

In 2008, BRAC started its development interventions in Sierra Leone. Since inception, BRAC is making significant contribution in the socio-economic sector of the country, through its innovative and community-oriented programming in microfinance, health, education, agriculture and livestock, human rights and legal services, and empowerment and livelihood for adolescents.

## Country Statistics

### Population

6.316 million (WB 2014)

### GDP per capita

USD 766 (WB 2015)

### People living below the poverty line

52.9 per cent (WB 2011)

### Life expectancy at birth

51 (WB 2014)

### Primary school completion rate

70 (WB 2013)

### Adult literacy rate

46 (WB 2013)

### Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)

1,360 (WB 2015)

### Infant mortality rate (per 1000 live births)

35 (WB 2015)



Strides for food sufficiency: Fatmata, BRAC backyard gardener.

## Microfinance programme

Our programme is designed to provide cost effective financial services to poor and marginalised women and collateral free loans to clients against competitive interest rates. All activities of microfinance run through village organisations (VOs), an organised group of women who come together to improve their socio-economic position.

## Small enterprise programme

Our small enterprise programme offers loans to entrepreneurs who are seeking to expand their business. Loans are given to both men and women who repay on a monthly basis. As with the expanding of business, some members of microloan programme become eligible for small enterprise loans as well.

## Health programme

Our community based health approach in providing services in reproductive, maternal, new born and child health in six districts. We reach people through our community health promoters (CHPs), who are trained on reproductive healthcare, immunisation, nutrition as well as diagnosis, prevention and control of malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

## Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)

As a sub-recipient of the Global Fund grant, we established 660 health committees and 180 school health clubs in three districts to increase awareness on the prevention and treatment of malaria. Under malaria programme we primarily focus on promoting three messages – intermediate preventative therapy for pregnant women, use of long-lasting insecticide- treated bed nets and seeking treatment within 24 hours for malaria.

## Community Medicine Point project

The project objective is to develop a franchise model to increase the availability of genuine drugs and health products in communities through CHPs.

## Urban maternal neonatal child health (MNCH) (manoshi) project

The project goal is to decrease illness and death of mothers, newborns and children in urban slum of Freetown in Sierra Leone, through ensuring a comprehensive preventive, promotive and curative care starting from home to facility.

## Pull Slum Pan Pipul project

The Pull Slum Pan Pipul funded by Comic Relief is covering 10 urban slums in Freetown.

The objectives of the project are:

- To improve the livelihoods of young people in the slum communities by providing them with life skill trainings
- To improve their knowledge on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and their knowledge on legal rights / advocacy.

## Agriculture programme

Our agriculture programme aims to disseminate modern agriculture technologies to familiarise farmers with modern practices, which will improve their livelihoods.

### Major activities includes:

- training for farmers
- establishing demonstration farms and kitchen gardens
- producing and distributing quality seeds
- providing inputs and tools support to farmers
- organising nutritional awareness campaigns
- forming and meeting with village nutrition committees

## The Global Poverty Action fund (GPAF) project

This project is supported by DFID to reduce hunger in rural areas of Sierra Leone through agriculture and livestock activities. The project targets women who are poor landless with their families.

## Seed testing farm

In 2010, BRAC began its seed testing and multiplication farm in Lunsar, producing high quality rice and maize seeds to help improve agriculture yields in Sierra Leone.

## IVS development project

With the support of JICA through WFP, BRAC Sierra Leone has been developing 53 hectares of Inland valley Swampy (IVS) land in five swamp areas at Masimera chiefdom in the Port Loko district for improved rice cultivation.

## Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) project

Through the DEC project, unconditional cash transfers for food are provided to extremely poor households in Ebola-affected communities in Koinadugu district. The conditional cash transfers are provided to purchase groundnut rice, pepper seeds, fertiliser and agricultural tools as start-up capital and to increase their income and livelihoods.

## Poultry and livestock programme

### The pig value chain project

The pig value chain project, funded by DFID-GPAF, operates in five districts of Sierra Leone. The project aims to establish high productive pig breeding units and distribute quality piglets to farmers in the remote rural areas. The project established pig demonstration farms through model pig rearers who then influence pig producers at rural level by increasing the access for inputs and outputs.

### Post-Ebola response

The programme has successfully supported Ebola-affected poultry rearers through 'building resilience against Ebola in Sierra Leone's project funded by Google and Soros foundation. The project operates in 10 branches, covering six districts of Port Loko, Bombali, Tonkolili, Bo, Kenema and Western area. The project targets rural poor women and households who suffered from food insecurity, and are excluded from mainstream livestock programmes.

### Community livestock and poultry promoters (CLPPs)

The farmers receive services from self-employed community livestock and poultry promoters (CLPPs) who are extensively trained by BRAC on livestock husbandry, animal health, vaccinations, and the production and conservation of fodder crops. Our CLPPs are the entry point for the livestock services in the communities, and are responsible for raising demand at the local level to attract private sector investment in the poultry and livestock sector.

### Empowerment and Livelihoods for Adolescents (ELA) programme

Our adolescents programme targets 13 to 24 year old girls who dropped out of formal schooling, who have never attended school or are still in school, and those who are married, as well as teenage mothers. We address issues such as early marriage, teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and reproductive health, as well as sexual and gender based violence.

## BRAC Sierra Leone: At a Glance

### Microfinance

Total no of microloan members	31,907
Total microloan disbursement	USD 15.51 million
Average microloan size	USD 142
No of small enterprise borrowers	1,786
Total disbursement of small enterprise loan	USD 6.53 million

### ELA

Total no of clubs	210
Total no of adolescent members	6,875

### Health Programme

Total no of population reached	487,200
Total no of CHP	406
Total no of community health committee	616
Total no of health forum conducted	49,519

### Agriculture and Food Security Programme

No of Community Agriculture Promoters	200
Total no of seed and fertiliser distributed	111 metric tons
Farmers received seeds & fertilizer (cumulative)	22,270
Farmers received tools (cumulative)	17,583

### Poultry and Livestock Programme

Total number of CLPPs trained	216
Livestock and poultry rearers trained	1,468 (cumulative)
Total distribution of feed	167 metric tons
Doses used for poultry vaccinations	409,020

### Human Rights and Legal Empowerment programme

Total no of paralegals	5 (4 men, 1 woman)
Total no of cases received	2,746
Total no of cases resolved	2,207

Updated till June 2016