

WASH IN HARD-TO REACH AREAS

Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene
Programme



BRAC began its project- WASH in hard-to-reach (HtR) areas in 2016, with the goal to deliver sustainable WASH services. We target our interventions based on the geophysical context of the HtR areas that are diverse and distinct from place to place. In Bangladesh, hard-to-reach are pockets of areas that have had very limited development due to little infrastructure development, and poor road communication network.

Hard-to-reach areas make up 21% of the country's total area, and are characterized by their remote geographical location, prevalence of poverty, threats of climatic disasters such as flood, droughts, cyclones, and consequences of the dynamic riverine environment such as tidal surges and riverbank erosion. The Government of Bangladesh has categorized these areas as extremely, very and moderately hard-to-reach.

Much of the population continues to be deprived of adequate water and sanitation services, as service providers fail to reach or find it difficult to provide services.

WHAT WE DO

1. Provide appropriate water technologies-

We promote appropriate technologies in areas where natural water sources are contaminated with iron, arsenic, and/or salinity. We have set up piped water networks, water treatment plants, pond sand filters, iron removal plants, and rain-water harvesting in communities.



2. Access to safely managed sanitation-

We encourage communities to install twin-pit latrines to ensure safe management of their pit content. In vulnerable areas, we promote resilient, elevated latrines to withstand impacts of climate change



3. WASH financial services-

We offer various loan products to households for installing water and sanitation, or both. We also provide entrepreneurial loans for water treatment plants, water vendor, and rural sanitation centres.



ACHIEVEMENTS

7,555
loans
through
which
215,472
people
accessed
safe
drinking
water

7,055
loans
through
which
40,945
people
accessed
safely
managed
sanitation

213
water
treatment
plants

1,828
deep tube
wells and
2,274
shallow
tube wells
installed

780
rain-water
harvesting
systems
installed

491
rural
sanitation
centres
supported

Key areas of focus

1. Strengthening the WASH supply chain:

We supplement WASH markets by enhancing both demand and supply. We foster demand through hygiene promotion and provide various loan packages to households. We strengthen supply by developing WASH entrepreneurs and connecting them to hardware suppliers who promote improved quality of sanitation material. We provide loans and technical support for water entrepreneurs (water treatment plant and vendor) and sanitation entrepreneurs

2. Promoting climate resilient WASH:

The project aims to establish WASH facilities that can withstand the existing level of climate fluctuations, and reduce the likelihood that individuals feel the effects of climate change and related shocks. Residents are educated to invest sufficiently in resilient WASH facilities that result in long term return on investment.



Supported by:

