



**ULAB**  
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS  
BANGLADESH

# CSD Newsletter

2022 | Issue 7



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## Message from Director

Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to share with you the CSD Annual Newsletter 2022 – the year when we started transitioning out of the pandemic lockdown and returned back to normal campus life. The shadow of COVID-19 is hardly over as new strains of the virus keep on emerging, and there is always the threat of new zoonotic disease outbreaks in the wake of the Climate Crisis and Human-Nature conflicts. We have had record breaking high temperatures across the globe, devastating floods in Pakistan, and then closer to home, in Sunamganj, Bangladesh. There is ever more need for scientists, government, citizens, and all other stakeholders to come together to address the interconnected challenges in society today. We strive to make our research impactful and solution oriented so we can contribute to the knowledge our work produces.



This year has been a bit of a transition period at CSD, with me going on temporary leave for the first 4 months of the year, and having long standing colleagues leaving CSD to complete higher education abroad and exploring other opportunities. But we have also been blessed with new members joining our team, and, most significantly of all, we were able to host the CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development after a 2-year break, and what a success it was!

The Conference really stood true to its ethos of being a transdisciplinary platform for different stakeholders, local and global, bringing in the arts, grassroots advocacy work and science-policy dialogue over a period of 3 days followed by a fantastic coastal field trip. We had long term project partners from University of Heidelberg and ZMT Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, along with several new project partners who joined us in Bangladesh. You can read more about the outputs from this Conference in this edition of the newsletter.

Alongside with the Conference, we started working with new fantastic local partners and innovators. You can read about how we used game playing to teach the students in our biodiversity, climate change, and sustainable development classes, organized by MekaTeam. We liaised as knowledge partners with the corporate sector as well where we worked with Unilever on their Plastic campaign. We have also started working with SAJIDA Foundation on mutual areas of interests around mental health, loss and damage, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). On the international front, we have established partnership with two new academic partners – East Carolina University, USA and University of Lausanne, Switzerland. We strongly believe that it is only when we work together and share resources and expertise, have meaningful dialogue and exchange, it is only then that we can start to produce impactful knowledge and action. Same as our work with ongoing and new research partners, CSD researchers have co-published several peer-reviewed articles in collaboration with other local and international colleagues, focusing on Nature-based Solutions (NbS), Gender and Leadership, Resilience and Equity, to name a few.

We have just started the process of our next 5-year strategy, having completed the last strategy framework 2019-2023. Climate Change and Natural Resource Management, along with Inclusion and Equity, and Bangladesh achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' Targets will play a big part in developing this strategy. Underlying it all will be a focus on Environmental Literacy and continuing our work on embedding sustainability in our teaching and research. As aptly put:

“In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught.” - Baba Dioum

# 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development 2022

After a 2-year gap due to Covid-19 Pandemic, The 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development 2022 finally took place on October 13th-15th. This interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary Conference brought together local and international experts from across the globe to explore the most pressing and nexus issues relating to the Sustainable Development Agenda. The focus of this year's conference was on a number of interconnecting issues - climate change, blue growth, equity, migration, well-being, and resilience.

Working in collaboration is the only way we can effectively address sustainability challenges and this year CSD partnered with several of our International Projects - **NOCRISES (Negotiating Ocean Conflicts among Rivals for Sustainable and Equitable Solutions)**, **V2V (Vulnerability to Viability)**, **HDWG (Human Dimensions Working Group)** and local and international Partners - **SAJIDA Foundation, Heidelberg University and ZMT Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research Objectives of the Conference:**

- To serve as an incubator for sharing current research and knowledge and to facilitate the uptake of these into practice at the local, national and international policy levels;
- To highlight the latest findings and debates surrounding how we can actually embed sustainability in institutions, the wider agrarian question in the changing climate, resilience, and gender
- To address key knowledge gaps and solutions;
- To promote collaboration and partnerships, and
- To stimulate uptake of the science into policy and action



## 1. Climate Change, Mental Health, and Well-Being

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Climate change is increasingly having stronger and longer-lasting impacts on people, which can, directly and indirectly, affect their mental health and psychosocial well-being. Certain groups are disproportionately at risk from climate change-related hazards, including people with pre-existing mental health conditions. The non-economic loss and damage of climate change is an area that is under-researched and under-represented. Non-economic loss and damage represent negative impacts on culture, language, biodiversity, ecosystem, and, often overlooked, human anxiety and mental health that are being affected by climate change. This needs to be addressed with more human contact, empathy, and solidarity. This session at the 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development 2022 brought together practitioners and academics working on Climate Change, Mental Health, and Well-Being to address the research gaps, foster collaboration and discuss tools around community-based mental health programs relevant to Bangladesh.

There is a lack of knowledge on mental health as climate-vulnerable groups face salinity intrusion, loss of homes due to increasing natural disasters, displacement, and health disorders. Post-disaster mental health conditions are equally important to address as affected people go through emotions such as survivor's guilt, sadness, panic, etc. The amount of mental stress also varies based on demographic factors (women, children, and the elderly are especially vulnerable). The lack of mental health services in these areas is evident as there are usually only a handful of community clinics, which may not even be fully functional. Factors influencing well-being include social, and cultural pressure, and puts a focus on the psychological coping mechanism that can also be affected by different barriers. Mental health needs to be prioritized as an agenda in natural disaster rehabilitation. The session discussed the lifestyle of the climate affected groups, different types of coping strategies that are used by them and how to address the lack of services in the rural regions of Bangladesh through community mobilization mechanisms.

This session invited Dr. Saleemul Huq, Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) and Rubina Jahan, Head of Clinical Services of the Mental Health Program at SAJIDA Foundation as Discussants and Mahmuda Mity, SAJIDA Foundation, Dr. M Tasdik Hasan, Monash University, Kyra Lilier, University of Heidelberg, and Kate Baernighausen, University of Heidelberg as panelists.



## 2. The Migration-Poverty Nexus: Informal Economy, Mobility of Labor and Overall Well-being of Migrants in the Megalopolises

The relationship between poverty and development is a vital policy discourse, especially in South Asia. This session aims to explore the relationship between increasing rural-urban mobility of labor and acceleration of the market economy and trade liberalization, the private sector along with the informal economy is rapidly expanding. The informal sector employs a large accelerated expansion of informal sector activities in urban cities of growing economies and how that is associated with poverty and development of the country. The migrant workers' livelihoods and wellbeing in the megalopolises are crucial to sustainable urban development. The issue of poverty occupies a dominant place in the development discourse of many developing countries such as Bangladesh. The number of unskilled and semi-skilled workers has been increasing over the years and contributing to a rapid unplanned urbanization. Similar pattern is observed in most South Asian Countries. Rural-urban migration is considered to be an important and viable livelihood option or coping strategy to different kinds of income shocks for the poor people. Although the migrants are absorbed in the informal economy in the megalopolises, the mobility from rural areas to urban cities implies significant changes in their socio-economic conditions, occupational choices, skill sets and overall well being. Rural-urban mobility of migrant laborers is an integral part of the development process in the growing economies, it is imperative to have a clear understanding of the causes and consequences of rapid urban growth so that effective policies can be devised to make it efficient, inclusive and sustainable. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Chairman, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka. In this session four academic research papers were presented by Dr. Nasreen Chowdhury, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, India, Dr. Biswajit Mohanty, Desbandhu College, University of Delhi, India, Prof. Dr. Taiabur Rahman, Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), Prof. Dr. Meherun Ahmed, Dean School of Business and Entrepreneurship, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) and Dr. Shahana Chowdhury, Center for Sustainable Development, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, on informal economy and livelihood of the rural-urban migrants and their worker rights as well as the migration pattern during COVID-19 pandemic in India.



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



### 3. Climate Displacement in South Asia

The issue of climate-induced displacement is a critical topic for the Global South. Five panelists from different backgrounds put together a fruitful conversation addressing gendered impacts, loss of lands and homes, and feminization of displacement and so on. The panel discussion invited panelists from South Asia to discuss the state of knowledge on Climate Displacement in South Asia and what needs to be done to address displacement taking place across all countries in South Asia. The panel discussion invited Kazi Amdadul Hoque, President of Friendship (NGO), Professor Mahbuba Nasreen Pro-VC (Academic), Bangladesh Open University. Professor & Co-founder, Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies from the University of Dhaka, Dr. Debojyoti Das representing India from the Department of Politics and International Studies, SOAS, UK and Dr. Srija Basu, representing gender, a social scientist working with gender, climate change and vulnerable communities.



The risk of people displaced is expected to rise in this region due to sea level rise and other weather associated hazards. The panel discussion delved into the need for a separate comprehensive set of policies to address climate induced displacement, one that will consider the many vulnerabilities of people being displaced and the losses and damages suffered due to displacement. There is also a need for mainstreaming gender and gender responsive budgeting into National displacement policies to address the needs of women displaced. Countries in Additionally, more collaboration between the CSOs and NGOs from neighboring countries in South Asia at regional and international climate talks are needed to take a holistic approach to reduce the scale of displacement and minimize the scale of losses and damages suffered by vulnerable communities. Along with this, it is important to have a progressive action in place to allow people to relocate. Hence, it is important to address the circumstances, realities, and the needs of the affected people, through informed, goal oriented, and evidence-based policy and development strategy. It

is imperative to adjust and recalibrate the policy focus and update the national policy and strategy, strengthening the response capacity of the institutions to ensure no one affected and displaced by the climate is left behind.

#### 4. Negotiating Ocean Conflicts among Rivals for Sustainable and Equitable Solutions (NOCRISES): Creative Practices and knowledge generation

The 2nd day of the 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development started with the 'Art Exhibition: Alternative Voice for a Displaced Community through Creative Arts'. The exhibition showed the journey of a 7-day long workshop where we explored how ocean conflicts are managed and coped with by different communities. 20 women from Moheshkhali, Coxsbazar participated in the workshop and used embroidery as a tool to help them communicate about their crises, lifestyle, hopes, and dreams. The exhibition continued from 14 October to 21 October at Safiuddin Shilpalay, Dhanmandi, Dhaka.





## 5. Human Dimensions Working Group (HDWG): Making our Science more inclusive and impactful

On the 2nd day of the 5th CSD Annual Conference on Sustainable Development, an international workshop organized by the Human Dimensions Working Group, IMBER took place. The aim of the workshop was to co-develop and shape a focus on how to best support local science and stakeholders to be better seen, and better integrated.

The session has brought together knowledge producers (essentially scientists working at the global level) and Bangladeshi stakeholders such as NGOs, Local Government, community leaders, and local scientists to address how do we make global and local science and knowledge more impactful, so that different stakeholders working on these issues can be part of the discussion and can have a holistic approach on how we address these dynamics.

The participants were divided into three breakout groups, and had rich discussions to answer the three specific questions. The diverse stakeholders highlighted different points and came up with different ideas and opinions on how to make them an integral part of those national/regional/international research projects of direct relevance of their daily life and livelihood.



## 6. Knowledge Exchange on Viability of Small-Scale Fisheries

On the third day of the 5th Annual Conference for Sustainable Development, organized by the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, the session under the Vulnerability to Viability (V2V) Global Partnership, success stories of small-scale fishermen were shared.

The session started off from a transdisciplinary perspective about the “risksapes” of the Sundarbans area in India, focused on the social systems of Kumirmari and the needs of co producing knowledge through an analysis of the current scenarios and designing initiatives. The socio-ecological vulnerability to climate change and risk governance in fishing communities of Bangladesh and their best adaptati no on practices were also discussed.

The session concluded with a question and answer session, identifying the knowledge gaps between the countries and ways through which the knowledge can be exchanged effectively.



## 7. V2V: Transboundary Opportunities and Challenges in the Sunderban Delta

A round table discussion was held under the Vulnerability to Viability (V2V) Global Partnership for the second session of the third day at the 5th Annual Conference for Sustainable Development, organized by the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. The session focused on the opportunities and challenges in the Sunderbans Delta.

The rich discussion addressed crucial issues focused on key actions and directions that can be taken in terms of the Transboundary issues in the Sunderbans Delta by taking into account boundaries, cultural and economic setup relevant to the V2V agenda. The session concluded with a summary of the responses and their efforts to utilize to create impactful steps for the way forward.

## 8. NOCRISES: Blue Economy Governance and Way forward in Bangladesh

On the third day of the 5th Annual Conference for Sustainable Development, organized by the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, the NOCRISES: Blue Economy Governance and Way forward in Bangladesh workshop was held with local stakeholders-government, NGOs, and academia.

The workshop started with an eye opening presentation on the prospective economic engagement on blue economy in the Bay of Bengal followed by a questions answer session by the participants. The session ended with an interactive workshop where participants identified the blue economy actors, mapping the interactions between the various actors and identifying the levels of influence of each actor in the network.



## GOAL 2: Zero Hunger >>

2 ZERO HUNGER

### Learning outside the Classroom: Organic Farming Field Lessons

Taking classroom learning outside can help enrich students' educational experience by showing them real-life applications of theories that they are learning at the institution. Considering this Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) has designed the course Organic Farming with practical field lessons focusing on experiential learning on sustainable agriculture. The course covers subjects such as soil management, crop and seed selection, specialty crops, soil building and fertility, composting, seed starting, plant growth measurements, pest management, data collection and certification of organic farming. Students get hands-on learning experience about growing food organically, also learn to develop and manage effective, safe and sustainable food production in a changing climate.



## GOAL 3: Good Health and Wellbeing >>

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Climate change is increasingly having stronger and longer-lasting impacts on people, which can, directly and indirectly, affect their mental health and psychosocial well-being. There are several environmental, social and economic determinants of mental health which are the negative effects of climate change. Additionally, certain groups are disproportionately at risk from climate change-related hazards, including people with pre-existing mental health conditions. Given this scenario, a session entitled "Climate Change, mental health and well being" was held at the 5th CSD Annual Conference 2022. This Session brought together Practitioners and Academics working on Climate Change, Mental Health, and Well Being especially to address the gaps in research around these three linked agendas - climate change, mental health, and well being; identify networks and foster collaboration and; discuss tools around community-based mental health programs relevant to Bangladesh. One of the key outcomes of the session is that mental health needs to be prioritized as an agenda in natural disaster rehabilitation. This is an ongoing study with SAJIDA foundation and the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

## GOAL 4: Quality Education for All >>

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

### CSD Staff members completed an International Short Course on conflict analysis and management:

Three Research Assistants of CSD-ULAB, Marzan Jui, Mohammad Budrudzaman, and Mashiur Rahaman completed and received the certificates of a short International Course (5 full days 7-11 February 2022) on conflict analysis and management. The course was jointly conducted by staff of the University of Bremen and Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) Germany and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).

### Virtual Classroom:

As a core component of the Power and Politics in Land Reform Project (PPLA), supported by Erasmus Plus, the Dublin City University (DCU), the Wageningen University and Research (WUR) and the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) set out an ambitious plan to bring “findings from the field” into university classrooms in the Global North. Personnel at the ULAB-CSD incorporated the views and perspectives of rarely heard voices from the field, including our research team and other local stakeholders, into one class respectively in six academic courses conducted at the DCU and the WUR.



This included both “European Union Studies” and “International Development curricula” to facilitate the cross-fertilisation aim of the overall project. Six virtual classroom sessions were conducted, with monitoring and evaluation carried out among instructors and students.

### Nature-based Park Play Day

Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) organized a Park Play Day with children at the Justice Shahabuddin Park, Dhaka on 24 September 2022. The aim of this play session was to increase environmental awareness among children through nature-based play and other creative activities. The nature-based play sessions, organized by Mekateam, allowed the children to explore the park and identify natural elements.



They also made crafts using waste paper and different types of puzzles. CSD believes that creative activities not only focus our mind on recycling, but also help reduce our stress level. The Park Play Day was a success, in terms of how much fun the children had. The organizers and the parents had an amazing time enjoying the outdoors with the children as well.

## GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation >>



**WASH Field Trip completed with support of SAJIDA Foundation**



Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), University of Liberal Arts (ULAB) with the support of The SAJIDA Foundation conducted a needs assessment with the primary objective of determining the current situation of WASH coverage in Shibchar Upazila, Madaripur in May 2022. Given that the area faces challenges when it comes to access to services such as water supply, and basic sanitation facilities, this assessment mainly focused on the residents of the area and identifying their needs.

Through qualitative tools such as Key Informant Interview and Focused Group Discussions with the residents of the area, the study team identified challenges that need to be solved in order to improve the WASH situation.

## GOAL 10: Reduced Inequalities >>

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

### CSD Research Project Politics and Power in Land Administration (PPLA)

#### Results Presented at International Conference

On 27 April 2022, Dr. Oliver Scanlan, Research Fellow at the Center for Sustainable Development at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, presented the findings of CSD's PPLA project at a major international conference. The event, entitled "Fifth Annual South Asia Conference", was organized by Dublin City University's Ireland-India Institute, comprising dozens of individual panels with hundreds of participants from around the world.

Speaking on behalf of co-authors, Dr. Scanlan emphasized PPLA's key findings concerning the adverse gendered and racialized impacts of land digitalisation and formalization interventions. The panel, entitled "Dimensions of socio-economic inequalities" also included presentations from various Indian colleagues concerning inequality and various forms of exclusion in areas as diverse as inner-city Delhi and north Bengal. The Panel was chaired by Dr. Vikash Vaibhav, from the Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy, based in New Delhi.

In the Q and A session, the linked issues of patrilocality and village exogamy were the key themes. These were summed up by Dr. Vaibhav in the common social idea across the northern subcontinent that "a woman cannot take the land with her" when she gets married. While these norms remain formidable obstacles to the equitable realization of women's rights to property, absentee landowners continue to be a prominent aspect of agrarian relations in South Asia, and so the problem should not be insurmountable. The question invited our focus to the issue of how to ensure secure control of land on the part of women who may not live nearby.

The image is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting slide. The slide has a dark blue background with white text. At the top right, there is a CSD logo (Center for Sustainable Development) with a globe icon. The main title of the slide is "Is 'pro-poor land administration' a contradiction in terms? How a land survey in Bangladesh reproduced gendered and racialised poverty". Below the title, it says "5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ireland India Institute South Asia Conference" and "27<sup>th</sup> April 2022". At the bottom, there is a logo for the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. On the left side of the slide, there is a vertical strip showing four video thumbnails of participants: Oliver Scanlan, Vikash Vaibhav, Anshu Jindal, and Riona Baskin. At the bottom left of the slide, there are standard Zoom navigation icons. At the top center, there is a green bar that says "You are screen sharing" and a red button that says "Stop Share".

#### National PPLA Event

CSD, ULAB organized a national event on 'Lessons from a CSD project: EU policy, gendered land rights and the potential for co-produced teaching to decolonise academia' on 25 August 2022 at ULAB. The event included three particular sessions and guests contributed to individual sessions.

The first session started with the discussion of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Bangladesh, by Kirti Nishan Chakma, General Secretary, Moanoghar Residential School, Rangamati. After that, Sornolota Tudu, Coordinator, NGO, Rajshahi talked about the Land ownership, land authority, land registration of Plainland Adivasi.

At the end of the first session, Shaila Shahid, Chief Operating Officer, Disaster Climate Change Support Unit, DPHE talked about the story of the landless people, land issues, gender and diversity.

## GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities >>



### Greening ULAB: Training Session by Garbageman

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) envisions a clean, safe, and green campus, where eco-friendly practices and learning are combined to promote sustainable and environment-friendly practices on and off the campus.

As part of the Green Campus Action Plan, ULAB has organized two waste segregation training sessions for ULAB students, faculty, admin staff, and all support and cleaning staff on 10 and 15 of September 2022 at ULAB. The training session covered the need for waste segregation at source (addressing GHG emissions, addressing contamination of water sources, addressing intergenerational equity and the need to move away from the take-make-waste system of resource extraction prevalent in our society). The session also covered the Do's and Don'ts of waste segregation and how ULAB is planning to segregate all its waste at source and bring circularity in waste production at ULAB to make this system of waste production more sustainable therefore, making our cities and communities more sustainable as well.



## GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production >>



### Project: Greening Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutes

Since 2020, CSD-ULAB has been working with the International Labour Organization (ILO) as an implementation partner of the Skills 21 project, a joint initiative of the Government of Bangladesh and ILO, funded by the European Union. Within this project, the CSD team is working with seven Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutes and two Centres for Skills Excellence in Bangladesh to implement green initiatives that promote green growth and sustainable behavior at campus.

In April 2022, CSD-ULAB visited all the seven TVET institutes and two teachers training institutes to monitor the implementation of Greening Action Plan and prepare a documentary on 'Green Transition in TVET Institution'.



### Identifying Pathways for Sustainable Plastic Waste Management in Bangladesh with Unilever Bangladesh

Based on the seminar on 8 October 2022 titled Enabling Policy for Sustainable Waste Management organized by the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FBCCI) and Unilever Bangladesh Limited, CSD, ULAB is collaborating to identify pathways for sustainable plastic waste management in Bangladesh as a Knowledge Partner.

Bangladesh's plastic usage has increased due to the country's fast economic expansion and urbanization and having one of the most unprecedented economic growth rates. However, due to poor plastic waste management, plastic waste ends in landfill or as marine litter, while only 37.2% of plastic gets recycled. The white paper provides recommendations and strategies for developing infrastructure, capacity building, and behavioral changes along with institutional, legislative and regulatory measures to ensure that circularity of plastic waste management is achieved in a sustainable manner.



### BBA Curriculum Integration Workshop on SDG 12

Despite the disruptions to education caused by the COVID-19, the role of academia in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on University campuses is more important than ever.

Realizing the opportunity, the department of Business Administration of ULAB has organized a 'Curriculum Integration Workshop' on 1 September 2022 at ULAB for its Faculty members to integrate Sustainable Development Goal-12 (sustainable consumption and production) in their curriculum. Ms. Sameera Zaman, Lecturer cum Research Associate and Md. Emon Rahman, Research Associate from CSD, ULAB conducted the session.

The objective of the workshop was to equip participants with thorough understanding of SDG 12 and to guide them in developing a custom strategic plan to accelerate integration of SDG 12 in the curriculum of the courses of business school. Through a mix of theory, good practices, peer learning, and practical application-speakers and participants reviewed their starting points, specific institutional context, the capacity and needs in order to identify an effective way forward.





## GOAL 13: Climate Action >>



### **Moheshkhali Field Research on Climate Change Adaptation of small Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh**

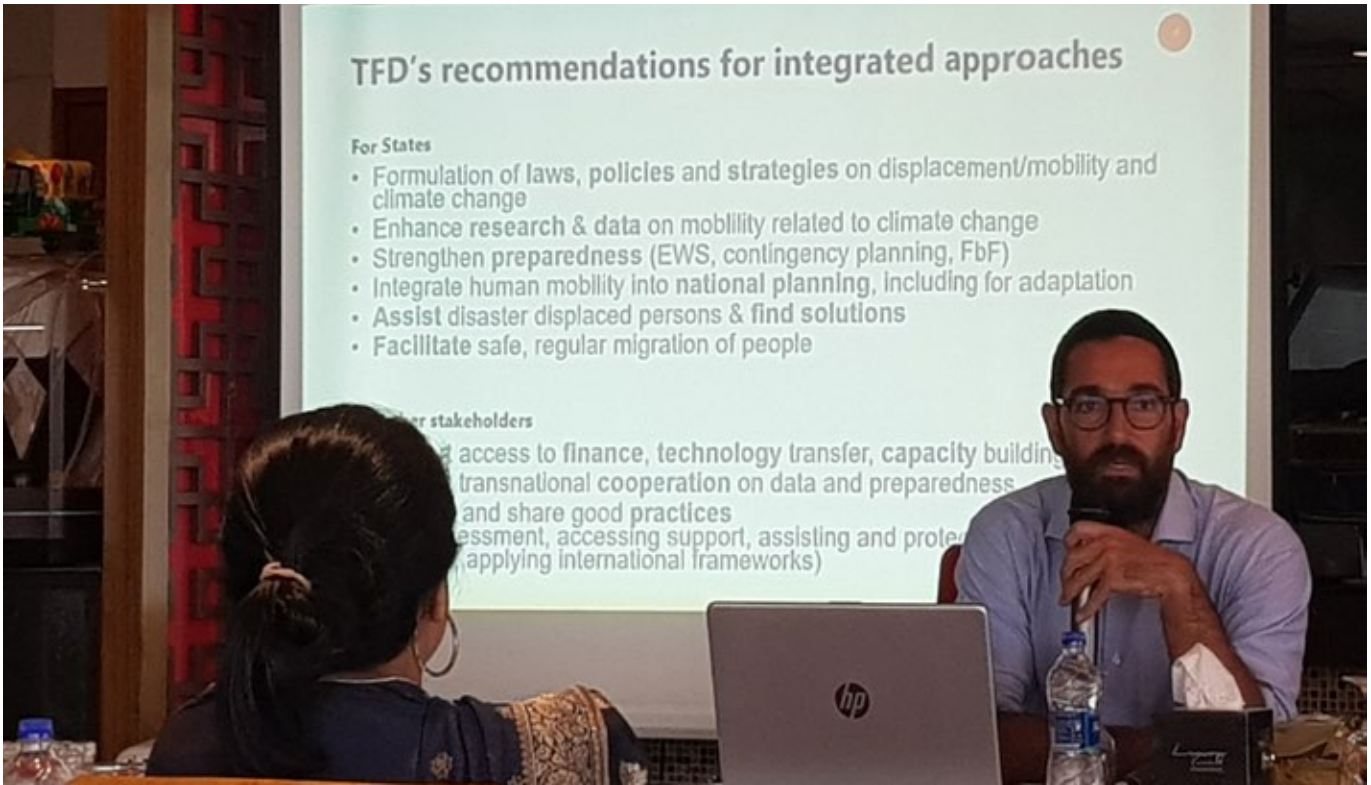
Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) at University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh (ULAB) conducted a field study at Moheshkhali upazila, Cox's Bazar district, Bangladesh to identify the current climate change impact and adaptation practices for small-scale Fishers in Bangladesh.



Throughout the field study, some Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) had been conducted with the local responsible authorities from GOs and NGOs, and the small-scale fishers of the community. The small-scale fishers shared about their life and livelihood impacts during climate change event and how they cope with the situation.

### **Roundtable session: Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Human Mobility & Climate Change**

CSD team participated in a roundtable discussion with a set of thematic experts. The session on Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Human Mobility & Climate Change was organized by ICCAD and Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) on 28 July 2022. The session presented evidence and discussed policy and operational priorities related to displacement, migration and planned relocations in the context of the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh. The interactive session was used to provide feedback to develop a set of operational actions that will be used to support a project on 'Action and support to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse effect of climate change'.



## TFD's recommendations for integrated approaches

### For States

- Formulation of laws, policies and strategies on displacement/mobility and climate change
- Enhance research & data on mobility related to climate change
- Strengthen preparedness (EWS, contingency planning, FbF)
- Integrate human mobility into national planning, including for adaptation
- Assist disaster displaced persons & find solutions
- Facilitate safe, regular migration of people

### For stakeholders

- Enhance access to finance, technology transfer, capacity building
- Promote transnational cooperation on data and preparedness
- Identify and share good practices
- Enhance assessment, accessing support, assisting and protection (including applying international frameworks)

## Distinguished Guest Lecture: ICCAD-IUB hosted a session on Human Rights Impacts of Climate Change and Loss and Damage

CSD team participated in the 'ICCAD-IUB Distinguished Guest Lecture on Human Rights Impacts of Climate Change and Loss and Damage' by **Dr. Ian Fry, UNHRC Special Rapporteur** on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the context of Climate Change on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2022. Prof. Saleemul Huq, Director, ICCAD gave the welcome speech. Dr. Ian Fry in his lecture highlighted key global policy advances and milestones and inputs (submissions) on loss and damage, and displacement and human mobility; presented existing work on loss and damage, human rights and displacement; and identified key steps to strengthen and implement policies and plans aiming to minimizing and addressing economic and non-economic loss and damage related with displacement in vulnerable communities. Mr. Hafij Khan, of WIM ExCom and Mr. Md. Shamsuddoha, of CPRD, provided reflections on Global L&D and the role of CSOs.



## Sessions on climate change

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah virtually presented a paper on Climate Change, Impact, and Action — The Story Bangladesh Tells at the 'Climate Change - Impact, Reports & Solutions' Summer Council organized by UNA London & South East Region (LASER) in Harpenden, UK on 9 July 2022.

## GOAL 14: Life below Water >>



### Arts based workshop focused on displacement and conflicts at Matarbari

As part of a wider global project NOCRISES, Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) of ULAB organized an arts based workshop using story telling, stitching, and drawing from 6 March to 11 March 2022 at Matarbari, Moheshkhali with a group of local displaced women. The workshop was conducted by Mahenaz Chowdhury.

The context of the workshop was the construction of the Matarbari Coal based power plant and the resulting displacement of communities who used to live and work on this land. The intention of the workshop was to upskill the women to help in mitigating their sudden shock-induced hardships. In groups, the participants produced original designs representing their stories which will be exhibited later in Dhaka so that their stories are communicated with a greater audience.

International team members of the NOCRISES project Dr. Marion Glaser and Sara Collberg along with a CSD team led by Dr. Samiya Selim took part in organizing the workshop.



### Presentation on Small-scale Fisheries (SDG 14) Arts based workshop focused on displacement and conflicts at Matarbari

At the 4World Small-scale Fisheries Congress Asia-Pacific held in Shizuoka City, Japan, Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah virtually presented the following paper entitled How did COVID-19 pandemic and 65-day fishing ban in Bangladesh help us to understand small-scale marine fishers' resilience? on 10 May 2022. The paper was co-authored by Rumana

Sultana, Joy Bhowmik, and Dr. Samiya Selim. This participation was part of the V2V global Partnership of CSD with the University of Waterloo. The 4WSFC Asia-Pacific was co-hosted by Tokai University and TBTI Japan, in partnership with Shizuoka City, TBTI Global with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and other key organizations.

## GOAL 15: Life on Land >>



### Capacity building on Nature-based Solutions (SDG 15)

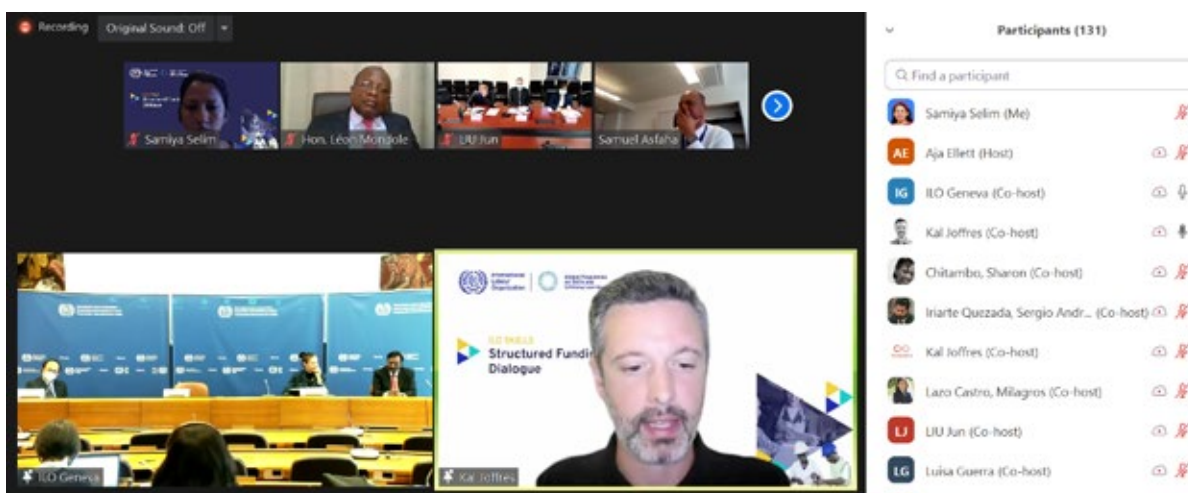
Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was a resource person at the virtual and in-person training sessions on ‘Disaster Impact Assessment (DIA) Tool and Guideline’ and ‘Risk Informed Development Planning in Bangladesh’, under the National Resilience Programme – Programming Division Part (NRP-PD) organized for the government officials of Bangladesh by Bangladesh Planning Commission and UNDP/UNOPS Bangladesh. In a series of sessions throughout 2022, Dr. Irfanullah trained relevant officials on how Nature-based Solutions (NbS) can contribute to resilient development, with special focus on disaster risk management.

Dr. Irfanullah virtually spoke at the panel discussion on Locally-led Adaptation organized by Sajida Foundation under Adaptation and Agriculture theme of Action Hub Events at the COP27 (Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt) on 12 November 2022. He gave a presentation on Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in Bangladesh: From resilience to prosperity at a webinar titled Nature Based Solutions for Sustainable Deltas as a part of a seminar series organized by Living Deltas Hub, UK on 8 November 2022. He also presented a paper titled What do Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Locally-led Adaptation (LLA) mean for small-scale fisheries? at the V2V Global Partnership’s (University of Waterloo, Canada) thematic webinar series on 26 August 2022.

Dr. Irfanullah virtually spoke on Mainstreaming Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in South Asia: Examples and Lessons from the Region and was a panelist on a virtual discussion on ‘Making NbS a reality in Nepalese Cities: Challenges and Opportunities’ in late August 2022. Both events were organized under the ‘Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation: Building Resilience for Municipalities’ training programme for Municipal Associations of Nepal (MUAN), organized by Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (HIS), the Netherlands.

### ILO Structured Funding Dialogue for Skills Development and Lifelong Learning;

Dr. Samiya A. Selim attended as the speaker for the thematic session - Skills for Just Transition to Environmental Sustainability on 28 March 2022. She mentioned about CSD work on greening seven TVET institutes and the need for further upscaling of skills to meet green growth demands and also recognition of green skills in the labor market.



## GOAL 17: Partnerships for the Goals >>

### MOU with Bohnishikha

On 18 April 2022, CSD was delighted to announce a new partnership for the PPLA project. The Bangladeshi feminist organisation Bonhishikha will be working with us to convene a national level roundtable discussion in response to PPLA's research findings. The roundtable event will address both ongoing de jure and de facto forms of gendered exclusion from equitable rights to land in Bangladesh, links between the two and creative means of addressing them. The objective will be to establish a set of realistic and grounded set of advocacy recommendations, derived substantively from decades of existing work on these issues by Bangladeshi scholars, legal experts and practitioners, that can then be the basis for discussions at a second international event.



### The MOU with Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT)

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) and the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT), Bremen, Germany have renewed their 5 year-long partnerships and signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) to develop cooperative relations on basis of established contacts and mutual understandings, especially to develop joint academic activities and to promote scientific exchange through mutual assistance in the areas of marine science education and research.



## **Just Transition in Bangladesh**

On 10 March 2022, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized an interactive stakeholder consultation on Just Transition in Bangladesh where Dr. Rumana Sultana, Dr. Pinki Shah, and Dr. Minhaz Uddin Ahmed presented a review paper that summarizes the meaning and implications of Just Transition in Bangladesh.

The ULAB is the country partner in Climate Strategies UK project on “Incorporating just transition strategies into climate policies of developing and least developed countries”. The aim of the project is to enable the introduction of Just Transition Strategies in developing countries, climate plans that align with their development goals. The project is funded by the European Climate Foundation.

## **The ‘2022 Appreciation Award’ of the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP), USA**

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was awarded the 2022 Appreciation Award by the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP) for his contributions to the Society as well as to the field of academic communication. Dr. Irfanullah, a Chef of The Scholarly Kitchen blog of the SSP, regularly writes articles on scholarly communication, research impact, sustainable development, the SDGs, climate action, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA).

## **Organizing and Facilitating International Events on Research Communication**

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah was a co-organiser of a virtual session on ‘Inspiring Global Collaboration’ organized at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP) in Chicago, USA, in the first week of June 2022. The panelists of this session were scholarly publishing experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Dr. Irfanullah was a co-facilitator of a workshop on ‘Global Access to Publication’ at the ‘Researcher to Reader Conference 2022’, London, UK. He was also on the advisory panel of this conference, which was organized in a hybrid mode in late February 2022.

Dr. Irfanullah was a judge of the oral and poster sessions on Life Sciences and Social Sciences at the International Colloquium on Authentic Scientific Publications. This hybrid event was organized by the National Young Academy of Bangladesh (NYAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh on 14 and 15 July 2022.

## **MOU with Garbageman**

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) signed an MOU with Garbageman, in August 2022. Garbageman is a start-up company providing services on circular waste management. As per the agreement Garbageman provided a waste audit of the waste produced at the ULAB. Garbageman additionally provided two training sessions on waste segregation to ULAB faculty, students, admin staff, and all support staff at the ULAB.

## **MOU with Bangladesh Petrochemical Company Limited (BPCL)**

The MOU signed with BPCL in 2019 has been restarted in 2022. As per the agreement BPCL will collect all PET bottles from ULAB to recycle them back into new PET bottles. As part of the agreement students can collaborate and work with BPCL on research projects, conferences and training programs provided by BPCL.

## **MOU with Bashundhara Paper Mills Limited (BPML)**

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) signed an MOU with BPML. As per the agreement BPML collects all waste paper produced at ULAB, and uses it for making pulp and turning them into paper for producing new paper and paper materials.

## Section 3: Publications

### Journal Articles:

Sultana, R., Selim, S. A., & Alam, Md. S. (2022). Diverse perceptions of supply and demand of cultural ecosystem services offered by urban green spaces in Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Journal of Urban Ecology*, 8(1), <https://doi.org/10.1093/jue/juac003>

Miñarro, S., Selim, S.A., & Galbraith, E. D. (2022). Does catching more fish increase the subjective well-being of fishers? Insights from Bangladesh. *Ambio*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-021-01698-5>

Shellock et al., Breaking down barriers: The identification of actions to promote gender equality in interdisciplinary marine research institutions, *One Earth* (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2022.05.006>.

Brodie, Stephanie, Addey, Charles Izuma, Cvitanovic, Christopher, Dias, Beatriz S., Frainer, André, García-Morales, Sara, Jiang, Shan, Kaikkonen, Laura, Lopez, Jon, Mathesius, Sabine, Ortega-Cisneros, Kelly, Pennino, Maria Grazia, Peters, Carl A., Selim, Samiya Ahmed, Shellock, Rebecca and Vaidianu, Natasa (2022) Editorial: Solving Complex Ocean Challenges Through Interdisciplinary Research: Advances from Early Career Marine Scientists. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.913459>

Bennett, N. J., Villasante, S., Romero, M. J. E., Lopes, P. F.M., Selim, S. A., Allison, E. H. (2022). Social sustainability and equity in the blue economy, *One Earth*, 5(9), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2022.08.004>

Hasan, M.A., & Irfanullah, H. Md. (2022). Exploring the potential for rainwater use for the urban poor in Bangladesh. *Water Policy*, 24(4), 645-666. <https://doi.org/10.2166/wp.2022.290>

Mathew, S.T., Shinwari, Z., Irfanullah, H.Md., Sarwar, M., & Sayab, M. (2022). Will Asia fully respond to the global transition to Open Access? *Trends in Scholarly Publishing*, 1(1): 49-54. <https://doi.org/10.21124/tsp.2022.49.54>

Woroniecki, S., Spiegelenberg, F.A, Chausson, A., Turner, B., Key, I., Irfanullah, H.Md., & Seddon, N. (2022). Contributions of nature-based solutions to reduce peoples' vulnerabilities to climate change across the rural Global South. *Climate and Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2022.2129954>

### Newspaper & Blog Articles:

Budrudzaman, M., (2022). Working towards green growth. *DhakaTribune*.

Budrudzaman, M., (2022). Matarbari Coal Power Plant: When development undermines development *The Business Standard*

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Nov 7). Climate Action: Are We Committed Enough? *The Scholarly Kitchen*.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Nov 3). A case study on writing a peer-reviewed journal article on climate change. *AuthorAID Blog*.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Jul 28). SDG Publishers Compact: Where Do We Stand Now? *The Scholarly Kitchen*.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Jun 11). Some Observations on Research4Life's New Strategic Plan for Vision 2030. *The Scholarly Kitchen*.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Apr 27). Making Research a Global Enterprise. *The Scholarly Kitchen*.

Hasan, M.A. & Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Apr 21). A journey to the 'first' publication. AuthorAID Blog.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Feb 8). Connecting Sustainable Development, Publishing Ethics, and the North-South Divide. The Scholarly Kitchen.

Irfanullah, H.Md. (2022, Jan 24). The Other Diversity in Scholarly Publishing. The Scholarly Kitchen.

### **Technical Report:**

Diba, S. A., Irfanullah, H. M., Selim, S. A., and Raihan, S. T. (2022). A Situational Analysis of Small-Scale Fisheries in Bangladesh: From Vulnerability to Viability. V2V Working Paper 2022-1. V2V Global Partnership, University of Waterloo, Canada. <https://www.v2vglobalpartnership.org/working-paper-series>

### **Book Chapter:**

Sultana, R., Selim, S. A. & Bhowmik, J. (2022) Gendered Vulnerabilities and Adaptive Options in Fisher Communities of Coastal Bangladesh during COVID-19 Pandemic. London, UK: Routledge.

### **Policy Briefs:**

Farbin, T. & Farzana, N. (2022) State of Climate-Induced Displacement in South Asia: Rationale for Policy Intervention. Center for Sustainable Development, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).



## Section 4: CSD Team

### Dr. Samiya Selim

Dr. Samiya Selim is a Professor and Director of the Center. She is also a Postdoctoral Researcher at Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Germany. Her expertise lies in interdisciplinary research of social and natural sciences and applying these in relevant conservation and development projects. She has worked in both the UK and Bangladesh for the past 12 years in the field of environment conservation, climate change and sustainable development.



### Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah

Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah is a Visiting Research Fellow at the Center. Over the past 23 years, he has evolved from being an algal taxonomist to an aquatic ecologist, from a conservationist to a development practitioner. At the current stage of his evolution, Dr. Irfanullah finds his niche in nature-people-knowledge nexus. Over these years, he has developed interest in and understanding of natural resource management, environmental governance, climate change adaptation, disaster risk management, technological innovation, and poverty alleviation – all focusing on human well-being.



### Dr. Shahana Afrose Chowdhury

Dr. Shahana Chowdhury has more than 12 years teaching experience, leading and managing projects on renewable energy, experienced in research and development with a demonstrated history of working in the renewable energy, development sector and renowned academic institutions in Australia and Bangladesh. She is skilled in handling sustainable development projects, renewable energy, climate change and environment, agriculture and rural development. She is currently teaching sustainable development courses under General Education Department.



### Sameera Zaman

Ms. Sameera Zaman is a Lecturer-cum-Research Associate at the Center. She is an experienced environmental and social researcher, with a Master's in Environmental Sciences from the University of Freiburg, Germany. By employing different research tools and designs, she manages to pursue her passion in finding sustainable solutions to new-age problems and understanding the complex nature of the environment and its interactions. Her previous work experience in research includes working as a Graduate Research Assistant at the Institute of Hydrology, Chair of Landscape Ecology and Nature Conservation as well as the Chair of Remote Sensing and Landscape Information Systems.



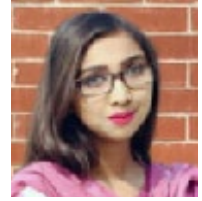
### Tahura Farbin

Ms. Tahura Farbin is a Lecturer-cum-Research Associate at the Center for Sustainable Development. She has a transdisciplinary background with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of London and a Master of Science in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Science from the Lund University, Sweden. Her transdisciplinary background has prepared her to understand the natural science basis of today's environmental challenges, the governance of our socio-ecological systems, how these relate to our economic structures and how to go about putting scientific knowledge into action.



### **Sabiha Ahmed Diba**

Sabiha Ahmed Diba is a Research Associate at the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD). She completed her graduation and post-graduation in Disaster and Human Security Management from the Bangladesh University of Professionals. She has almost 2 years of working experience for different NGOs and INGOs. Her publications and research interests include Social Sciences, Disaster Management, Climate Change, Sustainable Development, Public Health, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Women Empowerment, Child Rights, Human Security, Persons with disabilities (PWDs), Humanitarian Crisis, Emergency Response, etc.



### **Emon Rahman**

Md. Emon Rahman is a Research Associate at the Center for Sustainable Development. He has completed his graduation and post-graduation in Disaster and Human Security Management from the Bangladesh University of Professionals. Previously, he worked as a Research Consultant at Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) and as an intern faculty at Gulzar Group of Institutes, India. Mr Rahman also facilitated training sessions and group activities on global warming and Sustainable Development Goals. He is interested in pursuing further research on GIS and IT based disaster preparedness, community resilience, disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction, and nexus approach toward climate change.



### **Md. Wahed Alam**

Md. Wahed Alam has been working at the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) as Research and Admin Officer for 4 years. Previously he was a part of JAAGO Foundation as Relationship Officer in the Child Welfare and Sponsorship Department (CWSD). He completed his graduation from East West University (EWU) and Masters in Business Administration from the University of Dhaka (DU). He handles the financial matters of the center such as project billing, accounts payable, payroll and budget. He approaches all aspects of any job with a positive, hard-working mindset, and is passionate about helping find solutions to any challenges.



### **Fozla Azim**

Fozla Azim is career-driven, fast learner, ambitious and focused person having capability of solving problems with analytical and strategic thinking. Currently working as a Teaching Assistant at Center for Sustainable Development (CSD). Major in Finance and Minor in Sustainable Development at University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. Urban development, Re-newable energy, Disaster policy, Transboundary, Alternative Livelihood Options are his current interests of fields. In Future he wishes to pursue higher education in Climate Change and Disaster Management and SDG so that he can work for the women, children, minorities and deprived people.



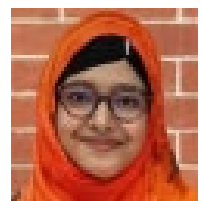
### **Tarik Hossain Tusher**

Md Tarik Hossain Tusher is a Teaching Assistant at the Center for Sustainable Development (CSD). He is currently doing his undergraduate at University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) under the School of Business. His concentration area in Study is Marketing and his minor in Media Studies and Journalism (MSJ). Besides his audio visual work he is working on increasing sustainability to the environment.



### **Farhin Bushra**

Farhin Bushra is an aspiring student and Teaching Assistant looking to contribute to the development sector with groundbreaking research. Her current areas of interest are human rights, gender studies, sustainable cities and communities, public health, food & nutrition. Her journey from a student of Bachelor of Business Administration towards Development Studies is a transformative one, all those analyses and interpretations of societal systems, and human actions through different perspectives led her to become more fascinated to work for the development sector. Aside from these she is also interested in health & society, Banking & Insurance and industrial psychology.















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