**Background**

Development of Bangladesh depends on active participation of youths but it is the matter of regret that they are suffering from not only socio-economic barriers but also environmental constrains and risk, religious backwardness, social stigma. They could not achieve proper education, training, perseverance, disciplined and skilled youth force that’s why they are not able to participate in decision making process.

The project’s working areas are severely oppressed by climate change, unemployment, paucity of livelihood scopes, extremisms, drug addiction, and involvement in unethical political activities. In this context LEDARS started the project Youth Mobilization for Social Change for youth engagement in harmonious social transforming activities.

**Goal**

To build capacity of youths in social participation, leadership and income generation through integrated activities for bringing positive changes in society.

**Objectives**

- To enhance decision making ability of youths to develop a progressive, human centered just society as well as social harmony.
- To identify and document causes and prevention measures of extremism and radicalization.
- To increase youth engagement in income generating and economic empowerment activities.

**Direct beneficiaries**

3016 youths where 40% women, age range 15–30 years with minimum education from class nine.

**Expected output**

- Youths are equipped with enough skills like leadership and decision making, engagement in social and cultural activities, contribute social cohesion and they seek support to understand and address agents and drives of extremism.
- They are capable of logical thinking and engaged in constructive debate.
- Youths received vocational training on different potential trades being linked with job market and income opportunities.
- Youth forums are activated at different level and youth parliament speaks on behalf of the need of youths.
- Youths learn use of social accountability tools to ensure responsiveness of relevant public institutions.

**Major activities**

i) Provide partial support to implement 10 social change ideas and media exposure of the best practice of the ideas.

ii) Conduct inter-cultural dialogue in union and upazila level.

iii) Develop IEC materials (Billboard and Leaflet) on effect of extremism.

iv) Organize social cohesion debate and quiz competition in school/college/university level.

v) Conduct selected vocational training (on-farm, off-farm and non-farm) and job training.

vi) Support partial to involve IGA for vulnerable people/PWD.

vii) Conduct consultation meeting with local employer to engage youth in their institute.
Major activities

viii) Conduct 6 batches leadership training to youth forum and federation leaders to engage youth in volunteerism activity.

ix) Formation of 1 youth cultural groups, organizing 24 cultural and 24 sports events.

x) Campaign on different issues (clinging, tree plantation, drug, early marriage, road accident).


xii) Conduct coordination meeting at Union, Upazila and advisory committee level.

xiii) Conduct 16 life skill sessions at ward and college level.

xiv) Organize awareness meeting with different stakeholder by youth forum.

xv) Organize policy dialogue with participation of youth and duty bearer in Kaliganj and Shayamnagar Upazila.

xvi) Orient youth on RTI (Right to information) to enhance the social accountability.

xvii) Arrange Sampreeti Uthsob/fair at community/education institution.

xviii) Arrange interactive events that promote social cohesion (Picnic/taking food with socially excluded group etc.

ixx) Oath taking at education institution on social harmony.

xx) Organize street theatre on social cohesion and social cohesion gathering in public places with community people.

Formation of youth forum: 58 Ward Youth Forum, 6 union youth forum with Ward Youth Forum representatives of selected 3 Unions and 2 College of Kaliganj upazila and 3 Unions and 2 College of Shyamnagar upazila of Satkhira District., 2 Upazila Youth Forum & 2 Advisory Committee consisting 15 potential civil society members.

Training and session: 162 Youth forum and federation leaders received Foundation Training on role of youth to strengthen the human right situation and keep social and religious harmony, role of citizen, advocacy to establish the rights, working strategies, leading technique, 232 Awareness session on early marriage, youth involvement in extremisms, violence against women, 232 Life skill session to build communication and networking skill & emotion management.

Meeting: 18 Union and 6 Upazila Coordination Meeting (1/quarter) about to take decision to implement the social harmony accelerating activities. 3 coordination meeting in each Upazila between Youth forum and advisory committee to review the progress of youth leading activities and made an effective role for the youth to build a positive relation with different government and non-government office.

Organize competition: 6 debate and quiz competition was conducted on the topic “Only inter culturalism can maintain social harmony” with the participation of 156 girls students and 88 boys students from 8 school in Kaligonj and Shyamnagar Upazila under Satkira District at school and college level to enhance the social cohesion for transforming a harmonious society.

Workshops: 2 Workshop on generating Social Change Idea where youth have identified more than 12 ideas for enhancing the positive change in the society. LEDARS will support the youth financially to implement the ideas. A day long trade identification workshop was conducted in both Kaliganj and Shyamnagar Upazila.
Organize mass hearing: To prevent early marriage LEDARS organized Mass hearing at Kaligonj Officers Club under Kaliganj Upazila. More than 100 male and female local community people attained in the hearing session where 10 early marriage victims expressed the predictive experience to the audience from civil society members and community.

Organize inter Upazila social harmony keeping cricket tournament: An inter Upazila Social Harmony Cricket Tournament was conducted at Kaligonj and Shyamnagar Upazila. Youths of 6 Unions Youth Forum and 2 Colleges Youth Forum participated there along with the youth from excluded community during the period from 01/02/2020, to 15/03/2020. More than 1000 people from different class, race, religion and cast enjoyed these events. All the honorable invited guest appreciated highly this social harmony keeping cricket tournament during delivering their speech for transforming a inter-cultural positive attitude in the society.

Organize cleaning campaign: LEDARS and Shyamnagar Upazila Parishad have organized a Cleaning Program from Shyamnagar Bus stand to Upajila Parishad under Green Satkhira Clean Satkhira. 49 male and female member of Youth Mobilization and Social Change project participated in the program.

Organizing cultural events: LEDARS and Upazila Parishad of Kaliganj have organized a cultural event on Mother Language Day. LEDARS cultural team performed different patriotic and social harmony supporting songs where more than 1500 people were present.

Arrange the drug preventing marathon race: LEDARS and Upazila parishad administration of Kaliganj have organized 10 km. of Marathon race to prevent drug addiction. 48 male and female youth, community people, members of youth advisory committee participated the racing from Moutala bus stand to Kaliginj Bangabandu Mural along with Upazila Nirbahi Officer. During the racing the youth distributed the drug preventing leaflets among the community.

Major achievement till December 2019

National and international day observation: Youths forum of Kaliganj and Shyamnagar Upazila participated in the National Youth Day observation. 78 male and 22 female members participated in rally and discussion session also. The theme of youth day was “Skill youth will build the country of Bangobandhu’s Bangladesh. More than 450 youth participated in National Disaster Preparedness day along with Shyamnagar and Kaliganj Upazila administration. Number of 95 college students and teachers have participated in the rally and discussion event on International Women Day. They also participated in world environment day and International Right Information Day.