

Manikganj is a district located in central Bangladesh. It is a part of the Dhaka division, with an area of 1,379 square kilometres. It is one of the nearest districts to Dhaka, only 70 kilometres away from the city. It is bound by the Tangail district in the north, Dhaka district in the east, Faridpur district in the south, the Padma and Jamuna rivers and the districts of Pabna and Rajbari in the west. The main rivers are the Padma, Jamuna, Dhaleshwari, Ichamati and Kaliganga.

This city is surrounded by rivers. As a result few of the sub-districts are affected by river bank erosion every year. The people of Manikganj are mostly involved in agriculture. BRAC started its operation here in 1974. Right now, most of BRAC's core programmes, such as microfinance, education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), targeting the ultra poor (TUP), community empowerment (CEP), migration and human rights and legal aid services (HRLS). Apart from that, BRAC has also established a few of its social enterprises here, directly helping to create job opportunities for hundreds of women.

Baliati Zamindar Place, Fort at Fordnagar, tomb of Shah Rustam and Gauranga Math are some of the tourist attractions in the district.



Ayesha Abed Foundation was started in 1978 as part of BRAC's development interventions to organise, train and support rural women through traditional handicrafts

## General information

Population	1,440,000
Unions	65
Villages	1,873
Children (0-15)	860,000
Primary schools	607
Literacy rate	56%
Hospitals	7
NGOs	83
Banks	35
Bazaars	98

## At a glance

(as of December 2015)

### Microfinance

Village organisations	1,863
Members	117,000
Borrowers	95,200

### Progoti

Small enterprise clients	7,425
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## Targeting the ultra poor

Specially targeted ultra poor (STUP) members	450
Others targeted ultra poor (OTUP) members	725
Asset received	450
Training received	725
Healthcare availed	175

## Education

Primary schools	63
Pre-primary schools	225
Adolescent development programme (ADP) centres	298
Community libraries (gonokendros)	53

## Health, nutrition and population

Health workers (shasthya kormi)	59
Health volunteers (shasthya shebika)	1,456

## Community empowerment

Community-based organisation ( <i>polli shomaj</i> )	312
Union-based organisation ( <i>union shomaj</i> )	39
Popular theatre	8

## Migration

Safe migration facilitation centre (SMFC)	1
Communications workers	7
Volunteers	65

## Human rights and legal aid services

Human rights and legal education (HRLE) <i>shebikas</i>	341
Legal aid clinics	9

## Social enterprises

Ayesha Abed Foundation	1
Sanitary napkin and delivery kits	1
Feed mills	1
Nursery	1
Sericulture	1