



European Commission United Nations Development Programme International IDEA

*Joint Training on
Effective Electoral Assistance*

UN RESOURCES AND SERVICES: WHO DOES WHAT?

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UN and Elections

□ *Art 21 (3) Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)*

- The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in **periodic and genuine elections** which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

□ *GA resolutions (most recent A/RES/62/150 – 2008)*

- “Elections as a peaceful means of discerning the will of the people, which builds confidence in representational governance and contributes to greater national peace and stability,”
- “United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization provided **only at the specific request of the Member State** concerned,”

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Basics Requirements & Procedures

- UN electoral assistance requires either**
 - A request
 - A GA or SC mandate

- The request for electoral assistance should be from the authority entitled to speak on behalf of the state at international level**

- “UN assistance should be on a case by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting countries to develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes, recognizing that the fundamental responsibility for organizing free and fair elections lies with Government”**

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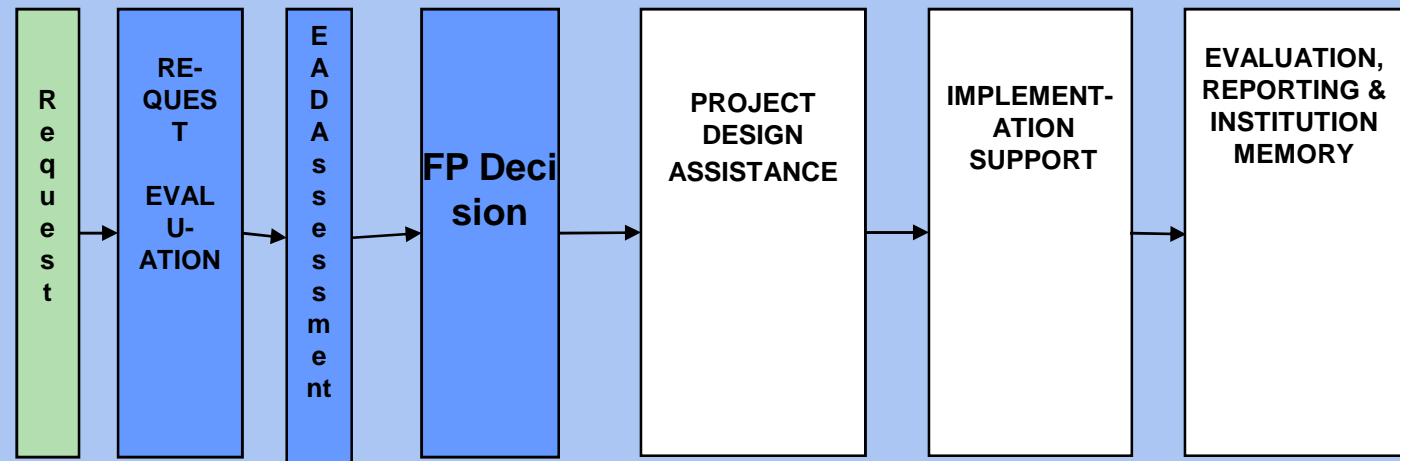
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Procedures – Initial request

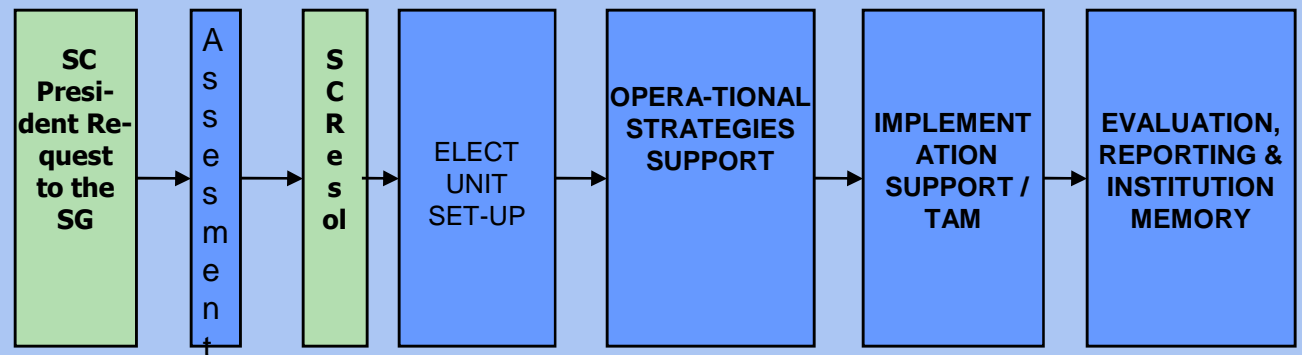
1. Request by Member State

(1) Standard procedure



2. UN Mission

(2) Post-conflict settings





UN Structures – who does what

The UN Focal Point for Electoral Assistance Activities in the UN system is the USG for Political Affairs.

- ensures system-wide coherence and consistency**
- lead in UN system wide coordination of electoral assistance,**
- facilitates the development of institutional memory and dissemination of electoral policies, in collaboration with UNDP and other UN agencies**
- UN RC/UNDP RR plays the coordinator role at country level**

□ (GA res 46/137 (March 1992); GA res 62/150 (March 2008))

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The UN Electoral Assistance Division

The Electoral Assistance Division (EAD) supports the Focal Point to fulfill his mandate:

- review of requests**
- ensure consistency and coherence, UN coordination (institutional / global level)**
- Maintain a roster of electoral experts**
- Identify and maintain UN electoral standards**
- Institutional memory, UN electoral policy, UN electoral standards**
- Maintain contact with other regional and intergovernmental organizations**

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IOM



OAS



Key UN Actors

United Nations Department for Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) charged with SC/GA mandate for electoral assistance in many post-conflict situations, which is implemented through a peacekeeping missions in partnership with the other country team members, particularly UNDP.

United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) is a service provider which assists UNDP, DPA, DPKO and Member States with operational and other support in electoral events.

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) has as part of its mandate support to improve public administration. UNDESA is collaborating with seven institutional partners the “ACE: the Electoral Knowledge Network” initiative.

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Key UN Actors—Continued

United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) UNDEF, established in 2005 as a United Nations General Trust Fund, supports democratization globally. UNDEF finances projects in a number of areas, including electoral support, political parties, and civic education. It is intended to complement UN efforts to strengthen and expand democracy worldwide.

International Organization for Migration (IOM) has frequently implemented out-of-country registration and voting (OCV) programmes for conflict-forced migrants. IOM has also acted as a service provider to European Union Electoral Observation Missions.

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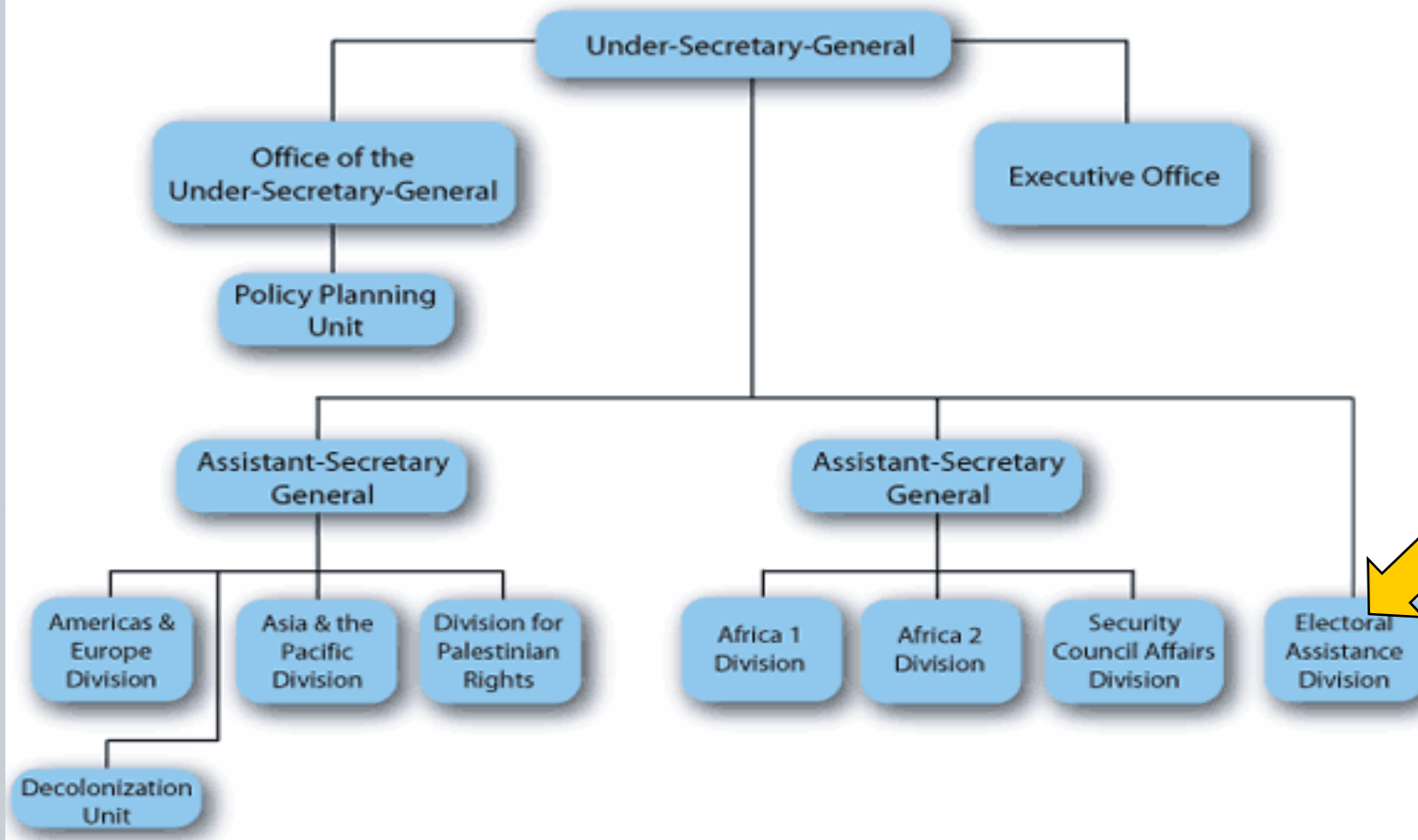
Who does what (UNDP/UNDPA)

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Function</i>
<i>UNDP Country Office (CO)</i>	<i>Serves as main country-level interface for UN electoral assistance. Responsible for liaison with Government and bringing the donor community</i>
<i>UN Electoral Assistance Division</i>	<i>Supports United Nations Focal Point – USG for Political Affairs – in decision to provide UN election assistance. Guides expert selection; offers technical assistance particularly in post-conflict scenarios; inputs on evaluation.</i>
<i>UNDP Regional Centres</i>	<i>Provide policy and programming advice as decentralized offices of Regional Bureaux and BDP.</i>
<i>UNDP Procurement Support Office</i>	<i>Provides specific advice to help the CO in putting together a realistic procurement budget, timetable and appropriate procedures but can be called upon to do the procurement exercise itself at behest of the</i>
<i>UNDP Bureau for Development Policy</i>	<i>Provides corporate policy guidance, advice and best practices on electoral systems and processes. Inputs into the drafting of the base documents when requested.</i>
<i>UNDP Regional Bureaux</i>	<i>Supports the CO in terms of clearance, authorising eventual pre-financing for electoral assistance.</i>
<i>UNDP Brussels Office - Partnership Bureau</i>	<i>Supports the formulation and contract negotiation with the EC, as well as the co-drafting of Project Documents. Coordinate the Joint EC UNDP Task Force and it is in charge of the Clearance Process on behalf of the UNDP Administrator for each contract to be signed between the EC and UNDP</i>



DPA Organization Chart

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS Organizational Chart



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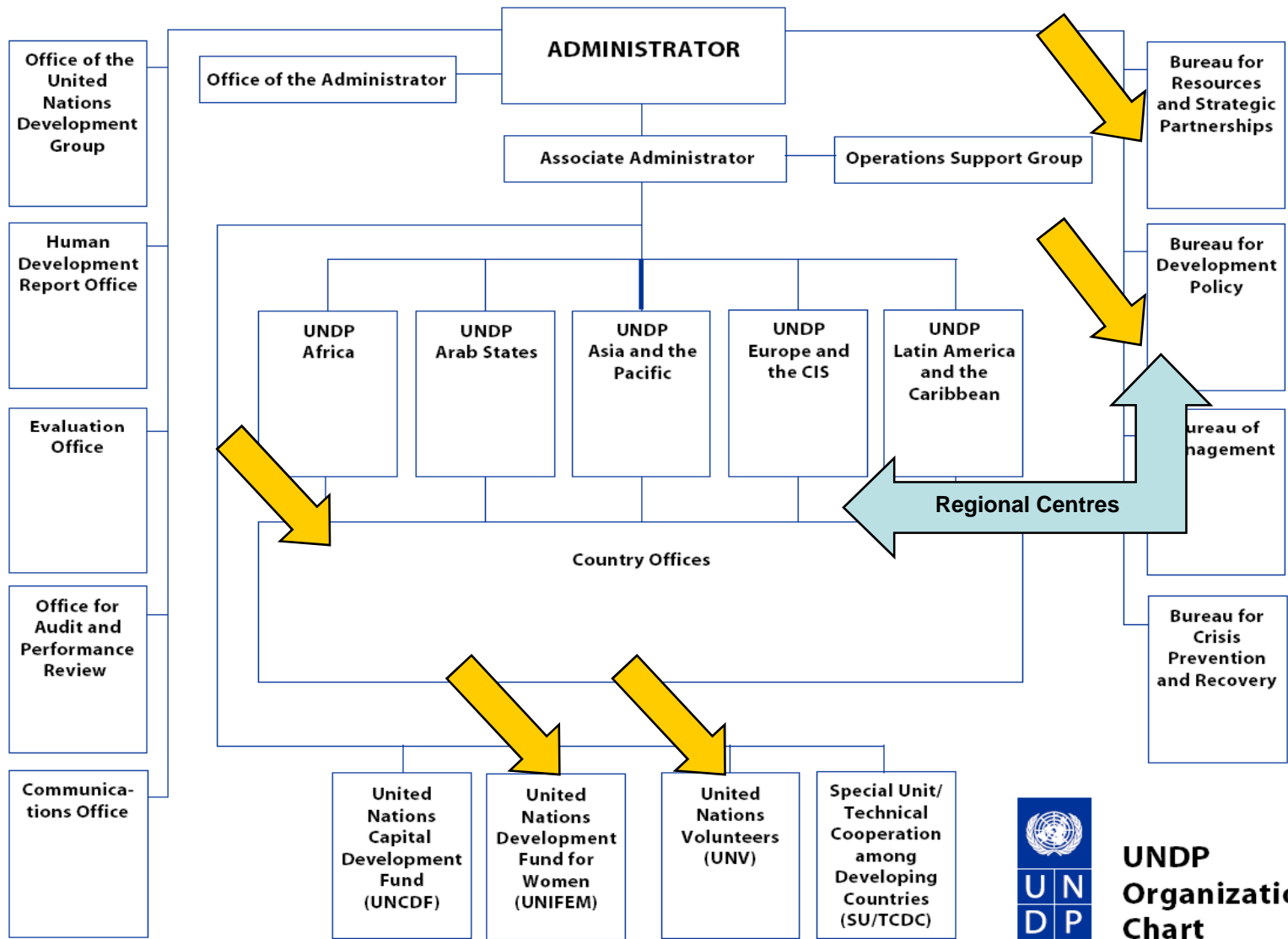


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UNDP Organizational Chart



**UNDP
Organization
Chart**



UNDP/DPA

- Note of Guidance, starting from 2001, sets out in greater detail electoral assistance framework and processes**
- Basic framework - DPA after receiving country request for assistance, leads the needs assessment mission and essentially indicates the ‘green light’**
- UNDP leads implementation of electoral assistance on the part of the UN at the country level, under the leadership of the UN RC/UNDP RR.**
- Areas of “commonality”- Electoral policy at global level, elections and conflict management**

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Electoral Assessment

- ❑ **A Needs Assessment conducted by EAD provides the Focal Point with a technical and political assessment of the electoral environment for its decision on respectively the feasibility and adequacy for the UN to provide electoral assistance.**

- ❑ **Assessments are increasingly completed jointly with UNDP. An executive summary and a list of recommendations can be shared with the electoral authorities and the donors.**

- ❑ **Ongoing dialogue between UNDP and EAD is essential:**
 - **identify the necessity and the appropriate moment for the assessment**
 - **Early warning**

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Other UN Electoral Support Activities

In addition to the above, the following activities may be implemented by UNDP:

- Coordination of observers**
- Management of basket funds**
- Procurement of election materials and logistics support**

ACE and BRIDGE are also supported by the UN system

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Trends

Recent SG Report:

- **There is an increasing realization that building capacity to organize credible elections may require assistance over a sustained period.**
- **Most UN assistance entails technical advice and capacity-building during an electoral period and within a longer-term development framework.**
- **The UN now rarely observes elections whereas, in contrast, regional organizations tend to be increasing their activities in this area.**
- **Too often, the technical successes of elections are overshadowed by political discord or violence and non-acceptance of the results.**
- **very few countries are starting an electoral process for the first time.**

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Integrated Missions:

UN SG policy is to move systematically towards integrated peace missions:

- **“One UN”**
- **Very often involves the UN country team in the provision of electoral assistance in a peacekeeping setting, under lead department mandated by SC**
- **The two major examples of integrated missions are DRC and Afghanistan**
- **Discussions are currently being held within the UN system to specify the concept of integration and to assess its implementation modalities.**

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Electoral Cycle

GA, 2007

“Recommends that, throughout the time span of the entire electoral cycle, including before and after elections, as appropriate, based on a needs assessment, the United Nations continue to provide technical advice and other assistance to requesting States and electoral institutions in order to help to strengthen their democratic processes”

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UNDP Global Programme on Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS) : Overall Goal

- ❑ *The overall goal to which the GPECS will contribute is that of deepening democracy and accelerating human development. In contributing to this larger and longer-term goal, the GPECS will focus on the intermediate UNDP Strategic Plan outcome of “electoral laws, processes and institutions strengthen inclusive participation and professional electoral administration.” The GPECS seeks to achieve the outcome by:*
- ❑ *1. Providing leadership, advocacy and capacity development in the field of electoral cycle support at the global level, mainstreaming the concepts expressed in the 2005 Paris Declaration and in the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action on Aid Effectiveness;*
- ❑ *2. Supporting South-South cooperation and promoting regional knowledge development, exchanges and capacity;*
- ❑ *3. Supporting electoral cycle development and lessons learned in key countries at the national level; and*
- ❑ *4. Fostering inclusive participation and women’s empowerment.*

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GPECS – Objectives

- ❑ *The overall objective of this programme is to enhance the credibility, transparency, effectiveness and sustainability of electoral institutions and processes, with a particular emphasis on capacity development, south-south exchanges, inclusive participation and women's empowerment.*
- ❑ *The programme will seek to develop policy innovations and programming options in these areas at the global, regional and country levels.*
- ❑ *In addition to the development results sought at these various levels, the programme will emphasize the organizational effectiveness necessary to deliver and absorb effective electoral assistance by fostering the requisite architecture, capacities, tools and culture within the international community, within regional centres of excellence and at national level.*
- ❑ *The initiatives described here take an electoral cycle – as opposed to election day – approach to assistance, while seeking also to integrate electoral assistance into a wider framework of democratic governance.*

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GPECS – Programme Component

- Programme Component 1:**
Leadership, advocacy and capacity development at the global level
- Programme Component 2:**
Regional knowledge development, exchanges and capacity
- Programme Component 3:**
Electoral cycle support and lessons learned at the national level
- Programme Component 4:**
Empowerment of women throughout the electoral cycle
- Programme Component 5:**
Administration
- The global component will account for approximately 20% of programmable resources; the regional component 30%; and the national component 50%.

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UNDP Global Programme on Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS)

\$50 m/3 year initiative to support electoral cycle approach

Donors = Spain, Canada

Regional Advisors to support Country Offices

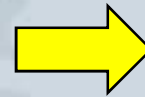
Linkages with EC-UNDP Joint Task Force

Leadership, advocacy and capacity development at the **global** level



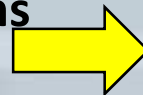
Lessons learned, policy advisory services, publications

Regional knowledge development, exchanges and capacity



Tackling issues of regional relevant and interest

Electoral cycle support and lessons learned at the **national** level



Expressions of interest
Support to implementation

Empowerment of **women** throughout the electoral cycle



Gender Team support to global, regional and country level work

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BUDGET

Project Component	2009 (25%)	2010 (40%)	2011 (35%)	TOTAL
Component 1 Global Activities	\$2,039,877	\$3,263,802	\$2,855,827	\$8,159,506
Component 2 Regional Activities	\$2,676,618	\$4,282,588	\$3,747,265	\$10,706,471
Component 3 National Activities	\$5,264,492	\$8,423,187	\$7,370,289	\$18,865,977
Component 4 Gender Activities	\$898,859	\$1,438,174	\$1,258,402	\$3,595,434
Component 5 Administration	\$766,792	\$1,226,867	\$1,073,508	\$3,067,167
SUBTOTAL	\$11,646,637	\$18,634,618	\$16,305,291	\$46,586,546
GMS (7%)	\$815,264.56	\$1,304,423.29	\$1,141,370.38	\$3,261,058.22
TOTAL	\$12,461,901	\$19,939,042	\$17,446,661	\$49,847,604

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UNDP-EC Joint Task Force

- Decision to strengthen the quality support mechanisms available at HQ levels*
- Aim at increasing the overall efficiency and adherence to the projects at the common EU/UN approaches of the electoral cycle jointly developed. See report of the SG*
- Coordinated from Brussels within the premises of the UN/UNDP Brussels Office*
- EC-UNDP Staff and advisors from Brussels, New York and Copenhagen and Mexico City*
- Focus on Identification, Formulation, implementation support and monitoring of all the EC-UNDP projects whenever demanded from EC Delegations and/or UNDP Country Offices*
- Pool of Part -time Expert*
- Lessons learned feed into joint training and ACE*

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GPECS and JTF

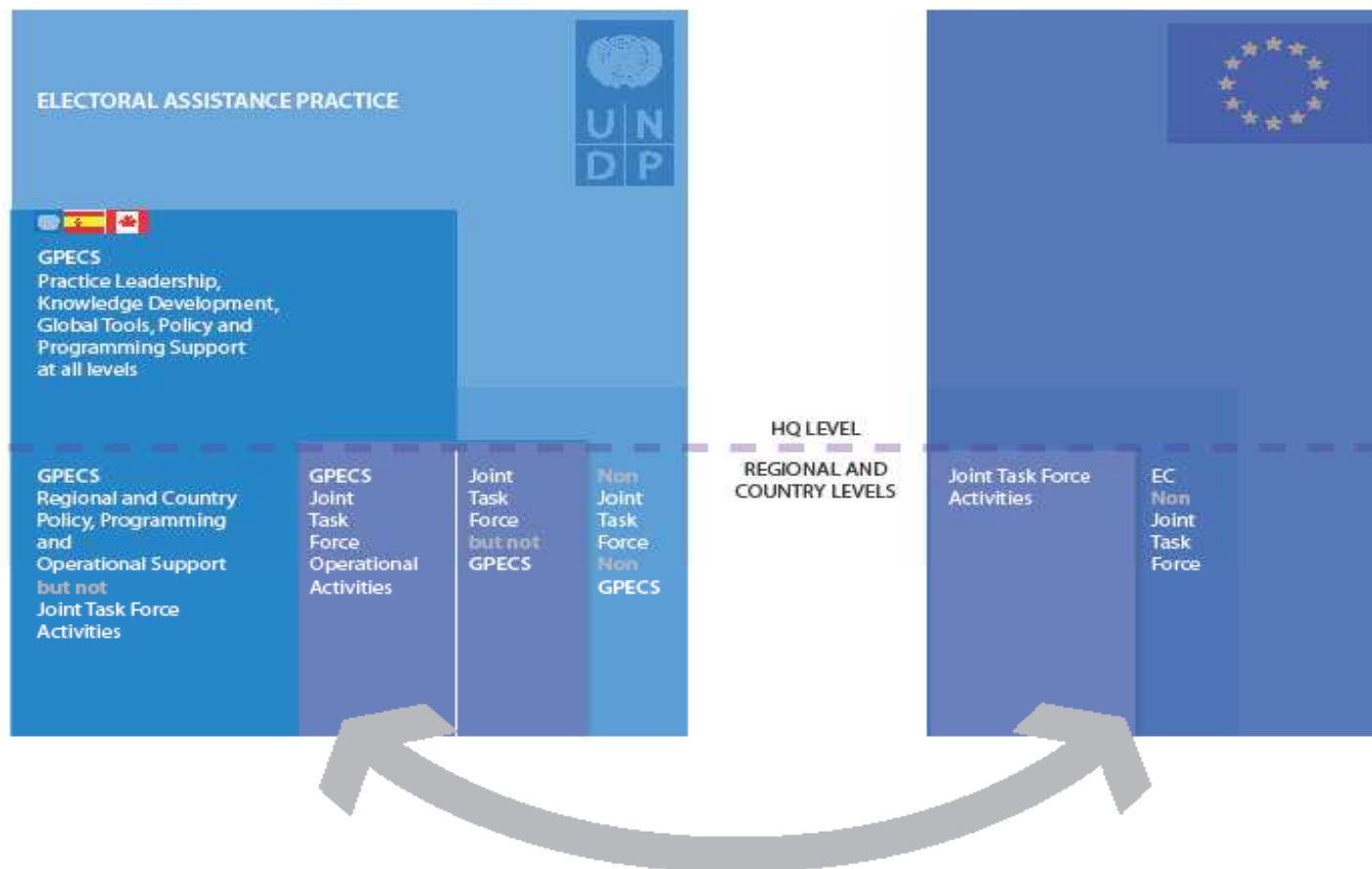
- ❑ **Country-level work done under the GPECS in target countries (largely in Africa) will be designed in close collaboration with JTF, key actors and contributors to electoral processes in these countries.**
- ❑ **GPECS will also provide a window through which the **EC and UNDP** can participate more effectively in donor fora aimed at simplifying and harmonizing the delivery of electoral assistance.**
- ❑ **Develop cooperation programmes and collaborate on capacity development activities with regional institutions that already provide electoral assistance and/or electoral observation.**
- ❑ **Entails developing and/or consolidating partnerships with regional organizations involved in electoral assistance and/or observation, such as The African Union, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and others.**

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- GPECS supports without JTF (e.g, Lebanon);
- GPECS and JTF support together (e.g., Guinea Bissau);
- JTF supports without GPECS (e.g., Yemen); and
- neither JTF nor GPECS supports (e.g., Indonesia).



Thank you!

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