

ICCCAD Youth Fellowship Alumni Report 2024

Personal Information

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2. **Fellowship Batch (Year):** 2024
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 - **Current Location (Upazila and district):** Sunamganj
4. **Current Occupation/Role:** Student

Fellowship Experience

1. **Briefly describe the most valuable lessons or skills you learned during the fellowship.**

Joining this fellowship was a great opportunity for me to explore my interest in climate change. It gave me hands-on experience and practical knowledge about issues I had always thought about. I learned a lot, starting from the basics to more advanced ideas about climate change. I had the chance to meet experts and gain valuable lessons from them. I also connected with other brilliant and humble fellows, from whom I learned a lot. This fellowship helped me discover my own skills, and I was honored to receive the Innovation Fund. This allowed me to create something meaningful for my community and the environment. I also developed important skills like communication, teamwork, and fieldwork experience. Additionally, I learned how local organizations work and how to engage with them effectively. Overall, this fellowship was a life-changing experience that helped me grow both personally and professionally.

2. **Which sessions or activities during the fellowship were most impactful for you? Why?**
(Paragraph maximum 150 Words)

Each and every session during the fellowship was impactful, but the residential training and field visits to Patuakhali and Kuakata were the most memorable for me. The residential training provided deep insights into climate change, where I learned from experts who shared their knowledge in simple, practical ways. It helped me understand complex issues and solutions related to climate adaptation. The field visits were even more impactful because I saw the real-life effects of climate change on communities. Visiting Patuakhali and Kuakata allowed me to meet local people who are directly affected by rising sea levels and frequent storms. Hearing their stories made me realize how important it is to work for climate

resilience. These experiences not only increased my knowledge but also motivated me to take action in my own community. Seeing the challenges firsthand made everything I learned feel more real and meaningful.

Implementation of Learning

1. **Applied knowledge or skills gained from the fellowship in my personal or professional life.**

I always try to share even the smallest things I learn with my friends and peer groups. The lessons I gained from this fellowship were shared with my friends, and I encouraged them to apply for similar opportunities. As a result, one of my friends also received this fellowship, which was a proud moment for me. This fellowship helped me improve my leadership, communication, and project management skills, which I applied in various activities. For example, I was awarded the Youth Innovation Fund, which allowed me to put my knowledge into action. Through this fund, I led a project called **Polythene Paradox**, focused on reducing single-use polythene and raising awareness about environmental issues in local communities. I organized workshops in schools to inspire children to care for indoor plants and understand the harmful effects of plastic. Additionally, I encouraged community members to switch from polythene to eco-friendly alternatives, like using cloth bags for shopping instead of plastic ones. I also engaged with community stakeholders and school authorities to ensure our message reached a wider audience. These activities not only helped me contribute to environmental protection but also strengthened my personal and professional skills, which I continue to use in my daily life.

2. **Notable achievements, success stories, or testimonials from the above-mentioned activity-1.**

At first, it was challenging to make the guardians understand the importance of reducing polythene use, and we were unsure how much they would be inspired. But after the workshop, one guardian approached us with excitement. She said, "**I want to teach my neighbors about the harmful effects of polythene. From today, I'm switching to cloth bags, and I'll make sure my husband uses a bazar bag too!**" She even suggested that we engage more people and involve more students in our project.

Another memorable moment came from a student who shared her thoughts with us after the session. She said, "**I always wanted to do something like GreenPath, but I didn't know how to start or how to clean my environment from polythene and waste. Now I feel confident and will inspire others with what I've learned.**"

These two stories deeply inspired us to grow our small team into an organization, reaching more people and making a bigger difference for the environment.

3. Challenges, faced while implementing my learnings and how I overcome them.

One of the biggest challenges we faced was convincing the guardians and community members about the harmful effects of polythene. Many were not interested at first, and it was hard to make them understand why this issue matters. We were also unsure how much they would support our ideas. To overcome these challenges, we studied and revised the shortcomings from our earlier sessions. We made a documentary focusing on local bazars to show the real scenario of polythene pollution in their own community. Seeing this helped them connect with the issue, and gradually they began to understand its importance.

As beginners, our first workshop had many difficulties, especially in engaging people and making them interested. But after identifying and fixing these issues, our last workshop went much better. People were more responsive, and we noticed positive changes in their attitudes. Guardians and students started sharing their own ideas and promised to take action, which showed us that our efforts were making a real difference.

Impact of my work

1. **Approximately how many people have directly benefited from your actions inspired by the fellowship during 2024? (e.g., awareness campaigns, capacity building, advocacy, etc.)**

Event/Activities	Location (district)	Number of people reached		Total	Means of verification (Upload Social media link, video link, link of Pictures, publication link, FGD notes, attendance, any other relevant documents etc.)
		Women	Men		
Workshop	Sylhet	41	35	76	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DNoWWjax7/
Workshop	sylhet	35	25	60	https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1DDgwhBVWr/

Visual Documents

1. **Photo Gallery .**









