European Commission
United Nations Development Programme
International IDEA

In collaboration with

Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
International Organization for Migration
Canadian International Development Agency
Organization of American States

Planning for inclusive elections: OCV and IDPs

Barcelona, 22-26 March, 2010
IOM’s engagement in Electoral Support: the Election Support Unit

IOM’s experience in elections

Out-of-Country Voting: experiences and challenges
Why is IOM involved in Electoral Support?
IOM believes that the promotion of fair elections and democratic institutions can play an important role in enhancing migration management, encouraging popular participation and engagement in a country’s political future and social and economic development, stabilizing communities and reducing the potential for future large-scale population displacement and consequent instability.
Planning, coordination and oversight of election processes dealt by IOM.

Support to Governments to expand the access to democratic electoral process.
ELECTORAL SUPPORT

How did it begin?
Support to Electoral Process: How?

Out of Country Voting

Enfranchisement of Displaced Population

Capacity Building and Technical Support

Capacity Development for EU and Domestic Election Observers (NEEDS w/ International IDEA)

Support to European Observation Missions
Out-of Country Voting

Providing access to voting to the Diaspora

Contributing to the peacebuilding process

Empowerment through inclusion of migrant communities, into democratic processes in countries/territories of origin

Maintain links with home communities
Strengthening countries’ ability to conduct external voting programs and reinforcing ties with diaspora

Support for developing and implementing action plan on OCV

Capacity development and training for EMBs and officials working on the OCV

Coaching, on site and online support during the implementation of the OCV
OCV Operational Considerations

- Existence of relevant legal framework for OCV/political will to implement the OCV
- Needs, technical capacities and skills of EMB and MFA
- Voter registry (type, how, when)
- Information and data on diaspora
- Operational plan for OCV implementation in line with the Electoral Cycle approach
Elements for OCV Operational Plan

- Legal Framework review
- Agreements with hosting countries
- Standardization of ICT system for polling stations abroad
- Training for electoral officials on OCV
- Voters awareness strategy
- Transmission of results and liaison with media
- Planning and implementation
- Coaching and Technical Support for implementation
Challenges

Complex Logistical Arrangements

Lack of institutional memory

Bureaucracy of host countries

High turn over of professional staff

Tight deadlines and short timeframe between preparedness and implementation

Lack of adequate infrastructure
Solutions

Consolidate institutional memory

Policy Guidance/harmonization and coordination

Standardized response and best practices

Advance planning for sustainability of results

Proactive vs. Reactive approach
Support to enfranchisement of displaced populations

Two technical cooperation projects:

- **PEP - Participatory Elections**: (obligations, standards, and best practices)
- **PRESS - Political Rights and Enfranchisement System Strengthening**: (developing international, regional, and national capacity to enfranchise migrants)

www.iom.int/pressproject
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY/TERRITORY</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>ELECTION TYPE</th>
<th># PEOPLE REGISTERED</th>
<th># PEOPLE VOTED</th>
<th># AND OFFICES LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>National and Cantonal Elections</td>
<td>637,990</td>
<td>551,881</td>
<td>4 main offices, 17 sub offices, 20 Coordination Offices, 21 IOM Missions worldwide involved, Votes received from 56 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Municipal Elections</td>
<td>408,607</td>
<td>301,161</td>
<td>5 Main Offices, Votes received from 58 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>National Assembly Elections in Republika Srpska</td>
<td>200,480</td>
<td>121,633</td>
<td>3 Main Offices, Votes received from 50 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>General Elections</td>
<td>314,783</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>3 Main Offices, 2 Operational Offices, Votes received from 56 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Timor</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Popular Consultation</td>
<td>6220</td>
<td>6,004</td>
<td>4 Main Coordination Offices, 5 Country Representatives, Votes received from 5 countries 1 Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Municipal Elections</td>
<td>39,386</td>
<td>22,442</td>
<td>6 Main Offices, 5 Voter Information Offices in IOM missions, Votes Received from 35 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Assembly Elections</td>
<td>145,142</td>
<td>80,653</td>
<td>6 Main Offices, 1 Liaison Office, 5 Voter Information Offices in IOM missions, Votes received from 36 Countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Presidential Elections</td>
<td>846,776</td>
<td>737,776</td>
<td>4 Main Regional Offices, 8 Field Offices in Pakistan, 7 Field Offices in Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Transitional National Assembly Elections</td>
<td>279,785</td>
<td>265,148</td>
<td>14 Country Offices worldwide Operations in 36 Cities, Votes received from 14 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador (Observation Mission)</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>National Constituent Assembly Elections</td>
<td>152,180</td>
<td>39,698</td>
<td>9 Observer missions to Ecuador Consulates, Votes received from 5 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASE STUDIES

- Balkans
- East Timor
- Afghanistan
- Moldova