Part of Chittagong, Bandarban is a district in south-eastern Bangladesh. It is one of the three districts that make up the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the others being Rangamati and Khagrachhari. This city is the remotest and least populated city in the country. The majority of people are of indigenous ethnicity, such as Bomong, Marma, Mru, Tanchangya, Khyang, Tripura, Lushei, Khumi, Chak, Kuki, Chakma, Rakhine (or Arakanese), Riyang, Usui and Pankho. Most of them are highly dependent on irrigation such as jumm farming, which is a ‘slash and burn’ agricultural technique used in Bandarban and other hill tracts. BRAC has offered few of its core programmes in Bandarban including microfinance, health, nutrition and population (HNPP), and the education programme (BEP). Apart from it, BRAC’s new initiative, the skills development programme, provides holistic skills development training and decent employment opportunities, enabling young men and women to realise their full potential.

Bandarban is one of the major tourist attractions in Bangladesh. Notable tourist destinations include Tahjindong, Keokradong (the highest peak of Bangladesh), Golden Temple, Boga Lake, Nilgiri Resort, Chimbuk Pahar, Jadipai Waterfall, Nafa-Khum Waterfall, Rijuk Waterfall and Sholo Propat.

General information

- Population: 404,093
- Sub-districts: 7
- Unions: 32
- Villages: 1,482
- Children (0-15): 67,081
- Primary schools: 325
- Literacy rate: 43%
- Hospitals: 8
- NGOs: 48
- Banks: 14
- Bazaars: 28

At a glance

(As of December 2016)

Education

- Primary schools: 12
- Education support programme: 55
- Community libraries: 16

Micorfinance

- Branches: 9
- Village organisations: 351
- Members: 25,076
- Borrowers: 14,519

Progoti

- Small enterprise clients: 344

Health, nutrition and population

- Health workers (shasthya kormi): 118
- Health volunteers (shasthya shebika): 615
- Health centres: 17

Skills development

- Number of trades: 7
- Number of graduate learners: 140
- Number of learners: 140

Although every effort has been made to include and verify the accuracy of relevant information in this fact sheet, users are urged to check independently on matters of specific interest. Report any discrepancies/suggestions to visitors@brac.net. This document was last updated on 31 December 2016, is revised yearly and made available on www.brac.net/visitors.