May 2026

# 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.

Happy Mother's Day to those extraordinary souls who redefine the meaning of family through pure love. For the street children sheltered by LEEDO, who have no biological parents to call their own, motherhood is not about bloodlines, it is about unconditional care.

**Parveen Akter**, one of a dedicated caregiver appointed by LEEDO, stands as the perfect embodiment of this beautiful bond. To the world, she might be a staff member, but to these resilient children, she is the comforting embrace that heals their past. Parveen beautifully proves that being a true mother is simply a choice to love a child with all your heart.

## 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

## May 2026

This month, LEEDO's outreach team successfully rescued 26 vulnerable children from the streets and unsafe environments. Among them, 24 children were safely reintegrated with their families after proper verification, while 14 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.

## May Impact in Numbers

| 26 | 24 | 14 |
|---|---|---|
| **Rescued from Streets** | **Reintegrated with Families** | **Referred for Rehabilitation** |

**N.B.** Rescued children stay at our Transitional Shelter (Setu Bandhan) for 6 weeks, current reintegration and referral numbers include children rescued in previous months.

# New Horizons for a Safer Childhood

In May 2026, our Founder and Executive Director Forhad Hossain embarked on a vital journey across New Zealand and Australia to strengthen our global network of care. This was much more than a standard professional tour; it was a mission driven by a deep commitment to find better and stronger ways to shield vulnerable children and youth from the shadows of abuse, exploitation and substance addiction. By connecting with international frontline workers and organizations who share this exact same heartbeat, Forhad opened doors to shared wisdom and global best practices that will directly reshape how we protect our young people right here at home.

A truly defining milestone of this trip was a collaborative meeting at RMIT University with Professor Robyn Martin, the Associate Dean of Social Work and Human Services and her dedicated team. This gathering bridged the gap between cutting-edge academic research and practical, on-the-ground care, blending decades of social work expertise with our lived experiences in the field. Sitting together in a spirit of shared empathy, they explored innovative ways to support young survivors who have faced unimaginable trauma, ensuring that our therapeutic approaches are backed by the world's best care models.

Bringing these global insights back with us marks a profound turning point that will fundamentally elevate our protection, prevention and rehabilitation programs. By infusing our daily work with trauma-informed strategies and advanced youth drug prevention tools, we are becoming better equipped to heal both the visible and invisible scars of exploitation. This international engagement reinforces our belief that protecting a child requires an endless amount of community and we return re-energized, inspired and more ready than ever to build a safer, brighter future for every child who walks through our doors.

# Training on News Writing

The Young Journalist Changemaker group recently attended a training session conducted by Altaf Hossain, Sr. Reporter, Somoy TV, on report and feature writing to boost their storytelling skills. The students learned how to conduct interviews, structure narratives and write compelling news and human-interest stories. This training gives the young advocates the practical tools they need to share powerful messages and drive social change.

## Eid Al Adha celebration

The children of LEEDO Peace Home joyfully celebrated Eid al-Adha together. The festive day was filled with beautiful smiles, special meal and new clothes, bringing a wonderful sense of warmth and happiness to everyone. Beyond the fun, the celebration united the family in a spirit of sharing, compassion, and togetherness. It was a truly memorable day that filled every child's heart with hope and belonging.

## Art Class by UWE Bristol Team

The UWE Bristol team recently conducted a series of three dynamic art classes specifically for the members of the Young Journalist Changemaker group at the LEEDO Peace Home. Designed to merge creative expression with impactful storytelling, these sessions provided the young advocates with a vibrant platform to explore their artistic talents and raise their voices. By engaging with the Art team, the students not only enhanced their confidence and visual communication skills but also discovered creative thoughts, emotions and visions for social change.

## Media Coverage

[রাষ্ট্রের চোখে অদৃশ্য যারা]

["সুবিধাবঞ্চিত শিশুর ভবিষ্যৎঃ দায়িত্ব, বাস্তবতা ও করণীয়"]

# 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 2009 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

LEEDO Peace Home is a safe, compassionate sanctuary for vulnerable children where care, respect and protection guide every moment. It hosts 68 children, including 27 special children, who receive education, food, shelter, health care, entertainment & sports activities and psychosocial support. The home builds resilience, hope and confidence through a family-like environment that encourages growth, learning and emotional healing. Visitors and partners strengthen solidarity and inclusion, ensuring every child is valued and supported for a brighter future through collective responsibility and community care that inspires long-term well-being and a lasting positive impact on every child's life.

# 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 8 (Eight) journalism training and class sessions at the Peace Home under the Young Journalist Changemaker project. These sessions furnished 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**

### Contact Us

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