

# AUPF in BANGLADESH

## 18th Asian University Presidents Forum 2019

### “Future of Entrepreneurship Education and Experiential Learning: Determinants of Developing Successful Entrepreneurial Eco-System in Asian Economies”



Daffodil International University received the official Flag of the Asian University Presidents Forum (AUPF) and Official Logo for holding 18th AUPF in Bangladesh for the first time in the country.



Dr. Dipu Moni, MP, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Education, Professor Dr. Abdul Mannan Choudhury, Vice Chairman, Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB) and Dr. Md. Sabur Khan, Standing Committee Member of AUPF & Chairman, Daffodil International University along the participants of 18th Asian University Presidents Forum 2019 (AUPF 2019) at the opening ceremony hosted by Daffodil International University in collaboration with Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB).

## Importance of Entrepreneurial Education for Ensuring Sustainable Growth

Dr. Md. Sabur Khan

Entrepreneurship is immensely important for sustainable growth of a country. And higher education institutions can play a key role in enhancing entrepreneurial education. By observing this role of higher education institutions and their progress in Asia, a platform named Asian University Presidents Forum was originated. So it is a proud moment for Bangladesh as well as for Daffodil International University which is going to host the ‘18th Asian University Presidents Forum’ during November 22-24, 2019 in collaboration with APUB. About 15 countries from Asian region are participating in this mega event. The theme of the event is: ‘Future of Entrepreneurship Education and Experiential Learning: Determinants of Developing Successful Entrepreneurial Eco-System in Asian Economies’, which aptly addresses the current scenario of entrepreneurial eco-system in this region.

Entrepreneurial initiatives and education have expanded significantly in developed countries. Some perfect examples of entrepreneurial legacies are developed in Silicon Valley at Northern California, Austin TX, and San Francisco, CA. To boost initiatives, the USA has developed a unique culture of this ecosystem as they have focused entrepreneurial education system. All giant startups and unicorns (e.g. SpaceX, Ant Financial, Airbnb, OLA Cabs, Rubrik etc.) have proliferated because of nurturing entrepreneurial mindset of American people. As entrepreneurship is in their gene, they have focused in the creation of ventures/enterprises and financial institutions. They have established their education system, focusing on entrepreneurial domains and we have found, Stanford Graduate School of Business, Harvard Business School, Haas School of Business, and Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania concentrating more on blending entrepreneurial education. In Asia region, Singapore has done extremely well in establishing an eco-system for the entrepreneurs and developing the entrepreneurial minded students. Mr. Lee Kuan Yew (first Prime Minister of Singapore) believed that unlocking the entrepreneurial potentials of youths lies in education and inspiration. So it is not a miracle to observe the development of Singapore.

Our education system needs to be transformed, aligned with global trends, and we should realize the existing demand of young students. Globally, youths are becoming the center of

growth. According to ‘State of MENA (Middle East and North Africa) Startups 2019’ report, most of the founders are in their early 30s and 45 per cent founders are between 30 and 34 years old. At the World Economic Forum in Davos, Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba Group, once rightly said “If we do not change the way we teach, 30 years from now, we are going to be in trouble”. He also emphasized on “soft skills” like independent thinking, values and team-work. Accordingly, Daffodil International University (DIU) always tries to follow the global trends in education to excel itself by creating positive impact on higher education domain through developing students with entrepreneurial mindset.

Bangladesh has enormous opportunities to grow more. To do so, we need to involve our youths in innovation through offering quality education. That is the reason why DIU has taken a lot of initiatives to foster entrepreneurship and innovation through its dedicated Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Like this Department, other departments of DIU have already started lots of activities, focusing on creating entrepreneurial mindset among students. Students are now engaged in doing hands-on activities at DIU Innovation Lab, Daffodil Business Incubator, etc. and they are contributing to the society and adapting themselves to the technological environment in a befitting manner. Seeing the spontaneous activities of DIU students, Mr. Jonathan Ortman, President of Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) stated: “I have no doubt that Daffodil International University is playing a good role for spreading entrepreneurial mindset among the young generation of the country”.

To facilitate building entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country, the Government of Bangladesh has already established a specialized farm (Startup Bangladesh Company Limited) to fund and nurture startups and ICT entrepreneurs. Higher education institutions should also come forward to support this spirit of the government and demand of the time. We believe that it is possible to transform our huge population, particularly the young ones, into manpower through entrepreneurial education. We must nurture the new generation of the country to be well educated (they need to attain the real objectives of education) and be trained up on the way of becoming entrepreneurs. They will not search for jobs, rather will provide jobs to others in building the nation towards attaining the status of a ‘developed country’.

## Collaborative Projects of AUPF:

**Global Access Asia (GAA)** is the online courseware platform of the Asian University Presidents Forum (AUPF), which has met annually since 2014 with the mission to “Increase Communication, Exchange

Information, Share Experience and Seek Common Development” of institutions of higher education in Asia. Global Access Asia aims to increase international learning opportunities for students of AUPF member universities.



## ASP

**Asia Summer Program (ASP):** It’s a 3 week international summer program focused on topics relevant to Asia. Its primary aim is to foster future leaders who have a strong understanding of Asian cultures, a broad and creative mindset, and a talent for international collaboration.



## DIU Initiatives on grooming Entrepreneurial activities in Bangladesh:

Apprenticeship Program	Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Started with Kauffman Foundation)	Daffodil Business Incubator(DBI)
Bangladesh Venture Capital Ltd (BVCL)	GITR (Get In The Ring- Bangladesh)	Startup Grind- DIU
HULT Prize DIU	Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW):	Startup Huddle Dhaka
Global Entrepreneurship Research Network(GERN)	Global Entrepreneurship Congress(GEC)	Are u the next startup
One Student One Laptop	Daffodil ICT Carnival	Startup Market
Entrepreneurship Development Fund (EDF)	Startup Idea Fund	Global Entrepreneurship Summer Camp, Unimap, Malaysia(2016)
International Social Business Summer Program	Global Entrepreneurship Camp (GEC) 2019 at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Nilai, Malaysia	DIU-INHA Entrepreneurship Program-2019
Social Business Creation competition HEC- Montreal:	Entrepreneurship and Innovation Expo (DCCI E2K project):	Global Money Week
Innovation Lab	Marketing Lab	Startup Fest
DIU Industry Academia Lecture Series on Entrepreneurship Development	DIU Lecture Series on Entrepreneurial Role of an Executive	Entrepreneur Guidance Program (EGP)
Publication of books on Entrepreneurship	‘Change Together’ Program	Certificate Course of Entrepreneurship Development (CCED)

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