



Title	Support to Election Administration
Document Language	English
Responsible Unit	Governance Team
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Conforms to	Note of Guidance on Electoral Assistance UNDP and UNDPA
Related documents	UNDPA Electoral Assistance Division (EAD) Needs Assessment Mission Report, UNDP User Guide, UNDP's Programmes and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), UNDP National Implementation Guidelines
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PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Title	Support to Election Administration
UNDAF Outcome:	Strengthened governance for protection of human rights and reduction of disparities
Expected CP Outcome(s): (linked to the project and extracted from the CPAP)	Electoral systems and processes improved for fair outcome and enhanced representation of underrepresented groups
Expected Output(s): (resulting from the project and extracted from the CPAP)	Capacity of the GEC developed in preparation for the upcoming parliamentary elections of 2012 leading to enhanced credibility of the electoral process. Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional development training provided to electoral officials - Voter education and information programmes developed and implemented - Improved ability of the to prevent and resolve electoral disputes
Implementing Partner:	General Election Commission
Responsible Parties:	

Brief Description

The project is an integral part of the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) signed between the Government of Mongolia and UNDP in January 2012, whereby the Government requested UNDP to provide electoral assistance in Mongolia. As part of the GEC's long term, systematic voter education programmes, this project aims to respond to the GEC's immediate need to provide efficient and effective voter education and information campaign on the new electoral system and methods for casting of votes before the June 2012 elections and the resolution of electoral disputes, thus to assist the GEC in its tasks of delivering a credible and cost-effective election. The activities planned under this project will be delivered in the months leading to the June 2012 parliamentary elections.

Programme Period:	2012-2016	Total resources required	USD 158,000
Key Result Area (Strategic Plan):	Fostering Democratic Governance	Total allocated resources:	_____
Atlas Award ID:	_____	• UNDP TRAC	USD 108,000
Start date:	15 March 2012	• Other:	
End Date:	30 Sep 2012	○ Donor	_____
LPAC Meeting Date:	09 March 2012	○ Government	_____
Management Arrangements:	NIM	Government In-kind Contributions	
		Unfunded	50,000

Agreed by:

Luvsanjav Namsrajav, Chairman, General Election Commission

13 March 2012

Sezin Sinanoglu, UNDP Resident Representative

13 March 2012

I. Situation analysis

The Law on Parliamentary Elections approved by parliament in December 2011 introduced several substantial changes both in electoral system and in ways how elections are conducted: i) the electoral system was changed from a plurality system to a mixed system (out of 76 seats 48 will be elected from local districts and 28 will be elected from a national list); ii) a 20 percent quota for women candidates was introduced; iii) for the first time, automated voting and vote counting machines will be used; iv) for the first time, Mongolians living overseas will be able to vote; v) unlike previous elections, civil servants, and not political party nominees will be appointed to work as electoral committee and polling officers. In addition, for the first time, the voters will use a smart ID card to register as voters, and voter registration is now the responsibility of the National Registration Authority, rather than the General Election Commission's (GEC)¹. Another innovation is that special voting booths will be prepared at polling stations for people with disabilities.

With parliamentary elections due in June 2012, these measures are expected to address some of the challenges during the previous elections such as the quality of the voter register, lengthy counting process, results credibility, and women's political participation. However, with such a short timeframe this proposes immense challenges to the training and education of elections officials and voters alike to ensure that all stakeholders view the electoral process as free, fair and legitimate. It is conceivable that without a large voter education campaign there will be confusion amongst voters resulting in disputed results.

At the request of the UNDP Country Office, a needs assessment mission (NAM) was fielded by the Electoral Assistance Division (EAD) of the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in November 2011. Upon assessing the needs, feasibility and risks of continued UN electoral assistance, the UN Focal Point for Electoral Assistance identified parameters of UN electoral assistance to be provided in 2012-2016 as; i) support to the electoral reform process; ii) strengthening electoral dispute resolution; iii) enhancing women's political participation; iv) voter education; (V) possible donor coordination. A comprehensive programme will be developed later outlining strategies and outputs of UNDP's assistance in this area.

II. Project Strategy

The primary objective of the project is to develop the capacity of the GEC in preparation for the upcoming parliamentary elections of 2012 leading to enhanced credibility of the electoral process. Hence it responds to the immediate needs of GEC in the administration of the parliamentary elections, focusing on the following:

Building the capacity of electoral officials

As there have been some important legal and operational changes to the way election are run in Mongolia there will be two key areas that will require extra attention in 2012. The first area is

¹ The GEC is the election management body of Mongolia. In the 45 days before and in the weeks after an SGH election the GEC is responsible for: (i) preparing a final voters roll; (ii) preparing a final list of nominated candidates; (iii) preparing for and conducting polling and counting leading to a final list of elected representatives. Throughout the electoral process the GEC is responsible for boundary delimitation, voter education, working with national security institutions, electoral dispute resolution (appeals and challenges to provisional voters roll, candidate list, and elected representatives list), and generic administrative, logistical and financial duties related to each of the tasks.

the training of polling officials in the use and technical backstopping of the electronic voting and counting machines. The second is the training of a completely new set of officials in their responsibilities, with civil servants now required to act as polling and electoral officials, replacing the previously selected political party members who conducted these tasks. While electronic voting and counting machines are designed to increase trust in the electoral process and reduce the potential for fraud, if they are not understood or used properly they can have the opposite effect.

Voter Education

Voter education is aimed at potential voters and is an important element in developing an environment within which free and fair elections can take place. It is particularly important in Mongolia in the context of the 2012 elections as there is a more complex mixed-electoral system and information and communication technologies (ICT) will be used for the first time. There is an increased potential for informal votes – ballot papers which are incorrectly completed or not filled, therefore not counted towards any candidate. It has direct relevance to undermining the legitimacy of an election result if the informal rate is too high, and also can spark electoral disputes on polling day and in the immediate post-election period. In a strongly contested political environment it is important that all voters have the information to be able to cast their vote to avoid in electoral disputes and to minimize the risk of escalation of those disputes.

Electoral Dispute Resolution

The timely resolution of electoral disputes is key to any successful electoral event. Where people are able to articulate their concerns and have their grievances heard, it reduces the risk that their grievances will be voiced and acted on outside of the official system. The relevant authorities, including the GEC officials, the administrative court, the constitutional court need to have the capacity to handle complaints in a transparent and timely matter. The project will assist the GEC in public information campaigns that educate voters on their avenues of recourse and training of relevant officials on dispute resolution techniques.

In order to achieve the objective, the project plans to implement the following activities under three outputs:

Output 1. Professional development training provided to electoral officials

- Develop guidance booklet for electoral committee members and polling officers, including general civic education content, such as the role, rights and responsibilities of voters within a democracy, gender equality in political participation, importance of impartiality and independence of electoral committee members and polling officers,
- Provide manuals with detailed dot point guidance on voting station procedures and processes, including the use of electronic voting and counting machines;
- Upload the guidance booklet and other relevant materials onto the GEC website for easy access;
- Conduct an analysis of the new legal framework for electoral dispute resolution and identify needs for capacity building and coordination support;
- Training of polling officials on resolution of electoral disputes;
- Efficient delivery of the training for electoral officials, including training of trainers, on their duties and use of new technologies;
- Produce posters and booklets which show roles and responsibilities of electoral committee members and polling officers to be displayed at polling stations.

Output 2. Voter education and information programmes developed and implemented

- Assist the GEC in developing a voter education strategy
- Prepare key messages to be delivered to voters and design appropriate means to deliver them, including through print media, leaflets/posters, radio/TV ads, and others;
- Take a particular attention to reaching out to first time voters, voters with disabilities, voters living in remote areas and overseas;
- Deliver civic education media campaign that promotes the participation of women in the electoral process

Output 3. Improve the GECs ability to prevent and resolve electoral disputes

- Study different methodologies on electoral security for development of a risk management plan for the coming elections;
- Conduct an independent assessment of the lessons learned from the 2012 elections.

III. Results & Resources Framework and Annual Work Plan for 2012

Intended Outcome as stated in the Country Program Document: Strengthened governance for protection of human rights and reduction of disparities						
Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Program Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets - Electoral systems and processes improved for fair outcome and enhanced representation of underrepresented groups. Indicator: Availability of revised voter education programme. Baseline: Voter education programme is partially implemented; needs emphasis on women's empowerment. Target: Voter education programme adopted with a specific component on gender equality in political representation						
Partnership Strategy: Civil society organizations, other donors, local hurals and local governments, media						
Project title and ID (ATLAS Project ID): Support to Electoral Administration ID: 81607						
Intended Outputs	Indicative Activities	Q	Responsible parties	Description	Account	Budget
Output 1. Professional development training provided to electoral officials <i>Indicator:</i> Number of polling stations with staff trained on new electoral management technology <i>Baseline:</i> Currently no one is trained <i>Target:</i> 100% of all staff in all polling stations	1.1. Develop and produce an guidance booklet for electoral committee members and polling officers; - Develop guidance booklet for electoral committee members and polling officers; - Disseminate the booklet for electoral committee members and polling officers;	2	GEC, National consultant	<i>Printing</i>		
	1.2. Design and implement training, including training of trainers; - Design training toolkit, including training of trainers; - Implement training, including training of trainers;	2	GEC, National consultant	<i>Training</i>		
	1.3 Conduct an analysis of the new legal framework for electoral dispute resolution and train electoral committee members and polling officers;	2	GEC	<i>Consultancy Training</i>		
	Subtotal:					
Output 2. Voter education and information programmes developed and implemented <i>Indicator:</i> Percentage of the public that understand how to vote <i>Baseline:</i> Informality rate from 2008 <i>Target:</i> No significant difference in	2.1. Prepare key messages to be delivered to voters and design appropriate means to deliver them, including through print media, leaflets/posters, radio/TV ads, and others; - Agree on overall design and plan of voter education campaign; - Develop key messages and agree on means of delivery; - Sub-contract media organizations;	2	GEC, UNDP project team, National consultant	Procurement		

informality rate from 2008 - 2012	2.2. Reach out to first time voters, voters with disabilities, voters living in remote areas and overseas; - Design and disseminate short TV promotions and posters for young voters, voters with disabilities, voters overseas	2	GEC, UNDP project team, National consultant	Procurement		
	Subtotal:					
Output 3. Improve the GECs ability to prevent and resolve electoral disputes <i>Indicator:</i> Percentage of the public that has confidence in the GEC to administer free and fair elections <i>Baseline:</i> Percentage of public that currently has confidence in the GEC to administer election <i>Target:</i> An increase of 15% on baseline date in the public's confidence in the GEC after the elections	3.1. Study different methodologies on electoral security	2-3	GEC, UNDP project team, National consultant	Procurement		
	3.2.Undertake an independent study of the lessons learned from the 2012 parliamentary elections and disseminate the findings	3		International Consultant		
	Sub-total:					
Administrative costs	Project staff	2-3	Administratio n			
	Miscellaneous	2-3	Administratio n			
	ISS3%					
	Subtotal:					
TOTAL						158,100

