Timeline: July 2020–June 2025

Project locations

Low-income informal settlements in Dhaka North City Corporation (Mirpur: Ward number 2, 3 and 5; and Mohammadpur: Ward number 29, 31 and 32) and in Saidpur Municipality of Nilphamari district.



Voice from the community

Mosammat Chadni says,

"We share a common bathroom with ten other families. The long queue for the bathroom after a tiring day of work causes a great deal of stress. I cannot ensure my children's health because it is difficult to maintain hygiene here."





Urban **Development** and BRAC

Founded in Bangladesh in 1972, BRAC acts as a catalyst, creating opportunities for people to transform their lives. Our work reduces multidimensional poverty and deprivation by supporting one million people living in urban poverty to improve their well-being and resilience, and realise their rights. We look at the challenges people in each city are facing and work with the local government, private sector, and communities to find sustainable solutions.

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King Abdullah bin Abdul—Aziz Programme (KAAP) for Integrated Rehabilitation Programme for **WASH Services**



Background

Approximately 65 million people in Bangladesh live in urban areas (World Bank, 2020). About half of them do not have access to their own sanitation facilities. One in every five people lives below the poverty line, exacerbating the challenge of seeking out alternative arrangements.

People living in resource—constrained, informal settlements need to share community facilities, which are inadequate in number and affect their health, safety and dignity. With increased urban migration, the situation is predicted to worsen by 2030.

To assess water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) situations in low-income urban settlements, the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) conducted a need assessment survey in 2019. Based on the findings, BRAC Urban Development Programme has launched a five-year long water, sanitation and hygiene project to support 200,000 people living in urban informal settlements in Dhaka and Nilphamari, supported by Islamic Development Bank (IsDB).

Goal

To provide safe water, improved sanitation and hygiene facilities among people living in poverty in urban informal settlements.

Objectives

- To establish equal and safe access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for people living in urban poverty
- To ensure gender—responsive water, sanitation and hygiene facilities at institutional level, i.e. separate and functional facilities in schools for female and male students
- To promote hygiene education with emphasis on COVID-19 safety protocols

Approach



The overarching goal, to achieve consistent and appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene practices, will be met by ensuring access to essential hardware and services; creating an enabling environment that facilitates improved practices; and organising a set of promotional and mobilisational activities to create demand and momentum for change.

Partners

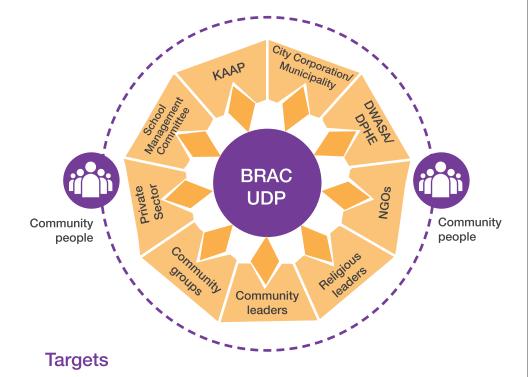


BRAC Urban Development Programme is working with the local government institutes, including Dhaka North City Corporation and Saidpur Municipality, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA), Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE); James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, local non—government organisations, and private service providers.

Implementation strategy

- Collaboration with local government institutes and nongovernment organisations
- 2. Capacity development of people living in poverty in low-income urban settlements
- 3. Sensitisation of people from the communities on water, sanitation and hygiene through:
- a. Hygiene promotion
- b. Awareness campaign on COVID-19 prevention methods
- 4. Supporting communities with improved water, sanitation and hygiene facilities through:
 - a. Safe water supply
 - b. Improved sanitation facilities (community toilets, bathrooms and handwashing stations)
 - c. Effective drainage network
 - d. Faecal sludge management
 - e. Solid waste management
- f. Promoting water, sanitation and hygiene in schools

Coordination among stakeholders



- 150,000 people living in urban informal settlements have access to improved sanitation facilities
- 31,500 people living in urban informal settlements have access to safe drinking water
- 390 people from the communities trained on water, sanitation and hygiene
- 10 schools equipped with improved water, sanitation and hygiene facilities
- 5,000 students have improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities
- 100% households in targeted informal settlements have received hygiene awareness