations with community members, culminating in the formation of a "Fresh Water Rights Forum" led by the community to work towards establishing their rights to fresh water. From identifying the problem to creating a "Fresh Water Right Forum" through research recommendations to establish fresh water rights for the community people, this is the result of Brighters' advocacy program for building a sustainable and climate-resilient future for all.

Evidence Based Advocacy Story

“Many thanks to Brighters for highlighting our long-standing problem through research like this. Due to dirt and lack of safe water, I and the slum dwellers are more prone to diarrhea and other water-borne diseases. Through the Right to Fresh Water Forum, we are on our way to fulfill our dreams.”



Asma Akhter, a resolute community leader from Kalyanpur Slum Area, had been tirelessly advocating for the rights of her people. Her partnership with Brighters proved instrumental in their quest for clean water. Through Barefoot Research, Brighters identified unsafe water sources and alarming rates of waterborne diseases in the slums. Empowered with this data, Asma rallied the community, leading to town hall demands for more water points. Brighters facilitated consultations with councilors and residents, culminating in the formation of the Right to Clean Water Forum. Asma's unwavering leadership, coupled with Brighters' continuous advocacy, amplified the community's voice. Their relentless efforts paid off, securing improved access to safe water and establishing a precedent for marginalized communities to claim their rights. This powerful collaboration exemplifies Brighters' commitment to climate justice, uplifting grassroots leaders like Asma and catalyzing transformation from the ground up.

Impactful Initiatives

Abandoned water treatment plant is reopening to provide clean water to the people of Kalyanpur slum!



Brighters Society of Bangladesh, in collaboration with Manusher Jonno Foundation and Global Research & Marketing, conducted a comprehensive study to assess the accessibility of clean water and the prevalence of water-borne diseases in the Kalyanpur slum area of Dhaka. The findings were alarming, revealing a severe lack of access to clean water, with WASA tubewells providing contaminated water for only 1-2 hours per day, and a staggering 39% of reported disease cases being attributed to contaminated water sources. The sanitation situation was equally concerning, with only 34% of residents having access to hygienic toilet facilities and open defecation being a common practice. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, Brighters organized an event titled "Securing Rights: Clean Water Access and Disease Prevention in Kallyanpur Slum," where they shared the research findings and facilitated a Town Hall Meeting, "Right to Water, Advocacy to Access." This event brought together community members, stakeholders, researchers, and policymakers, providing a platform for the community to voice their demands for clean water access and more water booths.

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Following the town hall, Brighters facilitated meetings with community leaders, stakeholders like "Bhumijo," and consultations with community members. After that 1 feedback meeting was held on this issue. Brighters' advocacy efforts led to the formation of a "Fresh Water Rights Forum" led by the community, dedicated to working towards establishing their rights to fresh water. This initiative not only highlighted the critical issue of water scarcity and poor sanitation but also empowered the community to take action and advocate for their basic human rights, demonstrating Brighters' commitment to building a sustainable and climate-resilient future for all. Brighters Impactful initiative to pave the way for solving community problems by setting up Right to Fresh Water Forums to address their access to clean water issues through advocacy with community leaders, starting from a training session with its recommendations and engaging with stakeholders at the field level.

Sustainable Practice

My Planet My Responsibility

The "My Planet My Responsibility" campaign by Brighters Society of Bangladesh aims to mobilize 500,000 youth in combating single-use plastics and reducing carbon footprints. Through social media campaigns, youth-led initiatives, and community education, the project strives to promote eco-friendly living practices. It raises awareness about plastic pollution, highlights the harmful effects of single-use plastics, encourages pledges to ban their use, conducts research on plastic and its impact, and promotes environmentally friendly alternatives to plastics. By empowering youth and fostering a sense of responsibility, the campaign seeks to create a sustainable future for the planet.



Eco Tourism

Eco Tourism, an initiative by Brightens Society of Bangladesh, is a commendable program fostering sustainable travel experiences and environmental consciousness among youth. By promoting eco-friendly tourism practices, it cultivates a deeper appreciation for nature. Participants pledge to protect the environment, spreading climate awareness within local communities. The project empowers young individuals to become environmental stewards, contributing to a brighter future for both society and the natural world. Through educational experiences and responsible travel, Eco Tourism nurtures a harmonious coexistence between humans and the environment, promoting conservation and sustainable development. This initiative represents a positive step towards preserving our planet's precious resources.



Sustainable Practice

Bangladesh Youth Climate School

The Bangladesh Youth Climate School, an innovative initiative by Brighters, aims to empower the nation's youth through climate education and soft skills development. Recognizing the urgency of environmental challenges, this program equips young minds with crucial knowledge about climate change. Simultaneously, it fosters essential leadership abilities, enabling participants to become effective agents of change. By combining theoretical understanding with practical skills, the school nurtures a generation of future leaders capable of driving sustainable solutions. This holistic approach not only raises climate awareness but also empowers youth to confidently tackle complex environmental issues, shaping a greener and more resilient future for Bangladesh.



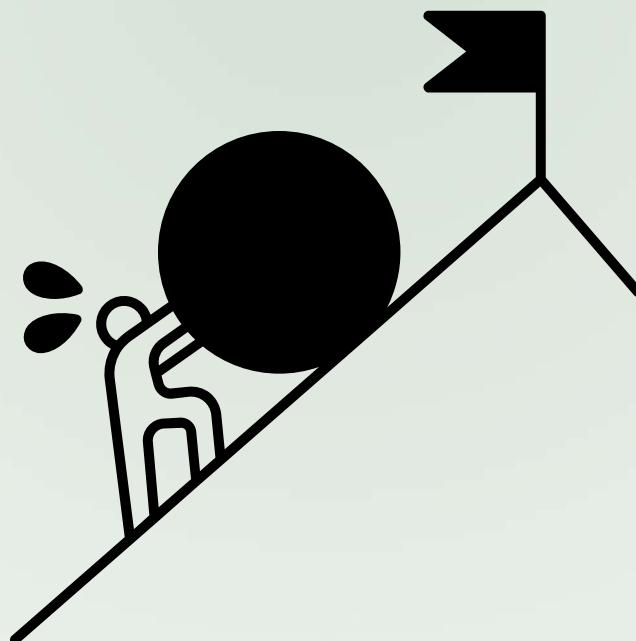
Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament

The Bangladesh Youth Climate Parliament is an initiative that aims to empower and engage young people in addressing climate change issues in Bangladesh. It provides a platform for youth to voice their concerns, share ideas, and take action on climate-related matters affecting their communities and the country. Through this parliament, young participants learn about climate policies, debate solutions, and develop advocacy skills to influence decision-makers and drive positive change. The program promotes youth leadership, raises awareness about climate impacts, and encourages innovative approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation strategies tailored to Bangladesh's unique challenges. Additionally, the youth participants work on climate initiatives within their own local constituencies, enabling them to directly impact and engage with their communities on these issues.



Challenges

Brighters Society of Bangladesh (BSB), a youth-led organization at the forefront of the climate justice movement, has faced significant challenges in securing funds and navigating complex legal frameworks. The fundraising landscape for climate-focused initiatives has been particularly daunting, with BSB struggling to secure sufficient resources to sustain their awareness campaigns, community outreach programs, and advocacy efforts. Limited funding sources have forced them to scale back operations, limiting their impact. Furthermore, BSB has encountered bureaucratic roadblocks and regulatory hurdles stemming from the lack of a supportive legal and policy framework. The absence of clear guidelines and outdated laws have created uncertainties, hindering their ability to collaborate with stakeholders and access necessary resources. In their efforts to implement environmental conservation projects and climate change adaptation programs, BSB has grappled with navigating complex regulations. Restrictive policies and inconsistencies in the legal framework have impeded their ability to operate efficiently and scale their impact.





Reach Through Communication



Communication



8,42,833 reach



294 posts



3090 followers



1796 reach



Board & Governance

Organs of Brighters

The General Assembly

The General Assembly, composed of all voting members, serves as the primary governing body of the society, providing overarching governance and direction.

The Governing Council

The National Council, comprised of individuals elected by the General Assembly, serves as the governance board of the society, overseeing policy implementation.

The Executive Board

The Executive Committee consists of individuals elected by the General Assembly and serves as the governance board of the society.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat, consisting of all employees of the society, operates under the leadership of the Executive Director. It serves as the professional management organ, ensuring efficient operation and implementation of the society's objectives.

Governing Council : Brighters



Saidur Rahman Siam

Founder & Director



Fariha Sultana Aumi

Chair



Md Sohanur Amin

Director



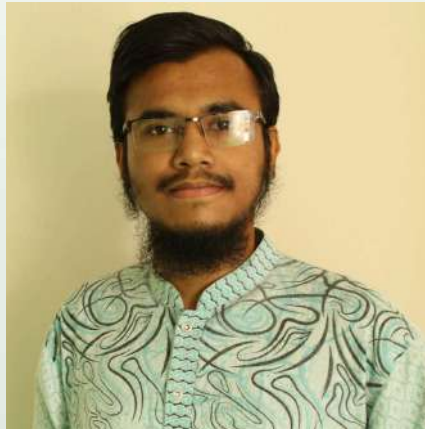
Mahmudul Hasan

Director

Executive Board: Brighters



MD Sohanur Amin
Director, Management Team



S M Musfiqur Rahman
Lead, Communication and Media



Md. Abdul Aziz Fuad
Regional Coordinator, Chittagong-Sylhet



Asaduzzaman Tohin
Regional Coordinator, Dhaka-Mymansingh



Naimur Rahman Durjoy
Regional Coordinator, Khulna-Barishal



Taslima Akter
Regional Coordinator, Rangpur-Rajshahi



Sanzida Ali Tanfe
Coordinator, Research & Development



Sharafat Karim
Coordinator, External Communication and Partnership Development



Ahraf Maya
Coordinator, Outreach and Mobilization



Aniruddha Somadder

Coordinator, Media and Outreach



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Deputy Coordinator, Digital Content



Sohel Rana

Deputy Coordinator, Research & Development



Shuvra Das

Deputy Coordinator Outreach and Mobilization



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Associate Member



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Jasmima Sabatina

Associate Media



Tahsinul Abrer Lisan

Associate, Training, and Capacity Building



Israt Jahan Lia

Associate, Documentation



Sanzana Hosen

Associate, Visual Storytelling (Content, Creation and Editing)



The Secretariat : Brighters



Fariha S Aumi
Executive Secretary



MD Sohanur Amin
Deputy Executive Secretary



Mahmudul Hasan
Branding Manager



Etekaf Dinar Apple
Lead, Program & Partnership



S M Musfiqur Rahman
Lead, Communication



Al Huzifa
Lead, Content, Communication
Team



Sanzida Ali Tanfe
Admin & Finance



Sharafat Karim
Executive, IT, Communication
Team



Dipannita Barua
Content Writer, Social Media
Team



Ahraf Maya

Social Media Manager



Aniruddha Somadder

Program, Partnership &
Development Officer



Shuvra Das

Program & Branding Officer

Our Committees

Organizational Development Committee



Head of Committee:
MD Shohanur Amin

Fund Raising Committee



Head of Committee:
Fariha Aumi

Monitoring & Evaluation Committee



Head of Committee:
Saidur Rahman

Safeguarding Committee



Head of Committee:
Sharafat Karim

Audit & Finance Committee



Head of Committee:
S M Musfiqur Rahman

Program & Partnership Development Committee



Head of Committee:
Aniruddha Somaddar

Communication, Branding & PR Committee



Head of Committee:
Mahmudul Hassan

Policy, MoA Review & Legal Committee



Head of Committee:
Naimur Rahman Durjoy

Office, Secretariat & Information Committee



Head of Committee:
Ettekaf Dinar Apple

BRIGHTERS



For The People and Planet



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