

Inception: BRAC launched operations in Liberia in 2008 and now provides services to more than 560,000 Liberians with grant-funded programs in microfinance, the Small Enterprise Programme, agriculture, poultry and livestock, health, education, early childhood development and empowerment, and livelihood for adolescents.

Human Resources: There are a total of 315 staff in BRAC Liberia, of whom 71 per cent are female and 92 per cent are nationals of Liberia. Female staff hold at least 25 per cent of positions equivalent to Regional Manager or above.

BRAC's donors in country: NOVO, PIMCO, UNFPA, & DFID. livelihood for adolescents.

Country Statistics

Population

4.615 million (WB 2016)

GDP per capita

USD 376

(Trading Economics, 2014)

People living below the poverty line

63.8 per cent (WB 2007)

Life expectancy at birth

61 years (WB 2014)

Primary School completion rate

59% (WB 2014)

Adult literacy rate

47.6 (UNESCO 2010)

Maternal Mortality rate (per 100, 000 live births)

725 (WB 2015)

Infant mortality rate (per 1000 live births)

53 (WB 2015)

Chronic malnutrition rate

28% (WFP 13)

Food Insecurity

55% (WFP, 2012)



Microfinance borrower Annie Walker sells fish in the market in Matadi, Monrovia

Microfinance coverage

Branch	Borrowers	PAR	Disbursement (USD in Million)	Principle Outstanding (USD in Million)
22	17,291	4.91	4.92	2.97

Donor-funded programme coverage

Project Name	Donor	Start Date	Duration (Months)	Total Budget (USD in Million)	Direct Beneficiaries
ELA	NOVO, PIMCO	2016	35	0.54	1,800 girls and 900 boys
	UNFPA	2016	9	0.40	
Reproductive, Maternal and Child health	DFID	2013	41	2.06	106,000 women and adolescents, 53,000 under-five children
PPR Vaccination	FED	2016	4	0.13	11,215 small ruminant
Agriculture & livestock	EU	2012	42	2.50	12,650 farmers

Programme Updates (Jan-Sept 2016)

In the post-Ebola phase, the microfinance programme mobilized funding from Rockefeller Foundation to provide subsidized loans, pilot new loan products and introduce mobile money for Small Enterprise Programme (SEP) borrowers. USD 3.22 million has been disbursed from January to September 2016 from 22 branches, increasing the outstanding portfolio by 34 per cent. In SEP, USD 1.6 million was disbursed in the same period. The Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescents (ELA) programme aims to support adolescents to achieve appropriate life skills to make key life decisions. BRAC Liberia provided life skills and livelihood training to 1,886 girls and 716 boys. In the reporting period, ELA microfinance loans were disbursed to 88 adolescent borrowers from eight microfinance groups as start-up capital for income-generating activities. The RMNCH project is being implemented in seven counties of Liberia with the aim to improve reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health for women, adolescent girls and under-five children through 584 Community Health Promoters and 300 Trained Traditional Midwives working on a voluntary basis. In the reporting period, BRAC covered 539,927 people under this project ensuring pregnancy-related care, safe delivery referral services, ORS distribution, condom & pill distribution and immunization. This year 3,032 lab tests were conducted, 2,219 malaria patients and 659 typhoid patients

were treated in BRAC Lab and Diagnostic Centre. BRAC's agriculture programme addresses the problem of poor crop productivity and works to improve the efficiency of small agricultural farmers. The poultry and livestock programme was launched to decrease livestock mortality, raise farincome and increase rural employment. BRAC's project evaluation report found that livestock production has increased by 23.59 per cent, income from livestock has increased by 30 per cent, project beneficiaries improved their food consumption by 65 per cent and 28 per cent farmers are selling their livestock products in local markets. BRAC has trained 1,890 model farmers, 11,862 general farmers, and 837 Community Livestock & Poultry Promoters to change their socioeconomic condition. Three slaughterhouses have been built in three communities. BRAC Liberia's adaptive research and seed testing farm has 30 acres of land to conduct adaptive research and seed testing. This year 2.5 MT Nerica-L19 rice seeds were produced and distributed to the MOA and community farmers. It is also working on bio-fortified Vitamin A-rich yellow cassava multiplication in the farm through the collaboration of CARI (Central Agricultural Research Institute) to increase awareness in the community about its vitamin contents and higher yield. Understanding the crisis of day-old chicks and feed, BRAC Liberia setup the Poultry Hatchery and Feed Mill, which is the first hatchery and feed mill of its kind in Liberia. During January to September 2016, 39,640 DOCs and 95 MT feed have been produced. BRAC Liberia is implementing the Partnership School for Liberia Program in collaboration with the Ministry of Education in 20 public schools across seven districts of two counties to raise learning outcomes for children in public schools and develop a cost-effective and affordable model of school provision in Liberia. It has signed an agreement with UNICEF to create increased access to quality education services and improve learning achievements for preprimary aged girls and boys. This project operates in three counties and BRAC will establish 30 ECD centers. Challenges: The Ebola outbreak has resulted in food crisis, price drop in agriculture and livestock products, and shortage of health commodities. There are expectations from communities for BRAC to provide cash, free services and commodities. Operations have faced delays due to the price hike, particularly regarding adolescents' microfinance

BRAC Liberia: At a Glance

Microfinance & SEP

Total no of borrowers	17,291
Average micro loan size	USD 193
Average SEP loan size	USD 1,604

Empowerment & Livelihood for Adolescents (ELA)

No of adolescent clubs	60
No of club members	1886
No of Govt. Primary Schools	20
No of Students	5,989
Girl students	47%

Health

Population reached	539,927
No of CHPs	599
No of TTMs	300

Agriculture Food Security and Livelihood Programme

Trained agriculture farmers	12,726
Trained livestock farmers	13,000

Updated till September 2016