

 Mozambique

United Nations Development Programme

And

STAE – Secretariado Tecnico de Administracao Eleitoral

Project Title: Support to the Electoral Process through Improved Electoral Civic Responsibility at Decentralized Level

**Annual Report**

Date of Report

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**Contents**

**Acronyms**

* CNE – Comissao Nacional de Eleicoes (National Election Commission)
* STAE – Secretariado Tecnico de Administracao Eleitoral (Technical Secretariat of Electoral Administration)
* MINED – Ministry of Education
* ANARA – Associacao Nacional da Rapariga
* APOSEMO – Associacao dos Aposentados de Mocambique

**Executive Summary**

The project aims to streamline the electoral administration process as a strategy for improving democratic governance in the country. Previously, development partners have provided support to the country to enhance efficiency in the electoral management in the form of technical assistance. It is, however, becoming increasingly important to complement these efforts with an intensification of capacity development in all the arms that work on electoral process through boosting of the requisite skills and knowledge to tackle, with a high degree of professionalism, emerging issues related to effective elections and to mitigate any factors that may lead to violation of the rights of the citizens to participate in the elections. STAE, at all levels, will work in partnership with CSOs, Government administration and Faith-based organizations to promote electoral civic education actions.

In addition, the project will put a special focus on women and population at decentralized level for civic education initiatives. In the study conducted by the UNDP-supported project, it was pointed out that women and rural populations would have to be reached out more extensively, and that the effective modalities of civic education would be through civic educators and local radios to reach these vulnerable groups.

In order to increase the understanding of the concept of civic responsibility in elections, a partnership will be formed with the Ministry of Education to explicitly integrate civic education in school curricula at secondary school level to raise awareness on voting rights at pre-electoral age

**Situational Background**

The electoral civic education aims to enlighten citizens about the electoral operations, in accordance with the Electoral legislation and international standards. The electoral civic education activities aim to inform and educate voters with the very specific objective of mobilizing, with a view to its active and conscious participation in the electoral process.

Many problems that blight the elections, derived mainly from a lack of knowledge by the voters of the laws governing the process, as well as a high deficit on electoral civic education.

In Mozambique, civic education used to be doneon the eve of voting and voter registration process. The campaigns are only not comprehensive, but also sin by being made ​​only for fulfilling the election calendar. The process of voter education should be an ongoing process that involves not only the electoral authorities, but also to all the forces of civil society. The Government has its responsibilities, the electoral bodies too, but churches, schools and many other sectors of society may well do their part.

After the first general elections of 1994, characterized by massive participation (87%) of registered voters, abstention in general elections has continued to increase. The 1999 elections saw a 33% abstention and the 2004 elections gave rise to an avoidance of over 60%. The abstention rate was also higher in local elections (24% in 2003, 46% in 2008, 18% to 28% in the last by- elections). The participation of citizens in elections gives us one of the main indicators of the degree of importance and relevance to those granted to the political system and to vote, and the large number of people who have not exercised their right to vote casts some doubt on the extent and meaning of democratic reforms.

**Notable Achievements in 2012**

**Q2**

 **Activity 1.2**

* 25 CNE/STAE members were trained on election management and the new electoral legislation
* 429 electoral civic education agents for 9 new municipalities were skilled on best practices of electoral civic education
* 215 voter registration officials for 9 new municipalities were trained on election administration, new electoral legislation, maintenance and use of VR new equipment.

**Activity 2.1**

* Company PIXEL recruited through public tender for the design and layout of all voter registration materials

**Activity 2.2**

* 30 people (26 women and 4 men) from Manica, Messica and Machipanda (District of Manica – Manica Province) have been skilled on best practices of electoral civic education and issued with certificate of completion.
* 20 (15 men and 5 women) Community leaders, Civic education focal points and STAE staff from Moatize (Tete Province) were skilled on best practices of electoral civic education.

**Activity 3.2**

* 2149 young voters (1174 women and 975 men) students from Secondary School “Patrice Lumumba” of Quelimane (Zambezia Province) were sensitized and skilled on electoral civic education and electoral process awareness.
* 273 young voters, students from Secondary schools “Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane” of Gorongosa (Sofala Province) were sensitized and skilled on electoral civic education and electoral process awareness.
* 36 teachers (18 men and 18 women) from *“Escola Industrial de Matundo”, “Escola secundaria Francisco Manyanga”, “Escola Secundaria de Tete”, “Instituto de Formacao de Professores”, “Escola secundaria Privada Joao O.Machado”* and STAE staff were skilled on Election administration, electoral civic education and voter registration.

**Activity 4.1**

* 1-day workshop of dialogue and training on electoral process gathered CNE/STAE members and Political parties.

**Activity 4.2**

* 1-day workshop of dialogue and training on media and election gathered CNE members and professionals of media

**Activity 4.4**

* EMB Website improved through installation of WI-FI system.

**Activity 5.2**

* 4 field missions of monitoring and evaluation of electoral civic education and voter registration activities have been carried out within the provinces (Maputo Cidade, Zambezia, Manica and Maputo Province).

**Activity 5.3**

* 2 CSOs (ANARA and APOSEMO) recruited through public tender and skilled to run electoral civic education activities in the districts of Manhica and Namaacha respectively.
* APOSEMO trained 30 people (18 men and 12 women) on electoral civic education and electoral process awareness in the district of Namaacha.
* ANARA trained 40 young students (20 men and 10 women) on electoral civic education and electoral process awareness in the district of Manhica
* STAE Gaza conducted electoral civic education for women (report recorded)

**Q3**

**Activity 1.1**

* 55 Provincial CNE members from Municipalities of Sussundenga, Gondola, Catandica, Manica and Chimoio were trained on election management and the new electoral legislation

**Activity 1.2**

* 65 CNE and STAE members skilled on voter registration and voting. It was an opportunity for lessons learnt and constraints on the voter registration.

**Activity 2.1.**

* Production of electoral civic education material
* Purchase of equipment for Design and maquetization of electoral civic education material

**Activity 2.2**

* Electoral civic education training (BRIDGE modules) directed to 15 OSCs based in Tete Province. 19 participants (11 male and 8 female) attended the training.
* Electoral civic education training (BRIDGE modules) directed to 17 OSCs based in Maputo Province and Maputo City. 18 participants (14 male and 4 female) attended the training.

**Activity 2.2.**

* Electoral civic education in Gaza province (report recorded)
* Electoral civic education in Tete province (report recorded)

**Activity 2.3.**

* 36 CNE and STAE officials skilled on electoral legislation (law 8) for political parties and candidates registration

**Activity 3.2**

* Electoral civic education activities (training, drama, theatre, messages) have conducted in 28 secondary schools based in Namaacha, Boane, Matola and Manhica. Target: 1781 young voters (teachers and students)
* 4 secondary schools of the new municipality of Sussundenga (Manica Province) received electoral civic education actions. 15 young teachers have been skilled to conduct future electoral civic education actions in secondary schools.

**Activity 4.1**

* 1-day workshop of dialogue and training on electoral process gathered CNE/STAE members and Political parties.

**Activity 4.2**

* 30 participants from media and STAE press office have been trained on election management and new electoral law. A regional training held in Inhambane for participants from Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane.

**Activity 4.3**

* Purchase of visibility material for STAE installed media center.

**Activity 4.4**

* EMB Website improved through upgrade of the system and update.

**Activity 5.1**

* Electoral civic education actions for disabled people. Actions have carried out by *“Associacao dos Jovens Tecnicos Portadores de deficiencia”* through production of TV messages and training of specialized staff to disseminated messages for disabled people (using signs and Braille).
* 17 participants (4 female and 13 male) fron 17 CSOs attended a training on election coordinated by the CSO “ANARA”. The objective of the meeting is to create a group who will be able to conduct future electoral civic education for voter population.

**Activity 5.2**

* 4 field missions of monitoring and evaluation of the project activities have been carried out within the provinces (Gaza, Manica, Tete and Maputo Province-Namaacha).

**Activity 6**

* Purchase of material for STAE legal office

**Activity 4.4**

* EMB Website improved through upgrade of the system and update.

**Activity 6.4**

* Monitoria and evaluation

**Activity 6.5**

* Purchase of office material for STAE

**Evaluation of Progress during the Reporting Period**

The overall objective of this project is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the STAE and CNE to conduct efficient and productive electoral civic education**.** This will contribute to the following relevant UNDAF/CPD Outcomes and Outputs and project-specific outputs:

**UNDAF/CPD outcome 6**: Democratic Governance Processes and Systems strengthened, ensuring the Equity, the Respect for the Rule of Law and Human Rights at all levels

**UNDAF Output 6.2** Vulnerable Groups Particularly at Decentralized level increase their awareness of electoral civic responsibility

**CPD output 6.3**: “Increased awareness of electoral civic responsibility at decentralized level.”

**Project-specific outputs**: The *Electoral Cycle Approach* views electoral assistance as an ongoing and cyclical activity than an event-driven at determined points in time. The following project-specific outputs will be achieved:

Project Output1: The technical capacity of STAE staff in civic education strengthened based on best practices.

Project Output 2: electoral civic education and voter registration programmes institutionalized.

Project Output 3: Civic education actions directed to secondary schools. Partnership with MINED developed.

Project Output 4: Media and political parties trained on electoral administration.

Project Output 5: Partnerships developed with CSOs in electoral civic education. Women participation in electoral processes promoted.

**Overall results**

* Electoral officers gained a knowledge on electoral administration and get a practical experience in election management
* Participants in electoral civic education actions understand their rights, their political system and how and where to vote and also the equal rights of women and men. The project aim to enhance women’s participation in elections.
* Website developed and duly updated
* Media, political parties and CSO can play a vital role in spreading messages of electoral civic education.
* STAE developed and disseminated comprehensive programmes of electoral civic education in partnership with CSOs for target groups such as women, vulnerable groups and youth.

*Overall progress achieved against identified targets and indicators for Output 1:*

* 156 STAE skilled in election administration and budgeting: FULLY
* Gender equality recommended in all activities: at least 25% of woman participation reached

*Overall progress achieved against identified targets and indicators for Output 2:*

* 15 districts covered by electoral civic education actions: FULLY
* At leat 30%: FULLY

*Overall progress achieved against identified targets and indicators for Output 3:*

* MoU with MINED: NOT ACHIEVED (But Electoral civic education has been done in secondary schools)- effort will continue in 2014
* 10 secondary schools covered: FULLY

 *Overall progress achieved against identified targets and indicators for Output 4:*

* 1 workshop with political parties : PARTIALLY ( To be continued in 2014 as an election year)
* 1 workshop and 1 session training with media: FULLY
* 4 districts covered by Community radio: PARTIALLY
* Website fully operational: FULLY

*Overall progress achieved against identified targets and indicators for Output 5:*

* 2 trainings with 32 CSOs in Maputo Province and Tete: FULLY
* 30% Participation of women: FULLY

**Gender Mainstreaming**

**Women as voters:** women in Mozambique have the right to vote which is granted by constitution. Some reasons which may be behind their limited participation (quantity and quality), may include the following: a) poor access to education and/or information, which reduce their awareness on the importance/relevance of voting; or they may allow their husbands to choose the candidate they vote for. b) Due to childcare responsibilities they may not have the time to vote. c) Due to cultural norms they may be restricted from travelling to and entering polling booths. STAE Programme will take into account these and/or other different factors that put women in a disadvantage situation when targeting capacity building.

The project aim to:

* Support women’s full participation in electoral process;
* Observe gender equality and equity in all project activities;
* Ensure that all women have access to electoral voter education

**Challenges, Responses and Lessons Learned**

* **Implementation constraints:**
* Activities started very late
* Difficult Access in some rural areas for civic education
* High cost for air transportation and accommodation
* Transfer of Funds only started in April ( Q2)
* The process of deploying district staff on a temporary basis causes a loss of institutional memory at the district level.
* High rate of illiteracy in some areas
* **Lessons learned:**
* EMBs need a permanent and skilled staff to conduct good electoral process.
* The media is essential to the conduct of democratic elections;
* A democratic election with no media freedom would be a contradiction;
* Government media should be required to give fair coverage and equitable access to opposition parties;
* The prime concern is the right of voters to full and accurate information;
* Parties and candidates are entitled to use the media to get their messages across to the electorate;
* The EMB has a crucial need to communicate information to the electorate and other stakeholders including the political parties, civil society and the media;
* EMB and media should strengthen their cooperation: EMB will use the media as vehicle for communicating its messages to electorate and the media will be interested in the information that the EMB can provide.
* The Ministry of Education is interested to create relationship with STAE for implementing of electoral civic education activities in secondary schools.
* Interest demonstrated by STAE technical staff at Central STAE and Provincial level to conduct electoral civic education actions.
* STAE main objectives for the electoral cycle 2013 and 2014 defined and structured.
* Collaboration between STAEs at all levels strengthened.
* STAE Plan for 2013 and 2014 developed and implemented.
* Participation of CSOs in the conduction of electoral civic education strengthened.
* Use of website and media centers developed to increase transparency.
* Permanent monitoring and evaluation in the provinces allowed to verify the status of implementation of activities and the use of the funds. M&E helped also to develop relevant reporting process.
* EMBs and media play an essential role in a Democracy and must have a good relationship during the electoral process.

**Annexes:**

 **TOTAL FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **QUARTER** | **AMOUNT (MZN)** | **AMOUNT (USD)** |
| ADVANCE RECEIVED FROM UNDP |
| DATE: 30.04.2013 | **3,810,000.00** |  |
| DATE: 18.07.2013 | **3,200,000.00** |  |
| TOTAL | **7,010,000.00** |  |
| EXPENDITURES |
| Q1 | **0** |  |
| Q2 | **3,623,508.32** | Delivery rate: 95% |
| Q3 | **3,386,223.72** | Delivery rate: 95% |
| Q4 | **0** |  |
| TOTAL | **7,009,732.04** | Delivery rate: 99,99% |
| Transfer to UNDP Account | **267.96** |  |
| Balance in STAE Account | **0** |  |