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Shoktikonna Leadership Cohort 2025

Empowering Young Women to Shape Bangladesh's Renewable Future

Shokti Konna

Leadership Training
Solve-A-Thon and
Green Skills Summit | 2025



What is Shoktikonna?

The Shoktikonna Leadership Cohort is Bangladesh's pioneering leadership initiative dedicated to empowering young women in the sustainable and renewable energy ecosystem. Launched in 2022, the programme was created in response to the limited representation of women, particularly in technical and decision-making roles, within the country's rapidly expanding green economy. At a time when global and national commitments to clean energy transition are intensifying, Shoktikonna positions women as essential contributors to innovation, green workforce development, and inclusive climate solutions.

Shoktikonna has established itself as a flagship platform that combines high-level technical learning, leadership development, industry exposure, and community building. The third cohort of Shoktikonna was supported by the European Union in Bangladesh, German Development Cooperation and The World Bank, and implemented by GIZ Bangladesh and Devtale Partners.

Why do we need more **Women Leaders** in Renewable Energy?

Bangladesh, like the rest of the world, is moving towards a cleaner energy future. As renewable energy becomes a bigger part of the power system, utilities are increasingly using smart grids and digital technologies to manage this change. This shift is opening up new and diverse "green" job opportunities across the energy sector.

Women have an important role to play in shaping this transition. Shoktikonna supports women to build leadership skills, confidence, and networks to take their place in Bangladesh's evolving energy landscape.



12.7 million

renewable jobs have been created worldwide as an effort to cut carbon emissions



32%

women are employed in the RE sector, mostly in administrative and non-technical positions

RENEWABLE ENERGY: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE, IRENA, 2019

Engineering the Renewable Future: The Third Cohort of Women Driving Bangladesh's Green Shift

The third cohort of Shaktikonna marked its conclusion on 24 November 2025, following a three-month journey of intensive learning, leadership development, and sector-wide engagement. The cohort officially began on 21 August 2025 with a kick-off session with 75 aspiring female leaders committed to taking the lead of Bangladesh's clean energy transition.



Pool of

1065 Applications

Highest among the three cohorts



75

Shortlisted
Participants



70+

Universities

90+

Academic Backgrounds



Breaking Barriers in Energy

Shaktikonna 2025 Learning Highlights

Shaktikonna participants participate in learning sessions in various forms. From live learning sessions with global experts to self-paced courses in international platforms, which ensure a holistic blend of technical knowledge, leadership development, and real-world exposure.



16+
Live sessions with
20+ global experts

35 hrs+
with eminent energy
experts, industry leaders
and high-level delegations.

40 hrs+
curated learning on World
Bank OLC Platform (EdCast)

25 hrs+
exclusive learning on
Coursera from University of
Illinois

3
Engaging
Assignments

250+
Submissions

- ✓ Energy Audit
 - ✓ Adaptive Leadership
 - ✓ RE Integration in Grid
 - ✓ Carbon Market
 - ✓ Unconscious Bias
- And many more!**

Is it all about **technical learning**?

The answer is: No!

During the cohort, the participants took part in three unique assignments, helping them to not only learn the new dimensions of the clean energy transition agenda, but it also sparked their creativity and critical thinking.



Awareness

Policy Paper Study & Pop-Quiz

To enhance understanding of existing national and international energy policies

Creativity

Rooftop Solar Logo & Slogan Contest

To encourage creative thinking about promoting rooftop solar in Bangladesh



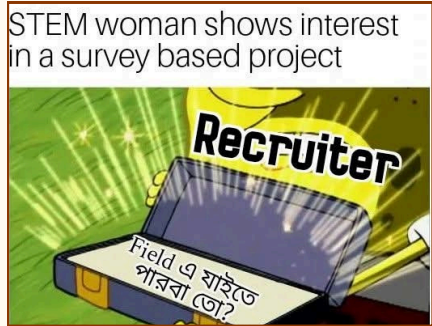
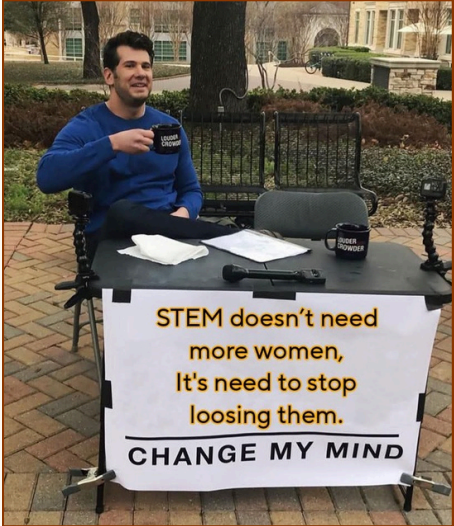
Fun

Meme Contest

To portray the struggles and stereotypes that STEM women face in education & workplace with humour and satire

Meme Contest Archive

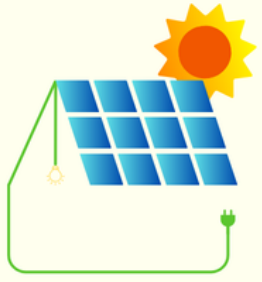
POV: When you're the only girl in the engineering course and start questioning if you accidentally enrolled in the wrong universe



Best Slogan & Logo: Rooftop Solar Campaign Contest

আমার ছাদে সোলার থাক, সবুজ স্বপ্ন এগিয়ে যাক।

The slogan reflects our shared dream of building a future where renewable energy becomes the norm. It inspires communities to take part in the clean energy transition, making it easier for everyone to contribute to a brighter tomorrow.





Connecting Talent to the Green Economy: The Green Skills Summit Highlights You Need to See

For the first time in Bangladesh, the Green Skill Summit was held on 16 October at the Institute of Architects Bangladesh, designed as a platform to identify challenges and opportunities for career aspirants in sustainable energy. The event also convened over twenty companies from renewable energy, clean technology, sustainability, and green finance creating an unprecedented platform for Shoktikonnas to meaningfully engage with the industry.

The event strengthened industry engagement through employer matchmaking, job opportunities, keynote dialogues, and green workforce discussions.

300+

female energy
enthusiasts

20+

Companies from energy
sector

40+

committed job
opportunities

Industry Partners



Green Skills
Summit 2025

900+

CVs received for
green jobs in 1 day!



Shaktikonna Bootcamp 2025

A Memory to Cherish Forever!

The two-day residential bootcamp, held during 18–19 October 2025, provided an immersive learning experience focusing on leadership, teamwork, design thinking, structured problem-solving, and innovation. Participants worked closely with experts from the EU, GIZ Bangladesh, and Devtale Partners to refine analytical skills, build confidence, strengthen communication, and engage in hands-on workshops. Furthermore, the art of story-telling session by Hasan Md. Benaul Islam gave everyone a floor to share their personal stories of pride and persistence, which was indeed a unique experience for all.

The boot camp deepened peer bonding as participants engaged in various fun activities and served as a preparatory platform for the Solve-A-Thon.



Applied Storytelling in Practice

Participants shared deeply personal stories of pride, resilience, and growth using storytelling techniques as a space to be seen, heard, and reaffirm their journeys



Creative Problem-Solving

Through a fun, hands-on team exercise, participants strengthened trust, mutual understanding, and collaboration while navigating challenges together



Setting the Solve-A-Thon Mindset

This session primed participants to think critically, collaborate effectively, and approach challenges with a solution-first mindset



Through the Lens

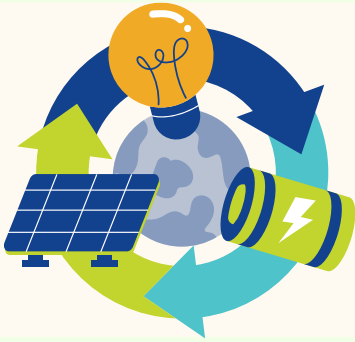


Green Skills Summit & Shaktikonna Bootcamp 2025



Solve-A-Thon

The Journey from Learning to Innovation



Solve-A-Thon is a space to form and reshape ideas, to evaluate and re-evaluate designs, to prototype and collaborate, and to strengthen teamwork. At the end of the event, teams shared their ideas with their fellow participants to inspire everyone.

Held on 24 November 2025, the Solve-A-Thon featured 15 teams pitching solutions across four thematic areas: climate-resilient energy infrastructure, sustainable cities, digital innovations, and the circular economy. Four winning teams were selected based on innovation, feasibility, impact, and the quality of their presentation.

Solve-A-Thon Winners



Project Shakti-Chula

Solar energy-based hybrid electric cooking



Project CHA-rge

Solar-powered battery charging station



Project Helios Nest

A hybrid solar-biogas cooling infrastructure for rural livelihoods



Project Gridsight Bangladesh

A centralized, cloud-based dashboard solution for feeder load management.



Graduation Ceremony

Celebrating the Path to a Greener Tomorrow!

The Graduation Ceremony was held on 24 November with esteemed guests from the energy sector, ministries, and influential figures from the development sector. Notable attendees included H.E. Michael Miller, Ambassador & Head of the Delegation of the European Union Delegation to Bangladesh, H.E. Dr. Rüdiger Lotz, Ambassador, Federal Republic of Germany in Dhaka, Ms. Rubina Haque, Chief Engineer (Company Affairs), Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB), and Chair, WePOWER Bangladesh, National Chapter.

Shoktikonna 2025 Highlights

90%

Completion Rate

68 participants graduated among 75



4

Top Performers

Awarded International Learning Opportunity

4

Solve-A-Thon Winning Teams

14

Internship Offers



Through the Lens



Shoktikonna 2025 Graduation Ceremony



Shaktikonna

A Movement Shaping the Future

The successful completion of the third cohort reaffirmed Shaktikonna's role as a national platform enabling future-ready women professionals in renewable energy. Through technical learning, leadership training, industry exposure, hands-on innovation, and a strong peer community, participants are now better positioned to contribute to Bangladesh's cleaner, more inclusive energy future.



I was shy when I came here. Now I can raise my hand really high!



My biggest takeaway is the networking and all the connections we have made through this cohort



Having the right people is the biggest takeaway, and I found my people in Shaktikonna!





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Empowering the Next Generation Female Leaders in Energy



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www.shaktikonna.org