

Final Report

Team Name	OLCR	Country	Bangladesh
Project Title	Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy: Empowering Women, Students, and Unemployed Youth		
Summary	<p>The "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project, spearheaded by Nirmol Bangladesh, unfolded as a transformative initiative from May to October 2023. With a profound commitment to promoting ocean literacy, climate resilience, and environmental awareness, the project left an indelible mark on communities, particularly in the vulnerable coastal regions of Bangladesh. From the outset, the project showcased adaptability in the face of challenges, navigating the intricacies of Bangladesh's monsoon climate and leveraging flexibility to recalibrate strategies. The team successfully executed impactful events, including post-cyclone support in Cox's Bazar, high school workshops, seminars, rallies, and the innovative "Young Climate Leaders" program in universities. The outcomes were both quantitative and qualitative, with over 10 million individuals directly impacted by diverse activities. The "Young Climate Leaders" program, initiated to train university students as advocates for climate literacy, emerged as a beacon of success, fostering a new generation of informed and empowered leaders.</p> <p>The project's holistic approach addressed multifaceted challenges, leading to the realization that flexibility in program design can enhance community engagement. The Beach Cleaning Program, transformed into an awareness campaign, exemplified this adaptive approach, reaching tourists, local communities, and stakeholders. The capacity-building programs, including a hybrid course on climate change and ocean literacy, showcased the organization's commitment to creating a knowledgeable workforce. Importantly, the project laid the groundwork for continuous engagement, with plans to expand the "Young Climate Leaders" program and further community outreach.</p> <p>Gratitude is extended to the Korea SHE Foundation for their pivotal seed grant, enabling the initiation of impactful activities. Nirmol Bangladesh emerges from this project period with a renewed sense of purpose, envisioning a future where climate resilience is synonymous with community empowerment, and ocean literacy is widespread. The journey, marked by accomplishments and adaptability, serves as a testament to the organization's dedication to positive environmental change.</p>		
Budget (US\$)	US\$	3000	

1. Project description

The "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy: Empowering Women, Students, and Unemployed Youth" project, implemented by Nirmol Bangladesh from May to October 2023, represents a landmark initiative aimed at fostering climate resilience in the vulnerable coastal regions of Bangladesh. With a seed grant from the Korea Safety Health Environment (SHE) Foundation, totaling \$3,000, the project focused on promoting ocean literacy and addressing the broader challenges posed by climate change.

Nirmol Bangladesh, founded in 2017, is a dynamic non-profit organization dedicated to addressing pressing issues such as climate change, poverty, and environmental conservation. The organization's commitment to transparency and accountability is evident in its annual reports, detailing financial performance and programmatic impact.

The project's primary objective was to create an ocean-literate community in Bangladesh, particularly in low-lying coastal areas susceptible to the impacts of climate change. The targeted audience included village women, students, and unemployed youth in 19 coastal districts, with a bold goal of engaging 10 million people on ocean literacy.

The methodology employed a multifaceted approach, incorporating key informant interviews, focus group discussions, training workshops, seminar, field visits, surveys, and questionnaires. Leveraging sustainable ocean literacy techniques from national and international institutions, the project aimed to empower individuals to fully engage in their local communities and society.

The project unfolded in eight distinct segments: pre-planning, trainee selection, training, workshops, seminars, field-level training, reporting, and mass engagement and spreading. Emphasizing the importance of ocean literacy in achieving Bangladesh's Blue Ocean Economy, the initiative sought to encourage efficient and sustainable ocean economic usage, ultimately creating new employment opportunities.

One of the noteworthy achievements of Nirmol Bangladesh's ongoing efforts is the "Young Climate Leaders" program, launched in collaboration with universities across the country. This program, initiated as part of the broader project, aims to create a new generation of climate-conscious leaders. Over 20 students were appointed as young climate leaders, receiving specialized training in ocean and climate literacy. They were encouraged to organize events and activities in their respective institutions to raise awareness about environmental issues.

The project also addressed immediate needs, such as post-cyclone support in Cox's Bazar, a region severely impacted by tropical cyclones. The project team closely monitored the situation, providing technical support and collecting crucial data for further analysis. This timely response highlighted the project's relevance in addressing the vulnerabilities of coastal communities to climate-related events.

Capacity building was another key focus, with a program launched to enhance the knowledge and skills of early-career professionals and graduate students. The hybrid course, combining online and offline components, aimed to create a pool of experts in climate resilience and sustainable practices.

A short documentary film, created as part of the project, became a powerful tool for raising awareness about climate change and marine pollution. The film, shared on social media platforms, garnered significant views and was presented during various educational events.

The project's impact extended to schools, with seminars, rallies, and workshops organized to educate students, teachers, and staff about ocean literacy, climate change, and environmental conservation. High school workshops and community engagement events contributed to creating awareness among different age groups.

An innovative approach was taken to address the challenge of beach cleaning. Instead of a traditional cleaning program, an awareness campaign was conducted in Cox's Bazar, the largest sea beach in Bangladesh. Volunteers engaged with tourists and the local community, focusing on the importance of beach cleanliness, environmental protection, and climate change mitigation.

Despite its successes, the project faced challenges. The timeline of the project coincided with the monsoon and post-monsoon season in Bangladesh, limiting the scope of field activities. Additionally, constraints in funding and time prevented the initiation of the planned "Skill Development and Environmentally Friendly Startup Training Program."

As the project concludes, Nirmol Bangladesh reflects on the accomplishments and areas for improvement. The organization is committed to continuing its efforts to bring about a change in the mindset of marginalized communities, enhance climate resilience, and empower youth. The "Young Climate Leaders" program will remain a focal point, with plans to expand its scale nationally and internationally.

In conclusion, the "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project stands as a testament to Nirmol Bangladesh's dedication to addressing climate challenges, promoting environmental literacy, and empowering communities for a sustainable future. Through innovative initiatives and community engagement, the project has made significant strides in fostering a more ocean-literate and climate-conscious society in Bangladesh.

2. Project progress

As of now, the "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project, undertaken by Nirmol Welfare Foundation of Bangladesh (Nirmol Bangladesh), has made commendable progress in its endeavors to promote ocean literacy, climate resilience, and environmental awareness. The project, which commenced in May 2023, has successfully implemented several activities, each contributing to the organization's mission and objectives.

1. Post-Cyclone Support:

Who: The OLCR (Ocean Literacy and Community Resilience) team led by Nirmol Bangladesh, comprising experts in marine science, education, and environmental conservation.

What: Responding to a tropical cyclone in May, the team closely monitored the situation and immediately visited the affected coastal areas, primarily Cox's Bazar. The focus was on providing technical support and collecting demographic, socio-economic, and damage data for further analysis.

When: Shortly after receiving funding in May 2023.

Where: The southern coastal districts of Bangladesh, particularly Cox's Bazar.

Why: The cyclone's impact highlighted the vulnerability of coastal communities to climate-related events, underscoring the importance of the project's mission in fostering climate resilience and promoting ocean literacy.

How: A 12-member team was deployed for a week in the affected area, engaging with local administrative bodies, NGOs, fisherfolk, farmers, students, service holders, and community leaders. This field-level interaction allowed for a comprehensive assessment of the situation. More than 300 people were directly engaged and community benefits was for more than 2000 individuals.

2. Capacity Building Program:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh and the OLCR team.

What: The project launched a capacity-building program in May 2023, targeting early-career professionals and graduate students. The hybrid course, incorporating both online and offline components, aims to enhance knowledge and skills related to climate change and ocean literacy. 40 young researcher from different universities were given training under this program.

When: Running from May to August 2023.

Where: Multiple institutions across Bangladesh.

Why: The program aims to empower individuals with expertise in climate resilience and sustainable practices, fostering a generation of knowledgeable leaders.

How: The course involves resource persons from various institutions delivering lectures, and participants undergo continuous assessment to ensure effective learning.

3. Awareness Documentary:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh and the OLCR team.

What: A short documentary film (3 minutes 45 seconds) was produced to raise awareness about climate change and marine pollution in the Bengali language. The film is shared on social media platforms and presented during workshops, seminars, and other educational events.

When: Prepared and disseminated as part of the project's awareness-building efforts.

Where: Shared on various social media platforms, reaching a wide audience.

Why: The documentary serves as an impactful tool to educate the masses about the importance of ocean conservation and its implications for climate resilience.

How: The documentary was created using compelling visuals and messages to engage and inform the audience effectively. The video was broadcasted on the social media and it ensure engagement more than 100K views in side Bangladesh.

4. Seminars and Rally:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh, the OLCR team, students, teachers, and staff.

What: Seminars were organized at Rupnagar Govt. Secondary High School in Dhaka, engaging 300 participants. Additionally, a rally with approximately 350 participants focused on the importance of the ocean and its conservation.

When: The events were conducted in June 2023.

Where: Rupnagar Govt. Secondary High School, Dhaka, and the surrounding area.

Why: The events aimed to raise awareness among students, teachers, and staff about ocean literacy, climate change, and environmental conservation.

How: Invited speakers delivered motivational and awareness-building presentations, encouraging active participation and discussions.

5. High School Workshop:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh, the OLCR team, high school students, and teachers. Including all stakeholders, the involvement was more than 300.

What: A workshop was conducted at Gohira AJYMS Bohu Mukhi High School, Chittagong, focusing on climate change, environmental impacts, and the importance of ocean conservation.

When: The workshop was held in late June 2023.

Where: Gohira AJYMS Bohu Mukhi High School, Chittagong.

Why: The workshop aimed to raise awareness among high school students about the impact of climate change on ocean health and the environment.

How: The workshop involved interactive sessions, presentations, and discussions to engage participants effectively.

6. Young Climate Leaders Program:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh, the OLCR team, university students.

What: The "Young Climate Leaders" program was initiated to promote ocean and climate literacy on different university campuses. Over 20 leaders were appointed, with more planned to be involved. The program aims to train students in ocean and climate literacy and encourage them to organize awareness-building seminars and workshops in local educational institutions.

When: The program began in June 2023 and is ongoing.

Where: Different universities across Bangladesh.

Why: The program seeks to create a new generation of climate-conscious leaders who can disseminate knowledge and information among local communities and stakeholders.

How: Selected students receive specialized training on ocean and climate literacy, and they are

encouraged to organize events in educational institutions to spread awareness.

The "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project has displayed significant progress so far, with numerous impactful events and activities contributing to its goals of ocean literacy promotion, climate resilience, and environmental awareness. By engaging diverse stakeholders and adopting innovative approaches, Nirmol Bangladesh has effectively carried out the preparation and execution of the project, leaving a positive impact on communities and nurturing a more ocean-literate and climate-conscious society.

7. Community & Tourist Engagement towards Ocean Literacy:

Who: Nirmol Bangladesh, the OLCR team. The team directly involved 110 individuals and indirect involvement was more than 10,000 because of publicity, hand miking and show casing banner.

What: The OLCR team had organized an awareness campaign in the largest seabeach of Bangladesh, Cox's Bazar to create awareness towards beach cleaning, environmental protection, climate change mitigation and coastal afforestation.

When: The program was arranged in the 12th September 2023.

Where: Kolatoli Beach Point and Laboni Beach Point, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Why: Volunteers were deployed over the beach area and they personally interact with tourist, local community, stakeholder (shop market, tourist Police) and asked them about basic questions on role of a citizen to keep the beach clean, keeping environment free of plastic.

How: They also asked them about their knowledge on sea state, climate change, coastal afforestation. Beside asking them questions, we finally hand over leaflets, share some guideline for their future steps, so that they can spread the awareness among their friends, family as well as in their community.

8. Women and Youth Empowerment Training:

Who:

- The training program is organized by Nirmol Bangladesh.
- Target audience includes women and youth interested in environmental issues, individuals passionate about contributing to climate resilience, and students, researchers, and professionals seeking practical data collection skills. We have provided training to 20 individual among 10 was female and 10 was male participant.

What:

- "Ocean Literacy for Climate Resilience" Training Program.
- Focus areas include Kobo Toolbox training, coastal conservation, afforestation initiatives, gender dynamics, socio-economic surveys, and community engagement.

When:

Date: 18th October 2023

Where:

Venue: Sher-E-Bangla Agriculture University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Why:

- To empower women and youth with skills for scientific data collection in the coastal regions of Bangladesh.
- Contribute to meaningful research on climate change, coastal conservation, and socio-economic conditions.
- Promote gender empowerment and community resilience through data-driven initiatives.

How:

- Interactive sessions, practical exercises, and group projects.
- Hands-on training on Kobo Toolbox.
- Collaborative workshops on coastal conservation, gender dynamics, and socio-economic surveys.
- Community engagement strategies to enhance practical skills and inclusivity.

3. Outcomes and self-feedback

3-1. What was really worked well as you expected?

The project "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" has made a significant contribution to advancing ocean literacy in Bangladesh, impacting diverse communities and regions. Quantitatively, the project engaged over 300 participants in seminars, rallies, and workshops, creating a widespread awareness about ocean conservation, climate resilience, and environmental issues. The capacity-building program, with 40 young researchers trained in climate resilience and ocean literacy, has positively influenced the academic community. Additionally, the awareness documentary garnered over 100K views, achieving its goal of educating the masses on the importance of ocean conservation.

Qualitatively, the impact was particularly evident in specific regions such as Cox's Bazar, Dhaka, and Chittagong, where the project actively addressed post-cyclone support, organized seminars, rallies, and workshops, and conducted high school and university programs. The Young Climate Leaders Program, initiated across various universities, has fostered a network of climate-conscious leaders, contributing to the long-term goal of creating a more informed and environmentally aware society.

The overall participants, including coastal communities, students, young researchers, and professionals, have greatly benefited from the multifaceted approach of the project. By incorporating activities like post-cyclone support, high school workshops, seminars, rallies, capacity-building programs, and the Young Climate Leaders initiative, the project has effectively tackled different aspects of ocean literacy and climate resilience. This comprehensive approach has not only disseminated knowledge but has also empowered participants with

practical skills, fostering a positive impact on both individual awareness and community engagement.

In summary, the project has successfully reached diverse communities and regions, making a significant contribution to advancing ocean literacy in Bangladesh. The combination of quantitative engagement numbers and qualitative impact in specific areas demonstrates the project's effectiveness in achieving its objectives. The multifaceted activities have collectively contributed to creating a more ocean-literate and climate-resilient society.

3-1-1. The way to improve accomplishment more.

The project has undeniably achieved notable success in advancing ocean literacy and climate resilience in Bangladesh, yet there are avenues for further improvement and expansion. To enhance accomplishments, expanding the scale of initiatives, collaborating with local governments, and seeking additional support are essential considerations.

Expanding the Scale:

Expanding the scale of the project could be instrumental in reaching a broader audience and making a more profound impact. While the project has reached specific regions such as Cox's Bazar, Dhaka, and Chittagong, there is a need to extend its footprint to more coastal areas. Coastal communities, often marginalized and vulnerable, are particularly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, and expanding the project's reach to these areas can significantly contribute to building resilience.

Moreover, the success of the Young Climate Leaders Program highlights the potential for replicating similar initiatives in other universities and educational institutions across the country. By broadening the scope of this program, the project can create a network of informed leaders who can drive climate-conscious initiatives in diverse communities.

Cooperating with Local Government:

Collaborating with local governments is crucial for sustainable and widespread impact. Local governments play a pivotal role in community development and can provide the necessary infrastructure, resources, and support to scale up projects. Engaging with local authorities can facilitate the integration of project initiatives into regional development plans and policies, ensuring a more sustainable and long-lasting impact.

In Bangladesh, where the socio-economic conditions vary across regions, collaboration with local governments becomes even more critical. Coastal areas often face unique challenges related to poverty, resource scarcity, and climate vulnerability. By working closely with local authorities, the project can tailor its initiatives to

address specific needs and circumstances, ensuring that the impact is meaningful and sustainable.

Seeking Additional Support:

While the project has already received support from the Korea SHE Foundation, seeking additional support from other funding sources and stakeholders can further enhance its scope and impact. The socio-economic condition of Bangladesh, characterized by a significant population living in poverty and facing climate-related challenges, necessitates a continuous and concerted effort.

Expanding partnerships with international organizations, NGOs, and corporate entities aligned with the project's objectives can bring in additional resources and expertise. Collaboration with these entities can open avenues for innovative approaches, technological solutions, and financial support that can significantly contribute to the project's success.

Rational on Improving Engagement with Marginal Communities:

The socio-economic condition of Bangladesh, particularly in the coastal areas, underscores the urgency of improving engagement with marginalized communities. While the project has made commendable efforts, there is a rational need for enhancement.

Coastal communities in Bangladesh often face multi-faceted challenges, including economic hardship, environmental degradation, and limited access to education and resources. The project's activities should be tailored to address these specific challenges, incorporating targeted interventions that empower marginalized groups, particularly women and unemployed youth.

To achieve this, a more robust and community-centric approach is required. This entails conducting in-depth assessments of the socio-economic conditions in target areas, understanding the unique needs of different demographic groups, and tailoring project activities accordingly. Incorporating participatory methods, such as community consultations and involvement, can ensure that the initiatives resonate with the local context.

Moreover, improving engagement with marginalized communities involves creating avenues for their active participation in decision-making processes. This empowerment can be achieved through capacity-building programs, skill development initiatives, and ensuring inclusivity in project planning and execution. By recognizing and addressing the socio-economic disparities within coastal regions, the project can better contribute to building resilience in the communities that need it most.

In conclusion, while the project has achieved significant success, there is room for improvement in expanding the scale, collaborating with local governments, and seeking additional support. Addressing the unique challenges faced by marginalized coastal communities requires a nuanced and community-centric approach, ensuring that the initiatives are not only impactful but also sustainable in the long run.

3-2. What wasn't worked well as you expected?

Despite the overall success of the "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project, there were specific challenges and areas where the outcomes did not meet initial expectations. The three components—arranging an international/national seminar, implementing a skill development and environmentally friendly startup training program, and organizing a beach cleaning program—faced challenges that warrant reflection.

3-2-1. Why didn't it work better than expected?

1. International/National Seminar on "Climate Change & Adaptation Planning: A Policy Framework":

One of the significant endeavors of the project was to organize an international/national seminar on "Climate Change & Adaptation Planning: A Policy Framework." However, this aspect encountered unforeseen challenges primarily rooted in the climatic conditions of Bangladesh. The project's timeline coincided with the country's monsoon season, a period characterized by heavy rainfall and unpredictable weather conditions from May to Mid-October.

The climatic challenges posed logistical issues in arranging the seminar. The unpredictability of the weather affected outdoor events, participant travel plans, and overall event planning. This, in turn, had repercussions on the intended impact of the seminar. The climatic constraints were a significant hindrance to the seamless execution of the event, impacting the quality of engagement and participation.

Improvement Strategy:

To mitigate such challenges in future projects, a strategic adjustment of the timeline is imperative. Planning major events like international/national seminars during more favorable months, such as November to March, when the weather is more predictable and conducive to outdoor activities, would be a prudent approach. This adaptation would not only ensure the successful execution of the seminar but also enhance the overall experience for participants.

2. Skill Development and Environmentally Friendly Startup Training Program:

The vision of implementing a "Skill Development and Environmentally Friendly Startup Training Program" was met with challenges related to funding and time constraints. The project team had meticulously prepared a comprehensive plan, incorporating a startup model to impart valuable skills. However, the practicalities of securing a substantial amount of funding and the need for dedicated time to initiate and execute such an extensive training program within the project timeline proved to be complex.

The complexities of fundraising and the temporal limitations hindered the initiation of the program, preventing the realization of its intended impact. The startup training, a pivotal component of the project's objectives, was

constrained by the logistical challenges of securing the necessary resources within the predefined timeframe.

Improvement Strategy:

In future initiatives, a proactive approach to securing funding is paramount. This involves early engagement with potential donors, seeking partnerships with relevant stakeholders, and exploring diverse funding opportunities well in advance. Additionally, allocating sufficient time for the planning and execution of comprehensive training programs, such as the startup training, is essential. Adequate time management ensures that the program can be rolled out seamlessly, maximizing its effectiveness.

3. Beach Cleaning Program:

The "Beach Cleaning Program" encountered a shift in strategy based on insights gained from a pre-program field visit. It was observed that a previous beach cleaning event, while well-intentioned, had not yielded lasting results due to a lack of sustained community engagement and awareness. The team recognized the need to adapt and pivoted towards conducting a tourist and community engagement awareness campaign in the beach area.

This adjustment in strategy aimed to address the root cause of the issue — the need for sustained community involvement in beach cleaning initiatives. The project team understood that merely cleaning the beach was insufficient without instilling a sense of responsibility and awareness within the local community.

Improvement Strategy:

Future projects focusing on beach cleaning initiatives should adopt an integrated approach that combines cleanup activities with robust community engagement strategies. This involves collaborating with local influencers, educational institutions, and community leaders to mobilize larger groups for beach cleaning events. Moreover, instituting ongoing awareness campaigns that emphasize the importance of community involvement in maintaining clean beaches can contribute to sustainable results. The success of beach cleaning initiatives is intrinsically linked to the awareness and participation of the local community.

Reflecting on these challenges provides invaluable insights for future project planning. Adapting to climatic constraints, securing funding well in advance, and incorporating community engagement strategies emerge as critical considerations. While each challenge presented a unique set of obstacles, the collective experience contributes to the iterative learning process that drives the continual improvement of initiatives aimed at fostering ocean literacy and environmental resilience.

3-2-2. The way to complement the shortage

Addressing the identified challenges and complementing the project's shortcomings involves a thoughtful and strategic approach. Below is a comprehensive roadmap that outlines specific actions to complement the deficiencies encountered during the "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project:

1. International/National Seminar on "Climate Change & Adaptation Planning: A Policy Framework":

Complementing Strategy:

Optimal Timing: Recognizing the climatic challenges faced during the project, future seminars should be strategically scheduled during more favorable months (November to March) to mitigate weather-related disruptions.

Indoor Venue Selection: Choosing indoor venues or facilities with weather-resistant infrastructure ensures that events proceed smoothly, regardless of external conditions.

Pre-Event Communication: Establishing effective communication channels with participants well in advance allows for timely adjustments and updates based on weather forecasts.

2. Skill Development and Environmentally Friendly Startup Training Program:

Complementing Strategy:

Early Fundraising Initiatives: Initiating fundraising efforts well in advance enables the accumulation of necessary resources, avoiding last-minute constraints and ensuring the timely execution of training programs.

Extended Project Timeline: Allocating a longer timeline for complex training programs allows for meticulous planning, seamless execution, and a more profound impact on participants.

Diversified Funding Sources: Exploring multiple funding sources, including partnerships with educational institutions, private entities, and government agencies, can enhance financial stability and program feasibility.

3. Beach Cleaning Program:

Complementing Strategy:

Community Mobilization: Strengthening community engagement through partnerships with local influencers, schools, and community leaders fosters sustained participation in beach cleaning initiatives.

Educational Outreach: Implementing ongoing educational campaigns on the importance of beach cleanliness ensures a shared sense of responsibility among community members.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Regular assessments of the program's impact allow for adjustments and improvements based on community feedback and evolving needs.

Overall Improvement Strategies:

Integrated Project Planning: Future projects should emphasize holistic planning, integrating complementary activities that address potential challenges. This includes considering weather patterns, funding cycles, and community dynamics.

Stakeholder Collaboration: Collaborating with local government bodies, NGOs, academic institutions, and community leaders enhances project visibility, facilitates resource mobilization, and promotes sustainable community engagement.

Continuous Learning and Adaptation: Establishing a system for ongoing project evaluation and learning allows for real-time adjustments. Adaptive management ensures that the project remains responsive to evolving conditions and requirements.

Capacity Building: Investing in capacity-building initiatives for project staff and community leaders enhances their ability to navigate challenges effectively, fostering resilience and adaptability.

By implementing these complementary strategies, future projects can navigate challenges more effectively, ensuring sustained impact, and fostering resilience within the targeted communities. Each identified shortcoming serves as a valuable lesson, contributing to the continuous improvement and success of subsequent initiatives aimed at advancing ocean literacy and environmental resilience.

4. Further Plan

Nirmol Bangladesh is dedicated to ushering in a transformative shift in the mindset of marginalized and local communities concerning climate change mitigation and the establishment of community-based climate resilience. We believe that the current funding from Korea SHE Foundation has contributed a lot and a change has been brought in the community. Nirmol Bangladesh is committed to create a climate resilient community in Bangladesh as well as the south-east Asian countries through the involvement of the youth as well as the women. Nirmol Bangladesh wants to ensure women participation in all sector as well as recognize their contribution. We have started number of significant programs which should be keep continue for the actual result (impact on the community level) we want. We have stated the programs outline in brief below. We wish, Korea Safety Health Environment Foundation will be with us in the next steps. We always ready to welcome Korea Safety Health Environment Foundation in Bangladesh. As Korea is one of our national development partners, we will ask them to be a partner of Nirmol Bangladesh so that we can walk and fight together in terms of all sorts of activities, programs as well as any development projects.

1. Community Mindset Change:

Educational Initiatives: Nirmol Bangladesh plans to intensify educational initiatives targeting marginalized and local communities. These efforts will focus on disseminating knowledge about climate change, its impacts, and adaptive strategies, fostering a collective understanding.

Community Workshops: Organizing community workshops that actively involve residents in discussions, problem-solving, and action planning will empower them to become proactive contributors to climate resilience.

2. Capacity Enhancement for Positive Change:

Skill Development Programs: Recognizing the pivotal role of skilled manpower, Nirmol Bangladesh aims to enhance its organizational capacity continually. Regular skill development programs for team members will ensure a high level of competency in addressing climate-related challenges.

Youth Engagement: The organization places a strong emphasis on engaging youth in climate action. By providing platforms for skill development, leadership training, and involvement in climate initiatives, Nirmol Bangladesh aims to nurture a generation capable of driving positive change.

3. Expansion of the Young Climate Leaders Program:

Scaling the Program: Nirmol Bangladesh expresses gratitude for the support received from the Korea SHE Foundation for initiating the "Young Climate Leaders" program. The organization plans to expand this impactful leadership initiative, fostering climate change mitigation and awareness, to reach a broader audience.

Regional Outreach: Building on the success of the program, Nirmol Bangladesh aspires to extend the Young Climate Leaders initiative beyond national borders. The organization envisions sharing this program with South-East Asian countries to create a regional network of empowered youth leaders.

4. Resource Mobilization and Partnerships:

Diversification of Funding Sources: Recognizing the financial constraints, Nirmol Bangladesh is committed to exploring diverse funding sources. This includes approaching national and international donors, collaborating with corporate partners, and seeking sponsorships to ensure the sustained implementation of climate resilience and youth leadership programs.

Strategic Partnerships: Establishing strategic partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities, educational institutions, and environmental organizations will provide additional support and resources for the organization's initiatives.

5. Impact Monitoring and Evaluation:

Continuous Assessment: Nirmol Bangladesh emphasizes the importance of continuous monitoring and evaluation of its programs. Regular assessments will gauge the impact of initiatives, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that the organization remains adaptive and responsive.

Nirmol Bangladesh's vision extends beyond immediate projects, aiming to cultivate a lasting legacy of climate-resilient communities and empowered youth leaders. The organization remains steadfast in its commitment to driving positive change and addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

4. Conclusion and general review

Embarking on the "Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy" project has been a journey filled with inspiration, challenges, and a deep sense of responsibility. The period of project implementation, spanning from May to October 2023, has been a transformative experience for Nirmol Bangladesh and its team members.

Feelings of Accomplishment:

The accomplishments achieved during this project resonate as milestones in our commitment to ocean literacy, climate resilience, and environmental awareness. Witnessing the positive impact on communities, especially in the coastal regions, has been profoundly fulfilling. From post-cyclone support in Cox's Bazar to the "Young Climate Leaders" program empowering university students, each endeavor has contributed to a growing wave of awareness and action.

Challenges Faced:

Undoubtedly, the journey was not without its challenges. The monsoon climate, dominant in Bangladesh during the project period, posed logistical hurdles and required meticulous planning for field activities. The limited funding constrained the initiation of some planned programs, such as the "Skill Development and Environmentally Friendly Startup Training Program." However, challenges were seen as opportunities to adapt and innovate.

Adapting to Circumstances:

One major learning point was the necessity of flexibility. The Beach Cleaning Program faced a pivot in strategy, transforming into a comprehensive awareness campaign due to a pre-existing cleanup effort. Adapting to this change allowed us to engage with the community effectively and address the root causes of environmental issues.

Impact on Participants:

The high school workshops, community engagement events, and capacity-building programs have collectively contributed to creating a ripple effect of awareness and engagement. Witnessing university students transformed into advocates for climate literacy through the "Young Climate Leaders" program has been particularly rewarding.

Looking Forward:

As we reflect on the project, our enthusiasm is undiminished. Nirmol Bangladesh is committed to amplifying the impact achieved so far. The forthcoming plans, including the expansion of the Young Climate Leaders program, further community engagement, and continuous skill development, underscore our dedication to long-term change.

Gratitude and Acknowledgment:

This project would not have been possible without the support of the Korea SHE Foundation, whose seed grant catalyzed our initiatives. Our gratitude extends to the communities, volunteers, and partners who actively participated, demonstrating a shared commitment to building climate resilience.

Feelings of Renewed Purpose:

The challenges encountered and victories achieved have instilled in us a renewed sense of purpose. As we navigate the dynamic landscape of climate change, ocean literacy, and community resilience, our commitment to fostering positive change remains unwavering.

In essence, the project period has been a testament to the resilience of communities, the passion of individuals, and the potential for collective action. Nirmol Bangladesh stands poised to carry the momentum forward, working towards a future where climate resilience and ocean literacy are embedded in the fabric of society.

I confirm that the above statements are all true and submit the final report.
For 2023 Global Seed Grant.

18/11/2023

Team Name: OLCR  (Sign)

Korea SHE Foundation

※ Photos of project activity

Please attach 2-10MB of activity photos (up to 20) below and send the original file by email too.



Picture 1. Field Visit and interview (Program 1)



Picture 2. Field Visit and interview



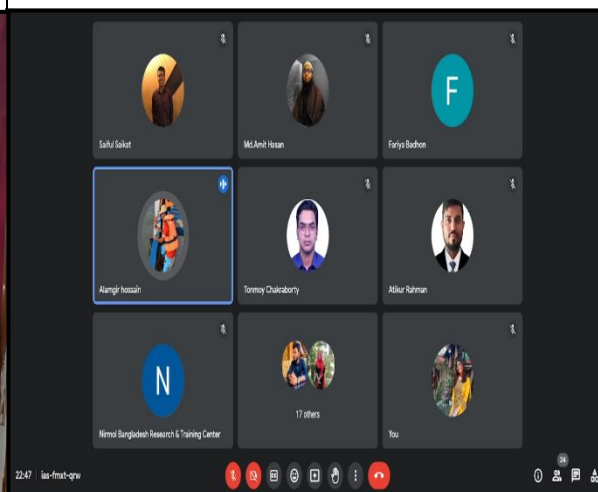
Picture 3. Having interview and field data collection



Picture 4. Having interview and field data collection



Picture 5. Capacity Building Training (Physical)



Picture 6. Capacity Building Training (Online)



Picture 7. Awareness building campaign at sea beach.



Picture 8. Awareness building campaign at sea beach.



Picture 9. Awareness building campaign at sea beach.



Picture 10. Awareness building campaign at sea beach.



Picture 11. Meeting with OLCR team members and volunteers.



Picture 12. Meeting with OLCR team members and volunteers.



Picture 13. Environmental Awareness building seminar workshop in high school.



Picture 14. Environmental Awareness building seminar workshop in high school.



Picture 15. Handing over memento to the principle of the institute for allowing us to have a seminar.



Picture 16. Trainer was delivering his lecture and motivating the girls and boys.



Picture 17. Appointing and meeting with “Young Climate Leaders”.



Picture 18. Representative of Young Climate Leaders



Picture 19. Having a rally celebrating World Ocean Day-2023 as part of raising ocean literacy.



Picture 20. Having a rally celebrating World Ocean Day-2023 as part of raising ocean literacy.



Picture 21. Having a rally celebrating World Ocean Day-2023 as part of raising ocean literacy.



Picture 22. Having a rally celebrating World Ocean Day-2023 as part of raising ocean literacy.



Picture 23. Awareness building workshop on Climate Change mitigation and role of youth.



Picture 24. Awareness building workshop on Climate Change mitigation and role of youth.



Picture 25. Training program for empowering women and youth for climate change mitigation.




Picture 26. Training program for empowering women and youth for climate change mitigation.





Picture 27. Training program for empowering women and youth for climate change mitigation.




Picture 28. Training program for empowering women and youth for climate change mitigation.


Training Program for Empowering Women and Youth
Ocean Literacy for Climate Resilience


Project: Building a Resilient Community through Ocean Literacy: Empowering Women, Students, and Unemployed Youth
in support of the UN declared "Decade of Ocean Science 2021-2030"

Supported by: Korea SHE Foundation

 재단법인 숲과나눔


Organized by: Nirmol Bangladesh


Venue: She-E-Bangla Agriculture University, Dhaka, Bangladesh | Date: 18th October 2023
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Picture 29. A digital banner for the above given training program.


Organized by
Nirmol Bangladesh

Building a Resilient Community through
OCEAN LITERACY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

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Picture 30. A digital banner of a field survey and community data collection on ocean literacy.