



# GRATITUDE REPORT

BRAC was founded in Bangladesh in 1972 in the wake of a cyclone that ravaged the country. Since then, the organization has supported communities through countless cyclones, floods, and other climate shocks. More than 50 years later, the global effects of climate change disproportionately harm the communities who are least responsible for it. As part of its approach to empower people and communities in situations of poverty and social injustice, BRAC is elevating locally-led solutions to build climate resilience across the world. The work under our evolving climate change program would not be possible without BRAC's dedicated network of donors and partners like you. [Thank you.](#)

JULY 2023



# APPROACHING EXISTENTIAL THREATS

## BANGLADESH AS A BLUEPRINT



Due to its flat, low-lying topography and geographically unique exposure, Bangladesh has been susceptible to extreme weather events for centuries. Today, its 170 million people confront rising seas, contaminated drinking water, and intensifying cyclones. Bangladesh has become known as an epicenter of the climate crisis. These climate shocks exacerbate the challenges that the world's poorest already face, where limited access to services such as health care, education, jobs, credit, and more are too often not available. By piloting, testing, and scaling locally-led climate solutions in Bangladesh, BRAC is generating a model that can serve as a blueprint for other countries dealing with the devastating impacts of climate change.

## LEADING LOCALLY

BRAC understands the direct link between the ability to recover from shocks and the long-term well being of households, communities, and societies. Many families are already being displaced as a result of climate change. In Bangladesh, approximately 2,000 people each day move from rural areas to the capital city of Dhaka, many of whom are rural farmers seeking stable employment that farming no longer provides. As an organization founded in and led from the Global South, BRAC has a deep understanding of the lived experiences of these families and communities. We are uniquely positioned to co-design climate solutions with local communities, giving them a voice in decisions that directly affect their lives and livelihoods.

BRAC is working alongside affected communities to incorporate climate-smart practices into its existing activities. For example, our Ultra-Poor Graduation program, a holistic approach that helps women graduate out of extreme poverty, recognizes that progress made against poverty will be limited or erased without a climate-proof approach. In response, BRAC is evaluating and strengthening rural access roads, providing rainwater harvesting tanks, and promoting climate-sensitive livelihoods. BRAC also provides training on topics related to the implications of climate shocks, like cyclones, droughts, and river erosion, and on other relevant topics such as health, education, tourism, and agriculture.





# BUILDING RESILIENCE



BRAC is working with communities across Bangladesh to develop, pilot, and scale a dedicated suite of dynamic programming that will support families as they confront the unique challenges posed by climate change. While most of these activities are currently in the pilot phase, BRAC maintains its commitment to scale services across the country and other developing countries based on specific needs. Our premier project and partnership with MIT to deploy an innovative technology will guide BRAC's climate resilient projects outlined below.



## CLIMATE ADAPTATION CLINICS

BRAC's climate adaptation clinics are one-stop agriculture service centers designed to strengthen the capacity of farmers who are managing the increasing risks of climate change. Now in its second year of operation, the clinics support smallholder farmers in the most climate-vulnerable regions of Bangladesh with practical, relevant, and context-specific agricultural solutions that can help them adapt to climate change.



## CULTIVATING SALINE-TOLERANT CROPS

Increasingly strong cyclones and flooding in Bangladesh's coastal region causes freshwater to be contaminated with salt, impacting farmers' ability to grow crops. To address this issue, BRAC partnered with smallholder farmers to develop and pilot a new agriculture program in early 2023. Targeting land that would otherwise remain unused, BRAC trains farmers to produce saline resistant crops that are in high demand, such as sunflowers. BRAC also connects growers with buyers who then process the crops and sell products like sunflower oil.



## CYCLONE-RESILIENT HOUSING

Though Bangladesh has a strong cyclone early warning system, families often must travel far distances to find safe shelter. Families frequently must leave behind their belongings and assets, such as livestock, during storms -- assets that are often their most important source of income. To address this, BRAC has developed cyclone-resilient houses that double as mini cyclone shelters in emergencies. Each house is built on land that is deemed safe and serves as a family's home. When cyclones approach, they can provide shelter for up to 40 neighbors and their livestock, protecting lives and preserving livelihoods.

Scan with your phone to watch BRAC's Executive Director, Asif Saleh, as he visits the frontline of the climate crisis in Southern Bangladesh, where sea level rise is already submerging entire communities.

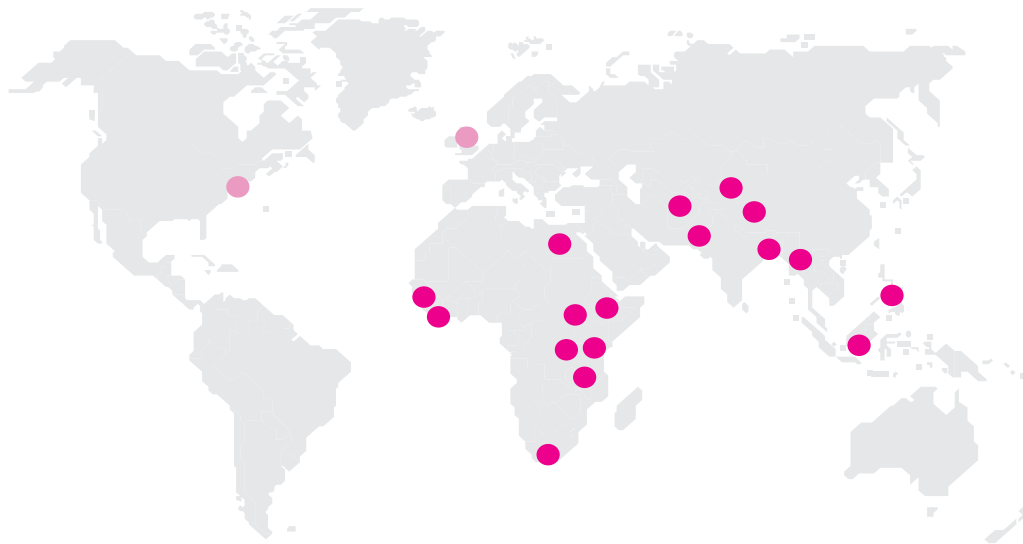


# A SEAT AT THE TABLE



BRAC has over 50 years of experience working alongside communities in some of the most climate-vulnerable places in the world. We are trusted by communities, operate at scale, and mobilize rapidly in the face of disaster. Despite significant recent financial commitments for climate change adaptation, much of this funding remains centralized and out of reach for the world's poorest. BRAC continues to champion and advocate for the most vulnerable groups at major global climate events in order to bridge this gap and elevate their voices in the global conversation. Maximize your impact by supporting and sharing BRAC's mission of restoring hope to those on the frontlines of the climate crisis with your network today.

## WHERE WE WORK



Afghanistan  
Bangladesh  
Egypt  
Ethiopia  
India  
Indonesia  
Kenya  
Liberia  
Myanmar  
Pakistan  
Philippines  
Rwanda  
Sierra Leone  
South Sudan  
South Africa  
Tanzania  
Uganda

Affiliates:  
BRAC USA  
BRAC UK

BRAC REACHES 100 MILLION PEOPLE EVERY YEAR

### Ways to give

- Donate: [bracusa.org/donate](https://bracusa.org/donate)
- Create a lasting impact while reducing your tax burden.

BRAC USA accepts:

- Stock donations
- IRA contributions
- Cryptocurrency
- Charitable bequests through will and estate plans

### Give a gift today



### Get in touch

Visit: [bracusa.org/donate](https://bracusa.org/donate)

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