

BRAC Graduation Approach
Eradication of Extreme Poverty: Worldwide Experience

Rozina Haque

Programme Head
Ultra-Poor Graduation Programme, BRAC

About BRAC

Foundation and reach

Founded in
Bangladesh in
1972, BRAC has
reached over
100 million
population
around the world

Forefront of poverty alleviation

BRAC has been at the forefront of poverty alleviation, disaster recovery, health, education, microfinance etc. in Bangladesh and 11 other countries

Sustainability and scale

BRAC develops,
tests, and replicates
some of the world's
most innovative
anti-poverty
programmes,
demonstrating
sustainability and
scale







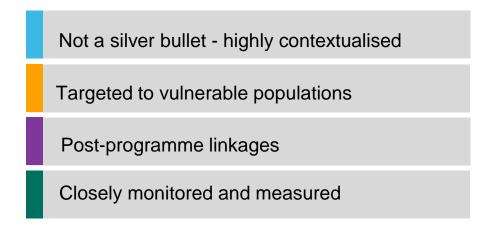
We are a solution ecosystem

that creates opportunities for people to realise their potential



Graduation Approach

Graduation approach is a comprehensive, time-bound, integrated and sequenced set of services that enable ultra-poor households to achieve sustainable livelihoods and socioeconomic resilience, in order to progress along a pathway out of extreme poverty



In 2002 BRAC pioneered Graduation approach in Bangladesh. The Ultra-Poor Graduation programme has reached over 2.1 million ultra-poor households in 48 districts so far

Intervention expended for targeted population and in different contexts: urban, climate change, persons with disabilities, local host community in Cox's Bazar, etc





UPG Programme Intervention: A 24-Month Journey

Targeting

Programme Interventions

Graduation



Targeting Methodology

- Geographical
- Participatory Rural Appraisal (Social Mapping and Wealth Ranking)
- Focus Group Discussion (FGD)
- Questionnaire survey
- Verification

PROMOTION



- Asset transfer (Grant plus credit)
- Cash transfer for productive assets
- Enterprise (IGA) developemt training
- Input support for enterprise

FINANCIAL



- Access to financial institution
- Financil literacy
- Savings

SOCIAL
PROTECTION



- Access to healthcare services
- Access to government's social safety net programmes
- Linkage to wrap-around services

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT



- Hands-on coaching on life-skill development
- Community mobilisation



Socioeconomic resilience

- Increased assets
- Diversified livelihood
- · Improved food security
- Improved access to
- financial services
 Increased access to
- Increased access to market and services
- Improved access to government's services
- Increased social capital
- Improved positive behavioural change

0 months Start of programme implementation 24 months End of programme implementation





Evidence: Resilience Building & Shock Responsiveness

Randomized Control (RCT) Trial by LSE and BIGD: Findings from 4 & 7 years

37% increase in annual income

10% increase in consumption

9x increase in savings

2x increase in land access

Randomized Control (RCT) Trial by LSE: Findings from 10 years

A "big push" helps people in extreme poverty to escape the poverty trap

A relatively large asset transfer helps them to sustainably lift themselves out of poverty

One of the cost effective approaches in the long run

Study by LSE and BIGD on 2007 cohort to check the resilience of the participants during pandemic

More likely to have good jobs, including salaried, agricultural & nonagricultural work, and productive assets at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic

More likely to keep good jobs if they are younger (below 45 years), compared to older participants

Less likely to experience the agony of COVID-19 induced migration, a phenomenon which is happening worldwide





Global Adaptation and Evidence: RCT Findings







Learning and Way Forward

Learning

Adoption

Way Forward

A "big push" in respect to asset which is not too small or incremental can help people to escape the poverty trap

Evidence shows the Graduation approach works for different context, for different targeted people and produce similar result

Government can complement Graduation approach in existing programmes. It can be built on the current system and also improve the targeting process BRAC and other NGO's have took Graduation approach globally. Governments and other like-minded organisations has adopted the model

An estimated one third of Graduation programmes are already government-led in Africa, Asia and Latin America

BRAC has been selected as an **Audacious Project** grantee to scale

Graduation approach through
government adoption and help 21

million people globally lift themselves
from extreme poverty

Strengthening government policies and transformation of social protection to productive inclusion to break the poverty trap in a sustainable way

Partnership to mainstream
Graduation for scaling up,
proper utilization of
resources and leave no
one behind to achieve
Agenda 2030





When people realise they can change their own lives, it is as if a light gets switched on - Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG, Founder BRAC



