Korail, one of the largest slums in Bangladesh, is located just opposite the BRAC Head Office in Dhaka. Most of the people who live in Korail have moved to the city from some of the poorest parts of Bangladesh. Korail covers approximately 100 acres and is home to more than 50,000 residents.

The slum borders Gulshan and Banani, two of Dhaka’s most affluent neighbourhoods. However the majority of Korail’s inhabitants are living below the poverty line and working in extremely low income jobs.

Between 2007 and 2008, a major eviction drive in Dhaka resulted in many slum dwellers being relocated to Korail since it has never fallen victim to evictions owing to its strong political backing. The effects of this sizeable relocation meant even worse living conditions and poorer delivery of health and education services for Korail’s residents.

BRAC began its work in Korail in 1997 with the microfinance programme, and now offers many more services from BRAC’s education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), urban development programme (UDP), and skills development programme (SDP).

At a glance
As of June, 2017

Microfinance
Village organisations 25
Members 1,797
Borrowers 738
Outstanding 25,842,553
Average loan size 24,444
Loan disbursement 23,453,000

Education
Pre-primary schools 66
Number of pre-primary school students 1,956
Primary schools 16
Number of primary school students 326
Course completed students (primary and pre-primary) 3,637
Adolescent development programme (ADP) centres 26
ADP centre members 910

Children with Special Need Unit (Neuro-Developmental Disability Centre)
NDD Centre 1
Students 20
Teachers 2

Health, nutrition and population
Manoshi (Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health project)
Health volunteers 40
Health workers 5
Urban birth attendants 2
BRAC maternity centre 1

Babies delivered
- Total babies delivered 1,208
- At maternity centre 236
- At home 69
- Hospital (BRAC referred) 903
Antenatal care provided 4,425
Postnatal care provided 1,208

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Skills development programme
STAR (skill training for advancing resources)
Total learners 5

Urban development programme
Number of community development organisation 3
Number of cluster committee 33
Number of primary groups 601
Population covered 64,758
Household covered 14,924
Housing for fire victims 4,117