

**Pakistan Development Forum, 2006**

**“Community Empowerment  
under Devolution:  
Progress, Challenges and the  
Way Forward”**

***Briefing by:***

***CEO, Devolution Trust for Community Empowerment***



# “Community Empowerment Elements’ of Devolution

1. Citizen Community Boards
2. Reservation of 25% of development budget for CCBs
3. Village & Neighborhood Councils
4. Transparency and access to information
5. Alternate mechanisms for dispute resolution
6. Community participation elements in the Police Order 2002

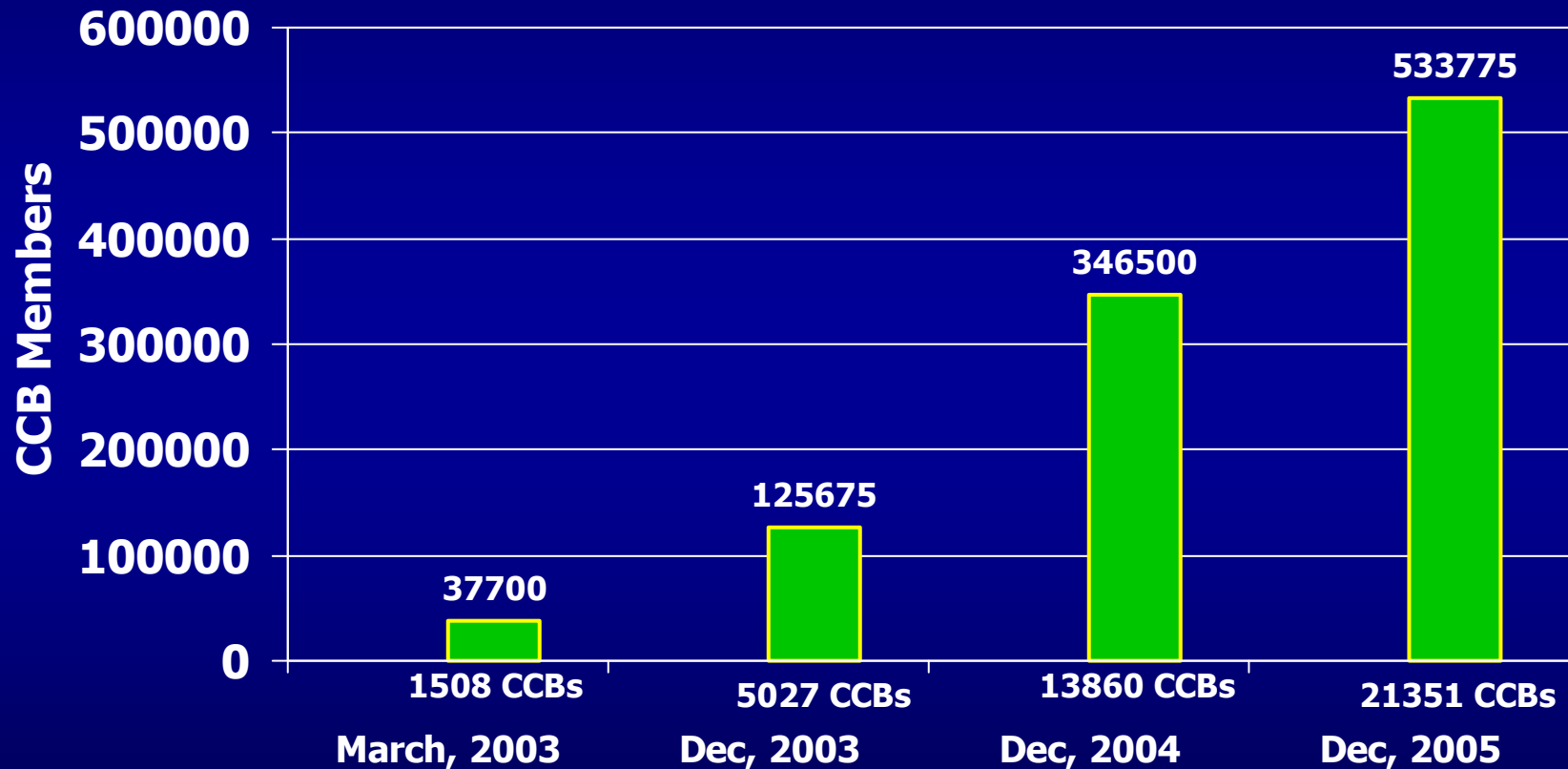
# Progress So Far

1. New citizen-state relationship through CCBs i.e.

*Rs. 1700 mil of Government  
+ Rs. 340 mil of Communities  
= 3970 CCB Projects*

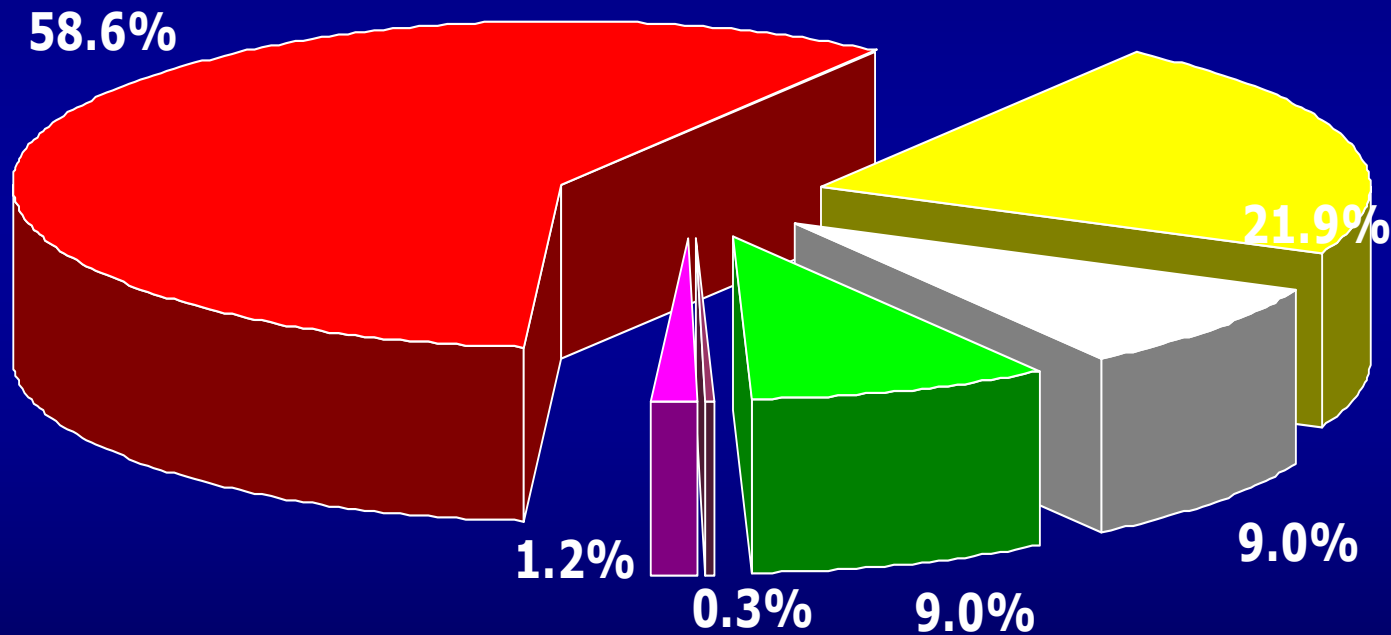
# Progress So Far (Continued)

**Interface between 533,775 CCB members and 79,950 councilors**



# Progress So Far (Continued)

2. Communities executed need-based projects in areas of sanitation, water supply, agriculture, education, comm. dev and health.



# Implications for Women

1. Move from the domestic sphere to the social and political mainstream has largely become acceptable.
2. Shift of activity-focus from traditional sectors to sectors exclusive to men.
3. Unprecedented access to developmental funds & decision-making regarding them.
4. School for higher political roles.

# Challenges and the Way Forward

1. Negative perceptions created because of resistance to change and under-reporting of success of the community empowerment movement.

**Strategy:** Effective communication campaign

2. Implementation and consolidation of the local government system in its entirety.

**Strategy:** Formation of Local Government Associations, and CCB Networks to engage local, provincial and federal governments

# Challenges and the Way Forward

(Continued)

## 3. Avoiding 'elite capture' of CCBs

**Strategy:** (i) CCB networks (ii) village & neighborhood councils (iii) Fine-tuning of CCB Rules (iv) Catalyzing formation of CCBs of women and minorities

## 4. Provision of adequate financial resources for increasing number of CCBs being registered, especially Balochistan.

**Strategy:** (i) Policy dialogue federal & provincial governments (ii) Local Government Associations and CCB Networks

# Challenges and the Way Forward

(Continued)

5. Resistance to accountability. Access to information by the public & communities.

**Strategy:** (i) Involvement of press and media  
(ii) Public interest litigation

6. Resistance to sharing of resources with communities

**Strategy:** Capacitating and incentivising affirmative action in support of bottom-up planning and CCBs

# Challenges and the Way Forward

(Continued)

7. Police Responsiveness and Relations with Community.

**Strategy:** Operationalisation of National, Provincial & District Public Safety and Police Complaints Commissions and Union Public Safety Committees.

8. Involvement of women councilors and CCB members in supporting implementation of laws regarding violence against women and negative cultural practices.

**Strategy:** Communication, linkages & networks

**Thank you !**