



ANNUAL REPORT

2023





Dear Friends,

The past year marked a period of growth and impact for our organization, and we are delighted to share with you our 2023 Annual Report. In the pages that follow, you will read about the exceptional young people who have benefitted from our programs and learn how they have used their skills and confidence to shape their communities and their own future.

In pursuit of our mission to equip youth with leadership and professional development skills, we provided leadership training to 588 youth, professional development training to 1,500, and enrolled 42,471 participants in various online courses through our e-learning platform, BYLCx. A key achievement for us was the successful placement of 1,054 youth in jobs and internships across diverse sectors. Additionally, BYLC Ventures supported and funded 14 innovative businesses last year, fostering further employment opportunities through entrepreneurship.

A significant milestone in 2023 was the launch of the five-year USAID BIJOYEE Project, where BYLC serves as a major sub-partner of the consortium. We will be primarily responsible for developing a soft skills curriculum and training master trainers who will build leadership and employability skills for 250,000 youth over five years.

Throughout 2023, BYLC actively contributed to positive societal change. In collaboration with BRAC University's Center for Peace and Justice, we conducted the Youth Matters Survey 2023, engaging 5,609 youth nationwide to gain insights into their views on public issues before the National Parliamentary Elections. At COP28, we demonstrated our commitment to addressing global climate challenges by focusing on green skills and youth entrepreneurship. Our climate action partnerships showcased our innovative use of social media to engage diverse audiences and promote awareness, aligning with our commitment to inclusive development and sustainable environmental practices.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to our supporters and partners for your unwavering faith in our mission. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Bangladesh, empowering its youth to lead with resilience, innovation, and a commitment to positive change.

Sincerely,

Ejaj Ahmad
Founder and Executive Chairperson
Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center



Dear friends and supporters,

As we look back on 2023, a year filled with both challenges and triumphs, I am proud of the achievements at BYLC and especially the hard work and commitment of my team. I am equally grateful to our graduates and their parents for believing in BYLC's ability to transform the lives of our program participants for the better.

This year, we celebrated a significant milestone - our 14th anniversary - further solidifying our unwavering commitment to empowering Bangladeshi youth.

Building on the momentum of 2022, we started the year strong. The 5th Annual BYLC Run—Running with Purpose: For a Breathable City—promoted clean air awareness in Dhaka and Chattogram and underscored our responsibility for a healthy environment.

Additionally, our new collaboration with the USAID Bijoyee project expanded our reach and impact, allowing us to serve a broader and more diverse community of young people in Bangladesh.

Investing in the future remains core to our mission. We delivered leadership training programs to youth across Bangladesh, equipping them with the skills and confidence to become future changemakers. Furthermore, we facilitated job placements, advancing the career development of youth and enriching our nation's workforce.

Recognizing the importance of youth perspectives, we launched the "Youth Matters" survey in 2023. This regular election-time initiative of BYLC ensures that young people's voices are heard in the national discourses, creating a more inclusive and representative decision-making process.

We are constantly seeking innovative ways to empower young people. The surge in online course enrollments exceeded our expectations and underscored our dedication to democratizing access to quality education. We were also honored to be recognized globally in the Hundred Spotlight Report, a testament to the exceptional work and dedication of our online education and training team.

Beyond individual empowerment, we strive to cultivate a broader culture of success. By funding startups, we supported the next generation of entrepreneurs and nurtured their innovative spirit. Additionally, our professional development programs equipped youth with valuable skill sets to excel in their professional journeys.

We remain committed to our core values as we look towards the future. Our five-year strategic plan focuses on strengthening the relevance and quality of our services to have a greater impact on transforming the lives of youth in Bangladesh and contributing to caring for the environment.

I sincerely thank our partners, supporters, and well-wishers. Your generosity and unwavering dedication inspires our journey towards a just, inclusive, and prosperous future for the youth of Bangladesh. Together, we will continue to break new grounds and empower young leaders to shape a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tahsinah Ahmed
Executive Director
Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center

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About BYLC

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), the country's first leadership institute, exists to build leadership skills in youth from diverse backgrounds, instil empathy, tolerance, and inclusiveness, and connect them to jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities. BYLC aims to enable its alumni to significantly impact the public, private, and civil sectors. A cornerstone of BYLC's approach involves

uniting youth from diverse socio-economic and educational backgrounds because effective leadership requires the capacity to embrace diversity and pluralism. By empowering young people to act on behalf of issues they care about deeply, BYLC aims to strengthen prosperity, justice, and inclusiveness in society through courageous, compassionate, and competent leaders.



Mission & Vision

Our Mission

Enable youth to have high impact in public, private, and civil sectors and demonstrate proactive actions for positive socio-economic and environmental change.

Our Vision

Create a just, prosperous, inclusive society and a sustainable world driven by courageous, compassionate, and competent leaders.

Our Focus

SKILLS

VALUES

JOBS

VENTURES

2023 Program Overview

Celebrated 14 years of BYLC

January



Organized Running with Purpose 2023

March



BYLC Ventures selected winners for scale-up and seed funding

May



Ejaj Ahmad elected as the Executive Chairperson of BYLC

July



BYLC Ventures Cohort 7 was launched

September



BYLCx was recognized in the Hundred Spotlight Report

November



February

Campus Ambassador 2023 induction held



April

BYLC Alumni Iftar 2023 held



June

Office of Professional Development organized Career Expo 2023



August

BYLC started working on USAID BIJOYEE Project



October

Launched Youth Matters Survey 2023



December

Completed Development Sector Career Bootcamp

2023 Program Overview

588 Youth trained in leadership

1,054 Youth placed in jobs

42,471 BYLCx course enrollments

14 Startups funded by BYLC Ventures

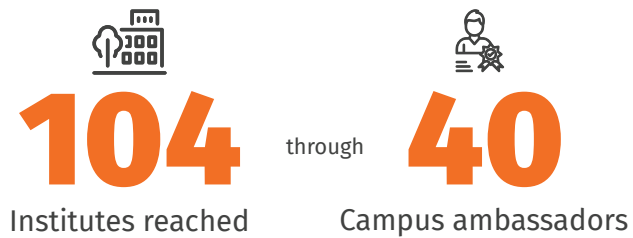
1,500 Youth trained in professional development

Outreach & Admissions

BYLC maintains an inclusive and robust marketing and admissions process to attract high-quality applications to our leadership programs. They reach out to young people of different ages through various channels,

including workshops in school and university campuses. Applicants are then put through a rigorous admissions process, which evaluates them on their existing skills and leadership potential.

Outreach



Admissions



Skills Development Program (SDP)

Launched in 2022, the Skills Development Program stands at the forefront of BYLC's commitment to nurturing leadership and fostering professional growth among participants. This program serves as the cornerstone for all training initiatives under BYLC. It is dedicated to equipping individuals with a diverse set of skills essential for both personal and professional advancement. Through various initiatives, the program encapsulates a spectrum of leadership and professional skill-building training, ensuring participants undergo a holistic and enriching learning experience.





BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH LEADERSHIP TRAINING



BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

About Building Bridges through Leadership Training (BBLT)

BYLC's 10-week-long signature leadership training program is designed for H.S.C./Alim/A Level and first and second-year university students, taught all over the country. The BBLT program uses a competitive selection process to enroll students from three different educational systems: English

medium, Bangla medium, and Madrasah. The intensive training program, coupled with an experiential learning model, challenges students to think critically about leadership and apply their skills to effectuate positive change in the society.

Objectives

Cultivate diverse conversations for inclusive leadership

Sharpen critical-thinking skills for better decision making

Foster teamwork and active citizenship





392

Participants Registered



336

Participants Graduated



217

Males Participated



119

Females Participated



9

Programs Conducted



18,738

Indirect Beneficiaries Reached



19,745

Hours of Leadership In Action Performed



**BUILDING
BRIDGES THROUGH
LEADERSHIP
TRAINING
JUNIOR**



BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH LEADERSHIP TRAINING JUNIOR

About Building Bridges through Leadership Training Junior (BBLTJ)

BYLC's month-long leadership training program is designed for grades 6 to 10 secondary school students. The program, adapted to suit the learning needs of students aged between 12 and 16, focuses on sensitizing a younger audience to the values of leadership, teamwork, community

service, and active citizenship. The program specifically targets students in secondary school to instill positive values during their formative years so that these lessons of leadership and building bridges remain influential throughout their lives.

Objectives

Unite diverse participants for positive change

A clear understanding of leadership challenges and rewards

Implement impactful projects in marginalized communities





311

Participants Registered



252

Participants Graduated



124

Males Participated



128

Females Participated



6

Programs Conducted



4,040

Indirect Beneficiaries Reached



1,756

Hours of Leadership In Action Performed

Key Achievements

Quality & Relevance

- On January 15, 2024, a step-back was taken to set the next steps for the BBLT/BBLTJ program. An internal assessment system is being developed to improve skill indicators, while balancing data collection with reflective leadership learning. The goal is to design data-driven interventions for program effectiveness
- On January 16, 2024, a program intervention was designed to improve the BBLT/BBLTJ program. The curriculum will be revised to include ideological tolerance, moral understanding, and emotional intelligence

Innovation

- Shamresh Saha, Manager, Skills Development Program, attended an international summit on “Stopping Youth Radicalization in the Asia-Pacific Region” organized by Meta, and Search for Common Ground, Colombo, Sri-Lanka. The learning outcomes of the that summit will be incorporated to develop a module that will be integrated into the BBLT/BBLTJ curriculum
- From May to August 2023, the BBLT/BBLTJ program underwent curriculum revision, introducing activity-based learning, website design, Leadership-In-Action, and civic awareness. Timeline were set for each session's activities, emphasizing the significance of experiential learning

Impact & Influence

- In December 2023, Anika Paul shared a testimonial about how the BBLT program positively impacted her life. The program's positive impact on students was understood
- In December 2023, a BBLTJ graduate's parent shared how the LIA intervention helped their child learn about implementing projects for social issues. The program's positive impact on students was understood
- In September 2023, two projects were awarded seed money of BDT 50,000 by BYLC for their potential to develop sustainable solutions for social issues. BYLC will mentor and coordinate with over 20 projects after BBLT/BBLTJ and guide towards developing sustainable social innovation projects

Capacity Building

- In September 2023, the faculty teaching-learning rubric was introduced to guide faculty members towards excellence in their leadership training course preparation and execution. The rubric includes designing time for brief and debrief before class, serving as a reference point for current and future LDT faculties
- On October 15, 2023, the SDP faculty members learned about understanding the BBLT/BBLTJ project overview, designing a learning process, curriculum components, and crafting impactful sessions. They adopted faculty rubrics for preparation and execution
- On September 15, 2023, facilitators learned about resilience, sense of possibility and aligned with the program team goals and vision



Professional Development and Training

BYLC's professional development programs provide training on 21st-century career readiness skills to third and fourth-year university students, postgraduates, and young professionals with less than two years of professional experience. The programs incorporate hands-on training, industry insights, and networking opportunities, providing a holistic approach to prepare participants for successful transitions into the professional world.



careerX





About CareerX

CareerX is an extensive month-long professional development program designed to help graduates and young professionals get the best possible start to their careers. The program covers essential topics—such as communication planning, problem-solving, critical thinking, and

more pertinent to the modern workplace. Video-based online modules are supplemented with instructor-led, in-person, and virtual sessions, as well as weekly projects to ensure a truly meaningful learning experience.

Objectives

Equip students
with essential
professional skills

Connect with
industry
professionals
for networking

Mentor and counsel
participants
individually and
in groups





1,535

Participant Registered



1,365

Participants Graduated



832

Males Participated



703

Females Participated



10

Programs Conducted

careerX University Partners





DEVELOPMENT SECTOR CAREER BOOTCAMP

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
BYLC

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
BYLC

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
BYLC

I AM A BYLC
BOOTCAMP GRADUATE

DEVELOPMENT SECTOR CAREER BOOTCAMP

About BYLC Development Sector Career Bootcamp

BYLC Development Sector Career Bootcamp is a month-long program to enable participants to gain first-hand knowledge on skills required to enter the Development sector. With sessions by industry experts, the bootcamp focused on technical and soft skills such as adaptability, resilience, management, monitoring and evaluation, and effective communication. Apart from an overview of Bangladesh's Development sector, the bootcamp included sessions on

resume writing, project design and management, project proposal and report writing, data analysis, and efficient communication strategies for development professionals. The bootcamp included a blend of video-based online modules supplemented with instructor-led virtual sessions. Graduates of the program are eligible to avail one-on-one mentoring and counseling sessions from BYLC Office of Professional Development (OPD).

Objectives

Equip students with essential professional skills

Connect with industry professionals for networking

Mentor and counsel participants individually and in groups





125

Participants Registered



120

Participants Graduated



46

Males Participated



79

Females Participated



18

Sessions Conducted



CORPORATE & MANAGEMENT CAREER BOOTCAMP

CORPORATE & MANAGEMENT

CAREER BOOTCAMP

About BYLC Corporate and Management Career Bootcamp

BYLC's Corporate and Management Career Bootcamp is a targeted initiative preparing graduates for success in Bangladesh's thriving corporate sector. This three-phase program, led by industry experts, covers essential skills in communication, presentation, team building, and future-focused areas like adaptive leadership.

Bridging the gap between employers and job seekers, this bootcamp empowers participants to survive and thrive in their corporate careers, enhancing their employability and readiness for the dynamic demands of the evolving corporate landscape.

Objectives

Equip students
with essential
professional skills

Connect with
industry
professionals
for networking

Mentor and counsel
participants
individually and
in groups





215

Participant Registered



202

Participants Graduated



129

Males Participated



86

Females Participated



15

Sessions Conducted



The Office of Professional Development (OPD), on the other hand, connects youth to employment opportunities. OPD also offers career guidance services for university students and young professionals. In addition, placement services are provided for OPD graduates via partnerships with renowned employers in the country.

2,364

Graduates placed in internship, part-time and full-time jobs

3,000

Youth mentored



Mentoring Sessions

OPD offers career mentoring and guidance sessions that can enable better career advancement for BYLC's alumni.

8 Sessions

2,500 Participants

Average salary

Full-time : BDT 29,663

Part-time : BDT 10,730

Internship : BDT 6,763

CAREER EXPO 2023



BYLC Career Expo 2023 was a day-long career fair held at the Aloki Convention Center on June 10, 2023. Around 1,500 registered participants and 30 employers joined the program. Through the BYLC Career Expo 2023, registered participants got the opportunity to connect with industry experts and received training in 21st-century employability skills through multiple workshops and sessions. There was also a panel discussion on “Green jobs: trends and predictions for the next decade job market”, where industry experts such as Md. Abdul Akher, Director (Planning), Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth & Sports; Dipti Das, Education Project Management Specialist (Education Advisor), USAID; and Dr. Rubina H. Farouq, Senior Vice President, SIYB Foundation of Bangladesh Managing Director & Center Head, Institute of Hotel Management & Hospitality, were the panelists.



1,900

Applications Received



1,357

Applicants Registered



30

Employers Participated



14

Youth Engagement
Organizations Partnered



18

Clubs Partnered



5

Sessions Conducted



.Connected

Developed by BYLC's Office of Professional Development (OPD), BYLC Connected was launched in 2023 as an experiential learning & placement program designed to provide a platform for the youth where they will be evaluated and prepared for their careers through rigorous assessment stages from resume vetting, written assessments, focus group discussions, case studies, interviews, and finally, job opportunities for the top candidates with partnered organizations. BYLC Connected is applicable for final-year university students, as well as fresh graduates, who are seeking internship/full-time job opportunities. This year Perfetti Van Melle, Augmedix, Metlife Bangladesh and Asiatic Mindshare were the key partners of this program.



101

Applications Received



71

Applicants Registered



51

Males Registered



20

Females Registered



18

Clubs Partnered



5

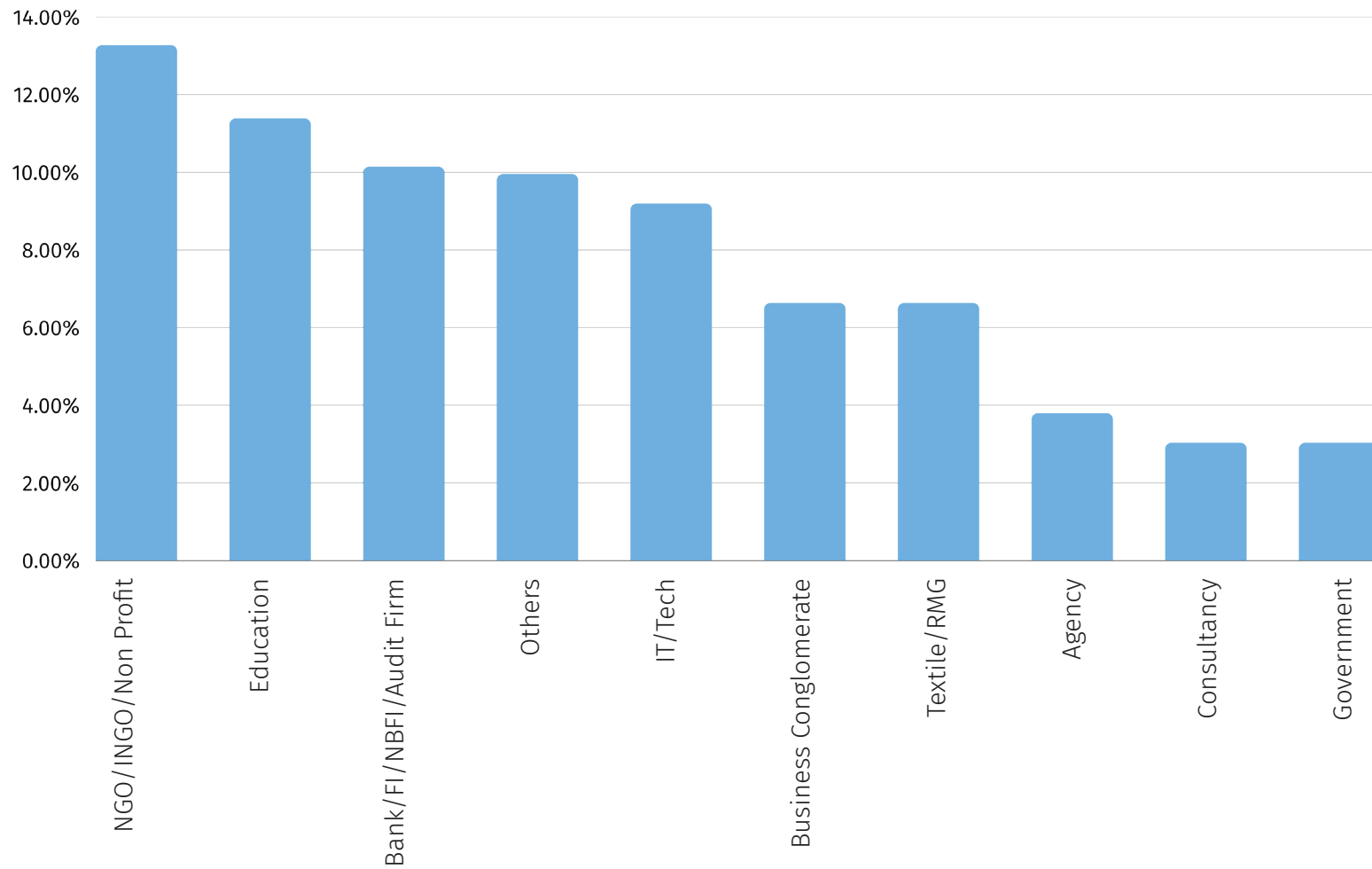
Employers Participated

Strategic Partnerships and Agreements

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the following organizations

 <p>pathao HERE WITH YOU</p>	 <p>PERFETTI van Melle</p>	 <p>Apex</p>	 <p>MGH GROUP</p>	 <p>Transcom tradition in excellence</p>
 <p>MINDSHARE</p>	 <p>LightCastle Partners</p>	 <p>SERVIQ™</p>	 <p>বাংলাসো</p>	 <p>VUMI INNOVATION SKILL EMPLOYMENT</p>
 <p>SMAC HRS Limited</p>	 <p>TechnTalents</p>	 <p>AKS KHAN HOLDINGS</p>	 <p>BIO-XIN cosmeceuticals</p>	 <p>SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES BANGLADESH</p>
 <p>EkkBaz</p>	 <p>The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport</p>	 <p>novo nordisk®</p>	 <p>WorldFish</p>	 <p>shuttle</p>

Sector Wise Placement



Key Achievements

Quality & Relevance

- 1,700 graduating students across five divisions - Dhaka, Chattogram, Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Barisal - received training aimed at equipping them with employability skills and empowering them to make informed career decisions
- The program achieved a 90% retention rate, reflecting the high-quality content and learning experience provided to students. BYLC's internal survey also shows that 91% of participants would recommend the training to their peers
- OPD vetted the resumes of 1,000 program participants
- 470 participants benefited from the redesigned career mentoring and mock interview sessions

Innovation

- A 2-day hybrid training program called "Interview Garage" was piloted with 30 paid participants and is set to be replicated on a larger scale in the future
- A 10-day hybrid training program called "Connected" was piloted with 73 paid participants

Impact & Influence

- At the Career Expo, 1,350 participants from 50+ universities and 30+ employers attended, resulting in 185 job placements

Sustainability

- Training programs were turned into revenue-generating models, with new programs for diverse groups, resulting in significant revenue

Capacity Building

- Regular training for the trainers and facilitators through 'Innovation Lab'
- Arranged a facilitator retreat to realign our vision and goals for the training programs

BYLCx



BYLCx

BYLCx, the online academy of BYLC aims to make leadership and professional development education available for youth anywhere, anytime. Designed in consultation with industry experts, BYLCx courses cover various topics, including communication, critical thinking, professional development, entrepreneurship, and more. Since 2016, BYLCx has produced 69 courses with 1,58,821 course enrollments. To democratize 21st-century

skills and leadership education development, all courses on the platform will be available at no cost for young people aged 18-35. Short and week-long courses on 21st-century soft and technical skills, such as negotiation, creativity, critical thinking, Excel for professionals, etc., are available on BYLCx. BYLCx was featured in the November 2023 issue of the Hundred Spotlight Report.



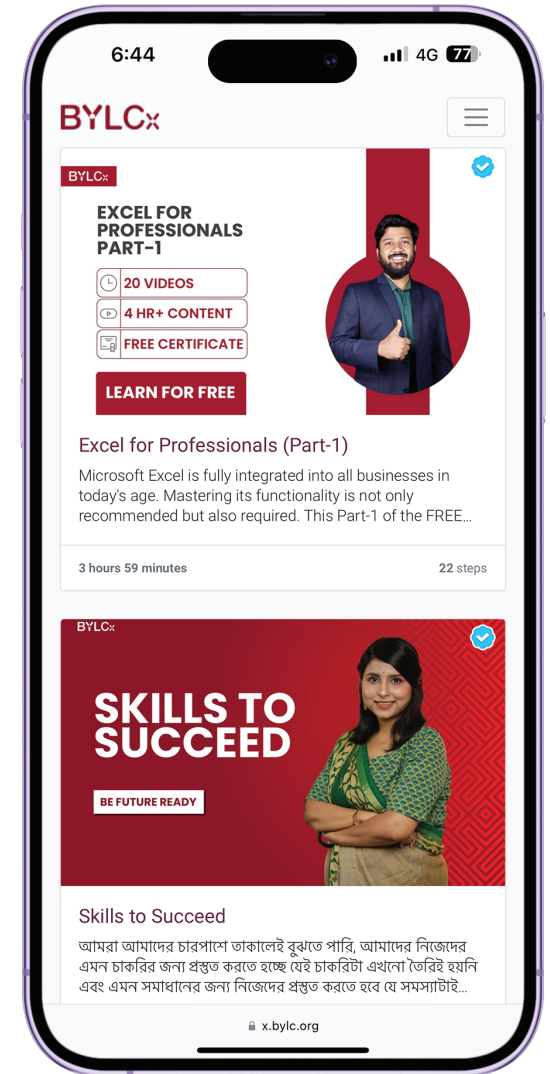
1,58,821
Course enrollments



69
Online courses



57,880
Course completions





Key Achievements

Quality & Relevance

- Developed a standard SOP for the course development process

Innovation

- New learner-friendly website is ready for launch with appealing UI & UX

Impact & Influence

- BYLCx has been recognized as one of the most scalable EdTech platforms in the country by global education research organization HundrEd

Sustainability

- BYLCx has presented a business plan to Management to start their journey of becoming a sustainable EdTech in upskilling verticle



BYLC Ventures funds promising early-stage founders of Bangladesh to hone their leadership capabilities, strengthen their business acumen, and help validate their big ideas as they transition into investable businesses. Ventures has completed 6 accelerator programs and onboarded 31 startups into its portfolio since 2019. Besides seed funding, BYLC Ventures provides a fully functional co-working space for its portfolio companies. Other services include legal and professional support and customized business training.

BDT 8 lakh seed funding
for each startup

BDT 15 lakh scale-up funding
for each startup



AN INITIATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS



Orange Corners Bangladesh (OCB), a global initiative of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands was launched in 2023 by BYLC Ventures in association with YY Ventures, Sajida Foundation, Unilever Bangladesh Limited, and DBL Group. OCB assists young entrepreneurs through a business's pre-incubation, incubation, and post-incubation stages.



BYLC ventures


Bootcamp 2023

In 2023, BYLC Ventures' cohort 6 winners were announced and onboarded to the accelerator program. A bootcamp for Cohort 7 was launched in July, and the winners were announced later in the year.

 **48** Teams Participated

 **14** Startups Invested

 **115** Participants Participated

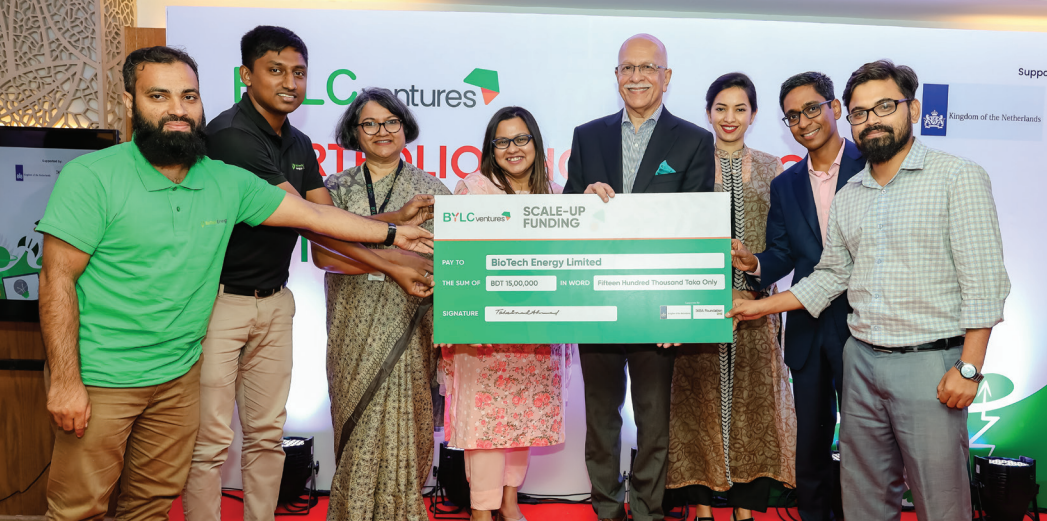
 **4** Startups Received Scale-up Funding



BYLC ventures Winning teams



BYLCventures Scale-up funding champions





BYLC
GRADUATE
NETWORK

BYLC Graduate Network (BGN), an alumni association of the center, is governed by an elected board of BYLC graduates. BGN aims to provide a platform that enables its members to exercise leadership for individual as well as communal development. In 2023, a functional BGN board was established and three BYLC graduates joined as functional board members; Naveed Newaz, APL 13 graduate, Jakia Jafrin, BBLT 32 graduate and Khatun E Jannat Bibi Fatema, BBLT 33 graduate. Apart from graduate meets, this functional board organized an alumni day, iftar, and a BGN Ride.

Achievements of Operational Teams

Human Resource Management & Development (HRM&D)

Quality & Relevance

- Compliance Committee membership renewed on May 8, 2023 for the organization

Procurement committee | Gender committee | Complaint committee | Safeguarding committee

Innovation

- Implemented initiatives such as "Aaj Shudhu Golpo" and Potluck gatherings to boost employee motivation, cultivate stronger interpersonal bonds among colleagues, and elevate the overall team building
- Implemented recreational activities aimed at promoting well-being and leisure, such as table tennis and yoga, to enhance employee engagement and foster a healthier work environment

Sustainability

- Successfully facilitated the recruitment process for a diverse workforce comprising 135 individuals, encompassing regular, contractual, short-term, and part-time employees, ensuring the fulfillment of staffing needs across various roles within the organization



Finance & Accounts

Innovation

- Automated payroll system was introduced from October 2023 which has increased work efficiency and time management, ensuring timely payment to all employees

Sustainability

- Contributed to secure the USAID Bijoyee Project

Capacity Building

- Organized tri-monthly workshops to introduce new work techniques for team members, aiming to increase work efficiency, better delegate tasks, and empower the team



New Beginnings



Ejaj Ahmad, elected as the new Executive Chairperson of BYLC

On July 30, 2023, the founder of Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), Ejaj Ahmad, was elected as the new Executive Chairperson of the organization at its 14th Annual General Meeting held at BYLC Headquarters in Dhaka.



Agreement signed with Orange Corners

Orange Corners (OC), an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, and BYLC signed an agreement in January 2023 to establish a new OC Hub in Dhaka with assistance from regional partners YY Ventures and SAJIDA Foundation. Through this program, BYLC and Orange Corners aim to provide Bangladeshi youth with the skills, funding, and resources they need to establish successful businesses while enhancing and expanding the entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Started working for USAID BIJOYEE Project

USAID initiated a five-year project in 2023 to empower youth (18-35 years), particularly young women and socially excluded young people. The goal of the project is to ensure that youth have the market ready soft skills and access to relevant technical skills to gain employment or become entrepreneurs. Awarded to CARE Bangladesh and nine local youth organizations including BYLC, the initiative aims to closely work with the government of Bangladesh and private sector entities, to reach over 250,000 youth across urban and semi-urban areas.

Event Highlights

Transforming Bangladesh through Youth Leadership: 14 years of BYLC

On January 5, 2023, BYLC staff, board members, faculty, and alumni came together with dignitaries from government agencies, the private sector, development organizations, educational institutions, and media to celebrate BYLC's 14th foundation anniversary. The event

also saw the release of BYLC Strategy 2023-2027 along with Acts of Leadership: Impact report 2022 that demonstrates how leadership graduates are able to develop and build on different community capitals as a result of participating in BYLC's training programs.



BYLC Graduation Ceremony 2022

More than 500 participants graduated from the Building Bridges through Leadership Training (BBLT) and Building Bridges through Leadership Training Junior (BBLTJ) programs in the year 2022. Two Graduation Ceremonies were organized, one in Chattogram on January 8, 2023 and another in

Dhaka on January 13, 2023 to celebrate these young leaders. The EKN-supported after-school programs provided in-class training on public speaking, problem-solving, communication, and other 21st century skills.



Chattogram Graduates

Dhaka & National Graduates



A man with glasses and a red t-shirt is running towards the camera on a paved road. He is wearing a red t-shirt with 'BYLC' on the chest and a bib number '1000'. The background shows other runners in red t-shirts and a line of trees. The overall scene is a marathon or race event.

RUNNING WITH PURPOSE 2023

FOR A BREATHABLE CITY

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), organized 7.5 km run in Dhaka and Chattogram, in association with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, and others – to raise awareness on reducing air pollution and promoting sustainable urban living. Supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the BYLC Running with Purpose 2023 event saw the participation of around 850 runners of diverse backgrounds and age groups.

RUNNING WITH PURPOSE 2023

FOR A BREATHABLE CITY

Supporters



Ministry of Youth and Sports



জেলা প্রশাসন, চট্টগ্রাম



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Partners





BYLC Alumni Iftar 2023

BYLC organized iftars for alumni in Dhaka and Chattogram with participation from over 320 graduates. Friends, peers, and instructors reconnected at the event. BYLC annual iftar allows the alumni to rebuild bonds and refresh their memories of the time they spent in the BYLC classroom. The iftar also included staff, their families, partners and well wishers along with students from Songkolpo Foundation, a youth-led non-profit organization initiated by BYLC graduates Nurunnaher Akter and A K M Mehedi Islam Akash.

Aaj Shudhu Golpo Launched

BYLC launched “Aaj Shudhu Golpo” as a team building event which was celebrated on Pohela Falgun at their headquarters. The staff participated in fun activities to bond and bring balance to their work environment. The purpose of this event was to promote positive mental well-being and enhance team-building at BYLC.

International Women’s day observed

On March 8, 2023, BYLC celebrated International Women’s Day with activities and sessions for staff, promoting gender equality through "Innovation and Technology."





WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY

For World Youth Skills Day on July 15, 2023, BYLC arranged a roundtable discussion on acquiring soft skills for teachers, trainers, and youth as a key to professional development. The roundtable included industry experts, trainers, facilitators, and BYLC Campus Ambassadors. Guests at the BYLC Roundtable discussion on World Youth Skills Day 2023 included Anik Chandra Saha, Assistant Manager at BRAC Kumon Limited; Fatema Tuz Johoora, Private Sector Partnership Advisor at Oxfam; A.I.M Johurul Islam Zahin, Lecturer at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology; Md. Faqrul Islam, Manager of Capacity Development &

Planning at BRAC Education Programme; Amir Hamza, Assistant Director of Learning and Knowledge Management at Daffodil International University; Adiba Islam, HR Business Partner at Novo Nordisk; Raqibul Faiaze Md. Ikramah FCCA, General Manager and Head of Financial Accounting & Reporting at Grameenphone Ltd and Vice Chairman of Members Advisory Committee (MAC) of ACCA Bangladesh; Murad Ansary, Founder, Managing Director & CEO of Psycure; Farah Anzum; Sohanur Rahman; and Tasnia Khandaker Prova.





BYLC Annual Retreat

On June 17, 2023, BYLC team went on an Annual Retreat, to design steps for BYLC's new strategy implementation and also as an opportunity for all employees to unite, build relationships, and revisit organizational and personal purposes while working at BYLC. BYLC staff learned about SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat) analysis, data-driven decision-making, and team-building activities. They also identified challenges and created a standard operating procedure to solve complex program issues. The three-day retreat focused on staff alignment and energy management.

Portfolio showcasing and networking dinner by BYLC Ventures

On June 25, 2023, BYLC Ventures announced its Cohort 6 portfolio companies namely, Amar Stationery, Bismo, Durjoy DSS Technologies, Drishti, eBitans, Messbook, Mile Technologies, and Vertical Innovation Limited. They all received seed funding of BDT 8 lakh each, among other startup support. In addition, four Ventures portfolio startups—Biotech Energy Limited, Savoir Interiors Limited, Premium Fruits Limited, and InsureCow Limited—received scale-up funding of BDT 15 lakh each.



Launch of TikTok for Climate Action



Tiktok, GYLC, and BYLC for climate action education in Bangladesh

Global Youth Leadership Center (GYLC) and TikTok, in collaboration with Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), hosted two workshops with 120 youth to launch climate action in Bangladesh, providing a platform for Bangladeshi youth to articulate their concerns and aspirations for COP28, which took place in the UAE recently. The project aims to equip the youth of Bangladesh with the knowledge and the necessary leadership skills to address climate challenges while using the TikTok platform to raise awareness about the climate crisis.

BYLCx recognized globally in the Hundred Spotlight Report

BYLCx, the EdTech platform developed by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), has been featured in the November 2023 issue of the Hundred Spotlight Report. This international educational research platform has recognized BYLCx as one of Bangladesh's most impactful and innovative EdTech platforms. 57,880 users have completed courses from the BYLCx platform to date.





PRESS CONFERENCE

Thursday, November 16, 2023 | Headquarters

Youth Matters Survey 2023

BYLC and BRAC University's Center for Peace and Justice (CPJ) conducted a countrywide survey, titled Youth Matters Survey 2023, to provide a platform for young people to give their opinion about critical public issues before the National Parliamentary Elections in Bangladesh. From all over the country, 5,609 people participated in this survey. The 'Youth Matters Survey 2023' findings brought up hopes, perspectives, and significant insights for the future of Bangladeshi youth.



16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

During the 16 days of activism from November 25 to December 10, 2023, BYLC conducted a three-phase campaign. It began by collecting impactful stories from male and female colleagues who took a stand against violence. In the second phase, BYLC organized a roundtable where staff engaged in a detailed discussion on practical initiatives, mainly concentrating on empowering women and girls. The campaign was concluded by producing a video made from the stories collected.

BYLC Value Awards 2023

Every year BYLC acknowledges its team members with the value award for practicing its six core values. Six members of the team were felicitated with the Value Awards for upholding the office culture by practicing the values promoted by BYLC. The staff were nominated and shortlisted for the awards by their colleagues for

demonstrating individual values at the workplace. The six core values practiced at BYLC include integrity, excellence in everything we do, respect for others, empathy, continuous development, and practicing adaptive leadership.





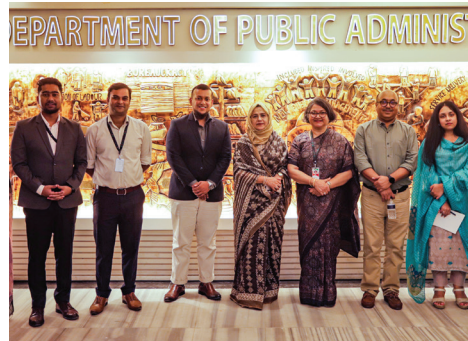
Visit of Sara van Hoeve, First Secretary of Economic Affairs & Private Sector Development, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

BYLC had the pleasure of hosting esteemed guests from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The presence of Ms. Sara van Hoeve, First Secretary of Economic Affairs & Private Sector Development, Mr. Jasper Kort, Finance Adviser, and Ms. Monnujan Khanam, Senior Adviser, Economic and Commercial Affairs, added a valuable touch to our community. Their visit was a testament to the strong and collaborative ties between BYLC and the Netherlands Embassy.

Sessions and workshops



CareerX partnership with the University of Barisal



CareerX partnership with the Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka



State Your Purpose: Crafting a Winning SOP



Workshop on the Art of Public Speaking



Dare to Lead workshop at Jahangirnagar University

Governing Board



Ejaj Ahmad
Founder and Executive Chairperson

Ejaj Ahmad is a social entrepreneur with extensive professional and academic training in leadership. He is the recipient of the Ashoka Fellowship, Eisenhower Fellowship, and Harvard Kennedy School's Rising Star Award.



Akhter Matin Chaudhury
Member

Akhter Matin Chaudhury is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh, and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh.



Farzana Kashfi
Member

Farzana Kashfi is a development professional, working towards the empowerment of adolescents and youth for over a decade. She started her career in Bangladesh at BRAC in 2008, developing and leading initiatives for the social and financial empowerment of adolescent girls across the country.



Homayara Latifa Ahmed
Member

Homayara Latifa Ahmed, associate professor at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Dhaka, is an expert on human resource management. She is an external consultant of Monower Associates, and a member of University & Industry Alliance, a non-profit management and educational consulting center under University of Dhaka.



Manzoor Hasan OBE
Member

Manzoor Hasan OBE, a barrister, is currently the executive director of the Centre for Peace and Justice, BRAC University (Bangladesh), and Chair of the United Nation Convention Against Corruption Coalition (Germany). He was previously the Founding Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB).



Pial Islam
Member

Pial Islam, founder and managing partner of pi Strategy Consulting, was previously a Global Leadership Fellow at the World Economic Forum.



Saima Chowdhury
Member

Saima Chowdhury is the founder and CEO of Noi Solutions LLC, a global apparel sourcing company based out of New York. Noi Solutions ranked 300 in the 2014 Inc. 500 list of the fastest growing private companies in the US.



Zafar Sobhan
Member

Zafar Sobhan, editor of Dhaka Tribune, is a 2009 Yale World Fellow and a 2005 Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum.

Advisory Board



Barbara Kellerman

Member

Barbara Kellerman, James McGregor Burns Lecturer in Public Leadership at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, was the Founding Executive Director of the Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership.



Gowher Rizvi

Member

Gowher Rizvi, advisor to the Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh, is the immediate past director of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



Max Klau

Member

Max Klau, a developmental psychologist with an experience in leadership in complex systems, is presently the chief program officer at New Politics Leadership Academy, an organization dedicated to recruiting and training alumni of service programs (the military, AmeriCorps, TFA, City Year, Peace Corps, and related experiences) for a career in public service.



Ronald Heifetz

Member

Ronald Heifetz, King Hussein bin Talal Senior Lecturer in Public Leadership at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, was the founding director of the Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership.

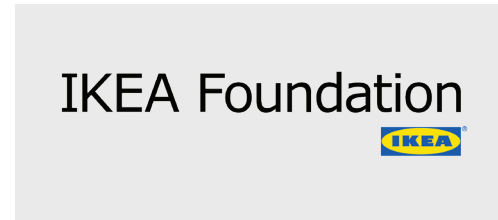


Sultana Afroz

Member

Sultana Afroz, a retired career bureaucrat, was previously a secretary to the Government of Bangladesh and the CEO of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Authority of the Prime Minister's Office.

Core Partners



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