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PAKISTAN

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Citizens' Voice Project

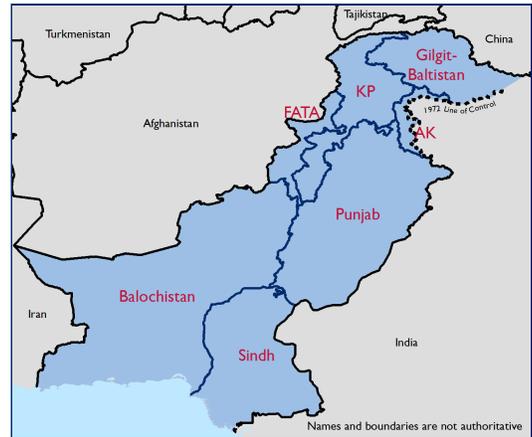
The Citizens' Voice Project is a program that seeks to improve engagement between citizens and their government in advancing important development objectives. The project aims to strengthen the citizen organizations' ability to exercise effective policy advocacy and engage in government oversight. By forging partnerships between civil society organizations, educational and research institutes, media, and all levels of government, the project fosters inclusive decision-making processes and promotes transparency in public-private dialogue. Grants awarded under the Citizens' Voice Project support initiatives in the areas of energy, economic growth, agriculture, education, and health.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the Citizens Voice Project is to foster citizens engagement with state institutions on public policy and good governance. The program does so by fostering projects that improve the interaction between civil society, government, and other important actors.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Award grants to civil society organizations for advocacy in public policy and partnership with the state institutions at federal, provincial and local levels of the government.
- Provide training to build capacity of private organizations including NGOs, for-profit organizations, private academic institutions, think tanks and media through pre-award assessments and post-award short and long-term capacity building programs.



Presentation at Serena Hotel

RESULTS TO DATE

- 124 grants worth \$ 8.2 million have so far been awarded under a variety of themes. The grantees are working throughout Pakistan, including FATA and AJK.
- The thematic areas include Municipal Services, Energy Sector Reforms, Water Rights, Education Sector Oversight, Monitoring of Frontier Crimes Regulation Reforms, Transparency and Accountability, Local Governance Reforms, Legislative Governance, Mobilization of Female Voters and Voter Education.
- 1476 applications have been received from Pakistani organizations for five cycles of grants.
- 228 programmatic and 148 operational pre-award assessments have been carried out.
- Over 100 citizens committees have so far been formed to watch government activities
- Energy grantees have participated in 6 Public Hearings at national level held by NEPRA and OGRA
- 5 Citizen Complaint Centers have been established.