

One of the seven divisions of Bangladesh, Chattogram 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 Chattogram, Bengalis represent the largest ethnic group followed by tribal ethnicities such as Chakmas and Marmas. Chattogram is surrounded by hill tracts and the Bay of Bengal.

BRAC operates most of its programmes here, including microfinance, ultra poor graduation (UPG), 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 Chattogram. The Microfinance programme has the biggest impact in the area with over 200,000 dabi and progoti



Photo credit: BRAC/Shehzad Noorani

*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.*

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 Chattogram, 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, UPG, GJD and migration work in this area. A BRAC learning centre (BLC) was also established in Chattogram. The BLC is a residential learning centre used as a training centre for BRAC employees. Chattogram

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 Chattogram.

## General information

Population	7,913,365
Unions	190
Villages	1,267
Children (0-15)	1,582,673
Primary schools	2,481
Literacy rate	59%
Hospitals	52
NGOs	155
Banks	182
Bazaars	265

## At a glance

(as of December 2019)

### Microfinance

Branches	189
Village organisations	7,703
Members	350,490
Borrowers	210,776

### Progoti

Small enterprise clients	25,574
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### Education

Primary schools	182
Pre-primary schools	476
ADP centres	127
Community libraries	56

### Gender justice and diversity

Teachers trained	300
Staff trained	250

### Health, nutrition and population

Health workers ( <i>shasthya kormi</i> )	423
Health volunteers ( <i>shasthya shebika</i> )	2,580
Health centres	7

### Community empowerment

Community-based organisation ( <i>polli shomaj</i> )	188
Popular theatre	6
Human rights violation cases reported	143

### Water, sanitation and hygiene

Committee members	25,619
Sanitation coverage	76%
Deep tubewell installed	7
Sanitary latrines installed	

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### Human rights and legal aid services

HRLE graduates	75,111
Legal aid clinics	10
Cases filed	651

### Skills development

Number of master craft persons (MCPs) in STAR	157
Number of trades in STAR	9
Number of graduate learners in STAR	319
Number of learners in PROSPER	170

### Migration

Safe migration facilitation centre (SMFC)	1
Community-based organisation (CBO) facilitator	1
Number of unions	36
Volunteers	72

### Social enterprises and investments

Aarong outlets	2
BRAC Nursery	1
BRAC ISD	1