One of the seven divisions of Bangladesh, Chittagong is the second most populous city and a major industrial and commercial hub. It is also known for its indigenous community and hill tracts. Located on the bank of the Karnaphuli river, the city is located 249 kilometres away from Dhaka. In Chittagong, Bengalis represent the largest ethnic group followed by tribal ethnicities such as Chakmas and Marmas. Chittagong is surrounded by hill tracts and the Bay of Bengal.

BRAC operates most of its programmes here, including microfinance, targeting the ultra poor (TUP), education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), community empowerment (CEP), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), gender justice and diversity (GJD), skills development and migration. BRAC has also established few of its social enterprises in the area, helping to create job opportunities in rural areas. Like in other metropolitan cities, BRAC is working both in rural and urban areas of Chittagong. The Microfinance programme has the biggest impact in the area with over 200,000 dabi and progoti clients. In this area, WASH has achieved 73 per cent of sanitation coverage and installed latrines at schools and villages. WASH has also installed several tubewells in rural areas. BEP also works as a large unit in Chittagong, targeting children who can not afford formal education from mainstream schools. BRAC’s new initiative, the skills development programme, provides holistic skills development training and decent employment opportunities to enable young women and men to realise their full potential. Additionally, HNPP, CEP, TUP, GJD and migration work in this area. A BRAC learning centre (BLC) was also established in Chittagong. The BLC is a residential learning centre used as a training centre for BRAC employees.

Chittagong is at the centre of all tourist attractions in Bangladesh, including the Patenga Sea Beach, Foy’s Lake, Khoiyachara Waterfall, the Commonwealth War Cemetery and the Ethnological Museum of Chittagong.

General information

- Population: 7,913,365
- Unions: 192
- Villages: 1,267
- Children (0-15): 2,178,542
- Primary schools: 2,997
- Literacy rate: 59%
- Hospitals: 37
- NGOs: 159
- Banks: 182
- Bazaars: 265

Our malaria control activities inform and educate people at community level, promote use of insecticide treated bed nets and increase early diagnosis and prompt treatment.
At a glance
(as of December 2016)

**Microfinance**
- Branches: 89
- Village organisations: 4,627
- Members: 261,576
- Borrowers: 125,435
- Progoti
  - Small enterprise clients: 19,182

**Education**
- Primary schools: 452
- Pre-primary schools: 301
- ADP centres: 162
- Community libraries: 48

**Gender justice and diversity**
**MEJNIN (meyeder jonno nirapad nagorikotta - safe citizenship for girls)**
- Student watch groups: 44
- Student watch group members: 1,155
- Community watch groups: 37
- Community watch group members: 352

**Health, nutrition and population**
- Health workers (shasthya kormi): 673
- Health volunteers (shasthya shebika): 5,708
- Health centres: 5

**Community empowerment**
- Community-based organisation (polli shomaj): 176
- Popular theatre: 6
- Human rights violation cases reported: 377

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**
- Committee members: 38,610
- Sanitation coverage: 73%
- Deep tubewell installed: 62
- Sanitary latrines installed in schools: 294

**Human rights and legal aid services**
- Human rights and legal education (HRLE) shebikas: 479
- HRLE graduates: 68,563
- Legal aid clinics: 10

**Targeting the ultra poor**
- Specially targeted ultra poor (STUP) members: 225
- Other targeted ultra poor (OTUP) members: 1,000
- Asset and training received: 225
- Healthcare availed: 191
- Soft loan received: 1,000

**Skills development**
- Number of master craft persons (MCPs): 208
- Number of trades: 7
- Number of learners: 1,131
- Number of graduate learners: 1,654

**Migration**
- Safe migration facilitation centre (SMFC): 1
- Community-based organisation (CBO) facilitator: 1
- Number of unions: 28
- Volunteers: 80

**Social enterprises and investments**
- Aarong outlets: 2
- BRAC Poultry: 2
- BRAC Nursery: 2
- BRAC Tea Estates: 5