

Youth Net for Climate Justice

The **Youth Net for Climate Justice**, founded in 2016, is a Barisal-based youth network working for a better environment in Bangladesh. The coastal region of Barisal itself is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its geographical location. Livelihoods - e.g. agriculture, food and jobs - are immensely affected by the rising seas.



Goals of the Youth Net for Climate Justice

The youth network works under the slogan "Indomitable youth ensure a safe and green world". One of their overarching goals is to assert the rights of people affected by climate change in the southern regions of Bangladesh and to empower them to stand up for themselves, their families and the environment. They also demand fair compensation for the victims of climate change.

Youth Net for Climate Justice's lead coordinator Sakila Islam said, "Even though Bangladesh's responsibility on climate change is very low, our country faces disasters every year that destroy the land and lives in coastal and remote areas".

They focus their work on social change because, as Sakila Islam said, "Climate change is not only an environmental, economic or development problem, it is also a moral, cultural and political problem". With this, they are pursuing their conviction that climate change is an important issue at all levels of society that must be focused on in thought and action. According to them, the climate change issue should not only be discussed in the industrialised countries or in high politics.

How they work on their goals

The youth network consists of about 1,500 volunteers mobilised in the southern regions of Bangladesh. They now motivate local communities to find (better) solutions to mitigate climate change impacts. The young people in the network produced a "Youth Climate Declaration Letter" in 2017, which was presented to the Deputy Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament and members of the Environment Committee.

Youth Net was the only Bangladeshi youth environmental network to join the climate movement and participate in various programmes when 15-year-old Swedish Greta Thünburg called for the first climate movement against the risks of climate change.

The Youth Net for Climate Justice has received many national and international awards for their work, including the 2018 Joy Bangla Youth Award for their remarkable contribution to the environmental sector in Bangladesh.

Additional information for your short presentation

1. Sohanur Rahman, co-founder of the Youth Net for Climate Justice, speaks about his experiences with the impacts of climate change and the related goals and demands of the Climate and Justice.

Materials for Development Education.

Exercise 7: Talk Global

Youth Net for Climate Justice in his opening speech at the United Nations in the context of regular meetings on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2T7ylmX-U9U>

2. Twitter account of Sohanur Rahman: <https://twitter.com/SohanBMYP>
3. Twitter account of YNFCJ: <https://twitter.com/youthnet4cc>

Source

<https://medium.com/@sohanurrahman/bangladeshi-youth-activists-join-the-tackle-the-climate-crisis-7e03b614decf>

<https://youngbangla.org/2019/05/19/youth-net-for-climate-justice-barisal-indomitable-youth-ensure-a-safe-green-world/>

<https://www.facebook.com/YouthNet4CJ/>