BRAC is a global leader in developing and implementing cost-effective, evidence-based programs to assist the most marginalized people in extremely poor, conflict-prone, and post-disaster settings. These include initiatives in education, health care, microfinance, women’s and girls’ empowerment, agriculture, human and legal rights, and more. BRAC employs approximately 100,000 people in 11 countries, with an annual global expenditure of more than $1 billion. More than 75 percent of its budget in Bangladesh is self-financed through its own activities, including social enterprises and microfinance. However, many of BRAC’s most crucial programs — including its schools, health care, ultra-poor graduation program, and most of its work outside Bangladesh — remain reliant on outside donors.

About BRAC USA

Based in New York, BRAC USA is the North American affiliate of BRAC. BRAC USA provides comprehensive support to BRAC around the world by raising awareness about its work to empower the poor in 11 countries and mobilizing resources to support programs. BRAC USA works closely with its international counterparts to design and implement cost-effective and evidence-based poverty innovations. BRAC USA is an independent 501(c)(3) organization.

We are efficient and effective

In addition to being ranked the #1 NGO in the world in 2019 by NGO Advisor, GuideStar awarded BRAC USA its highest Platinum Seal of Transparency for financial transparency. We also score 100 out of 100 in accountability and transparency ratings from CharityNavigator.

We are highly ranked

Get involved

Your gift can make a difference.

Visit: BRACusa.org/donate
Email: info@bracusa.org
Call: +1 (212) 808-5615
Mail: BRAC USA, 110 William Street, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10038

Gratitude Report 2019

Thank you for being part of the BRAC family. Your generosity allows BRAC’s mission of creating opportunities for people in situations of poverty, illiteracy, disease, and social injustice to become reality. In our first ever gratitude report, we hope to provide a meaningful glimpse at the work your support makes possible.

As the organization continues evolving in response to global challenges, its mission will remain grounded in its history of delivering effective, inclusive, and innovative programs. From everyone at BRAC, thank you.
Egypt, World Vision International, as NGO and Foundation partners, pines, Lesotho, and Rwanda, as well Graduation programs with the assistance team also helped design. This year, BRAC’s technical economic trajectories three years in Bangladesh continue on positive more than 95 percent of participants graduate out of extreme poverty. Rigorous research has shown that hope needed to build resilience and equip families living in ultra-pov interventions over 24 months to The program uses a series of seven programs work to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers by providing capacity-building extension trainings and linking farmers to markets. Its agriculture work extends across seven countries, reaching over 600,000 farmers since 2012. This year, BRAC USA supported an agriculture program in Liberia, which is on track to reach 15,000 smallholder farmers by 2020. The program focuses on equipping farmers with the knowledge needed to make smarter decisions about their crops, finances, and nutrition. This includes training farmers on improved climate-smart agriculture techniques, producing more beneficial feed for their poultry and livestock, and cultivating nutritious fruits and vegetables for improved dietary diversity. BRAC’s Empowerment and Livelihoods for Adolescents (ELA) clubs offer a path towards resilience and self-sufficiency for adolescent girls from low-income communities through safe spaces, mentorship, life skills education, livelihoods training, and microfinance loans. Backed by rigorous evidence from randomized control trials in Sierra Leone, South Sudan, and Uganda, ELA has successfully reduced teen pregnancy, delayed early marriage, decreased rates of forced sex, increased income generation, and counteracted the negative effects of crises on girls’ schooling. In 2019, the ELA program reached 10 years of operations. Since its establishment, ELA has offered 100,000 adolescent girls in Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Nepal the opportunity for a better life. BRAC’s Play Lab model operating in Bangladesh, Tanzania, and Uganda remains the organization’s flagship early childhood development program. Play Labs provide children ages three to five with quality play-based learning opportunities during the most crucial period of their brain development. A pilot, the project currently reaches around 11,000 children. It has the potential to scale as the governments of Bangladesh, Tanzania, and Uganda consider adapting different facets of the program in government schools. Separately, with a consortium of partners, the model has been adapted for emergency contexts and BRAC’s Humanitarian Play Lab model will reach an additional 50,000 vulnerable children in Cox’s Bazar, the epicenter of the Rohingya refugee crisis. #1 NGO in the world BRAC’s impact is unprecedented, particularly for an NGO founded and headquartered in the Global South. It operates in extremely resource-constrained environments and reaches approximately 100 million people in 11 countries in Asia and Africa. In 2019, BRAC was proud to be ranked the #1 NGO in the world for the fifth time by NGO Advisor. Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo awarded the Nobel Prize Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo won the Nobel Prize in Economics, along with Michael Kremer, for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty. Their search for solutions to poverty’s biggest challenges included extensive work on BRAC’s Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG) model from 2007 to 2014, when Professors Banerjee and Duflo were the principal researchers for evaluating the model. Based on their research, the UPG model has since been replicated and scaled in over 40 countries. We are proud to be part of this achievement and offer our heartfelt congratulations. Ultra-poverty More than 2 million households have transitioned into sustainable livelihoods through BRAC’s Ultra-Poor Graduation program. The program uses a series of seven interventions over 24 months to equip families living in ultra-poverty with the skills, resources, and hope needed to build resilience and graduate out of extreme poverty. Rigorous research has shown that more than 95 percent of participants in Bangladesh continue on positive economic trajectories three years after the program ends. This year, BRAC’s technical assistance team also helped design graduation programs with the governments of Kenya, the Philippines, Lesotho, and Rwanda, as well as NGO and Foundation partners, including Sawiris Foundation in Egypt, World Vision International, and Humanity & Inclusion. Agriculture BRAC’s agriculture and livestock programs work to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers by providing capacity-building extension trainings and linking farmers to markets. Its agriculture work extends across seven countries, reaching over 600,000 farmers since 2012. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Education BRAC’s Empowerment and Livelihoods for Adolescents (ELA) clubs offer a path towards resilience Education: BRAC is the largest education provider in the camps, with more than 60,000 children enrolled in over 800 BRAC learning facilities. BRAC has recruited and trained 450 Burmese language instructors from the refugee camps and 450 teachers from the host community to provide quality learning in safe and dignified environments. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Protection: BRAC supports over 50,000 vulnerable Rohingya through legal, psychosocial, livelihood, and community-based protection services. Programs are offered through nine women-friendly spaces, nine community information points, a skills development center, and a community outreach network. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Disasters: BRAC trains refugees and host community members in livelihoods through skills-building programs that increase confidence, capacity, and opportunity. Programs taught by master trainers from host communities help participants develop life skills, technical skills, and resilience. Trades include tailoring, embroidery, solar installation, and mobile phone servicing. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Water, sanitation, and hygiene: BRAC supports over 400,000 people through integrated interventions, including the construction and maintenance of deep tube wells, piped water supply networks, latrines, and handwashing stations. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. The world’s largest refugee settlement is in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh where approximately 900,000 Rohingya refugees live, along with over 300,000 local Bangladeshis, who themselves are among the poorest in the country. August 2019 marked two years since the Rohingya refugee crisis began, when over 600,000 men, women, and children fled devastating violence in Myanmar. Today, the Rohingya remain in desperate need of attention from the humanitarian community and the world. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. The Rohingya humanitarian crisis BRAC is the largest civil society responder in the crisis, with over 2,500 dedicated staff and the support of over 5,000 Rohingya and host community volunteers. The organization provides essential, multi-sectoral services to around 500,000 people — work that would not be possible without your help. Thank you for your crucial support and ongoing commitment. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Highlights from 2019 Ultra-poverty Agriculture Youth empowerment Education Water, sanitation, and hygiene: BRAC supports over 400,000 people through integrated interventions, including the construction and maintenance of deep tube wells, piped water supply networks, latrines, and handwashing stations. Water, sanitation, and hygiene: BRAC supports over 400,000 people through integrated interventions, including the construction and maintenance of deep tube wells, piped water supply networks, latrines, and handwashing stations. Ultra-Poor Graduation program. Education: BRAC is the largest education provider in the camps, with more than 60,000 children enrolled in over 800 BRAC learning facilities. 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Disaster risk reduction: BRAC supports 10,000 people through comprehensive, multi-sectoral disaster reduction work including relocating households at risk of flooding or landslides, upgrading child-friendly spaces and learning centers, delivering messages on monsoon and cyclone preparedness, and retrofitting cyclone shelters. Livelihoods: BRAC trains refugees and host community members in livelihoods through skills-building programs that increase confidence, capacity, and opportunity. Programs taught by master trainers from host communities help participants develop life skills, technical skills, and resilience. Trades include tailoring, embroidery, solar installation, and mobile phone servicing. Food security: BRAC provides nearly 100,000 Rohingya households in 13 camps with food and nutrition assistance through food distribution and e-voucher programs via its partnership with the United Nations World Food Program. The Rohingya humanitarian crisis