

Be an Ambassador!

MD. ZAMILUR RAHMAN SHUVO

One thing that this generation has been blessed with is the plethora of endless opportunities! And campus ambassador programs recently started to gain a lot of positive attention because of the opportunities they present. It gives the ambassadors backdoor access to industry insights and be a part of an intensive grooming process. Nonetheless, if you are already into extra-curricular activities then the following ambassador programs will be the perfect next step for you. If not and you are new to this, well then, give it a shot and SIGN UP!

BANGLADESH YOUTH LEADERSHIP CENTER (BYLC)

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center solely focuses on grooming and equipping the youth with leadership skills so that they can have a real and emphatic impact in the professional world from a very early age. Their campus ambassador programs, which they call their leadership training programs, have five different segmentations based on suitable and particular eligibilities. The earliest type of training program is open for secondary level students from grades 6-10. Apart from that they also have campus ambassador programs for students in college and university as well as young professionals aged below



30. Applicants have to go through a proper and holistic recruitment process for final selection.

Find out more: <https://bylc.org/how-to-apply/AIESEC>

This non-governmental organisation has been a part of the United Nations for quite some time now. Their purpose is to expand globally and spread around the message of peace and prosperity which is very much reflective of the United Nations' motto itself. But, AIESEC focuses on putting the youth in charge of their worldwide missions. Their ambassador program is designed to select volunteers who are willing to become that bridge of communication

between different age groups and youth internationally as well. And their best feature is that volunteers have the opportunity of traveling across countries for AIESEC's global leadership and internship programs at a minimal or free of cost.

Find out more: <https://aiesec.org/> **YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES (YO)**

Youth Opportunities has been operating with great success, and much of that is courtesy of their campus ambassador programs. Their programs are much more focused on institutional operation. The campus ambassadors are required to represent Youth Opportunities and promote the opportunities that are available for students. The world's largest opportuni-

ty discovery platform trains its campus ambassadors to learn how to lead, interact, communicate and execute campaigns. Students and young professionals between the ages 16-30 are eligible for this program. The incentives are aplenty and the outcome is fruitful, so what are you waiting for?

Find out more: <https://www.youthop.com/>

UNILEVER BANGLADESH LIMITED

The biggest operational multinational company in Bangladesh also has their own campus ambassador program, which is called 'SPARKS'. The campus ambassadors have the privilege of representing Unilever Bangladesh in their institutions and are trained by some of the brightest minds in the industry. Their goal is to encourage and inspire the youth to take charge of their own future and in the process, start making contributions in the professional world from an early age. Undergrads from second and third years are eligible for this program. If you are thinking global and multinational, SPARKS is the right next step.

Find out more: <https://www.unilever.com.bd/careers/>

MD. Zamilur Rahman is a self-proclaimed foodie and comic geek. He hates pineapple on pizza and white chocolate. Change his mind at shuvosanctum@gmail.com

Youth for Science: Evidence, Urgency and Action

A CORRESPONDENT

Farming Future Bangladesh, a comprehensive communications initiative under the auspicious of Cornell University's Alliance for Science, launched its "Youth for Science" campaign on July 27, 2019 at a hotel in Dhaka.

The campaign, entitled "Youth for Science: Evidence, Urgency and Action," is devoted to engaging and empowering youth in initiatives aimed at sharing evidence-based information and improving understanding of modern science and innovation, including the use of agribiotechnology to enhance food security, improve environmental sustainability and raise the quality of life.

Youth constitute one-third of Bangladesh's population. They have a significant stake in ensuring sustainable development, which they have expressed through their involvement in the movement to improve access to innovation and technology. It is necessary to have effective youth engagement to ensure their voices and actions contribute to improved public understanding of science, including innovations related to food and agriculture.

The official launch event was attended by youth and academics from 11 leading public and private universities of Bangladesh, as well as prominent scientists and officials from the public sector, agricultural industry and donor agencies.



"Youth can play a vital role in developing new technologies to overcome existing development challenges, bringing in new and traditional solutions with their dedication and creativity," said Dr. Jiban Krishna Biswas, National Consultant IRRI and Advisor to FFB, in the opening session.

Highlighting the urgent need for fact-based information-sharing, Dr. Hamidur Rahman, Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farming Future Bangladesh, said: "We need youth in agriculture and the food sector to eradicate hunger and hidden hunger from our country."

Prof. Dr. Md. Tofazzal Islam of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University emphasized the timely initiatives of the "Youth for Science" cam-

paign. "We should invest more resources in youth and younger generation scientists for self-sufficiency of the research and innovation sector of Bangladesh," he added.

Dr. Aparna Islam, Country Manager of South Asia Biosafety Program and Dr. Sudhir Chandra Nath, Head of Business of ACI Seed shared expert opinion highlighting the importance of youth engagement for sustainable development of food and agriculture sector of the country.

"We are committed to engage and empower youth for better understanding of science and agricultural innovations, including agribiotech, through the campaign activities," said Arif Hossain, CEO and Executive Director of Farming Future Bangladesh.

Specific campaign objectives include leadership building, mobilizing youth and forming partnerships with science outreach youth groups and science clubs from the country's respected universities and institutes, as well as forming new organizations.

Scientists, academics and students identified the challenges and way forward through dialogue and participatory sessions during the program launch.

Farming Future Bangladesh will continue working with the public universities, including, but not limited to, the University of Dhaka, Jahangirnagar University, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University, North South University, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, East West University, Independent University Bangladesh, Jagannath University and BRAC University, all of which were represented at the campaign launch.

Farming Future Bangladesh (FFB) is a comprehensive communications initiative to help improve awareness about modern agricultural innovations including crop biotechnology in Bangladesh. Based in Dhaka, it operates under the auspices of Cornell University's Alliance for Science, USA, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.