

Manikganj is a district located in central Bangladesh. It is a part of the Dhaka division, with an area of 1,379 square kilometres. It is one of the nearest districts to Dhaka, only 70 kilometres away from the city. It is bound by the Tangail district in the north, Dhaka district in the east, Faridpur district in the south, the Padma and Jamuna rivers and the districts of Pabna and Rajbari in the west. The main rivers are the Padma, Jamuna, Dhaleshwari, Ichamati and Kaliganga.

This city is surrounded by rivers. As a result few of the sub-districts are affected by river bank erosion every year. The people of Manikganj are mostly involved in agriculture. BRAC started its operation here in 1974. Right now, most of BRAC's core programmes, such as microfinance, education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), ultra poor graduation (UPG), community empowerment (CEP), skills development and human rights and legal aid services (HRLS). Apart from that, BRAC has also established a few of its social enterprises here, directly helping to create job opportunities for hundreds of women.

Baliati Zamindar Place, Fort at Fordnagar, tomb of Shah Rustam and Gauranga Math are some of the tourist attractions in the district.



Photo credit: BRAC

Ayesha Abed Foundation was started in 1978 as part of BRAC's development interventions to organise, train and support rural women through traditional handicrafts

General information

Population	1,440,000
Unions	65
Villages	1,873
Children (0-15)	860,000
Primary schools	607
Literacy rate	56%
Hospitals	8
NGOs	43
Banks	37
Bazaars	98

At a glance

(as of December 2018)

Microfinance

Branches	31
Village organisations	2,265
Members	55,600
Borrowers	50,360

Progoti

Small enterprise clients	12,540
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Ultra poor graduation

Group - 1 members	85
Group - 2 members	1,206
Asset received	1,206
Training received	1,206
Healthcare availed	57
Group - 3 members	1,014
Asset received	1,014
Training received	1,014
Healthcare availed	45

Education

Primary schools	47
Pre-primary schools	22
Shishu niketon schools	37
Adolescent development programme (ADP) centres	37
Community libraries (gonokendros)	51

Health, nutrition and population

Health workers (shasthya kormi)	51
Health volunteers (shasthya shebika)	537

Community empowerment

Community-based organisation (<i>polli shomaj</i>)	316
Union-based organisation (union <i>shomaj</i>)	51
Popular theatre	8

Human rights and legal aid services

HRLE graduates	95,893
Legal aid clinics	8

Social enterprises

Ayesha Abed Foundation	2
Sanitary napkin and delivery kits	1
Nursery	1