

## Sialkot: focus district for intensive evidence-based planning in Pakistan

### Progress Report - 2005

#### Sialkot:

Area:  
Population: 2,723,481  
Tehsils: 4  
Union Councils: 122  
General location: Northern  
Punjab bordering Indian Punjab  
and Jammu



CIET organized an initial meeting with the Zila Nazim to discuss the inclusion of Sialkot as a focus district in April 2004. In a meeting with the Zila Nazim in Sialkot at the end of November 2004, CIET confirmed Sialkot as the second focus district in Punjab.

#### *Design and set-up phase*

The Zila Nazim and the District Coordinating Officer (DCO) attended the first meeting of the focus district national core group in Islamabad in December 2005. The core group endorsed health, with a focus on public and preventive health services, as the topic for the first district social audit cycle.

In December 2004, CIET organized a series of orientation meetings with the district government chaired by the Zila Nazim. These meetings agreed the District Officer Community Development as the focal person and identified the members of the district steering group. Members include representatives of the district government, government departments and NGOs. The Zila Nazim is the chairperson and the District Coordinating Officer (DCO) is the co-chairperson of the group. A location for the district social audit coordination office was also identified. District representatives helped CIET collect basic information regarding the district, which included population data, lists of union councils, addresses of lady health workers and a recent map of the district.



District meeting December 2004  
Photo:CIET

During meetings of the district steering group, the participants identified the sub-technical group. CIET shared the process of instrument design and exchanged information about questionnaires, interview format and community sample with the group. The group identified 6 urban and 16 rural communities from 22 sampled union councils in the district.

#### *Training and fieldwork*

Trained teams tested draft instruments in January 2005 in urban, semi-urban and rural communities. Technical group members helped to identify field teams during February 2005. Each field teams comprises nine females and one male. CIET conducted detailed training of field teams in March 2005. Teams began data collection immediately after training and continued till mid-April 2005. The teams conducted household interviews, institutional reviews in government health facilities serving the communities and key informant interviews with health providers including health facility heads, vaccinators and Lady Health Workers (LHWs).