



Building on decades of experience, BRAC WASH has entered a new phase from 2026 with a more integrated, systems-oriented approach to address evolving development priorities, climate challenges, and the growing demand for sustainable WASH solutions. While continuing to expand access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services, the programme will strengthen systems, drive innovation, mobilise partnerships, generate knowledge, and influence policies to achieve sustainable, sector-wide impact.

To operationalise this, the programme will operate through a clearly defined framework that operates across four workstreams to maximise impact and sustainability.

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Establishing Internal Synergy
Expanding access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services, with a focus on climate hotspots and key hygiene behaviours.
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Developing Context-Specific Interventions
Promoting locally appropriate WASH innovations through a Technical and Knowledge Hub.
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Timely and Planned Disaster Response
Maintaining a trained team for rapid and effective WASH emergency response.
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Advocacy for Wider Adoption of Best Practices
Influence policy and strengthen partnerships to scale proven WASH solutions.

Programme Highlights (July 2025 - June 2026)

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217,853 people accessed water services through alternative WASH financing
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127,916 people accessed sanitation services through alternative WASH financing
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318 WASH entrepreneurs developed
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1,700 million BDT WASH Loan mobilised
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105,986 students covered with WASH facilities in school
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59,589 girl students covered with MHM facilities in school
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10,324 adolescent girls and women reached through digital MHM platform

Synergy with NILG and IRC: Consultation Workshop on WASH Training Manual for Union Parishads

On 10 June 2026, BRAC, in collaboration with NILG and IRC under the *Equitable and Sustainable WASH Services in Bangladesh* project, organized a consultation workshop to review the draft WASH Training Manual for Union Parishad representatives and officials. The workshop brought together government officials, WASH sector experts, development partners, and practitioners to strengthen the manual's content and ensure it equips local governments with the knowledge and skills needed for effective WASH governance.



Participants emphasized that the manual should focus on strengthening Union Parishads' capacity for planning, budgeting, monitoring, coordination, and inclusive service delivery, rather than technical engineering. Recommendations included expanding guidance on safely managed water and sanitation, climate resilience, waste management, gender and social inclusion, and disaster preparedness, while ensuring the content is practical, policy-aligned, and easy to understand.

The workshop concluded with a commitment to revise the manual based on stakeholder feedback, pilot it in selected Union Parishads, and work towards integrating it into NILG's regular training curriculum to support sustainable, nationwide local government capacity development in WASH.

Breaking the Silence on Periods: Rethinking Menstrual Health and Hygiene in terms of WASH and Digital Space



On 04 May, 2026, BRAC's WASH Programme in collaboration with its Social Innovation Lab (SIL) facilitated an *Innovation Adda*, where we explored Menstrual Hygiene Management through the lens of WASH and Digital space.

The conversation reminded us that menstrual health is never just about sanitary products. It is about whether a girl has a safe toilet at school. Whether there is clean water and soap. Whether she knows what is happening to her body before her first period. Whether her teacher can support her. Whether her parents and even the boys in her classroom understand that menstruation is normal. And whether she feels dignity instead of shame.

This is where WASH becomes much more than infrastructure. Safe water, sanitation, hygiene education, waste management, behaviour change, digital platforms, and community engagement all come together to create an environment where girls can stay healthy, stay in school, and thrive.

Innovation, for WASH, is not only about developing something new. Sometimes it is about asking better questions, connecting different pieces of the puzzle, and listening deeply to the people we hope to serve.

Turning Brine into Value: MoU with Khulna University

On 5 May 2026, BRAC's Poverty Alleviation Cluster and WASH Programme signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Khulna University to strengthen technical collaboration on water security and climate resilient farming.



Currently, approximately 2500 RO Water Treatment Plants are running in the Khulna-Satkhira-Bagerhat belt of Bangladesh from which brine water is released. A key focus of this MoU will be to identify safe and cost-effective approaches for integrated aquaculture and agriculture using discharged brine water from the plants. The collaboration will also generate practical and context-specific solutions for the smallholder farming communities in the Khulna-Satkhira-Bagerhat belt of Bangladesh.

