

Located in the south of Bangladesh, Patuakhali lies under Barisal division and has an area of 3,220 square kilometres. Kuakata – the famous beach located at Patuakhali, is also called the “Sagorkonnya” (the daughter of sea). It is the only beach in Bangladesh where both the sunset and sunrise can be seen. The two major rivers here are the Laukathi and Lohalia, which are directly connected with the Bay of Bengal. As this city is adjacent to the Bay of Bengal, agriculture and fishing are the most common professions for the people of Patuakhali.

BRAC operates the majority of its components at Patuakhali, such as microfinance, health, nutrition and population (HNPP), education (BEP), community empowerment (CEP), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), targeting the ultra poor (TUP) programmes. Among them, microfinance is the largest programmes, offers three types of loans - dabi (microloan), progoti (enterprise loan) and tenant farmers’ development loan (agriculture loan). BRAC’s



Photo credit: BRAC/Shehzed Noorani

Sitting on a colourful jute matres she participated to paint, a girl child writes in her textbook in a BRAC primary school in a rural village.

disaster management and climate change (DMCC) programme is also operating in the area since it is affected by natural disasters like cyclones, floods and tornadoes each year.

General information

Population	1,557,137
Sub-districts	8
Unions	72
Villages	882
Children (0-15)	416,689
Primary schools	1,101
Literacy rate	65%
Hospitals	8
NGOs	126
Banks	75
Bazaars	202

At a glance

(as of December, 2016)

Microfinance

Branches	24
Village organisations	1,233
Members	50,474
Borrowers	28,964

Progoti

Small enterprise clients	4,756
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Tenant farmers’ development project

Village organisations	283
Money disbursed	431,628,000
Population covered	11,122

Education

Pre-primary schools	21
Primary Schools	12
ADP centres	45
Community libraries	44

Human rights and legal aid services	
Human rights legal education (HRLE) <i>shebikas</i>	336
Legal aid clinics	6
HRLE graduates	36,167
Cases filed	331
Complaints resolved	2,295
Targeting the ultra poor	
Specially targeted ultra poor (STUP) members	25,346
Other targeted ultra poor (OTUP) members	940
Asset and training received	25,346
Healthcare availed	10,799
Soft loan received	2,617
Health, nutrition and population	
Health volunteers (<i>shasthya shebika</i>)	1,536
Health workers (<i>shasthya kormi</i>)	55

Community empowerment	
Community-based organisation (<i>polli shomaj</i>)	154
Union-based organisation (<i>union shomaj</i>)	11
Popular theatre teams	6
Disaster management and climate change	
Trained clients	2,000
Women groups	80
Women group members	2,000
Assets received	400
Distribution of trees for plantation	2,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	
Committee members	1,430
Sanitation coverage	75%
Loans for sanitary latrines	1,888
Deep tubewells installed	157
Sanitary latrine installed in schools	75