

Khairpur: focus district for intensive evidence-based planning in Pakistan

Progress Report - 2005

Khairpur:

Area:

Population: 1,546,587 (1998 census)

Number of Tehsils: 8

Number of Union Councils: 76



Khairpur is the first social audit focus district in Sindh. The Zila Nazima expressed interest during the discussions of the Baseline social audit cycle in December 2003. The Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Local Government Sindh also recommended Khairpur as a suitable focus district. In September 2004, CIET met the Zila Nazima, the Naib Nazima and the District Coordinating Officer (DCO) to plan for establishing and implementing the district social audit activities.

Design and set-up phase

From mid-October to mid-December 2004, CIET organized district and tehsil level orientation meetings to explain the social audit methods and to seek guidance and support for establishing the social audit scheme. These meetings were marked by an overwhelming response from district stakeholders in terms of participation and interest and were attended by Executive District Officers (EDOs) and District Officers (DOs) from different district line departments, members of district council, selected Nazims of Union Councils, Taluka Municipal Officers (TMOs), women councilors, CCB, NGO, media representatives and academics from Shah Latif University, Khairpur.



Orientation meeting, Khairpur
Photo:CIET

The Zila Nazima nominated the EDO Community Development as the district focal person for the social audit. She also nominated the district steering group, which is a balanced group of public representatives, district administration, NGOs, CCBs, media and academia. The district nazima is the chair of the group.

In consultation with the EDO Community Development and with the approval of the Zila Nazima, the district steering group nominated a sub-technical group. CIET shared draft field instruments and procedures with the group. The sub-technical group helped identify a stratified random sample of 32 representative union councils in all talukas where data would be collected.

Participants discussed different priority sectors that required attention. Health, with a focus on public and preventive services, was a priority in the district and the focus district national core group endorsed it as the topic for the first district cycle during the focus district national core group meeting in December 2004 in Islamabad. The Naib Nazima and the EDO Community Development represented Khairpur in the meeting.

With support from the district government and help from the district nazima and the EDO Community Development, CIET established the district social audit coordination office in the office of EDO Community Development.

Training and fieldwork

During February and the first half of March 2005, the CIET team worked in consultation with the EDO Community Development, the district steering group and the sub-technical group to identify potential candidates for the field teams for data collection. CIET selected 36 female and two male candidates from Khairpur for the training. The Naib Nazima and members of the district steering and sub-technical groups visited the four-day intensive training of field teams conducted by CIET in March 2005. The teams collected data from mid-March to the beginning of April 2005. As well as household interviews, the field teams conducted institutional reviews in government health facilities serving the communities. The teams also conducted key informant interviews with health providers including health facility heads, vaccinators and Lady Health Workers (LHW).

Data entry and cleaning will take place during April-May 2005 in the CIET Data Management Unit in Karachi.