Located in western Bangladesh, Kushtia is a district known for the Lalon shrine. BRAC runs some of its core programmes such as microfinance, education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), and migration programme in this district. Among them, microfinance is the largest programme, offering three types of loans – dabi (microloan) and progoti (enterprise loans) and tenant farmers’ development loan.

There are more than about 150,000 members and 100,000 borrowers. BEP stands as the second largest programme, running 187 schools, the adolescent development programme (ADP), and gonokendros (community libraries). HNPP is another core programme running successfully in this district. It is a combination of preventive, curative, rehabilitative and promotional health services, focusing on improving maternal, neonatal and child health (IMNCS), and combating communicable diseases and common health problems, forming the key component of essential healthcare. HRLS serves the disadvantaged community through its human rights and legal education (HRL) shebikas. Migration programme is working to ensure the rights of migrants by providing an easy access to services that help them avoid exploitation as Bangladeshi migrants.

At a glance
(as of December, 2016)

**Microfinance**
- Branches 36
- Village organisations 2,739
- Members 131,788
- Borrowers 69,689

**Progoti**
- Small enterprise clients 5,923

**Tenant farmers’ development project**
- Village organisations 337
- Money disbursed 176,053,000
- Population covered 44,311

**General Information**
- Population 2,023,657
- Sub-districts 6
- Unions 65
- Villages 979
- Children (0-15) 627,333
- Primary schools 790
- Literacy rate 46%
- Hospitals 6
- Banks 86
- Bazaars 188
- NGOs 249

**Education**
- Primary schools 5
- Shishu niketon schools 182
- ADP centres 126
- Community libraries 54
Health, nutrition and population

Health workers (shasthya kormi) 54
Health volunteers (shasthya shebika) 1,305

Human rights and legal aid services

Human rights and legal education (HRLE) shebikas 318
HRLE graduates 86,517
Legal aid clinics 9

Migration

Safe migration facilitation centre (SMFC) 1
Community-based organisation (CBO) facilitators 5
Communication workers 4
Volunteers 24

Social enterprises

Ayesha Abed Foundation 1
Sub-centres 66
Regular staff 47
Total workers 2,265

BRAC dairy and Food project
Chilling centres 3
Average milk collection per day (litres) 1,500