



মন্সেলন ২০২২
যুব সমাজ ও এমডিজি
আজকে দাঁড়িয়ে, আগামীর ভাবনা
১ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২২, কৃষিবিদ ইন্সটিটিউশন বাংলাদেশ, ঢাকা

Rethinking Waste Management in Bangladesh for a Sustainable Environment

Parallel Session 5: Responsible Consumption and Production

1 September 2022, Dhaka

Organised by



Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh
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About the exercise

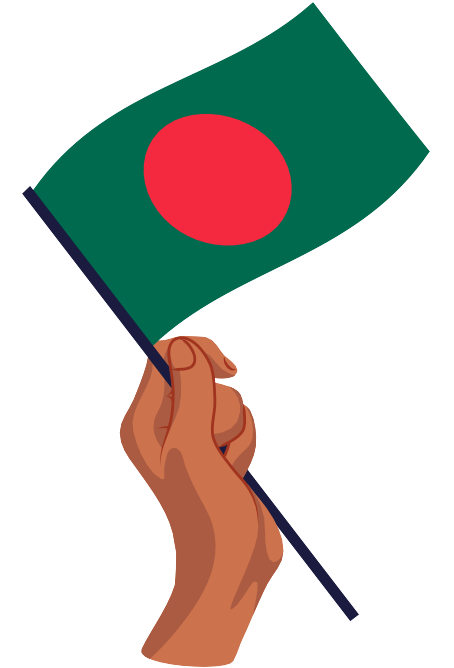
This document is an outcome of a collaborative process of the young students who have participated in drafting the thematic papers. The participants were selected through an online competition facilitated by UNYSAB and UNDP Bangladesh. On behalf of the Citizen's Platform, young CPD researchers have curated the papers under a coherent structure and guided the authors to complete the exercise successfully.

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- Major Waste Issues in Bangladesh
- What the Government can do?
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- How the Youth can Participate?

Context

- With a population of over 165 million and ever-rising consumption and production, concerns about the sustainability of natural resources are mounting in Bangladesh
- This sustainability is particularly threatened by our waste management situation as rapid industrialisation and overconsumption in Bangladesh are causing excessive waste
- This is detrimentally affecting our natural resources and causing extreme pollution as we do not have an efficient waste management system
- The focus of our agenda is mitigating waste generation through recycling and reuse to sustain our natural resources



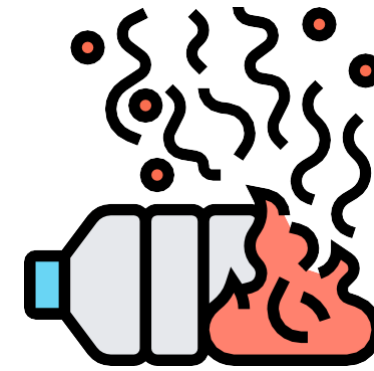
SDGs and Waste Management

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- One of the UNs' 17 Sustainable Development Goals is "responsible consumption and production" (SDG 12)
 - Within goal 12, target 12.2 (efficient use of natural resources); target 12.3 (reducing per capita global food waste to half); target 12.4 (sound management of chemicals and wastes); and target 12.5 (reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycle, and reuse) are affiliated with our agenda

Our aim is to find more efficient and innovative ways to diminish waste generation and advocate recycling and reuse of waste in Bangladesh involving various stakeholders

MEDICAL WASTE & COVID-19

Disposal of medical waste has always been an issue in Bangladesh. COVID-19 led to excess medical waste (masks, PPE) which has been linked to health risks among waste workers



PLASTIC WASTE

In Bangladesh, only about 37% of plastic waste is recycled. Improper disposal of huge amount of plastic waste is causing too much carbon emission, environmental pollution and excessive heat



ELECTRICITY

Fuel burnt for electricity generation in Bangladesh emits high levels of air pollutants and greenhouse gases



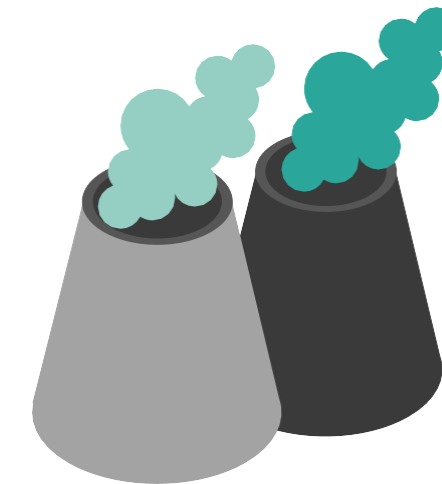
LANDFILLS

70-80% of waste in Bangladesh is dumped in landfills which release methane, a greenhouse gas associated with climate change

Major Waste Issues in Bangladesh

DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Urban slum dwellers, floating population, residents of hilly and coastal areas, etc. are the main victims of the impact of waste on natural resources

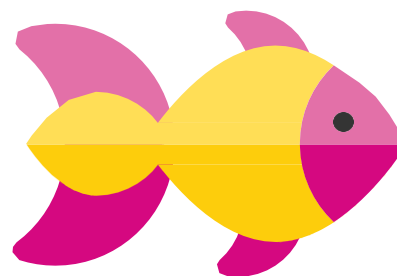


INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Industrial waste is the leading factor behind pollution and depletion of natural resources in Bangladesh

WATER POLLUTION

Plastic, garbage, and industrial waste are disposed of in water bodies which are destructing aquatic life



RURAL WASTE

Rural areas in Bangladesh do not have any functioning waste disposal system which is creating havoc on nature and causing severe health risks

What the Government can do?

01

Laws & Regulations

- Strict implementation of existing laws regarding waste management
- Control littering strictly by imposing fines with the help of traffic police and other law enforcement agencies
- Establish a decentralised and robust waste management system

02

Incentives

- Give incentives to companies to establish waste-to-energy Public-Private Partnership (PPP) power plants
- Inspire companies to use and make eco-friendly products by providing tax cuts
- Provide young innovators with funds for waste management related innovations
- Encourage usage of electric vehicles by reducing VAT on their import to make them more affordable.

03

Technological Approach

- Subsidise technology-based door-to-door waste management service providing companies
- Provide waste management-related service and technical support through website and app
- Make information about waste collection timetable available to citizens without charge
- Incentivize citizens with eco-friendly goods/cash in exchange for non-biodegradable waste
- Implement waste filtering technologies to manage different types of waste

04

3R Method (Reduce-Reuse-Recycle)

- Recycle organic materials to produce biogas which can be turned into electricity
- Recycle textile products
- Recycle plastic trashes and medical waste
- Recycle natural resources and plants to limit the use of artificial elements
- Introduce offshore wind turbine technology for power generation
- Initiate biological treatment of wastes



How the Communities can Help?

- Influential residents can raise awareness on proper management of waste
- Community clubs and samitis can arrange campaigns and seminars regarding the issue
- Residents can cooperate with the local government to execute strict regulations in this regard
- Workshops and orientations can be arranged in schools to educate children about waste management
- Residents can report the mismanagement of waste in the community to legal authorities
- Community health workers can make the residents aware of the health risks associated with improper disposal of waste



How the Youth can Participate?

- Create awareness in their respective educational institutions and workplaces through clubs and seminars
- Form local volunteering clubs in their communities to clean waste around the neighbourhood
- Reduce the usage of personal vehicles
- Youth organisations can proactively arrange debates, discussions, and poster-making competitions
- Limit purchases of goods that are detrimental to the environment
- Organise awareness campaigns for the disadvantaged and floating population
- Initiate a culture of gifting upcycled or recycled products

Thank You



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