



## JTF NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### PHOTO EXHIBITION IN BRUSSELS

The JTF launched “The Power of Democracy”, a EU-UNDP joint photo exhibition on electoral assistance from 20 February 2018 to 3 March 2018 in Brussels city center. The photo exhibition showcased the EU-UNDP partnership on electoral assistance and was an opportunity for the citizens of Europe to learn about how EU and UNDP jointly support democratic governance and elections world-wide.

### CONFLICT PREVENTION TOOLBOX

The JTF finalized the recruitment of a senior consultant who will coordinate the development of a toolbox of best practices and methodologies on prevention of electoral conflict and violence. Once finalized, the toolbox will be an on-line, free-of-charge resource for the EU Delegations and UNDP Country Offices to develop and design projects mitigating electoral violence.

### FIELD MISSIONS

In January, JTF deployed a mission to **Mozambique** to assist the UNDP Country Office in formulating electoral assistance project. In response to the request for assistance by the Government of **Chad**, JTF participated in a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM), led by the UN’s Electoral Assistance Division (EAD).

## EC-UNDP

## Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance

### NEWSLETTER

### About the JTF

The JTF is the Brussels-based coordination mechanism of the EC-UNDP Partnership on electoral assistance. The JTF provides in-depth technical and advisory support to all EC-UNDP joint electoral assistance projects world-wide, through in-country missions as well as remote support from Brussels.

The JTF assists Electoral Management Bodies around the world, but also UNDP Country Offices and EU Delegations in formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects, as well as in drafting of the narrative and financial reporting.

The JTF also develops elections-related knowledge products and organizes high-level conferences and workshop on electoral topics, to share lessons learned and best practices. Learn more about the JTF:

<https://www.ec-undp-electoralassistance.org/>

## UPCOMING ELECTIONS

- **Sierra Leone:**  
7 March 2018
- **Nepal**  
13 March 2018
- **Lebanon:**  
6 May 2018

## The Power of Democracy- EU-UNDP Photo Exhibition on Electoral Assistance

20 February- 3 March 2018

Place de L'Albertine



The European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have organised a joint photo exhibition *“The Power of Democracy”* in the heart of Brussels for a two-week period, to raise awareness about the importance of democracy and its impact on development.

The idea of the exhibition was also to give visibility to the partnership between EU and UNDP in the field of governance and elections worldwide. The exhibition successfully showcased pictures and stories from joint EU-UNDP electoral assistance projects in countries such as Armenia, Guinea, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Particular focus was given to the participation of women and youth, both as voters and candidates.



Photo Credits: Michel Petillo- Revolve Media/ EC-UNDP JTF

### SIERRA LEONE

The project provided assistance for the 7 March elections, including printing of the ballot papers which were officially handed over on 26 February at a ceremony attended by the main political parties, the Ambassadors of the European Union, Republic of Ireland, the British High Commissioner and the UN Resident Coordinator. Ballot papers were then dispatched to the 16 districts by the National Electoral Commission (NEC) with assistance from UNDP.

### NEPAL

The Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) organized the elections for the upper house of the Parliament on 7 February, during which 1677 electors (443 provincial assembly members and 1234 chiefs and deputy chiefs of the local governments), elected 32 members of National Assembly. This election comes on the heels of historic direct elections for 275 members of the House of Representatives, the lower house of the Federal Parliament of Nepal, held over two phases (26 November and 7 December 2017).

### LIBERIA

Following the 26 December runoff presidential election, former football star George Weah was sworn in as President of Liberia on 22 January. These are the first competitive elections in over 50 years that Liberian institutions have been solely responsible for managing.



(Photo Credits: UN Photo/Albert Gonzalez Farran)

### SOMALIA



(NIEC consultations with stakeholders in Garowe, Puntland. 21 January 2018. Photo credit: NIEC)

On 18 January, the Council of Ministers of Somalia's Federal Government endorsed the 2020 Political Roadmap, which sets out as a top priority a clear trajectory on the path towards universal elections in 2020. The Roadmap interlinks essential steps with regard to constitutional review, electoral preparations, state-formation and federalism.

Furthermore, on 28 February, the NIEC concluded its nationwide consultations with sub-national stakeholders, including traditional and religious leaders, political parties, and civil society organizations in each of the Federal Member States, the capital region of Benaadir, and with the Somaliland community in Mogadishu.

### LEBANON

In preparation for the upcoming parliamentary elections, the Office of the Minister of State for Women's Affairs (OMSWA) with support from the joint EC-UNDP Lebanese Elections Assistance Project (LEAP), launched a gender roadmap aiming to enhance the meaningful participation of women in elections, increase women's participation in politics and support the inclusion of women in public life.