



The Support of the Federal Republic of Germany to Electoral Processes in Africa via the **European Centre for Electoral Support**

Cases of Burkina Faso, Senegal, Nigeria and Ethiopia

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Executive Summary

ECES is an independent, non partisan and not for profit Foundation headquartered in Brussels with a global remit. ECES was established at the end of 2010 and has implemented activities already in **more than 50 countries**, mainly, but not only, in Africa and the Middle East, primarily with funding from the EU and EU Member states.

ECES promotes **electoral and democratic strengthening** through the provision of advisory services, operational support and management of large projects mainstreaming capacity and leadership development via peer exchanges and comparative experiences, dialogue and the prevention and mitigation of electoral conflicts.

ECES has obtained the **TRACE** certification for its financial management transparency and the **ISO 9001** certification for its Quality Management System. ECES has crafted and copyrighted its strategy called "**A European Response to Electoral Cycle Support - EURECS**", which is implemented via **specific methodologies and tools** also copyrighted by ECES. EURECS is an innovative delivery mechanism to implement **electoral and democracy assistance activities that are consistent primarily with European values and EU policies targeting the facilitation of the cooperation on electoral matters between the EU, the EU Member States and their partner countries.**

In this framework, **the Federal Republic of Germany** has funded integrally or partially **four ECES projects** in Africa for a total mobilised amount of **17.313.786,69 EUR**. The latest contribution from Germany, via KfW (the German Development Bank) is related to the implementation of the project EURECS Ethiopia that, together with the project to contribute to the Prevention of Electoral Violence (PEV) in Ethiopia funded by the EU, was selected as one of the 10 best projects from over 100 to benefit from one year support at the Paris Peace Forum, 2020 edition (held 11-13 November 2020).



The funding received from the EU and Germany in Ethiopia follows the **Team Europe approach** established in the EU's Joint Communication on the Global EU response to COVID-

19 published on 08.04.2020 and undersigned by the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the Committee of the Regions. **Despite the extraordinary measures imposed to contain the pandemic and the effect this has had on elections, it is crucial that this unprecedented situation does not lead to backtracking in terms of good governance, democracy and regular, free, fair and transparent elections.**

In recognition of the important contribution received from Germany, the objective of this brochure is to **provide a brief overview of the four projects supported by Germany and the results achieved** so far in the implementation of activities to support peaceful, democratic, inclusive and fair elections:

1. European Response to Electoral Cycle Support in Ethiopia (EURECS Ethiopia) and EURECS Plus Ethiopia (EURECS +)

EURECS Ethiopia, a project worth 16.550.000 EUR - of which **Germany is contributing 10.000.000,00 EUR through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)**- seeks to strengthen the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) through the provision of training, operational and logistical support, and consultations with electoral stakeholders, recognising the high expectations on the 2020 elections. The implementation of activities started in October 2019 and is scheduled to end in September 2022.

In the framework of the project EURECS Ethiopia, a new **complementary project was launched in March 2021** to further support upcoming elections in the country. The new project **EURECS Plus Ethiopia** is worth **3.920.000,00 EUR**– of which Germany is contributing **100% of the total eligible cost of the action**, through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW).

Covering 12 months, EURECS Plus seeks to ensure an effective electoral management and leadership in Ethiopia over the 2020-2025 electoral cycle through the strengthening of the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE), contributing to the increased transparency and credibility on the electoral process and a higher degree of public trust in the NEBE in the context of the general Ethiopian elections in 2021.

2. Prevention of Election Violence & Education for Inclusion (PEV-EDI Nigeria)

Funded in full by Germany for a total of 337.830,00 EUR and implemented from January-June 2019, the project PEV-EDI Nigeria provided sensitisations, capacity enhancing, peer exchange and stakeholder engagement activities for women, youth and Persons With Disabilities to support the inclusion of traditionally marginalised citizens while encouraging the prevention of all forms of electoral violence during and after the 2019 general Nigerian elections.

3. Project in Support to the Democratisation Process in the Republic of Senegal (PAPE Senegal)

This project, **fully funded by Germany for an amount of 2.555.956,69 €**, aims to raise awareness of electoral processes, contribute to inclusivity by engaging with all electoral stakeholders, and support meaningful cross-party political dialogue and reform. Since the start of the project in January 2017, ECES has contributed to the development and

implementation of effective voter awareness and education campaigns, strengthened the institutional communication capacities of the Electoral Commission, and supported the organisation of multi-stakeholder meetings.

4. Support to the Credibility and Transparency of Elections in Burkina-Faso (PACTE-BF)

A project worth 7.280.000,00 EUR, of which **500.000,00 EUR was funded by Germany, PACTE-Burkina Faso** was implemented from February 2015 to August 2016 to strengthen the capacity of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) of Burkina Faso. It successfully supported the organisation of the Presidential and Legislative elections of 2015 and municipal elections in 2016. It involved the procurement of election material, training, media monitoring and civil society support.

In addition, the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) provided 89.962 EUR to support the preparation of the 2016 municipal elections.

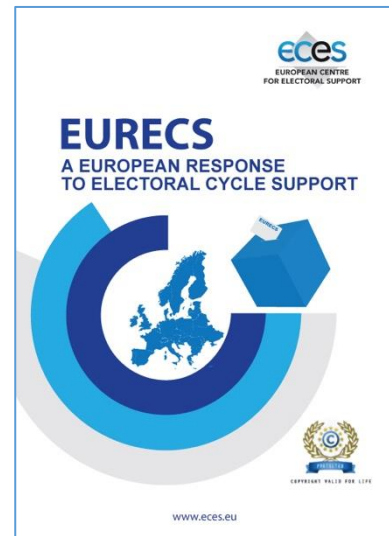
Background to ECES and Methodology of Implementation

ECES carries out identification, formulation and implementation of its projects taking on board the direct experience of over 70 contracts signed since February 2012. In addition to that, the founders and personnel of ECES have acquired extensive field experience and, taken together, ECES can count on a specialised knowledge bank from its well-established network around the world in roughly 100 countries. Building upon donors' evaluations of the electoral support programmes of the last 10 years and lessons learned, ECES focuses on the promotion of sustainable long-term capacity development throughout the electoral cycle, without detracting from the crucial activity of supporting electoral events and operations.

ECES' copyrighted strategy "**A European Response to Electoral Cycle Support - EURECS**" is used to implement all of its activities across the globe.

An innovative and alternative delivery mechanism to implement electoral and democracy assistance activities that are consistent with European values and EU policies, EURECS targets the implementation of the recommendations of EU election observation missions and is built to help prevent, mitigate and manage electoral related conflicts. EURECS is implemented via specific methodologies and tools developed and also copyrighted by ECES, including:

- Standard Operation Procedures
- the Communication & Visibility Guidelines
- the Electoral Political Economy Analyses
- the project approach to contribute Preventing Electoral Conflicts
- The Electoral Security Threat Assessment
- the cascade training curriculum called "Leadership and Conflict Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders, LEAD"
- The training "Leadership and Quality Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders" (LEAD-Q).



ECES implements its activities and projects focusing on **sustainable strategies** taking into account the complex political circumstances and the consequences of any electoral support.

Considering the current and future impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the various project activities, ECES has adapted its methodology and elaborated several alternative strategies to be able to conduct most of the planned activities even in situations of "lock-down". Through the developed INNOV-ELECTIONS approach, ECES is able to offer all its scheduled training in addition to new activities. INNOV-ELECTIONS offers a hybrid approach to training delivery via the comparative experience of its experts and partners in the field, further enhancing the contextualisation of the training programmes to the local realities.

The European Response to Electoral Cycle Support in Ethiopia (EURECS Ethiopia) – EURECS Plus Ethiopia

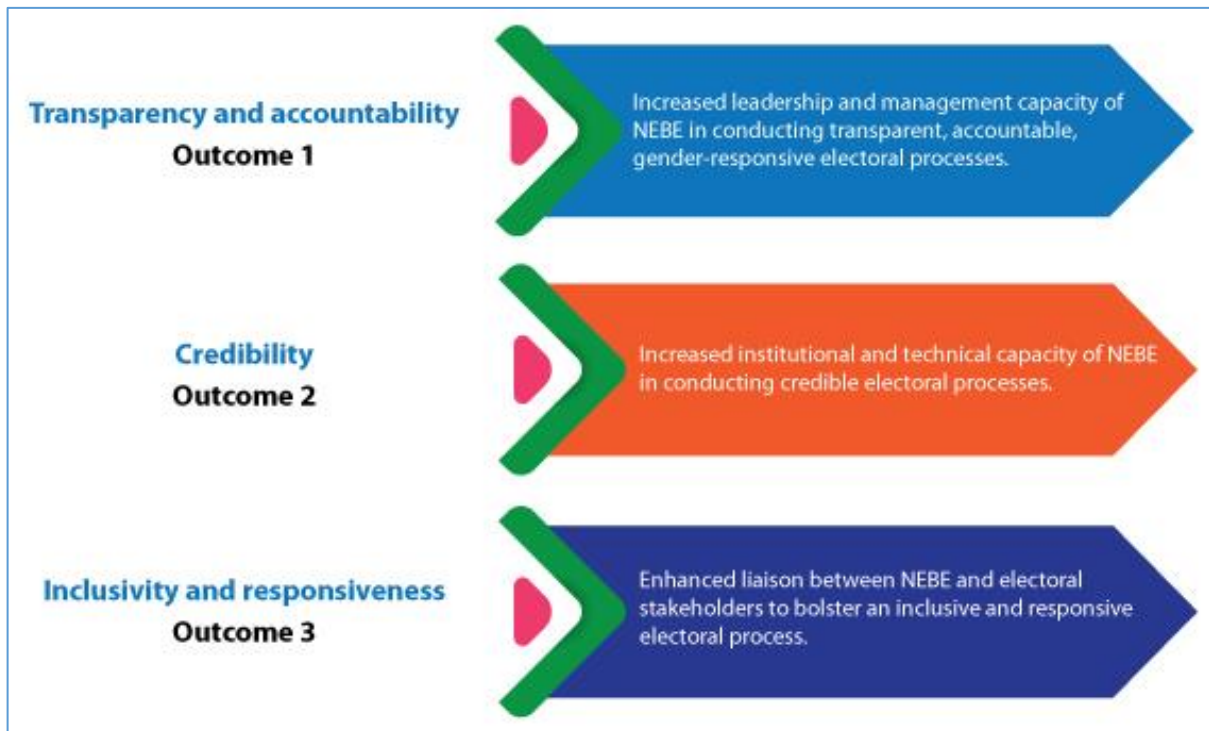


Key Facts and Figures – EURECS Ethiopia	
Period of Implementation:	1 October 2019 – 30 September 2022
Budget:	16.550.000 EUR
Funding Provided by Federal Republic of Germany:	10.000.000 EUR
Key Beneficiary(ies):	National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)
Key Services Provided:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training, including Leadership and Conflict Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders (LEAD) and Master in Electoral Political Administration (MEPA) • Conferences, Peer exchanges activities and support to dialogue platform • Procurement of equipment and electoral material • Media monitoring for NEBE • Geolocalisation Information System (GIS) • Electoral Dispute Resolution mechanisms • Elections Monitoring System (EMS) design and implementation • Design and implementation of a registration system for electoral observers

EURECS – Ethiopia is implemented by ECES and funded by the European Commission and the Federal Republic of Germany, for a total amount of 16.550.000 EUR. The project covers the period spanning from October 2019 to September 2022 and seeks to strengthen the

National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) to raise the profile of an independent, credible and effective institution that will deliver inclusive and democratic electoral processes in Ethiopia. More specifically, the action seeks to contribute to enhance the transparency, credibility and public confidence in the NEBE, as well as in the electoral process, recognising the high expectations for the 2020 elections as the starting point for a paradigm shift in the conduct of elections in the country.

EURECS-Ethiopia is built around three interconnected result areas:



Example of activities;

- **Hybrid LEAD-MEPA modules for NEBE Management Board;** The ECES-designed and copyrighted innovative training on LEAD aims to develop capacities at the cross-roads between leadership and conflict management. It looks into ways in which electoral stakeholders can improve their leadership skills and take on board means for preventing and/or mitigating the escalation of electoral violence and conflict throughout the electoral cycle.
- **Operational and logistical support for the improvement of voter registration and polling stations mapping using GIS:** ECES will implement a training programme for relevant NEBE HQ staff and officers, on Geographic Information System (GIS) and database management. Through the use of GIS, the database will be updated to include all the existing polling stations countrywide (PS, over 50 000). The objective is to identify the need for PS creation and reconfiguration, including the creation of PS for internally displaced persons (IDPs), with the aim of increasing voters' accessibility.
- **Assistance for the set-up of consultation with political parties, CSO and media;** This activity includes the development of an updated NEBE engagement plan with

stakeholders. Formal and informal stakeholders play a crucial role in the electoral process (CSOs, media, political parties, members of parliament, judiciary, security agencies etc.). The level of stakeholders' engagement should be regular but heightened when specific issues need to be addressed, or the period from one stage to another in the electoral cycle. This will ensure that communication, coordination and interactions are deepened. Regular meetings will also be organised following NEBE's electoral calendar, and the specific development in the unfolding of the elections. This activity will also reinforce the relationship between CECOE and NEBE to establish coalition under the PEV project.

More information on <http://democracy-support.eu/eurecs/>

The complementary project and extension of EURECS Ethiopia, called EURECS Plus, is implemented by ECES and funded by the Federal Republic of Germany via KfW, for a total amount of 3.920.000 EUR. In the framework of the Ethiopian elections in 2021, the project covers the period spanning from March 2021 to March 2022 and seeks to strengthen the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) to raise the profile of an independent, credible and effective institution that will deliver inclusive and democratic electoral processes in Ethiopia. More specifically, the action seeks to contribute to enhance the transparency, credibility and public confidence in the NEBE, as well as in the electoral process, recognising the high expectations on the 2021 elections as the starting point for a paradigm shift in the conduct of elections in the country also in the situation of a global pandemic.

Key Facts and Figures – EURECS Plus	
Period of Implementation:	March 2021 – March 2022
Budget:	3.920.000 EUR
Funding Provided by Federal Republic of Germany:	3.920.000 EUR
Key Beneficiary(ies):	National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE)
Key Services Provided:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for election day • Development and dissemination of a special guide on the use of PPE • Conduct of a media campaign on the mitigation measures against Covid-19 • Awareness campaign on acceptance of the election results • Mediation workshop with influent community members on the acceptance of election results • Operations and logistics support for the delivery of elections materials

EURECS-Plus is built around three interconnected result areas:

Transparency and accountability
Outcome 1

Increased strategic management capacity of NEBE in conducting transparent, accountable, gender-responsive and rights-based electoral processes amid a global health crisis

Electoral Results Acceptance
Outcome 2

Delivered sensitisation campaigns on results acceptance and on legal instruments for election complaints

Contribute to effective elections operations
Outcome 3

Delivered elections materials on time, contributing to the proper conduct of the elections

Example of activities:

- **Procurement of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for election day;** Following a request from the NEBE and considering the COVID 19 outbreak, ECES will support assistance in the procurement of Personal Protection Equipment to man covering around 55 000 polling stations and special polling stations (mobile, for students, military, pastoralist). This protection equipment consists of hand sanitizer and masks. These equipment types will reduce the risk of contracting the virus during polling and counting for the polling officials, voters, observers, political party agents, and observers. Following the guidance of the World health Organization (WHO) the procurement of PPE needs to be put in a larger context of fostering the participation of voters who could be afraid of exercising their Human rights of voting considering the risks of COVID 19. This equipment will have to be conditioned to fit the need of Polling station and constituency by the logistics officer and the procurement officer.
- **Awareness campaign on acceptance of the election results;** Considering the very tight electoral calendar released by NEBE, the dysfunctions and irregularities during the elections are high. This may cause some contestation of election results, leading to unrest and an escalation of election-related violence. In this context, the project will support the organization of an important media campaign aiming to enhance the understanding of the process related to the complaint of election results and its challenges, focusing on legal tools to resolve an electoral dispute.
- **Operations and logistics support for the delivery of elections materials;** Upon request of the NEBE, the project will provide logistic support to the EMB, especially with the delivery of electoral materials by air and other transportation means nationwide. Indeed, the Ethiopian military who were supposed to offer their fleet of vehicles for the distribution of

electoral material might not be able to provide this support for reasons of deployment for other military tasks in the country. Therefore, ECES was requested to support the logistics and operations of NEBE through planning of operations, rental of vehicles and air freight. This is a critical activity for the success of the elections that requires specific electoral operation expertise. Moreover, efficient, secured and timely electoral operations will guarantee the inclusiveness of the process by providing each polling station and therefore each voter with all essential and sensitive material. This technical operation will provide the electorate with the right to vote in every constituency of the country. Deploying the right electoral material (e.g. ballot papers, voter' lists) to the right polling station will allow each voter to cast her/his ballot on an equal basis around the country. These fundamental international standard and best practice implies a chain of specific procedures such as division of material, packaging and dispatching in the right locations. This activity is specific to elections as per the conditioning of the electoral material depends on specific procedures and follow the training plan and the training manual. Therefore an electoral logistics international will be hired to supervise these operations.

More information on <http://democracy-support.eu/pev/posts/eurecsplus>

Project of Preventing Election Violence & Education for Inclusion (PEV-EDI Nigeria)



Key Facts and Figures – PEV EDI	
Period of Implementation:	01 January 2019 – 30 June 2019
Budget:	337.830,00 EUR
Funding Provided by Federal Republic of Germany:	337.830,00 EUR
Key Beneficiary(ies):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women • Youth • People with Disabilities (PWD)
Key Services Provided:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round Table Dialogue for ECONEC Women and PWD • Leadership and Conflict Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders (LEAD) Training for Women, Youth and PWD • One National 3.000 People March Rally organised with the support of INEC, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and NGOs. • Establishment of the Inclusion Development Resources Centre to serve as a platform, where CSOs can conduct civil, educational and cultural events. • 3 Peace and Election Voter Education and Sensitisation Events in Adamawa, Yobe and Borno

PEV-EDI Nigeria was implemented from January 2019 to June 2019 thanks to the support of 337.830,00 EUR of the Federal Republic of Germany. The goal of the project was to contribute

to the successful conduct of the 2019 general election through, intensive voter education for violence prevention and mitigation, popular and inclusive participation in the electoral process. The project also played a role in preventing potential related crises.

More especially, the goal of PEV-EDI was to increase **the inclusion of Women, Youth, PWDs and IDPs in the electoral process** thereby contributing to the successful conduct of the 2019 election through violent prevention and mitigation, voter education and inclusive participation in the electoral process.

Specific objectives

- ✓ Strengthening the capacity of relevant stakeholders to advocate for the passage of appropriate legislation that will ensure inclusivity of the electoral process;
- ✓ Strengthening the capacity of the relevant stakeholders to engage the Independent National Electoral Commission, political parties and other stakeholders to formulate and implement relevant measures that will facilitate the participation of women, youth, PWDs and IDPs;
- ✓ Support relevant CSOs and stakeholders to carry out sensitisation of women, youth, PWDs and IDPs for effective participation in the electoral process in order to reduce the spate of apathy among the marginalised groups;
- ✓ Provide a platform for regional experience sharing on inclusivity of participation of women, youth, PWDs and IDPs in the electoral process particularly within the West Africa sub region and;
- ✓ Promote stakeholders understanding of inclusivity of the 2019 general elections

Output 1: Mainstream and Promote the inclusion of Women in electoral processes in Nigeria

The participation of women in elections in Nigeria has been severely strained by incidents of violence and a heavy presence of the military in some states, making them feel vulnerable as voters and candidates. The excessive financial investment required to run for political office was also frequently cited by women as a disincentive to participation. In addition, some female aspirants complained that even though they won the party primary, they were denied tickets to represent the party¹ on the grounds “they are not electable”.

In order to address these factors, in Nigeria and regionally, ECES organised a dialogue discussion on protocols for inclusion of Women and PWD as part of an International Symposium on the Promotion of Inclusivity in Electoral Process for the ECOWAS Network of Electoral Commissions (ECONEC).

Activity	City	Beneficiaries
ECONEC round table dialogue on protocols for inclusion in election and governance from the ECOWAS Region.	Abuja	35-50

Output 2: Capacity of Women, Youth and PWDs occupying political offices in Nigeria strengthened

One recurring challenge of Nigeria's electoral process is limited participation of women, young people and PWDs in the electoral process.

¹ <https://punchng.com/party-primaries-and-nigerian-womens-cry-for-justice/>

Women constitute about 47% of the voting population. Young people also constitute a significant portion; students alone are 24% of the voter register. The National Population Commission of Nigeria estimates there are at least 19 million people living with disabilities.



The project implemented a number of activities to strengthen the capacities of Women, Youth and PWDs:

Activity	City	Beneficiaries
Lead training in Governance and election for women, youths and PWD candidates (Elected or not)	Lagos	29
Support one national Rally- March for fully, positively, peacefully and massive turn out participation to the general elections with collaboration of INEC, CSOs and NGO's	Abuja / Nasarawa	+ 2.500
Lessons learned of 2019 Election about women, youths, PWDs and IDP participation in the electoral process (Audiovisual documentary produced and broadcast on inclusion)	Abuja, Lagos, Adamawa, Rivers, Kaduna,	NA
Equipment and implementation of Pilot "Inclusion Electoral Resources Centre "	Uke, Nasarawa State	NA
Strategic meeting on moving forward: Women participation in governance Gender and politics (Gender Bills)	Abuja	40

Output 3: Support to IDPs Inclusion in Electoral Processes

The inclusion of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the electoral process has become pertinent in view of the spate of violent conflicts in Nigeria over the years that have displaced a reasonable percentage of the population and of course, eligible voters. ECES supported INEC in organising outreach activities for this unique sets of voters aimed at enlightening them on the electoral conduct. These events took place in the 3 North- East States (Adamawa, Yobe, Borno) considered to be the worst hit from the insurgency.

In addition,

Activity	City	Beneficiaries
Peace and election voter education and sensitisation IDP camp	Adamawa/ Yola	1.000
Peace and election voter education and sensitisation IDP camps	Borno / Maidiguri	1.000
Peace and election voter education and sensitisation IDP camp	Yobe or Nasarawa	1.000
Sensitisation on preventing electoral violence / Follow up on the election of 23 rd February 2019	Rivers, Kaduna, Lagos, Abuja	NA



More information on <https://pev-edi.site/>

Project in Support to the Electoral Process in the Republic of Senegal (PAPE Senegal)



Key Facts and Figures – PAPE Senegal	
Period of Implementation:	15 January 2017 – 31 December 2020
Budget:	2.555.956,69 EUR
Funding Provided by Federal Republic of Germany:	2.555.956,69 EUR
Key Beneficiary(ies):	General Direction of Elections (DGE)
Key Services Provided:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DGE Institutional Communication Support Outreach, Awareness and Education Campaigns Political Dialogue as an instrument for conflict prevention

PAPE Senegal funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, is built on the request that the General Direction of Elections (DGE) addressed to ECES in June 2016 to provide support to the implementation of electoral reforms adopted through the referendum of March 2016. The project is designed to align to the different needs expressed by the DGE and to support this institution in the implementation of its missions and in the organisation of the different elections covering the entire electoral cycle starting with the 2017 legislative elections, the 2019 presidential election and the upcoming local elections for a budget of 2.555.956,69 EUR.

The project aims to **contribute to the inclusivity of the electoral process** by supporting the responsible and proactive participation of all electoral stakeholders and by supporting implementation of constitutional reforms adopted through the latest constitutional referendum.

Implementation strategy

ECES' suggestive approach to strengthen democracy in Senegal revolves around supporting key stakeholders and build bridges amongst them, capitalising on efforts and progress already made. Democracy strengthening are essentially multi-stakeholder endeavors based on the logic that interwoven and coordinated efforts are more impactful and resilient than the sum of separate efforts.

In order to weld together a coordinated and mutually reinforcing response, three main components are identified as the actions core pillars:

- 1) Institutional Communication and media monitoring
- 2) Voter awareness and education campaigns
- 3) Political Dialogue as an Instrument for Conflict Prevention

Example of activities implemented and achievements;

Enhancing DGE's institutional communication

The DGE expressed the need to reinforce its institutional communication in order to develop relevant and adapted awareness raising campaigns about the electoral process with a specific attention on the overhaul of the electoral list, the merger of the identity card and the voter and other reforms the electoral law. Indeed, to confirm the transparency and the credibility of the Senegalese electoral administration and of the overall electoral process vis à vis of external actors, it deems relevant to set up a communication plan that aims to inform electoral stakeholders about the new electoral provisions. This action contributes to improve the transparency of the electoral process and the accountability of election authorities.

The institutional communication channels used so far have been:

- Advertising space;
- Providing support to the DGE in the organisation of meetings with DGE's partners to present new institutional approaches and strategies; events related to key steps of the electoral process such as the distribution of voter/ID cards etc.)
- Media (newspapers, radio, newsletters, websites
- Social networks and DGE website.

Under this cluster

- A total of 20 newsletters have been produced since the first edition of March 2017.
- The DGE website is regularly updated through an interface accessible by the personnel of IT department of the DGE.
- To enhance DGE external communication and the dissemination of messages to internet users, PAPES advised the electoral administration to create a dedicated Facebook page.
- Since the beginning of the project, PAPES supported DGE in the production of a daily press digest for an internal use covering a representative sample of the media landscape.
- PAPES project supported DGE in digitising relevant material related to elections, such as legal documents, election results, guidelines and various other documents.



Direction Generale des Elections Senegal
Published by Adina Borcan · January 26 ·

ELECTION PRÉSIDENTIELLE DU 24 FÉVRIER 2019 - CARTE ÉLECTORALE (Liste des bureaux de vote pour le territoire national et pour l'extérieur du pays) sur le site de la DGE <http://www.dge.sn/>
.../de.../files/2019-01/CARTE_ELECTORALE01.pdf
#DGESenegal #Senegalvote

Like Page

4,061 People Reached

145 Reactions, Comments & Shares

102 Like 7 On Post 95 On Shares

2 Love 0 On Post 2 On Shares

11 Comments 1 On Post 10 On Shares

30 Shares 30 On Post 0 On Shares

181 Post Clicks

0 Photo Views 80 Link Clicks 101 Other Clicks

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

1 Hide Post 0 Hide All Posts

Direction Generale des Elections Senegal

MINISTRE DE L'INTERIEUR

Election présidentielle du 24 février 2019

ARRÊTÉ N°001228 du 23 janvier 2019

Implantation des bureaux de vote

REGION : DAKAR	DEPARTEMENT : DAKAR	COMMUNE : MERNOZ SACRE COEUR	LIEU DE VOTE	N°	Electeurs	Implantation
			CASE DES TOUT PETITS V.D.N.	01	591	CLASSE GRANDE SECTION
			CASE DES TOUT PETITS V.D.N.	02	592	CLASSE MOYENNE SECTION
			CASE DES TOUT PETITS V.D.N.	03	543	SALLE DE CLASSE
			ECOLE LIBERTE 5	01	561	CLASSE CM2 C
			ECOLE LIBERTE 5	02	561	CLASSE CM1 B
			ECOLE LIBERTE 5	03	563	CLASSE CP A

DGE.SN
www.dge.sn

- The support included organised digital library with catalogues, folders, subfolders and chapters as well the creation of an online access for consultation through a dedicated Dropbox account professional version.

The “Green Line”; the Project supports the operation of the Call Centre, put in place during the 2017 legislative process and consolidated for the 2019 presidential election and the upcoming local elections.

The DGE call centre receives calls and provide citizens with information regarding their voter card and including where to retrieve it.

Month	Number of calls
January	10900
February	13942
March	6458
April	7258
May	7627
June	8015
July	10287
August	7653
September	8255
October	9195
November	9234
December	8157
Total: 106 981	

The DGE call centre has the primary task of providing assistance to voters with regard to voters' cards withdraw and it plays a crucial role during:

- the pre-electoral phase by providing information on the voter card distribution such as localisation of distribution centres
- E-day by providing information on the localisation polling stations
- the post-electoral phase providing information on the localisation of distribution centres

DGE call centre facilitates citizens withdrawn of voters' cards by providing accurate information, so to prevent frustrations deriving from repeated or unnecessary trips.

OUTREACH, AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS

Production of audio-visual, communication, awareness raising and mobilisation tools tailored to different target audiences

Production of songs, commercials, radio programmes, involving artists, theatre and sports groups that target different audiences such as young people, elderly, urban and rural populations, women, illiterates, marginalised and disadvantaged groups etc.

Audio-visual messages have been developed for broadcast in the form of radio spots (by working in partnership with the Union of Associative and Communitarian Radios of Senegal (URAC), as well as SMS for the mobilisation of the population.

Since the beginning of project 3 rounds of radio broadcasting have been organised in prevision of 3 main electoral events:

- Legislative elections 2017: Some 500 hundred radio broadcast passed through across 14 regions
- Presidential Elections 2019: 679 radio spots to raise awareness about the sponsorship system in October 2018 and 690 spots in December 2018 on the removal of the electoral map.
- Local Elections: as the local elections have been postponed, a campaign has been organised on the importance of the ID card as a necessary document to get the voter card. In the run to the local elections it is foreseen to produce spots to raise voter awareness on the voting procedures.

Organisation of Voter awareness Campaigns



as well as about the modalities for requesting corrections and, where necessary, for submitting a complaint to the relevant authority.

Prior to each deployment, the project organised a workshop with the supervisors of all 14 teams, the DGE and the project staff aiming at preparing the upcoming awareness raising campaigns that would support the distribution of voters' cards and the call for massive participation to the elections. In this sense, the project also reinforced the capacity and knowledge of supervisors and their respective teams

In the framework of the PAPES Project teams were deployed across the country to ensure the dissemination of important information regarding the possibility for individuals to verify their voter registration information,

In the framework of the PAPES project, 3 rounds of caravans have been carried out around the country to disseminate information in prevision of the 3 elections:

- Legislative Elections 2017
- Presidential Elections 2019
- Local Elections 2020: campaign on ID cards and upcoming campaign around voting procedures

The 14 regional teams visited urban and rural areas with the specific mission to encourage voters registered to check the correctness of the data on the provisional voters list available at the level of municipalities and to encourage new voter to register to the voter list

**Presidential
elections 2019**
The turnout (66.23%)
increased compared
to 51.58% in 2012

**Legislative
elections 2017**
had an officially
announced turnout of
nearly 54%,
compared to the
2012 presidential
election (51,58%)

Stickers, T-shirts, caps, banners and gadgets are printed for the caravans.



POLITICAL DIALOGUE AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION

In order to establish and maintain a consensus between electoral stakeholders, the PAPES project supported activities in accordance with the DGE' s wish to enhance political dialogue.

With regards to Senegalese politics, the approach of political dialogue is part of the democratic tradition of the country. Despite being sometimes marked by dysfunctions and disagreements; the democratic process is characterised by peaceful political transitions. This specific approach has become a constant feature of political life, especially during electoral periods.

Three actions considered as conflict prevention tools were planned by the project in support of political dialogue. They included:

- 1) Carrying out an external audit of the voters list;
 - 2) Supporting the committee in charge of the follow-up of the recommendations of the audit and monitoring of electoral operations
 - 3) supporting the revision of the electoral code.
- At the conclusion of the Audit: 39 recommendations were formulated;
 - The PAPES project supported the follow-up committee set up by ministerial decree,
 - The PAPES project provided support to the revision of the electoral code by bearing the costs related to meetings.

After re-election, the President of the Republic called for a national dialogue, focusing on all fields of society, as a necessary step to rebuild confidence between the different parties. At present a Commission has been established to review political areas, with its major focus on the evaluation of the electoral process. The opposition parties, except the party of the former president Wade, the PDS, have accepted to participate in this political dialogue. Since April 2019, Terms of References and a Code of Conduct have been elaborated.

Project in Support of the of the Credibility and Transparency of Elections in Burkina-Faso (PACTE-BF)



Key Facts and Figures – PACTE BF	
Period of Implementation:	04 February 2015 – 04 August 2016
Budget:	7.280.000,00 EUR
Funding Provided by Federal Republic of Germany:	500.000,00 EUR
Key Beneficiary(ies):	Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI)
Key Services Provided:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenders and award of public contracts for procurement of electoral material • Communication and Media monitoring activities • Training for electoral stakeholders (customisation of LEAD's curriculum, training tools development, LEAD Training of Trainers, LEAD Cascade training in 13 regions of the country) • Electoral results management support • Support the organisation of local elections (municipal elections) • Legal support to the CENI

PACTE-BF was implemented between February 2015 and August 2016, thanks to the support of the European Commission, but also Germany, France, Luxembourg, Austria, Denmark and Canada.



KEY FIGURES

Polling Station Material:

28 000 ballot boxes
28 000 ballot box lids
154 560 hard cover paper folders for the presidential election
77 280 hard cover paper folders for the legislative elections
30 912 cardboard boxes (for transport) for the presidential election
15 456 cardboard boxes (for transport) for the legislative elections
26 600 lamps with batteries
20 420 electoral vests (produced in Burkina Faso)

Material for Communal Centre for Results Compilation (CCCR):

383 generators
383 laser printers
383 scanners
383 voltage stabilisers
383 inverters
4 FTP servers
50 8-port switches
383 electrical current and overload protection devices
1 487 toners

Sensitive Material :

480 000 seals

The project of **7.280.000,00 EUR**, implemented by ECES, was designed to align to the different needs expressed by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) and to support the CENI in the implementation of its mission and in the organisation of Presidential and Legislative elections of 2015 and municipal elections in 2016. Thus, in a context of elections marking the end of a transitional period, with past elections characterised by low turnouts, ECES, through the PACTE-BF project, paid particular attention to activities aimed at enhancing the transparency of the electoral process, increasing participation and avoiding potential election-related conflict.

During the course of the project, activities were geared towards **strengthening the capacities of the CENI**. Indeed, the project especially provided technical and operational support to the CENI and its local branches in the planning, organising and conducting of credible, transparent and peaceful elections.

Example of activities implemented and Achievements

- Tenders and award of public contracts for procurement of electoral material**

One of the main activities of this project was the procurement of electoral material. Indeed, the effective organisation of tenders by ECES with the adoption of broader technical specifications, allowed for a large competition space resulting in the submission of competitive offers that produced significant savings (35% of the initial budget, or an equivalent sum of 957.901 EUR) especially concerning the supply of ballot boxes, security seals, secured envelopes, boxes for the transport, ling cardboards, lamps, etc. The savings allowed to broaden the financial support to additional activities of CENI in agreement with PACTE-BF donors.

- Communication and Media Monitoring**

The Project also provided the CENI with original and innovative expertise in institutional communication. Indeed, in order to better respond to voters' interests and needs, the CENI's institutional communication was guided by the findings of the Media Monitoring Unit (MMU) that analysed media coverage of the CENI and the electoral process as a whole, identifying flawed perception regarding CENI's work. From this, different initiatives were undertaken including the creation of the CENI's Facebook page and Twitter account in order to reach out the population. Thanks to this, internet users were able to follow the CENI's work, through photographs, summaries or events and filmed interviews. This approach enabled the CENI to address topical issues in an informal and accessible way.



- **LEAD training**

The training programme in Leadership and Conflict Management Skills for Electoral Stakeholders (LEAD) is part of ECES' strategy to strengthen the credibility of electoral processes through the professionalisation of key actors. This strategy is based on the assumption that trained electoral stakeholders will put LEAD principles into practice, thus contributing to prevent electoral conflicts. This training programme equips participants with the necessary tools to better understand and manage the challenges, uncertainties, complexities and ambiguities that are inherent to electoral processes. Better understanding invariably facilitates decision-making, thereby contributing to develop rapid and appropriate responses.

**LEAD IN BURKINA FASO:
SOME FIGURES**

15 trainings and 1 training of
trainers in 13 regions
460 persons trained
33 Certified LEAD Facilitators

3 Certifying LEAD Facilitators

Sustainable impact is one of the LEAD training programme's objectives. The programme promotes local appropriateness through the implementation of a three-tier training and certification process. Ultimately, the full LEAD training programme aims to foster a national pool of facilitators, strengthening the beneficiary's ownership of the programme. Every step in the certification process is supervised by Certifying LEAD Facilitators in order to ensure the quality of training while enhancing the ownership of contents by new LEAD facilitators.

- After attending a Training of Trainers session, the participant becomes semi-accredited which means that he's entitled to contribute to the implementation of LEAD training under the supervision of a senior LEAD trainer who ensures the quality of the course.



- The semi-accredited trainer becomes fully accredited after having contributed to the implementation of a LEAD training under the supervision of an accredited/accrediting trainer.

- The accredited trainer becomes accrediting (able to accredit new participants and to supervise semi-accredited trainers) after having contributed to the implementation of 3 LEAD training and one LEAD Training of Trainers session.

- **ECES, enhancing transparency together with INEC and civil society**

A certain level of antagonism might appear between Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) and civil society organisations engaging in citizen electoral observation, often the result of a lack of understanding of each other's specific roles. However, both key stakeholders contribute, in their own manner, to the credibility of elections. ECES has always been committed to support those who contribute to the transparency of electoral processes. For ECES, civil society organisations engaged in national electoral observation are crucial stakeholders within the electoral cycle. In this context, capacity building activities for the benefit of national electoral observation platforms is an integral part of ECES' electoral support strategy. In Burkina Faso, CODEL (Convention of Civil Society Organisations for Domestic Observation of the Elections) decided to carry out a Parallel Vote Tabulation – PVT to provide independent verification of official election results. PVTs are extremely sensitive technical exercises, which if done inaccurately, can undermine the electoral process. The CENI requested that ECES provides CODEL with specific expertise to strengthen the credibility of this instrument of citizen election observation. This initiative marked the starting point of a fruitful collaboration between the CENI and Burkinabe civil society. By providing critical technical and operational support for the implementation of the PVT and the Electoral Situation Room (ESR), an information sharing platform for civil society groups working in election observation, ECES demonstrated its support to civil society efforts aimed at facilitating the acceptance of election results and contributing to a peaceful political landscape.



This technical and operational support materialised into different activities, as follows:

- 1) ECES supported CODEL providing a PVT expert. In partnership with OneWorld, the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and Diakonia, the ECES PVT expert assisted CODEL in the development of an effective and credible system.
- 2) ECES organised and supported an exchange visit to Dakar by a delegation of CODEL members, the CENI Vice-President, the CENI Director of Communications and representatives of Diakonia, CODEL's technical partners. This mission provided the occasion to hold a roundtable between representatives of Senegalese and Burkinabe civil

societies together with high-ranking members of the Senegalese and Burkinabe EMBs in order to share insights from the Senegalese experience. The roundtable took place at the offices of OSIWA, a partner of ECES.



- 3) In this manner, ECES contributed to building bridges between CODEL and the INEC to strengthen the collaboration between these crucial actors of the electoral process.
- 4) ECES experts provided regular and crucial support to CODEL in the development of their communication strategy and their electoral observation methodology.
- 5) With the aim of further promoting experience-sharing and strengthening CODEL's capacity to implement the Electoral Situation Room in Burkina, ECES supported the deployment from Dakar of two OSIWA partners. These two experts followed CODEL's work during the immediate pre-election phase. They provided valuable advice and support to CODEL's decision-makers as well as in the development of an election day and post-election day communication strategies.

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