

# HELPING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY





## BRAC IS A DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY BY EMPOWERING THE POOR TO REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL AND BRING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGE IN THEIR OWN LIVES.



### Not for profit

- *Headquartered in Dhaka, Bangladesh*
- *Multiple operations & locations in 10 countries*
- *120,000 employees*
- *Using Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business*

BRAC started out in 1972 as a small relief organisation in Bangladesh. Today, the largest NGO in the world, BRAC employs nearly 120,000 people in 10 countries in Asia and Africa helping an estimated 138 million people to escape from poverty.

Among its extensive work in economic and social development, education, healthcare and legal aid, microfinance is one of BRAC's largest programmes, providing access to loans and savings products to meet the unique needs of the poor, who cannot access mainstream banking services. Millions of people have benefitted from small loans from BRAC to invest in agriculture, trade and other small businesses, while others enjoy the increased security of protected savings to help plan for a more prosperous future.

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Paul Purification, Systems Engineer, BRAC Microfinance

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## Challenge

Headquartered in Dhaka, BRAC is a large grassroots development organisation that employs thousands of field workers. Its staff rely heavily on secure and reliable IT, especially when providing financial services to individuals, small businesses and communities.

However, in Bangladesh and many of the countries where BRAC operates, national infrastructure is often weak, making IT systems, networks and equipment particularly vulnerable to malicious attacks.

In 2014, Bangladesh itself was rated fourth in the global league table of nations most at risk of viruses, particularly from removable media such as flash drives, camera and phone memory cards or from external hard drives.

BRAC was looking for an IT security partner to replace its previous supplier who was unable to deal with the many virus attacks at local offices, often caused by running infected USB drives and CDs on PCs and laptops.

Systems regularly crashed, files were lost and hard drives damaged. Equipment had to be sent back to the IT team at Dhaka for complete reformatting and reinstallation of software, an extremely time consuming and expensive process.

BRAC also needed a partner with the capability to install and update antivirus software manually, as many of its satellite offices are located in remote areas lacking local area networks – or even electricity for hours at a time each day.



## SECURE

*Reduces problems caused by virus attacks.*



## COST

*Elimination of resource-intensive repairs have saved costs.*



## FLEXIBLE

*A dispersed workforce can now work efficiently, even in remote locations.*

# 2,500

Users protected

# 9

Countries

benefitting so far

## The Kaspersky Lab Solution

After detailed discussions about BRAC's current requirements and plans for the future of its microfinance programme, Kaspersky Lab's leading partner in the region, Officeextracts, delivered a series of demonstrations to show how the Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business - Bangladesh solution was ideal for the task.

BRAC selected Kaspersky Lab for its world class, multi-layered anti-malware protection, its systems and dispersed workforce, combined with application, device and web control, mobile security and mobile device management. The solution was also configured to work smoothly alongside BRAC's customised microfinance systems and software.

Given the practical challenges of BRAC's work in the field, the deployment had to be carefully planned and executed over an extended period.

Officeextracts spent considerable time with BRAC's microfinance team in Dhaka training and facilitating the installation, scanning and configuring the Kaspersky Lab solution and in ongoing maintenance, management and updating of the systems and individual modules in order to get the very best results.

### Long-term partnership and support delivers impressive results

After more than a year of intensive work and support, more than 2,500 users are now enjoying the benefits of the solution.

Systems Engineer, Paul Purification, said: "Before using Kaspersky we were facing virus attacks and infections at all of our local satellite offices. It was very disruptive and damaging – and sending equipment back to Dhaka for complete reformatting and installation was a slow, tedious and expensive process.

"With the quality of the Kaspersky Lab product this has now been resolved, operations at our remote offices are much smoother and we are not wasting resources fixing damaged systems and equipment.

"Controls on the use of USB drives and CDs and DVDs by users in the field has resulted in a big reduction in local infection problems. This is making thousands of our people much more productive as they can focus on the vitally important work they are doing in their communities.

"The training and consistent support that we have received over a long period of time has been very reassuring and valuable. We are now converting all of our satellite offices to online communications through 3G modems and this will enable us to make even better use of the Kaspersky solution in the future."



**MOST TESTED\***  
**MOST AWARDED\***  
**KASPERSKY LAB**  
**PROTECTION**

\*kaspersky.com/top3

# KASPERSKY LAB

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