

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University Organisation Capacity Statement

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (BRAC JPGSPH), BRAC University was established in 2004 to address the unmet public health challenges particular to Asia, Africa and South America. It was founded by BRAC, the world's largest NGO, reaching over 100 million people in Bangladesh and working in 9 countries in Africa and Asia (www.brac.net). The School has institutional partnership with icddr,b, a leading international health research institute, which fosters innovation in the development and delivery of global lifesaving solutions (www.icddr.org). BRAC JPGSPH envisions being the leading global public health institute for the world's critical health challenges affecting disadvantaged communities. Its mission is to create innovative public health leaders and provide solutions through cutting-edge, experiential learning. The School primarily focuses on four core areas: (1) Education (2) Training (3) Research and (4) Advocacy.

It runs the flagship Master of Public Health (MPH) program that attracts a student body of health and development professionals from around the world. At BRAC JPGSPH, 521+ students across 30 countries have graduated with MPH degree. The School was featured in 2007 by the World Health Organization (WHO), as one of the top 6 Schools of public Health in the region.

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/85/12/07-011207/en/>

Since its inception, BRAC JPGSPH has gradually built up its research capacity within different spheres of public health. Multidisciplinary in approach and method, BRAC JPGSPH's research practice investigates critical and emerging developing country health needs to identify evidence based solutions under the five Centres of Excellence: (1) *Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights* (established in 2008), (2) *Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage* (established in 2012), (3) *Urban Equity and Health* (established in 2013), (4) *Science of Implementation & Scale-up* (established in 2016) and (5) *Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition* (established in 2017).

The School is involved in a wide range of studies on health, gender and development issues of national and global importance. These include poverty alleviation, socioeconomic development of marginalized groups, education, urban health, climate change including research on environmental health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, nutrition, gender equity, vulnerable populations, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, sexuality, human rights and health, health workforce, health equity and health financing, surveillance,

program evaluation and implementation science. Recently, the School is taking forward qualitative research, surveys and impact studies on Rohingya refugees.

The School has had more than 600⁺ articles published in journals, books and chapters. The School has 123⁺ local and global partners. Since inception, the School has undertaken around 127⁺ research projects; many of which are multi- country consortia in collaboration with leading academic and research institutions. There were also national projects in partnership with local Non-Govt. organizations (NGO), local representatives of International NGOs, UN bodies and with relevant Ministries in the Government, including projects in partnership with leading public and private academic and research institutions.

For a full list of our research projects, visit our website

<http://bracjpgsph.org/index.php/research-project>

The School has conducted over 6200⁺ health and development professionals' training under the centre for professional skills development on public health (CPSD). Since 2005, it has organized over 214⁺ advocacy based events through multi-stakeholder engagements to date. The School has national and international partners for advocacy to create pathway for public health to improve on a governmental or regulatory front including identifying policy barriers and solutions with tailored advocacy strategy. The School hosts Bangladesh Health Watch, an influential civil society initiative established in 2006 with the objective of monitoring Bangladesh's progress towards achievement of the goal of good health for all its citizens. It provides the platform for citizens group to take an active interest in understanding and sharing the challenges and choices, policy and programme options of the country's health sector.