

Knowledge partners learning together — 1

BRAC is a global movement touching the lives of around 135 million people. The large scale, holistic BRAC WASH programme in Bangladesh enables the poor to gain control of their lives. IRC is proud to be a 'knowledge partner' with BRAC WASH, not only sharing expertise, but putting knowledge and skills to work for the BRAC WASH mission and priorities. The role of IRC is to advise, support and facilitate, recognising that the programme is carried out by BRAC, who carry the ultimate responsibility for programme decisions.

What does it mean to be a knowledge partner?



Since 2006, BRAC WASH and IRC have learnt together to make progress, improve quality, sustain performance and overcome obstacles through collaborative decision making, action and reflection. IRC provides support for BRAC WASH to monitor and document the programme and to innovate.

This IRC contribution to enhance knowledge, learning and documentation is supported by DGIS and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Support extends to all 250 BRAC WASH Programme upazilas including the 73 covered under the BRAC DFID/AusAid Strategic Partnership Agreement.

Knowledge partners learning together—2

Short-term and unsustainable projects "must be left in the past"

IRC has made significant contributions to support BRAC WASH to get the best data from its programme, sustain the gains and share what it has done with others in the following areas:

- Hygiene promotion – to redesign the way behavioural change is communicated and to develop a specific approach to hygiene promotion for men.
- Monitoring and learning – with QIS outcome monitoring, a ‘SenseMaker’ pilot and support for monitoring and learning.
- Sustainability – taking steps to strengthen sanitation value chains, and investigate the life-cycle costs of sanitation and water services.

- Initiatives on action research, on topics such as faecal sludge management, low-cost sanitation technologies, and salinisation.
- Documentation of BRAC WASH activities and wider dissemination in the WASH sector.

IRC works to ensure that short-term, unsustainable projects become something from the past.

IRC Director Patrick Moriarty says: "Everyone deserves water and sanitation services every day, every year, forever. IRC works with far-sighted organisations like BRAC that do not accept the status quo and are impatient for change."

