

The Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Dhaka University held a day-long Research Fair and Career Festival on 25 January 2026. Inaugurated by Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Niyaz Ahmad Khan, the event showcased faculty and student research through poster presentations and connected students with career opportunities via exhibitions, collaboration forums, and networking sessions.



Among the featured posters was one highlighting the activities of the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) Bangladesh Chapter, including the celebration of the International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD), recent flood relief efforts, and future needs such as establishing case study stations. It also outlined opportunities for students and researchers to join the network, contribute to ongoing projects, and participate in community engagement.

Faculty members expressed strong appreciation for the ADN Bangladesh Chapter, led by Dr. Fatima Akter, recognising it as a timely and vital initiative in addressing climate change and disaster risks. Students were inspired by ADN's commitment and showed keen interest in becoming active members, contributing to research, awareness campaigns, and community-based projects aimed at reducing avoidable deaths and enhancing preparedness. Many also expressed

enthusiasm for joining global campaigns and gaining field experience.



### Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN)

Department of Meteorology, University of Dhaka

#### INTRODUCTION

The Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) is a global and local membership network of over 1,000 practitioners, researchers, students, and policymakers, dedicated to developing theoretical and practical solutions to reduce avoidable disaster-related deaths and injuries.

ADN was launched on 12 March 2019 by Professor Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett (University of Leicester, UK) and Dr. Hideyuki Shirohita (Kansai University, Japan).

#### ADN BANGLADESH CHAPTER

The ADN, Bangladesh Chapter was launched on 18 June 2023 by Dr. Fatima Akter (University of Dhaka) and Mr. Maqbul Bhuiyan (Data Management Aid, Bangladesh). Operational activities are supported by two ADN Future Leaders: Ms. Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban and Mr. Mohammad Fahimul Islam.

#### OUR FOCUS

- Promoting a global community addressing avoidable disaster deaths.
- Advancing research, networking, and knowledge exchange.
- Leading public engagement through the global campaign.
- "International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD)", celebrated annually on 12 March, with the slogan: "Disaster Deaths Are Avoidable."
- Nurture the next generation of Future Leaders for avoidable deaths and sustainable development.

#### ADN BANGLADESH CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

##### Celebrating IAD4AD

Since its launch in 2023, the ADN Bangladesh Chapter has actively celebrated IAD4AD.

Key activities include:

- Three seminars with participation from key stakeholders, including the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), Department of Disaster Management (DDM), public health services, Fire Service and Civil Defense, NGOs, and University of Dhaka faculty and students.
- Public awareness rallies to engage communities and promote the IAD4AD slogan: "Disaster Deaths Are Avoidable"

Website: <https://www.avoidable-deaths.net/>

#### Flood Relief - 2024

Severe flooding in August 2024 affected several low-lying districts of Bangladesh, including Feni. Rapid needs assessments were conducted, and relief funds were raised internationally by ADN members.

The response was led by Dr. Fatima Akter, with support from teachers, students, and ADN Future Leader interns.

#### FUTURE AGENDA - Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (CASA)

- Launch a community-focus social learning lab - Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (CASA)
- Location: Dakshin Sreepur Union, Tahirpur Upazila, Sunamganj District

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graph LR
    A[Select disaster-prone remote village school] --> B[Produce pre-disaster response]
    B --> C[Conduct student training sessions]
    C --> D[Monitor awareness and preparedness (5-10 years)]
    D --> E[Evaluate post-disaster response]
    E --> F[Assess life-saving impact and knowledge improvement]
    F --> A
  
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#### OPPORTUNITIES

Join ADN as:

- Organizational Partner** - Collaborate on IAD4AD and global knowledge exchange initiatives
- Volunteer** - Support ADN Bangladesh Chapter programmes, events, and field activities
- Future Leader Intern** - Participate in a structured remote internship focused on leadership development and avoidable disaster deaths (Calls for this are announced annually)

#### CONTACT and FOLLOW US

**CONTACT US**  
Email: [contact@avoidable-deaths.net](mailto:contact@avoidable-deaths.net)

**FOLLOW US**  
W: [www.avoidable-deaths.net](http://www.avoidable-deaths.net)  
W: <https://iad4ad.avoidable-deaths.net>  
L: [AvoidableDeathsNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/avoidabledeathsnetwork)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/avoidabledeathsnetwork](https://www.facebook.com/avoidabledeathsnetwork)

**TO JOIN: SIGN-UP HERE**



The poster effectively demonstrated how students can support disaster risk reduction through knowledge sharing and community action, facilitated by ADN opportunities such as the Flood Relief 2024 initiative and the Future Leader internship. This growing engagement highlights a promising future for ADN's mission and helps cultivate the next generation of leaders in climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

The poster was developed by the ADN Future Leaders, Mohammad Fahimul Islam and Miss Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban under the mentorship of Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Dr Fatima Akter.