



# ***The added value of the works of Regional Organizations in Electoral Assistance and Election Observation***

## **The Organization of American States**

***Brussels, 1-5 December 2008***

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In collaboration with





## *Organization of American States Secretariat for Political Affairs*

The Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) is the unit within the Secretariat for Political Affairs of the OAS responsible for supporting electoral systems and institutions in the Americas as well as promoting democratic elections throughout the region.



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**Electoral Observation**



**Technical Cooperation**



**Capacity Building**



# Electoral Observation

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## Three Generations of EOMS

- 1st. generation – ad hoc, symbolic.
- 2nd. generation – legitimacy, bigger in number and scope.
- 3rd. generation – standardized methodology.





## **EOMs - Best practices**



- From legitimizing to observing.
- Development of a methodology and indicators.
- Gender mainstreaming.
- Selection of observers.
- Declaration of Principles and Code of Conduct.



## **EOMs 2008**

Country	Type of Election
Paraguay	Presidential and Legislatives
Dominican Republic	Presidential
Grenada	Parliamentary
Bolivia	Recall Referendum
Ecuador	Constitutional Referendum
Honduras	Primaries



# Technical Cooperation

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## **From Assistance to Technical Cooperation**

- Establishment of EMBs
- Electoral Assistance
- Technical Cooperation





## Projects Under Implementation

Country	Project
Honduras	<b>Strengthening the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE)</b> Objective: To strengthen the TSE's capacity to promote impartiality and transparency in electoral processes.
Honduras	<b>Verification of Voter Registry Primary Data Sources</b> Objective: To define procedures and technical tools for the TSE to verify primary data sources in order to guarantee an updated and reliable voter registry for the 2009 elections.
El Salvador	<b>Strengthening the TSE</b> Objective: Implementing certain recommendations from the 2007 Integrated Electoral Registry Audit.



## Projects Under Implementation

Country	Project
Panama	<b>Strengthening the Electoral Process and the TE's Registration Systems</b> Objective: To strengthen the Electoral Tribunal's citizen identification system through implementation of quality and certification systems under the ISO 9001:2000 norms.
Bolivia	<b>Voter Registry Audit</b> Objective: To provide the CNE with tools that guarantee an updated and reliable voter registry.



# Capacity Building

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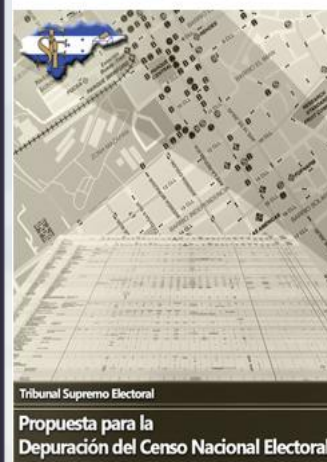






## Capacity Building:

- In house - EOMs methodology manual, audits manual, procedures manual for technical cooperation, observers training seminar.
- EMBS: Inter-American Training Seminar, Inter-American Meeting of Electoral Authorities, including regional (ACEO)





## **Added Value of OAS as Regional Organization**

- ☐ **Shared experiences and history**
- ☐ **Trust**
- ☐ **The OAS as a mediator**
- ☐ **Rapid response**
- ☐ **Accountability**
- ☐ **Horizontal Cooperation**
- ☐ **Interest of the States to sustain democracy in the region**



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**Thank you**

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