

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	2,854
Children (0-15)	761,846
Primary schools	794
Literacy rate	62%
Hospitals	11
NGOs	80
Banks	20
Bazaars	248

At a glance

(as of December, 2019)

Microfinance

Branches	53
Village organisation	5,024
Members	213,847
Borrowers	105,724

Progoti

Small enterprise clients	14,262
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Community empowerment

Community-based organisation (polli shomaj)	337
Union-based organisation (union shomaj)	72
Popular theatre	11

Education

Shishu nicketon schools	21
Community libraries	64

Ultra poor graduation

Group - 2 Members	728
Assets received	773
Training received	773
Healthcare received	695

Health, nutrition and population

Health workers (<i>shasthya kormi</i>)	59
Health volunteers (<i>shasthya shebika</i>)	590

Skills development

Number of trades	4
Number of learners in PROGRESS	180

Human rights and legal aid services

HRLE graduates	2,189
Legal aid clinics	11
Cases filed	69
Complaints resolved	575

Integrated development programme

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