

Located in northern Bangladesh, Naogaon is part of Rajshahi. The main rivers in the area are Atrai, Punarbhaba, Jamuna, Nagar, Chiri and Tulsī Ganga. Naogaon has a few notable tourist destinations. Among them, Paharpur Buddhist Vihara, Jagaddal Vihara, Halud Vihara and Agrapuri Vihara are quite popular. Paharpur Buddhist Vihara is known nationwide for its ancient archaeological significance.

Naogaon is also known as the bread basket of Bangladesh, and agriculture is the most common source of income. Crops grown in the district include paddy, jute, wheat, maize, sugarcane, potatoes, pulses, oil seeds, eggplants, onions, and garlic. It is also the top listed site for rice production and has the highest number of rice processing mills among all districts. BRAC operates various programmes in Naogaon such as microfinance, education (BEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), ultra poor graduation (UPG), community empowerment (CEP), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), and skills development. Among them, microfinance has reached the most clients through dabi (microloan), progoti (enterprise loans), the tenant farmers' development project and northwest crop diversification programme (NCDP).



Photo credit: BRAC

BRAC's beneficiary got livestock from UPG programme in Naogaon

BEP has provided access to education for marginalised children in the area. IDP and UPG are operating in the area to tackle poverty on multiple fronts. CEP and HRLS are promoting human rights and legal empowerment, while HNPP provides healthcare services to rural women and children.

General information

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|-----------------|-----------|
| Population | 2,600,157 |
| Sub-districts | 11 |
| Unions | 99 |
| Villages | 2,780 |
| Children (0-15) | 760,789 |
| Primary schools | 794 |
| Literacy rate | 48% |
| Hospitals | 11 |
| NGOs | 88 |
| Banks | 35 |
| Bazaars | 244 |

At a glance

(as of December, 2018)

Microfinance

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Branches | 53 |
| Village organisation | 3,197 |
| Members | 2,06,049 |
| Borrowers | 88,517 |

Progoti

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|--------------------------|--------|
| Small enterprise clients | 13,308 |
|--------------------------|--------|

Community empowerment

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| Community-based organisation (polli shomaj) | 337 |
| Union-based organisation (union shomaj) | 48 |
| Popular theatre | 11 |

Education

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| Shishu nicketon schools | 14 |
| Community libraries | 70 |

Ultra poor graduation

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|---------------------|--------|
| Group - 1 Members | 3,595 |
| Assets received | 3,595 |
| Training received | 3,595 |
| Healthcare received | 13,127 |

Health, nutrition and population

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| Health workers (<i>shasthya kormi</i>) | 61 |
| Health volunteers (<i>shasthya shebika</i>) | 565 |

Skills development

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| Number of trades | 5 |
| Number of learners in PROGRESS | 195 |

Human rights and legal aid services

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| Human rights and legal education (HRLE) <i>shebikas</i> | 515 |
| HRLE graduates | 95,536 |
| Legal aid clinics | 11 |
| Cases filed | 2,135 |
| Complaints resolved | 4,803 |

Integrated development programme

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|-----------------------|-------|
| Trained beneficiaries | 2,241 |
| Women groups members | 1,300 |
| Asset received | 1,685 |