



BROOKINGS

QUALITY. INDEPENDENCE. IMPACT.

Fostering Inclusive Education in Pakistan:

Access and Quality for All Children Through Community School Empowerment Networks



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UNESCO Definition of Inclusive Education

“Inclusive education is based on the notion that all children—regardless of their gender, ability, ethnicity, language, religion, nationality, social origin or economic condition—should have access to quality education that meets basic learning needs and enriches lives.”



Instability in the Gilgit-Baltistan Region Hinders Inclusive Education



Outline

1. Lagging Education Outcomes in Pakistan
2. Barriers to Inclusive Education
3. Overcoming the Barriers to Inclusive Education through Community School Networks
4. The Pilot Proposal



Education Outcomes Lagging in Pakistan

- 56% of a total population of 180 million can read
- 7.3 million children not enrolled in schools (highest rate in region)
- 57% excluded children are girls
- 15-20% of people have some type of disability
- 2% of Pakistan GDP spent on education, (among the lowest in the world)



Barriers to Achieving Inclusive Education

**Lack of
Community
Participation**

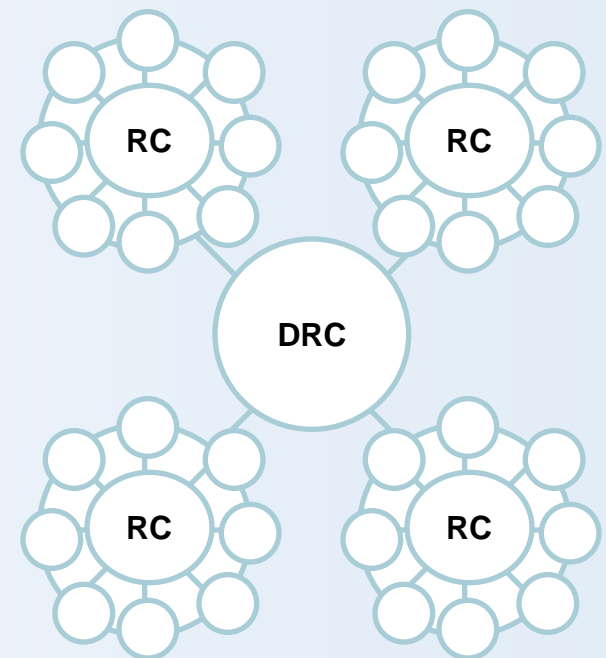
**Inaccessible
Schools**

**Few Girls
Schools
&
Many
Exclusively
Boys Schools**

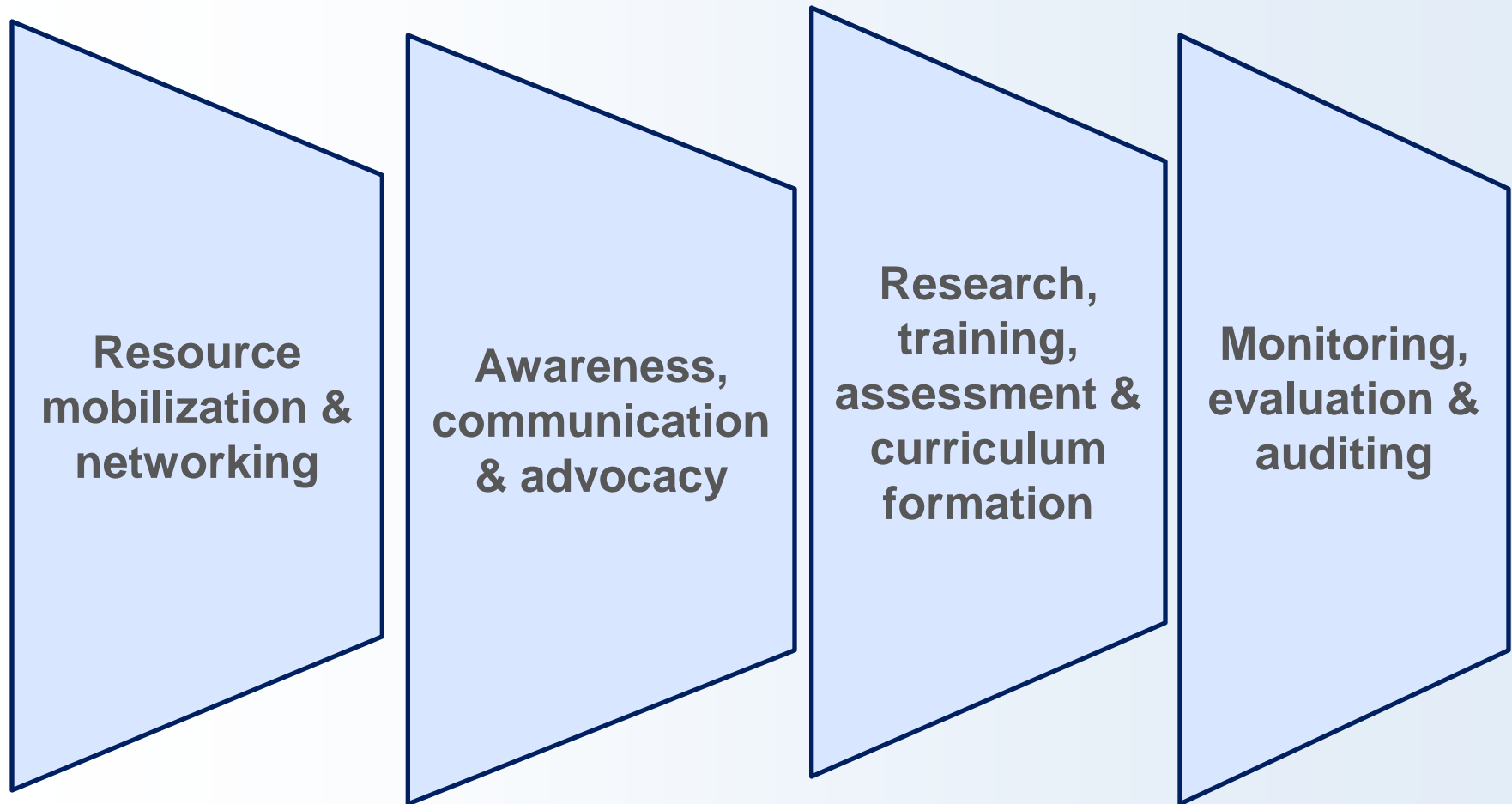
**Untrained
Teachers**

A Grassroots Approach to Inclusive Education: Community School Networks (CSNs)

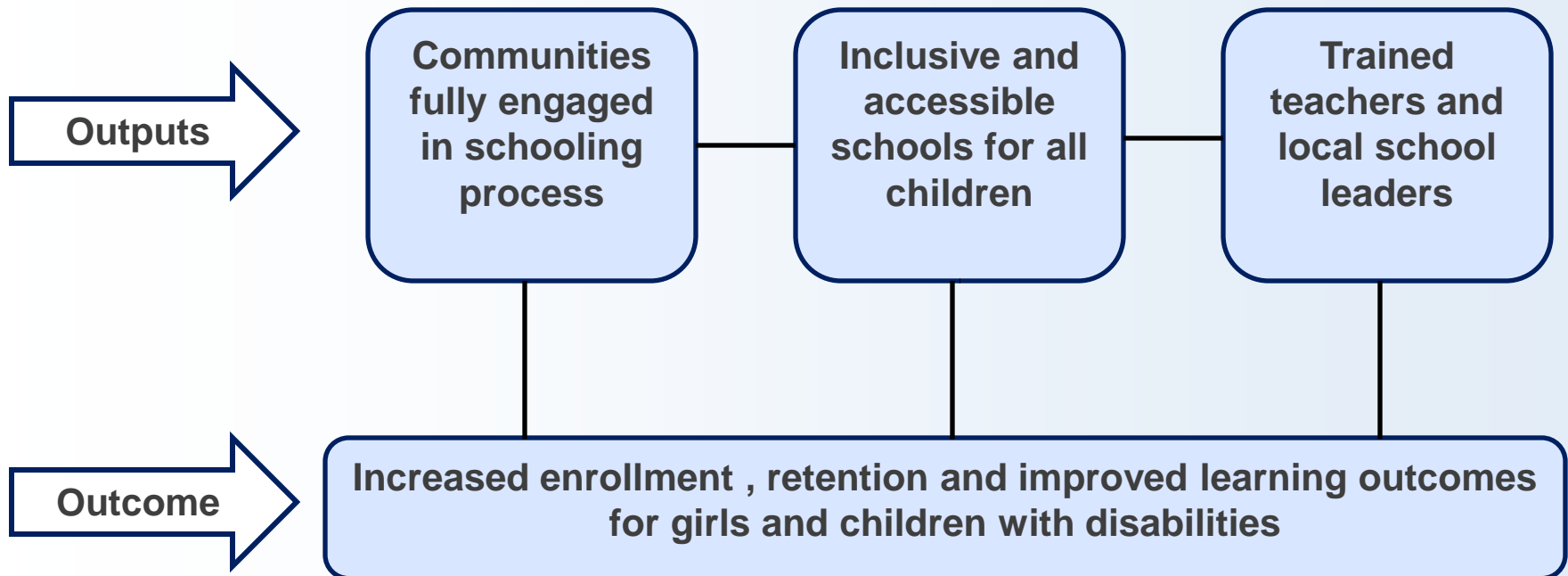
- 20-30 schools in a cluster within a geographic area
- CSN is supported by a resource center in the district and in village
- Overseen by a governing council and a general council
- Activities undertaken by volunteer committees of parents, school faculty and staff, and other stakeholders.



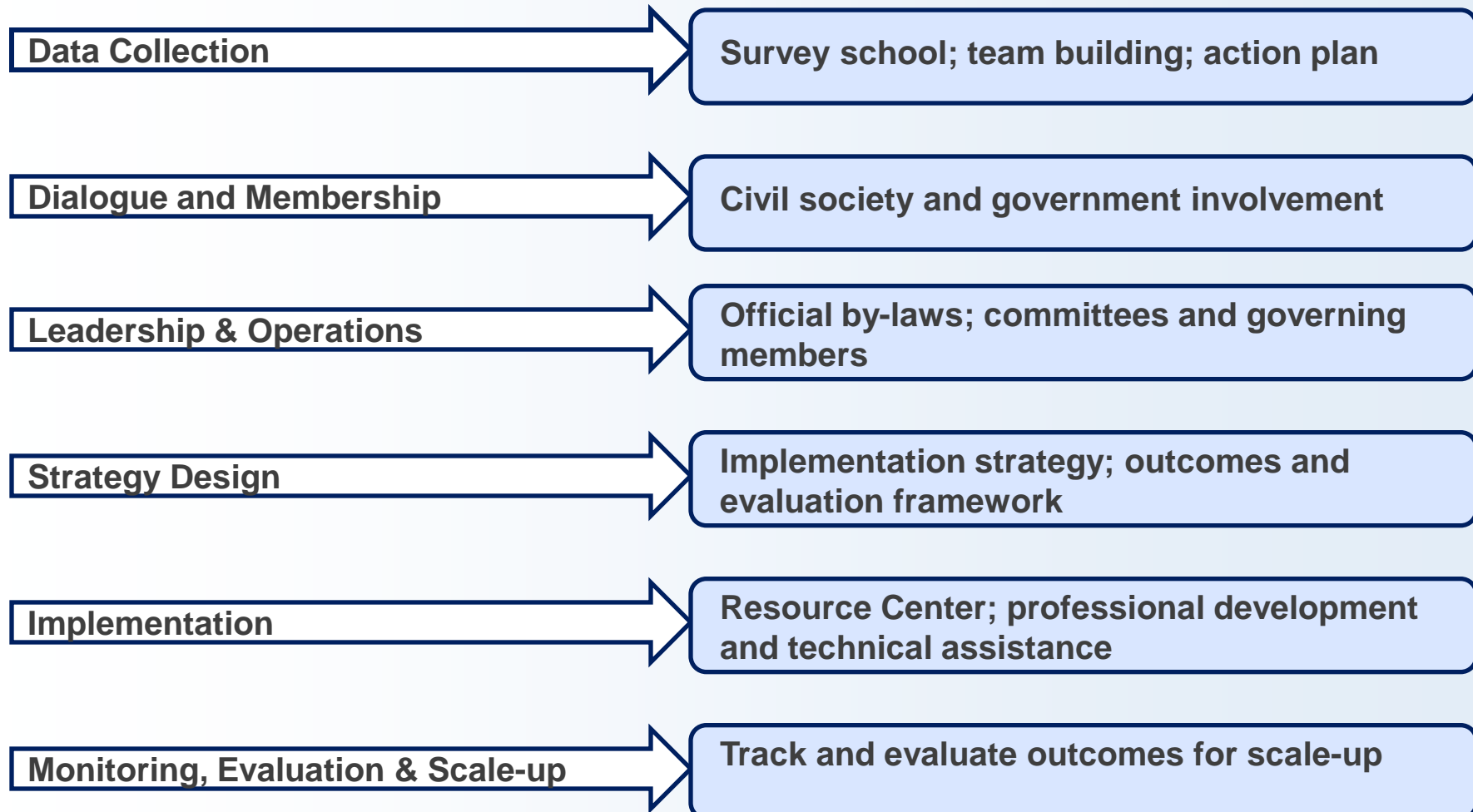
CSNs Engage in a Range of Activities



Improved Outcomes through CSNs



The Six Steps to CSN Formation



Rationale for Pilot Proposal in Baltistan

- Largest districts
- Skardu with 466 schools and Ganche with 74 schools
- Significant enrollment disparity (78% boys and 57% girls)
- 37% of third graders and 50% of fifth graders unable to read a full sentence
- 99% schools inaccessible
- GRACE Association's presence





Thank You!

