

## Improvement Analysis BRAC April 2017

### Environmental sustainability (EN16, EN18, and EN26)

This continues to be one of the major **weak areas** of BRAC due to their continuous failure to provide information on their own greenhouse gas emissions. The Panel refers BRAC again to how Greenpeace uses CloudApps Sustainability as outlined in [Greenpeace Accountability Report 2014](#) (page 30) and to the [good practice](#) of Oxfam and Plan International in the regard (pages 88-94).

While the Panel continuously appreciate the work of BRAC's green enterprises, it is not clear how the work of these enterprises is helping BRAC reduce emissions from its own operations. For example, is BRAC using their own produced recycled paper and is BRAC Solar the energy supplier to BRAC Bangladesh? The answers to these questions would make a huge difference and the Panel looks forward to more elaboration.

BRAC does not report on their environmental impact which is also considered by the Panel as a **major weakness**. The Panel refers BRAC to Plan's comprehensive [approach](#) (pages 98-99) to outlining their global environmental impact.

### **Actions taken**

### Managing impact on communities (SO1)

BRAC involves communities at the different project cycle stages. BRAC is commended for running the largest NGO legal aid programme in the work with 400 legal aid clinics across Bangladesh. While working with the communities can mitigate negative impact, this does not guarantee a systematic assessment and management of negative impacts on these communities and this is considered by the Panel as a **weak area**. Does BRAC have an exit strategy for their different projects and programmes? How does BRAC ensure that their social enterprises do not have negative impacts on the local economy? For e.g., in 2015, BRAC opened 254 additional offices in Bangladesh and 12 outside Bangladesh (as mentioned in 2.3).



How does BRAC ensure that these offices do not negatively affect local actors including community based organisations (CBOs) in these areas?

#### **Actions taken**

#### **Anti-corruption practices (SO3)**

BRAC has an Anti-Money Laundering and a Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT) policy – no links however were provided as requested by the Panel in last year's feedback. In addition to money laundry and terrorism financing, how does BRAC ensure that risks of bribery, nepotism, fraud or conflicts of interest are carefully assessed and mitigated? This is considered a **weak area** and the Panel further refers BRAC to good practice from [Plan International's Accountability Report 2013-14](#) (page 38). Also, the Panel refers BRAC to Jeremy Sandbrook's [blog post](#) which outlines the significant role of leadership in fighting corruption in the sector.

#### **Actions taken**