

Award Ceremony Report

Celebrating Youth Leadership in Climate Resilience 2024



OCTOBER 17, 2024
SIX SEASONS HOTEL, DHAKA, BANGLADESH



AO : P :

: : P : A 3

: : A : VA 4

AP :

Opening Remarks	7
Project Overview Presentation	7
Presentations from Selected Grantees	8
Research Journey Reflection	8
Awards and Certificate Distribution	9
Closing Remarks	10

P P 10

A : 11

A P A

Executive Summary

On October 17, 2024, ICCCAD hosted an award-giving ceremony for the CAP-RES Project at the Six Seasons Hotel, Dhaka, to recognize the achievements of youth fellows, research and innovation fund grantees from the 2023 and 2024 cohorts. The event showcased the CAP-RES project's commitment to empowering youth through capacity building and fostering innovative climate solutions.

Highlights included opening remarks by Saqib Huq, who emphasized the inclusion of youth voices in national and global policy, and a program overview by Maria Aktar, outlining the project's progress and impact. Grantees presented transformative projects on mixed-culture farming and bio-waste management, while K. M. Khaleduzzaman shared an inspiring reflection on his research journey. Awards and certificates were distributed to celebrate contributions to climate resilience and sustainability. The event concluded with reflections from distinguished guests, reinforcing the vital role of youth in driving a resilient and equitable future.

Event Agenda

Time (GMT+6 Bangladesh Time)	Agenda	Details/Speakers
01:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch and Registration	Participants have lunch and complete event registration.
02:00 PM – 2:10 PM	Opening Remarks	Saqib Huq, Managing Director, ICCCAD
02:10 PM – 2:20 PM	Overview of the ICCCAD Youth fellowship Programme and Youth Innovation Fund and Research Grant	Maria Aktar, Assistant Project Manager, ICCCAD
02:20 PM – 02:40 PM	Certificate Distribution to Fellowship Winners	Presented by Special Guests
02:40 PM – 02:50 PM	Certificate Distribution to Research Winners	Presented by Special Guests
02:50 PM – 03:00 PM	Crest Distribution to Innovation Fund Winners	Presented by Special Guests
03:00 PM – 03:15 PM	Acceptance Speeches	Speeches by selected certificate and award recipients
03:15 PM – 03:25 PM	Closing Remarks	Saqib Huq, Managing Director of ICCCAD
03:25 PM – 03:30 PM	Group Photo	Group photo with participants
03:30 PM – 04:00 PM	Refreshment and Networking	

1. Introduction

On 17 October 2024, at the Six Seasons Hotel in Dhaka, ICCCAD hosted an award ceremony to celebrate the achievements of youth fellows, research and innovation fund grantees under the Capacity Strengthening of Multi-Actors to Limit Climate Change Impacts and Enhance Resilience (CAP-RES) Project. The youth program, a cornerstone of the CAP-RES project, focuses on empowering young leaders to drive innovative, locally-led climate adaptation and resilience-building initiatives.



In 2023, the program supported youth fellowship as well as youth grantees in multiple categories, including youth innovation funds and research grants. Building on this success, the initiative continued to offer fellowship and fund impactful projects in 2024 while recognizing research grantees and fellows from 2023 during the ceremony. The event honored these contributions and highlighted ICCCAD's ongoing commitment to fostering youth leadership and collaboration in addressing critical climate challenges.

The ceremony celebrated not only the achievements of individual grantees but also the collective power of youth to transform their communities through innovative, sustainable, and inclusive climate solutions. By empowering the next generation of change-makers, ICCCAD reaffirms its vision for a resilient and equitable future.

2. Event Overview

The award ceremony brought together a diverse group of attendees, including:

- Youth fellows from 2023 and 2024, innovation fund winners from 2024 and research grantees under the CAP-RES Project from the 2023.
- Representatives from ICCCAD: Several team members attended, including Saqib Huq (Managing Director), Maria Aktar (Assistant Project Manager, CAP-RES), and the event host, Sumiya Binte Selim (Youth Focal, CAP-RES).
- Distinguished guests, including: Mohammad Mahmudul Hasan (HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Bangladesh) and M Tariqul Hasan R. (Practical Action in Bangladesh), Mariam Ispahani (Sonali Bioplastics).

3. Sessions

The event featured the following sessions:

Opening Remarks:

Delivered by Saqib Huq, addressing ICCCAD's commitment to youth empowerment and innovation.

Project Overview Presentation:

By Maria Aktar, highlighting the CAP-RES program's overall activities and achievements

Presentations from Selected Grantees:

The Green Edit Team: Focused on mixed-culture farming for community resilience in Rangamati.

SAU Team (Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University): Highlighted their work on Black Soldier Fly Larva Culture for sustainable bio-waste management and product generation.

Research Journey Reflection:

K. M. Khaleduzzaman shared insights on his research journey, reflecting on the challenges, lessons learned, and the importance of integrating behavioral changes to promote sustainability.

Awards and Certificate Distribution:

Recognizing achievements in youth innovation funds, research grants, and fellowships.

Closing Remarks:

Reflections on collaboration and future opportunities.

3.1 Opening Remarks

Saqib Huq, Managing Director of ICCCAD, began the ceremony by reflecting on the importance of continuously improving the way projects are designed and implemented. “Every project we undertake allows us to learn, to assess what worked, and to figure out where we can do better next time,” he shared, emphasizing ICCCAD’s commitment to growth and learning.

He spoke candidly about the gaps that still exist in training programs, acknowledging that simply identifying these gaps is not enough. “Recognizing the gaps doesn’t always mean your voices are being heard, and that is why we keep pushing forward. We want to ensure that youth voices are not only heard but also recognized in shaping policies, both here in Bangladesh and on international platforms.”

Saqib Huq encouraged the fellows and grantees to think beyond individual achievements. He shared ICCCAD’s vision for its alumni, hoping that today’s participants would return in the future as mentors and collaborators.

He ended with an inspiring message, encouraging everyone to stay connected and continue building on their learnings. “This is not the end of your journey with us. We want to see you grow, to see your ideas flourish, and to collaborate with you in new ways as you move forward.



“As you graduate today, think about how you can give back, how you can guide the next group of youth fellows. Success is not measured by how far up you climb the ladder but by how many people you help climb with you. It’s not just about collecting certificates or adding lines to your CV. What matters is what you do with the knowledge and capacity you’ve gained. How are you serving your community? How are you inspiring others to act?”

3.2 Project Overview Presentation

After the opening remarks of Saqib Huq, Ms. Maria Aktar, Assistant Project Manager of the CAP-RES project, presented an overview of the program’s key achievements and ongoing initiatives. Using a detailed presentation, she outlined the core objectives of the CAP-RES project, focusing on empowering youth through capacity building and research. Ms. Aktar

highlighted the various support mechanisms under the project, including research grants, innovation funds, and youth fellowships, all aimed at addressing climate challenges in innovative and locally-driven ways. She emphasized the program's commitment to fostering leadership and equipping young change-makers with the tools and opportunities needed to create a tangible impact in their communities.



3.3 Presentations from Selected Grantees

Two groups of grantees presented their innovative projects, showcasing impactful solutions to address local climate challenges:

The Green Edit Team

The project of The Green Edit Team focused on promoting mixed-culture farming in Rangamati as a sustainable alternative to monoculture. Through a precisely made video clip, they highlighted how mixed-culture farming can enhance biodiversity, improve soil health, and increase the resilience of local farmers to climate variability.



The project of The Green Edit Team focused on promoting mixed-culture farming in Rangamati as a sustainable alternative to monoculture. Through a precisely made video clip, they highlighted how mixed-culture farming can enhance biodiversity, improve soil health, and increase the resilience of local farmers to climate variability.

SAU Team (Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University)



The SAU Team presented their work on Black Soldier Fly Larva Culture, an innovative method to convert bio-waste into valuable byproducts like organic fertilizers and protein-rich poultry feed. They highlighted the environmental benefits, such as reduced methane emissions, and discussed challenges in scaling up the project for more sustainable bio-waste management.

3.4 Research Journey Reflection

K. M. Khaleduzzaman, a grantee from the 2024 cohort, shared an inspiring account of his research journey. He reflected on the challenges he faced while conducting his work, including logistical hurdles and the complexities of translating research into actionable solutions.



Khaleduzzaman emphasized the importance of perseverance and adaptability, recounting how overcoming obstacles deepened his understanding of local climate challenges. "Research is not just about data and findings; it's about how we use what we learn to create change in our communities," he said, urging others to integrate practical lessons from research into daily life.

3.5 Awards and Certificate Distribution

The awards and certificates recognized outstanding contributions under the CAP-RES program, celebrating achievements in youth innovation funds, research grants, and youth fellowships.



Certificates were distributed to the ICCCAD youth fellows from 2023, 2024 and research grantees from 2023. The winners from ICCCAD youth innovation fund 2024 were awarded with crest and certificates for their contribution to youth-led initiatives.

The awards were presented by distinguished guests, including Mohammad Mahmudul Hasan from HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Bangladesh, M Tariqul Hasan R. from Practical Action in Bangladesh, Mariam Ispahani (Bioplastics) and representatives from ICCCAD, including Saqib Huq, Maria Aktar, Sumiya Binte Selim, Afsana Alim, and more.

Each recipient was acknowledged for their dedication to driving climate resilience and implementing sustainable solutions in their respective fields. The grantees received words of encouragement and appreciation from the presenters, who commended their efforts to create a lasting impact on their communities and beyond. This ceremony not only celebrated individual accomplishments but also reinforced the importance of collaboration and innovation in tackling climate challenges collectively.

3.6 Closing Remarks

The event concluded with reflections from ICCCAD representatives and distinguished guests, who highlighted the importance of sustained collaboration and the role of youth in driving climate action.

Saqib Huq, Managing Director of ICCCAD, reiterated the organization's commitment to empowering young change makers and fostering innovative, locally-led solutions. He encouraged the fellows and grantees to remain engaged with ICCCAD and to take their learnings forward, stating, "This is not the end of your journey with us. We look forward to seeing how your ideas grow and impact your communities." The distinguished guests also shared their perspectives. Mohammad Mahmudul Hasan and M Tariqul Hasan R. expressed their optimism about the future, commending the grantees for their creativity and dedication to addressing pressing climate

Challenge. They emphasized the importance of partnerships and knowledge sharing in scaling impactful solutions. The ceremony ended on a hopeful note, with all participants leaving inspired and motivated to contribute to a resilient and sustainable future.



4.0 Conclusion

The award ceremony was a testament to ICCCAD's unwavering commitment to empowering youth and fostering locally-driven climate solutions through the CAP-RES project. By recognizing the achievements of fellows and grantees from both the 2023 and 2024 cohorts, the event celebrated the creativity, resilience, and determination of young change makers working to address climate challenges. The inspiring presentations, reflections, and discussions throughout the event highlighted the transformative power of youth-led initiatives. From promoting sustainable agricultural practices to developing innovative solutions for waste management, the grantees demonstrated how local actions can contribute to global climate resilience. The ceremony also reinforced the importance of collaboration and mentorship, with ICCCAD's vision of creating a network of alumni who can guide and inspire future cohorts. The presence of distinguished guests and stakeholders underscored the value of partnerships in scaling innovative solutions and amplifying the voices of youth in policy and strategy development.

As the CAP-RES project continues, ICCCAD remains dedicated to providing platforms and opportunities for youth to lead the way in building a sustainable and equitable future. The award ceremony was not just a celebration of past achievements but also a call to action for continued innovation, collaboration, and impact.

Annex: Participants

ICCCAD Youth Fellows	
Sumi Khatun I Fellow 2024	Kurnikova Chakma I Fellow 2024
Durjoy Bhowmick I Fellow 2024	Kazi Nayeem Hossain I Fellow 2024
Shafayet Alam I Fellow 2024	Sumya Naz I Fellow 2024
Nirvik Chakma I Fellow 2024	Umme Sadia Katha I Fellow 2024
Saila Sobnom Richi I Fellow 2024	Fariha Sultana Aumi I Fellow 2024
Mohima Rahman I Fellow 2024	Shahriar Mahmud I Fellow 2024
Farhana Akter I Fellow 2024	Shapla Swarna Ruram I Fellow 2023
Jarin Tasnim I Fellow 2024	Md. Fizul Islam I Fellow 2023
Atiya Sharmin I Fellow 2024	Md Fahim Hossain I Fellow 2023
Arpita Das I Fellow 2024	Md. Abu Saleh I Fellow 2023
Nitun Paul I Fellow 2024	Md Sadrul Islam Sourov I Fellow 2023
Eco Talukder I Fellow 2024	Md. Saiful Islam I Fellow 2023
Farhana Yasmin Ayesha I Fellow 2024	Md. Rakibul Islam I Fellow 2023
Suraiya Siddique Khushboo I Fellow 2024	
Research Grant	
Sumaiya Rokoni, Research Grant Winner 2023	
Adel Mahmud Zaddary, Research Grant Winner 2023	
Iffat Jahan Shammee, Research Grant Winner 2023	
Kashafad Bin Hafiz, Research Grant Winner 2023	
Md. Abu Naser, Research Grant Winner 2023	
Md. Al Amin, Research Grant Winner 2023	
K. M. Khaleduzzaman, Research Grant Winner 2023	

Innovation Fund 2024		
Category	Name of Organization/Club/Group	Members
Catalyze Youth Projects	Eco-Network Global	Shamim Ahmed Mridha
	Green Lead	Md. Fahim Hossain
	Tetra (A Social Enterprise)	Shahana Alam
Promote Green Ideas/Campaign	BSMRAU Science Club	Muhammad Mustakim Billah
		Abdullah al Bayazid
	Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University Science Club	Mehedi Amin
		Riaz Mahabub
		Saif Al Sufian
	Indigenous Students Association, NSTU	Sunanda Dewaan
		Bithika Chakma
		Enu Ching Marma
		Hania Binta Aslam
	Incubate Climate-resilient Ideas	The Green Edit
Eco Talukdar		
Durjoy Bhowmick		
Shafayet Alam		Shafayet Alam
Sumi Khatun		Sumi Khatun
Saila Sobnom Richi		Saila Sobnom Richi
Atiya Sharmin		Atiya Sharmin
Shahriar Mahmud		Shahriar Mahmud

ICCCAD Staff	
Emon Kazi	Intern, ICCCAD
Afsana Alim	Project Officer-Youth, ICCCAD
Al Mamun Rakib	Youth Representative, ICCCAD
Sumaya Bin Selim	Focal-Youth, ICCCAD
Gausia Islam Keya	Project Assistant, ICCCAD
Maria Akter	Assistant Project Manager, ICCCAD
Mazadul Haque Bayezid	Research Officer, ICCCAD
Rafia Anjum Rimi	Research Officer, ICCCAD
Md. Tahseen Ahmed	Intern, ICCCAD
Tausia Tahsin	Intern, ICCCAD
Prithul	Jr. Research Officer, ICCCAD
Noor E Elahi	Project Coordinator, ICCCAD
Shifa	Gender Analyst, ICCCAD
Saqib Haque	Managing Director, ICCCAD
Jennifer Khadim	Sr. Project Manager, ICCCAD
Nusrat Jahan	Intern, ICCCAD
Juel Mahmud	Project Manager, ICCCAD
Chowdhury Abrar Zahin	Research Officer, ICCCAD
Rawnak Jahan Khan Ranon	Research Officer, ICCCAD

Distinguished guests	
Mohammad Mahmodul Hasan	HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Bangladesh
M Tariqul Hasan R	Practical Action in Bangladesh
Mariam Ispahani	Sonali Bioplastics