

URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME BANGLADESH

Our approach

Globally, every third person living in cities lives in an informal settlement. In Bangladesh, people living in urban informal settlements lack access to basic services such as safe housing, water, sanitation, healthcare and livelihoods opportunities.

BRAC, a southern international development organisation reaching over 100 million people globally, is working to tackle these multi-faceted challenges through its pro-poor urban development strategy. BRAC introduced its **Urban Development Programme** (UDP) in 2016, with a vision to make cities and urban informal settlements safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable. The programme covered **20 cities** across Bangladesh with six programmatic priorities:

1. Improve access to adequate and affordable basic services
2. Improve access to livelihoods, skills and entrepreneurship development
3. Increase opportunities for safe and affordable housing, land tenure security and living conditions in urban informal settlements
4. Integrate policies and plans to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts and disasters
5. Strengthen urban governance for inclusive, accountable and pro-poor urban management and planning
6. Strengthen policy advocacy and partnerships for sustainable, pro-poor and inclusive urban growth

Targets (2021-2025)



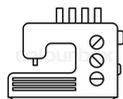
500,000

People will have access to basic and affordable services



126,000

People will be benefited through infrastructure development



50,000

People from different occupation groups will receive skills and business development support



25,000

People will be provided with emergency support to recover from pandemic shocks



13

Cities will practice inclusive planning and budgeting

In numbers

(2016- 2021)

947,783

People accessed basic services including improved sanitation, safe water, healthcare, alternative livelihood opportunities and better waste management system.

370,387

People accessed safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities

51,175

Workers in ready-made garments received wellbeing services

380,329

People have improved waste collection facilities

11,750

People received livelihood support

5,807

Low-cost houses built for the community

5,060

City officials and elected representatives received training on inclusive urban planning and governance

Projects

Engaging multi-sectoral partners for creating opportunities, improving wellbeing and realising rights of the urban poor (EMPOWER) 2016– 2021

The project works to ensure communities have access to basic services. City authorities are sensitised on pro-poor urban governance required for upgrading urban informal settlements.

Empowering the ready-made garment workers living in urban slums in Dhaka 2017- 2021

The project works to ensure skills development opportunities and basic services for the workers of ready-made garments industry through its 'one stop service centres' (OSSC). UDP works with factories' management to provide basic services at the workplace.

Integrated rehabilitation programme for WASH services (IRP WASH) 2020-25

The projects works, in collaboration with collaborating with city authorities and local stakeholders, to improve water supply, sanitation and hygiene services among low-income communities in Mohammadpur and Mirpur, under Dhaka North City Corporation and Saidpur Municipality in Nilphamari district, in northern Bangladesh.

Integrated rehabilitation programme for health services (IRP Health) 2020-25

The project works to provide community-based, integrated health services among low-income communities in Mohammadpur, under Dhaka North City Corporation and Saidpur Municipality in Nilphamari district. It aims to improve people's basic healthcare and nutritional status through BRAC's urban healthcare and diagnostic centres.

Urban food assistance programme 2020- 2022

The project provides cash support to people who have lost family member(s) due to COVID-19 and are living in extreme vulnerability in Kallyanpur, Sattola, Duaripara and Bhashantek in Dhaka, to support their nutritional needs.

Accountability and responsiveness in informal settlements for equity (ARISE) 2019- 2024

The project works to build interdisciplinary and multi-sector partnerships among researchers, community organisations, government and non-government organisations and service providers. The research project of James P Grant School of Public Health is being facilitated by UDP under this project.

ARISE responsive fund 2021- 2022

The project works to improve health and wellbeing of people living in urban informal communities in Dhaka, Khulna and Rajshahi, to ensure their safety during the COVID-19 pandemic

Cool roof project 2020- 2021

The project works to improve housing conditions among communities living in the Karail settlement in Dhaka. Roofs are painted with heat radiating paint to keep the houses cool during hot summers.

Improving the wellbeing of waste workers in Dhaka city 2021 (Pilot)

The project supports people who directly manage waste in 24 low-income urban settlements in Dhaka North and South city corporations. They and their families receive primary healthcare services, hygiene kits, training on safe handling of waste, wellbeing and basic literacy through five community service centers.

Advocacy and communication campaign on COVID-19 2021

This project advocates for and raises awareness on personal and occupational protection against COVID-19 in the ready-made garments industry in addition to the communities in Gazipur and Chattogram where the workers live.

Contact

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People receiving healthcare service at a BRAC urban healthcare and diagnostic centre



UDP installed 164 handwashing stations during the COVID-19 pandemic

Partners

