

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

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

Small enterprise clients	13,308
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### Community empowerment

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

### Education

Shishu nicketon schools	14
Community libraries	70

### Ultra poor graduation

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

### Health, nutrition and population

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

### Skills development

Number of trades	5
Number of learners in PROGRESS	195

### Human rights and legal aid services

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

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