

EC-UNDP

1 - 31 May, 2019

Electoral Assistance Projects Update

This report provides an overview of all active EU funded and UNDP implemented electoral assistance projects.



SUMMARY

ARMENIA: A workshop on “Promoting Women’s Participation in the Electoral Process” has been conducted for the Territorial Electoral Commissions (TEC) members and staff. Report with policy recommendations on gender mainstreaming was drafted. - The project continued system and content updates on Central Electoral Commission’s (CEC) e-Learning platform, as well as the development of management systems for the CEC. - CEC IT needs and capacity assessments were conducted and the assessment report was produced by the project.

GUINEA-BISSAU: The project continued to support the national electoral commission (CNE) with the gender assessment.

KENYA: The end-term evaluation of the SEPK project has continued, with the support of an independent evaluator. - The project continued spearheading design of a project document for a broader deepening democracy programme. - The project engaged a consultant to finalise the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission gender and social inclusion policy.

LEBANON: On 23 May, UNDP and the EU Delegation (EUD) in Lebanon organised a conference with a large range of stakeholders to kick-start the discussions on electoral reforms. - UNDP and the EUD developed a thematic publication on 2018 parliamentary elections which includes key figures on women in parliamentary elections. The publication has been launched at the conference in Beirut.

LIBERIA: Project implementation remains on course in support of the National Elections Commission (NEC) with a key focus on staff professional development, electoral reform and infrastructure development.

LIBYA: The PEPOL project, in conjunction with the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Electoral Assistance Service (EAS), continued to provide technical assistance to the High National Elections Commission (HNEC) remotely, i.e. Tunis, during May. - Rehabilitation works at the new HNEC head office in Tripoli continued. - The project supported the procurement of voter education banners for the HNEC. The project also procured the services of firm to undertake the installation of an IT network at the new HNEC head office.

MADAGASCAR: The electoral commission (CENI) closed the Annual Review of the Electoral List (RALE) on 15 May. A total of 10,302,194 voters are registered on this year’s voter’s list. - The sensitive material was deployed in several phases to the 25,388 polling

stations in the country. - The awareness campaign and civic education has continued in the 119 districts of the country. - The legislative elections were held on 27 May 2019 according to the electoral calendar and were generally well organised according to national and international observers.

MALAWI: The project supported the hiring of 100 lorries for the delivery of sensitive and non-sensitive electoral materials. Law firms have been hired to support the disputes handling process.

NEPAL: The World Press Freedom Day was marked. - Two Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) workshops on gender equality and elections were completed in two districts in Nepal.

SOLOMON ISLANDS: The 2019 national general election (NGE) lesson learned exercise has been conducted by UNDP Regional Electoral Advisor to assess achievements and lessons learned. - A reflection workshop with national general election women candidates who participated in the project’s trainings has been organised to provide feedback and recommendations for future project’s support.

SOMALIA: On 2 May, the Council of Ministers endorsed the draft electoral law, developed in 2018 by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) with technical assistance from the UNDP/UNSOM Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG). - IESG assisted the NIEC with the planning for a field exercise of potential voter registration centres. - NIEC held on 25-26 May a two-day consultation with civil society organisations on a voter education regulation.

ZIMBABWE: ZIM-ECO project has been providing support in key capacity building and institutional strengthening areas of election operations including planning, review processes, knowledge management, polling process, Biometric Voter Registration (BVR), training requirements in pre-election, election and post-election period, voter education, stakeholder engagement, gender mainstreaming, inclusivity and election dispute resolution. An electoral cycle approach has been adopted by the project to ensure that issues and recommendations from one election cycle can be addressed in the next one (2018-2023).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ONGOING ELECTORAL PROJECTS WITH EU FUNDING.....	1
ARMENIA.....	2
GUINEA-BISSAU	5
KENYA	6
LEBANON	8
LIBERIA	11
LIBYA	13
MADAGASCAR	15
MALAWI.....	18
NEPAL.....	20
SOLOMON ISLANDS	23
SOMALIA.....	26
ZIMBABWE.....	29

ONGOING ELECTORAL PROJECTS WITH EU FUNDING

Country	Project Title	Reference	EU Contribution	Start Date	End Date
Afghanistan	UN Electoral Support Project (UNESP)	DCI-ASIE/2015/368-884	€ 15,500,000.00	29.12.15	31.12.19
Armenia	Electoral Project Support in Armenia (EPSA)	ENI/2018/404-610	€ 1,500,000.00	25.07.18	31.12.19
Guinea-Bissau	Support to Electoral Cycle in Guinea-Bissau 2018-2019	EDF 2018/401-213	€ 2,500,000.00	15.10.18	15.01.20
Kenya	Strengthening of the Electoral Processes in Kenya Project (SEPK)	FED/2016/372/463	€ 5,000,000.00	13.02.16	30.06.19
Lebanon	EU 2018-2020 Electoral Support to Lebanon	ENI/2018/395-460	€ 2,750,000.00	01.01.18	31.12.19
Liberia	Support to the 2015-2018 Liberian Electoral Cycle	FED/2015/367-723	€ 10,000,000.00	01.06.15	31.05.20 (tbc)
Madagascar	Soutien au Cycle Electoral à Madagascar (SACEM)	FED/2018/398-673	€ 1,500,000.00	04.07.18	31.08.19
Malawi	Malawi Electoral Cycle Support: 2017-2019 (MECS)	2017/389-162	€ 2,500,000.00	11.10.17	10.04.20
Nepal	Electoral Support Project- Institutional Strengthening and Professional Development Support for the Election Commission of Nepal (ESP)	DCI-ASIE/2012/305-833	€ 10,050,000.00	12.01.12	28.12.19
Libya	Promoting Elections for the People of Libya (PEPOL)	ICSP/2018/395-667	€ 5,000,000.00	01.11.17	01.11.20
Solomon Islands	Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands Project (SECSIP)	FED/2013/328-922	€ 3,500,000.00	01.07.13	27.08.19
Somalia	Joint Programme for Support to the Electoral Process in the Federal Republic of Somalia	FED/2015/366-291 FED/2015/360-953	€ 5,193,878.00	21.11.15	31.12.19
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Electoral Commission Capacity Building Project (ZIM-ECO)	FED/2016/380-895	€ 5,590,000.00	01.09.16	30.08.20



ELECTORAL SUPPORT PROJECT IN ARMENIA (ESPA)

HIGHLIGHTS

- A workshop on “Promoting Women’s Participation in the Electoral Process” has been conducted for the Territorial Electoral Commissions (TEC) members and staff. Report with policy recommendations on gender mainstreaming was drafted.
- The project continues system and content updates on Central Electoral Commission’s (CEC) e-Learning platform, as well as the development of management systems for the CEC.
- CEC IT needs and capacity assessments were conducted and the assessment report was produced by the project.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Support the capacity of the Central Electoral Commission to increase political participation of women and first-time voters

The assessment related to the CEC’s internal policies, practices and the administration of elections is in the completion stage.

With the aim to highlight the important role of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) in promoting gender equality and women’s participation, the project supported the translation and publication of UN Women’s “Guide on Inclusive Electoral Processes” in Armenian, for dissemination among the CEC and Territorial Electoral Commissions (TEC) staff, as well as civil society organisations and other relevant stakeholders.

Workshop on “Promoting Women’s Participation in the Electoral Process” was held with TEC members and staff on 4 May. The discussions on the CEC’s strengths and areas of improvements, as well as Armenia’s commitments to international conventions and international best practices enabled the TEC members to propose concrete actions towards strengthening women’s participation through polling and electoral arrangements, voter education and outreach, legal and policy reform and collaboration with key stakeholders.



Workshop on "Promoting Women's Participation in the Electoral Process", 4 May 2019.

Photo credits: UNDP Armenia.

Development of e-Learning platform for the CEC

The project continued the development of the e-Learning platform. Two initial courses have been agreed with the CEC. The first one related to the precinct electoral commission¹ members while the second, dedicated to the Voter Authentication Devices (VAD) operators, is nearing finalisation. The project, together with the CEC, designated special room at the CEC premises to serve as a Training Centre, as well as procured and delivered the hardware to equip the Centre. The equipment includes four laptops, large interactive smartboard and two printers, which can either be based in CEC premises or be used within the frame of a mobile training centre moving from one TEC to another, as planned by the CEC.

The need for the procurement of the furniture for the e-Learning training centre was also discussed, based on which the project started the planning for the acquisition of the necessary furniture.

Building ICT capacity of the CEC and other electoral stakeholders

To enhance the CEC data centre and regional structures, the project, jointly with the CEC, finished the assessment of the needs for CEC's hardware and software. The assessment document includes the current status of the CEC data centre and the required steps for upgrading it. The results of the assessment will be used for acquisition of hardware and software components, as a part of the project's activities.

Development of management systems for the CEC

The project continued the development of the web application for the precinct electoral commission (PEC) members. In addition to already developed modules (online registration module, unified user registration module, module to classify the list of applicants into the training groups, module for the registration of the trainers), notification module has also been developed, which will allow to send emails to all registered participants.

Following the assessment and analysis of the business requirements for VAD inventory and VAD data operator's registration system, the project developed and finalised with the CEC the terms of reference of the system development.

¹ Precinct electoral commissions are lower level commissions based in the field.

II. Plans for the next period

For the month of June 2019, the project will:

- assess piloting of the beta version of the e-Learning platform;
- in collaboration with IFES Armenia, organise the workshop for the CEC on campaign finance issues;
- finalise the gender assessment report and present it to the CEC and other stakeholders;
- host international ICT expert to conduct independent assessment of the ICT needs of the CEC and develop a long-term strategy and roadmap for CEC ICT department;
- initiate the CEC strategic planning development process.

For more information on the Support to the Electoral Support Project in Armenia (ESPA), please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Shalva Kipshidze, shalva.kipshidze@undp.org.



GUINEA-BISSAU

Photo credit: IESU

SUPPORT TO THE ELECTORAL CYCLE 2018-2019

The “Support to Elections Cycle in Guinea-Bissau 2018-2019” project aims to address the Guinea-Bissau capacity to hold legitimate, transparent and credible elections in accordance with domestic legislation and international standards.

The project provides technical assistance to the Elections Management Bodies (CNE – National Election Commission - and GTAPE – Bureau of Technical Support to the Electoral Process) on areas of voters’ registration, elections logistics, electoral operations, civic education, information technologies. It also provides financial assistance to these operations and for the purchase of polling station kit’ consumables.

For more information, please visit the project’s [website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The project continued to support to the national electoral commission (CNE) with the gender assessment.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

The project continued to provide support to the CNE-led working group on gender mainstreaming. The working group meets weekly with a view to developing a gender and inclusion policy for the CNE. The first step in this process was the completion of a gender assessment, based on the UNDP/ UNWOMEN guide: Inclusive Electoral Processes. The project facilitated the introductory session and provided technical support to the working group, in collaboration with the human rights and gender sections of The United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS).

II. Plans for the next period

Support to the identification of gender mainstreaming gaps, and the drafting of the gender policy.

For more information on the Support to the Electoral Cycle 2018-2019 project in Guinea Bissau, please contact Mr. Deryck Fritz, deryck.fritz@un.org and visit the [project’s website](#).



KENYA

IEBC Communications Department

STRENGTHENING THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IN KENYA (SEPK)

The UNDP Electoral Assistance Project in Kenya (SEPK) provides technical assistance to the Kenyan Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and other stakeholders to support credible and peaceful electoral process. The project started in February 2016 and focuses on strengthening the legal and institutional framework for the electoral process, increasing electoral participation with specific attention being paid to youth, women, and disable people, and consolidating electoral justice and dispute resolution mechanisms to increase compliance with electoral framework.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The end-term evaluation of the SEPK project has continued, with the support of an independent evaluator.
- The project continued spearheading design of a project document for a broader deepening democracy programme.
- The project engaged a consultant to finalise the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission gender and social inclusion policy.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

End term evaluation of the SEPK project: With the assistance of an independent evaluator, there was continued engagement on the SEPK project end-term evaluation. The end-term evaluation is an assessment of the progress made by the SEPK project and will provide recommendations for improving programming on elections for UNDP and other UN agencies. Initial engagement of key national level partners through key informants interviews is ongoing. This assignment will generate important lessons to inform future electoral assistance to Kenya.

Ongoing preparation of SEPK successor programme: The project continued spearheading design of a project document for a broader deepening democracy programme. The proposed programme is designed to ensure sustainable engagement on key issues related to democratic governance in between electoral events. The programme design adopts a cyclical approach and seeks to address key governance and democracy issues, including access to justice, electoral security, capacity building of electoral institutions and civic engagement through the media and civil society organisations. The programme will lay a firm foundation for a management of the 2022 elections. The programme will be implemented by UN Women, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human

Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) under the leadership of UNDP. The UNDP Kenya Country Office held an internal project appraisal committee to review the draft project document. The comments will be used to update the project document before it is shared with relevant stakeholders for review and subsequently approval of the Local Project Steering Committee (LPAC).

Finalisation of IEBC gender and inclusion policy: The project engaged a consultant to finalise the IEBC gender and social inclusion policy. Development of the policy commenced in 2016 but was stalled to allow the commission to prepare for and manage the 2017 elections. During the month, the project supported IEBC to hold a high-level consultative meeting with IEBC commissioners and also convened a consultative forum with county election managers. The input of these two groups will inform finalisation of the policy. The policy document will be subjected to a wide stakeholder validation in June 2019.

Development of strategic plans for Judiciary Training Institute (JTI) and Political Parties Dispute Tribunal (PPDT): The project is supporting JTI and PPDT to develop their strategic plans. These plans will spell out the strategic choices for the two institutions for the period 2019-22. It is hoped that through the plans, JTI and PPDT will equip themselves to undertake robust electoral dispute resolution. These are will be completed by 30 June before the project closes.

II. Plans for the next period

The activities planned for the next reporting period include:

- Completion of SEPK project end term evaluation;
- Finalisation of the IEBC gender and inclusion policy;
- Ongoing support to development of the Judiciary Training Institute (JTI) and Political Parties Dispute Tribunal (PPDT) strategic plans.

For more information on the project on Strengthening the Electoral Process in Kenya, please contact Mr. James Wagala, james.wagala@undp.org.



LEBANON

UNDP LEAP

LEBANESE ELECTIONS ASSISTANCE PROJECT (LEAP)

The EU-funded UNDP Lebanese Elections Assistance Project (LEAP) started its activities in October 2012 with the main objective to strengthen the institutional capacity of the national institutions and stakeholders in terms of electoral management and administration, for the conduct of credible, periodical, transparent and inclusive elections in Lebanon.

To achieve these objectives, UNDP LEAP works closely with the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM), responsible for electoral management, administration and overall electoral operations. The project also supports other electoral stakeholders, such as the Constitutional Council, State Council, Supervisory Commission for the Election (SCE), judicial bodies and works in close cooperation with civil society organizations (CSOs). Within this context, UNDP LEAP provides electoral technical assistance and advisory support focused on: 1) management & administration of elections; 2) supervisory commission for elections; 3) voter education; 4) electoral dispute resolution; and 5) women's participation in elections. For more information, please visit the [project's website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 23 May, UNDP and the EU Delegation in Lebanon (EUD) organised a conference with a large range of stakeholders to kick-start the discussions on electoral reforms.
- UNDP and the EUD developed a thematic publication on 2018 parliamentary elections which includes key figures on women in parliamentary elections. The publication has been launched at the conference in Beirut.

1. Project activities during the reporting period

Parliamentary elections 2022: electoral reforms and gender equality conference

On 23 May, UNDP and the EU Delegation in Lebanon organised a conference entitled *Parliamentary Elections 2022: Electoral Reforms and Gender Equality Conference*. The objective of the conference was to bring together national and international stakeholders to share and debate views, opinions and

suggestions on the possible ways to kick start talks on electoral reforms together with the civil society organisations, political parties and members of parliament, especially those who were members of the parliamentary committee studying the electoral law.



Parliamentary Elections 2022: Electoral Reforms and Gender Equality Conference, 23 May 2019. Photo credits: UNDP Lebanon

The conference, organised under the patronage of the Minister of Interior, benefitted from the participation of members of parliaments (MPs), electoral experts, women civil society organisations, people with disabilities (PWDs) and domestic observation organisations. The overall discussions were centred on the idea of timely preparations for the 2022 election year which was a topic agreed by all the speakers and participants. During the conference, the representatives of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MOIM), Supervisory Commission for Elections, but also MPs present at the conference, showed overwhelming support for taking timely and decisive actions to enhance standards and processes for future electoral processes.

Furthermore, during the debates and interventions, the participants made relevant suggestions and proposals such as:

- Revision of the electoral legal framework in the sense of including reforms and adjustments for future elections;
- A stronger and more effective Supervisory Commission with a clear mandate, sufficient resources and means to enforce the rules and regulations;
- Lowering the voting age to 18 (the current voting age in Lebanon is 21);



Parliamentary Elections 2022: Electoral Reforms and Gender Equality Conference, 23 May 2019. Photo credits: UNDP Lebanon

- Increasing women's representation in the parliament through temporary special measures/ electoral quotas.
- Inclusion and participation, with civil society organisations demanding real and effective measures to increase accessibility of PWDs (at all levels) and enhance voter turnout particularly of youth in future elections.

In the context presented above, UNDP suggested the formation of a Technical Working Group on Elections for all national stakeholders to open extensive discussions and work on electoral reforms and thematic topics related to the 2022 parliamentary elections.

Thematic brochure: 2018 Lebanese Parliamentary Elections: Gender Key Results

Based on the results of the 2018 parliamentary elections, UNDP and the EU Delegation to Lebanon developed a thematic publication on gender key results related to these elections. The publication entails key figures on women in parliamentary elections including registered voters and candidates, distribution of women candidates by districts and political affiliation, distribution of preferential votes for women candidates, amongst others. It provides the results for each candidate by major district and puts forward recommendations to increase women's participation in elections. The brochure also includes a timeline for women's participation in parliamentary elections from 1960 to 2018.



It is worth noting that this publication is a sequel to the "2018 Lebanese Parliamentary Elections: Results and Figures" that was released following the 2018 parliamentary elections. The brochure was launched during the conference *Parliamentary Elections 2022: Electoral Reforms and Gender Equality*, organised in Beirut on 23 May.

II. Plans for the next period

- Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) – continued technical assistance and advisory support.
- Supervisory Commission for Elections (SCE) – lessons learned and strategic planning exercise (Sep-Oct 2019).
- Constitutional Council – lessons learned exercise (Sep 2019).
- Development and design of a comprehensive program, together with civil society partners, aimed at enhancing electoral participation and knowledge during the inter-electoral period. The main targets of the program will be women, youth and persons with disabilities.

For more information on the project on LEAP, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Dan Radulescu, dan.radulescu@undp.org and visit the [project's website](#).



LIBERIA

📷 Election Project/UNDP Liberia

SUPPORT TO THE 2015 – 2018 LIBERIAN ELECTORAL CYCLE

Support to the 2015-2018 Liberian Electoral Cycle project was established in order to strengthen the capacity of the National Election Commission (NEC) to successfully carry out electoral process within the 2015-2018 electoral cycle. Among other objectives, it introduced modern administrative systems and procedures, enhanced communications and public outreach, supported voter registration and election results management process. In addition, the project seeks to enhance the participation of women in the elections and in political activities, support civic and voter education and strengthen NEC's capacity to engage with the stakeholders and resolve electoral disputes. The project is supported by the European Union (10.85 million USD), Sweden (2,757,039 USD), UNDP (1 million USD), Canada (749,625 USD) and Ireland (568,828 USD).

For more information, [please visit the Project's website.](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Project implementation remains on course in support of the National Elections Commission (NEC) with a key focus on staff professional development, electoral reform and infrastructure development.
- The preparations for the study tour to the Ghana Electoral Commission by 3 staff members from the monitoring and evaluation department are ongoing.
- The project supported NEC in the preparations of civic education around electoral reform.
- In preparation for the 2020-2024 electoral cycle, NEC has requested through a formal letter a Needs Assessment Mission which will pave the way for the development a full programme document.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

During the month of May, the project provided support to the 3 staff from the National Elections Commission (NEC) from the monitoring and evaluation department to undertake a two-week study tour to the Ghana Elections Commission.

The cataloguing of all assets is continuing. Currently about 99% of the all assets in the main building

and the annex at NEC headquarters have been recorded, temporary stickers have been attached until new QR labels have been provided by Techno Brain by 15 June 2019. Cataloguing of materials in other warehouses around the country is expected to start in June.

The preparations for the launch of the civic education around electoral reform are almost complete. The first consultative workshop will be conducted in mid-June in two counties (Zwedru, Grand Gedeh and Bong, Gbarnga (in progress)). The project received only one application for the position of national consultant on electoral reform and recruitment process is underway.

The construction and rehabilitation of warehouses is in progress. Three engineers (UNDP LTA holders) have been contracted to work with magisterial offices throughout the country to take measurements of security fences around 19 warehouses. In preparation for the 2020 -2024 electoral cycle, NEC has requested a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) to assess and determine the areas of need for possible electoral support. The drafting of the Terms of Reference for the conduct of the Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) has been completed and will be sent to Electoral Assistance Division in HQ.

II. Plans for the next period

- Launch of bid for warehouses renovation and constructions / fencing;
- Continuation of physical assets verification and data collection exercise;
- Training of NEC staff on forklift operation, the activity was delayed due to faulty battery.
- Collection of inventory and asset information at HQ and HQ warehouse and data entry as per timelines;
- Presentation to NEC Board of Commissioners and senior staff on updated version of Asset Management Policy Document and standard of procedures;
- Launch of regional consultative civic education workshops on electoral reform.

For more information on the support to the Liberia electoral cycle, please contact Mr. James Monibah, james.monibah@undp.org and visit the [Project's website](#).



Jason Athanasiadis,
UNSMIL, 2014

PROMOTING ELECTIONS FOR THE PEOPLE OF LIBYA (PEPOL)

The Promoting Elections for the People of Libya (PEPOL) project is a three year electoral assistance project, designed in the spirit of cooperation and national ownership with the Libyan High National Elections Commission (HNEC). The project forms part of the UN integrated electoral assistance framework which is led and coordinated by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). The project's overall objective is to help HNEC develop its overall institutional capacity in order to prepare for and administer inclusive and credible balloting events in Libya. To this end, four key outputs are identified with related activities to be implemented throughout the electoral cycle approach:

1. Support HNEC in the planning, preparation and conduct of national elections and out-of-country voting (OCV);
2. Develop HNEC institutional and staff capacities and raise awareness on the requirement of (a) transparent, credible and inclusive electoral processe(s);
3. Promote public participation in (the) electoral processe(s) targeting vulnerable groups; and
4. Raising the electoral awareness of local partners and stakeholders.

For more information, please visit the project's [website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The PEPOL project, in conjunction with the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Electoral Assistance Service (EAS), continued to provide technical assistance to the High National Elections Commission (HNEC) remotely, i.e. Tunis, during May.
- Rehabilitation works at the new HNEC head office in Tripoli continued.
- The project supported the procurement of voter education banners for the HNEC. The project also procured the services of firm to undertake the installation of an IT network at the new HNEC head office.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Following the PEPOL project board meeting of 30 April 2019, the project undertook the revision of the Project's Annual Work Plan (AWP) and budget for 2019, in order to make necessary adjustments to project's activities implementation and use of financial resources, taking into account the overall changes in the security and electoral assistance context in Libya.

The project also undertook the revision of the United Nations Electoral Support Unit (UNEST)/PEPOL

consolidated activity plan for 2019, following the approval of the revised AWP and budget for 2019.

Rehabilitation works at the new HNEC head office in Tripoli continued during the month. The last works concern the painting & façade and related items, landscaping and installation of the IT network in the three buildings. Despite some difficulties encountered by the contractors related to the supply of some building materials, building works continued and are expected to finish by end of June.

The project assisted the HNEC on logistics including the design and rollout of the Asset Management System (AMS) and the Logistics Manual.

The project supported the procurement of voter education banners for the HNEC through a tendering process which is still underway. The project also procured the services of a firm to undertake the installation of an IT network at the new HNEC head office; the work is expected to commence in early June 2019. The project continued to support the development of the second phase of the voter registration system and the results management system for the HNEC during the month.

II. Plans for the next period

- A workshop on voter registration is being planned from 14 - 15 June 2019 in Tunis. The workshop will discuss ways to improve the HNEC voter registration system and to consider options for the future.
- UNDP Libya has announced the vacancy of the Chief Technical Advisor/Project Manager for PEPOL.

For more information on the project, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Joram Rukambe, joram.rukambe@undp.org and visit the project's [website](#).



MADAGASCAR

 CENI Madagascar

SOUTIEN AU CYCLE ÉLECTORAL DE MADAGASCAR (SACEM)

From 2017 to 2019, the SACEM project intends to support the CENI and other stakeholders in the electoral process in the organisation of credible, inclusive and peaceful elections on the Big Island. It focuses on the reliability and security of the electoral register, the promotion of electoral governance through legal framework reforms, the raising of electoral awareness, the capacity building of electoral agents, the provision of voting material and the rapid and secure transmission of electoral data.

The project, implemented by UNDP, is supported by the European Union, USAID, Norway, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, South Korea, Switzerland, Australia and South Africa. For more information, please visit the [project's website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The electoral commission (CENI) closed the Annual Review of the Electoral List (RALE) on 15 May. A total of 10,302,194 voters are registered on this year's voter's list.
- The sensitive material was deployed in several phases to the 25,388 polling stations in the country.
- The reactivation and operationalisation of the VSAT network, to ensure a secure and rapid transmission of electoral data, took place before the election.
- The awareness campaign and civic education has continued in the 119 districts of the country.
- The legislative elections were held on 27 May 2019 according to the electoral calendar and were generally well organised according to national and international observers.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Annual revision of the 2018-2019 electoral list. The electoral list has been closed on 15 May with 10,302,194 registered voters, of which 4,746,692 are women. A total of 388,595 voters have been added compared to the previous list. Approximately 25,388 polling stations were set up for the general election.

Deployment of sensitive materials for the legislative elections. From 7 May, the SACEM project has supported the dissemination of sensitive materials to all districts' chefs-lieux. The further deployment to the communes of the country, in line with the training programme for the polling stations' members, has started on 18 May upon CENI's request. The materials were then further deployed to the fokontany (traditional villages). Security measures were provided during storage and deployment of the material.

Awareness-raising activities for the legislative elections. The awareness campaign and civic education has continued in May and focused on facilitating the understanding of the role of the deputies, the procedures and the vote counting. For these elections, the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA), who is in charge of the campaign, has worked in 119 districts, and focused on rural communes and fokontany. Many awareness-raising materials were produced, and outreach activities were varied in order to reach the maximum of citizens. Media and social media campaigns were also conducted.

Communication for the parliamentary elections. A total of 119 CENI banners were produced and deployed to the 119 districts of the country. Advertising panels have also been placed on strategic axes in the regions. The address by the President of the High Constitutional Court on dispute resolution was broadcast on more than twenty community radio stations, and posters and comic strips on the same topic were disseminated in the 119 districts of the country.



Election day on 27 May 2019.
Photo credits: UNDP Madagascar.

Cascade training of the members of the electoral commission. The second phase of the training cascade for the legislative elections took place until 8 May at the level of the chefs-lieux of the regions and targeted 800 trainers. Then, the CENI supported the last phase which saw the trainers strengthen the capacity of the polling stations' members in the communes of the country. Until 25 May, this last session of the training cascade reached nearly 150,000 people. The electoral material collecting sections (Sections de Recensement Matériel de Vote, SRMV¹) presidents also facilitated district-level consultation frameworks for candidates, for which information materials on the legal framework and electoral disputes were produced.

¹ There are 119 SMRVs in Madagascar – one per district. SMRVs do an inventory of the documents sent by each electoral office and their role is to verify the accuracy of the counting and procès-verbaux transmitted by polling stations.

Reactivation of the VSAT network. The VSAT network has been reactivated and operationalised to ensure a secure and fast transmission of electoral data. The system implemented this year is the same as the one developed during the presidential election. However, the system has been improved based on recommendations made by a UNDP-mandated expert who conducted a new internal audit of the software from 5 to 11 May 2019.

Legislative elections. Voters went to the polls for the legislative elections on 27 May, from 6 am to 5 pm, in a rather peaceful general atmosphere. Three offices did not open, and marginal opening delays occurred but did not affect the polling. Delegates of the candidates were present at the polling stations. The turnout has been 40.77%.

II. Plans for the next period

Provisional and final results. The CENI will proclaim the provisional results of the legislative elections on 15 June. After that, the High Constitutional Court will have two weeks to proclaim the final results.

Awareness campaign. The campaign, which will specifically focus on acceptance of the results, will end on 30 June.

For more information on the SACEM, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Flavien Misoni, flavien.misoni@undp.org and visit the project's [website](#).



MALAWI

Malawi Electoral Commission

MALAWI ELECTORAL CYCLE SUPPORT 2017-2019

The “Malawi Electoral Cycle Support 2017-2019” project is supported by a basket fund. The project will support the internal capacities of the Malawi Electoral Commission through stronger planning, operational and administrative support, as well as in the areas of dispute resolution, communication, voter education, voter registration and results transmission. It will also encourage and support female aspirants to stand for office through mentoring, as well as ensuring that the political and cultural landscape is more accepting of the role women in the political life. The project will also partner with the Centre for Multiparty Democracy-Malawi, the organisation that brings political parties together around common interests, to assist political parties to be more resilient organisations working around genuine political programmes and principles of transparency, accountability, fairness and merit. For more information, [visit the project's website.](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The project supported the hiring of 100 lorries for the delivery of sensitive and non-sensitive electoral materials.
- Law firms have been hired to support the disputes handling process.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

This month, the basket fund project provided its final elements of support for polling day. This included the testing of the Results Transmission System (RTS) for which agreements had to be signed with two telecommunication companies to ensure nationwide coverage. Also, IT expertise was mobilised to ensure that the security of the system was not going to be compromised by hacking attempts and other threats. Three tests were done in the first two weeks of May to ascertain whether all 197 constituency tally centres (CTCs) would obtain a connection for transmission to the national tally centre in Blantyre. By polling day, all CTCs had been able to transmit results and none of the hacking attempts managed to connect to the system.

TNM telecoms company was also hired to establish the automated “*2019# USSD/SMS platform” that allowed voters to check their stream number and registration details. This appears to have contributed to the positive reports on polling station organisation in the local and international observation reports.

Transport of sensitive and non-sensitive electoral materials had been a long-outstanding resource-related issue for the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC). With advocacy support from the UN Resident Coordinator and the project, the government made available enough budget to hire 400 lorries while the basket fund supported with the hiring of an extra 103 lorries. The basket fund lorries, with procurement and logistical support from World Food Programme, all checked into the MEC regional warehouses two days before polling (at the latest).

What was known by the end of May through preliminary statements made by the European Union, African Union, Commonwealth, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) observation missions was that the levels of organisation on polling day were a marked improvement on 2014, as 98% of all 5,002 polling centres were able to open at 6am precisely with almost all the rest following within the hour. The parallel vote tabulation exercise implemented by National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Malawi Elections Support Network (MESN) has a very close statistical tabulation in line with MEC's results.

Five legal houses were also contracted and trained by the project in order to deal with the anticipated legal complaints from political parties on the electoral process. These legal houses have been particularly busy since polling day dealing with some 150 lodged complaints and deciding which ones have a legitimate basis for being handled by the formal judiciary. Their work is likely to continue for several more weeks.

II. Plans for the next period

It is likely that the month of June will be quiet for the project as there will be ongoing political party petitions that will put all project activities on hiatus.

For more information on the Malawi Electoral Cycle Support Project, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Richard Cox, richard.cox@undp.org and visit the project's [website](#).



ELECTORAL SUPPORT PROJECT (ESP)

The Electoral Support Project- Phase II (ESP) is a technical assistance initiative which focuses on a long-term institutional and professional capacity development of the Election Commission (ECN) for conducting credible, inclusive and transparent elections at a national level. The objectives of the project are 1) to strengthen the capacity of the ECN to function as an independent and credible institution, 2) to allow the conduct of the election cycle in an effective, sustainable, and credible manner, and 3) to increase democratic participation, particularly for under-represented and disadvantaged segments of the Nepali society. For more information, [please visit the ESP website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The World Press Freedom Day was marked.
- Two Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) workshops on gender equality and elections were completed in two districts in Nepal.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

The Electoral Support Project (ESP) marked the World Press Freedom Day together with Nepal's Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Election Commission Nepal (ECN), the European Union, the Federation of Nepali Journalists and UNESCO Nepal. A one-day national conference was organised with the theme: "Media for Democracy and Peace: Journalism and Elections in the Age of the Internet" to celebrate this occasion.

The event served to launch discussions around the digital age and its impact on elections, the electoral cycle, and ultimately peace and democracy. The conference was attended by over 250 participants from various media houses, ECN, academia as well as national and international development partners to reinforce their support and commitment for World Press Freedom Day, and media for democracy and peace.

In his address during the ceremony, the Chief Election Commissioner emphasized that free, fair, accountable and professional media contribute to credible elections. He stressed that to tap into the opportunities in this age of Internet, ECN will disseminate information through a user-friendly website,

update its data centre and adopt Geographic Information System to map polling stations for future elections, asserting that ECN will use traditional as well as social media to promote electoral awareness.

Two three-day Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) workshops on gender equality and elections were organised in two districts in Nepal where by-elections are scheduled to take place this year. The workshops were attended by 12 female and 11 male participants in Dang and 12 female and 8 male participants in Panchthar districts. The representation of the participants ranged from District Election Office, District Education Office Gender Focal Point, political parties, local level educational organisations, non-governmental organisations, local media, disabled association.



Chief Election Commissioner addressing the World Press Freedom Day event. Photo credits: UNDP Nepal



The inaugural session of the World Press Freedom Day event. Photo credits: UNDP Nepal

II. Plans for the next period

Following the completion of the transition in ECN management, the project will launch a number of initiatives agreed in its 2019 annual work plan. The month of June should see the adoption of the Standard Operation Procedure for Election Dispute Resolution as well as high-level interactions with electoral stakeholders on current electoral issues.

For more information on the Nepal ESP, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Vincent da Cruz, vincent.dacruz@undp.org, and visit the [project's website](#).



SOLOMON ISLANDS

SECSIP

STRENGTHENING THE ELECTORAL CYCLE IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS (SECSIP)

Since 2013, UNDP Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands Project (SECSIP) has contributed to the inclusiveness and integrity of the electoral process. The project supported the successful introduction of a new comprehensive biometric voter registration system which resulted in a more inclusive and reliable voters' roll and continues to provide assistance in terms of its updating and sustainability. The project also supports the review of the electoral legal framework with a view to promote the strengthening of the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission (SIEC) and assist to the fulfilment of its mandate. It also strengthens the capacity of the SIEC to advocate for women's political participation and supports the national authorities and civil society organisations in raising awareness of the population regarding voting and civic engagement. SECSIP is generously funded by the European Union, the government of Australia and UNDP.

For more information, please visit the [project's website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2019 National General Election (NGE) lesson learned exercise has been conducted by UNDP Regional Electoral Adviser to assess achievements and lessons learned.
- A reflection workshop with national general election women candidates who participated in the project's trainings has been organised to provide feedback and recommendations for future project's support.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Electoral operations support

The project initiated the procurement process to support the construction works to expand office space at the Electoral Office building. Accordingly, a competitive bidding in compliance with UNDP rules and procedures for the engagement of a construction company has been launched. It is expected that a contract will be awarded in the coming weeks and that the construction will be completed within a period of 3 months since its commencement.

Post-election lesson learned: UNDP Regional Electoral Adviser conducted a one week mission in Solomon Islands to list and assess achievements and lessons learned, identify challenges and support needs on the way forward for the electoral authorities and project support. It is expected that the results of this assessment will be a critical tool for an integrated electoral project support strategy during the next phases of the electoral cycle.

Support to Political Parties Commission (PPC)

The project graduates' working at PPC have supported the PPC registrar in the assessment and review of the Opposition Coalition Agreement. The two graduates have also made contributions to the identification of areas for the amendment of the Political Party Integrity Act (PPIA).

With respect to awareness raising actions, the graduates prepared a presentation on the PPIA for induction of the Members of Parliament (MPs) and assisted the registrar in the preparation of two 15 minutes radio programmes on the functions of the registrar of political parties and the process for the registration of political parties.

Voter education and awareness

Stages of Change (SOC), a civil society organisation partner that had been contracted for voter awareness activities conducted face to face awareness activities in 11 communities in North West and South Choiseul province. SOC estimates that 2,514 people have benefited from these voter awareness actions which took place before the national general election. SOC also distributed 5,288 awareness materials.

The project is gathering data from different media outlets on elections news and quality coverage to assess impartiality and neutrality. This information will be collated and assessed in a final report to be produced in June 2019.

Support to women's political participation

A reflection workshop with 12 national general election women candidates was held on 15 May in Honiara.

The participants worked in two groups and provided feedback on the effectiveness of the project's support actions (trainings, resource centres, constituency profiling, women network) and provided recommendations for future improvement.

"The skills and tool we learned from SECSIP were very helpful during our campaigns. We think, SECSIP should continue supporting us to target 2023 election from now on." Participants' remarks during the workshop

The project also organised three trainings for 17 women candidates

contesting for provincial elections in Guadalcanal, Central, Isabel and Malaita provinces. These trainings



The inaugural session of the World Press Freedom Day event.

Photo credits: UNDP Solomon Islands

aim to provide participants with information and materials they can immediately incorporate into their campaigns to continue building skills and improving their campaigns.

II. Plans for the next period

- Project's support to national monitors for provincial elections;
- Closing of partnerships with CSOs: on-going review and follow up on narrative and financial reports of CSOs;
- Preparation for the launching of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey, quantitative data collection.

For more information on the SECSIP, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Ms. Olga Rabade, olga.rabade@undp.org and visit the [project's website](#).



UNDP/UNSOM JOINT PROGRAMME FOR SUPPORT TO THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

The overall strategic objective of the UNDP/UNSOM Joint Programme for “Support to the Electoral Process to the Federal Republic of Somalia” is to prepare the country for universal elections through institutional capacity development of the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC), the development of the legal framework for elections, and support to promote better understanding of electoral processes.

For more information, please visit the [project's website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 2 May, the Council of Ministers endorsed the draft electoral law, developed in 2018 by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) with technical assistance from the UNDP/UNSOM Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG).
- IESG assisted the NIEC with the planning for a field exercise of potential voter registration centres.
- NIEC held on 25-26 May a two-day consultation with civil society organisations on a voter education regulation.

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Submission of electoral bill to parliament

On 2 May, the Council of Ministers endorsed the draft electoral law, developed in 2018 by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) with technical assistance from the UNDP/UNSOM Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG). Compared to the earlier versions, the endorsed draft law includes some adjustments. The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) presented the draft electoral law to the leaders of the Federal Member States (FMS) during their Summit in Garowe, Puntland. Supported by IESG, the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) was present in

Garowe to provide FMS leaders clarifications on the planning for 'one person, one vote' elections and the technical aspects as stipulated in the current draft electoral law.

On 20 May, the Minister of Interior presented the electoral bill to the members of the House of the People. The Speaker of the House requested the Parliamentary Committee for Interior and Security to discuss the electoral law on compliances with the Provisional Constitution and possibly in line with the constitutional review process. IESG discussed with the NIEC the latest adjustments in the draft law and requested the NIEC to share with the Parliamentary Committee certain technical recommendations and comments that would strengthen the electoral legal framework.

NIEC preparations for identification of potential voter registration sites

IESG assisted the NIEC with the planning for a field exercise of potential voter registration centres. In May, the NIEC deployed teams to different population centres in Mogadishu, Hirshabelle and South-West State to identify and map suitable locations for voter registration. The NIEC is having consultations with the other FMS to also start the mapping exercise soon in those populated areas. Information on the locations and the overall numbers of identified voter registration centres will feed into the NIEC's operations plan. Once approved by the Commission, this will inform IESG and donors on the required budget for voter registration and timely procurement of voter registration kits.

NIEC consultation meeting with civil society organisations on voter education regulations

The NIEC's Department of Outreach and Voter Education held on 25-26 May a two-day consultation with civil society organisations (CSOs) on a regulation for voter education. The regulation will help the NIEC and CSOs work together to deliver voter education and public awareness.

The consultation meeting was officially opened by NIEC chair Ms. Halima Ismail. Other Commissioners were also present. The NIEC emphasized on the need to



NIEC consultations with civil society organisations on voter education regulations, Mogadishu, 25-26 May.

Photo credit: NIEC.

collaborate with CSOs to conduct outreach programs. Participants included women groups, youth, religious leaders, people with disabilities, and representatives from international organisations.

Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi) for voter registration kits

In May, the NIEC and IESG refined technical details of the NIEC's chosen methodology for next year's voter registration exercise. The NIEC has opted for a methodology that captures voters' data in an electronic manner and a photo for facial deduplication purpose. The Commission has selected this method for its simplicity, integrity, price and feasibility in the Somali context.

With support from UNDP's global electoral procurement hub, IESG and NIEC agreed to prepare a

call of interest to identify and prequalify potential vendors for the voter registration equipment. As voters ideally spend as little time as possible in the registration centres given security and logistical constraints voter registration procedures and the used technology have to be as intuitive and simple as possible.

UNDP launched a international call for EoI from 17 May to 17 June (see [here](#)). Once the field verification exercise exposes more concrete data on the number of voter registration sites, NIEC and IESG will develop a comprehensive budget for the process. Exact specifications for the kits are to be defined and the invitations to bid will be subsequently send to prequalified vendors in the next months. Resource mobilisation for voter registration will be informed by the donors' stock-taking on the country's general progress for electoral preparations. Voter registration is planned to start in March 2020. The procurement process for the voter registration kits needs to be finalised by late 2019.



Electoral information sharing meeting with international partners on electoral progress, co-shared by NIEC Chairperson, Halima Ibrahim, and UNSOM Deputy SRSG, Rai Zenenga.

Mogadishu, 15 April 2019

Photo credit: NIEC

II. Plans for the next period

- 9-16 June: Youth Social Innovation Camp from the Arab region, enhancing youth political participation from youth for youth, in cooperation with UNDP/RBAS;
- 10 June: NIEC/IESG Electoral information sharing meeting;
- 16-20 June: NIEC induction and lessons learned workshop, voter registration identification and verification exercise;
- 17-21 June: African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) electoral security strategy workshop.

For more information on the UNDP/UNSOM Joint Programme, please contact Filip Warnants, filip.warnants@undp.org and visit the [Project's website](#).



ZIMBABWE

UNDP Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE ELECTORAL COMMISSION CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT (ZIM-ECO)

The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission Capacity Building Project (ZIM-ECO) focuses on developing the institutional and organizational capacity of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) to meet its Constitutional mandate. The project provides technical assistance to voter registration process to promote its credibility and inclusiveness, strengthens election dispute resolution mechanism, fosters gender mainstreaming during the electoral cycle and promotes participation of women, youth and people with disabilities in the electoral process. For more information, please visit the [project's website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

- ZIM-ECO project has been providing support in key capacity building and institutional strengthening areas of election operations including planning, review processes, knowledge management, polling process, Biometric Voter Registration (BVR), training requirements in pre-election, election and post-election period, voter education, stakeholder engagement, gender mainstreaming, inclusivity and election dispute resolution. An electoral cycle approach has been adopted by the project to ensure that issues and recommendations from one election cycle can be addressed in the next one (2018-2023).

I. Project activities during the reporting period

Strategic plan development: Following the post-election review processes and recommendations made by observer groups, there was a need to develop a new Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) strategic plan for the next electoral cycle (2019-2023). While analysing these recommendations in conjunction with the current ZEC strategic plan, there are areas in the existing strategic plan that need to be revisited, improved and new areas to be added. A 5-day workshop was organised from 27-31 May 2019 to develop a draft of the new strategic plan 2019-2023. Once finalised, it will be shared with stakeholders for feedback and dissemination.

Longer term capacity development approach: As part of the long-term capacity development strategy Bridging Resources in Democracy Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) methodology has been adopted

and a Train the Facilitator (TtF) workshop earlier planned in June 2019 has now been rescheduled to August 2019 to develop a pool of 25 BRIDGE certified trainers. This will be followed with trainings in thematic areas of voter registration, voter education, election operations, delimitation and stakeholder engagement.

Training of biometric voter registration operators: Considering that biometric voter registration (BVR) is a continuous process undertaken at provincial and district levels and during the by-elections, there was a need to undertake refresher training for the BVR operators. Two back to back workshops were organised from 13-17 May 2019 to train around 80 BVR operators on the BVR process, both technical and operational aspects. This workshop will enable the BVR operators to undertake the continuous BVR registration in an accurate and effective manner.



ZEC Staff practicing registration on BVR kits.
Photo credit: UNDP Zimbabwe



Practice Session on the filling of voter registration forms.
Photo credit: UNDP Zimbabwe

Capacity building of ZEC procurement team: Following the promulgation of the new procurement law in 2018, there was a need to develop the capacity of ZEC staff at the headquarters and provincial level to undertake procurement based on the new legal framework, which is more robust and based on international principles of transparency, integrity, best value for money, openness, fairness, competition and accountability. The workshop was organised in collaboration with Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (PRAZ) from 6-10 May 2019 and 37 ZEC staff were trained on the new procurement law and its implementation.

Training of police on human rights, elections and policing: After the Training of Trainers (TOT) that was completed in end of April 2019 resulting in a cadre of 30 trainers, a review session was organised to get feedback on the TOT and to plan for the roll out of the provincial workshops. It was agreed to update the training materials, do a facilitators training followed by the provincial roll out workshops starting in June – July 2019.

Gender mainstreaming: The process for development of gender and inclusion policy is expected to be finalised by June 2019. Technical support is being provided to Zimbabwe Gender Commission to develop long-term policy advocacy measures to address issues related to affirmative action and women's quota for ensuring women political representation, which will expire at the end of the current

parliament as per the Constitution. The UNDP team participated in a national dialogue “The Great Debate: Quota or Total Equality” organised by the Zimbabwe Gender Commission on 9 May 2019, where several options were deliberated upon and it was agreed to form a representative working group to submit recommendations to the Government for consideration.

Continuous voter education: The introduction of continuous voter education has been identified as key aspect by the civil society organisations (CSOs) and ZEC internal reviews processes. Plans have been made to review and develop voter education material for by-elections in partnership with CSOs and Disabled People Organisations (DPOs) and roll out of voter education activities on a continuous basis. The first workshop with CSOs has been planned in August 2019 and communication experts have been engaged in this regard.

II. Plans for the next period

- Developing a draft of the Strategic Plan 2019-2023;
- Plan for implementation of BRIDGE training;
- Roll out of Training of Trainers for police officials;
- Development of draft gender and inclusion policy.

For more information on the project, please contact the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) Mr. Azhar Malik, azhar.malik@undp.org and visit the project's [website](#).