

**Inception:** In 2002, BRAC started its first international operation by venturing into Afghanistan. It began its programs in Kabul, working to establish a footing in the chaotic post-conflict country scenario. Less than 7 years later, BRAC grew to become the largest NGO in the country, playing a significant role in its development. To date, BRAC has reached over 5.64 million people in an effort to improve their socioeconomic condition through grantfunded interventions in education, healthcare, community empowerment and capacity development in hard-to-reach communities.

## Country Statistics

### Population

31,627,506 (WB 2014)

### GDP per capita

USD 632

(Trading Economics, 2014)

### People living below the poverty line

35.8 (WB 2012)

### Life expectancy at birth

60.4 (WB 2014)

### Primary School completion rate

Males 55% (WB 2013)

Females 21%(PRB 2011)

### Adult literacy rate

32 (WB 2012)

### Maternal Mortality rate

(per 100, 000 live births)

396 (WB 2015)

### Infant mortality rate

(per 1000 live births)

66 (WB 2015)

### Food insecurity rate

28 (WFP 2013)

**Human Resources:** At present there are a total of 772 staff in BRAC Afghanistan, of whom 53 per cent are female and 93 per cent are nationals of Afghanistan. Female staff hold at least 33 per cent of Regional Manager or equivalent and higher positions. 13 per cent of all Country Management Team members are female.

**BRAC's donors in country:** DFID-GEC, DFATD-Canada, UNDP-GFATM & World Bank.



*Ms. Hakima, a former BRAC school graduate, teaches children in a BRAC CDFS (Community Based Feeder School)*

## Donor-funded programme coverage

Project Name	Donor	Start Date	Duration (Months)	Total Budget (USD in Million)	Direct Beneficiaries(#)
Education	DFID-GEC	2013	49	25.05	326,969 children(83% girls)
	DFATD-Canada	2014	39	20.75	
Health	UNDP-GFATM	2016	8	0.08	9,295 beneficiaries
National Solidarity Program (NSP)	World Bank	2012	48	13.22	3,401 communities
Agriculture	DFID	2016	18	0.12	200 beneficiaries

## Programme Updates(Jan-Sept 2016)

BRAC Afghanistan has established 13,584 schools primarily targeting girls aged 5-19. The education programme is currently covering 13 provinces. BRAC is continuing its effort in educating the out-of-school and vulnerable children, especially girls through Community-Based Schools (CBS) and Pre-Primary Schools (PPS). Currently there are 2,645 CBS and 300 PPS; 256 are run by 10 local NGOs and 93.38 per cent of the students are girls. So far 326,969 students have graduated from 10,939 BRAC schools.

BRAC's programme is closely associated with the Afghan Ministry of Education's National Education's Strategic Plan 2010-2020. To date, a total of 168,658 children have received primary education with improved learning from BRAC's CBS and achieved an average attendance of 94.49 per cent against the target of 80 per cent. BRAC has provided leadership and mentoring training to 4,023 schoolgirls and capacity development to 11,601 government school teachers. BRAC has constructed 240 schools and provided stipends to 5,987 girls who had dropped out to inspire them to come back.

100 Adolescent Reading Centers (ARCs) have been established across 8 provinces contributing to the development of 2,500 adolescent girls. In the reporting period, BRAC also organized 5,010 mothers' meetings where an average of 80 per cent mothers and guardians participated. National Solidarity Programme (NSP) is the largest community development initiative run by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development in Afghanistan. Under NSP phase-III, BRAC is working in 14 districts of 4 provinces. BRAC has established 3,401 Community Development Councils in the communities of 6 provinces and overall 6,930 sub-projects have been completed successfully.

BRAC's Capacity Development Programme provides support to its staff, programme participants, the government and partner NGOs. Training has been provided to 61,072 participants and 166 training course manuals have been developed. Among them, 19,557 participants came from the government and NGOs of which 78 per cent were female participants.

LANSAs, a pilot project promoting collective vegetables cultivation by adolescent girls for reducing malnutrition in Afghanistan, provided training to 16 adolescent girls on vegetable cultivation, health and nutrition. The trained girls provided training to 184 girls in the project areas. The project provides technical support as well as seeds to the adolescent girls to cultivate vegetables.

**Challenges:** Despite funding opportunities in Afghanistan appearing to be promising in the next few years, there is a need to consider strategically if its programmes should continue or not, due to the volatile security situation in the country. The working environment in Afghanistan is challenging because of insecurity, conflict, lack of services and infrastructure, poor economy, fragile governance, displacements and migration. Sometimes insecurity poses threat to staff movement to programme areas and hinders quality monitoring and supervision, thus affecting BRAC's ability to achieve desired outcomes.

## BRAC Afghanistan: At a Glance

### Education

Total population reached	905,083
No of schools (on-going)	2,645
No of students (on-going)	77,985
No of teachers trained	25,279
Girl students	93.38%
Graduated students (Cumulative)	326,969
Cost per child per year	(USD) 73

### Health

Total no of population reached	588,493
Total number of CHPs	924
DOTs trainings for Medical Doctors	300
DOTs training for Nurses	297
No of LLIN (long-lasting insecticidal nets) distributed	4,654
Malaria trainings for Medical Doctors	90
Number of CHWs trained on Malaria	702

### National Solidarity Programme: NSP-III

No of households covered	256,560
No of infrastructure (sub-projects) completed	6,930

### Capacity development

No of trainers	18
Total no of staff trained	48,729
Courses developed and offered(cumulative)	166
Total participants trained (cumulative)	61,072
Total no of participants trained from Govt & NGOs	19,557
Percentage of female trained	78

Updated till September 2016