



European Commission  
United Nations Development Programme  
Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# GPECS II



## Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support II



GLOBAL COMPONENT



June 2015

## EC-UNDP Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance an integral Element of the Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support

Democracy is the political system that – through proper mechanisms – allows people to enjoy their civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights. The EU and UNDP share a common vision towards the virtues of democratic governance and elections. Both institutions recognize the value electoral assistance holds in supporting the long-term improvement in a nation's democratic development. The EU is a committed and leading actor in the support of democratization, credible, transparent and inclusive elections, the functioning of institutions, media freedom and protection of minorities, the rule of law and judicial systems in partner countries. UNDP has assisted countries to maintain or secure peaceful and democratic governance, when faced with large-scale political changes or when confronting specific challenges such as reforming constitutions, organizing credible elections or strengthening parliaments. As such, the European Union and the United Nations are natural partners. They are united by the core values laid out in the 1945 Charter of the United Nations, and the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Member states and the Commission are the largest contributors to the UN system.

In 2006, the European Commission (EC) and UNDP strengthened and formalized their de facto partnership in the field of international electoral assistance that had been in place on the ground with the signature of the "Operational Guidelines on the Implementation of Electoral Assistance Projects and Programmes" (thereafter "guidelines"). The revised guidelines (2008) formalized the EC-UNDP Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance (JTF). The focus of the JTF is to

identify, formulate, implement, support and monitor all of the EC-UNDP electoral assistance projects. The lessons learned are consolidated and codified so that they can effectively feed into the implementation of the new electoral assistance projects and into the joint EC-UNDP trainings on "Effective Electoral Assistance". The JTF is coordinated by the UN/UNDP Brussels Office and is composed of the relevant EC and UNDP staff and advisors dealing with electoral assistance at HQ level.

Electoral assistance projects constitute the largest area of EC-UNDP programmatic cooperation on the ground. Since 1995, UNDP and the EC have partnered on over 150 electoral assistance projects worth over a billion dollars.

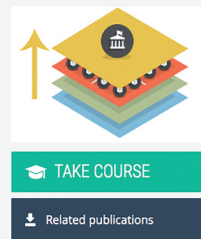
Due to the importance of the EC-UNDP partnership, UNDP contributions to the JTF have been provided through the Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS), UNDP's main tool for electoral assistance. Accordingly, the JTF has contributed to GPECS' efforts in formulating and implementing electoral policy at global, regional, and country levels. Moreover, the JTF provides one of the avenues through which UNDP actively participates in donor fora, whereby it works to simplify and harmonize the delivery of electoral assistance worldwide.

### Partnership Support

As partners in electoral assistance, working together in numerous countries across the globe, the EC-UNDP JTF is mandated to ensure that both institutions achieve their common objectives by supporting the successful

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## Available Courses



### COURSE ON ELECTORAL RESULTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

This e-learning offers a description of the main options of Result Management Systems (RMS). The various E-learning modules aim to shed some light on the various models of results management systems currently in use, highlighting advantages and disadvantages of each. The e-learning is geared towards election administrators, practitioners and stakeholders. The purpose is to increase the understanding of the different models and sub-models of results management systems and facilitate the selection of the most appropriate RMS option specific to the country context and also the one most likely to be accepted by stakeholders on the ground.

Available in: English, العربية

implementation of EU funded projects. This is managed by providing intense support throughout the entire project cycle – from project design, over reporting to implementation and evaluation. The JTF works closely with the UNDP country offices to foster their understanding of the EC-UNDP relationship and their capacities of providing effective and sustainable electoral assistance. Further, the JTF directly advises electoral assistance projects in order to support them in achieving their goal of successful elections and democratic governance.

## Monitoring and Troubleshooting

The JTF monitors the conduct of projects where the EU and UNDP are partners. Where issues emerge in the implementation of a project, the JTF is called upon to help solve them providing swift interventions guided by our common frameworks. This troubleshooting may be to support the management of the project or to help with providing electoral assistance to the electoral management bodies.

## Annual EC-UNDP JTF Global Electoral Workshop

Each year the JTF conducts electoral events built around the accumulated knowledge and best practices from the EC and UNDP experiences in delivering electoral assistance. These events focus on key current thematic issues within the field of elections, helping participants prepare for the challenges ahead.

The last events, conducted in Jordan (2014) and Mozambique (2013) have been attended by over 200 participants and dozens of EMB national delegations from all over the world. The target audience and beneficiaries of the trainings are:

- Representatives and officials of electoral management bodies in partner countries;
- EU Delegation and UNDP staff working on electoral assistance in the field;
- Staff from EU national bilateral development agencies (e.g. DFID);
- Electoral experts and practitioners; and
- International organizations.

The experience acquired through these initiatives are an achievement by itself, but they also reflect the EC's and UNDP's strategic interest and political will to continuously invest in and reach out to further partners and stakeholders. The latest editions of the global trainings have been followed by summary reports of the proceedings and online courses with free access.

## E-Learnings on Electoral Administration

The JTF has designed and conducted a number of e-learning courses, established to promote the community of practice on key issues. These are available online in various languages and free of charge (<http://elearning.ec-undp-electoralassistance.org/>). So far over 3000 people have completed the courses and the interest remains strong. The following courses are currently offered by the JTF:

- Electoral results management systems
- Sustainability in electoral administration
- EU and UNDP working together in electoral assistance
- ICT and elections management
- Effective electoral assistance
- Interactive summary report on reinforcing credibility and acceptance of electoral processes

## Trainings

The JTF organizes trainings for EU and UNDP staff to support their ability to formulate and implement electoral assistance projects in line with effective electoral assistance approaches. The trainings are in line with the policy framework which governs both EU and UN involvement in elections and the electoral cycle approach.

## Publications

The JTF produces knowledge management tools which seek to promote good practice and target practical issues that electoral stakeholders are tackling. So far, it has delivered 8 publications and reports, translated in a host of languages including Arabic, English, French and Portuguese. The most recent publication, on Results Management Systems, is part of a series of tools designed to help practitioners deal with their most important challenges.

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