

Bangladesh Flood 2020

Situation Update #08 - September 14, 2020

BRAC Humanitarian Programme

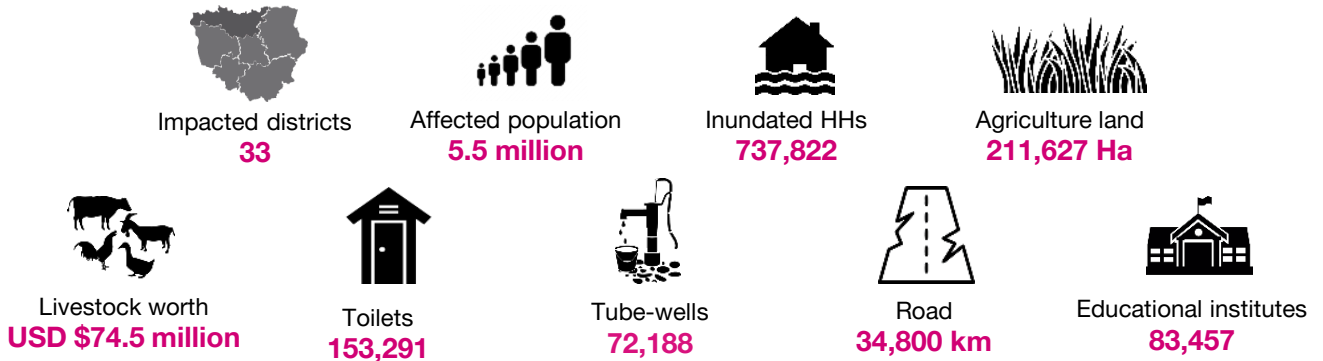
BRAC stood beside 50,000 most vulnerable families in 15 sub-districts under 7 severely flood-affected districts to meet their immediate needs of food and other essentials.

SITUATION UPDATE

- The flood water has already receded and most of the displaced families have returned to their homes, however, many of the families who lost their homes and lands due to river erosion are still living in makeshift shelters on the embankments and roads, and struggling to recover from the impacts.
- The National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRCC) reported that the total damage and loss due to this prolonged flood is worth almost US\$ 704.67 million.



DAMAGE AND LOSS DUE TO FLOODS IN 2020



PRIORITY RECOVERY NEEDS



BRAC'S SUPPORT TO THE FLOOD-AFFECTED FAMILIES

- BRAC distributed cash and food to 50,000 most vulnerable families in 15 sub-districts under 7 severely flood-affected districts - Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Jamalpur, Sirajganj and Sunamganj to meet their immediate needs of food and other essentials. The emergency support was provided mostly with BRAC's own funds along with funding support from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Greta Thunberg Foundation, and donation from Facebook.
- BRAC Dairy & Food Project under the Social Enterprise Programme distributed 189.5 ton cattle feed and 60,014 Anthelmintic tablets among 2,614 flood-affected farmers in 7 sub-districts under the four districts - Pabna, Natore, Sirajganj & Bogura).
- BRAC also plans to provide recovery support to the most affected families especially to improve food security, agriculture and livelihood, shelter, and WASH and has already initiated fund mobilisation efforts.



MEDIA-BASED DISCUSSION FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

On September 11, 2020 BRAC organised a media-based live discussion session on 'Recent Flood, Economic Impacts and Recovery Needs'. Dr Md. Enamur Rahman, MP, State Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief; Dr. Nazneen Ahmed, Senior Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies; Dr. Abdul Mueyed, Director General, Department of Agricultural Extension; and Mr. Sajedul Hasan, Director, Humanitarian Programme, BRAC and BRAC International participated in the discussion.

The main purpose of the programme was to share the evidence-based recovery needs based on BRAC's field experiences, government's plans and initiatives, and possible measures for recovery and long-term solutions.

Key discussion points:

- The government has taken necessary initiatives for recovery of damaged infrastructure and agriculture. The Government has plans to provide shelters to the homeless families who lost their houses due to river erosion.
- To recover the loss of BDT 1,320 crore in the agriculture sector, farmers are encouraged to harvest Aman rice along with seasonal vegetables and lentils.
- The government should introduce some stimulus packages for recovery from losses in the most vulnerable areas.
- Repairing damaged embankments and ensuring proper river management is essential to protect vulnerable communities from regular flooding and erosion.
- There is a need for an integrated approach by the government, NGOs and donor agencies for damage recovery and long-term solutions.



[Click here to watch the full show](#)

Sumi never loses hope to live again

Sumi Begum (21), lives in Char Goalpuri village under Kurigram district with her 5 month old daughter, her mother and two siblings. Sumi was separated from her husband while she was pregnant and now lives in her mother's house. She doesn't have any source of income but helped her mother in tailoring clothes. However, Sumi's mother lost almost all of her orders due to the flood and the COVID-19 lockdown. Due to the prolonged flood since June, Sumi's family had to stay marooned without sufficient food. Besides starvation, she was overstressed with worries of losing her daughter due to drowning in the flood water. Due to stress and lack of food she became malnourished and couldn't breastfeed her daughter properly. In such a situation, BRAC stood beside her family. *"While nobody was with us, we received support from BRAC and got essential food to feed my daughter. As the flood situation has improved, my mother is getting some orders. I want to support my mother in sewing clothes again"* said Sumi Begum.

