

Activity 3 – Sahena’s Story: Adaptation in Bangladesh

Watching the Film

Students should watch Sahena’s story from the Oxfam DVD ‘Sisters on the Planet’. The clip lasts approximately 6’ 50” and is subtitled. It features Sahena Begum as she spearheads her community’s efforts to adapt to changing weather and climate conditions in Gaibandha, north west Bangladesh. As it’s usually the responsibility of women to collect water and fuel, grow and prepare food and care for their families, it’s women who are affected most when climate disasters strike.



Amin - Oxfam

Students should take notes on three different themes raised by the film. They should work together in groups and feedback their ideas to the whole class. It may be necessary to play the film more than once to give students the opportunity to pay close attention to its content.

The **prompt cards** and **case studies** may be used to assist note taking. Alternatively the **prompt cards** could be sorted alongside each theme on the template.

The **prompt cards** are designed to provide a quick and accessible aid to classifying the information presented in the film. Students could refer to them and sort them under the relevant headings as they watch the film.

The **case studies** provide more detailed information about Sahena and her community and were written by Oxfam staff in Bangladesh. **Case study 1** uses simpler language and less detail than **case study 2**. Both provide information not included in the film and can be used to add to information extracted from the film. Highlighting text in three different colours, each representing one of the three themes, is a good way of identifying suitable text for note taking

When students have completed their research from the film they could be asked to produce extended writing or poster work on the theme of adaptation.

Template for Notetaking

Theme 1

How is climate change affecting Sahena's community?

Theme 2

What is Sahena doing to help her community adapt to the changes caused by climate change?

Theme 3

How is Oxfam helping Sahena's community to adapt to the changes caused by climate change?