

ZAYED
SUSTAINABILITY
PRIZE



جائزة
زايد
للاستدامة

Winner of 2023 in Water category



LEDARS

Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society

Serving for Humanity and Dignity

LEDARS at a Glance

LEDARS (Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society) is a non-profit and non-political organization registered by the Social Welfare Department and NGO Affairs Bureau, working for the social, economic, and environmental development of the poor and marginalized people of the southwest region of Bangladesh since 1996. LEDARS is very much engaged with climate change, climate resilience, gender development nature base solutions, environmental conservation, drinking water, WASH, livelihoods, youth development projects, etc. Till now LEDARS has obtained several national and international awards including the Zayed Sustainability Prize 2023, for its innovative and sustainable initiatives. LEDARS is working with marginalized communities like landless, marginal farmers, schedule casts, labour, and women-headed families, children, and adolescents.

Promoting Climate Resilient Agriculture

LEDARS has been promoting adaptive agriculture through Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) in the coastal area to foster community resilience to climate change. LEDARS works on developing and strengthening people's organizations, capacity building of the community, providing stress-tolerant variety of rice and vegetable seeds, demonstration, etc. LEDARS developed an Integrated Water Resource Management Model incorporating indigenous and scientific knowledge to ensure the optimum usage of available resources for promoting resilient agriculture.

Vision

To contribute in poverty reduction of the coastal people and left out communities through optimum usage of local resources.

Mission

Support and equip people with appropriate methods to raise their voice for establishing basic and human rights in order to ensure livelihood security of the most vulnerable and socially excluded segments of the population.





Promoting Resilient WASH

For the last two decades, LEDARS has been providing support to solve the drinking water crisis and promote resilient WASH facilities. We provide drinking water facilities with Desalination Machines (RO), Rain Water Harvesting Systems, Bio-sand Filters, Drinking Water Ponds, Pond Sand Filters (PSFs), Managed Aquifer Recharger (MAR), and awareness education on water management. LEDARS innovated and installed flood-resistant sanitary latrines in disaster-prone areas.

Promoting Health and Nutrition

LEDARS has been providing primary health care services to thousands of vulnerable families, especially poor and vulnerable communities, around the year in the Sundarban islands area. We regularly organize medical camps, and special gynecological camps to prevent the growing health crisis on the coast due to global climate change.

LEDARS also conducts awareness education on sexual and reproductive health and offers counseling services to prevent diseases and malnutrition.

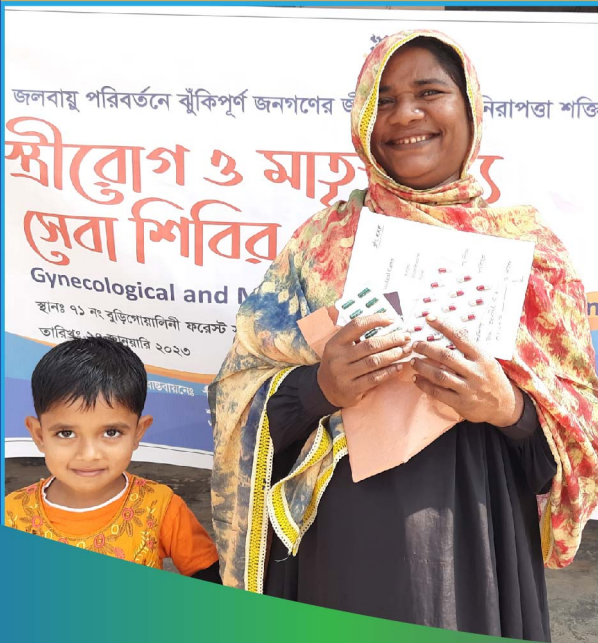
Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods

LEDARS has been providing support to the marginalized woman-headed families to establish sustainable livelihoods. We are also offering skills development training, financial support, and marketing facilities to implement on-farm and off-farm sustainable resilient livelihoods activities. LEDARS ensures optimum utilization of local resources and indigenous knowledge as well as climate-smart livelihood technologies to foster climate resilience.



Strengthening Climate Justice Movement

The southwest coastal area is deprived of the justified allocation of climate funds. In this regard, LEDARS is leading an advocacy campaign demanding justice for the coastal people along with some like-minded CSOs through an alliance. LEDARS along with the alliance members organized a series of events e.g. human chain, mass gathering, memorandum submission, press conference, dialogue, letter campaign, strike, etc. at the local to national level.



Promoting Youth Volunteerism

To engage youths in development initiatives and social activism, LEDARS organizes youths in youth forums and provides training on leadership development, techniques of social campaigns, disaster response, climate change, environment conservation, etc. The youth forums and associations organize demonstrations in local to national levels. They are playing an active role in the climate justice movement, emergency responses, awareness raising on social issues, etc.





Emergency Response

LEDARS is very active in disaster response in the coastal. It performed emergency responses during the cyclones of SIDR (2007), AILA (2009), Fani and Bulbul (2019), Amphan (2020) and Yaas (2021). LEDARS also conducted a humanitarian response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We provided food and non-food items, non-conditional cash support, cash for work, drinking water, and WASH facilities at the time of emergency. LEDARS obtained AGROW Award as 'Disaster Hero' in 2020.

Knowledge Management for Climate Resilience

LEDARS has established a Climate and Adaptation Knowledge Management Center (KMC) with a view to accumulating global, local and indigenous knowledge into easily accessible formats for community people, students, youths researchers, etc. The KMC has a laboratory, research facility, library, physical and digital bookshelf, reading and conference space, dormitory and demonstration plots. The center also offers research grants and training courses.



Strengthening Livelihood Security of Climate Change Vulnerable People

Discussion Meeting

on
Climate Change, Vulnerability & Resilience

Venue: Climate & Adaptation Knowledge Management Center

Organized By:

LEDARS
Shyamnagar, Saptahira
<http://www.ledars.com>

Funded By:

Bread for the World

Our Impact

- Adaptive agriculture practice increased 60%.
- 22 climate-smart technologies adopted.
- 43 community seed stores established.
- 4,646 families engaged with livelihood activities.
- 5,389 water treatment technologies installed.
- Resilient WASH facilities reached to 10,964 families.
- Created access to 17,781 families of safe drinking water.
- A vibrant climate justice campaign led by civil society and youth and three mega projects adopted by the Govt.
- 3,058 youth engaged with social activism.
- 15,750 people have access to health care services.
- Reached 8,105 families in emergency response.
- A Knowledge Management Center was established to capitalize on climate change knowledge.

Special Recognitions

- ★ LEDARS wins the Zayed Sustainability Prize 2023 in the Water category.
- ★ LEDARS got Channel I-Standard Chartered AGROW Award 2020, Best Community as Disaster Hero.
- ★ LEDARS got 3rd prize in the World Water Showcase at the 7th World Water Forum, 2015 organized in Korea.



LEDARS

Local Environment Development and Agricultural Research Society

Head Office

Vill: Munshigonj, P O: Kadamtala, Upazila: Shyamnagar,
Dis: Satkhira, Bangladesh. Hotline: +8801409961501
E-mail: ledars.bd@gmail.com, info@ledars.org

Khulna Regional Office

House# 64, Road, 06, Nirala R/A, Khulna.



Geographic Coverage

District	Upazila/Sub-district
Satkhira	Shyamnagar, Kaligonj, Asasuni and Satkhira Municipality
Khulna	Koyra, Paikgacha, Dacope, Khulna Municipality
Bagerhat	Mongla, Bagerhat Municipality

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Special Consultative Status
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Observer Organization
of UNFCCC



<http://www.ledars.org>