

Does your institution provide mandatory annual dedicated training on social aspects of Sustainability for staff members (faculty and professional staff members)? Please insert link to training/evidence description:

Evidence:

Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of East West University

The Training Programs on “Teaching, Learning and Research was conducted by the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of East West University in 2025.

<https://www.ewubd.edu/iqac-single-news/inaugural-ceremony-teachers-training-program-teaching-learning-and-research-tlr-3>

<https://www.ewubd.edu/iqac-single-news/certificate-awarding-ceremony-teachers-training-program-teaching-learning-and-research>

<https://www.ewubd.edu/iqac-single-news/orientation-program-new-faculty-members-spring-2025>

Department of Law

Activities

1. East West University Law Clinic of the Department of Law has organized 8 legal literacy workshops with a view to making legal knowledge accessible to the community. The legal literacy program that is also known as *street law* aims to educate and create awareness among communities about their legal rights, responsibilities and necessary knowledge about day-to-day law. The target communities include school children of various ages, college students, underprivileged and street children, university students, transgender, automobile workshop laborers and slum dwellers.

Department of Social Relations

1. Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Justice: A Collaborative Seminar with Plan International Bangladesh

A seminar on “*Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Gender Justice*” was organized by the Department of Social Relations in collaboration with Plan International Bangladesh on September 1, 2025. The seminar featured distinguished speakers, including Kabita Bose, Country Director of Plan International Bangladesh; Syed Md. Nuruddin, Advisor–SRHR; Sanjida Ahmed, Advisor–Gender, Diversity, Inclusion and Protection; and Sabrina Arifin Khan,

Director–People and Culture. The event aimed to enhance students’ understanding of gender and reproductive health, gender inequality, sexual violence, and women’s rights and justice in Bangladesh. The seminar primarily aligns with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: Gender Equality**, particularly in promoting women’s empowerment, eliminating gender-based violence, and ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. Additionally, it contributes to **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** through awareness of sexual and reproductive health issues and supports **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** by fostering knowledge on rights-based justice and protection mechanisms.



Kabita Bose, Country Director, Plan International, delivering her speech on SRHR during the seminar

2. Raising Awareness on Cervical Cancer and Women’s Reproductive Health

A seminar on “*Cervical Cancer Awareness*” was organized by the **Department of Social Relations** on **February 27, 2025**, featuring **Dr. Sanjida Ahmed Soma**, a specialist in **gynecological oncology**, as the keynote speaker. **Professor Dr. Md. Mobarak Hossain Khan** and **Dr. Marzia Zaman Sultana**, Senior Lecturer, participated as internal speakers. The seminar aimed to raise awareness among students about **cervical cancer prevention, early detection, risk factors, and women’s reproductive health**, emphasizing the importance of timely screening and

health-seeking behavior. The seminar aligns primarily with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3: Good Health and Well-being**, particularly in promoting preventive healthcare and reducing mortality from non-communicable diseases. It also contributes to **SDG 5: Gender Equality** by addressing women’s health issues and empowering female students through health education and awareness.



Speakers at the Cervical Cancer Awareness seminar. From left: Dr. Md. Mobarak Hossain Khan, Dr. Sanjida Ahmed Soma and Dr. Marzia Zaman Sultana

3. Seminar on Public Health Nutrition in Bangladesh

A seminar titled “*Public Health Nutrition in Bangladesh*” was organized by the Department of Social Relations on July 10, 2025. The seminar featured distinguished guest speakers Tania Sharmin, Director of Food Security & Livelihoods and Child Poverty, and Md. Taufiqul Islam, Manager of the Right2Grow Consortium Program Bangladesh at Save the Children Bangladesh. Dr. Marzia Zaman Sultana, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social Relations, East West University, participated as the internal speaker. The seminar focused on issues of nutrition security, child poverty, food systems, and public health challenges in Bangladesh. The program aligns with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger** by addressing food security and nutrition, **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** through emphasis on public health nutrition, and **SDG 1: No Poverty** by highlighting the links between poverty and nutritional outcomes.



A Seminar on “Public Health Nutrition in Bangladesh,” organized by Department of Social Relations

4. Programs: Breast Cancer Awareness Month: Student-Led Poster Campaign

To celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October 2025, under the guidance of Dr. Marzia Zaman Sultana, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Social Relations (DSR), students of PHS 305: Epidemiology of Noncommunicable Diseases and Injuries created colorful educational posters on various aspects of breast cancer. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about breast cancer prevention, early detection, risk factors, and health-seeking behavior among students, faculty, and staff of the university. This activity aligns with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3: Good Health and Well-being** by promoting awareness of noncommunicable diseases and preventive healthcare and also contributes to **SDG 4: Quality Education** by engaging students in experiential learning and community health education.



'Breast Cancer Awareness Month' Celebration at the terrace of EWU by students, faculty and staffs of DSR

5. Commemorating World Health Day 2025: Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures

On April 7, 2025, the Department of Social Relations commemorated World Health Day 2025 with the theme “Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures.” The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of maternal and child health, early-life nutrition, and preventive healthcare in building healthier communities. This observance aligns with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3: Good Health and Well-being**, particularly in promoting **maternal and child health** and fostering awareness of preventive health measures.



6. Field Visits

(i) . Understanding Early Intervention and Inclusive Public Health Practices: Student Field Visit

On 7 & 9 July 2025, approximately 66 students of PHS304 and PHS305, instructed by Dr. Marzia Zaman Sultana, Senior Lecturer, visited the Smiling Children Special School in Aftabnagar, Dhaka. The field visit aimed to deepen students' understanding of early intervention, inclusive education, behavioral observation, and the role of public health in disability care. The visit aligns with **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** by emphasizing support for the physical, mental, and developmental health of children with disabilities; **SDG 4: Quality Education** by demonstrating inclusive education practices and promoting experiential learning; and **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** by exposing students to equitable education and healthcare access for marginalized populations, fostering social inclusion.



Field Visit to Smiling Children Special School

(ii). Field Visits to Jaago Foundation School: Promoting Hygiene, Health, and Sustainable Practices

During January and May 2025, a total of 75 students of PSS 401 under the guidance of Dr. Touhida Tasnima, Chairperson and Associate Professor of the Department of Social Relations, participated

in educational field visits to Jaago Foundation School, Banani. The visits focused on teaching young underprivileged students' essential hygiene practices through interactive activities and promoting sustainable environmental practices, such as proper waste management and incorporating eco-friendly behaviors into daily life.

These field visits align with multiple **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**:

- **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** – by promoting essential hygiene and sanitation practices, improving health awareness among children.
- **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** – through reinforcement of sanitation-related behaviors and proper hygiene techniques.
- **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** – by encouraging sustainable environmental practices like waste management and responsible daily habits.
- **SDG 4: Quality Education** – by providing experiential learning opportunities to students and engaging young learners in health education.
- **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities** – by targeting underprivileged children, ensuring they have access to health education and practical knowledge for better well-being.

Through these visits, students gained hands-on experience in **health education, environmental responsibility, and social engagement**, while contributing to the holistic development of underprivileged children.



Students visit to Jaago foundation school



Students sharing the valuable lessons through fun activities with the students of Jaago Foundation School

Department of Economics

Activities

1. Student Achievements Linked to Sustainability and Policy Engagement

- (i) National Policy Competition 2025 – East West University
 - Organized by: Ministry of Youth and Sports, Government of Bangladesh
 - Theme: Bangladesh’s Graduation from LDC Status: Opportunities and Challenges
 - Institutional Final: September 30, 2025
 - Departmental Representation: Four teams from the Department of Economics—Team Beyond Borders, Team Strategy Loom, Team Typhoon, and Team Driptopod—advanced to the final round
 - Students' participation in the four teams: 10
 - Sustainability & Policy Relevance:

Student proposals addressed inclusive growth, governance, employment, and social protection in the context of Bangladesh’s post-LDC transition, contributing to SDGs on decent work, reduced inequalities, and strong institutions.

2. Student Engagement in Environmental or Social Projects (2025)

- Students actively participated in sustainability-related research and policy discussions through the Research Conclave, ECO7495 course research, Economics Club activities, and national policy competitions.
- Under **ECO7495**, student research addressed urban environmental amenities and flood coping mechanisms, contributing to social welfare, disaster resilience, and environmental policy insights.

3. Field Trips in 2025 Related to Social or Environmental Activities

- **Padma Bridge Rehabilitation Site Field Trip** (August 9, 2025)
Participants: 91 students, 11 faculty members.
- The field trip had **positive social impact** by exposing students to rehabilitation, compensation mechanisms, and governance challenges affecting communities impacted by large infrastructure projects.
- **Blue Economy Field Trip – Aricha Ghat** (April 12, 2025)
- Participants: **122 students, 8 faculty members.**
- This field trip had both **social and environmental impact**, as students examined livelihood changes, environmental sustainability, and transportation dynamics following ghat relocation, linking blue economy concepts with community well-being.

Department of Sociology

Greening, Sustainability, and Social Initiatives

The Department of Sociology contributes to greening and sustainability and actively promotes social responsibility through students' community engagement and field-based learning.

Environmental Activities

1. Community-Based Environmental Actions (SOC 304 – Sociology of Environment)

Students of the *Sociology of Environment* course (SOC 304), taught by Associate Professor Dr. Mumita Tanjeela, actively participated in a series of community-based environmental activities

throughout 2025 aimed at promoting ecological awareness and sustainable practices. Their initiatives included neighborhood clean-up campaigns, tree plantation drives, awareness sessions on waste segregation and plastic reduction in local schools, as well as posting environmental messages around Hatirjheel and distributing leaflets and dustbins to encourage responsible waste management. These hands-on activities helped students develop a deeper understanding of environmental issues and inspired them to become more responsible and environmentally conscious citizens.

2. Polythene Awareness Campaign in Banasree (SOC 304 – Sociology of Environment)

Students of Sociology of Environment conducted a week-long awareness campaign in the Banasree area to highlight the environmental risks of polythene use and its harmful impact on local surroundings. The aim was to encourage even a small reduction in polythene consumption. During the campaign, students visited the field on different days, distributing informational flyers and conducting surveys among residents, consumers, and business owners to assess their awareness and attitudes toward polythene pollution.

3. Climate Change Awareness through Puppet Show (SOC 304 – Sociology of Environment)

Students of Sociology of Environment organized an environmental awareness programme on climate change in Bangladesh, with a special focus on the Sundarbans and its environmental crisis. The programme was conducted through a puppet show in collaboration with the non-profit organization Arannyak on the university campus. Students from various departments attended the event, which successfully raised awareness about climate change and its impacts on Bangladesh.

4. Health Awareness Campaigns (SOC 305 – Medical Sociology)

Students of Medical Sociology (SOC 305), taught by Senior Lecturer Helal Uddin, conducted on-campus awareness campaigns on non-communicable diseases and neglected health issues in Bangladesh. These activities reflect the students' strong commitment to public health promotion and community engagement.

5. Visit to SOS Children’s Village (SOC 201 -Sociology of Family and Marriage)

Students of Sociology of Family and marriage visited **SOS Children’s Village** under the guidance of **Dr. Mumita Tanjeela, Associate Professor**. The visit helped students understand how institutional care supports children without parental care. They learned about the organization’s services, including education, healthcare, and emotional support, and observed how a family-like environment is created for child development. The trip connected classroom concepts of family and social care with real-life practice and highlighted the role of social organizations in child welfare.

Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

The Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology has organized multiple events in 2025 with a vision of deeply touching the community.

1. The Thalassemia Awareness Seminar and Screening Campaign, held on 16 January 2025 at East West University, was a significant community-oriented initiative aimed at educating students about Thalassemia and emphasizing the importance of early and premarital screening. The event was honored by the presence of our Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dr. Mohammad Ashik Mosaddik, Chairperson Dr. Suraia Nusrin, and dedicated faculty members. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Muhammad Sougatul Islam, who provided valuable insights into disease prevention and public health responsibility.

The Thalassemia Screening Campaign marked an important step toward strengthening health awareness and preventive care within the university community. Organized by the Biotech Club with the support of BioTED Limited and GenX, the initiative successfully screened around 200 participants. This campaign not only raised awareness about Thalassemia but also encouraged a culture of informed decision-making and social responsibility among students. The strong participation reflected a collective commitment to community health, making the program a meaningful and impactful contribution beyond the campus.

2. Scientific Seminar on Population Genetics and Disease Susceptibility

The Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology successfully organized a scientific seminar titled “Mapping of Research from Population Genetics to Disease Susceptibility” on 11

December 2025. The seminar was delivered by Dr. Gazi Nurun Nahar Sultana, Chief Scientist at the Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS), University of Dhaka.

The session was attended by a full audience of respected faculty members, students, and researchers, and served as an important platform for knowledge exchange and scholarly discussion. The seminar emphasized the role of population genetics in understanding disease susceptibility and its relevance to developing effective healthcare strategies in Bangladesh. By bridging fundamental research with real-world health applications, the event strengthened research awareness, inspired young researchers, and contributed positively to the community.

3. The “Seminar on Vector-Borne Diseases: Current Issues and Recommendations” was successfully held at East West University, organized by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) in collaboration with the Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. The seminar served as an important platform for raising awareness about major public health challenges, including dengue, malaria, chikungunya, and Zika virus, which pose growing risks to the community.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Muhammad Morshed, Clinical Professor at the University of British Columbia, who provided valuable insights into disease transmission dynamics and the impact of climate change on the spread of vector-borne illnesses. The distinguished presence of Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Prof. Dr. ASM Matiur Rahman, Dr. Mohammed Ashik Mosaddik, and Dr. Munirul Alam further enriched the discussion. By promoting evidence-based knowledge and preventive awareness, the seminar contributed positively to public health understanding and strengthened the community’s capacity to respond to emerging disease threats.

The department of GEB has always kept its focus steady on trending environmental and social concerns through research, and 2025 wasn’t different. We’re shedding light on some of the projects below-

4. Project Title: Assessing Breast Cancer Risk Associated with Polymorphism of Genetic Markers among Bangladeshi women

Number of Students Involved: 4

Environmental/ Social significance: This project addresses an important public health and social concern by investigating genetic risk factors associated with breast cancer, a leading cause of female mortality in Bangladesh. By generating population-specific genetic data, the study contributes to early risk identification, improved disease awareness, and equitable access to precision healthcare in low-resource settings. The findings may support cost-effective screening strategies and informed prevention approaches, thereby promoting women’s health and social well-being. The project aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being).

Department of Information Studies

1. Celebration of Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2025 Begins at East West University

The Department of Information Studies, East West University inaugurated the weeklong celebration of Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2025 on October 26, 2025, in collaboration with the UNESCO Dhaka Office and the Media and Information Literacy Network Bangladesh (MILNetBD).

The celebration continued throughout the week with a series of engaging activities. Awareness-building campaign took place on October 27 and again from October 29 to 31, encouraging students to actively explore the role of MIL in their digital lives. On October 28, a panel discussion on “Integration of Media and Information Literacy (MIL) in Higher Education” will bring together academicians and professionals to exchange ideas on strengthening MIL in Bangladesh followed by a quiz competition on “*MIL: A Skill Set for Navigating the Modern Information Landscape*”. On October 29, a debate competition will be held on topic “Is Artificial Intelligence an Alternative to Information Literacy? 14 universities across Bangladesh are part of this program through their membership in MILNetBD. Through these initiatives, East West University, MILNetBD and UNESCO Dhaka Office aim to inspire ethical digital citizenship, strengthen information literacy education, and promote responsible engagement with AI and media in Bangladesh’s higher education sector. Overall, around 150 students participated in this event.

2. East West University Information Club (EWUIC) observed International Day for Countering Hate Speech

East West University Information Club (EWUIC) in collaboration with UNESCO Dhaka Office observed International Day for Countering Hate Speech from 18-22 June 2025 through social media campaigns. **This digital campaign focused on raising awareness about hate speech, empowering students and faculty to raise their voice against hate speech and promoting the messages/MOOCs/Guidelines from UNESCO.** The club members prepared posters with some strong messages and clicked photos with the poster to share it on social media. Ms. Anosua Islam Aurthy, a former club member now working with UNESCO Dhaka Office coordinated and lead the event. Overall, around **30 students** participated in this event.

3. First Media and Information Literacy Network formed in Bangladesh

The Department of Information Studies, East West University in collaboration with UNESCO Dhaka Office successfully formed the first Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Network in Bangladesh. The name of the network is ‘Media and Information Literacy Network Bangladesh (MILNetBD).’

The executive committee was formed on 29 July 2025 through a virtual meeting. The network will act as a collaborative national platform initiated by UNESCO Dhaka and East West University to empower youth and academia with critical media and information literacy (MIL) skills. Through an inclusive council structure and university-level clubs, it aims to counter misinformation, hate speech, and digital harms while promoting responsible digital citizenship, mental health awareness, and global MIL alignment.

Ms. Noore Jannat Prama, Head of Media and Access to Information, UNESCO Dhaka announced the name of the MIL Council and executive members. Professor Dr. Dilara Begum, Chairperson, Department of Information Studies, East West University was named as the President of the committee. Professor Dr. Md. Roknuzzaman, Chairman, Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Dhaka, and Md. Mahbubul Islam, Professor, Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Rajshahi were elected as Vice Presidents. Mr. Md. Hasinul Elahi, Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Studies, East West University and Ms. Zarin Tasnim, Lecturer, North South University was named Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Department of Business Administration

Activities

1. The Department of Business Administration started offering the course UDDOKTA 101 in collaboration with BRAC Bank PLC as a part of memorandum of understanding (MoU) for students of the Entrepreneur Accelerator Program, specifically designed for Women Entrepreneurs from 25th September 2025.

Department of Civil Engineering

1. Student Projects Related to Environmental or Social Issues (2025)

In 2025, a group of three students from the Department of Civil Engineering conducted research on recycling gypsum boards in civil construction to reduce environmental pollution and minimize the demand for virgin construction materials. The project was supervised by Dr. Md. Naimul Haque. The research findings were presented at the 4th International Conference on Structural Engineering Research (iCSER 2025), held at Western Sydney University, Australia, on 26–27 November 2025. The study contributes to sustainable construction practices by promoting waste reduction and resource conservation, thereby positively impacting the environment.