

Bangladesh

Since 1988, Helen Keller Intl has worked in Bangladesh to eliminate barriers to nutrition and healthcare so children and families have the opportunity to realize their true potential. Working hand-in-hand with the government of Bangladesh and partner organizations, we have spent the past three decades working to increase food and nutrition security, control neglected tropical diseases, and protect vision. This includes helping families grow nutritious foods despite extreme weather, protecting mothers and young children against the effects of malnutrition, and training healthcare workers to combat blindness caused by diabetes.



Number of staff: **109**
People reached annually: **274,432**



Office opened: **1988**
Operating budget: **\$4.3 million**

Challenges



Nearly 2 million Bangladeshi adults are living with diabetic retinopathy, a disease that can cause permanent blindness.

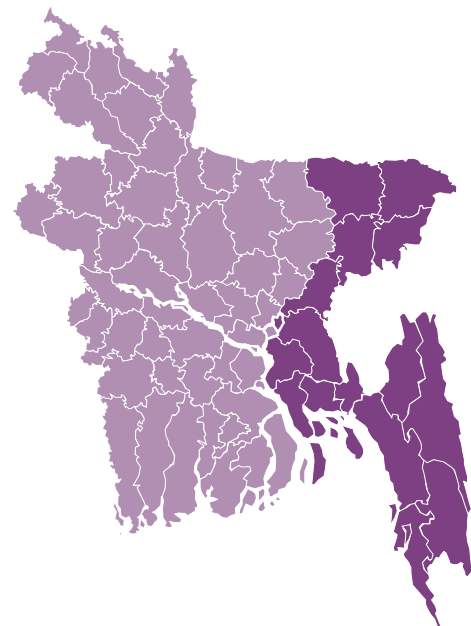


24% of the population is food insecure, exacerbated by the compounding impacts of COVID-19, climate crises, and conflict.



More than 3.3. million adults suffer from uncorrected refractive error, impacting their quality of life and earning power.

Where We Work



• Chittagong Hill Tracts

• North-East (Sylhet)

Our Solutions



Improve awareness of diabetic retinopathy and increase early detection and treatment by training healthcare workers, establishing new clinics, and conducting community education.



Apply a multisectoral approach to improve food insecurity through increased agricultural production, income generation, and knowledge of maternal and child health and nutrition.



Partner with Bangladesh Garment Manufacturing and Exporters Association to improve vision services for staff in 5 garment factories.



Our Impact

- ✓ Screened more than 20,700 patients for diabetic eye disease and referred more than 2,850 for further treatment.
- ✓ Supported more than 33,600 households in the Chittagong Hill Tracts with improved agriculture technologies and nutrition counseling.
- ✓ Reached 3,300 garment workers with vision screenings, referring over 1,900 with prescriptions for low-cost eyeglasses, to correct both near and farsightedness.

Key Partners: European Union; Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office; Lavelle Fund for the Blind; United Nations Office for Project Services, USAID

About Helen Keller Intl

Helen Keller Intl partners with communities that are striving to overcome longstanding cycles of poverty. By delivering the essential building blocks of good health, sound nutrition, and clear vision, the organization helps millions of people create lasting change in their own lives. Working in 20 countries – across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States – and together with a global community of supporters, Helen Keller helps to ensure every person has the opportunity – as Helen did – to reach their true potential.

Contact Information

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