

Youth Advocate Raised Her Voice Towards Ensuring Proper Waste Management System In Korail Slum Of Dhaka City

USAID & FCDO - supported Dhaka CALLING Project motivated a Young Girl to come forward and do something for her community.



Sabina's' Speech in Newspaper Supplement published on October 19, 2021 in the Daily Bhorer Kagoj newspaper.



Sabina was talking with community people for keeping their household waste in bin



Sabina is sharing her thoughts during monthly meeting with Youth Advocates in Korail Slum

Sabina Yasmin, a youth advocate of Korail Slum. Korail Slum is the biggest slums of Dhaka City, more than 1 lakh people have been living here from hand to mouth for their livings. Sabina Yasmin is also living in the slum with her family from her childhood. Her father has passed away when she was young, now she is a student of T&T Girls College. She is third amid her five siblings. She and her mother, are the earning members of her family. It has been tough for them to fight with poverty.

She is working with a WASH Project as a "HYGIENE APA" at Korail Slum for improving the WASH practices of community people. Sabina is very vocal, energetic and passionate towards her work. Only little amount of money she has been earning from the job and helping her family. It's been tough for them to earn fighting with time and opportunity, yet she is happy, as she is contributing not only for her family but also getting an opportunity for improving the environmental health of her community. After learning about Dhaka CALLING Project from Hosney Banu Lima, Community Mobilizer, she showed interest and joined as a member of Korail Youth Advocacy Group (YAG) at the beginning of the project.

After joining the group, she has been working with the other group members for improving the waste management situation in her community. With her lead, some members of the Youth Advocacy Group visited house to house in her community for talking community people about dumping household waste in a specific place rather dumping in the road/ drain. Sometimes she shared various thoughts through attending in monthly CBO meeting raised from the Youth meetings. Moreover, in various community-based campaign and advocacy-based event, she has been participating very actively and raising her voice towards ensuring proper waste management system in the Korail Slum.

In online based Round Table discussion and Local Level Public Hearing, she raised her voice among so many for slum and slums' people. In Korail, due to insufficient van/ trolley waste cannot be collected from all household. As a result, large volume of waste remained uncollected and community people dump their household waste into the adjacent lake and drain. Through advocacy events, she shared the community's present situation in front of ward councilors, representative from city corporation and other government officials, so that, budget can be allocated for slum-based waste management system in city corporation's' yearly budget. The Daily Bhorer Kagoj, a National Newspaper published a newspaper supplement, speech of Sabina Yasmin was also there. She was very happy and shared, "I never thoughts that my picture will be in a newspaper and many people will learn about me and my community people's sufferings. Moreover, Community people are now praising for my boldness. Having so many problems, I am very much inspired and I will continue to work for my community to build a pollution free slum."