



LEDARS

Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



Serving for Humanity and Dignity



**ZAYED
SUSTAINABILITY
PRIZE**



**جائزة
زايـد
للاستدامة**



**جائزة
زايـد
للاستدامة**



Winner of the Zayed Sustainability Prize 2023 in Water

LEDARS

Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society

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Messages from Chairman



We are pleased to present the LEDARS (Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society) Annual Report, which reflects another year of shared commitment, meaningful progress, and collective action toward building resilient communities in the southwest coastal region of Bangladesh.

As climate change continues to intensify through rising salinity, recurrent cyclones, water scarcity, and environmental degradation, we remain steadfast in our commitment to supporting vulnerable communities with sustainable, locally driven solutions. Guided by our vision and values, we have continued to promote climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, food and water security, disaster risk reduction, environmental conservation, and inclusive community development.

The achievements highlighted in this report are the result of strong partnerships and collective efforts. Together with communities, government institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, and our dedicated staff, we have empowered people to adapt to climate challenges, strengthen their livelihoods, and build a more resilient future.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our donors, partners, well-wishers, volunteers, Executive Committee members, and the communities we serve for their continued trust, collaboration, and support. Your confidence in our mission inspires us to strive for greater impact and lasting change.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to strengthening our institutional capacity, embracing innovation, and delivering evidence-based, community-centered solutions that respond to emerging development challenges. Together, we will continue to protect our environment, promote inclusive development, and create opportunities for future generations.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. We look forward to continuing this partnership as we work together toward a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable Bangladesh.

Thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and support.

With sincere appreciation,



Md. Nazrul Islam
Chairman
Executive Committee
LEDARS



Messages from Executive Director

It is with immense pleasure and deep gratitude that, we represent the Annual Report of the LEDARS (Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society). This report reflects our collective efforts, achievements, and learning throughout the year as we continued our mission to empower vulnerable communities and promote sustainable development across the climate-vulnerable coastal region of Bangladesh.

The past year has been marked by growing climate uncertainties, economic pressures, and evolving development challenges. Rising salinity, extreme weather events, water scarcity, and environmental degradation continue to threaten the livelihoods of millions of people living in the coastal belt. Despite these realities, LEDARS remained committed to standing beside the communities we serve, working together to strengthen resilience, restore ecosystems, and create opportunities for a better future.

Throughout the year, we expanded our initiatives in climate-smart agriculture, Nature-based Solutions (NbS), safe drinking water, sustainable livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, environmental conservation, and community empowerment. We also strengthened partnerships with local government institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, and community-based groups, recognizing that sustainable development is achieved through collaboration, innovation, and shared responsibility.

The progress presented in this report is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the guidance of our Executive Committee, the trust of the communities we serve, and the unwavering support of our donors and partners. Their commitment has enabled us to transform challenges into opportunities and translate our vision into meaningful action that improves lives and strengthens resilience.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering innovation, strengthening institutional capacity, embracing evidence-based programming, and expanding strategic partnerships to address emerging development challenges. We believe that resilient communities are built through inclusive participation, local leadership, and sustainable solutions that protect both people and nature.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all our development partners, government agencies, volunteers, and well-wishers for their continued confidence in LEDARS. Most importantly, I express my sincere gratitude to the communities who inspire our work every day with their resilience, determination, and hope.

Together, let us continue building a future where communities thrive, ecosystems flourish, and sustainable development becomes a reality for all.

With warm regards,



Mohon Kumar Mondal
Founder and Executive Director
LEDARS



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Vission and Mission

Vission

To contribute in poverty reduction of poor and marginal groups through optimum usage of local resources.

Mission

LEDARS supports and equips people with appropriate methods to raise their voice and establish basic human rights in order to ensure livelihood security of the most vulnerable and socially excluded segments of the population.

Approach

- Community engagement
- Capacity Building on Adaptation & Mitigation
- Low-cost Solutions
- Knowledge management
- Sustainable Resource Management
- Bio-Diversity Conservation
- Collaboration
- Ownershio and Empowerment
- Policy Advocacy

LEDARS

Project Working Area



Promoting Adaptation in Agriculture

The southwest coastal region of Bangladesh is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable areas, where rising salinity, recurrent cyclones, tidal surges, and erratic rainfall continue to threaten agriculture and livelihoods. These growing challenges demand innovative and sustainable solutions that enable communities to adapt and thrive.

Since 2012, LEDARS (Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society) has been leading climate-resilient agriculture initiatives that empower coastal farming communities to overcome climate-induced challenges. Through climate-smart farming practices, salt-tolerant crop varieties, improved water management, demonstration plots, and farmer-focused capacity building, LEDARS is helping transform vulnerable landscapes into productive and resilient farming systems.

The impact is visible across the coastal region. Previously unproductive saline lands are once again producing crops, farming households are improving food security and incomes, and communities are adopting sustainable practices that strengthen their resilience to climate change.

By integrating Climate-Smart Agriculture with Nature-based Solutions (NbS), LEDARS is not only restoring agricultural productivity but also protecting ecosystems, strengthening local food systems, and creating pathways for sustainable and climate-resilient development. Together with communities and partners, LEDARS continues to cultivate resilience, transform lives, and build a greener future for coastal Bangladesh.



IMPACTS AT A GLANCE



5,986

farmers and community members received comprehensive training and orientation on climate-resilient agricultural practices.



23 MT

of salt-tolerant rice seeds, together with substantial quantities of quality vegetable seeds, were distributed among **4,367** beneficiary farming households.



342

demonstration plots were established, serving as practical learning centers for the dissemination of climate-smart agricultural technologies.



52 MT

of organic fertilizer were supplied to promote sustainable soil management, improve crop productivity, and reduce dependence on chemical inputs.



Hope on the Frontlines of Climate Change: Jahanara Begum

In the coastal southwest of Bangladesh, in Chakbara village of Gabura Union, Satkhira- life is a constant struggle against salinity, climate change, and uncertainty. Amid these harsh realities, an inspiring story has emerged- the story of Jahanara Begum.

Once, she struggled to support her family of nine. Dependent on the limited income of her husband, Md. Hazrat Ali Gazi, ensuring daily meals was a persistent challenge. But today, Jahanara Begum has become the pillar of her family and a beacon of hope for her entire community.

Jahanara owned 66 decimals of cultivable land, yet it failed to yield enough. Due to salinity and erratic weather patterns, her annual vegetable production remained below 500 kg. With a monthly income of only BDT 4,000-5,000, both nutrition and the family's future were at serious risk.

Her days were filled with uncertainty, frustration, and an invisible fear of what tomorrow might bring.

It was during this difficult time that a ray of hope arrived through the non-governmental organization LEDARS. Through LEDARS, Jahanara Begum received more than just support- she gained a new perspective and renewed confidence. With access to climate-resilient agricultural technologies, hands-on training, improved seeds and

fertilizers, and financial assistance of BDT 80,000, her life began to change.

This support was not merely a grant- it was a powerful investment in her potential. Applying the knowledge and resources she received, Jahanara transformed her farming practices. The results were both rapid and visible: her annual vegetable production increased from less than 500 kg to 1,500 kg, and her monthly income rose from BDT 4,000-5,000 to BDT 8,000-10,000.

She now earns additional income by producing and selling vermicompost. Moreover, using her own savings, she invested BDT 60,000 to establish a nursery and seedling production business.

This transformation goes far beyond numbers- it represents a complete change in the quality of life for her family.

Today, Jahanara Begum is not just a successful farmer; she is a confident woman and an agent of change.

Jahanara said, "Before, we struggled just to survive. Now, we dare to dream. Our family has access to safe and nutritious food, and most importantly, I can now make my own decisions."

Her success has inspired others in her community. Already, around 55-60 neighbors have begun adopting modern, climate-resilient agricultural practices by following her example. What started as a transformation of one family is now spreading across the entire community.

Yet, Jahanara does not wish to stop here. Her dreams are bigger and more ambitious. She plans to expand her vegetable farm, initiate modern fish farming, and establish a full-fledged "seed house" along with a seedling production center.

These aspirations are not only personal- they represent the foundation of a sustainable and self-reliant coastal economy.



Enhancing Climate Justice

The impacts of climate change across the southwestern coastal region of Bangladesh are no longer distant projections, but immediate daily realities. Communities throughout this vulnerable belt face an escalating array of climate-induced crises, including rising salinity, persistent waterlogging, compromised embankments, drought, erratic rainfall, and extreme temperature fluctuations. Saline intrusion continuously degrades arable land and contaminates vital freshwater sources, directly disrupting traditional livelihoods while severely limiting access to food, clean water, stable income, and essential healthcare.

Operating on the fundamental principle that those least responsible for global climate change should not bear its heaviest burdens, LEDARS has been dedicated to advancing climate justice across coastal Bangladesh since 2012. Over the past decade, the organization has actively mobilized local communities to advocate for sustainable infrastructure, equitable resource allocation, and essential public services. By driving policy and legislative advocacy with key decision-makers, facilitating grassroots capacity building, and amplifying the lived realities of vulnerable populations, LEDARS remains steadfast in fostering community-led solutions that protect human rights, restore dignity, and build lasting resilience.



IMPACTS AT A GLANCE

1

NATIONAL LEVEL DIALOGUE



1 National level Dialogue with policy makers and key stakeholders.

3

DISTRICT LEVEL DIALOGUES



3 District level Dialogues with district policy makers and other actors.

3

UPAZILA LEVEL DIALOGUES



3 Upazila level Dialogues with upazila policy makers and other local actors.



TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Meaningful dialogue and strong advocacy pave the way for inclusive policies and climate-resilient coastal communities.



Promoting Sustainable Livelihood

In Bangladesh's southwestern coastal belt- where severe salinity intrusion, erratic rainfall, and frequent cyclonic surges constantly erode traditional farming and fishing- LEDARS is building adaptive capacity to safeguard community livelihoods. By combining traditional local knowledge with modern Climate-Smart Agriculture and Nature-based Solutions (NbS), LEDARS empowers marginalized, climate-vulnerable households- particularly women, smallholder farmers, and tiger-widow families to establish resilient, diversified income sources.



Through localized field sessions, seed support, and technical training, LEDARS equips coastal communities to transition toward stress-tolerant crops, home-gardening models, and integrated aquaculture systems like crab farming and aqua-geoponics. Alongside direct agricultural interventions, seed-money support for alternative income-generating activities (IGAs) and revolving loan funds provide a vital safety net against climate shocks. By restoring unproductive saline lands, strengthening local value chains, and promoting self-reliance, LEDARS is converting vulnerable coastal zones into sustainable ecosystems where communities can secure food, protect dignity, and build long-term economic stability.

IMPACTS AT A GLANCE



Jesmin Ara: Heroine of Crisis

In Bangladesh's climate-stricken southwestern coast, where cyclones and saline water threaten farms and families daily, Jesmin Ara's journey shows how resilience can bloom even in the harshest conditions. Her story is a testament to how targeted support can turn vulnerability into strength and despair into hope.



Jesmin, a mother from Chokbara village in Satkhira, once carried the heavy burden of being her family's only breadwinner. With four mouths to feed, she struggled against poverty, debt, and the constant fear that her children's education would be cut short. In her own home, her voice was seldom heard when important decisions were made.

Everything changed when she joined LEDARS's Community-based Resilience, Women's Empowerment and Action (CREA) project. Instead of simply receiving aid, Jesmin gained skills that would redefine her future. She learned climate-resilient farming, goat rearing, improved breed selection, vaccination, and health management. With a small loan, she bought two goats and began vegetable farming using adaptation techniques to nourish her family.

Today, Jesmin's farm has grown to 10-12 goats, each one a symbol of security and independence. She now earns BDT 2,000-3,000 per month, enough to keep her children in school and build a small emergency fund. Surplus vegetables from her farm bring in extra income, strengthening her family's resilience even further.

But Jesmin's transformation goes beyond income. She is now a respected co-earner and decision-maker in her household. Her neighbors see her as a leader and an inspiration- proof that women can drive change even in the face of climate disasters.

In a region where agriculture is increasingly risky, Jesmin's livestock initiative has become a powerful climate adaptation strategy, helping her recover quickly after cyclones and tidal surges.

Jesmin says with pride, "The confidence my own income has given me is priceless. I am no longer helpless- I am the head of my household."



Enhancing Water and Health

In the climate-vulnerable southwestern coastal region of Bangladesh- particularly across Satkhira, Khulna, and Bagerhat districts- severe groundwater salinity, recurring tidal breaches, and frequent storm surges have created an acute drinking water and public health crisis. High salinity levels in freshwater sources are linked to severe health issues, including hypertension, pre-eclampsia in pregnant women, skin diseases, and waterborne illnesses. Furthermore, traditional sanitation facilities frequently fail during extreme weather events, spreading contamination across flooded areas. The burden of fetching clean water falls disproportionately on women and young girls, who must travel up to 5 kilometers daily, taking a heavy physical toll and deepening gender inequality.

LEDARS responds to this crisis through integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions that prioritize community ownership, sustainability, and climate resilience. By installing household and community-scale Rainwater Harvesting Systems (RWHS), deploying Bio-Sand Filters (BSF), establishing solar-powered Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants, and re-excavating community ponds fitted with Pond Sand Filters (PSF), LEDARS secures reliable, safe drinking water year-round. Alongside clean water access, LEDARS promotes flood-resilient sanitation infrastructure and conducts extensive hygiene awareness campaigns. By alleviating the daily burden of water collection, curbing salinity-induced health complications, and safeguarding community hygiene, LEDARS restores dignity, strengthens public health, and builds long-term resilience across Bangladesh's coastal belt.





IMPACTS AT A GLANCE



ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER

Access to safe drinking water created for more than

11,354
families.



319 BIO SAND FILTER (BSF) INSTALLED

319 Bio Sand Filter (BSF) has been installed among the coastal people.



19 POND SAND FILTER (PSF) RE-ACTIVATED

19 Pond Sand Filter (PSF) has been re-activation working area.



168 MEDICAL CAMPS CONDUCTED

168 Medical camp conduct for providing primary health care services among the

18,642
beneficiaries.



3 GYNECOLOGICAL SERVICE CAMPS ORGANIZED

3 gynecological service camp organized



2,187

women get services from the camp.



1,536 ORIENTATION SESSIONS CONDUCTED

1,536 orientation sessions enabled the community people about necessary knowledge and information regarding safe water.



Turning Thirst into Hope

In coastal area of Bangladesh, safe drinking water is not nearby- it is a long, exhausting journey. With ponds and rivers destroyed by salinity, families must collect water from distant sources. Every day, women walk 3 to 4 kilometers - often barefoot- carrying heavy jars or pitchers of water. The paths are muddy and uneven, their feet ache and crack, and the journey takes two to three hours. By the time they return home, they are exhausted, yet the water they bring is often still unsafe.

Rehana Begum Khuku (27), a mother of three, lived this reality for years. She walked six kilometers daily to fetch water, sometimes twice when her family had guests. The burden left her with constant fatigue, poor health, and little time for her children. Like Rehana, almost every woman in her village, Khoshal Khali, carried this same painful responsibility.

To break this cycle, LEDARS introduced Water on Wheel (WoW)- an innovative, renewable-energy-powered mobile water supply system that brings safe water directly to people's doors. WoW is a specially designed vehicle carries purified drinking water to households in remote coastal villages. Each household receives a rechargeable smart card. When the WoW vehicle arrives, families simply punch their card and collect the amount of water they need. Instead of women walking miles for unsafe water, safe water now comes to their doorsteps- saving time, reducing health risks, and ensuring dignity.

For Rehana, WoW has been life-changing: "Now I can spend quality time with my children and help them with their studies. My health has also improved significantly."



For Moriom Khatun (21), WoW means independence:

"Before, I spent hours walking 3-4 kilometers for water, and my feet were swollen. Now, I use that time for tailoring and support my family financially."

And for Sabina Khatun (23), WoW brings peace of mind:

"Earlier, I worried about leaving my child alone when I went to fetch water. Now, I feel safe, healthy, and happy."

WoW is more than water delivery- it is a smart, sustainable solution for one of the world's most climate-affected regions. It combines solar purification, mobility, and digital access (smart cards) to make safe water affordable and accessible for all. By saving women from miles of painful journeys, WoW restores their strength, time, and dignity- allowing them to care for their families, earn an income, and take part in community life.

Mitigating Loss and Damage



The southwest coastal belt of Bangladesh, particularly Satkhira and the Sundarbans-adjacent areas, is among the world's most climate-vulnerable regions, where recurrent cyclones, tidal surges, sea-level rise, and salinity intrusion continue to cause significant economic and non-economic loss and damage (L&D). In response, LEDARS (Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society) has developed community-centered approaches that combine rapid livelihood recovery, climate-resilient agriculture, disaster-resilient housing, and safe water solutions to strengthen resilience among vulnerable coastal communities. Through technologies such as Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants, Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR), Pond Sand Filters (PSFs), Bio-sand Filters, and Rainwater Harvesting Systems, alongside salinity-adaptive farming practices including the Sorjan system, drip irrigation, zero-tillage, and bag gardening, LEDARS helps restore livelihoods while improving water and food security.

Beyond physical recovery, LEDARS addresses the often-overlooked non-economic dimensions of climate-induced loss and damage by providing psychosocial support, promoting alternative livelihoods for tiger-victim widows and female-headed households, and strengthening community preparedness through Climate Resilience Groups (CRGs) and community food banks. The organization has mobilized CRGs with climate-resilient agricultural inputs, expanded safe drinking water access to vulnerable households, and established a Knowledge Management Center (KMC) to promote research and learning. Through partnerships with donor organizations, and by supporting Union Parishads to integrate Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) into local development planning, LEDARS also contributes to advancing policy dialogue and scalable, locally led solutions for climate loss and damage in Bangladesh.



IMPACTS AT A GLANCE



Salinity- and drought-tolerant paddy seeds and vegetable seeds have been distributed among

4,367
marginal farmers.



35 women small entrepreneurs have received loss and damage compensation grants and launched

11
types of trades.



Orientation sessions on disaster shocks and preparedness have been provided to

352
CRG members.



The Collective Power of ABALAMBAN Food Bank

Bangladesh is one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. Its southwest coastal region, particularly Assasuni Upazila in Satkhira District, is recognized as a climate hotspot- regularly battered by floods, storm surges, and cyclones. For marginalized communities living here, every disaster brings the same fear: how to survive when homes are damaged, livelihoods are lost, and food runs out. Among those most affected is Sarala Rani Biswas, a blind elderly woman living in extreme poverty. For her, every day used to be a battle against hunger. With no steady income and no family support, she often went to bed on an empty stomach.

"I worried constantly about food," recalls Sarala Rani. "Sometimes neighbors gave me a handful of rice, but it was never enough. It was the hardest thing- going to bed hungry and feeling helpless."

Her life began to change when she learned about ABALAMBAN Food Bank, a community-driven initiative supported by LEDARS. At first, she hesitated, unsure how someone like her- who owned nothing- could take part. But seeing other women contribute small handfuls of rice to save for future crises inspired her.

"I thought, if they can do it, why

can't I?" She says. "So, I started saving too- just a little at a time. Slowly it added up. And most importantly, it gave me hope."



For Sarala Rani, the Food Bank became more than stored rice- it became a lifeline, a symbol of dignity, and proof that she was no longer alone.

What began with just 30 vulnerable women has now grown into a 1,000-member Food Bank deeply embedded in the community. The practice of setting aside food has built a new culture of preparedness where families feel secure, even when disasters strike.

"Now we know that no matter what happens, we will have food. We have become each other's strength," adds fellow member Tumpa Mondal. Even men, once skeptical, have embraced the idea. Rabiul Islam, a father of three, admits, "At first I thought saving rice like this was only for women. But when Cyclone Remal hit, I saw how the Food Bank helped my family survive. That's when I realized—it's for all of us."

The Food Bank's success has been widely recognized. Local government representatives, community leaders, and families have praised LEDARS for sparking this transformation.

"This initiative is remarkable," says Banamali Das, a former local government representative. "It is not just about food—it is about resilience, dignity, and hope."

Women like Khaleda Aktar and Jhuma Biswas describe the change it brought to their lives:

"We no longer have to beg or depend on others," says Khaleda. "We are strong together."

"When my house was flooded, I faced many challenges. But I didn't have to worry about food—the Food Bank was there for me," adds Jhuma.

The ABALAMBAN FOOD BANK is proof that small, collective contributions can create big, lasting impacts. What started as a humble initiative is now a model of resilience and empowerment, showing that even the most vulnerable can take control of their futures when supported. Through LEDARS' guidance and the dedication of local communities, the Food Bank continues to ensure that no one faces hunger alone. For Sarala Rani, the transformation is deeply personal:

"Now, I sleep without worry," she says with a smile. "Because no matter what happens, I know I will have food tomorrow."

ABALAMBAN Food Bank is not just about rice—it is about survival, strength, and the promise of a future free from hunger.



Promoting Blue Carbon

Bangladesh's southwest coast is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable regions, where rising sea levels, salinity intrusion, cyclones, and coastal erosion continue to threaten lives, livelihoods, and ecosystems. At the heart of this fragile landscape lie blue carbon ecosystems- mangroves, saltmarshes, tidal wetlands, and seagrass beds- which serve as powerful natural defenses against climate change. These ecosystems capture and store carbon at rates far greater than most terrestrial forests, locking it deep within coastal soils for centuries or even millennia. The Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, stands as a remarkable example of nature's capacity to protect coastal communities while acting as one of the planet's most valuable carbon reservoirs. Yet increasing environmental degradation and unsustainable human activities are placing these vital ecosystems under growing pressure, putting both biodiversity and millions of coastal residents at greater risk.

Recognizing the immense value of these natural assets, LEDARS is promoting the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of blue carbon ecosystems as a cornerstone of climate resilience in Bangladesh's coastal belt. Through community-led mangrove restoration, ecosystem-based adaptation, climate awareness, and sustainable natural resource management, LEDARS is strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities while contributing to global climate action. These interventions not only enhance carbon sequestration but also reduce coastal erosion, improve fisheries, protect biodiversity, and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for local people. By investing in blue carbon, LEDARS is demonstrating that healthy coastal ecosystems are more than environmental assets- they are a lifeline for climate-vulnerable communities and a powerful nature-based solution for building a resilient, sustainable future.



IMPACTS AT A GLANCE



Managing Knowledge for Climate

Bangladesh's coastal southwest region is widely recognized as one of the world's most climate-vulnerable areas. Situated along the Bay of Bengal, communities in this low-lying deltaic zone depend heavily on agriculture, fisheries, and natural resources for their livelihoods. These populations face persistent threats from salinity intrusion, storm surges, and cyclones, making the region a critical climate hotspot. These hazards undermine food security, disrupt local economies, and exacerbate socio-economic vulnerabilities, posing significant challenges to sustainable development.



Despite their demonstrated resilience, coastal communities often lack the technical knowledge, institutional support, and financial resources required to adapt effectively to rapidly changing climatic conditions. In response, LEDARS has prioritized strengthening knowledge management as a strategic approach to enhancing climate adaptation and mitigation capacities in coastal areas.

To advance this objective, LEDARS has established a dedicated Knowledge Management Center, equipped with a library, laboratory, training hall, and dormitory facilities. Located within the coastal region, the center serves as a hub for climate adaptation learning and innovation. It provides regular training sessions designed to deepen local understanding of climate change, strengthen negotiation capacities, and introduce adaptive technologies tailored to coastal realities. Through these efforts, LEDARS aims to build a foundation for long-term resilience, enabling communities to better protect their livelihoods and environment in the face of ongoing climate risks.

OUR IMPACT



ESTABLISHED
**A TECHNOLOGY
DISPLAY CENTER**



TRAINED
**300
STUDENTS**
BY KNOWLEDGE
SHARING SESSION

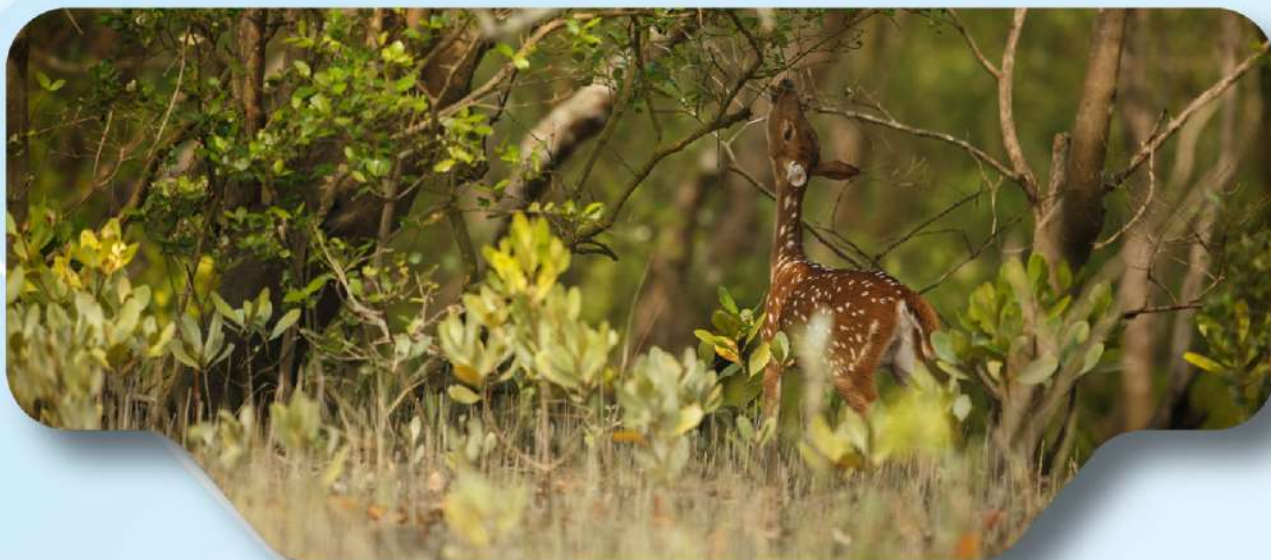


PROVIDED
24
**SCHOLARSHIP
TO RESEARCHERS**

Conserving Environment and Ecology

The Sundarbans, recognized as the world's largest mangrove forest and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a globally significant ecosystem that provides habitat for the iconic Royal Bengal Tiger and a rich diversity of flora and fauna. It also sustains the livelihoods of more than four million people living in surrounding coastal areas, offering essential resources for their daily survival. However, unsustainable resource extraction and overexploitation have considerable placed pressure on the forest's biodiversity and disrupted the natural regeneration processes essential for its long-term health.

Beyond its ecological value, the Sundarbans functions as a critical natural barrier, mitigating the impacts of devastating cyclones and tidal surges and thereby contributing significantly to disaster resilience and climate change adaptation in the region. In response to these challenges, LEDARS collaborates closely with local communities to promote sustainable resource management and responsible forest extraction practices. The organization advocates for alternative livelihood options to reduce dependence on environmentally damaging activities such as shrimp farming, while supporting the restoration of agricultural land and the protection of vital resources, including drinking water. Through community-led afforestation and biodiversity enhancement initiatives, LEDARS strengthens the Sundarbans' resilience to climate change. Additionally, LEDARS engages in policy advocacy to advance sustainable environmental management frameworks that balance human needs with the conservation of this invaluable ecological asset. By empowering communities and fostering a harmonious relationship between people and nature, LEDARS is committed to securing a future in which both the environment and the populations that depend on it can thrive.



COMMON ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



Natural
Buffers
Saples

**REDUCED COASTAL
EROSION**



**SHORELINE
STABILIZATION**
Traps Sediment and
Prevents Loss



ENHANCED WILDLIFE HABITAT
Supports Birds, Reptiles, and
Marine Life



CARBON SEQUESTRATION
Captures Atmospheric CO₂ for
Climate Mitigation



**WATER QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT**
Filters Pollutants and Filters Runoff.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY



LONG-TERM MONITORING
Ensuring Growth and Health



ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION
Preserving the New Forest for the Future

Mitigating crisis for humanity and dignity



The southern regions belt of Bangladesh, particularly its coastal, is confronting an escalating crisis driven by climate change. These areas are characterized by low-lying topography, high population density, and economies that are heavily dependent on natural resources. Communities in this region are repeatedly exposed to severe natural disasters, including cyclones, tidal surges, flooding, salinity intrusion, and waterlogging. These events damage critical infrastructure, displace millions of people, undermine livelihoods, and contribute to widespread food insecurity and health challenges.

The compounded impacts of climate change in these vulnerable regions highlight the critical need for timely and effective humanitarian intervention. Displaced families, overburdened healthcare systems, and pervasive food insecurity necessitate coordinated and compassionate responses. Immediate assistance is essential to help communities survive, adapt to changing environmental conditions, and rebuild their lives with dignity.

In this context, LEDARS plays a pivotal role in delivering life-saving support. By addressing the immediate needs of affected populations, the organization contributes to safeguarding lives, restoring food security, and enhancing resilience. LEDARS collaborates closely with communities to develop adaptive strategies, ensuring they are not only able to cope with current crises but also better equipped to confront future environmental threats with strength and dignity.

300

HEALTH & HYGIENE
KITS HAVE BEEN
DISTRIBUTED
AMONG ADOLESCENCE GIRLS.



Promoting Health
& Dignity

250

DISASTER RESILIENT
TOILET HAVE BEEN
DISTRIBUTED
AMONG REMAL AFFECTED
HOUSEHOLDS.



Building Resilience
& Sanitation

165,800

LITER

SAFE DRINKING WATER
HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED
AMONG REMAL AFFECTED
HOUSEHOLDS.



Ensuring Safe Water
for Every Family



LEDARS

Financial Report



www.ledars.org



Shyamnagar, Satkhira,
Bangladesh.

Financial Highlight

Ahmed Yusuf & Co.
Chartered Accountants

LEDARS (Local Environment Development & Agricultural Research Society)
Statement of Consolidated Financial Position
As at 30 June 2025

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Tk.	
		30 June 2025	30 June 2024
<u>Property and Assets:</u>			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	7.00	26,611,714	27,842,268
Advance Account	8.00	646,439	-
Long Term Investment (FDR)	9.00	500,000	-
Total Non-Current Assets		27,758,153	27,842,268
Current Assets			
Staff Provident Fund Loan	10.00	111,099	280,439
Cash and Bank Balance	11.00	54,203,675	63,376,766
Total Current Assets		54,314,774	63,657,205
Total Assets		82,072,927	91,499,473
<u>Fund and Liabilities:</u>			
Fund Account			
Fund Account	12.00	79,108,959	88,270,354
Total Fund Account		79,108,959	88,270,354
Current Liabilities			
Staff Development Fund	13.00	3,225,508	3,155,686
Loan Account	14.00	(261,540)	73,433
Total Current Liabilities		2,963,968	3,229,119
Total Fund & Liabilities		82,072,927	91,499,473

The annexed notes and annexures form an integral part of these financial statements.


 Md. Raihan Kabir
 Head of Accounts, LEDARS
 Md. Raihan Kabir
 Head of Accounts
LEDARS
 Shyamnagar, Satkhira

Signed as per our separate report of even date.


 Mohon Kumar Mondal
 Executive Director, LEDARS
 Mohon Kumar Mondal
 Executive Director
LEDARS
 Shyamnagar, Satkhira.

Place: Bangladesh
 Date: 01 February 2026
 DVC: 2602011166AS171940




 Ahmed Yusuf Mozaddad, FCA, Managing Partner
 Ahmed Yusuf & Co., Chartered Accountants
 ICAB Enrolment Number: 1166

Financial Highlight

Ahmed Yusuf & Co.
Chartered Accountants

LEDARS (Local Environment Development & Agricultural Research Society)
Statement of Consolidated Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Particulars	Note	Amount in Tk.	
		2024-2025	2023-2024
Income:			
Grants Income	15.00	57,727,022	42,539,783
Miscellaneous Income	16.00	3,974,450	1,523,262
Inter project Loan & Others		-	115,064
		61,701,472	44,178,109
Expenditure:			
Administrative Expenses	17.00	5,385,202	4,570,420
Program Expenses	18.00	52,341,820	37,969,363
Depreciation		1,853,280	1,917,934
		59,580,302	44,457,717
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure		2,121,170	-279,608
		61,701,472	44,178,109

The annexed notes and annexures form an integral part of these financial statements.


 Md. Raihan Kabir
 Head of Accounts, LEDARS
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 Head of Accounts
LEDARS
 Shyamnagar, Satkhira


 Mohon Kumar Mondal
 Executive Director, LEDARS
 Mohon Kumar Mondal
 Executive Director
LEDARS
 Shyamnagar, Satkhira.

Signed as per our separate report of even date.

Place: Bangladesh
 Date: 01 February 2026
 DVC: 2602011166A5171940




 Ahmed Yusuf Mozadded, FCA, Managing Partner
 Ahmed Yusuf & Co., Chartered Accountants
 ICAB Enrolment Number: 1166

Financial Highlight

Ahmed Yusuf & Co.
Chartered Accountants

LEDARS (Local Environment Development & Agricultural Research Society)
Statement of Consolidated Receipts and Payments
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Tk.	
		2024-2025	2023-2024
Opening Balance:		63,376,766	37,333,066
Cash in Hand	11.00	38,340	32,418
Cash at Bank	11.00	63,338,426	37,300,648
Receipts:		59,945,355	84,087,262
Grants Received	15.00	46,253,428	74,256,068
Miscellaneous Income	16.00	3,974,450	1,523,262
Staff Provident Fund Loan Realized		509,340	388,383
Inter Project Loan	19.00	8,434,231	7,219,861
Staff Welfare Fund Collection	20.00	773,906	699,688
Total		123,322,121	121,420,328
Payments:		69,118,446	58,043,562
Administrative Cost	17.00	5,385,202	4,570,420
Program Cost	18.00	52,341,820	37,969,363
Fixed- Capital Cost	21.00	622,726	7,184,069
Project Fund Transfer		75,038	1,000
Inter Project Loan	22.00	8,769,204	7,104,797
Staff Provident Fund Loan Payment		340,000	626,000
Fixed Deposit Receipts (FDR)		500,000	-
Advance for Program		646,439	-
Staff Welfare Fund refund	23.00	438,017	587,913
Closing Balance:		54,203,675	63,376,766
Cash in Hand	11.00	34,888	38,340
Cash at Bank	11.00	54,168,787	63,338,426
Total		123,322,121	121,420,328

The annexed notes and annexures form an integral part of these financial statements.


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 Head of Accounts, LEDARS
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LEDARS
 Shyamnagar, Satkhira

Signed as per our separate report of even date.


 Mohon Kumar Mondal
 Executive Director, LEDARS
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 Shyamnagar, Satkhira.

Place: Bangladesh
 Date: 01 February 2026
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Ahmed Yusuf Mozadded, FCA, Managing Partner
 Ahmed Yusuf & Co., Chartered Accountants
 ICAB Enrolment Number: 1166



THANK YOU

2024-2025

Brot
für die Welt

christian
aid

LIFE

MERIDIAN
INSTITUTE

 Sweden
Sverige


Manusher Jonno
Foundation

 **ULAB**
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

ZAYED
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PRIZE



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للاستدامة