



Organization Name: Youth Foundation of Bangladesh
Contact Person: Mohammad Safi Ul Alam
Address: House#31, Lane#01, Block-B, Section-6. Dhaka-1216, Bangladesh.
Email: ceo@yfob.org, saficul@yahoo.com, www.yfob.org
Telephone Number: +8801552475558, +8801677040811

- **Name of Project:**
"Fate of **Single use Plastic (SUP)** on inland water transport & Its **catastrophic** effect on River" An awareness and participatory Program To Achieve SDG-14
- **Project Location:**
All Over Bangladesh

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



নদী দূষণ রোধ করি
জলজ সম্পদ রক্ষা করি

টেকসই উন্নয়নের জন্য সাগর, মহাসাগর ও সামুদ্রিক সম্পদের সংরক্ষণ নিশ্চিত করতে হবে



Introduction

Bangladesh is a riverine country. Although transport system has significantly developed on past few decades, still water transport remained one of the major medium of transportation for passengers and transporting goods across the country. Everyday numerous number of water vehicle transporting passengers and goods within the inland water-way of our country. Among the peoples living by the places nearby river; launch is one of the most reliable medium of transport. It is more preferable than any other means due to comfort and affordability. Everyday around two lac people travels from one division to other via major launch routes of our country and millions in other inter district/division local launches. Thus a massive amount of waste generates (which includes food waste, human sludge, oil and others) during this trips and those became one of the major source of pollution of our rivers.

Inland water transports and Pollutions: Observations

Background of Problem

Among different types of water vehicle such as small boats, engine boats, speedboats, launches are most preferable inland water transport and mainly used during longer trips. So naturally almost every kind of consumables are available there including foods, beverage. Hence this medium generates a massive amount of waste during each trip. Also passengers carries foods and other usable items on plastic bags during the trips on launches. All those trashes created during the trip including non-degradable plastic bottle, poly packs, often find their place in river due to lack of awareness of passengers and managements Even waste and trashes accumulated during cleaning of launches often kept alongside dustbins nearby riverbanks which sequentially find their places on river due to lack of proper governance. Majority portion of those waste are non-degradable and toxic materials which subsequently polluting water, destroying bio-diversity, threatening lives in water and most importantly severely affecting environment. By the time toxic byproducts created from those also entering in our food chain.

Thus it's became necessity to take further steps to save our river from such pollutions specially pollution originated from launch terminal & launches by SUP.

Catastrophic effect on river

Due to lack of awareness and proper governance we are polluting river in numerous means among those dumping waste on river is one of the major source and majority portion of those are non-degradable materials. Everyday each person of our country generating waste of 800g among which 17% is plastic and polythene. During river cruise this generation raise by 20% also percentage of non-degradable materials among the waste raise up to 30%. Which creates yearly 16000 tons of plastic waste and maximum portion of this finds their place in river water. So the catastrophic effect is easily understandable. This enormous amount of waste which requires millions of dollar to be recycled became more expensive to re-collect from river and environmental cost becomes

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unimaginable. Those diffract sunlight from entering into water thus destroys life below water. Also by the time combining with other wastes they accumulates into the bottom of river and the micro plastics, nutrients enters into food chain; thus threatening lives in river and ocean subsequently.

Bio-diversity of River: Observations of UN

To protect river and the bio-diversity of river from continual environmental degradation global leaders and United Nation agreed to work in harmony to uphold bio-diversity of river. To achieve SDG-14 by 2030 several initiatives has been taken worldwide which are mentioned below

1. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.
2. By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
3. Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.
4. By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.
5. By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.
6. By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation

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7. By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism
8. Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular Small Island developing States and least developed countries.
9. Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.
10. Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want.

Objective of Our program and Activities

Bangladesh government has already taken several effective program and initiative to save river and conserve fisheries to achieve SDG. Many social organizations and NGO working alongside with government to achieve SDG-14 hence we **Youth Foundation of Bangladesh** (YFB) has undertaken an awareness and participatory program in order to develop awareness regarding “Fate of Single use Plastic (SUP) on inland water transport and its catastrophic effect on River”. This program designed to aware people about the SDG 14 and the effect of waste in river. It will also demonstrate how simple awareness can make a difference from throwing thousand tons of plastic into river and conserve the environment of water.

Objectives:

1. Create awareness to keep launch terminal and launces clean.
2. Ensure dustbin and waste bins on launch terminal and launces.
3. Observe waste disposal/management system/facilities of inland terminals and suggest necessary remediation.

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4. Create awareness to stop dumping waste from launches to river.
5. Ensuring continuous worker to maintain cleanness and environment on terminal and launches.
6. Providing training to existing facilities and worker regarding waste disposal/management, cleanness.
7. Encourage and ensure SDG-14 awareness messages to be printed on launch tickets in order to promote SDG.
8. Promoting cleanness and goals of SDG, especially SDG 14 by ensuring visible signboard in launch and launch terminals.
9. Providing and ensuring video documentary to be played on the TV screens of launches and terminal; explaining catastrophic effect of waste and how to avoid it. Also this will be proposed to be telecasted on national media.
10. Aware every kind of water transport to maintain cleanness and waste disposal.

To successfully fulfill this ten objectives; we designed a dynamic yearlong campaign, workshops, seminars and knowledge exchange events through which we will involve passengers and all the stakeholders associated with inland water transportation system. This program will develop awareness within mass people and subsequently ease the path to achieve SDG-14.

Awareness Programs

To successfully create awareness regarding SDG-14, avoid dumping SUP on river several initiatives will be demonstrated gradually. Those are

1. YFB will engage our vast team of youth volunteer including selected volunteer team from different social organization, students from educational institutes (school, college and university etc.)
2. Contemplative and dynamic campaigns will be held on different launch terminal and launches to promote the program goal and awareness.
3. Objectives and awareness will be promoted and displayed to the Passengers of launches through various interactive campaign event.

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4. Leaflet, notice board, banner and sticker will be distributed among passengers and stakeholders.
5. Launch terminal and launches will be provided with sustainable and eco-friendly waste bins.
6. Documentary based on SDG awareness, effect of SUP in water and its proper management will be prepared, telecasted on TV and will be displayed on terminal and launches.
7. Year-long campaign on launch terminal along with launches, seminar, workshop and knowledge exchange program with govt. officials, inland water transport authorities, launch owner and workers, businessman, leaseholders will be conducted simultaneously during the program to promote SDG-14 and awareness.
8. Dedicated workshop & awareness sessions for the in-house staff of each launch company will be held during the program.
9. Sponsoring & Supporting organization/personnel with this program will be entitled and awarded as SDG-14 sailor. Their name will be published with program reports and will be proposed to govt. /ministry to be recognized nationally for the contributions to promote SDG.

Implementation Strategy

In this program YFB will engage our active volunteers from Climate Action Campaign Tracker (CACT) program enabled with promotional leaflet, banner, notice board, cultural events, video documentary on 29 launch terminal & almost 140 launches all over the country to run a year-long campaign divided in four term. During the campaign SDGs, guideline of UN and our government will be promoted in an easily understandable manner. Besides different awareness activities & SDG workshop will be held on different districts along with consultant, specialists, researchers, sponsors and different govt. and non-govt. officials. Also a several comprehensive survey on SUP wastage, waste management, amount of SUP etc.; will be conducted during the period of campaign which will portraint the effectiveness of the program later on.

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Coordination with Stakeholders

During crises such as this, strong coordination between all stakeholders is essential. YFB will coordinate and ensure close involvement of Department of Environment, Ministry of Shipping, Bangladesh inland water transport authority (BIWTA) in this project. Also city corporations, municipal corporations, district councils, law enforcement, leaseholder, businessman, owners & workers associations of inland water transports along with research institutes will be coordinated and various workshop, seminar, knowledge exchange program will be held to address this issue. Also manufacturer of the products that creates SUP will be ensured in this coordination in order to ensure maximum efficiency of the project.

Risk & Challenges

The prime risk of this project is the lack of knowledge & awareness regarding SDG, SUP and its devastating effect on river among mass people. But the campaign features and through the video documentary will effectively introduce this concept within mass people and create awareness. Documentaries will be mandatorily played in TV channels, terminals and launches thus this knowledge becomes visible to each possible citizen. Also to habituate with managing SUP, cleanness and sustainability in activities; launch owners, businessman, and workers of terminal and launches will coordinated during the project through workshop and seminars thus cleanness becomes habit within passengers & transport system.

Estimated Budget:

375000.00 USD

In word: Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars



Future Vision:

By this project all the stakeholder including passengers will get a brief idea regarding SDG and will clearly understand the effect of SUP and other waste on river also the way to avoid it. To uphold the environment of river this yearlong project will habituate mass people with sustainable management of waste and SUP. Besides we will conduct several survey & collect primary data regarding present condition, sustainable management system of SUP, business around this transportation medium and their effect, passenger's psychology & acceptance. These survey results will be a valuable asset for research, develop policies and law to control SUP.

About YFB:

Youth Foundation of Bangladesh (YFB): we started our journey in early 2009 with a vision of changing Bangladesh along with the post powerful portion of our country **Youth**. To overcome national & international crisis, promote sustainable development, to spread humanitarian initiatives, to save environment our dynamic programs & project are well recognized and also gained international attention. Also our organization is active member of United Nation Global Compact and special status holder of UN ECOSOC. Some of our program, campaign & projects are mentioned below.

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Campaign Projects:

NO	Name of Project.	Description
1	Save water Save world	Program to ensure safe and sustainable use of water.
2	Road Safety is Life Safety	Program to ensure safe traffic condition.
3	Peace in Green	Program to conserve environment & bio-diversity
4	Climate Action Campaign Tracker	Program to identify and coordinating individuals working for environment & climate change nationwide.
5	Save agricultural land	Campaign to save agricultural land from urbanization
6	Youth in Action	Program to identify and coordinate volunteers involved with social activities from different organization and part of nation.
7	EPED (Equal Participation for Economic Development)	Awareness Program to ensure gender equity for economic development.
8	Village co-operative society	Pilot project to establish sustainable village.
9	Small E	Project to create and nourish small entrepreneur.

Conclusion:

This program will spread awareness regarding SUP among the passengers, businessman, and other stakeholder. Also challenges will come which will lead toward sustainable solution through researches & in near future. So we heartily expecting direct participation of Government, & non-governmental organization in order to gain success in this project.

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