



Directory of Young Green Entrepreneurs

2025 edition



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Foreword

A green transition of our economy is essential to secure a sustainable future. It is not merely a concept or a slogan; it demands concrete and collective action. ActionAid Bangladesh supports young people in developing green, transformative initiatives that demonstrate how youth-led innovation and entrepreneurship can turn today's challenges into opportunities for sustainability and resilience.

This publication brings together inspiring stories of change that are born out of necessity, shaped by purpose, and driven by hope. It highlights the power of youth and underscores the urgent need to support them in addressing the impacts of climate change and advancing a just transition.

More than a collection of success stories, this document serves as a platform to connect youth entrepreneurs with investors, patrons, and potential buyers. With adequate support, many of these initiatives have the potential to scale up and assume greater social and environmental responsibilities, contributing meaningfully to a greener and more sustainable Bangladesh. We wish these young changemakers every success and prosperity as they pursue their purpose and help shape a resilient future for all.



Md. Nazmul Ahsan
Lead, Youth, Resilience and Climate
Justice

Background

Across Bangladesh, many young people are starting green enterprises with creativity, courage with some initial funding, training, or support from various organization. Yet, after support period ends, most face the same challenge to continue and grow into a successful enterprise. Without space to showcase their work or connect with investors and buyers, many promising initiatives fade before reaching their full potential.

This publication was developed to change that. This document tries to highlight the journeys of young men and women driving the green transition, sharing their stories and contact information to help connect them with supporters, patrons, and markets. It is designed to serve as both an inspiration and a connection point, linking investors, patrons, and buyers directly with youth-led green enterprises. Through this effort, we hope to ensure that these young changemakers continue to grow, inspire others, and drive lasting climate action from the ground up.

Objective

- Showcase the creativity, leadership, and impact of youth-led green enterprises across Bangladesh.
- Inspire other young people to take initiative in promoting sustainable, climate-friendly livelihoods.
- Connect green entrepreneurs with potential climate advocates, investors, patrons, and buyers.

At A Glance

Eco-Friendly Products	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Iren's Tukitaki
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Greenogram
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grinev
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ecolery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organica BD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swapner Hostoshilpo
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swaccha
<input type="checkbox"/>	Simur Canvas

Sustainable Farming	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coastal Greens
<input type="checkbox"/>	GreenCart
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organic Papaya Farming
<input type="checkbox"/>	Satkhira Roof Garden
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Sun Hatchery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Haven Mushroom
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bondhu Vermicompost

Green Social Enterprises	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paatex Handicraft
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gunoboti
<input type="checkbox"/>	Porinita
<input type="checkbox"/>	BORDERLESS
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Iren's Tukitaki

In my surroundings I often found myself noticing how casually we use plastic products especially items like bags and pens that are thrown away after just a few uses. Seeing this huge waste practice every day made me uncomfortable and pushed me to act instead of staying passive.

I wanted to create simple, practical alternatives that people could use easily welcome into their life without having to change their everyday lifestyle too much. Being naturally drawn to handmade work, I began experimenting with eco-friendly materials, trying to turn waste into something useful. That curiosity also led to the idea of seed pens. These are the pens that don't end their life in a dustbin, but instead can be planted in soil to grow into a plant to make positive contribution to the environment.

That's how I started the Iren's Tukitaki. With my small effort I wanted to replace plastic with purpose and remind people that even smallest choices can help protect our planet.



IREN'S TUKITAKI



FAIHIMA AKTER IREN

Faihima Akter Iren



“Through Iren’s Tukitaki, I want to show that sustainability isn’t a trend, it is a responsibility”

Through Iren’s Tukitaki, I have tried to create sustainable alternatives to commonly used plastic products, keeping them affordable and handmade. My work focuses on jute eco-bags, paper pens, and seed pens. Each of my products are designed not just to serve a function, but to carry a message of environmental responsibility.

I started Iren’s Tukitaki to show that even small ideas, made with care, can contribute to preserving the environment. I want people to see that eco-friendly choices don’t have to be complicated or expensive; they can be thoughtful, practical, and part of everyday life.



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The Greenogram

As a climate activist and youth leader, I often felt the need to move beyond awareness and take tangible action. My name is Mousumi Akter, and my motivation for starting The Greenogram came from a deep desire to do something meaningful for the environment.

Over the years, I've seen how people care about nature but often feel that sustainability is too big or complicated to act on. I wanted to change that mindset and wanted to show that protecting the planet can start with something small, something as simple as the pen in your hand.

That's how the idea of seed pens was born. I wanted to create a product that would not just avoid harm but actually do good. It will be something that could give back to the earth after its use. The thought that a pen could end its life by growing into a tree felt both poetic and powerful. Even though the profit margin is small, I continue this work with dedication because I truly believe in the impact of small actions practiced with consistency.



Mousumi Akter

“The Greenogram was created with the idea that a simple pen can become a symbol of environmental responsibility.”



The Greenogram produces Green Pens which are eco-friendly, paper-based writing instruments that can easily replace toxic plastic pens. Each pen contains a seed capsule inside it, allowing it to be planted in soil once the ink runs out. As it decomposes, it gives life to a plant, turning a simple writing tool into a small act of environmental care.

By replacing single-use plastic pens with plantable, biodegradable alternatives, The Greenogram reduces plastic waste and inspires people to adopt green habits in their daily lives. Through easy, affordable, and practical intervention, it shows how sustainability can be woven into everyday choices very easily, meaningfully, and beautifully with visible impact.



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Amirul Islam

My name is Amirul Islam, and I was just a student from Amtali, Barguna when I started Grinev. My journey began after learning about the harmful impacts of plastic pollution in school and noticing how waste, especially plastic, was piling up around my community. I realized that even small things that we use every day, like pens were silently contributing to this problem.

Most pens we use generally are made of plastic and thrown away after just a short time. I started thinking about how something so ordinary could become part of the solution instead of the problem. With very limited resources but a strong desire to make a difference, I began experimenting at home using paper, glue, pen refills. Then I added seeds from fruit trees and vegetables in those pens to make.

After many trials, I finally created a pen that will care for the environment even after it became waste. It will grow into a plant. Once the ink runs out, the paper-based seed pen can be planted in the soil, where it will decompose naturally and sprout into a fruit or vegetable plant.





“This pen is not meant for the dustbin, it is meant for the soil and the environment.”

For me, this initiative was about more than reducing the harmful plastic. It is about showing that every small idea can grow into something impactful that young people can protect the planet with simple, creative actions. I want my seed pen to remind students like me that environmental change doesn't always need big resources rather it begins with awareness, determination, and a genuine care for the nature.

The eco-friendly seed pen is made from paper and natural materials, which are fully biodegradable, and very affordable to produce. By replacing single-use plastic pens, it helps reduce pollution while promoting greenery and environmental awareness. More than just a writing tool, it is a testament that one can easily help the environment with a simple but effective initiative.



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Coastal Greens

I am Md. Alvi Sheikh, Founder of Rongmohol for Youth. The idea for Coastal Greens took shape after witnessing the repeated livelihood losses in Shyamnagar and the greater Khulna region.

Over the years, I saw how cyclones, river erosion, salinity, and tidal flooding were destroying traditional farming and income sources. Fields that once produced crops were turning barren, and communities that once thrived were struggling to survive. What struck me most was how these challenges affected young people and women and many of whom wanted to work, innovate, and contribute, but had no sustainable opportunities left.

At the same time, I noticed a growing gap in my area, while the climate crisis was intensifying, green livelihood opportunities for youth were almost nonexistent. This dual challenge of climate vulnerability and unemployment pushed me to think differently. I wanted to create something that could heal both people and the planet, a solution that built resilience and opportunity both.

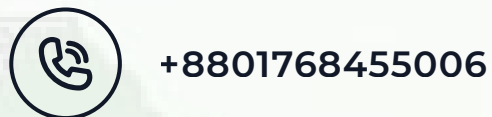


Md. Alvi Sheikh

“The idea for Coastal Greens grew from seeing how climate disasters were taking away both livelihoods and hope from people in coastal Bangladesh.”

We use biodegradable, plastic-free packaging and promote home-based spirulina farming, ensuring that production remains climate-friendly and accessible. What started as a small initiative in Shyamnagar is now growing into a replicable green business model, adaptable for both coastal and urban communities across Bangladesh.

Through Coastal Greens, my goal is to help marginalized youth become climate entrepreneurs, individuals who can turn environmental challenges into opportunities for growth and self-reliance. For me, Coastal Greens is more than an initiative actually it is a movement to restore hope, create livelihoods in the struggling community.





Ecolery Bangladesh



Nafesa Anzum Helaly

The moment I saw plastic waste scattered across the Sundarbans while travelling there, I realized sustainability had to become part of our everyday choices. My name is Nafesa Anzum Helaly, and the idea for Ecolery was born from a moment that changed the way I saw the world. During a visit to the Sundarbans, one of the most beautiful and delicate ecosystems on Earth; I was heartbroken to see plastic bottles and disposable cups littering the forest floor and floating in the water. That image stayed with me long after I returned to Dhaka.

Every time I saw single-use cutlery being thrown away after just one use, I felt the same frustration, but also a growing sense of determination came to me. I didn't just want to reduce waste; I wanted to rethink the entire concept of plastic cutlery use. What if we could replace it altogether?

That question became my starting point. I began experimenting in my own kitchen, testing edible ingredients that could hold liquids and heat while remaining safe and even enjoyable to consume.





“I started Ecolery to show that sustainability doesn’t have to be a sacrifice rather it can be something joyful, simple, and part of every bite.”

After months of trials I finally created the first edible cup prototypes. It was an incredible moment to see something practical that people could use and eat, without leaving any waste behind.

The journey grew even stronger when I partnered with Sharif Shahriar, whose financial and strategic expertise helped turn my small idea into a viable green enterprise. Together with Shabiha Sultana Nuha, we founded Ecolery, Bangladesh’s first edible cutlery brand; a venture that redefines sustainability as something people can experience. And now we have our own in-house production system.

By replacing single-use plastics with edible alternatives, Ecolery promotes a zero-waste, circular lifestyle that’s easy to adopt and hard to forget. For me, it’s about proving that small innovations can shift habits and that protecting the planet can taste good, too.



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Paatex Handicraft

My name is Md. Tanvir Hossain, and I started Paatex Handicraft from a simple dream; to protect the environment while creating opportunities for my community. Growing up in a modest household in Barishal, I learned early on that even small initiatives can make a big difference when they are driven by purpose. I have always been deeply concerned about how plastic pollution harms both nature and people's lives. At the same time, I've been inspired by Bangladesh's heritage; especially jute, our country's golden fiber and how it once symbolized both pride and sustainability.

With my mother's old sewing machine and the help of online tutorials, I started crafting simple jute-based products. What began as an experiment soon became a calling. Each product I made reminded me that eco-friendly alternatives could be both beautiful and meaningful.

As I continued this journey, I began to notice something even more important. It is the untapped potential of rural and marginalized women around me. Many of them wanted to work and support their families but lacked opportunities to do so.

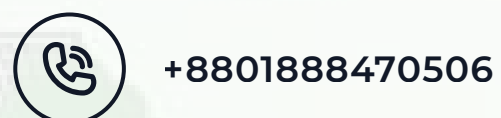


Md. Tanvir Hossain

“Paatex Handicraft was created to combine craftsmanship, sustainability, and social impact through the power of jute.”

That realization changed my vision and I wanted Paatex Handicraft to become more than just a green business. I wanted it to be a platform for empowerment. Today, Paatex Handicraft produces eco-friendly jute bags, files, home decor items, and customized corporate gifts as sustainable alternatives to plastic. Every product is handmade with care, combining uniqueness, craftsmanship, creativity, and environmental responsibility.

What makes this journey meaningful is seeing how each new product and each new artisan adds value; not just to the enterprise, but to the planet and the community. By promoting jute as a sustainable material and offering skill-based training and fair employment, Paatex Handicraft is helping build green livelihoods.





Malobika Dipanwita Roy

Gunoboti

I have always believed that a greener and more resilient future can only be built by honoring the wisdom of our elders. Growing up, I watched my mother and the women in my community skillfully work with products made with bamboo, cane, jute, and other natural materials. Their hands carried generations of knowledge. They can craft beautiful, functional items in ways that cared for both people and the planet. To me, these everyday acts of creation were quiet lessons in sustainability, even before the word became popular.

Sadly as I got older, I began to see a painful truth that these traditional practices were slowly disappearing. The artisans who had kept our culture and environment in balance were struggling to earn fair livelihoods. Their skills were undervalued, their markets shrinking, and their stories fading into silence. It felt like we all were losing more than just crafts rather we were losing a part of who we are. That realization became the seed for Gunoboti.



“Gunoboti exists to keep tradition alive through responsible design, fair livelihoods, and sustainable living.”



During the pandemic the situation worsened, when many artisans lost their sources of income, I decided to take action. I wanted to create something that could reconnect our heritage with modern life.. Through Gunoboti, I now work with artisan communities across Bangladesh to co-create contemporary, functional products that honor traditional craftsmanship.

We use natural, renewable materials like bamboo, cane, and jute, combined with low-energy, handmade production that keeps our process sustainable and community-based. Every product tells a story of the people behind it, of nature’s resilience, and of the quiet strength found in tradition. For me, Gunoboti is not just about crafts; it is about restoring dignity to the artists, keeping cultural wisdom alive, and proving that sustainability can be found in traditional practices.



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Organica BD

My name is Mosa Maria Akter, and Organica BD grew from my love for handmade creations and my concern about the growing waste all around us. From an early age, I enjoyed crafting things by my hand: sewing, designing, and creating small items that brought me pleasure. But as I grew older, I started to notice how much usable material was being thrown away every day; from fabric scraps and plastics to perfectly good household items. It made me wonder why we couldn't give these materials a second life instead of letting them harm the environment.

That realization inspired me to turn creativity into action. I began reusing discarded and natural materials to make things that are both beautiful and useful like cloth bags, handmade jewelry, and home decor items crafted from recycled and upcycled materials.



Later, I added organic homemade pickles, made with care and free from chemicals, to promote natural, locally produced food. For me, Organica BD is more than a business; to me it is a movement of mindful creation.



Mosa Maria Akter

“I started Organica BD to prove that creativity can heal the planet, one handmade piece, one small action at a time.”

Organica BD is a youth-led green business producing eco-friendly cloth bags, handmade jewelry, home decor items, and organic homemade pickles. All products are made using recycled, upcycled, and natural materials, ensuring minimal environmental impact while promoting responsible consumption.

The initiative’s unique strength lies in sustainable craftsmanship and zero-waste production. By offering reusable cloth bags and eco-friendly household items as alternatives to plastic, Organica BD supports waste reduction and environmentally conscious lifestyles. Through creative design and ethical production, the business demonstrates how sustainability can be both practical and inspiring.



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Porinita



Mukti Rani

For a long time, I loved creating handmade jewelry, bangles, and home decor items just as a hobby. It was something that brought me peace and joy. Working with colors, fabrics, and simple materials to make something beautiful with my own hands always filled my heart. But as time went on, I noticed how much people appreciated my work. Their encouragement made me realize that what I was making had real value, and that this passion could also be a livelihood for me.

That realization was a turning point. I decided to turn my creativity into a way to support myself and contribute to my family. Each piece I made carried not just design and creativity, but my confidence and independence. And as I grew in my journey, so did my purpose.

I wanted others to experience the same sense of empowerment that comes from earning with your own skills. Today, alongside selling my handmade products, I also train new and aspiring entrepreneurs, helping them learn how to create, sell, and stand on their own feet.





“I turned my passion into purpose — and now, I want others to see that their hands can shape both beauty and a better future.”

Watching others grow and succeed is now the most fulfilling part of my work. I really love supporting others success in their venture.

My own initiative now produces handmade fabric and thread jewelry, bangles, and gypsum-based home décor items, all crafted with biodegradable and eco-friendly materials such as cloth, paper, and cardboard. Every decorative element is carefully chosen to ensure reusability and minimal environmental impact.

The strength of my work lies in sustainable craftsmanship by transforming simple, nature-friendly materials into meaningful, functional art. By promoting reuse, biodegradability, and skill-based entrepreneurship, this initiative supports eco-conscious living while creating pathways for economic independence.



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GreenCart

The idea for GreenCart came from my deep concern about how climate change is affecting agriculture and the way we produce our food. Over time, I saw how chemical dependency was damaging our soil, reducing crop quality, and creating serious health risks for both farmers and consumers. Additionally, the land was losing its life, and so were the communities that depended on it.

Witnessing these challenges firsthand made me determined to find a better, more sustainable path that already exists. The path that could nourish both people and the planet. With support from Activista Teknaf and ActionAid, I started GreenCart as a community-based initiative to promote organic and eco-friendly farming.

My motivation was simple yet powerful: to grow safe, chemical-free food while building climate resilience at the local level. I wanted to show that sustainable agriculture isn't just about growing crops but it is about caring for the earth, protecting farmers, and ensuring that future generations can eat without harm.



Yasin Arafat

“I started GreenCart to prove that growing food sustainably is not just a choice rather it is our responsibility to the earth and to each other.”



At GreenCart, we cultivate a variety of organic vegetables such as chinese cabbage, carrots, beetroot, and other seasonal crops using natural compost, organic fertilizers, and pesticide-free methods. Each harvest reflects our belief that healthy soil grows healthy lives.

By practicing climate-friendly farming, we help preserve soil fertility, reduce environmental pollution, and strengthen local food systems. Every step, from seed to harvest is rooted in respect for nature and community well-being.

For me, GreenCart is more than a farming initiative; it's a commitment to sustainable living and environmental responsibility. It's proof that real change can begin with something as simple and essential as the food we choose to grow and eat.



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Organic Papaya Farming



Pallab Das

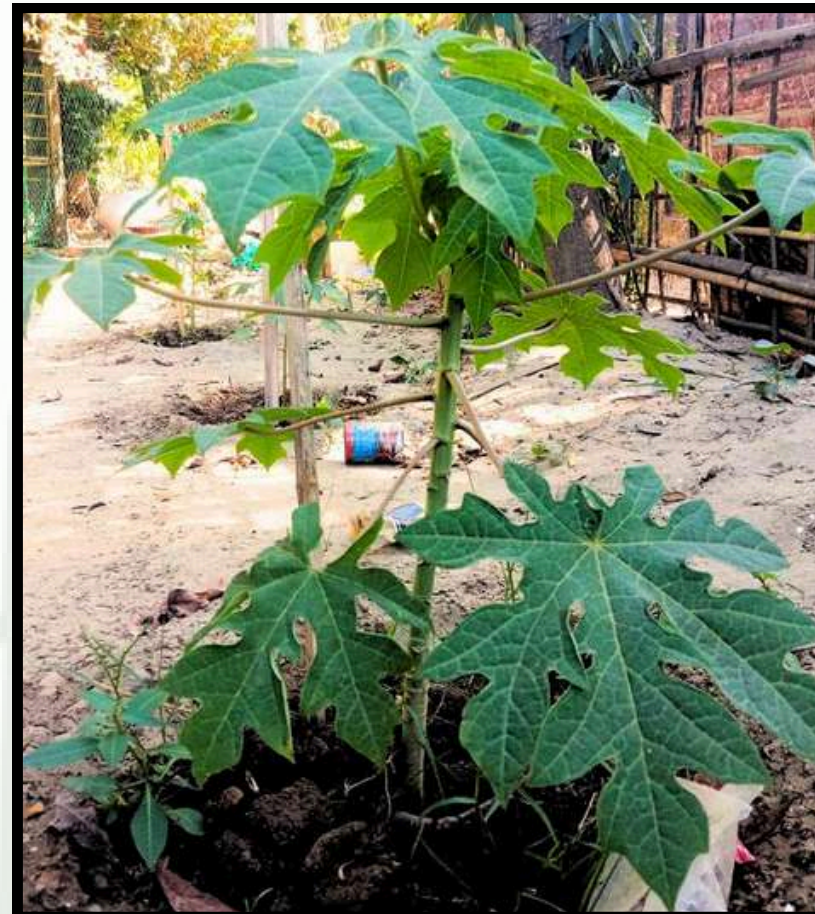
The journey of organic papaya farming began when I noticed a troubling reality in my village where some people were falling sick after eating papaya bought from the local market. I later learned that most of these fruits were treated with formalin and other harmful chemicals to make them look fresh and ripe faster. It was heartbreaking to see a fruit as nutritious as papaya, something that should nourish people, becoming a cause of illness instead.

That experience changed the way I looked at farming. I realized that if I could grow papaya organically, without using any formalin or toxic chemicals then people would not only prefer it but also regain trust in what they eat. This realization became the driving force of my journey.

I began cultivating papaya using organic and environmentally friendly practices, focusing on soil health and natural growth processes. It wasn't easy at first, but the results were rewarding: healthier plants, fresher fruits, and, most importantly, peace of mind knowing that what I was growing was truly safe.



“This business was created to blend creativity, sustainability, and self-reliance.”



Through Organic Papaya Farming, my goal is to provide chemical-free, nutritious papayas while protecting the environment. Every fruit I grow represents a step toward safer food systems and healthier communities. The initiative follows 100% organic methods, avoiding chemical fertilizers and synthetic inputs, ensuring that both people and nature benefit. Seeing the success now I have started cultivating other vegetables in my yard following the same practices.

For me, this work has now become more than just farming, it is about rebuilding trust between people and the food they eat. By keeping the process transparent and natural, I hope to inspire other farmers to shift toward sustainable practices that care for both consumers and the planet equally.



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Satkhira Roof Garden

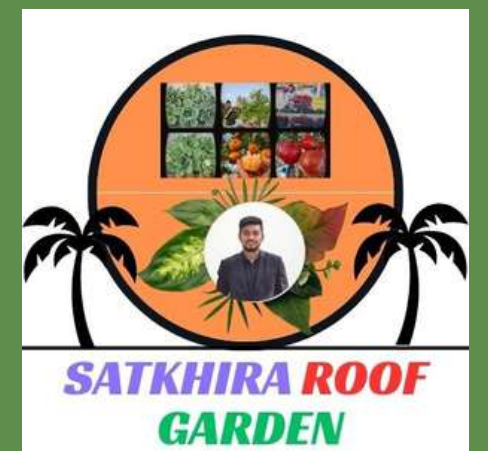


Md. Marufuzzaman Samrat

In my area, I often noticed how pollution, unsafe food, and the loss of green spaces were quietly affecting our health and wellbeing. But I also saw possibilities, everywhere I looked, there were empty rooftops baking under the sun. These spaces full of potential but left unused. I began to imagine what would happen if every rooftop became a small garden, a living patch of green that could feed families, create livelihood opportunity, clean the air, and cool the city.

That's how the idea for eco-friendly & sustainable rooftop gardening began. My goal was to find a simple, low-cost, and practical way to help people grow vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers on their rooftops by using sustainable, chemical-free methods.

I wanted to make rooftop gardening not just possible, but easy and inspiring for everyone. By focusing on organic composting, rainwater recharge, and zero pesticide use, I started creating small rooftop gardens that are both productive and planet-friendly.





“I started this journey to show that every rooftop has the power to grow hope and turning gray spaces into green possibilities.”

Over time, I’ve seen how these gardens not only provide fresh food but also bring our community people closer to nature and turning unused spaces into beautiful, life-giving corners of the city.

Each rooftop I transform tells a story of renewal: vegetables grown from kitchen waste, rainwater harvested to sustain plants, and families finding joy in nurturing green life together. Beyond growing food, these gardens help reduce the urban heat, absorb carbon dioxide, and improve air quality, proving that even in concrete cities, nature can find a way to thrive.

For me, this initiative is more than just gardening. It’s about reconnecting people with nature, promoting safe food practices, and creating greener, healthier cities one rooftop at a time.



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Swapner Hostoshilpo

The idea for Swapner Hostoshilpo, which means Dream Handicrafts, came from my concern about plastic pollution and the growing impact of single-use products on our environment. Growing up, I often noticed how much fabric and household waste went unused, like: old jeans, worn-out clothes, scraps of jute cloth and also how plastics and polythene filled our surroundings. It made me wonder why we were throwing away what could be turned into something useful and beautiful. That question stayed with me and slowly turned into a vision for change.

With tailoring and puppet-making training from the Department of Women Affairs and Nari Moitri, I began experimenting with ways to repurpose waste materials. I started creating tote bags, doormats, cushion covers, puppets, and dining mats using mostly used cloths. These products are not only functional and affordable but also environmentally responsible. For me, Swapner Hostoshilpo is about more than reducing waste; it's about creating new and greener possibilities.



Shahina Parvin

“I started Swapner Hostoshilpo to prove that waste can be a beginning, not an end; a path toward creativity, dignity, and a greener tomorrow.”



I actually wanted to prove that sustainability can also mean opportunity, especially for local women who can earn a livelihood through skill-based work. Every piece I make carries a story of creativity and care. Today, Swapner Hostoshilpo produces reusable household items using old fabrics, jeans, and jute cloth as sustainable alternatives to plastic. By transforming waste into useful products, I promote eco-friendly living, support the ban on polythene, and encourage people to make greener choices.

What makes this initiative special is it is close to my heart. My initiative is a combination of handcrafted quality, environmental consciousness, and social impact. Each creation reflects a belief that even small actions, when made with purpose, can lead to a cleaner and more hopeful future.



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Md. Faysal Khan

My name is Foysal, and I started a solar-powered incubator business at the age of 17 in Shrifoltala village, Rampal, Bagerhat. Growing up, I saw how limited resources and lack of access to technology held back local farmers and unemployed youth. Many had the skills and determination to work hard, but without modern tools or opportunities, their potential remained untapped.

That's when I began thinking about how technology, especially renewable energy could be used to make a difference in rural life. I realized that solar-powered egg incubation could help farmers get healthy chicks more easily, create new employment, and promote environmentally friendly practices which supports the local economy.

With a small grant from Badhan Manob Songstha and my own savings, I bought solar panels and incubators and began hatching chicken and duck eggs. When I saw the first chicks hatch successfully, it felt like a small miracle to me. This really proves that innovation could start right here in my village.



“I started this journey to prove that even in a small village, innovation can shine bright enough to change lives.”



Watching how it inspired other young people around me motivated me even more to continue and expand. Today, my green business focuses on hatching chicken and duck eggs using solar-powered incubators, providing an eco-friendly and electricity-saving alternative to traditional methods. Each incubation cycle allows farmers to access healthy chicks quickly, while local youth find meaningful new employment.

By using solar energy, the initiative not only saves electricity but also brings climate-friendly technology to rural households. With low-cost operations, locally sourced eggs, and a model that can be scaled easily, the initiative strengthens the local economy, supports sustainable farming, and builds community self-reliance.



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BORDERLESS



Growing up in Saidpur, Nilphamari; I saw firsthand how climate change, unemployment, and the lack of digital access quietly pushed skilled women and youth into poverty. I met so many people with incredible ideas, creativity, and determination, yet they remained unseen and cut off from opportunities simply because they didn't have the networks, training, or visibility to grow beyond their local boundaries.

As a climate activist and green entrepreneur myself, this reality felt deeply personal. I realized that building a sustainable future wasn't just about creating eco-friendly products; it was about creating connection and connecting people to markets, skills, and each other. That belief became the foundation of BORDERLESS.

I started BORDERLESS to build a space where young people and women from climate-vulnerable regions could turn their ideas into dignified, sustainable livelihoods. Through hybrid training, mentorship, and digital access, we help green entrepreneurs gain the confidence, leadership, and market reach they need to grow.



BORDERLESS



Md. Fahim Faisal Heemal

*“I created **BORDERLESS** to prove that where you come from should never limit how far your dreams can go.”*

Today, **BORDERLESS** serves as a sustainable digital marketplace and capacity-building hub for youth and women-led green enterprises across Bangladesh. We connect eco-friendly producers who are working with jute, bamboo, recycled materials, upcycled fabrics, and biodegradable alternatives to national and international buyers.

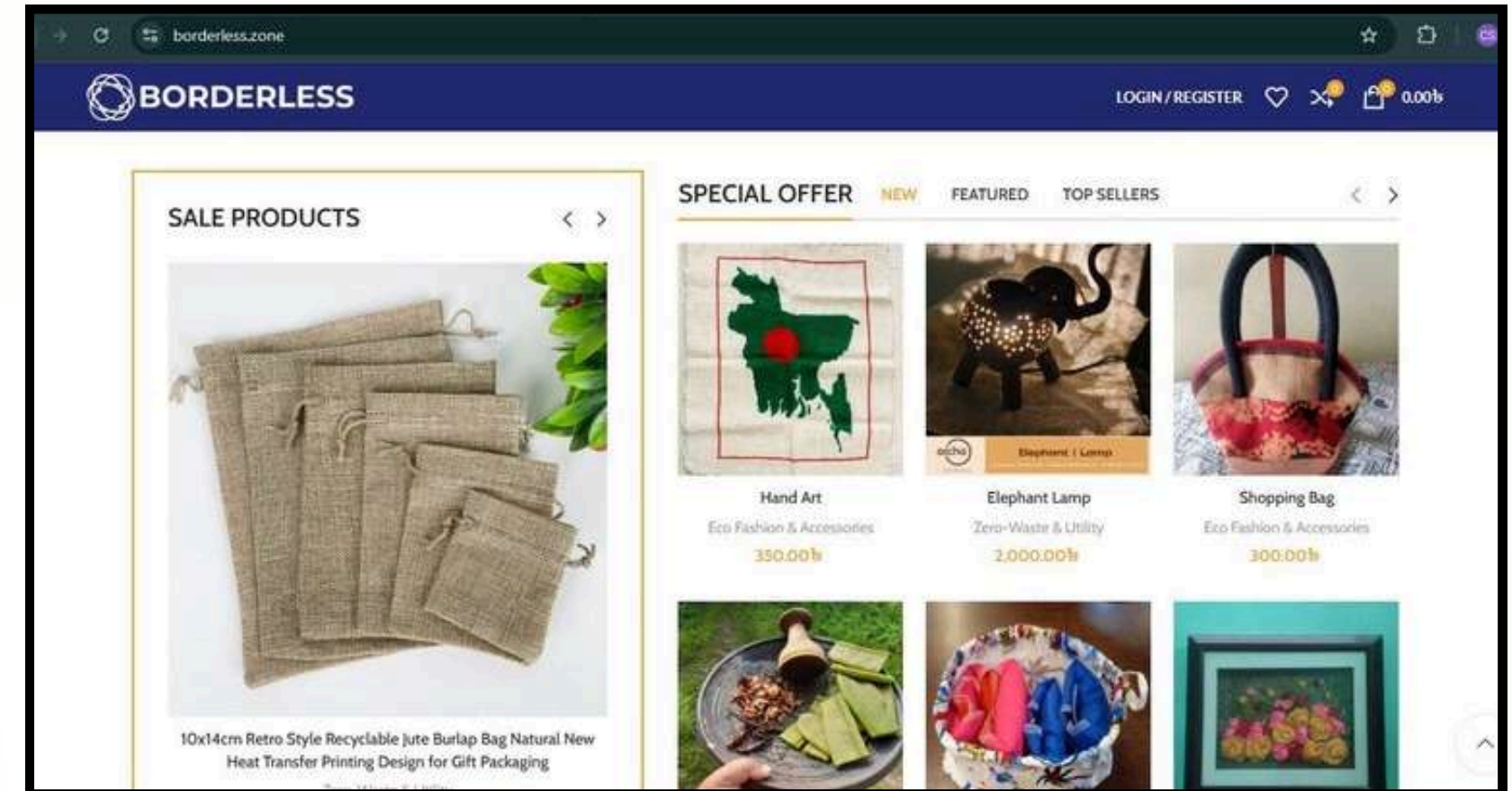
What makes **BORDERLESS** unique is how it brings everything together in one place: training, leadership development, product quality improvement, and direct market access. By integrating ethical production, climate-smart entrepreneurship, and digital inclusion, we're helping reduce economic and geographic barriers while promoting responsible consumption and sustainable livelihoods.

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Green Haven Mushroom



Thaomid Khan

I always wanted to grow food that heals people without harming nature. Every time I looked at how our food was being produced, I saw a growing dependency on chemicals that damaged both our health and the precious environment. It made me question what we eat and how disconnected we've become from the land that sustains us.

At the same time, I noticed how many young people around me were struggling to find sustainable sources of income. I began thinking about solutions that could address both. I have found something unique for our area that would be healthy for people and kind to the planet, while also creating livelihood opportunities.



That's how Green Haven Mushroom initiative has began. I chose mushroom cultivation because it requires low investment but offers high nutritional and environmental value, also not many people are not doing this sort of cultivation in my locality.



“I started Green Haven Mushroom to prove that when we care for the soil and the people together, we can grow food that truly sustains life.”

I mostly use all natural methods and agricultural by-products like straw and sawdust in my production process. That is why I can produce fresh, nutritious mushrooms while trying to practice zero waste modality. Now every batch of mushroom reflects our belief that food can nourish both people and the planet.

Green Haven Mushroom is more than just a farming initiative for me and my family; it is a small step toward changing how we think about food, farming, and sustainability in our community. By growing mushrooms naturally and locally, we're promoting healthy eating, reducing waste, and helping young people build dignified livelihoods through green enterprise. Seeing my success some of the young people also showed interest to grow mushroom.



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Swaccha

The idea for Swaccha was born the day I truly noticed how much plastic we use without a second thought; especially something as ordinary as a toothbrush. Upon exploring more I realized that millions of plastic toothbrushes, used for just a few days or weeks, end up in landfills or oceans, where they stay for hundreds of years. It was heartbreaking to see how even daily hygiene which something meant to keep us clean actually was silently polluting our planet.

Seeing how the hotel management industry works, I have found this problem magnified: thousands of single-use plastic toothbrushes disposed of every day, used by guests for minutes but leaving behind damage that lasts for centuries. I knew there had to be a better way one that cared for both people and the planet.

That's when the idea of Swaccha began to take shape. I wanted to rethink something as simple as brushing our teeth and make it part of a larger movement for sustainability and some solutions from the internet.

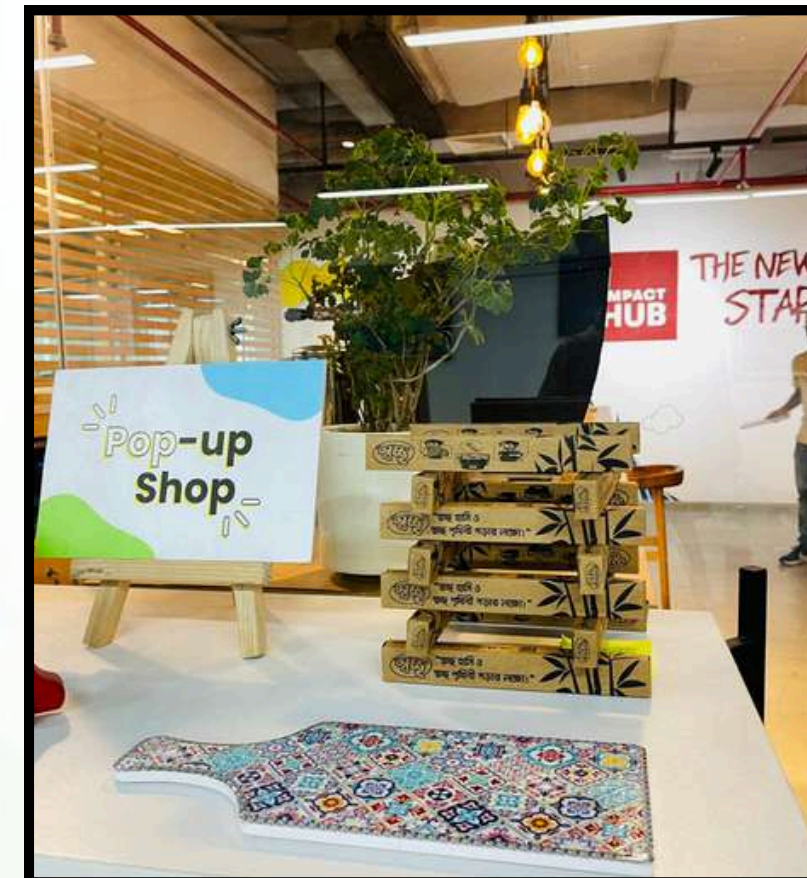


Mahmudul Hasan

“I wanted to show that sustainability can be simple and real change often starts with everyday choices, like brushing your teeth while caring for the planet.”

Inspired by the concept of circular economy, I set out to create Bangladesh’s first eco-friendly toothbrush made from bamboo, plant-based bristle and embedded with a seed. When users finish using this toothbrush, they can simply plant it in the soil and instead of adding to waste, it grows into a tree. This small action transforms a daily routine into an act of regeneration and climate care. Swaccha turns an everyday habit into an opportunity for reforestation, waste reduction, and environmental awareness.

Today, Swaccha stands as more than just a mere product it is a symbol of care and responsibility towards the mother earth. It’s an award-winning social business that combines innovation, sustainability, affordability and purpose. It shows that the solutions to big problems often start with small, thoughtful choices.



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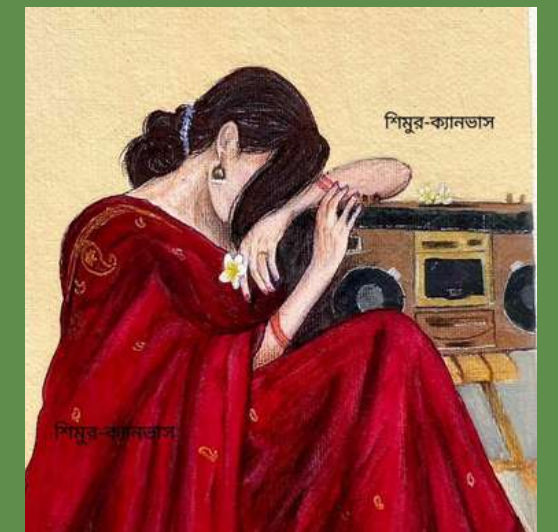


Mst Simu Sheikh

Simur Canvas

Every time I saw polythene bags tossed away after a single use, I couldn't help but think about what a waste it is and where they all end up eventually; clogging drains, polluting rivers, and harming the places we call home. It felt wrong that something so convenient for a few minutes could cause damage that lasts for years. That's when I began looking for a better way. I wanted a solution that was simple, sustainable, and practical. Something that people could use in their everyday lives without extra effort, but with a big positive impact. I wanted to create alternatives to plastic that protect our environment while empowering my community.

The idea for making eco-friendly cloth bags and other items came naturally from this search. With guidance and support from ActionAid Bangladesh through a Green Entrepreneurship workshop and a small seed funding, I was able to bring my idea to life. Now I am building my business with support from my family and community.



“I wanted to turn a simple everyday habit into a reminder that real change for the planet can begin at everyone’s very home.”



I started producing reusable, durable cloth bags made from local materials and put some very attractive designs in it so people could feel good about these bags. These bags not only reduce plastic waste but also promote responsible consumption and created a healthy practice of reusable bags. Each of these bags are designed to be strong, practical, and long-lasting, so people can use them with pride knowing they’re making a difference and not worry about added price.



This initiative is about more than just replacing the harmful plastic bags. It is about showing how small, conscious choices like carrying a reusable bag can spark meaningful and visible change in the community. It is also about empowering local communities and young people like me to take part in building a greener, fairer future.



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WITH SHE

This is Imran from WITH SHE Enterprise. Working closely with women in Bangladesh's coastal communities, I often saw how something as natural as menstruation could still cause so much silence, shame, and hardship. Many women and girls had to choose between unsafe materials or costly disposable pads that also harmed the environment. Each story I heard felt like a reminder that menstrual health was not just about hygiene, it was about dignity, opportunity, and the environment too.

I didn't want to stand by while these challenges continued. From our work under the WITH SHE initiative, we realized that real change had to come from within the communities themselves by empowering women with the skills, tools, and confidence to take charge of their own health and livelihoods.

That is how we began as a women-powered social business creating eco-friendly reusable cloth sanitary pads as a sustainable alternative to single-use regular pads.

WITH SHE
ENTERPRISE



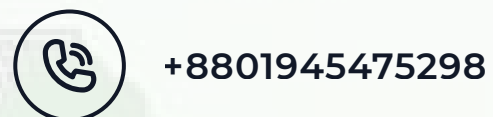
Md. Imran Jahan Arafat

“WITH SHE Enterprise was born from the belief that menstrual health should never compromise dignity, the environment, or economic opportunity.”

Our idea was simple but powerful to train the local women to produce these pads themselves, turning a once a taboo issue into an opportunity for income, leadership, and environmental care.

Every pad produced tells a story of a woman who now earns with dignity, of a girl who can go to school with confidence, and of a community taking one more step toward sustainability. So far, more than 125 women and adolescent girls have been trained in pad production, many of whom now make and sell them in their local markets.

WITH SHE Enterprise is not just about products; it's about purpose. By linking menstrual health, environmental sustainability, and women's economic empowerment, it aims to show that lasting change happens where dignity and opportunity go hand in hand.



Bondhu Vermicompost

I first learned about the power of organic compost during a training on agroecology organized by ActionAid Bangladesh. That training opened my eyes to the benefits of organic fertilizer and the harm caused by chemical-based farming.

In my village, most farmers rely heavily on chemical fertilizers. But over time, I saw how this practice was damaging soil fertility, increasing production costs, and discouraging farmers from continuing agriculture. It troubled me deeply to see fertile land losing its vitality and farmers losing hope.

That is what really inspired me to start working with organic fertilizer in our area. I realized that if we could shift to sustainable, natural farming methods, it would not only reduce the impact of climate change but also lower farmers' farming related costs, increase their profits and restore soil health as well.



Md. Jewel

“I started this initiative to make some meaningful contribution to bring life back to our soil ”



People often ask why my product is better than the other commercial vermicompost. The process of making my organic vermicompost begins by keeping cow dung aside for a few days to release the gas. Once ready, it is placed inside a ring structure, and earthworms are added. Gradually, through their natural activity, the waste turns into rich organic fertilizer.

Today, my initiative focuses on producing eco-friendly organic compost using local materials and vermicomposting techniques. Now I am supplying vermicompost to our local farmers through the help of the Agriculture Officer of our area. Farmers are also happy to see one of their local boy is providing high quality fertilizer within their community. It's a small step, but one that helps both the planet and the people who feed it.



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