

NEWSLETTER



Local Education and Economic Development Organization (LEEDO)

Organizational Overview

Local Education and Economic Development Organization (LEEDO) is a not-for-profit, voluntary development organization founded in 2000 and fully functioning since 2010. Led by social and human rights activists, LEEDO works to improve the lives of vulnerable street children in Bangladesh.

LEEDO is registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau (Reg. No. 1466) and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (Reg. No. 413). The organization is governed by 7 executive members.

Our Vision

Through raising awareness about the dire conditions of extremely vulnerable street connected children and youth, all members of society will take responsibility to ensure their protection, enabling these children to achieve a brighter future.

Our Mission

- To educate and empower street-connected children to drive lasting social change.
- To integrate at-risk youth into the mainstream through holistic health, education, and rehabilitation.
- To restore protection and nobility to vulnerable children, ensuring they return to society with equal rights.

“Please watch her for a moment”

her father said, then he never came back



On April 16, 2026, those few words left an infant alone on a Bauphal launch, quiet and unaware that her world had just fractured. Rescued in a critical state and battling measles, the baby, now named Marzia found her way to LEEDO, where abandonment was met with a mother's care and a fighting chance at life.

Marzia is no longer waiting at a terminal for a return that will never happen; she is healing, proving that while one person may walk away, a community can choose to stay.

Our Approach

LEEDO follows a unique 4R model: **Rescue from the street** → **Reintegration with families** → **Referral to shelters** → **Rebuild Lives**.

Through this approach, Through its 4R Model: Rescue, Reintegration, Referral, and Rebuild. LEEDO supports children living on the streets to move toward safe, stable, and dignified lives.

With two Transitional Shelters, seven Schools Under the Sky, and a Mobile School, LEEDO brings protection, education, and care directly to those most in need. When family reunification is not possible, children are supported through Peace Home and trusted partners. Today, 54 children, including 17 with special needs, are growing up in a safe and caring environment, receiving education, healthcare, and psychosocial support. LEEDO ensures that every child has the chance to heal, grow, and build a better future.



Achievement

SO FAR, LEEDO HAS TRANSFORMED 30,000 STREET-CONNECTED CHILDREN

April 2026

This month, LEEDO's outreach team successfully rescued 58 vulnerable children from the streets and unsafe environments. Among them, 36 children were safely reintegrated with their families after proper verification, while 02 children were referred for long-term rehabilitation and care at partner shelters. These efforts reflect LEEDO's continued commitment to ensuring safety, nobility, and a brighter future for every child.

April Impact in Numbers

58

**Rescued
from Streets**

36

**Reintegrated
with Families**

02

**Referred for
Rehabilitation**

N.B. 20 children remain under LEEDO's care at the **Transitional Shelter-Setu Bandhan**, progressing toward safe reunification with their families.



Int. Day for Street Children'26

To celebrate International Day for Street Children 2026, LEEDO hosted a four-day program themed "Protection, Not Punishment". The event concluded on April 12 with a high-profile advocacy rally led by Founder Forhad Hossain and MP A.B.M. Mosharraf Hossain. They called for vital policy shifts to address poverty and remove legal identity barriers for street-connected youth.

A key highlight was honoring ten children who successfully reintegrated into society, while 500 others engaged in creative activities to promote inclusion. By screening the documentary "Where the Kids Have No Name" and meeting with social service officials, LEEDO successfully advocated for a rights-based approach. This initiative ensures that vulnerable children in Bangladesh receive the protection and dignity they deserve.

Centric Cares at LEEDO Peace Home

On April 29, 2026, Centric Brands Asia Ltd. hosted a "Centric Cares" volunteer event at LEEDO Peace Home, engaging 70 children in creative workshops. The initiative featured a handicraft session for specially-abled children and a painting competition, where winners like Ismail and Fahim's team were celebrated.

The day included vibrant cultural performances, a communal lunch, and a visit to the "Beyond Barriers" sales point to support student-made crafts. This partnership successfully bolstered the children's confidence and highlighted the impact of corporate social responsibility in fostering inclusive development for vulnerable youth in Bangladesh.



ORGANISED BY:
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YOUTH AND DRUGS
PREVENTION - WHAT REALLY WORKS?

Thursday
23 April 2026

ONLINE WEBINAR:
QR CODE

03.00 PM
Singapore Time

MODERATORS:

Forhad Hossain
Founder & Executive Director,
LEEDO, Bangladesh

Cindy Biding
President, OAPAR,
Malaysia

Matej Kozir
Director, Institute for Research and
Development of Children's Health (IRDC),
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Kok Weng Chew
Chairman, MCH,
Executive Director, Sahlgrenska,
Sweden

Int. Webinar on Youth & Drug Prevention

Forhad Hossain, Founder and Executive Director of LEEDO, participated in the international webinar titled “Youth and Drugs: Prevention – What Really Works?”

In this global dialogue on youth engagement and effective drug prevention strategies, he shared his extensive experience working with street-connected children in Bangladesh, focusing on protection, reintegration, and long-term rehabilitation approaches.

Voicing Climate Justice

LEEDO recently hosted a “Voicing Climate Justice” workshop, a heart-centered collaboration with Goldsmiths, University of London. Climate change isn't just a global statistic; it's a harsh reality that has torn many of these children away from their families. We spent the day at LEEDO Peace Home, listening to their stories and talking about how we can protect the environment to ensure a safer future for everyone.

A special thanks to the TheatreX team and Mike Sherriff.



Roundtable at DSS

Ahead of International Day for Street Children, LEEDO organized a vital discussion at the Department of Social Services on April 8 to address the systemic barriers facing street-connected youth. Led by Executive Director Forhad Hossain and a team of youth representatives, the meeting focused on how the absence of birth registration prevents children from accessing essential healthcare and education. In response to the children's firsthand accounts, Director General Shah Mohammad Mahbub pledged to simplify the registration process.

Media Coverage



পারিবারিক ভাঙনও পথশিশু সমস্যার অন্যতম কারণ: এ বি এম মোশাররফ



Int'l Day for Street Children 2026 observed in Dhaka

প্রথম আলো

ছয় মাসের শিশুকন্যাকে লঞ্চার ডেকে রেখে পালিয়ে গেলেন 'বাবা', অতঃপর...

দীপ্ত নিউজ
DEEPTONEWS.COM

সমাজসেবা মহাপরিচালকের সঙ্গে লিডো ইয়াং জার্নালিজম টিমের সাক্ষাৎ



'৭ দিনের আত্মার সম্পর্ক'

LEEDO's Ongoing Projects

Transitional Shelters – Setu Bandhan

LEEDO's transitional shelter, Shetu Bandhan, serves as a vital emergency and temporary sanctuary for rescued children. Implementing LEEDO's comprehensive 360-degree 4R Strategy, the shelter provides a holistic environment for recovery and transition. This month alone, Shetu Bandhan opened its doors to 58 children, offering them the immediate protection and care needed to begin their journey toward a permanent solution.



Schools Under the Sky (SUS)



Through its seven open-air schools, LEEDO provides a vital educational lifeline to 2,715 street-connected and slum children across Dhaka. Operating in key hubs, including Kamalapur, Airport, Tejgaon, Rayerbazar, Shaym Bazar, Sadarghat, and Mirpur LEEDO conducted 90 specialized sessions this month. These programs go beyond basic literacy and numeracy, offering essential life skills and psychosocial support to help children build a resilient future.

LEEDO Peace Home

The LEEDO Peace Home is more than a facility; it is a family of vulnerable children, each with their own story, including some of our bravest kids with special needs. This month, our home felt especially vibrant as we opened our doors to some wonderful friends. Whether it was the creative spark from the TheaterX team, the shared vision of Vaalo, Centric Brands, and UniSab, or the dedicated presence of DSS officers and journalists, each visitor brought something special. These moments remind our children that the world hasn't just noticed them, it is standing right beside them.



LEEDO's Ongoing Projects

Inclusive School

At our Inclusive School, every child's potential comes first. Here, "disability" never stands in the way of a bright future. Through a mix of art, handicrafts, and space therapy, our students discover what they are truly capable of. Beyond lessons in the classroom, our psychosocial support and morning assemblies help them grow in spirit.



Journalism and Media Empowerment



LEEDO conducted 10 (Ten) journalism training and class sessions at the Peace Home under the Young Journalist Changemaker initiative. These sessions equipped children with skills in writing, reporting, photography, and storytelling, empowering them to raise their voices and advocate for child rights.

To Support

Account Name: LEEDO

Account Number: 139-120000-1817

Bank Name: Dutch-Bangla Bank PLC

Routing Number: 090272806

Branch Name: Imamganj, Dhaka

bKash Number: 01819291567



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