

# Human Rights and Legal Aid Services (HRLS)

BRAC Human Rights and Legal Aid Services (HRLS) programme is dedicated to protecting and promoting human rights of the poor and marginalised through legal empowerment. HRLS operates 517 Legal Aid Clinics in 61 of 64 districts across Bangladesh and is the largest NGO-led legal aid programme in the world. Our work is premised on a rights based approach to human development.

## Programme initiatives

HRLS Director, Dr Faustina Pereira is an Advisor to the national committee on Shadow Report writing process for Bangladesh “Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)”.

CRPD is an international human rights treaty of the UN, intended to protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities.

The convention has served as the major catalyst in the global movement from viewing persons with disabilities as objects of charity, medical treatment and social protection towards viewing them as full and equal members of society, with human rights. It is also the only UN human rights instrument with an explicit sustainable development dimension. The convention was the first human rights treaty of the third millennium

## HRLS at a glance

Year	No. of People with disability who received HRLS assistance	Female	Male
September 2010 to December 2013	707	659	48
2013	23	20	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>51</b>

## Network / Partnership

1. United Nations