



Inspiring Excellence



STORY OF IMPACT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 & 2022







Inspiring Excellence

It is wonderful

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Message from the Chairperson, Board of Trustees

The 21st century has brought unprecedented social, economic, environmental and technological change. We are confronted with urgent challenges, in an era of unparalleled opportunity. There has never been a more crucial time for sustainable development to be front and centre of the global agenda.

We have less than 10 years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. With unprecedented crises all around the world, the goals are a reminder of a shared vision. With BRAC marking its 50th year, and BRAC University stepping into its 20th year, it is a time to reflect on what we have done and are doing to drive sustainable development, and what is ahead.

Universities are centres of innovation, driving technological and societal progress and reimagining the future. In 2017, BRAC students and faculty introduced BRAC Onnesha, Bangladesh's first nano-satellite to launch into space.

BRAC University's community-based interdisciplinary courses support students to reflect critically on poverty and inequality, and are supported by pedagogical approaches that are learner-centric, field-based and prioritise experiential learning. International collaborations, through global classrooms under the Open Society University Network and Princeton Global History Lab, bring students a global curriculum, as social challenges increasingly become globalised. The University has seen many firsts during its 20 years. It was the first university from Bangladesh featured in the Times Higher Education's



Tamara Hasan Abed
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
BRAC University

global top 50 universities for SDG 1, for significant research on poverty and supporting students from underprivileged backgrounds. The first private university in Bangladesh to feature in the QS World University Rankings and the first private university in Bangladesh to build separate schools for pharmacy and data science.

BRAC University's mission of creating leaders committed to sustainable development is aligned with BRAC's vision of a world where everyone has the opportunity to realise their potential.

Alongside BRAC's immense institutional knowledge and experience in working at the forefront of public health challenges in Bangladesh over the last five decades, the James P Grant School of Public Health has today become a leading public health institute. It welcomes students from 34 countries into an immersive, community-based learning experience.

As BRAC built one of the world's biggest private secular education systems, BRAC Institute of Educational Development used that learning to build models for early childhood development, which are now being scaled in both humanitarian and development contexts in Uganda, Tanzania and Bangladesh.

As BRAC worked with civil society and non-government organisations to develop their capacity for social transformation, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development grew into an initiative recently

recognised as one of the world's top 120 social policy think tanks. And, amidst an increasing need for social cohesion across the world, the Centre for Peace and Justice, born out of Goal 16, promotes global peace and social justice through research, training and advocacy. The centre closely collaborates globally with universities such as Georgetown University, University of New South Wales and Erasmus University Rotterdam.

While the current global outlook can often feel bleak, young people are building a different future. In a recent example, building on BRAC's work as the biggest civil society responder working with the Rohingya community in Cox's Bazar in southern Bangladesh, BRAC University's new innovation hub, the Humanitarian Digital Innovation, will support entrepreneurship development programmes and start-ups to solve community-based challenges through research and development.

Achieving the SDGs will require new knowledge, new processes, technological innovation, and societal transformation. BRAC University, through its broad-based curriculum across seven departments, six schools and institutes, and seven centres of excellence - is steadfast in its commitment to generate, build on, and contribute to the goals.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, BRAC's founder, intended BRAC University to build on BRAC's work by providing relevant and high-quality education and equipping students from all backgrounds to address local and global challenges. The university's mission has always been to equip young people to develop as conscious, empathetic and capable leaders, and find ways to solve real-world problems. As we move rapidly towards 2030, we must revisit that mission, and deepen our commitment to achieving the goals.





50 years of BRAC - from Bangladesh to the world



BRAC is celebrating in 2022, the 50th anniversary of its foundation, a year after Bangladesh marked its golden jubilee. It's been a journey that has taken many turns - but there's always been one thread that has weaved through it all: the conviction that things can change, and that every single individual can bring about that change. BRAC University is a very important part of that journey.

BRAC has worked to bring about long-term change for the last five decades at multiple levels - with individuals, by ensuring access to basic services; with communities, by supporting people to mobilise; and through systems, by creating and transforming systems that enable every person to realise their potential.

The seeds for BRAC were planted during relief work after Cyclone Bhola, and took root during rehabilitation work after the 1972 war. It goes without saying that BRAC's genesis is deeply rooted in Bangladesh's independence - Sir Fazle Hasan Abed was one of the young diaspora who returned from abroad to build the new nation of Bangladesh.

BRAC's signature large-scale development work began in the 80s, with BRAC training women to take oral rehydration therapy - hailed by the Lancet as the most important medical advance of the 20th century - to 12 million households in Bangladesh. Partnership with the government then resulted in almost half the country's children being immunised. Together, these interventions dramatically improved the child mortality rate.

As Bangladesh's challenges evolved, BRAC's work evolved. Large-scale programmes in education, health, ultra-poor graduation, water, sanitation and hygiene started. Work in agriculture, to support the government's work in food security, led to the creation of Aarong Dairy, which links small producers to the urban market for better prices. Work in financial inclusion led to BRAC becoming the world's biggest provider of microfinance, and BRAC Bank continues to support small businesses as they grow. Work in livelihoods with women in rural areas led to the creation of Aarong, now Bangladesh's leading lifestyle brand.

Asif Saleh

Executive Director
BRAC Bangladesh



As the Rohingya fled persecution in Myanmar in 2017, BRAC became the largest civil society responder in the camps and host communities in Cox's Bazar.

BRAC now stands beside over 100 million people in 15 countries across Africa and Asia, and our programmes are being implemented across 50 countries, through partnerships with governments, policymakers and civil society organisations.

Despite the progress, our work is far from finished. From the climate crisis to income inequality and the continued subjugation of women, we face unprecedented challenges that will demand every bit of our collective ingenuity and fortitude.



50 years of igniting hope

from Bangladesh to the world



BRAC's founder, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, realised that in order to face up to these challenges and continue to bring about systemic change in every generation, we would need leaders and changemakers in every sphere. BRAC University was founded in 2001 with this vision, to create leaders with the mindset to bring about change in any field they worked in, and work in their own way towards BRAC's vision of creating a world where every person has the opportunity to realise their potential.

Sir Fazle passed the baton to the next generation in the organisation's 47th year. His passing coincided with a generational shift in Bangladesh's development. As BRAC University celebrates its 21st birthday this year, we see Abed bhai's vision bearing fruit.



At an individual level, alumni are blazing trails at home and abroad. Writers, filmmakers and artists like Syed Ahmed Shawki and Nuhash Humayun are telling stories that are resonating with audiences worldwide. Graduates from the BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health are carving out paths in community health work across multiple African countries. I was in a meeting only recently where I was introduced to the executive director of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation in India, Manjula Singh, a BRAC alumna.

As these people make their mark, they create a ripple effect, inspiring the people around them - and the next generation of alumni - to step up and change social systems everywhere, to build a world that works for us all.

At a systems level, the University's institutes are generating evidence and training the leaders of tomorrow and today. Master's programmes offered by BRAC Institute of Governance and Development develop the capacity of professionals to tackle the development challenges of the 21st century. During a recent meeting with a senior civil servant in the Prime Minister's Office, I was surprised to learn that he had obtained a Masters in Early Childhood Development from the BRAC Institute of Educational Development. He was passionate about early years education and wanted to learn more, and the institute supported him to learn flexibly alongside his job - knowledge that undoubtedly enriched the decisions he made in his professional career.

BRAC's efforts on the ground are scaled up through the university's research, pedagogy and advocacy efforts, and the work informs those agendas. While we have never faced bigger challenges ahead, this relationship is one of the many reasons I feel we have never been more equipped, as a collective, to face an uncertain future.

As we write the next chapter in BRAC's journey, we will continue to invest in the power of hope and human potential, driven by the conviction that inequality is human-made, so it can be unmade.

Message from the Vice-Chancellor

This annual report highlights some of the activities across the university to address the social and economic development of Bangladesh and the wider region. The report includes coverage of examples of the university's contribution to the fulfillment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We recognize the talent and the service given by our schools and departments and everyone in our university community, including over 16000 alumni. BRAC University is an institution with a special position at the intersection of the worlds of higher education and international development, with a dual role to address world social issues and to build national and regional prosperity.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed founded BRAC University because he wanted to create a leading institution for Bangladesh. He was fascinated that universities were among the few institutions that can last for centuries and understood the value of a fine, international university to national and regional advancement. The challenge for BRAC University and for Bangladesh is to create a higher education sector that will compare well with the best institutions in the world.

We want our university to be 'student centric'. That is a controversial phrase. For some, it means that students are primarily 'customers'. We mean, however, that the university should work in partnership with students, with opportunities for high quality, interactive learning and teaching and intellectual challenge. We should enable students to grow from promising raw materials into the best people they can be, committed to serve humanity.

We want to engage with students to appreciate the value of higher education, which involves challenge, self-discipline, learning to think, personal transformation and global engagement. He wants students not only to learn vital, technical, hard skills, but also to appreciate ideas and rigorous thinking, to become good citizens committed to a life of thoughtful and sustained service to humanity, with the resourcefulness to thrive through massive social and technological change.

Professor Vincent Chang

Vice-Chancellor
BRAC University



This annual report celebrates the university's work addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The work extends across schools, departments, centres and institutes – through research and practical action – in public health, high quality education, climate change, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, and poverty alleviation as well as other areas. This Annual Report also records the notable commitment of students and alumni to social development.

Higher education involves challenge, self-discipline, learning to think, personal transformation and global engagement. We aim to help students to learn vital, technical, hard skills, but also to appreciate ideas and rigorous thinking, to become good citizens committed to a life of thoughtful and sustained service to humanity, with the resourcefulness to thrive through massive social and technological change.

The recent life of the universities and the students has been dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Students have asked me whether their generation is especially unlucky. I responded with examples of the crises which faced earlier generations, but which spurred creative solutions. I encouraged students to see the Covid-19 crisis as an opportunity for personal and community growth through resilience, imagination, creativity and social responsibility.

BRAC University has moved into its 21st year, emerging from the pandemic as a stronger and larger institution. The rapid move of the university to online delivery avoided session jam. The University has gained valuable insights from the experience of online and hybrid delivery which will be applied to the development of teaching and learning.

The international connections of the University continue to expand. BRAC University remains the only institution in South Asia with membership of the \$1 billion Open Society University network which brings together leading universities across the world. The network enables the exchange of good practice in teaching and learning and shared developmental initiatives, with students studying together online and in person across countries, regions and continents – South Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the US.

International accreditation is a major aim of the University. The Business School is working toward accreditation with the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) and Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and the School of Engineering with the Bangladesh Board of Accreditation of Engineering and Technical Education (BAETE) before applying internationally to the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).



Vice-Chancellor Professor Vincent Chang presenting the Annual Report of the university to the Honorable President of Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh His Excellency Mohammad Abdul Hamid

Among several new ventures, there is a partnership between the University of Kent, UK and BRAC University. That involves the introduction of a new Master's in Development Economics, validated by Kent, which has one of the leading economics departments in the UK. That partnership is significant since it will enable students to travel both ways, with UK students coming to study in Bangladesh as well as Bangladeshi students going to the UK. Another partnership, with Texas A & M University will enable student, faculty and staff exchange, research and grant application collaboration and join projects with

societal impact. The School of Pharmacy entered a partnership with California North State University to enable BRAC University graduates to study in the US for the PharmD. Moreover, as part of continuous drive towards internationalization, BRAC University has recently signed an MOU with Altinbas University in Istanbul, Turkey to initiate students and faculty exchanges for study, research, and sharing innovative teaching experiences. This level of university collaboration is first of its kind to be undertaken by a university from Bangladesh with this reputed Turkish university.

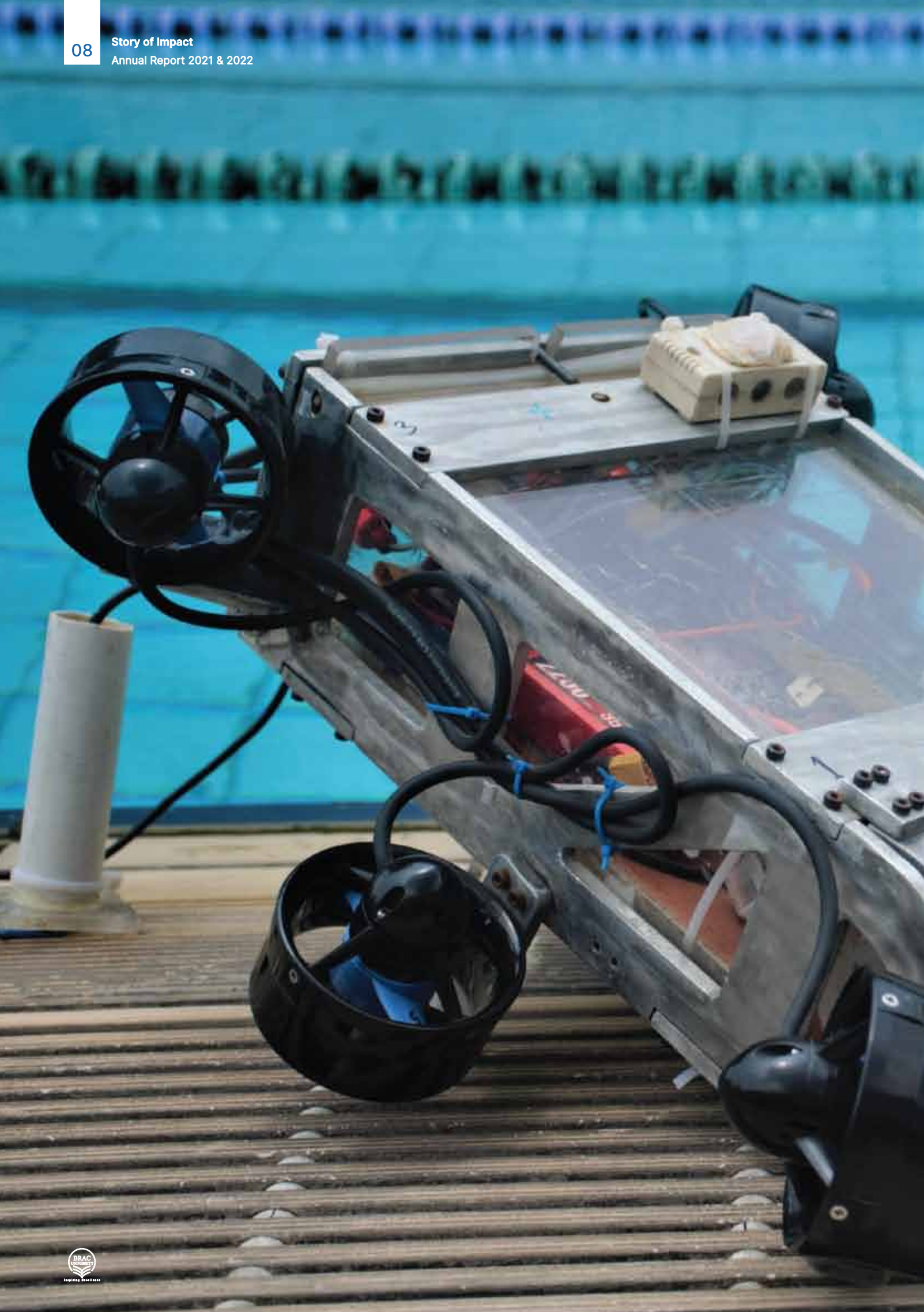


Vice-Chancellor Professor Vincent Chang meets with Princeton University President and its top officials

The University was delighted to welcome the US Ambassador to celebrate the return of the Fulbright Scholarship scheme to Bangladesh. The University hosted a Fulbright Project Specialist to support the Business School with the development of a Women Empowerment Centre for entrepreneurship and leadership. Indeed, one of the major contributions that BRAC University can make to higher education in Bangladesh is through the building of international links and the sharing of good practice. We look forward to another year of development and our impending move to a magnificent new campus.



Vice-Chancellor Professor Vincent Chang with U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh H.E. Peter Haas



Social Impact of Research at BRAC University

Humanitarian Digital Innovation at BRAC University - 2022

Drawing from our BRAC developmental legacy in 'helping people help themselves', and aiming at our cooperation with the agenda of the B&M Gates Foundation and the EU Horizon Europe program in UN sustainable development goals (SDG), BRAC University is preparing an Innovation Hub in Humanitarian Digital Innovation (HDI). This aligns with and implements our strategic framework for BRACU and Bangladesh stemming from the 4th Industrial Revolution challenges and opportunities [1]. The HDI Hub will address the special needs of underserved beneficiaries in developing areas of the world, or afflicted by natural or anthropogenic disasters (pandemics, floods, tidal bores, hurricanes, accidents, acts of war and terror etc) in vital modern products and services and resources such as water, nutrition, sanitation, shelter, energy, transportation, communications, medications, health, education aids etc. These need to be provided in environments posing challenges in the availability of human, material and technical resources, know-how and supply chain connectivity with the external world, often calling for local service or transportable goods. Such conditions voice a clear and loud call to modern technology to address novel innovation paradigms and to implement new entrepreneurial startup ecosystems to face urgent human needs.

Examples of such needs include desalination and filtration of water; architectural design and building; non-traditional agriculture and farming; sanitation materials and systems; solar, wind and biofuel power; cooling for food and medicines; nature-based construction materials; pathogen and bio-sensors; transportation and communication systems; vaccines and medications; in-situ emergency and intensive care units; telemedicine, telework and tele-schooling networks; distance and online or hybrid schooling; remote work, relief, recreation, information, support, governance and management services. Such a contemporary innovation initiative for social and natural sustainability has been likened to a new Marshall Plan, relieving global disaster-afflicted and under-privileged areas, while creating global sociopolitical and philanthropic alliances. At the same time it revitalizes national industry and international modern services, by opening new global markets and communities with access to material, human and systemic resources. BRAC University, with its academic mission, societal involvement and international networking, could be a natural leader in such a Humanitarian Digital Innovation (HDI) initiative.

Special objectives of the HDI Hub will be to foster entrepreneurship development programs and start-ups to solve community-based problems through innovative R&D. Its activities will encompass: Design and development of dedicated courses, integration with senior design/capstone programs, internships and coop experiences, and training programs on digital design, fabrication and entrepreneurship; Industry personnel training programs in 4th Industrial Revolution technologies and innovation; Outreach programs to engage the public, students from high schools, colleges and universities; Consultancy programs and R&D collaboration with the industry and community at large towards solutions to specific needs and projects; Fabrication, testing and technical assistance services as a 3DP/rapid prototyping bureau to industry; And government advising on strategic, multi-disciplinary HDI issues, such as precision agriculture, digital healthcare, renewable energy, industrial automation and robotics etc. Its facilities will include: A state-of-the-art computer studio for training, research and firmware/application software development, including a cloud with high performance for the students to train their AI models remotely; A 21st century prototyping facility with modern 3DP, machine shop and electronics prototyping resources; A virtual & augmented reality (VR/ AR) facility for remote/virtual prototype ideation and handling with international and industry partners; And support co-working space, product showcasing studio, lecture theatre etc.

The ultimate goals of the HDI Hub project will be developing human resources, high-quality job creation, and sustainable economic growth. In addition, to promote a sustainable ecosystem, strategies and activities should focus on inclusive growth and adequate social and environmental protections. BRACU will contribute a model toward the overall goals focusing on the Soft and Knowledge Infrastructure area. The main goals of these activities will be (1) promoting innovation

culture among youth groups, (2) mobilizing internal and external resources to support digital entrepreneurship, and (3) improving awareness of business ethics and social and environmental protection. More specifically,

- Train aspiring entrepreneurs on business, management and digital literacies
- Mentor and coach pre-incubation participants managing risks and creating tech knowledge-based start-ups
- Host research pitches and innovation challenge events among young entrepreneurs
- Publish casebooks for technology-based start-ups and solutions
- Develop ESG benchmark and guidelines customized for Bangladesh entrepreneurs
- Provide programs for promoting gender equality such as Women Digital Entrepreneurship Training program and Women Leadership Development program
- Create research cluster focusing on women economic empowerment, business and human rights, and product responsibility.

In preparation for this Humanitarian Digital Innovation initiative, in 2022 BRAC University has also initiated internal funding of several precursor Research Seed Grant awards (Table 1), in themes related to social impact of the University, aligning with several SDGs in the Bangladeshi and global society. In addition, BRAC University has established a comprehensive and functional central Institutional Review Board (IRB) with a Core Committee and two Subcommittees, focusing on Social and Behavioral research, and on Biomedical research respectively. The IRB encompasses over 24 elect external and internal experts in research ethics, safety, health and environmental protections, safeguarding social responsibility of the BRACU as well as research projects submitted for review and approval.

Sustainability of the HDI Hub will be ensured by its realization as an Industry-University Cooperative Research Center (similar to the US National Science Foundation platform, <https://iucrc.nsf.gov/>) jointly with the BRAC Bank, with initial government investment, fee-paying industry membership, product prototyping, training and consulting services, intellectual property portfolio, grants by the B&M Gates Foundation, EU Horizon Europe program etc.

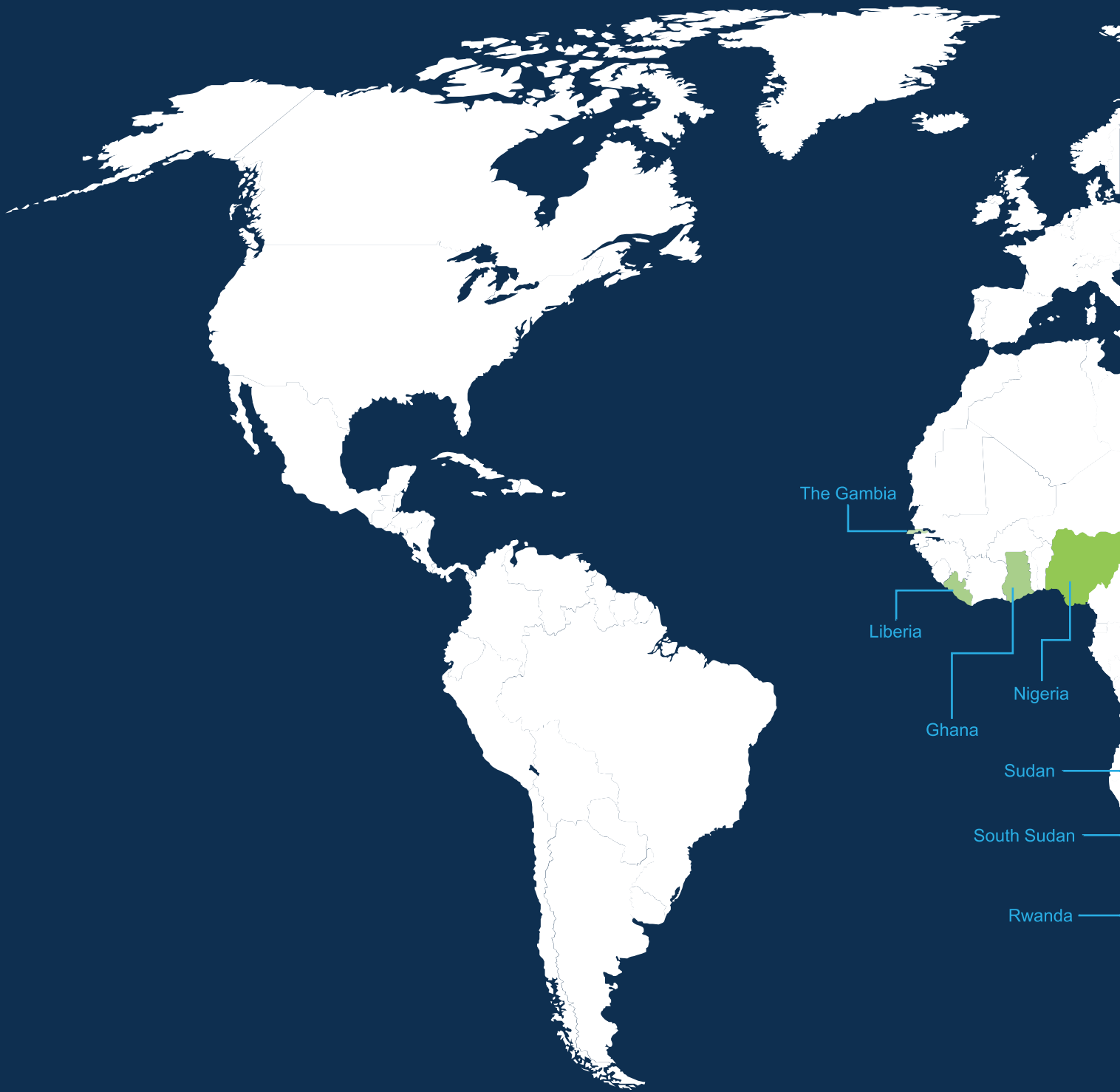
References:

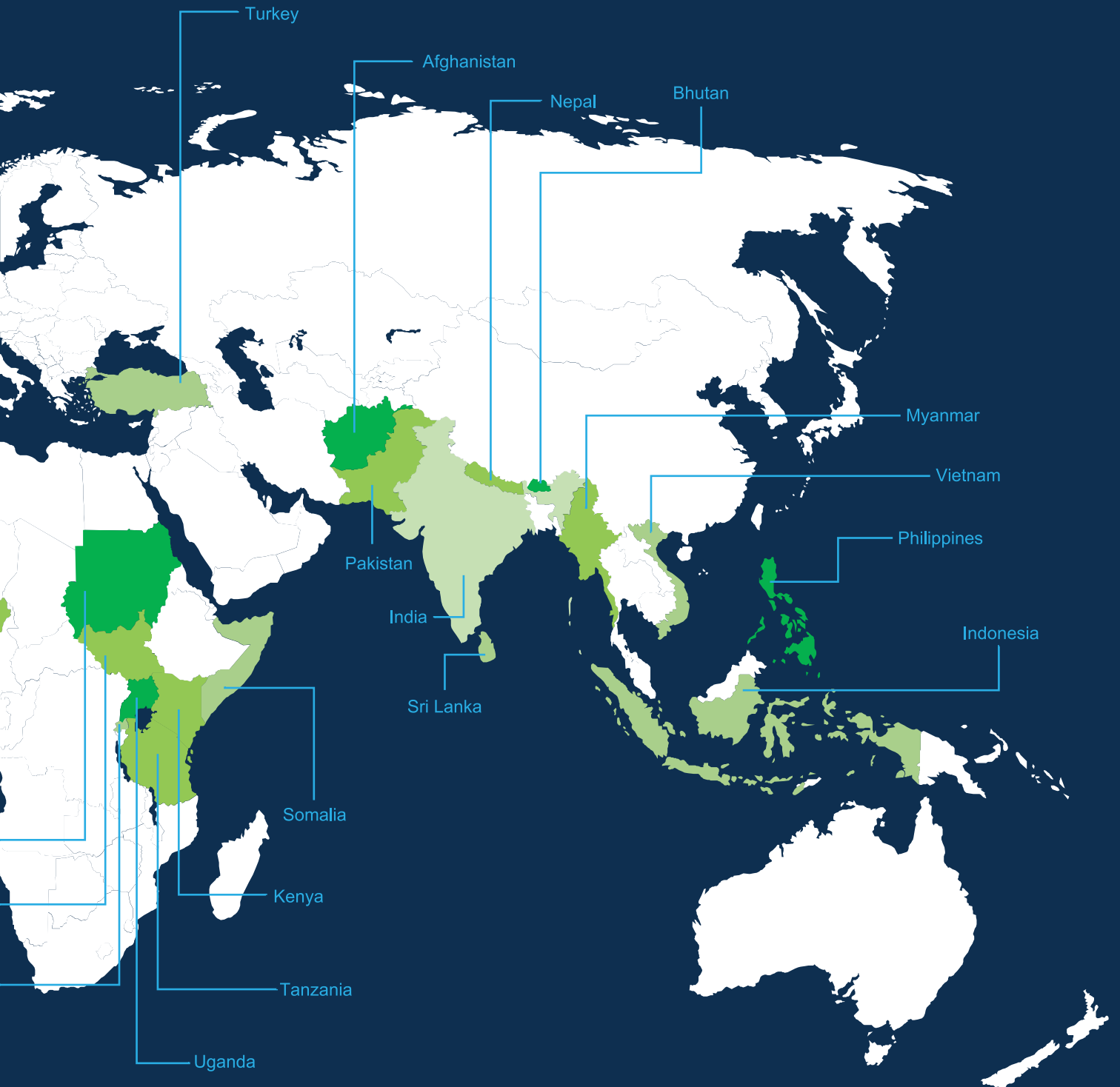
[1] V. Chang, C. Doumanidis, A. Chowdhury, D. Dowland "Fourth Industrial Revolution: Shaping the New Bangladesh", *International Conference of 4th Industrial Revolution and Beyond, Dhaka, Bangladesh (December 2021)*

Research Seed Grant Initiative awards at BRAC University

School/Department/ Centre/Institute	PI Name	Title
Department of English & Humanities	Md Al Amin	English-medium instruction in private universities: Teacher and student perceptions and classroom realities of academic challenges and opportunities
School of Engineering	Abu S. M. Mohsin	Plasmon enhanced light-matter interaction and its application in multi junction tandem solar cell and biosensor development
School of Pharmacy	Eva Rahman Kabir	Design of a Delivery System using Engineered Nanoparticles for the Selective Transport of Drug to SPARC- Overexpressed Tissues in Pancreatic Cancer
Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences	Md Hasanuzzaman	Characterizing the dissemination of carbapenem resistance in E.coli, K.pneumoniae, A.baumannii & P.aeruginosa in hospital adjacent community waters of Dhaka, Bangladesh
School of Pharmacy	Faruque Azam	Response Rate and Progression-free Survival Prediction in Breast Cancer Molecular Subtypes
Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research (C3ER)	Roufa Khanum	Ethnic communities in Bangladesh: Their struggle against the adverse impact of climate change
School of Engineering	Abdulla Hil Kafi	Indigenous mission payload design for onboard satellite image classification based on deep learning and transfer fine-tuning data to the ground station
BRAC Business School	Sebastian Groh	The Bangabandhu Tariff - Improving Access to Sustainable Electricity and Co-Benefits of Climate Change through Community Power Purchase Agreements
Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences	Fahim Kabir Monjurul Haque	Follow-up of Practiced Treatment Regimens & Health Conditions of Recovered Patients of COVID-19 Residing in Dhaka City: A Survey-based Descriptive Crosssectional Study
Centre for Inclusive Architecture and Urbanism (Ci+AU)	Adnan Morshed	Documenting grass-roots resilience against COVID 19 Pandemic: Case studies from the informal settlements of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Department of Computer Science and Engineering	Muhammad Nur Yanhaona	Misinformation detection using user's comments and peer news articles

International students from across the world





Creating Changemakers

BRAC University came to life with the aim of creating leaders of tomorrow who would work on various facets of Bangladesh's growth with empathy and impact. This foundational value for the university is the result of its founder Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's enduring commitment to transforming the lives of millions, through the work of BRAC in Bangladesh and beyond. Thus, for BRAC University, excellence in higher education has an added meaning which encompasses a variety of its achievements, all of which ideally foreground the spirit of transformation through understanding, empathy and effective action. The cutting edge research that BRAC University's institutes and centers undertake on poverty, health, education, climate, peace and conflict create a research world that seeks understand empirically, with care, and with the intention of imparting change for the better. The work of BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) has earned for the university a global top 50 ranking for the United Nations' (UN) 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1: No poverty' in Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings 2022. BRAC University also holds the 1st position in Bangladesh in the overall THE impact ranking. Making such impactful research, policy advocacy and relevant programmatic interventions accessible to students is part of a larger commitment to excellence in teaching and learning, which begins right at the outset with a strong Liberal Arts core curriculum and extends all the way to departments and undergraduate and post graduate degrees. Thus, BRAC University's pillars of excellence are innovative, student-centric teaching and learning, where students are made equally aware of theory and practice, and urged to think outside the box to come up with solutions to a wide array of social and economic problems. In other words, classroom instruction is both true



to theoretical rigor, as well as practical and relevant whereby in-class learning builds bridges with the realities and possibilities outside the class room.

Students are oriented to such learning as soon as they enter BRAC University and encounter the courses and activities offered to them by the School of Education, constituting their core curriculum and approximately one-third of their degree. In addition to the academic work, students have the opportunity to participate in a range of experiential learning and civic-engagement based activities, notably in their residential term in Savar. Some notable examples are the Social Learning Lab and Projects Srijon and Orko, where BRAC University in partnership with its sister organization BRAC empowers BRAC University students to educate and empower underprivileged children from surrounding communities. The residential semester engages the Student Life wing of the university to also offer students the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) awards scheme which gives student additional skills and exposure towards





becoming leaders and well-rounded citizens.

These activities instill the spirit of “doing” and “learning by doing” in our students, where they not only work to take forward several SDG goals but also engage in the community as active citizens. Such experiences allow students to know others, approach them with empathy and care, understand their needs, work towards some tangible solutions and in the process learn new things about themselves through a questioning of their own prejudices and biases. A core Liberal Arts Curriculum that believes in humanism and interdisciplinarity, doing by learning about not only others, but equally about oneself is indeed an important element of becoming changemakers and caring leaders of tomorrow. The reflexivity that goes into community action extends to the creative reflections that students are trained to produce, ranging from making short videos/documentaries, to writing blogs, to writing and staging a play. Thus, being a change maker covers the entire gamut of not only understanding others, oneself, addressing community needs in cohesive and mutually beneficial ways, but also being able to trace that

journey and to be able to creatively recount the process.

These grounded initiatives come together academically and through further community exposure by way of a stream of courses clustered under the title “Communities Seeking Transformation” (CST). The CSTs are topical courses that bring several disciplinary thinking to bear upon everyday issues, their current social, political and environmental relevance and the kinds of tools and ideas we must have to steer future course of thinking and action. Whether the topic of the course is food, wellbeing, art, filmmaking, or peace and justice, the courses use engaged pedagogy to orient students to a world of community leaders and CSO and other initiatives that work on the topic in question. Such grounding in the Liberal Arts combined with civic engagement finds resonance in other departmental offerings too. BRAC University’s Business School offers courses and practicum on social entrepreneurship, the School of Law has its moot court, the engineering students and faculty have Mongoltori and Onnesha to their list of achievements. These successes indicate clearly BRAC University’s strong commitment to creating change makers.

Last but not least, creating change makers for Bangladesh means plugging in our students to issues and peers globally. To that end, BRAC University’s participation in the Open Society University Network (OSUN) provides students with interesting opportunities and exposure. Through OSUN our students have the scope to share a classroom with students from other OSUN campuses, both at BRAC University and internationally. Courses, engaged activities and global sharing are further energized by international Student conferences and a certificate in Civic engagement offered by OSUN. Such international orientation, also an important pillar for BRAC University, comes on the heels of student participation in other global platforms such as the Hult Prize and the Millenium Fellowship Program. Creating change makers and leaders of tomorrow is, thus, a serious project at BRAC University, where courses, pedagogy, community exposure and action come together to foster critical, (self) aware and active citizenship that is globally connected while locally rooted.



BRAC University now has over 16000 alumni, who are active in Bangladesh and around the world – in the commercial and non-profit sectors, working for government and NGOs and as social and commercial entrepreneurs, instigating innovative and sustainable businesses. Many are living up to the aspiration of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed that they should become leaders, citizens making a social impact. This year's annual report features just a few of many examples of alumni contributing to the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2021, 14 students from BRAC University were selected from among thousands around the world as United Nations Millenium Fellows, in

recognition of their initiatives to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The projects were diverse - ensuring the stability of urban food supply chain; using artificial intelligence and machine learning for climate action; enabling the development of members of the transgender communities supporting under-privileged children in their education; and providing effective responses to the COVID outbreak.

Nineteen changemakers from Bangladesh received 2021 Awards, including two alumni and two current students from BRAC University. This award is one of the highest accolades a young person can achieve for creating and sustaining positive changes.

Students and Alumni



BRAC University students and alumni achieve outstanding success in Diana Award 2021



Our students designed and built 43 houses in Satkhira as Disaster Resilient Habitat for the families affected in the flood-prone area



Cohort of students selected for Millennium fellowship from BRAC University the year 2021 by the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and Millennium Campus Network (MCN) Fellowship program



Erina conducting a session on family planning

Ishrat Naher Erina, who graduated with a pharmacy degree from BRAC University, is creating an impact by imparting reproductive health education in rural Bangladesh through various online and offline campaigns and seminars. In 2017 Erina was recognized by the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health as one of 120 next-generation family planning leaders worldwide.



Miatta Zenabu Gbanya, School of Public Health alumna, was one of the key figures in Liberia’s response to Ebola and in the country’s eventual victory over the disease. She was the second in command of Liberia’s Incident Management System, set up to tackle the Ebola crisis. Her passion, determination and strength of character were instrumental to her ability in organizing the country’s response to the crisis.

“It was important to give away, as a trade-off, the things we like best, to get us to where we are.”

- Miatta on sacrifices made by Liberians in their fight against Ebola

Few of the many companies and organizations where BRAC University alumni have made a mark



School of Architecture & Design

The School of Architecture and Design has successfully practised various design projects benefitting low income and slum communities (SDG 1). Projects and courses lay strong emphasis on quality of built environment (SDG 3). Recent Bangladesh lead on women's involvement in building for disaster under British Council Gender Project (SDG 5). Research projects that emphasize renewable energy input (Million Cool Roof project) (SDG 7). Sustainability of the built environment is a cross cutting theme across all design projects (SDG 11). The Disaster Management Program has a significant climate change component (SDG 13). The school partners with other local and international organizations that emphasize SDGs (SDG 17).



Md Safwane Islam, a third-year student was awarded the Third Prize in the 'Memorial Design Competition: 50 Years of Bangladesh' organized by Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) for his entry titled 'Memory Square'.



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Tanjina Khan, Senior Lecturer and alumna and Iftekhar Ahmed, Associate Professor, have been selected to conduct the research on the British Academy sponsored 'Pakistan to Bangladesh 1947-70 Writing Workshop'- 'Architecture of Bangladesh during the Pakistan era: Search for Post-colonial identity through climate responsive adaptations'.

S M Kaikobad, Lecturer and alumnus, Department of Architecture has published a book article: 'Encroachment of urban heritage and preservative resiliency: The curious case of Choto Katra', on Next50: Collective Futures: Critical-creative perspectives on the built environment in Bangladesh, edited by Saimum Kabir and Dr. Tanzil Shafique.

Shahriar Ahmed Shad, Teaching Assistant and alumnus, received 'Commendation I' in KSRM Awards for the Future Architects by IAB (3rd Cycle) Best Undergraduate Thesis Award.

BRAC Business School



New curriculum for greater impact

BRAC Business School has redesigned the BBA program curriculum to offer a globally recognized business program for future leaders, addressing contemporary business, economic, industrial, and social imperatives. Graduates will be better prepared to face real-life challenges and create a greater positive impact on the business industry and society.

Launch of Research and Professional Development Centre



Launch of উদ্যমী আমি - Venture Maestras

Focusing on women entrepreneurship and professional training program



International Conference on Business & Management

The theme of ICBM 2021 is "Fostering Sustainable and Equitable Global Development: Building on 50 Years of Independence in Bangladesh and Overcoming Challenges of COVID19."

Pan-Dynamic Opportunities & Challenges

Purpose of the event: Carrying the tradition with the Alumni

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Sagar Mazumder, a BRACU Graduate received the prestigious Diana Award. The award is the highest accolade a young person can achieve for being a changemaker.

Nafisa Ali, a Research Associate in Research and Professional Development Centers (RPDCs) of BRAC Business School won a place in the competitive 'NextGen Leadership Program' launched by the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation.

Safayet Rahman (BRAC Business School, Batch: 2011-2014) was appointed Vice President & Relationship Manager of International Subsidiaries Banking, Wholesale Banking at HSBC Bangladesh.

Research and Professional Development Center (RPDC)

Facebook Live Episode 2

Humaira Nur Afsana
Owner & Founder
Goymer BakaHo BD

Afruza Tanzi
Award Recipient,
The Diana Award, 2021
Program Officer, Protibha.

Mahreen Al Mamoon
Moderator,
Assistant Professor
BRAC University

Aupee Karim
Actress & Architect
Co-Founder, MREE
Chief Guest

Join Our Panelists on Facebook Live
An Award winning actress, a Diana Award recipient and a hugely successful entrepreneur, all come together and discuss the future of women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh, the challenges ahead and the way forward.

Catch the Program LIVE ON
11th September, Saturday, 7.30PM
Join at: www.facebook.com/rpdcbbbs



School of Data and Sciences

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

Faculty Highlights

Dr. Md Sadek Ferdous, a newly appointed Associate Professor, established the first-ever blockchain-focused security research laboratory. He is working with Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Information Technology on a one-year research project.

Another new Associate Professor, Dr. Muhammad Nur Yanhaona is among the very few people in Bangladesh with experience in high-performance scientific computing and who has worked on both computer language and compiler development.

BRACU Team recognized in Space: Enigma Systems

BRAC University graduate team, Enigma Systems, won 2nd place in Kibo Robot Programming Challenge. Kibo-RPC is an educational program hosted by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Enigma Systems set the record of becoming the first Bangladeshi team to upload a computer programme to the International Space Station. Also, Enigma Systems was named the only team to receive the Best Crew Award.

Events and Activities

BUCU organized many events aligned with the CSE department, namely "Conquer Logical Thinking With Kaykobad Sir", "Workshop On Machine Learning", "Key Aspects In Engineering Industry", "Introduction to Linux Operating System" and many more.

Similarly, the Robotics club organized its own events with great pace in 2021: জয়যাত্রা'১০ Techfest, a Webinar on Web Development, a Virtual Basic on Robotics, "ROBUST" Alpha Version Launch, BASIC OF ROBOTICS_Fall' 2021, the অদম্য'১০ SUPER Techfest and some Departmental Workshops too.

Research Publications

In 2021, there were over 50 research publications from the CSE department. One of the notable publications comes from Sowmitra Das. It is the first journal publication titled "Design of a Quantum Repeater using Quantum Circuits" from Bangladesh on the topic of Quantum Communication. Other notable publications were by Dr.

Kaykobad contributed notable publications, including a paper in WALCOM: Algorithms and Computation (2021) conference and another in Theoretical Computer Science, 2021 - Elsevier.

The achievements of BRACU faculty, alumni, and students, their creative activities, club activities, teaching and research contribute indirectly and directly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. CSE enhances training, human capital, and economic progress with graduates joining well-reputed organizations with the required skill set. CSE also involves students in scientific research through these projects.



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

A BRACU Graduate working at Google

B.Sc CSE graduate Miftah Uddin Mohammad Ihsan accepted an offer to join Google at Warsaw, Poland in 2021 and is currently working there as a Software Engineer II (L3) in the Google Cloud Internal Tools Team.

12th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad 2021

In the 12th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad 2021, 8 regional rounds of NUMO 2021 were held. From BRAC University, the 3 Abed Scholars Atonu Roy Chowdhury studying Mathematics, Ruhani Habib studying Computer Science and Nian Ibne Nazrul studying Physics participated for the first time in this competition and respectively secured the first, sixth and ninth.



Department of Mathematics & Natural Sciences

The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences is one of the largest and most vibrant departments of BRAC University. The Department is committed to the creation of new knowledge through frontline research, and excellence in teaching.

Science, particularly life sciences, is fast evolving. Science, in general, is not just a source of new ideas but a constant driving force for innovation. The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) nourishes and nurtures this philosophy wholeheartedly.

The Department strives to be an internationally recognized community of scholars who contribute fundamental new knowledge at the cutting edge of science and is committed to each student's intellectual and spiritual development through offering a supportive and innovative environment for study and research in physics, mathematics, natural, and life sciences.

Appearances on top tier national TV channels as a local expert in the field of Public Health Microbiology

As a researcher in the field of public health, Dr. Mahbulul H. Siddiqee has made a substantial contribution in 2021. He published 5 peer-reviewed full-length research articles in top-tier scientific journals. These published articles address key public health concerns including co-morbidities of Covid-19, the extent of vitamin D deficiency in the South Asian population, the relationship between childhood obesity and urbanization, etc.

Dr. Siddiqee also engaged with the broader community by maintaining a solid presence in the mass media. In 2021, he appeared 15 times as a public health expert on reputed national TV channels, which played a significant role in building health awareness on various health issues.

Dr. Siddiqee also shared his research expertise in providing training and consultancy (on 23 occasions in 2021) to many young researchers nationally and internationally. Especially student researchers from various backgrounds have learned about the fundamental and technical aspects of conducting high-quality research.

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Mathematics Olympiad

Three students of BRAC University were placed in the top 10 positions in the 12th National Undergraduate Mathematics Olympiad jointly organized by the Bangladesh Mathematical Society and A F Mujibur Rahman Foundation. The national round of this Olympiad was held at the University of Dhaka on 7 January 2022. Before the national competition, a primary selection was held in 8 different regions of the country. Eighty students from all over the country (top 10 from each region) participated in the national round. The Dhaka North region selection round was held on 26 November at the North South University, and 11 students of BRAC University participated there. Atanu Roy Chowdhury, Ruhan Habib, Nian Ibne Nazrul, and seven others from different institutions were selected for the national round. In the national competition, Atanu stood 1st whereas Ruhan and Nian attained 6th and 9th positions, respectively. This is a grand achievement for the MNS department of the BRAC university. It's noteworthy that all of them are Sir Fazle Abed Scholars. They were mentored by Mr. Zunayed Kamal Nibir, a lecturer in the MNS department.



Chancellor's gold medal

At the recently held 14th Convocation, Shehreen Ferdous was awarded the Chancellor's gold medal and named the Valedictorian for the graduating class. Shehreen Ferdous has completed her O' Levels and A 'Levels examinations from the Dhanmondi Tutorial school. She received the Daily Star Award in recognition of her O' Level results. She completed her BS in Microbiology from the department. Throughout her undergraduate years, Shehreen was the highest recipient of the Merit Based Scholarships at BRAC University for her outstanding CGPA.



School of Engineering

The School of Engineering at BRAC University is a valuable platform for teaching, learning, research, and innovation in engineering education around the region. The school offers two undergraduate and two graduate programs. The Bangladesh Board of Accreditation accredits all the undergraduate programs for Engineering and Technical Education. The aim is to be the leading department in the region with global recognition. The School works on several Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) throughout the year 2021 i.e. SDG-3 (Good health and well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG-7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the goals).

The faculty members of the school received internal (Faculty Research Fund, VC Seed funding) and external (ICT ministry, Optica Society) funding to continue research work related to SDG-3 and create opportunities for international and industrial partnerships related to SDG 17. Dr. Abu S.M. Mohsin received funding for the following projects: i) Nanotechnology, Internet of Things, and Machine Learning, ii) AI-based Robotic Disinfection Device, iii) UVC mask decontamination chamber, iv) IoT-based Emergency Medical Assistance Service.

There are research projects in the fields of Biomedical Engineering, Air Quality, Photovoltaic system, Machine Learning, Power Systems, and Renewable Energy. Several research papers have appeared in prestigious journals and conference proceedings, including ACS Nano, Physical Review B, IEEE Access, IEEE GHTC, IEEE PVSC, IEEE TENCON, APPEEC, IEEE PES ISGT, and others. 12 Conference Papers and 4 Journal articles were published on renowned proceedings over the year.

The School has successfully launched Outcome-Based Education (OBE) for its two undergraduate programs to create an impact on SDG 4 by ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for the students. Industrial Advisory Panel (IAP) and Alumni Advisory Panel (AAP) meetings were organized separately in 2021 to receive feedback on the revised OBE-based curriculum. The School is working closely with the IAP and AAP for Continuous Quality Improvement to keep the curriculum updated and to make the graduates competitive in the job market.

Furthermore, in collaboration with IEEE BRACU Student Branch, BRACU Electrical and Electronic Club and BRACU Optics and Photonics Chapter, the department organized a number of workshops, seminars, and webinars to promote sustainable energy-related activities that address SDG-7. Some notable events of 2021 were - "Creating Long Term Impact for Sustainable Development Through IEEE by Prof. Saifur

Rahman-IEEE President-Elect 2022", a Webinar on 6G and Beyond by Dr. Ian F. Akyildiz, Professor Emeritus, Georgia Institute of Technology, a Fundraising Event During COVID "Standing For Hope" by BUEEC, and around 70 other events, workshops, seminars, competitions, and webinars, which were organized by the different bodies of the department.

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Students and Alumni are creating their footprints at the nationally and internationally. Dr. Sanjana Ahmed, an alumnus has joined as a Senior Analyst at Dunsy Energy + Climate Advisors, Quebec. Also, Dr. Ahmed Hosne Zenan has joined the Swansea University Active Building Centre Research Programme, UK as a Research Associate. Mr. Sheikh Ziauddin Ahmed another alumnus successfully completed his Ph.D. in December 2021 from the University of Virginia.

BRAC University IEEE Student Branch was recognized with the "IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award 2021". Most Promising CS Student Chapter 202, and the 16th position in the International Planetary Aerial System Challenge 2021 by IEEE RAS BRACU SBC are a few of the noteworthy achievements of IEEE BRACU Student Branch in 2021.



"Team Graviton" consists of four members, Mohammed Thushar Imran, Azraf Nafi Barshan, Sharif Mohd. Shams and Rahat Tajwar, secured the 2nd position out of 100 teams, in the Energy Smart Village category of the Sustainable Energy Innovation Challenge titled "Bikiron-2021". BRACU Electrical and Electronic Club (BUEEC) celebrates the duo's decennial with the current and former club members, inviting the Club Advisors and all the enthusiasts. BUEEC also launched the first-ever official android app.



School of Law

Professor K. Shamsuddin Mahmood, Dean, took the role of Principal Investigator in a SoL research project entitled: *Shalish: A traditional dispute settlement mechanism within the formal legal framework*. The research was funded by BRAC University.

Dr. Saira Rahman Khan was a discussant at the consultation meeting on ‘Sexual Offences and the Death Penalty in South Asia’ organized by the Anti-Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN), 25 August 2021. She also presented a paper on ‘Women on Death Row in South Asia’ at a forum organized by ADPAN on 13 October 2021 and one on sexual harassment and legal provisions at a webinar on ‘Sexual Harassment against Women in Asia: A Dialog on Gender Based Violence in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan’, hosted by the CityU Public Law and Human Rights Forum, City University Hong Kong on 02 December 2021. In October 2021 she was a resource person for a legal research study on rape and the death penalty conducted by ADPAN. She was also a Resource person at the consultation meeting ‘Building Capacity of Young Scholars Engaged in Research’, hosted by the South Asian Institute of Peace and Development Studies on 16 June 2021 and the Coordinator of the second Certificate Programme on Refugee Law conducted by the UNHCR for the students of the School of Law.

Mr. Mostafa Hossain Associate Professor was research expert for a project on tracing inherent jurisdiction of the courts, conducted by Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies, Leiden University. He was also CoPI in the Research Project granted from Research Task Force of BRAC University, titled *Shalish: A traditional dispute settlement mechanism within the Existing Legal Framework*. He facilitated in a Memorandum of Understanding between the International Development Law Organization and School of Law. He delivered a lecture titled *International Legal Options for Addressing the Rohingya genocide: ICJ, ICC and the IIMM*, organized by Liberation War Museum Bangladesh and moderated a session at the 7th International Conference on Bangladesh Genocide and Justice, organized by the same Museum.

Mr. Md Saimum Reza Talukder, Senior Lecturer of the School of Law, conducted a study titled *Trials of Cyber Violence against Women: An Analysis of Cyber Tribunals in Bangladesh* with support from the Open Society University Network (OSUN) and BRAC University. He also co-authored a book on “Media Literacy: Easy Read”, published by the Press Institute Bangladesh (PIB) in January 2021. In 2021 he also became Member of the “Artificial Intelligence Working Group”, an initiative by the Hannah Arendt Centre for Politics and Humanities at the Bard College USA, with the generous support of Open Society

University Network (OSUN).

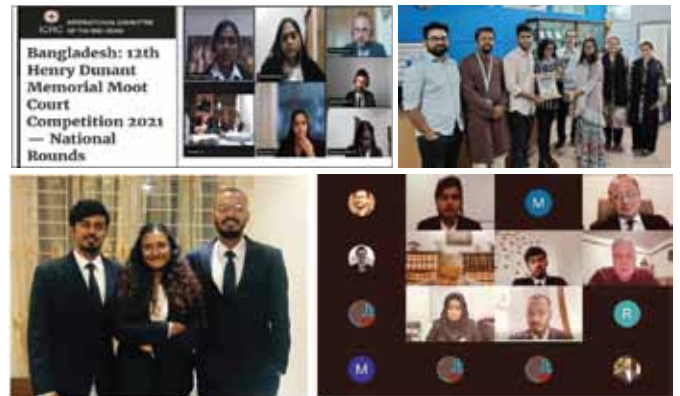
All these activities correspond with the following SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

Goal 5: Gender Equality

Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

Goal 10: Reduced Inequality



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

The School of Law has built a strong foundation for mooting and in 2021 there were several successes. The teams won three runners-up trophies in very prestigious competitions - the National Rounds of the twelfth Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition, the ELCOP virtual moot court competition and in the National Rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.



School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Department of Economics and Social Sciences

The Department of Economics & Social Sciences aims to develop students as well-rounded individuals with strong ethical values and critical thinking skills, prepared to compete effectively in the national and international job markets as well as the opportunity to pursue graduate studies.



Strengthening Global Relationships

The Department of Economics and Social Sciences, BRAC University recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Kent University, UK to co-deliver the MSc in Development Economics program. The programme will enable two-way exchange between Bangladesh and Europe.

Ongoing ESS Research Projects

Professor Farzana Munshi, and Ahsan Senan, Lecturer of ESS along with BRAC University, in collaboration with researchers from the University of Birmingham, Heriot-Watt University and BUET, have been working on a research project titled "Fast-track Vaccine Cold-chain Assessment and Design for Mass-scale COVID-19 Vaccination in Bangladesh (VaCoBD)" with Newton/Global Challenge Research Fund under the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

Professor Wasique Rahman Khan and external collaborators received a grant from BRAC University's Faculty Research Fund; the project involved carrying out field experiments to elicit the mitigation response to potential adverse events, possibly climate-induced. The data-gathering phase was initiated in late 2021.

Seminars and Presentations

Dr. A S M Shakil Haider, Assistant Professor of Economics, Dr. Muiyen Zalal Chowdhury, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Dr. Mujibur Rahman, Senior Lecturer of Anthropology, Professor Suparna Chakraborty, Department of Economics, University of San Francisco, Dr. Pushkar Maitra, Professor of Economics, Monash University, Australia, Mr. Zareef Tajwar Karim, Lecturer of Anthropology and Ms. Sarah Salahuddin, Senior Lecturer of Economics presented seminars on various topics during 2021.

Publications

Professor Farzana Munshi co-authored "Understanding the cold-chain challenge for Covid-19 vaccination. Birmingham, United Kingdom: Center for Sustainable Cooling, University of Birmingham in January 2021.

Professor Shahidur Rahman launched his book: আলো আঁধারের হাতছানি; বিশ্বায়নের যোরপ্যাঁচে বাংলাদেশের তৈরি পোশাকশিল্প, published by The University Press Limited in November 2021. His book, "The Bangladesh Garment Industry and the Global Supply Chain: Choices and Constraints of Management was published in 2021. His book chapter on Governance was published in Mohammad B. Rana and Matthew M.C. Allen (editors), "Upgrading the Global Garment Industry: Internationalization, Capabilities and Sustainability" was published in May 2021.

Shahidur's Op-eds include- Bangladesh's way to recovery. Policy Forum, April 30, 2021 and Confronting Challenges of Unskilled Workforce in RMG. Daily Star, July 1, 2021.

Conference/Workshops

Professor Shahidur Rahman - "INGOs and the Long Humanitarian Century Workshop." Nuffield College, University of Oxford held on May 7 and November 4, 2021.



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Linking research and teaching

Sajid Asbat Khandaker and Sourodip Paul, students of the Master of Science in Applied Economics program, at ESS, BRAC University clinched the title in the finals of the Cambridge Intersarsity (IV) 2021 Debating Competition held on 14 November, 2021. The Cambridge Intersarsity Debating Competition is one of the world's most competitive and prestigious debate tournaments, organized by the Cambridge Union.

Sajid Asbat Khandaker was judged the best 'English as a second language (ESL)' speaker and 4th best speaker overall. Sourodip Paul was the 2nd best ESL speaker and 8th best speaker overall.



Department of English & Humanities

The Department of English and Humanities forms the critical and creative hub of the University. Concentrating on the study of literature and language, the department guides faculty members and students into activities that meet sustainable development goals.

The specific goals of lifelong and inclusive and equitable quality education are part of our curriculum, which includes teaching internships and acquaints students with social issues. We aim to reduce social especially gender equality and inter and intra-university partnerships.

Pedagogical Approaches

The approach is inter-disciplinary. Graduating students are expected to write a thesis or to take part in an internship, making them critical thinkers and acquainting them with real life situations. All their courses emphasize writing and presentation skills, and encourage independent thinking.

ENH organizes regular seminars and talks, bringing in a wide range of scholars in these fields from all over the world. Students volunteer for these events and are encouraged to organize events for themselves. Student publications and activities are evidence of the outcomes of this approach.

Research Activities

- Prof. Firdous Azim and Dr. Asifa Sultana's participation in the international research project titled 'The Gendered Price of Precarity: Workplace Sexual Harassment and young women's agency' focussed on linguistic aspects of sexual harassment. Funded by the British Academy, ENH is working on this project under an MOU with BIGD.
- Professor Firdous Azim is part of a British Academy Funded writing project, mentoring early-career researchers from Pakistan and Bangladesh. Dr Mahruba Mowtushi, Assistant Professor ENH is one of 10 researchers.
- Dr. Asifa Sultana is part of a Europe-based study on children's language development.
- Professor Nahid Kabir's impressive portfolio of publications concentrates on the status of the Muslim population all over the world, including the USA, Europe and the Middle East.
- Students and teachers publish creative literary content including articles, stories, translations and poems, nationally and internationally.

Seminars and talks

- Participation in international conferences continued online. Notable among them was the paper entitled "Panopticon and New Normal Screen Ontologies: Voices from the Classroom" at the National University of Singapore presented by Mahmudul Haque and Anika Saba, ENH faculty.
- Regular talks and seminars were held. Notable was Professor Radha Chakravarty's lecture (of Ambedkar University) on her translations of Tagore.
- Participation in various events marking the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh was noteworthy. Professor Azim spoke at events at IDS of the University of Sussex, and Georgetown University while Anika Saba published an article in Himal South Asian.



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Student Activities

- A number of students have been selected for various programmes under international collaborations. Masuda Khan's paper on critical discourse analysis was part of the "highly commended" category of the Global Undergraduate Awards 2021.
- Farhin Ahmed, was selected for Millennium Fellowship under the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and Millennium Campus Network (MCN) Fellowship program. This fellowship awards students for promoting UN Sustainable Development Goals and Farhin was selected for his social empowerment project.
- A team of undergraduate students were awarded by CPJ under its programme "Women Peace Ambassador Initiative 2021-2022". "Paper Cranes of Venus" was granted because of its focus on gender equality and menstrual health.
- Students have got full scholarships to pursue postgraduate studies in various international universities, including Central European University, York University (Canada) and Glasgow University.
- Students along with faculty have been publishing in various journals and magazines. A very noteworthy contribution has been the inclusion of Tasnia Nahla's poem in Polyseme, an international poetry journal.
- Nancy Rualzapar Bawm, an undergraduate student of ENH, has been awarded winner of OSUN Film Festival along with her four other teammates Antara Farnaz Khan, Muntaqa NRB Hakim, Bayazid Hossain and Tanzil Talat Anonto for making the documentary titled "A Story That Eye Witnessed".



School of Pharmacy

Department Activities

Webinars: The Department of Pharmacy arranged five webinars in 2021 as part of the 'Toolbox for Success Series'. The aim was to help students broaden their skills, their understanding of their field of interest and professionalism for their future careers, as well as to keep them motivated, engaged and focused during this global pandemic.

The webinars held on the following topics in 2021-

- The Scopes of Health Outcomes Research in the US.
- Medication Adherence: Opportunities for Early Career Pharmacists.
- Brand Development in Pharma.
- Managing Healthcare during a Pandemic: A Healthcare Startup.
- Regulatory Strategist: An Emerging Career Path in the Pharmaceutical Industry.

International collaboration: A virtual Open House event was held in October, 2021 to introduce the students of the department to the new BPharm - PharmD Pathway Program in collaboration with the California Northstate University, College of Pharmacy (CNUCOP), USA. This new pathway program is being introduced in Bangladesh for the very first time by the Department of Pharmacy, BRACU.

Faculty Achievements

Dr. Md. Jasim Uddin, Associate Professor was invited as Visiting Professor at the University of Greenwich, UK for one year.

Research activities

- A total of 56 articles were published by the faculty members in peer reviewed journals with high impact factors in 2021.
- Professor Dr. Eva Rahman Kabir, Dr. Mohammed Jasim Uddin and Professor Dr. Hasina Yasmin obtained a copyright on 'Design of 3D Printed Microneedle Applicator'.
- Dr. Sharmin Neelotpol was awarded the Research Grant 2021 from the Ministry of Science and Technology of Bangladesh.
- A project under a collaboration between the Department of Pharmacy and the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering to develop a UV decontamination chamber and to determine the biological efficacy of the device that would allow sanitization of masks within 5 mins and its deployment in resource-scarce areas is in progress. The evaluation of the biological efficacy of the device is being done by the research team of Dr. Mohd. Raed Jarmiruddin and Dr. Shahana Sharmin under the supervision of Professor Dr. Eva Rahman Kabir. If successful, the device can be introduced at various hospitals in low-resource areas, where masks can be reused while eliminating nosocomial infections within such settings to achieve SDG-3 goals (SDG 3.0).



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

In 2021, 10 students of the department left to pursue their higher education and more than 7 students are completing their Ph.D. in globally renowned institutions in Europe, US and Australia.



Nashrah Mostafa (7th batch) has obtained the prestigious British Council Scholarship for Women in STEM 2021-2022 to pursue her Master's degree at Brunel University London.

Three alumni, Faruque Azam (6th batch), Tanisha Momtaz (4th batch) and Farzana Islam (4th batch) joined the department as Lecturers in Summer 2021 after completion of their postgraduate studies.

Bagdad Ahmed (14th batch) participated as a panelist in the online OSUN Senior Project Panels: Global Public Health, where he presented 'ART Therapy in Bangladesh Before, Amid and Now through the Pandemic'.

Ishrat Naher Erina (5th batch) is the founder and CEO of Prescription Bangladesh which works on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SDG 3.1). She is also working as a family planning leader at the Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for population and reproductive health, USA.

Samin Huq (3rd batch) is working as Research Investigator at Child Health Research Foundation (SDG 3.2).



School of General Education

The School of General Education foregrounds student-centric teaching, learning, and civic engagement. It urges students and faculty to engage one another and the outside world through community-based action. The School addresses SDGs through courses, student activities, research and advocacy.

Coursework

GenEd courses teach the Liberal Arts. Students engage with community problems and think of solutions. For example, the “Civic Engagement” course involves students proposing community-based projects relevant to SDG 1, 4, 5, 16 and 17; “For the Love of Food” is centered on Food and addresses SDG 1, 2, 3 and 12; “Law for Life” addresses SDG 16 and 17; “Demystifying Documentaries” engaged students to produce short documentaries on issues, such as the plight of the physically disabled and two Indigenous artists in Bangladesh who create art that builds awareness of the plight of marginalized communities.

Student Activities

The School of General Education launched Project Srijon & Orko as a Civic Engagement Initiative. The projects are a foundation for students to solve development challenges in a practical, broad-based, and humanistic manner. The projects were launched in collaboration with GenEd and BRAC Education Program. 85 students from the Residential Campus taught 90 beneficiaries from neighboring Akran High School and College. Project Orko as a tutoring initiative directly contributes toward SDG4 and 1. Project Srijon, an adolescent club, advances SDG 3, 4 and 5.

The School of General Education sent 5 students to participate in the OSUN Get Engaged Conference with projects based on community engagement and social change. The conference was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan: 120 students from different OSUN partner universities came together to discuss projects as change-makers in their societies. One of the Get Engaged Conference participants, Srijan Banik has been invited to participate in the 2022 - 2023 OSUN Global Engagement Fellows Program. The student projects involved SDG 3, 4, 5 and 13.

Faculty Research, outreach and Publication

Professor Samia Huq has been working on Faith-based perspectives and mobilization about education, gender, youth, and the media in collaboration with the World Faiths Development Dialogue (WFDD) at Georgetown University. The aim is to build bridges between faith-inspired actors and organizations in development. Her research is related to SDG 4 and 16

Publication: Roy, S., Huq, S., Rob, Ayesha Abdur. (2020). Faith and education in Bangladesh: A review of the contemporary landscape and challenges [White paper]. International Journal of Educational Development: 79

Huq, S., & Moni, D. (2022, May 8). Social cohesion through education in Bangladesh. WhiteBoard Is a Quarterly Policy Magazine.

Professor Syed M Hashemi, a global voice for sustainable livelihoods for the ultra-poor, was asked by BRAC’s global Ultra Poor Graduation Initiative (UPGI) to hold discussions with state governments in India to explore the potential for implementing large-scale graduation programs. The graduation approach, successfully developed by BRAC, creates sustainable livelihoods for the poorest to escape extreme poverty. Professor Hashemi subsequently had successful discussions with the Central Government and the State Governments of Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Rajasthan to initiate new programs targeted at the most marginalized – scheduled caste, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes.



Fahmida Rahman has been developing student-centered, teaching and learning pedagogy in Bangladesh. She is also involved with the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh focusing on tolerance, diversity, and pluralism among students in higher education institutions. Her research is related to SDGs 4 and 17.

Publication: Addressing Racial, Economic and Educational Inequalities through Our University Network: Final Report, Ed: Laouris, Y., Hallside, M., Berkowitz, R.S., and Rivers, J., Future Worlds Center Publications, Nicosia 2021.

Rahman, F. (2022). Experiential Learning for Student Advancement: A state-of-the-art in Higher Education. Global Conference on Research in Education and Learning. Sri Lanka: R&R Knowledge Solution (Forthcoming)

Turzo Nicholas worked on animal species that are almost missing or lost in today’s world but their traces are found through cave paintings and ancestral knowledge. His work focused on SDG 15.

Publication: Mondal, T. N., & Chakraborty, S. (2021). Riddle of the Rhino: Tracing Early Human Migration in India Through the Cave Paintings of Bhimbhetka. In M. Choudhary, A. Dwivedi, & A. H. Nanda, Reimagining South Asian Art, Culture and Archaeology. India: Agam Kala Prokason.



BRAC Institute of Educational Development



BRAC IED has concentrated on the needs of children, their families, and communities and easing the transition towards a post-pandemic world, addressing SDG 4 on quality education.

Teaching and Learning

To date, 458 students from 23 batches have graduated with an MEd degree; 187 students in 13 batches have graduated with an MSc degree. Additionally, the MEd program is hosting Afghan learners as part of a dual degree.

Our interactive short courses cover the importance of play, socio-emotional development, day-care management, creative design, and higher education. A total of 240 participants, to date, have undertaken these short courses. We are preparing to launch 20 new courses on subjects ranging from teaching and learning, leadership, research methodologies, mental health, early childhood development, climate crisis, and socio-emotional learning in 2022.

Early Childhood Development & Play

There has been an expansion in the “Pashe Achhi” scheme to provide telelearning and tele-counseling services for underserved communities. Our efforts have reached to date 50,459 children and their families, affected by economic hardship in both urban and rural Bangladesh, and the forcibly displaced Rohingya community residing in refugee camps of Cox’s Bazar.



Further, in collaboration with Joyeeta Foundation and under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), BRAC IED also designed a Daycare Certification Course in 2021. As of date, 11 batches have completed the course.

Through continued collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh, we reached 70,000 parents and their children to facilitate a smooth transition back to school after the pandemic. Alongside, BRAC IED is working with the National Curriculum and Textbook Board to provide enhanced teaching-learning materials for 5+ pre-primary education programs.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

In partnership with the Directorate of General Family-Planning, the Directorate of General Health Services, and UNICEF, BRAC IED is providing technical support to create a psychosocial support

curriculum and capacity development training for adolescents. We also provided Psychological First Aid throughout the country as per situational demands. For example, 4000 individuals who were affected by the fire in the Rohingya camps of Cox’s Bazar were provided with the support.

The BRAC IED Para-counselor scheme is a source of continued support in the Rohingya camps of Cox’s Bazar, as well as in the host communities of Bangladesh.



Research

BRAC IED studied the effectiveness of its Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Mental Health initiatives using both longitudinal and short-term impact studies. Initial findings show significant improvements among the communities, where the initiatives were implemented compared to the control communities.

Furthermore, BRAC IED examined the impact of our work with primary school teachers to promote play-based pedagogy and health precautions during the pandemic.

There was also coverage of the short and long-term impact of school closure caused by COVID-19, teachers’ responses to online teaching, and qualitative analysis of design and play spaces.

Strategic Leadership

BRAC launched its first Mental Health Strategy in 2021; BRAC IED played a key role in the strategy development. BRAC IED also played a pivotal role in developing the Global ECD strategy for BRAC with colleagues from around the world.



BRAC Institute of Governance and Development



2021 was a momentous year for BIGD, with the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh and the 8th anniversary of BIGD, against the backdrop of a second year of the COVID-19 pandemic and an existential threat of climate change emergency.

2020-2021 State of Governance and national impact of COVID

BIGD launched the 2020-2021 State of Governance report, a flagship publication, which assessed the COVID-19 governance in Bangladesh during the first year of the pandemic—analyzing how the government responded to the crisis and why, identifying the challenges, and based on the analysis, providing constructive recommendations at policy and programmatic levels. This year, BIGD expanded their research in education with a focus on what works for improving learning outcomes and future-oriented human capital formation – assessing the learning loss of school children in urban slums and rural areas due to COVID-19 using data collected in March and August 2021 under the BIGD-PPRC livelihoods survey.

Innovative digital field opportunities for Masters students

In 2021, in the midst of COVID-induced movement restrictions, we introduced an innovative digital field immersion for Master of Development Studies (MDS) students, where they paired up with peer researchers who belong to the community of interest to conduct “remote fieldwork”. More such innovations can bring the MDS program closer to building a strong bridge between theory, practice, and research.



In the same vein, this year we also introduced the Young Researchers’ Fellowship program, a six-month-long intensive training, theoretical and on-the-job, to potential young researchers in all essential areas of social science research. This initiative has not only helped us find the right talent but has also helped further our commitment to inspire the future generation of social science researchers.



SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

This year, we took a step towards forging long-term partnerships with government agencies, non-profits, and academic institutions to promote a culture of using research for program and policy effectiveness.

We began the year by launching a Strategy Primer that outlines concrete action plans for the nation to maximize opportunities in the digital economy and close our nation’s digital readiness gaps. The strategy primer was designed through a process of co-creation, where we collaborated with A2i and the ICT Division as well as the private sector and civil society actors.



Another important collaboration this year was the “Mass Masking Campaign”, led by the Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), where we joined hands with Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), Yale University, Stanford Medical School, and others to substantially increase proper mask-wearing in Dhaka. We played a key role in conducting field action research and providing real-time feedback to improve the campaign’s effectiveness and contextualize the model. BIGD is proud to have been part of the evidence-based masking campaign and promote the uptake of research in driving policy change.



BRAC Institute of Languages



BIL has introduced several collaborations with international institutions to support faculty development, teaching and learning, and curriculum development.

Collaboration with AIAAsc

In 2021, BIL initiated a partnership with AIAAsc (American International Accreditation Association of Schools and Colleges) who have agreed to support the BIL faculty development initiatives and webinar series by conducting workshops/sessions and endorsing webinar attendance certificate.

Collaboration with Akita International University, Japan

BIL developed a strategic partnership with Professor Patrick Dougherty (EdD), Dean of the Faculty of International Liberal Arts, Akita International University, Japan, to support reviewing the MA TESOL curriculum, conduct online classes, and contribute in developing the TESOL certificate course.

Collaboration with Purdue University

BIL and Purdue University, USA, have recently signed a Data Transfer Agreement to collaborate on a research project. The research study is being supervised by Dr. Jennifer Richardson, Learning Design and Technology Program, Purdue University, USA. Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Senior Director, BRAC Institute of Languages recently visited Purdue University and has been a key proponent for this BRACU-Purdue collaboration.

Online Bangla Course for Foreign Learners

BIL has initiated and designed a unique course - Easy Bangla: Online Bangla Course for Foreign Learners. The course has been offered free to the international students, staff, and faculty members at BRACU.

BIL Book Drive Project

'Harnessing Emerging Readers for Attainment and Language Development (HERALD)' is a book drive project initiated to support rural communities with required materials, books and resources. BIL distributed 400 books to GBC Christian Health Project (CHP) and another 413 books to Hatpagla Government Primary School in Phulpur Upazila, Mymensingh. Through this initiative, BIL has been allocating resources to the underprivileged communities of the remote areas of Bangladesh.

BIL Charity Fund

The 'BIL Charity Fund' has made donations to the charity foundation "Shongjog", clothes to the needy in Savar, books and other educational materials for underprivileged school students, and awareness programs and campaigns for general wellbeing, contributing to SDG 1.

Research - In 2021, among other publications, BIL published seven research papers in SSCI indexed journals and SCOPUS indexed Journals.

BIL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SDGs

SDG 4 - Through the webinar platform named "BIL Webinar Series." The platform offers free-of-cost workshops and lectures to Bangladeshi remote, rural teachers as part of their in-service professional development.

SDG 4 – BIL revised its existing curriculum by mandating the inclusion of knowledge and awareness about all the SDGs via formative assessments (projects/assignments) in all its undergraduate courses.

SDG 1 & 4 – BIL facilitates free General English Courses for secondary level students through MA in TESOL



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

In 2021, the MA in TESOL degree program witnessed some noteworthy achievements of students and the success stories of alumni. Student Nazia Masood was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal for obtaining the highest CGPA (4.00). She presented her research papers "The Effectiveness of E-assessment of EAP Courses amid COVID-19: Study of Students' and Teachers' Perception" and "Students' and Teachers' Attitude towards Translanguaging" at two international ELT conferences in India and Bangladesh. Student Nadia Zamal Chowdhury published her research article "Impact of Teachers' Empathy towards Adult Learners' Struggles in Acquiring EFL" published in an international journal in Indonesia in June 2021. Moreover, student Nishat Sharmin Eza got selected as Lecturer at National University and an adjunct faculty at Central University of Science and Technology, Dhaka. Besides this, Nadia Zamal Chowdhury received the post of Deputy General Manager, Operations, Training and Development at Scholastica Limited while Nazratul Naim established herself as a content writer for national and international organizations. Our student Sefat Jeshin received full funding for a Masters' program in Applied Linguistics at a prominent Canadian university.



BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health



BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, envisions being the leading global public health institute for challenges affecting disadvantaged communities. The School creates innovative public health leaders & solutions through cutting-edge, experiential Education, Training, Research & Advocacy.

EDUCATION

The Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme

BRAC JPGSPH successfully completed real-time online learning for 2021-22. Some features include:

- Finding solutions to practical public health problems in developing world contexts
- online debates, panel, roleplay, sharing creative ideas & using critical thinking skills
- Students practicing cutting-edge, real-world technical & soft skills

Snapshots of the 17th MPH Cohort (January to December 2021)

- 2 Transgender, 26 Female, & 14 Male
- 42 students from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea & Philippines.

Developing Midwives Project (DMP)

- 231 Midwives from the DMP 5th batch graduated in 2021, with 100% pass rate of the (licence) examination by Bangladesh Nursing & Midwifery Council
- 833 Graduates in Midwifery Professions
- 137 Midwives were serving at the Rohingya Refugee Camps in Cox's Bazar in 2021
- 195 Students Received Financial Aid in 2021

TRAINING

Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health is the School's International Training Hub

- 38 Skills Building Seminars & Workshops in 2021
- 600+ Professionals Trained in 2021

RESEARCH

5 Centres of Excellences & a Humanitarian Hub:

Gender & Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights (Est. 2008)

Health Systems & Universal Health Coverage (Est. 2012)

Urban Equity & Health (Est. 2013)

Science of Implementation & Scale-up (Est. 2016)

Non-communicable Diseases & Nutrition (Est. 2017)

- 30 New Multi-Country Research Projects Undertaken in 2021
- 86 Peer-Reviewed Publications including 3 Book Chapters Published in 2021
- 45 COVID-19 Research Projects since the pandemic started
- 122+ Global & Local Partners & Networks

ADVOCACY

BRAC JPGSPH believes in advocacy to push national and global priorities with government, non-government organizations, international agencies, civil society & donors. Some Key figures:

- 126+ Active Engagements with Stakeholders to Influence Programmes & Policies in 2021
- 68 News Articles & 10 Blogs
- Hosted & participated in more than 12 Webinars

JPGSPH plays its part in the universal call to end poverty and protect the planet. Our premiere education programs (Master of Public Health & Developing Midwives Project) (SDG 4) and workspace are an inclusive ecosystem that ensures equality (SDGs 5, 10) and diversity. Financial aid supports disadvantaged students (SDG 1). The school has a safeguarding policy for students and colleagues (SDGs 8, 16). All research brings evidence to practice in areas such as Maternal & Child Health, Gender, Urban Equity, Climate Change & Environment, Nutrition, Disability, Poverty and Inequality, Psycho-Social Well-being, Digital Health, and Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases (SDGs 3, 5, 10, 11, 13). Through research and advocacy, the School builds national, regional, and global partnerships (SDG 17), recommends policy changes, and helps design interventions.

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

All BRAC JPGSPH graduates have been recruited by national and International Public Health bodies such as BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC, BRAC International, icddr,b, NGOs, WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA.



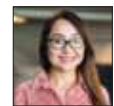
Mohammad Abdus Salam Khan
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoB
1st MPH Cohort



Taufique Joarder
International Consultant, World Health Organization (WHO)
4th MPH Cohort



Morseda Chowdhury
Director, Health, Nutrition and Population Programme, BRAC Bangladesh
6th MPH Cohort



Sabera Turkmani
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Technology Sydney
6th MPH Cohort



Miatta Zénabu Gbanya
Immunization Specialist, UNICEF Afghanistan & Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH
7th MPH Cohort



Dr. Mittika Barua
Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH
8th MPH Cohort



Lily Anna Miatta Kainoo
One Health Officer, Directorate of Health Security and Emergencies, Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Sierra Leone | 14th MPH Cohort



Vicki Ibbett
Care Psychiatry Trainee, National Health Service (England)
16th MPH Cohort

Besides being employed at globally recognized organisations, 40 of our alumni are currently pursuing their PhD and 12 have completed their Doctoral Degree.





Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research

ABOUT

The centre conducts cross-sectoral research on climate change and disaster management in collaboration with BRAC.

TRAINING AND ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- Knowledge Sharing event on "Climate Change Negotiations" for high-level government officials.
- Write shop on "Proposal Development to Access Climate Finance" for government officials.
- Inter-ministerial workshop, chaired by MoEFCC to improve coordination among ministries while implementing the climate change projects.
- Virtual training workshops in collaboration with ActionAid Bangladesh for 53 national and local youth to improve their understanding of CC and its impacts and CCA and mitigation measures, etc.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Published 2 Journal Articles in and 1 Conference Proceeding.
- Signed 3 Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Local Government Engineering Department; and O. CREEDS Ltd.
- Side Event on "Transparency Mechanism in Paris Agreement: issues, concern, and opportunity for effective local adaptation in Bangladesh" at the COP26, Bangladesh Pavilion, Glasgow, Scotland.
- Delivered lectures on Disaster risk reduction & climate change adaptation at PPDM of BRACU.
- 3rd International Conference on Climate Finance jointly with Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies and International Centre for Climate Change and Development.
- Ten local levels, six district levels, and three national-level stakeholder consultations under the "Formulation for Bangladesh National Adaptation Plan" project



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

In 2021, C3ER had been awarded five national and international projects on the identification of community-driven disability-inclusive disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.



FACULTY/RESOURCE PERSON OVERVIEW

Dr. Ainun Nishat is the Adviser of C3ER, recognized as a pioneering expert in water resource management and climate change in Bangladesh. The Centre has a multidisciplinary pool of professionals from the disciplines of:

- Climate Change and Development
- Natural Resource and Environment Management
- Water Resources Management
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Agriculture and Soil Science
- Economics, Sociology, and Anthropology
- Disaster Management
- Climate Change Finance
- Gender and Social Inclusion
- Policy & Institution
- Remote Sensing, GIS, and Data Management



DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP

Dr. Ainun Nishat mentors C3ER's overall operations. Roufa Khanum is in charge of management, administration, and research. The Training and Capacity Development initiative is led by Sharmin Nahar Nipa.



Centre for Entrepreneurship Development



The centre is a contributor to the university's drive to support entrepreneurship development in Bangladesh. Some of the highlights of the centre from 2021 include:

Entrepreneurship Development

- Business Plan Competition (BPC, Round 6) for BRACU's Aspiring Young Entrepreneurs, a regular event of CED since 2015.
- 8-week online training course "Idea, Innovation & Initiate" (I-3) for the participants of BPC [Round 6].
- Developed an e-learning platform based on Open edX, and is conducting different training programs regularly for BRACU students/alumni and others.
- Online Professional Course titled "Idea to Innovation" (i2i) to offer the participants a brief idea about the careful steps to start a new enterprise.
- Conducting Capacity Building on Entrepreneurship Development and Renewable Energy to Women in Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Vietnam, funded by UNEP and UN Women.
- 14 student-led startups, of which 40 students/alumni receive incubation support and services, are operating in the Business Incubation Centre (BIC) and 3 pending graduation.
- Launched an Acceleration Program for BIC Startups, started in December 2021, for the potential businesses owned and operated by young entrepreneurs of BIC.

Project Implementation

- Mapped all export-oriented RMG factories in Bangladesh, the first-ever nation-wide Initiative of its kind, funded by Laudes Foundation and the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Apr 2017 - Mar 2022) [www.mappedinbangladesh.org].
- Leads a Danida-Project titled "Climate Change and Global Value Chains in the Garment and Textile Industries of Europe and Bangladesh", funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark (Jul 2021- Jun 2025).
- Worked as the in-country cooperating/implementing partner of adelphi Consult GmbH (Lead) and INTEGRATION Umwelt & Energie GmbH (implementing partner), for GIZ-supported project SSREU.
- Research project on "Impact of Retailers/Brands Practices on Ready-Made Garment Manufacturers in Bangladesh during the COVID-19 Pandemic" funded by University of Aberdeen, UK.

Industry Collaboration

- Signed an MoU with BGMEA on 25 October 2021 to collaborate on a new upcoming project titled "Digital Repository of RMG Workers".
- BRACU and BGMEA's 2016 MoU for collaboration on MiB was extended on 25 October 2021 up to 2026. The signing ceremony took place at BGMEA office in Dhaka.



Research

- CED-CPD Joint Research: "Vulnerability, Resilience and Recovery in Readymade Garment Enterprises of Bangladesh: An Assessment of Impact and Implications of the COVID Pandemic"

Publications

- Journal: The Ready-Made Garments (RMG) Workers' Gender Ratio in Bangladesh: The case of Mapped in Bangladesh (MiB)
- Journal: Unboxing the Ready-Made Garments (RMG) Sector of Bangladesh
- Book Chapter: Women's Entrepreneurship and Culture: Socio-cultural Context, Traditional Family Roles and Self-determination [Chapter 3: The unfolding process of women's entrepreneurship in a patriarchal society: an exploration of Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs' experiences]

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

As of 2021, 12 student-led startups have been operating in the BRACU Business Incubation Centre, and these startups employed a total of 40 students/alumni of the university. Out of the 12 startups, 3 of the startups will soon be ready to continue on their own.



Centre for Inclusive Architecture and Urbanism



Vision and Mission

The Centre for Inclusive Architecture and Urbanism (Ci+AU) is a multidisciplinary research institute and offers research-based consultancy on urban issues – the exploration of conditions, processes, and policies that affect the livability, resilience, and sustainability of the built environment. The Centre's mission is to create a dynamic culture of architecture and urbanism that is inclusive, empathetic, environmentally conscious, and humanistic.

By integrating rigorous research with applied consulting, Ci+AU seeks to engender a system of bottom-up thinking about how to build inclusive environments and livable cities. The Centre's collaborative and action-based research activities contribute to the development of new knowledge and offer innovative design solutions and policy guidance for both the public and private sectors. It serves policy and decision-makers, professional agencies and organizations, development agencies, stakeholders in urban development, and academia, with a view to creating a platform for critical thinking around community-driven architecture and urbanism in the Global South and beyond.

Leadership and the Board of Directors

Founded by Professor Adnan Zillur Morshed in 2017, the Centre's current advisory board includes Professor Mark Jarzombek (MIT), Professor Rahul Mehrotra (Harvard University), Professor Haider A. Khan (University of Denver), Professor Howard Davis (University of Oregon), Professor Firdous Azim (BRAC University), and Professor Syed Saad Andaleeb (Penn State University). Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG (Founder of BRAC) served on the Centre's inaugural Board of Directors.

Visiting Scholar Program

Ci+AU has created a Visiting Scholar Program to offer researchers from around the world the opportunity to collaborate with our team on short-term projects. This program aims to generate new ideas and scholarship about a range of subjects including urban design, architecture, environmental management and ethics, and social history. By inviting foreign scholars to engage with our dedicated staff of architects, designers, and urbanists, the program will facilitate the meaningful cross-fertilization of ideas and build a dynamic environment to promote new research.



Centre for Peace and Justice

The Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (MCRG), the Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI) and Center for Peace and Justice/BRAC University (CPJ), in close collaboration with BABSEACLE and the Asia Pro Bono Conference and Access to Justice Exchange Secretariat, hosted the first-ever virtual Summer School on legal protections for refugees and forcibly displaced populations in Asia. This event contributes to achieving the SDG 16.



The Centre for Peace and Justice, BRAC University and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh organized a webinar on Advancing Peace through Sustainable Development and Social Well-being as a part of the World Peace Conference celebrating the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Golden Jubilee of Bangladesh. This event also contributes to achieving SDG 16.



The Centre for Peace and Justice, BRAC University (CPJ) organized a virtual Policy Clinic to present and validate the findings and draw policy recommendations for the research "Voices from the Margins and Inclusive Policy Responses to Covid-19 Pandemic". This research is funded by the Covid Collective platform of the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK. This event also contributes to achieving SDG 16.

The Centre for Peace and Justice, BRAC University along with UN Women arranged an online 'Peace Adda' as part of their commemoration of the International Day of Peace 2021. The event was organized under the project titled "Empowering Young Women for Promoting Peaceful, Cohesive and Prosperous Bangladesh". This event highlights and contributes to SDGs 5, 16, 4.

Student Achievements & Alumni Success

Peace Cafés

Since 2018, CPJ has partnered with UN Women to implement the programme "Empowering Young Women for Promoting Peaceful, Cohesive and Prosperous Bangladesh." The project has engaged over 400 students across four universities in multiple regions of Bangladesh. In 2020, the project focused on civic engagement of women both in-person and online, promoting peace, social cohesion and Covid-19 resilience. The ripple effect of this capacity-building project has been seen across seventeen districts. Participating students and faculty have disseminated knowledge to their communities through a myriad of projects, engaging over 10,000 stakeholders. This is evidence of the impact CPJ has had within a section of the community that has often been disenfranchised.



"Peace Ambassador Award" was presented to students who promoted peace and social cohesion among the communities. CPJ co-designed 14 innovative initiatives by engaging 16 faculty members as mentors. Each group was awarded seed funds.

The art, photography, and short video contest on "Women, Peace. Power" was also held.



Professional Development Centre

The professional development centre (PDC) spent the entire of 2021 implementing the innovations and tweaks that were brought in 2020. Since the centre moved under BRAC IED in 2019, significant changes have been brought to capstone programs. Moreover, during the break of the 2022's pandemic, the design of all the programs needed to be rethought and modified. PDC used its long exposure to Instruction Technology to transfer its major program into Online-synchronous mode. Although the execution of the modified versions of the programs in 2020 on a pilot basis, the performance of programs in the entire 2021 construed the modification results.

PDC has two primary programs; the faculty development program is known as "Teaching Strategies for Enhancing Learning-(TSEL) and the Faculty Orientation Program. In 2020, the faculty development program was called PSEL (Pedagogical Strategies for Enhancing Learning). The program was redesigned into Online-Synchronous mode, a well-balanced application of congruous contents and activities executed with state of art web-tools such as Socrative, Mentimeter, slido, padlet, etc. The program uses BRACU's Learning Management System (LMS) and significant modifications were brought in the LMS as well to tackle this new form of execution of the programs. A major add-on was the inclusion of Learning Analytics and change in the user interface. The learning analytics helped PDC monitor and develop insight into the participant's interaction with the program by applying data science-driven methodologies. With all this in place, 22 faculty members of BRAC University took part in the training and successfully obtained the certificates.



Another regular program that PDC undertakes is the orientation for the newly joined faculty members of BRAC University, where they are introduced to best practices in learning and teaching that they can adopt while dealing with the students of BRAC University. This was also converted to the online - synchronous mode by applying ZOOM and

other web tools regularly used in PSEL. In 2021 PDC gave orientation to 26 faculty members. They were exposed to brief teaching and learning strategies expected to provide a head start while taking their initial classes at BRAC University. They were also introduced to the counseling unit, HR, and representatives from the residential semester.



PDC ended the year with a couple of plans for 2022. Firstly, the conversion of PSEL to TSEL will cascade with the list of the short courses being offered by BRAC IED to the professional community. Also, it was decided that PDC will work on developing two or three online courses on pressing matters of online education.



Student Achievements & Alumni Success

The Professional Development center works with the faculty members to enhance their capacity and expose them to trends in pedagogy and instructional technology through the implementation of the programs. They are awarded certificates and the alumni from these programs use the certificates for seeking various accreditation and for the application to postgraduate or doctoral programs.



Audited Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June, 2021

Brac University
Income & Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2021

Prepared using the reporting form PUF-III. A (b) Prescribed University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		July'20-June'21	July'19-June'20
A. Income - Academic		2,334,878,333	2,049,910,720
Academic Income	12	2,324,529,006	2,033,373,954
Admission Income (Sale of forms)		10,349,327	16,536,765
B. Expenditure -Academic		2,193,988,072	2,115,187,002
Academic Expenses	13	1,590,010,156	1,535,964,089
Admission Expenses	14	12,878,666	18,866,699
Academic Research Expenses		585,239,813	552,363,169
Publications Expenses		5,859,437	7,993,045
C. Excess of Income over Expenses-Academic (A-B)		140,890,261	(65,276,282)
D. Income -Non Academic		1,150,382,613	875,496,307
Non-Academic Income	15	1,150,382,613	875,496,307
E. Expenditure -Non Academic		854,604,411	654,959,760
Non Academic Expenses	16	854,604,411	654,959,760
F. Income over Expenditure-Non Academic (D-E)		295,778,202	220,536,547
G. Operating Income over Expenses (C+F)		436,668,463	155,260,264
H. Financial Income over expenses		116,762,008	180,286,831
Interest Income/Profit from Investment	17	118,331,832	181,385,741
Less: Financial Expenses		1,569,824	1,098,909
I. Net Excess of Income over Expenses Before Tax(G+H)		553,430,471	335,547,096
J. Income Tax (with adjustment)	18	83,014,571	50,332,064
K. Net Excess of Income over Expenses After Tax (I-J)		470,415,900	285,215,031

These Accounts should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedule.



Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Date of Issue: 26 January 2022
Place of Issue: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants


Nasir U Ahmed, FCA, FCS, ACMA (UK), CGMA,
FCA (England & Wales)
Senior Partner

ICAB Enrollment No. 535

DVC No: 2202060535 AS016890



**Brac University
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2021**

Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (a) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Note No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2021	30 June 2020
ASSETS:			
Non-Current Assets	4.00	15,445,314,632	13,260,289,176
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.01	12,399,518,778	10,072,517,040
Donated Assets	4.02	2,865,570,854	3,007,547,136
Investment	4.03	180,225,000	180,225,000
Net Current Assets		509,973,748	265,615,697
Current Assets	5.00	3,031,618,794	3,142,163,959
Current Liabilities	6.00	2,521,645,046	2,876,548,262
FUND EMPLOYED (Non-Current Assets plus Net Current Assets)		15,955,288,381	13,525,904,873
FINANCED BY:			
Funds		7,690,397,012	7,336,592,310
Reserve Fund	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
General Fund	8.00	624,604,613	154,188,712
Special Fund	9.00	6,305,517,864	6,422,183,832
Accumulated Depreciation Fund	10.00	710,274,535	710,219,766
Liabilities		8,264,891,370	6,189,312,563
Long Term Liabilities	11.00	8,264,891,370	6,189,312,563
FINANCED BY (Funds plus Liabilities)		15,955,288,381	13,525,904,873

These Accounts should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedule.

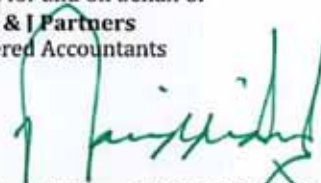

Treasurer


Vice-Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Date of Issue: 26 January 2022
Place of Issue: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Signed for and on behalf of
MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants


**Nasir U Ahmed, FCA, FCS, ACMA (UK),
CGMA, FCA (England & Wales)**

Senior Partner
ICAB Enrollment No. 535
DVC No: 2202060535 AS916890

Audited Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June, 2022

Brac University			
Income & Expenditure Statement			
For the year ended 30 June 2022			
Prepared using the Reporting Form PUFRI-III. A (b) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh			
Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2022	30 June 2021
A. Income - Academic		2,793,302,700	2,334,878,333
Academic Income	12.00	2,767,031,705	2,324,529,006
Admission Income (Sale of Forms)		26,270,995	10,349,327
B. Expenditure - Academic		2,535,802,784	2,193,988,072
Academic Expenses	13.00	1,924,928,445	1,590,010,156
Admission Expenses	14.00	17,219,851	12,878,666
Academic Research Expenses		588,349,642	585,239,813
Publications Expenses		5,304,847	5,859,437
C. Excess of Income over Expenses - Academic (A-B)		257,499,916	140,890,261
D. Income - Non Academic		1,217,690,963	1,150,382,613
Non Academic Income	15.00	1,217,690,963	1,150,382,613
E. Expenditure - Non Academic		1,042,815,911	854,604,411
Non Academic Expenses	16.00	1,042,815,911	854,604,411
F. Income over Expenditure - Non Academic (D-E)		174,875,052	295,778,202
G. Operating Income over Expenses (C+F)		432,374,967	436,668,463
H. Financial Income over Expenses		101,785,441	116,762,008
Interest Income/Profit from Investment	17.00	107,417,930	118,331,832
Less: Financial Expenses		5,632,488	1,569,824
I. Net Excess of Income over Expenditure Before Tax (G+H)		534,160,409	553,430,471
J. Income Tax (with adjustment)	18.00	80,124,061	83,014,571
K. Net Excess of Income over Expenses After Tax (I-J)		454,036,347	470,415,900

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


Treasurer



Vice -Chancellor


Chairperson of Board of Trustees

Date: 19 DEC 2022
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh
DVC No.:

2301020824AS881302




Hoque Bhattacharjee Das & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Signed By-
Avijit Bhattacharjee, FCA
Partner, Enrolment # 824



Brac University
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2022

Prepared using the Reporting Form-PUFR-III. A (a) prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2022	30 June 2021
ASSETS:			
Non-Current Assets	4.00	19,384,540,884	15,445,314,632
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.01	16,349,874,261	12,399,518,778
Donated Assets	4.02	2,852,319,895	2,865,570,854
Intangible Assets	4.03	2,121,728	-
Investments	4.04	180,225,000	180,225,000
Net Current Assets		354,971,108	509,973,748
Current Assets	5.00	3,579,428,158	3,031,618,794
Current Liabilities	6.00	3,224,457,050	2,521,645,046
FUND EMPLOYED (Non-Current Assets plus Net Current Assets)		19,739,511,991	15,955,288,381
FINANCED BY:			
Funds		8,309,372,478	7,690,397,012
Reserve Fund	7.00	50,000,000	50,000,000
General Fund	8.00	1,078,640,960	624,604,613
Special Fund	9.00	6,414,074,308	6,305,517,864
Accumulated Depreciation Fund	10.00	766,657,211	710,274,535
Liabilities		11,430,139,513	8,264,891,370
Long Term Liabilities	11.00	11,430,139,513	8,264,891,370
FINANCED BY (Funds plus Liabilities)		19,739,511,991	15,955,288,381

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes and schedules.


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Date: 19 DEC 2022
Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Signed By-
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Partner, Enrolment # 824

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