

# What's up in the Hub?

Quarterly  
Newsletter  
January - March 2023

## Professor Yunus's Visit at Impact Hub Dhaka

We kicked off the new year at Impact Hub Dhaka with a visit from Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus who joined the team huddle on January 10, 2023, alongside Ms. Lamiya Morshed, Co-Chairman of Yunus Centre, Ms. Nazneen Sultana, Executive Vice Chairman of Grameen Communications, and Ms. Nurjahan Begum, Executive Vice Chairman of Grameen Shikkha. We celebrated our highlights from 2022, and shared plans for growth and development in 2023!



## The Power of Storytelling in Entrepreneurship

We hosted our first fireside chat this year centred on "The Power of Storytelling in Entrepreneurship" on Monday, January 16, 2023, at Impact Hub Dhaka. The engaging conversation with Mehran Khan, Head of BRAC Youth Platform and Syeda Ashfah Toaha Duti, facilitated by Maisha Ahmed, Program Manager, YY Ventures, focused on the art of storytelling and its power to influence an audience.



# Building Youth Capacity and Network in Asia Pacific with ILO

Impact Hub Dhaka has partnered with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Grameen Trust to empower 3,500 entrepreneurs in vulnerable and underserved communities across 27 districts in Bangladesh. Together, they have co-designed activity-based training modules to equip these entrepreneurs with digitalization and financial literacy skills.

The training modules are set to be deployed in May, and Impact Hub Dhaka is thrilled to engage with the entrepreneurs and help them grow their businesses. This partnership is a significant step towards creating a more inclusive and equitable society, where entrepreneurs from all backgrounds have access to the resources they need to thrive.



## Impact Hub Dhaka partners up to host the 8th Social Business Youth Summit

Impact Hub Dhaka supported YY Ventures in organizing the 8th Social Business Youth Summit held on February 8-9, 2023. The summit was a resounding success in fostering meaningful conversations centred around this year's theme, "Creating a World of Three Zeros: The Time is Now." The summit featured panel discussions, impulses, conversations, and workshops around key topics such as Circularity, Sports, Healthcare, WASH, Financial Tools, Youth Employment, Future of Work, and many more - bringing together industry leaders, experts, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders from all over the world. Pictured here is a workshop facilitated by Shakil Ahmed, Futurist at Ridiculous Futures and Hasibur Rahman, Director, Program at Teach For Bangladesh on the Future of Education at Impact Hub Dhaka on February 9, 2023.



## Impact Hub Dhaka joins hands with Villgro to empower HealthTech Entrepreneurs

Impact Hub Dhaka and Villgro Philippines collaborated to support Healthtech entrepreneurs in South and Southeast Asia by connecting them to mentors, market partners, and investors. Impact Hub Dhaka promoted the AI+Health Asia accelerator program in Bangladesh and successfully connected 16 startups, with 6 being shortlisted for the second phase. This partnership shows the power of collaboration and networking in creating innovative solutions for healthcare.



# Taking Environmental Innovation at Scale

On February 22, 2023, we hosted a day-long design sprint focused on "Taking Environmental Innovation at Scale" with 14 climate actors and innovators who came together to ideate and prototype solutions for sustainable climate innovation.

During the workshop, participants from iDE Bangladesh, Dreamwater Enterprises Limited, Bangladesh Youth Environmental Initiative (BYEI), UNICEF Bangladesh, Grameen Shakti, ActionAid Bangladesh, Oxfam in Bangladesh, International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination (ICAAD), UNDP, Bangladesh, Tradeshi, SAJIDA Foundation, Youth Policy Forum, and BRAC University had the opportunity to work together, learn about each other's work, strengths, and values, and practice collaboration for effective environmental innovation. The design sprint was a valuable opportunity for participants to develop their skills, network, and learn from each other, fostering a culture of collaboration and innovation that will benefit the environment and society as a whole.



## Impact Hub Dhaka Collaborates with CARE Bangladesh

Impact Hub Dhaka recently facilitated two ideation workshops for the Community Led Innovation for Climate Risk Mitigation in Bangladesh (CLIMB) project implemented by CARE Bangladesh in Ukhiya at Cox's Bazar and Sarankhola at Bagerhat. Held on March 21-22, 2023, the workshops brought together participants representing local government agencies, community organizations, CARE's partner organizations, and youth in both locations.

During the workshops, participants collaborated and shared their experiences, ideas, and knowledge to develop innovative solutions that could improve livelihood opportunities for vulnerable communities in the coastal region. The workshops provided a collaborative and inclusive space for brainstorming and ideation, and the outcomes will help advance the CLIMB project's goals of climate risk mitigation and community empowerment.



## Celebrating International Women's Day 2023

On March 12, 2023, we collaborated with YY Ventures to host a community event, "Embracing Equity, Promoting Equality: Our Path Forward, to commemorate International Women's Day. The event, facilitated by Tasaffy Hossain, the Founder and Managing Partner of BonhiShikha, provided a space for people to share their stories and perspectives on creating a world where everyone thrives.

The event was a celebration of the progress made towards gender equity and equality, while also recognizing the work that still needs to be done. Participants shared insights, experiences, and ideas on how to contribute to a more equitable and just world. The event was a valuable opportunity for the community to come together, reflect, and chart a path forward towards a more equitable and inclusive future. Read [this story](#) to learn more about the event.



## Hubdates

From January through March this year, our event space at Impact Hub Dhaka was rented by several clients to host their events. YY Ventures hosted the Pitching & Storytelling boot camp for the Fall 2022 Cohort of the YY Goshti Incubation Program in February 2023. We also welcomed HE Anne van Leeuwen, Ambassador of the Embassy of the Netherlands in Bangladesh, and members of the Standing Committee of the Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands on February 27, 2023.





In addition to YY Ventures, we've had the pleasure of hosting Grameen Communications, Grameen Danone, Bangladesh Angels Network, Stanford University, 3Z Global Centre, and Qinetiic in our customizable event space. We thank them for choosing Impact Hub Dhaka as their preferred venue!

Our event space is available for rent and can be customized to fit a wide variety of needs. Whether you're hosting a workshop, seminar, or corporate event, we have the space and resources to ensure your event is a success. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our event spaces and services.



Photo Credit: Bangladesh Angels Network

## Be a part of the community!

Our co-working space at Impact Hub Dhaka might make a difference! Rent our fully furnished office rooms or sign up for membership packages. As a member, you will have access to a vibrant community of entrepreneurs and changemakers based in Bangladesh and beyond – plus, all the resources and amenities you need in order to thrive! Visit our [website](#) to check out our space and book yours today.