

OXFAM YOUNG LEADER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME 2023 MEET THE FELLOWS



ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

Oxfam International in Asia and Asia Centre have initiated a program to **invest in a new generation** of ethical, empathetic, and feminist leaders, committed to the cause of **social justice and equal future for all**.

We are proud to announce the first cohort of eight young fellows from the region.

The fellows were selected from over 400 applications received from 10 countries. In the nine months of the programme (starting mid-June ending in February), they will work to bring alive their ideas of ---- **changing gender norms, countering fake news, building resilience of communities facing climate crisis, creating awareness about policy advocacy methods and much more**. They will build a network of young people in their countries, educate and empower them to claim civic space and work on social justice issues.

The young fellows will be mentored by Oxfam and **Asia Centre leadership** on leadership, contemporary development challenges, mobilization tools and techniques for social justice, and project execution. **Following the completion of the programme, the fellows will present their innovative and action-oriented projects on the 'Civic Asia' website.**

Congratulations to all the talented young people who have been selected for the Oxfam Young Leaders Fellowship Programme 2023! Your passion, innovative ideas, and commitment to social justice are commendable. This fellowship is a remarkable opportunity to make a real impact in addressing pressing issues such as inequality, climate change, and gender justice. Through mentorship, training, and international exposure, you will gain invaluable skills and connections to bring about positive change. Asia Centre eagerly looks forward to witnessing the incredible contributions you will make. Best of luck on this exciting journey!



Dr. James Gomez
Regional Director
Asia Centre

We are pleased to introduce the first cohort of Oxfam fellows to the world. These eight young people come from diverse backgrounds and lived experiences but have a common passion to build an equal world. The fellowship will provide them the space to express themselves, test their ideas and set them up for success as empathic leaders. I am personally excited to be part of their journey in becoming active citizens and powerful influencers of social change. Congratulations and all the best for the nine exciting months of learning.



John Samuel
Regional Director
Oxfam in Asia



MEET THE FELLOWS



Lamia Mohsin
Bangladesh

Lamia Mohsin is a researcher and a climate change advocate with experience of working with UNDP and Global Centre on Adaption in Dhaka. As the UN Climate Champions Resilience Youth Fellow (2022), she contributed to a series of strategic non-state actor engagements in the buildup to COP26 and COP27.

As an Oxfam fellow, she will work to mobilize, educate and train young people living in disaster-prone areas of the country as local 'Climate Actioners'.



Sanjana Chettri
India

Sanjana Chettri, an Indian-Nepalese, lives in the Himalayan state of Sikkim. She recently completed her Masters in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Sajana has worked with online research & innovation platform Belongg & social impact measurement company 60 Decibels.

As an Oxfam fellow, she will lead a project to build political consciousness and promote the desire for civic participation among 50 first generation learners in her home state and neighboring states in the north east region of India.



Soumya Mishra
India

Soumya Mishra is a neuroqueer and autistic person and has an interest in leveraging digital mediums to amplify marginalized voices, bridge existing gaps, and promote inclusivity and accessibility. They made a career switch during the pandemic from content writing to the development sector.

As an Oxfam fellow, Soumya plans to further develop her podcast –Atypical Dikkatein—to chronicle the stories of queer-disabled folx in India.



Chikita Edrini Marpaung
Indonesia

Chikita Edrini Marpaung is a public interest lawyer from Jakarta and has five years of experience working with different organizations including LBH Jakarta (Jakarta Legal Aid) and PBHI (Indonesian Human Rights and Legal Aid Organization).

As an Oxfam fellow, Chikita will provide legal education to young people and train them about their fundamental and human rights.



Wajid Zahid
Pakistan



Wajid Zahid is a member of the ICPD 30 Regional Youth Group and an alumnus of the Amplifying Leadership of Local Youth (ALLY) and UNOCT Youth Engagement & Empowerment Program (YEPP) Fellowships. He has worked in the development sector with Initiatives for Sustainable Development and Rahnuma Family Planning Association in Pakistan.

As an Oxfam fellow, Wajid will work on his project, Inclusive Lens, which aims to train journalists and online content creators on fair and inclusive representation of religious minorities, women and gender minorities and content which does not incite hate.



Ellenor Bartolome
Philippines



Ellenor Joyce G. Bartolome works with the Freedom from Debt Coalition and has previously worked with Global Call to Action Against Poverty.

Her project 'Hábi' (a Filipino word which means weave), inspired from the stages of weaving, will train 50 aspiring young public servants and youth leaders through five different modules on policy advocacy, leadership, community mobilization and storytelling.



Gerald John C. Guillermo
Philippines

Gerald John C. Guillermo is a Juris Doctor student at the University of the Philippines College of Law whose professional career includes roles in the academe, government, and non-governmental organizations, having been an active volunteer in youth and civil society organizations, both within the Philippines and internationally.

Gerald's project, Keep the Change: Youth Policy Lab, aims to capacitate Filipino youth in understanding the Philippine policy environment and create opportunities to participate in formal political and governance processes.



Ricardo Valente Araujo
Timor-Leste

Ricardo Valente Araujo works with the ASEAN Youth Forum to advocate for human rights and youth empowerment in Southeast Asia and is also an active member of the UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Young People's Action Team (YPAT).

His project, 'Gen Z Talk Timor-Leste', will be a virtual community platform for Generation Z to connect and express their views on political, economic, and social issues. The peer-to-peer interaction will be designed to increase engagement of young people in civic issues and empower them to make meaningful contributions in the communities they belong.

