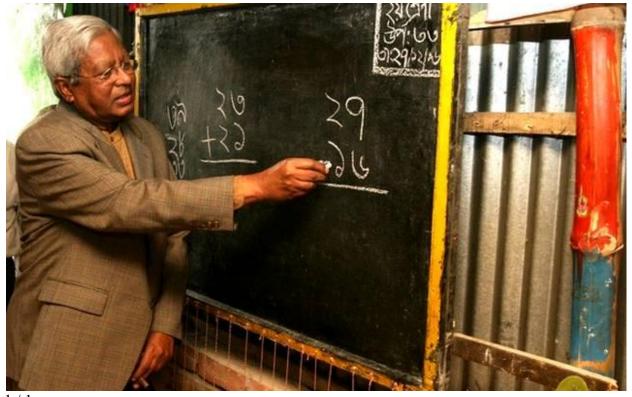


BRAC 'No. 1 in the world'

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A Swiss magazine has declared the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee or BRAC the top Non Government Organisation (NGO) in the world, surpassing the likes of Oxfam, CARE and Save the Children.

Switzerland-based 'The Global Journal' bestowed the honor on the BRAC as it published the list of 'Top 100' NGOs across the world.

According to a BRAC press release, the list had been prepared taking into consideration the impact, innovation and sustainability of 450 NGOs around the globe.

The Global Journal was first published in 2012, in which BRAC was given fourth ranking.

This time round, the Journal said the extent and impact of BRAC was a wonder as almost 130

million Bangladeshis were attached to it through various activities. "This organisation is providing medical services to almost 100 million people."

The BRAC currently boasts of 102,000 staff members, and has disbursed almost \$10billion in small loans to 500,000 people, according to the release.

Its founder Fazle Hasan Abed thanked the BRAC family for the achievement. He said this would encourage them to continue their work with increased innovation and skill to improve the lifestyle of poor people. "This (the achievement) has been possible on account of dedication and self-sacrifice of the BRAC workers."

The BRAC began its journey in 1972, immediately after the Independence.

The 'largest NGO in the world' is operating in 11 countries of Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.