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ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2014



THE ELECTORAL SUPPORT PROJECT (ESP) PHASE II : INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF NEPAL



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| About the Project | Geographic coverage of the project |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Title: Institutional Strengthening and Professional Development Support for the Election Commission of Nepal - Phase II (Electoral Support Project - ESP) Award ID: 00049636 | National level coverage (Yes/No): Yes Number of Regions Covered: 5 Regions Number of Districts Covered: NA Number of Municipalities Covered: NA Number of VDCs Covered: NA |
| Strategic Results | Implementing Partner(s) |
| <p>SP Outcome 2- Citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance</p> <p>SP Output 2.1 - Parliaments, constitution-making bodies and electoral institutions enabled to perform core functions for improved accountability, participation and representation, including for peaceful transition</p> | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Election Commission of Nepal |
| UNDAF Outcome 5.1: Institutions, systems and processes of democratic governance are more accountable, effective, efficient and inclusive | |
| UNDAF/CPAP Output 5.1.1: Election Commission of Nepal has the capacity to conduct credible, inclusive and transparent elections | |
| Project Budget (US\$) | Project Duration |
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Acronyms

| | |
|-------------|---|
| AAO | Area Administrative Office |
| AFIS | Automatic Fingerprints Identification System |
| ANFREL | Asian Network for Free Elections |
| AWP | Annual Work Plan |
| BRIDGE | Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections |
| CA | Constituent Assembly |
| CD | Capacity Development |
| CPAP | Country Programme Action Plan |
| CPN-M | Communist Party of Nepal - Maoist |
| CPN-UML | Communist Party of Nepal - Unified Marxist Leninist |
| DAO | District Administrative Office |
| DEAN | Democracy and Election Alliance Nepal |
| DEO | District Election Office |
| DPA | Department of Political Affairs |
| ECN | Election Commission of Nepal |
| EDR | Election Dispute Resolution |
| EEIC | Electoral Education and Information Centre |
| EMB | Election Management Bodies |
| ERM | Electoral Risk Management |
| ESP | Electoral Support Project |
| EU | European Union |
| EVM | Electronic Voting Machine |
| FEMBoSA | Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia |
| FM | Frequency Modulation |
| FPTP | First-Past-the-Post |
| GE/SI | Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Social Inclusion |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| HLC | High-Level Committee |
| HLPC | High-Level Political Committee |
| HLPM | High-Level Political Mechanism |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology |
| IEC | Interim Election Committee |
| IFES | International Foundation of Electoral Systems |
| IIDEA | International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance |
| IT | Information Technology |
| JEOC | Joint Election Operation Centre |
| LAN | Local Area Network |
| MTot | Master Training of Trainers |
| NEOC | National Election Observation Centre |
| NGO / INGOs | Non-Governmental Organisation / International Non-Governmental Organisation |
| NPI | Nepal Press Institute |

| | |
|----------|---|
| NY | New York |
| PEB | Project Executive Board |
| PSA | Public Service Announcement |
| RC | Resident Coordinator |
| SAARC | South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation |
| SAFE | Secure and Fair Elections |
| SAIDES | South Asian Institute for Democracy and Electoral Reforms |
| SQL | Structured Query Language |
| ToT | Training of Trainers |
| TtF | Training the Facilitators |
| UAT | User Acceptance Test |
| UCPN (M) | United Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) |
| UML | Unified Marxist Leninist |
| UNDAF | United Nations Development Assistance Framework |
| UNV | United Nations Volunteer |
| VLA | Voter List Application |
| VR | Voter Register |

1. Executive Summary

As 2014 was a non-election year, the Electoral Support Project (ESP)'s focus was on post-electoral activities and capacity-building of the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN or the Commission) to hold future elections in an inclusive and credible manner based on the lessons learned from the 2013 Constituent Assembly (CA) elections. Throughout the year, the ESP (or the Project) provided extensive and significant support to the ECN on institutional strengthening and professional development through: policy advice and the formulation of strategies and guidelines; trainings; South-South and triangular cooperation; knowledge products; gender equality and social inclusion; continuous voter registration; Geographic Information System (GIS); software development for the voter registration database; civic and voter education through media; and the Electoral Education and Information Centre (EEIC).

One of the key achievements of 2014 was the development of the ECN's five-year Strategic Plan (2015-2019) and the Action Plan (2015-2016). The ESP supported the ECN in the design, development and drafting process by leveraging its comparative advantage through the specialised technical assistance of internationally-renowned electoral experts and the Project team. The process was participatory with several rounds of workshops and consultations among ECN officials from central to local levels and electoral stakeholders. Gender and social inclusion have been prioritised in all thematic areas. The Project will also support the ECN in its implementation of the Strategic and Action Plans.

Continuous support was also extended in updating the voters' list with photographs and biometric profiling. A total of 304,000 citizens (16 years and above) were registered in 2014, totalling to 12.73 million registered citizens. This will ensure that only registered voters can vote, minimising proxy and multiple voting. Furthermore, in order to institutionalise continuous voter registration with advance data security measures, the development of customised software continued in 2014 that is anticipated to be completed in 2015.

The knowledge products designed and developed by the ECN with technical support from the ESP in 2014 are as follows: women's participation in the 2013 CA elections 'Her Voice – Her Choice', the Electoral Atlas, and the Media Monitoring Report. These documents analysed the lessons learned from the 2013 CA elections and were used as reference materials in drafting the ECN's new Strategic Plan and the ESP's annual activities for 2015.

The Project, in collaboration with the ECN District Election Offices (DEOs), conducted an 'Assessment on Voter Education' to evaluate the impact of voter education conducted during 2013 CA elections and the main causes for the high level of invalid votes. The Assessment Report will be finalised in 2015. In addition, there were 5,044 persons who were informed about elections through the EEIC in Kathmandu; 97 per cent of the surveyed visitors mentioned their enhanced knowledge on democracy and elections after their visit to the EEIC.

The ECN, with support from the ESP, the International Foundation of Electoral Systems (IFES) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IIDEA), enhanced the capacity of 1,553 officials/representatives of the ECN and electoral stakeholders who are contributing to

institutionalising the electoral reform agenda of the ECN. A total of 50 trainings/workshops (including 12 from 'Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections' or BRIDGE) were organised on different themes, such as gender equality and social inclusion, electoral security, information technology (IT), electoral systems, strategic planning, Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), and post-election review workshops. The Project supported a training programme for people with hearing disabilities and Social Studies teachers from higher secondary schools. Since elections are part of the higher secondary school curriculum, 95 per cent of Social Studies teachers surveyed found the trainings relevant to their jobs. Through these trainings, the teachers have been able to impart knowledge on elections and voting rights to higher secondary school students who are the future voters of the country. The Project supported the ECN in developing and broadcasting information on civic and voter education through local FM radios and national TV channels covering the whole country.

As part of its preparation for future elections, the ECN, with the UNDP's technical assistance, initiated developing the 'Model Election Code of Conduct' for Nepal. The Code of Conduct is being designed in consultation with diverse stakeholders based on international best practices and lessons learnt from past elections.

Based on the request of the ECN, and in order to decentralise its technical assistance at the local level with a primary focus on institutional capacity-building for the preparation of future elections, the Project deployed electoral regional teams to the five development regions of Nepal. The regional teams were reinforced with teams of National United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) who will be contributing in the implementation of activities in the areas of trainings, public outreach and voter education, and election operations and planning. Based on the ECN's Capacity Development Plan and new Strategic Plan, the regional teams, in consultation with the ECN, are developing a regional-level capacity development plan to be implemented in 2015.

The ESP, as part of South-South and triangular cooperation, supported the ECN in conducting the fifth meeting of the Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia (FEMBoSA) from 29-30 November 2014 in Kathmandu with the theme 'Regulating Campaign Finance: Ensuring Free and Fair Elections'. The Heads of the Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) were present at the meeting and endorsed the 10-point Kathmandu Resolution as a commitment to further strengthen the capacity of the EMBs through regional cooperation. The ECN is leading the preparation of the action plan for the implementation of the Kathmandu Resolution. In addition, the meeting also decided to establish the South Asian Institute for Democracy and Electoral Reforms (SAIDES) in Nepal, where the ECN will take a lead in promoting research, exchange, dissemination, and communication of electoral learning and innovations. The Project also supported the SAARC-level meeting on women's political participation jointly organised by UNDP Pakistan and Nepal, UN WOMEN, and the ECN.

The Project supported the ECN in conducting an assessment and feasibility study on 'out-of-country voter registration and voting' in five Middle East countries, namely Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, as well as Malaysia and the United States. The study teams were led by ECN Commissioners.

As per recommendations made for ESP Phase II, the Project has focused its technical support to its counterpart on strengthening the functional capacities of the various units within the ECN, such as information and technology, training, GIS, voter registration, voter education, EEIC, and gender and social inclusion by fostering a peer-to-peer knowledge transfer approach. Some results are evident in the areas of training, EEIC, and voter registration in terms of the sustainability of the programmes. A pool of 61 national trainers trained by the ECN is leading to the gradual reduction of technical support by international consultants in voter registration and information technology and is an example of the ECN's growing capacity in a sustainable manner.

2. Background and Context

Nepal has been in a political transition since November 2006 with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the end of the armed conflict. After the second CA elections in 2013, a new government has been in place since February 2014 with a mandate to draft a new Constitution. In order to give a full shape to the CA of 601 members, the cabinet nominated 26 members in August 2014, of which two were women, bringing the total number of women's representation to 30 per cent which is 3 per cent less compared to the 2008 CA elections. The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2006 envisions 33 per cent of women in the CA.

By-elections in four constituencies were conducted by the ECN on 22 June 2014 that witnessed voter turnout of 66 per cent. Seventy-six candidates from 60 political parties contested the elections, including 16 independent and 9 female candidates. The EVMs were used in all four constituencies. The by-elections were held after four candidates who secured their seats in the CA from two constituencies abandoned one constituency as per the legal provision.

Despite the commitment made by the CA members and the major political parties to promulgate the new Constitution by 22 January 2015, political parties continued to have differences on the modality of federal provinces, forms of government, electoral system, and judiciary. This also further deferred the commitment made by political parties to conduct local elections, institutionalising legitimate local bodies through elected representatives that have remained vacant since 2002. The prolonged political deadlock and lack of elected representatives at the local level have increased the frustration of the general public and the accountability of the state towards its citizens.

In the midst of political uncertainty, the ECN has continued its technical preparations for conducting future elections. The leadership at the ECN on different forums underlined its technical capacity and commitment to hold local elections if the government announces dates.

3. Project Summary and Objectives

The UNDP's assistance to the ECN through the ESP is provided in line with the UNDP's mandate to work with developing countries in the areas of professional development and democratic governance. The 'electoral cycle approach' is closely reflected and applied to the overall strategy of the present ESP. It focuses on the notion that the provision of event-driven support is no longer

attractive, sustainable or effective in terms of cost/benefit and achieving enduring results, and that the impact of electoral support on broader governance and development goals must be taken into account.

Phase II of the Project (2012-2016) focuses on long-term electoral capacity-building in addition to operational support during electoral cycles. Some of the strategic areas of intervention of Phase II are as follows:

- a. **Long-term capacity-building:** The ESP continues to be centred on the provision of sustained institutional strengthening and professional development assistance initiatives to assist the ECN in its efforts to strengthen and enhance its own capacity to function as a permanent, professional, and independent electoral management body.
- b. **Operational support for upcoming series of elections:** The ESP is also centred on providing immediate operational support, particularly in view of national elections and possibly local elections to be conducted once the new Constitution of Nepal is finalised or the current Interim Constitution of Nepal is amended.
- c. **Democratic participation:** Increasing the awareness of electorates on governance and electoral processes, especially of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups (ie. women and ethnic minorities), so that they could meaningfully participate prior to as well as during elections.

4. Narrative on Key Results Achieved in 2014

4.1 Progress towards the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) / Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) Outcome

In 2014, the ECN organised by-elections in four constituencies. There were 10 national organisations involved in the observation. Their reports state that the elections were technically well-organised and peaceful. The ECN, with technical assistance from the ESP, implemented voter registration, a voter education campaign, and on-site technical assistance on elections operations that contributed to credible by-elections.

Similarly, there have been some positive political developments towards making future elections more inclusive. The bill to amend the 'Local Self-Governance Act' envisages that at least 40 per cent of elected local government representatives have to be women. In a similar spirit, there has been agreement among political parties to go for a mixed electoral system consisting of both proportional representation and first-past-the-post (FPTP) modalities.

The ECN, with ESP support, has undertaken various measures to make future elections more inclusive. These include endorsement of a gender policy for electoral activities, the establishment of a gender unit within the ECN, inclusive voter registration campaigns, a nationwide voter education programme, etc. In addition, the newly adopted Strategic Plan of the Commission highlights gender and social inclusion as one of its priority areas for the next five years.

4.2 Progress on Outputs

Project Output 1: Strengthened capacity of the ECN to function as a permanent, independent, credible and professional institution of governance

Activity 1.1: Support with Strategic Planning

The ECN, with technical assistance from the ESP, developed its five-year Strategic Plan (2015-2019) and two-year Action Plan (2015-2016). The Strategic Plan provides a roadmap with key interventions for the next five years. The plan includes a mission, vision, guiding principles and is divided into five pillars: Institutional Development; Registration and Election Technology; Organisation and Capacity Building; Electoral Education and Organisational Outreach; and Logistics and Electoral Operations. The two-year Action Plan sets tangible and concrete targets and a budget for the first two years.



In order to create ownership, a series of consultations and workshops were held at both central and regional levels with the involvement of the Commissioners and the ECN technical and support staff. Inputs were also collected from external stakeholders, including political parties, civil society organisations, media, etc. Similarly, this is the first time the ECN has integrated gender and social inclusion as prime areas of focus in its new Strategic Plan, which would contribute in designing targeted interventions and policy reform to enhance women's and marginalised groups' participation as voters and candidates in electoral processes.

On 18 December 2014, the ESP officially handed over the final draft Strategic Plan (2015-2019) to the Chief Election Commissioner for endorsement. The Project will support the ECN in its implementation of the Strategic Plan and two-year Action Plan.

Activity 1.2: Support with Long-Term Professional Development and Staff Retention

The professional skills of 193 (64 per cent male, 36 per cent female) election officials and electoral stakeholders were enhanced through customised BRIDGE trainings on various modules: Electoral Systems, Gender and Elections, and Electoral Administration and Management. These trainings were facilitated by national facilitators. **(Annex 1)**

As of 2014, the ECN has produced a pool of 61 national (31 female) and 5 international (from Thailand, Maldives, Philippines, and Cambodia) facilitators. Out of the total number of national facilitators, 1 is accrediting, 9 are fully accredited, and 57 are semi-accredited. These trainers have acquired the capacity and skills to facilitate trainings on elections. Therefore, even after external support phases out, the ECN will be able to plan and lead these trainings in its own capacity by mobilising national facilitators. Thus far, the ECN, in partnership with the ESP, IIDEA and IFES, are conducting BRIDGE trainings.



Activity 1.3: Support with Geographic Information System and Electoral Mapping System

The ESP continued providing on-site technical assistance to the ECN to strengthen its institutional capacity on GIS and electoral mapping. The GIS Specialist of the ESP worked closely with ECN staff from the GIS Unit to produce electoral maps and conduct trainings. The GIS and Electoral Risk Management (ERM) trainings were attended by representatives from all 75 DEOs. These trainings sensitised DEOs and created awareness on the wide array of ERM tools and the application of GIS technology on enhancing the management of elections, including electoral security.



The first-ever Electoral Atlas of Nepal was published and officially launched at the FEMBoSA meeting. The Electoral Atlas is a collection of updated district-wide electoral maps, information and results from the 2008 and 2013 CA elections, and was prepared based on the data received from the DEOs and the ECN Secretariat. The draft version of the Electoral Atlas was disseminated at the Secure and Fair

Elections (SAFE) workshop held at the University of Sydney, Australia in September 2014. This atlas will be used in the research process on electoral security led by the University of Sydney.

Activity 1.4: Support with Creation and Display of New Voter Register (VR)

As of December 2014, a total of 12.73 million citizens are registered in the voter roll with biometric profiling, out of which 304,000 were registered in 2014. As per the 2011 census, the estimated population of 16 years and above is 16.4 million. Registered citizens (12.73 million) represent 77.24 per cent of eligible registrants. The voter registration process is on-going at DEOs, Area Administrative Offices (AAOs) and District Administrative Offices (DAOs). In coordination with AAOs and DAOs, the voter registration centre is placed close to the unit where citizenship certificates are distributed; as the covers for citizenship certificates are provided from the voter registration centre, this has encouraged a large number of new voters to get registered.

The development of new software for continuous voter registration/Voter List Application (VLA) is on-going. To facilitate the software development and technology incorporation process, the 'Scrum Agile' methodology, which is the industry's standard methodology in software development, is being used. The developer submitted VLA software of one-third production for the User Acceptance Test (UAT) and data migration, and during the UAT, ESP technical specialists found several areas in the system to be improved. In addition, there are many complex modules in the system such as the Identity Module and the Automatic Fingerprints Identification System (AFIS), which are in the process of being developed. The Identity and AFIS Modules are very important elements of the VLA system, to ensure a credible voter list during elections with advanced security. The software is anticipated to be developed by 2015.



For the smooth implementation of the new voter registration software being developed, the ESP procured a server and storage at the ECN Data Centre. The ESP supported the overall electrical works at the ECN's headquarters for data security.

Project output 2: Election cycle conducted in an effective, sustainable and credible manner

Activity 2.1: Support with Procedures and Training

A total of 1,553 ECN officials and electoral stakeholders (28 per cent women) were trained in 2014 on various themes, such as: electoral system and processes; strategic plan formulation; IT (PostgreSQL, Java, VLA database, Networking); GIS and risk management; gender equality and social inclusion; strategic planning; EVM; and post-election review workshops (**Annex 1**). These trained stakeholders are contributing towards strengthening the system, processes, and electoral reform agenda of the ECN.



One of the most effective trainings implemented in the reporting year was for teachers of higher secondary schools. The curriculum of Social Studies in secondary and higher secondary schools includes a section on elections. As per the request made by teachers visiting the EEIC to enhance their knowledge on the electoral system and processes, the ECN, with assistance from the ESP, trained 219 teachers from private as well as community schools based in Kathmandu. In order to assess the effectiveness of these trainings, the ECN and the ESP conducted an evaluation. A self-administered, semi-structured questionnaire was developed, and ECN and ESP staff personally met the teachers in their schools to fill out the questionnaires. A sample of 42 trained teachers (approximately 20 per cent of the total teachers trained) from 32 schools was randomly selected with equal representation of teachers from community and private schools. The majority of the teachers (93 per cent) reported that the training met their expectations in terms of their understanding of the democratic electoral process; 95 per cent found the training relevant to their job; and 90 per cent believed that they could implement the knowledge and skills in their day-to-day work. Through these trainings, teachers have been able to effectively impart knowledge on elections, electoral participation, and voting rights to school students who are the future potential voters of Nepal. Due to increasing demand for these trainings, and based on the findings of the evaluation, the ECN is planning to expand these trainings at the local level from 2015 onwards.

Similarly, the ESP also supported the ECN in reaching out to voters with hearing disabilities. In partnership with the National Deaf Association of Nepal, 26 participants received a Training of Trainers (ToT) on the electoral system and process and whom will facilitate regional/district level trainings in 2015. The training was conducted in sign language. The ToT helped the participants to increase their skills to be a trainer and their understanding on



voter registration, voting rights, and the electoral/voting process. These trainings have enhanced the knowledge and strengthened the confidence of people with hearing disabilities that will ultimately increase their meaningful participation in upcoming elections.

Activity 2.2: Support with Elections Operations and Logistics

The Project has been working closely with the ECN to provide advisory and technical support in strengthening its long-term institutional and professional capacity in the area of elections operations and logistics. Regional offices of the ESP were established in the five development regions of Nepal, each co-located at the regional offices of the ECN. The ESP hired 5 Regional Electoral Officers, 5 Logistics and Administrative Assistants, and 11 National UNVs, who are deployed to regional offices and are currently providing on-site technical and advisory support to the ECN at both regional and district levels in the areas of election operations, trainings, voter education, etc. In addition, 11 Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Officers, including 2 UNVs, are supporting the ECN at both central and regional levels in order to assist the Commission on voter registration and ICT. A comprehensive induction training was conducted for 10 newly-recruited regional staff of the ESP and 11 UNVs to develop a common understanding on the programme and to provide clarity on their roles and responsibilities.

In line with the ECN's Capacity Building Strategy and based on regional requirements, the ESP regional teams, in consultation with regional officials of the ECN, have developed a draft 'Training and Capacity Development (CD) Plans' for 2015. The Project will support the ECN and regional offices in the implementation of the CD plans.



In 2014, the ESP delivered four units of Air Compressor tables to the Janak Educational Materials Centre. This technology is expected to expedite the ballot printing and production process for future elections. Similarly, for public outreach and the mobility of ECN staff for the capacity enhancement of district offices, the ESP procured 25 motorcycles for the ECN that were provided in 2014.

The ECN conducted an assessment and feasibility study on 'Out-of-country voter registration and voting' in five Middle East countries, namely Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, as well as Malaysia and the United States during 2014. The study teams were led by ECN Commissioners, and the ESP provided technical advice and logistics support for the studies. If Nepal decides to go ahead with out-of-country registration, it is essential to conduct an assessment of the broader implication on the identification of appropriate strategies, policies, and mechanisms for the management of out-of-country voter registration and voting.

Activity 2.3: Support with Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR)

The ECN, with the technical assistance of the Project, initiated the development of a 'Model Election Code of Conduct' for future elections. The Code of Conduct will be designed in consultation with diverse stakeholders and based on international best practices and lessons learnt from past elections, particularly the 2008 and 2013 CA elections. In order to plan and draft this, the ECN has formed a high-level committee (HLC) under the leadership of one of the Commissioners. Representatives from the Ministries of Law, Justice, and Federal Affairs, the CA, the Nepal Law Commission, and the Office of the Attorney General are also members of this committee. Several consultative meetings are planned at the regional level to seek input and feedback from electoral stakeholders.

Similarly, the ESP supported the high-level participation of an ECN delegation, led by a Commissioner and Secretary, to attend the SAFE workshop in Sydney, Australia. This workshop provided an opportunity to discuss EDR aspects and to share experiences from the 2013 CA elections with the EMB of Afghanistan and broader electoral practitioners and academics.



The ECN, with assistance from the ESP, also held an exchange visit to the EMB of Mexico where there is an effective EDR system in place. An exchange of learning and sharing is on-going, which has supported the ECN in its continuing review of existing legal procedures to strengthen its EDR system.

Project Output 3: Increased democratic participation in the next cycle of elections, particularly for under-represented and disadvantaged segments of Nepali society

Activity 3.1: Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education

ESP staff, in collaboration with ECN officials at regional/district levels, conducted a Voter Education Assessment in order to evaluate the impact of voter education, focusing on the main causes of the high level of invalid votes in some specific districts. The Assessment Report will be finalised in 2015.



Activity 3.2: Support with the Electoral Education and Information Centre

As of 2014, approximately 5,044 persons (55 per cent female) visited the EEIC and took part in its 90-minute educational programme. The visitors were mainly students from private and government schools, non-governmental organisation (NGO)/international non-governmental organisation (INGO) representatives, political parties, security forces, people from religious groups, differently-abled groups, and others. The majority of visitors (more than 80 per cent) reported an enhanced knowledge and awareness on elections and democratic issues after their visit.

In order to bring the EEIC closer to citizens at the local level, the ESP supported the ECN in conducting a feasibility study for the establishment of Regional EEICs at the regional level. Based on the recommendations provided in the report, EEICs will be established in three new locations: Pokhara (Western Region), Biratnagar (Eastern Region), and Dhangadi (Far Western Region) where the ECN has its own infrastructure. The ESP initiated the process for the establishment of these centres, as well as mobile EEICs with the necessary equipment to conduct voter education at remote locations. The mobile voter education process will start from the second quarter of 2015.

Since its inauguration in 2012, the ECN has been making a maximum use of the EEIC. The number of visitors has increased over the years; in addition, the centre is used for conducting trainings and meetings, as well as for planning outreach programmes, developing guidelines and manuals, etc. In

order to meet growing demand, the EEIC needed more staff for its smooth operation and more space to accommodate additional staff. Upon request from the ECN, the ESP supported the expansion of working space at the top level of the EEIC. With technical assistance from the ESP, the ECN developed/updated two training manuals in 2014:

- Electoral and Voter Education for People with Hearing Disabilities (Training of Trainers Manual)
- Social Studies Teachers Training Manual

Similarly, the ECN has increased its budget allocation for the EEIC's operating cost, which was over 80 per cent in 2014.

Activity 3.3: Support with External Relations

A Media Monitoring Report of the 2013 CA elections was launched in 2014. The report contains a comprehensive analysis of media clippings produced during the electoral period. The ECN has reiterated that the report will be a guiding document for the ECN in coordinating with the media and in developing electoral codes of conduct to monitor the media in future elections. The report has been published in Nepali (1,000 copies) and English (1,000 copies) and has been widely disseminated.



Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The baseline survey for ESP Phase II was conducted by an independent national firm and completed in early 2014. The survey was implemented in two parts: the Public Opinion Survey (Quantitative and Qualitative) and the ECN Staff Survey. Based on the findings of the baseline survey, the ESP's M&E framework was revised with baseline data. The revised M&E framework with progress against the indicators is attached in **Annex 2**.

5. Cross-Cutting Issues

5.1 Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Social Inclusion

In 2014, the ESP focused on the implementation of the 'Gender and Social Inclusion Policy 2013'. The ESP provided assistance to the Gender Committee under the leadership of an ECN Commissioner in the establishment of a Gender Unit at the ECN's headquarters. The unit is led by an ECN Joint Secretary and is in the process of developing a 'Gender Strategy and Action Plan' for 2015. The Gender Committee will guide and supervise the unit to strengthen gender and social inclusion issues and activities and will also plan trainings to strengthen and mainstream gender and social inclusion at institutional, policy, and programmatic levels.

In addition, the ESP provided technical assistance in conducting BRIDGE trainings on Gender and Elections and interaction programmes in the districts of Chitwan, Pokhara, and Kailali to sensitise DEO staff, community-based organisations, and local media on the ECN's Gender and Social Inclusion Policy, where 30 per cent of participants were women. Gender research was conducted on 'The Constraints in the Political Participation of Women in Elected Office in Nepal' and was presented at the FEMBoSA meeting.



As part of the production of post-electoral materials, the gender book 'Her Voice Her Choice', capturing success stories and lessons learned from the 2013 CA elections, was published and launched on 13 October 2014. The book highlights and acknowledges the contribution of women in various roles in the electoral process. The book will be used as a reference material in engendering electoral processes and future elections.

5.2 Capacity Development and Sustainability

5.2.1 Capacity Development

In the reporting period, with the technical support of the ESP, the ECN developed its five-year strategy (2015-19) and two-year action plan (2015-16). A Gender Unit was established within the ECN with a mandate of implementing its Gender and Social Inclusion Policy that was endorsed in 2013. The EEIC that was established with the support of the ESP is now fully operated by the ECN. It is also a hub for the ECN to plan its outreach and voter education programmes and campaigns. All of the training programmes supported by the ESP were led by the ECN, and the BRIDGE trainings were facilitated by the accredited facilitators.



5.2.2 Sustainability Strategy

For the sustainability of its interventions, the ESP this year strategically provided technical assistance that added value to the ECN on its post-electoral reform agenda and priorities. Focus was placed on strengthening the institutional capacity of units within the Commission (by fostering a peer-to-peer approach) on information and technology, GIS, voter registration, public outreach, and training units. ESP thematic specialists stationed at the ECN worked with the Commission's technical team in units for transferring knowledge; support was also extended in equipping these units for enhancing its efficiency and effectiveness.

Most of the trainings were provided in areas where units felt the need, and those trainings were organised systematically on a cost-sharing basis with the ECN and other implementing partners. For example, the ESP supported the ECN in establishing a Gender Unit; the ECN is expanding its team at the EEIC to address the growing demand of the public for electoral education and is also taking responsibility of the EEIC by covering more than 80 per cent of its operating cost; BRIDGE trainings are facilitated by national accredited facilitators, and the ECN has developed a pool of 61 national facilitators; international technical assistance from the ESP on voter registration is reducing over the years (from three international experts in 2012 to one international short-term expert in 2014). All of these positive changes are evident of the ECN's increasing capacity.

5.3 South-South Cooperation

With support from the ESP, the ECN conducted the fifth FEMBoSA meeting from 29-30 November 2014 in Kathmandu under the theme 'Regulating Campaign Finance: Ensuring Free and Fair Elections'. The EMBs of the SAARC region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka) were present at the meeting and endorsed the 10-point Kathmandu Resolution as a commitment to further strengthen the capacity of the EMBs through regional cooperation. The ECN is leading in the preparation of the action plan for the implementation of the Kathmandu Resolution. In addition, the meeting also decided to establish the SAIDES in Nepal, where the ECN will take a lead in promoting research, exchange, dissemination, and communication of electoral learning and innovations.



The ESP, as part of South-South and triangular cooperation, supported the ECN in strengthening its partnership with other EMBs in 2014. A total of 12 exchange programmes by ECN officials were supported by the ESP. The EMBs that participated in the exchange programmes were India, Georgia, Mexico, Bhutan, etc. Approximately 75 ECN officials directly benefited this year from learning and exchange visits.

The ESP also support the ECN in preparing two knowledge products for FEMBoSA:

- **Electoral Reforms - A Trajectory:** captures the history of electoral reforms in Nepal
- **Women's Participation in Elected Office:** highlights lessons learned and best practices for South Asian EMBs to replicate in their respective countries

The Project also supported the SAARC-level meeting on women's political participation, jointly organised by UNDP Pakistan and Nepal, UN WOMEN, and the ECN.

6. Partnerships

Partnerships were key to the Project's successful implementation in 2014. In its support provided to the ECN, a key factor of success was the close partnerships established with other development partners and UN agencies. In this context, regular and frequent engagement with development partners has been the best practice of the Project, conducted mainly through informal donors' meetings, Project Executive Board Meetings, bi-weekly newsletters, and coordination meetings. Through this strategy, the Project ensured that donors were aware of the progress and issues during implementation. The UNDP also actively engaged with Department of Political Affairs (DPA) colleagues through regular ESP-DPA briefings to the Resident Coordinator (RC), joint weekly reporting to the RC, and joint video conferencing with colleagues in New York (NY). Similarly, all of the annual trainings planned for strengthening the professional capacity of ECN officials and electoral stakeholders were planned collectively by the ECN, IIDEA, IFES, and the ESP.

ESP has ensured visibility of development partners in all publications, reports and merchandizes produced by the project. In addition, visibility of donors were reflected in various national/ international levels trainings, workshops and events supported by the project- for example SAARC-level FEMBoSA organised in Kathmandu in 2014. (Annex 4).

7. Lessons Learned / Implementation Issues and Challenges

The delay in the development of software for continuous voter registration was one of the key issues of 2014. There were some technical difficulties in migrating the data of current voters into the software that is being developed by the international vendor. In order to ensure the accuracy and quality of data migration, the ESP technical team and the ECN are working closely with the vendor. It is anticipated that the software will be developed by 2015.

8. Specific Stories

A familiar sound of words on elections could be heard from a distance in one of the classrooms at Janaknath Higher Secondary School, Lainchaur. Mr. Shiva Charan Chaudhary, one of the trainees from the Social Studies Teachers Training, was stressing information on electoral education to his students, which is part of the school curriculum. During a conversation, he stated that: *'This training has provided in-depth knowledge about the electoral process and personally has given me the*

confidence on the subject matter. The gained knowledge has helped me to impart the knowledge to the students more clearly.'

A similar case was found at the North East English School, Bhaktapur, where Ms. Sabita Aryal was giving lessons to the students on democracy and the importance of elections in a democratic society. They both have a common opinion on how the training programme for Social Studies teachers has been effective and useful in disseminating information to new and future voters. Both stressed that the EEIC has provided a platform for the country's young minds (students) to discover the importance of elections, the notion of democracy, and the importance of voting in the future as righteous citizens of the country.

In 2014, the UNDP conducted several activities to support the ECN on electoral education to a wider audience. The EEIC has been providing electoral education to diverse groups, including schools. After a request from teachers visiting the centre, from 2013, the ECN and the UNDP/ESP started a programme from Kathmandu of conducting nine batches of trainings to 219 teachers from both private and community schools. In 2014, a Social Studies Teachers Training evaluation was conducted, which revealed that the training had been very effective in gaining knowledge and skills that are relevant to their day-to-day work. From the 20 per cent of the trained teachers' equal representation from both private and community schools, 43 per cent believed that the topic of the electoral system is the most important for them to understand, followed by the concept of democracy and the Constitution. They also opined to recommend Social Studies Teachers Training to their other colleagues and the teaching community, as it provides skills to teach about elections in an effective manner to their students and also for their own knowledge.

In 2014, a pilot training for Social Studies teachers in Surkhet was conducted, and the ECN plans to expand this programme to additional districts in 2015, targeting both community and private schools to reach out to the rural population to impart electoral knowledge.

9. Future Work Plan or Priorities for 2015

Activity 1.1: Support with Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning

The UNDP/ESP will continue to assist the ECN in the implementation of its Strategic Plan (2015-2019). The ESP will support the Commission in its annual review of the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan (including an M&E framework) in a consultative manner with ECN officials. The Senior Electoral expert and team, which have been instrumental in supporting the ECN in drafting and finalising its Strategic Plan, will be facilitating discussions on progress and what needs to be improved for its effective implementation.

Annual Review

The ESP will support the ECN in organising its annual review meeting where representatives from the 75 DEOs will come together and collectively reflect on progress made during the year, lessons learned, issues and challenges, and identifying areas of priorities.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation

South-South and triangular cooperation will be one of the key areas of strategic support extended by the Project to the ECN in 2015. In addition to providing opportunities for ECN officials to attend learning programmes and key electoral events to enhance their professional capacities, focus will also be made on promoting long-term networking and partnership with the EMBs of the region for knowledge transfer and a regular learning exchange on key electoral issues.

Institutional Memory

Continuation will be given to archiving the documents of different departments of the Commission for systematic documentation and institutional memory. The ESP will continue coordinating with the ECN to promote a handover and takeover system, in addition to organising induction for new staff so that they are well-informed about their roles and responsibilities, as well as the mandate of the ECN as the body responsible for planning, conducting and monitoring elections.

European Union (EU)-UNDP Joint Task Force Workshop on Electoral Assistance

The Project, together with the ECN, will organise a global workshop on Electoral Assistance in May 2015. The EU-UNDP Joint Task Force Workshop on Electoral Assistance is held annually on different thematic areas where the EMBs and election practitioners from around the world come together for an exchange of ideas, learning, and strengthening partnerships.

Activity 1.2 Support with Professional Development and Cooperation

In order to enhance the capacity of ECN staff at both headquarters and field levels, the ESP will provide support in organising and conducting training programmes in different thematic areas as outlined in the capacity development plan. In addition, the ESP, in collaboration with implementing partners, will provide technical assistance to the ECN in planning and conducting trainings using various BRIDGE modules. These trainings will be customised and contextualised to address the requirements of the ECN. Some of the identified modules for 2015 are as follows: Training the Facilitators (TtF) for the EMBs of SAARC; Master Training of Trainers (MTotT) on Electoral Systems and Electoral Administration; Introductory BRIDGE Module for new staff at the ECN; and a module on Political Financing. The TtF training will be led by the international accredited facilitator, and it will increase the number of accredited national and regional facilitators.

In addition to BRIDGE trainings, the ESP will also be providing technical assistance to the ECN in organising other relevant trainings and workshops as per the requirement of the ECN. A training on the preparation of an election operational plan will be organised for senior officials of the ECN, as well as officials responsible for operations and planning.

Activity 1.3: Support with Geographic Information System and Electoral Mapping

The GIS has been identified as one of the key tools globally in planning and managing elections and electoral processes. It has been learned from the 2013 elections that the ECN could make better use of this technology in the planning and preparation for upcoming elections. Therefore, the Project will expand its support during the inter-election period in strengthening the institutional and professional capacity of the ECN at both central and regional levels on GIS and electoral mapping. Trainings will be conducted for ECN officials, particularly at the district level, for the effective utilisation of GIS technology at the local level.

Through the on-site technical assistance of the ESP, the ECN will operationalise new software for an integrated GIS system for mapping electoral information and linking it to the 75 DEOs through a website for easy access to information that could be used for planning by the ECN.

In 2015, the ECN, with technical assistance from the Project, will also publish a second edition of the Electoral Atlas of Nepal with updated polling locations and statistics and other thematic electoral maps for all 75 districts and 240 constituencies. Electoral maps will be published for distribution at DEOs for constituencies' mapping and for planning local activities.

Activity 1.4: Support with Creation and Display of New Voter Register

In addition to providing on-site technical and advisory assistance to the ECN in the area of voter registration and ICT through regional IT experts and central-level ICT and VR specialists, the prime focus of 2015 will be to complete and operationalise the continuous voter registration software.

After the development of the new software, capacity-building trainings will be provided to ECN officials and computer operators at both central and district levels to familiarise them with the use of the new software. Much ECN infrastructure (procurement of equipment, software, networking, etc.) will also be upgraded and established to roll out/operationalise the new software.

Activity 2.1: Support with Procedures and Training

In order to strengthen the ECN's capacity on financial management, procurement, reporting, procedures and office management, the ESP will facilitate a series of trainings and workshops at the regional level in 2015. The trainings/workshops will be conducted with the support of UNDP/ESP regional teams.

Activity 2.2: Support with Elections Operations and Logistics

The UNDP/ESP will provide technical support as required to the ECN in developing operational plans well in advance of future elections and defining all aspects of election operations. The focus in 2015 will also be to support ECN regional and district offices to be strengthened through the on-site technical assistance from the regional staff of the ESP. In addition to 10 national staff (2 per region), the Project will also have 2 national UNVs per region working closely with the local offices of the ECN in order to support voter education and training activities. Technical support will be focused on long-term capacity enhancement interventions, such as operations and planning, public outreach and voter education, voter registration, and ICT.

Activity 2.3: Support with Electoral Dispute Resolution

The UNDP/ESP will work closely with the ECN to further strengthen the EDR system of the ECN. Trainings and workshops are planned in 2015 to enhance the capacity of ECN officials and electoral stakeholders on EDR. Similarly, an exchange programme will be facilitated among the EMBs to learn about best practices from other countries. As part of the process, the ESP will assist the ECN in developing a research paper on EDR systems, challenges and best practices, which could be used as a reference material for strengthening the EDR system in Nepal. Similarly, the Project will continue providing technical assistance to the ECN in developing a 'Model Election Code of Conduct' for future elections.

Activity 2.4: Support with Electoral Security

The Project will assist the ECN in implementing the recommendations from the electoral security assessment conducted in 2012, in addition to designing programmes on electoral security based on lessons learned from the 2013 CA elections. A national-level workshop will be held with representatives from security agencies, political parties, media, civil society and international practitioners to reflect on the current context, learning from the 2008 and 2013 CA elections, and strategies that should be taken by different stakeholders to prevent electoral risk in future elections.

Activity 3.1: Support with Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education

The ESP will continue providing technical assistance in strengthening the Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education component of the ECN. The Project will support broadcasting electoral education through local FM radio and national TV channels. The Project will also assist the Commission in conducting civic and electoral outreach programmes for marginalised groups, women, and physically-disabled people.

Trainings for Social Studies teachers were identified as an effective tool for enhancing the understanding of youth and first-time voters on elections, democracy and voting rights, as the topic of elections is part of the curriculum in schools. The Project will be supporting the ECN in organising a series of trainings in 2015 targeted to Social Studies teachers.

Activity 3.2: Support with Electoral Education and Information Centre(s)

In order to reach out to the general public at the local level, the Project will complete the establishment of Regional EEICs in three regions and fully equip them with computers, projectors, TVs, and books. Solar back-up for power will be installed in the three regional centres, as well as the operationalisation of continuous voter registration. The solar power back-up may be expanded in other regions in consultation with the ECN. Similarly, mobile voter education kits will be used to reach out to rural communities for civic and electoral education.

Activity 3.3: Support with External Relations

Media plays a vital role throughout the electoral cycle, particularly during elections. Therefore, it is essential to engage the media even during non-election periods, by facilitating regular interactions between the ECN and the media, and also by organising trainings for enhancing the understanding of the media on electoral processes and particularly during elections. The ESP will therefore be organising events and trainings to strengthen ECN partnership with the media.

Activity 3.4: Gender, Social Inclusion and Vulnerable Groups

The Project's primary support in 2015 will focus on the implementation of the ECN's Gender and Social Inclusion Policy and in strengthening its institutional capacity to mainstream gender equality, women's empowerment and social inclusion (GE/SI) in electoral processes. Several advocacy campaigns will be conducted to raise awareness among women and disadvantaged groups about democracy and elections, to enhance their active participation in electoral processes. Various knowledge products will be developed on GE/SI and the electoral process. Interim Election Committee (IEC) materials and documentaries will be developed to generate greater awareness on the role of women and disadvantaged groups on electoral processes.

Gender and Election-focused trainings will be conducted at the regional level to sensitise electoral stakeholders about electoral processes from gender and social inclusion perspectives, where participants will also be briefed about the Gender and Social Inclusion Policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In 2015, the ESP will conduct a mid-term review of the Project through an independent senior international consultant, national consultants, and a representative from UNDP headquarters.

10. Risk and Issue Logs

10.1 Risk Log Matrix

| # | Description | Category (financial, political, operational, organisational, environmental, regulatory, security, strategic, other) | Likelihood of risk (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most likely) A | Impact (scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest impact) B | Risk factor (A x B) | Mitigation measures if risk occurs | Date risk is identified | Last Updated | Status |
|---|--|---|--|--|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Some of the Madesh-based political parties are opposing the Supreme Court's decision of making citizenship certificates mandatory for being registered on the voter list | Political | 4 | 4 | | The ESP will provide the required technical assistance to the ECN as per the Government's decision | January 2013 | November 2013 | Voters who could provide other sources of identification were also registered on the voter roll so that they could exercise their voting rights |
| 2 | Uncertainty of CA elections | Political | 3 | 3 | | The Project will continue implementing a non-election work plan and regularly brief donors about the electoral context | May 2013 | December 2013 | The CA elections took place in November 2013 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------|---|---|--|--|----------------|---------------|---|
| 3 | On-going rejection by opposition political parties and alliances of the 11-point deal, formation of the IEC and the HLPC, and elections | Political | 4 | 4 | | UN and bilateral organisations to encourage all parties not to disrupt elections and to join the process | September 2013 | December 2013 | The CA elections were boycotted by an alliance of 11 parties |
| 4 | Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (CPN-M) and other fringe parties alleging poll-rigging and denying the results of the 2013 CA elections | Political | 3 | 3 | | The ESP will provide the required technical assistance to the ECN in consultation with Project Executive Board (PEB) members | November 2013 | December 2013 | The election results were accepted by all of the political parties, which resulted in the formation of the government and the second CA |

10.2 Issue Log Matrix

| # | Type | Date Identified | Description and Comments | Resolution measures recommended | Status of the issue | Status Change Date |
|---|-------------|-----------------|---|--|---|--------------------|
| | Operational | August | From past experiences of the ESP, it was noticed that the ECN is resistant in accepting assistance in the areas of procurement and financial management. But in the review of ESP Phase I, these areas were identified as priority areas for institutional strengthening. | The ESP, in consultation with the ECN, will hire national advisers to work with ECN officials in charge of procurement and financial management. The procurement adviser will also work closely with the Commission to implement recommendations made in the procurement assessment conducted in 2012. | The ESP provided several trainings to the ECN in procurement and financial management in 2012 and 2013 and included these in the ESP 2014 Annual Work Plan (AWP). | December 2013 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|---|---|---|---------------|
| | Operational | September | On average, invalid votes in the 2013 CA elections were 4.96 per cent under the FPTP electoral system and 3.2 per cent under the PR (proportional representation) system. This percentage is smaller when compared to the 2008 CA elections, and on average (3 to 4 percentage) as per international standards. However, there are some constituencies where the percentage of invalid votes is higher and requires targeted voter and electoral education. | The ESP will provide technical assistance to the ECN in reviewing its current voter education strategy and developing programmes to reach out to communities for electoral education with a focus on constituencies where there were higher numbers of invalid votes. | The ESP supported the ECN in planning and developing public outreach and voter education campaigns using print, electronic and social media. Street dramas were conducted in 240 constituencies with adaptation to the local context. These comprehensive awareness campaigns contributed to a decrease in invalid votes and increased voter turnout of 79.9 per cent of registered voters (52 per cent women). | December 2013 |
|--|-------------|-----------|---|---|---|---------------|

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------|--|--|--|---------------|
| | Operational | August | There were some errors identified on the voter roll used by the ECN for the 2013 CA elections. The final voter roll has not yet been cleaned/audited. In addition, the voter roll needs to be updated on a regular basis to register new and missed voters and to remove the names of voters who have passed away. | The ESP will work in close collaboration with the ECN to initiate continuous voter registration nationwide and also clear the voter list through claims and objection and data verification and de-duplication. | After completing the claims and objection process, the voter roll was finalised and used in the 2013 CA elections. | December 2013 |
| | Operational | November | The ECN endorsed a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy in 2013. It took more than two years of consistent lobbying by the ESP to endorse the policy. Therefore, there is a risk that the Commission may not prioritise the implementation of the policy. | The ESP will continuously follow-up with the ECN and also provide technical assistance in preparing plans and in the implementation of the policy. Development partners and civil society organisations could also lobby the ECN to assert the implementation of the policy. | Activities to assist the ECN in the implementation of the Gender and Social Inclusion Policy are incorporated in the 2014 AWP. | December 2013 |

Annex 1: Training Data for 2014

Annual Data (2014)

| SN | Activities | Types | Dates | Event/s | Location | Male | Female | Total |
|----|---|----------|---------------------------|---------|------------------|------|--------|-------|
| 1 | IT Training on PostgreSQL | Training | 1-9 July 2014 | 2 | Park Village | 21 | 2 | 23 |
| 2 | JAVA Training | Training | 11-30 July 2014 | 2 | Park Village | 22 | 2 | 24 |
| 3 | VLA Database Training | Training | 11-22 August 2014 | 1 | EEIC | 19 | 3 | 22 |
| 4 | Network Training | Training | 25-29 August 2014 | 1 | EEIC | 17 | 4 | 21 |
| 5 | Social Studies Teacher Training | Training | 14 Feb to 14 Dec 2014 | 10 | EEIC * Surkhet | 147 | 103 | 250 |
| 6 | ToT on ELECTORAL & VOTER EDUCATION TRAINING for Deaf Citizens | Training | 12-14 October 2014 | | Dhulikhel | 17 | 8 | 25 |
| 7 | Training on Enterprise-based Web GIS Electoral Mapping System | Training | 11-17 February 2014 | 1 | Data Centre, ECN | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| 8 | Orientation on GIS and ERM tool | Training | 11-13 September 2014 | 3 | High View Resort | 75 | 6 | 81 |
| 9 | Training on EVM at Godavari (Two Events) | Training | 24-25 April 2014 | 2 | Godavari | 40 | 26 | 66 |
| 10 | Training on EVM at Chitwan (Two Events) | Training | 24-25 April 2014 | 2 | Chitwan | 10 | 44 | 54 |
| 11 | Workshop on Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) | Workshop | 9-10 February 2014 | 1 | Lalitpur | 14 | 2 | 16 |
| 12 | BRIDGE Workshop on Electoral Administration and Management | Workshop | 5 March - 11 October 2014 | 2 | Dhulikhel | 40 | 6 | 46 |
| 13 | BRIDGE Workshop on Electoral Systems | Workshop | 25-28 March 2014 | 1 | Kathmandu | 21 | 4 | 25 |
| 14 | BRIDGE Workshop on Gender, Social Inclusion and Elections | Workshop | 5-7 May 2014 | 1 | Dharan | 14 | 9 | 23 |
| 15 | BRIDGE Workshop on Electoral Security and Risk Management | Workshop | 26-28 May 2014 | 1 | Dhulikhel | 25 | 0 | 25 |

| SN | Activities | Types | Dates | Event/s | Location | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|--|----------------------|---------------------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 16 | BRIDGE Workshop on Gender, Social Inclusion and Elections at Baglung | Workshop | 9-11 November 2014 | 3 | Baglung, Dhulikhel & Dhangadhi | 30 | 44 | 74 |
| 17 | Post Election Review Workshop with Returning Officer | Workshop | 11-20 March 2014 | 7 | Janakpur | 153 | 2 | 155 |
| 18 | Induction Programme for Newly-Appointed ESP Staff | Workshop | 5-7 November 2014 | 1 | Soaltee Hotel | 9 | 5 | 14 |
| 19 | Retreat Programme of ESP | Workshop | 19-21 November 2014 | 1 | Park Village | 32 | 18 | 50 |
| 20 | Second Strategic Plan Formulation Workshop (3 events) | Workshop | 25-29 July 2014 | | Park Village | 290 | 49 | 339 |
| 21 | Focus Group Discussion with Electoral Stakeholders | Discussion Programme | 9-10 September 2014 | 1 | Annapurna Hotel | 28 | 25 | 53 |
| 22 | Social Inclusion and Gender Interaction Programme at Pokhara | Interaction | 7-11 July 2014 | 3 | Pokhara | 69 | 61 | 130 |
| Total | | | | | | 1,107 | 425 | 1,532 |

Annex 2: Progress against Indicators: Annual M&E plan - 2014

| Expected Results (Outcomes & Outputs from your AWP) | Indicators (with annual Baselines & Targets) | M&E Event with Data Collection Methods | Time or Schedule and Frequency | Responsibilities | Means of Verification: Data Source and Type | Progress |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| <i>Obtained from development plan and results framework.</i> | <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Baseline:</i></p> <p><i>Target:</i></p> | <p><i>How is data to be obtained?</i></p> <p><i>Example: through a survey, a review or stakeholder meeting, field visits, etc.</i></p> | <p><i>Monthly?</i></p> <p><i>Quarterly?</i></p> <p><i>Annually?</i></p> | <p><i>Who is responsible for organizing the data collection and verifying data quality and source?</i></p> | <p><i>Systematic source and location where you would find the identified and necessary data such as a national institute, project MIS, beneficiary reports, field reports.</i></p> | |
| <p>UNDAF Outcome and the CP Output</p> <p>UNDAF Outcome (2013-2017) <i>Institutions, systems and processes of democratic governance are more accountable, effective, efficient and inclusive</i></p> <p>Expected Country Programme (CP) Output (2013-2017) <i>Election Commission has the</i></p> | <p>Indicator: % of women and minority candidates in national and local elections Baseline : 33%, Target: 40%</p> <p>Indicator: % of eligible voters (men & women) who turn out in national and local elections Baseline : 62.5%, Target: 67%</p> <p>Indicator: % of men and women eligible to vote who are registered by ECN with</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • Media Reports • ESP Reports | After Elections | ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • Media Reports • ESP Reports | <p>35.39 % of women candidates in CA Elections 2013</p> <p>79.9% of total registered voters voted in CA Elections 2013</p> <p>87% of citizens who</p> |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| capacity to conduct credible, inclusive and transparent elections | <p>photographs and biometric profiling. Baseline: 66%, Target: 70%</p> <p>Indicator: % of invalid ballots on national elections and local elections Baseline: 5.15 (PR), 3.66 (FPTP), Target: Less than 3%</p> <p>Indicator: Number of citizens sensitized on electoral system and processes through EEIC Baseline: 6,000, Target: 30,000 (4,000 annual)</p> | | | | | <p>are 16 years and above are registered by ECN</p> <p>In 2013 CA Elections, the invalid vote was 4.96% and 3.20% under the FPTP and PR respectively</p> <p>A total of 18338 citizens (5044 in 2014) sensitized on electoral system and processes</p> |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------------|--|--|---|
| <p>Output 1: Strengthened capacity of the ECN to function as a permanent, independent, credible and professional institution of governance</p> | <p>Indicator: National and local elections are organized and held in a a) timely (postponements) , b) effective (observer reports) and c) credible manner (number of complaints) Baseline: a) 2008 elections were held after two postponements, b) Many national and international observer reports (EU EOM, Carter Center, International Crisis Group, DEAN, ANFREL, NEOC et al) stated that 2008 elections were by and large effective c) 64 cases of electoral related violence were filed at ECN. ECN's decision- 'voting annulled' for 12 cases and 'no action required' for 52 cases. Target: Elections organized in timely (no postponement) , effective (observers report) and credible (reduced no of complaints) manner Indicator: % of ECN staff that indicate a strengthened capacity of the ECN through trainings provided by ESP,</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports | <p>After Elections</p> | <p>ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • Media Reports • ESP Reports | <p>a) 2013 CA Elections are held in a timely manner without postponement b) Reports of many national and international observers (<i>there were 3 international and 54 national organizations involved in election observation</i>) state that the election was held in a free, fair, and credible manner c) Reduced number of electoral related violence incidents</p> |
|---|--|--|------------------------|--|--|---|

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------|----------|---|---|
| | <p>measured through staff surveys on: Staff capacity development and learning</p> <p>Baseline: 100% of surveyed ECN staff reported that the trainings supported by ESP enhanced their capacity to fulfill responsibilities better</p> <p>Target : Same</p> <p>Baseline: 92 % of staff reported that they transferred their skills gained in the trainings to other colleagues</p> <p>Target: 95%</p> <p>Baseline: 89 % of staff reported that these trainings encouraged them to continue working with ECN</p> <p>Target: 93%</p> | ECN Staff Survey about staff perception of ECN institutional and individual capacity improvement | Annual | ESP | ECN Staff Survey Report | Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year |
| <p>1.1 Support with Strategic Planning</p> <p>Envisaged Result: A multi-year strategic plan, making a special emphasis on women, minorities and other vulnerable groups' inclusion, is produced, adopted and implemented and guides the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) in the full attainment of its mission, vision, goals and objectives</p> | <p>Indicator: A new or revised ECN Strategic Plan is developed and implemented, including recommendations and lessons learnt from the 2009-2013 Plan</p> <p>Baseline: ECN 2009-2013 Strategic Plan - revision required</p> <p>Target: New Strategic Plan (2015-2019) of the ECN developed</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Plan Assessments and evaluation • Review Meetings • New ECN Plan • Donor Coordination Meetings | Annual Review | ECN, ESP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports | The draft Strategic Plan (2015- 2019) of the ECN, together with action plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, was handed over to the ECN. The draft has been prepared in consultation with the ECN officials at |

| | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | central and local levels (Commissioners, district election officers, different sections and divisions, professional and support staff) as well as electoral stakeholders. Suggestions and comments provided during these consultations are incorporated in the draft Strategic Plan. |
| <p>1.2 Support with Professional Development and Cooperation</p> <p>Envisaged Result: The professional skills of the election officials (as well as civil society, political parties and other stakeholders in the electoral process) at the various levels are enhanced and a pool of certified, skilled electoral trainers established and retained at the ECN.</p> <p>ECN takes steps towards ensuring retention of their staff</p> | <p>Indicator: Number of ECN staff and other stakeholders trained on:</p> <p>i) Electoral processes Baseline: 0 , Target: More than 1000</p> <p>ii) BRIDGE Baseline: 1148 trained, Target: 400</p> <p>iii) 'Train the Facilitator' (TtF) certified (semi/full/accrediting) Baseline: 22, Target: 20</p> <p>iv) non-electoral trainings(procurement, financial management,</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Reports • Training Pre-Post Assessments • Review Meetings • Donor Coordination Meetings | Monthly | ECN, ESP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN & ESP Reports | <p>i) 48 trainings/seminars /workshops were conducted this year with participation of 1617 ECN officials (32% women) and electoral stakeholders.</p> <p>ii) 10 BRIDGE trainings were conducted with 184 ECN staff and</p> |

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| and the institutional memory through the development and implementation of a plan to retain staff and develop hand over and archiving modalities. | <p>and other), as well as number of professional exchange visits / study tours</p> <p>Baseline: 29 trained; Target: 20</p> <p>Indicator: % of staff who received job description/TOR when they joined ECN</p> <p>Baseline: 48%, Target: 60%</p> <p>Indicator: % of staff who received orientation on their roles and responsibilities when they joined ECN</p> <p>Baseline:33%, Target: 50%</p> <p>Indicator: % of staff who perceive that the orientation was adequate to start their job responsibilities</p> <p>Baseline: 18%, Target: 35%</p> <p>Indicator: % of staff who received handover notes from their predecessors</p> <p>• Baseline:50%, Target: 70%</p> | ECN Staff Survey ECN Staff Survey about staff perception of ECN institutional and individual capacity improvement | Annual | ESP | ECN Staff Survey Report | <p>other stakeholders (64% male, 36% female)</p> <p>iii) Tft will be held in 2015</p> <p>iv) Non-electoral trainings were not held this year</p> <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> |
| <p>1.3 Support with Geographic Information and Electoral Mapping Systems</p> <p>Envisaged Result:</p> | <p>Indicator: All collected polling location data is digitalized in one database, accessible at district level</p> <p>Baseline: 0; Target: 100%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Input/Reports from National GIS Officer | Monthly | ESP, ECN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Input/Reports from National GIS Officer | <p>Web GIS based Electoral Mapping System aimed at linking all 75 district election offices across</p> |

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| <p>Administration of the electoral process made more efficient and transparent through the provision of a Geographic Information System (GIS) based electoral mapping suitable to the needs and environment in which it is used and maintained</p> | <p>Indicator: % of polling stations identified and mapped Baseline: 0; Target: 100%</p> <p>Indicator: Number and types of maps used by ECN in electoral planning and administration Baseline: Thematic Maps ; Target: At least 5 series</p> <p>Indicator: No. of ECN staff, at HQ and in the districts, trained on use of GIS/GPS/Google Earth tools (disaggregated by gender) Baseline: More than 300; Target: 400 (100 annual)</p> | | | | | <p>the country was established and implemented</p> <p>Additional polling locations identified during CA elections 2013 to be mapped in 2015.</p> <p>CA By-Election 2014 Map series (Kathmandu Constituency No. 2, Chitwan Constituency No.4, Bardiya Constituency No. 1; and Kailali Constituency No.6) were produced upon ECN's request.</p> <p>81 ECN staff (93% male, 7% female) were provided training on GIS and Electoral Risk Management Tool. 16</p> |
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| | | | | | | ECN staff (88% male, 12 % female) were trained on Web GIS based Electoral Mapping System |
| <p>1.4 : Support with Creation and Display of New Voter Register</p> <p>Envisaged Result: A completely new, accurate voters' list with photographs containing some 15 million voter records is produced and displayed prior to the election, allowing for smooth and credible electoral process. A sustainable, continuous voter registration system is established</p> | <p>Indicator: Claims and Objection Process carried out Baseline: In April, 2012; Target: At least once before election</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who are aware of the Claims and Objection Process Baseline: 41%, Target: 60%</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who checked their information during the Claims and Objection Process Baseline 63%, Target: 70%</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who have confidence on the accuracy and completeness of the voters list in their area Baseline 73%, Target: 85%</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who show or perceive an increased knowledge and awareness on Voters Registration process Baseline 17% aware of minimum age to register; 94%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • ESP Reports • Donor Coordination Meetings • Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey | <p>Prior to Elections</p> <p>Annual</p> | <p>ESP, ECN</p> <p>ESP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • ESP Reports <p>Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey Report</p> | <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> |

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| | of public aware of documents needed during registration, Target: 40%; more than 94% | | | | | |
| Output 2: Elections Cycle conducted in an effective, sustainable and credible manner | <p>Indicator: Detailed election administrative procedures and operational plans in place before the elections Baseline: Draft plan through ESP Support; Target: Procedures and Plans prepared in advance of elections</p> <p>Indicator: Ratio of direct international funding for ECN decreased Baseline: NPTF-45%, GoN-37%, 18% foreign assistance; Target: ration\% of international funding decreased</p> <p>Indicator: Number of International Advisors needed to assist the ECN decreased Baseline: 90 advisors from UNMIN; Target: Reduced number of international advisors</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • ESP Reports • Operational plans • Administrative plans | After Election | ECN, ESP, Electoral Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • ESP Reports • Operational plans • Administrative plans | Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year |
| <p>2.1: Support with Procedures and Training</p> <p>Envisaged Result: Clear electoral procedures resulting in a smooth electoral process, well informed electorate, and trained ECN staff.</p> | <p>Indicator: Number of ECN officials & election stakeholders trained in different electoral procedures Baseline: 125,184 staff and 108,806 volunteers; Target: 250,000 staff trained by ECN</p> <p>Indicator: Increased effort for</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports | After Election | ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports | Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year |

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| | <p>representation of women and disadvantaged groups among those recruited and trained during election period is observed</p> <p>Baseline: No disaggregated data; Target: Gender disaggregated data maintained</p> | | | | | |
| <p>2.2: Support with Election Operations and Logistics</p> <p>Envisaged Result: Timely development of operational plans and concepts, smooth conduct of election operations, as well as provision, transportation and storage of all election materials</p> | <p>Indicator: Operational plan defining all aspects of election operations developed prior to elections Baseline: Draft plan prepared through ESP Support; Target: Operational plan prepared in advance of elections</p> <p>Indicator: Number of sensitive and non-sensitive election materials distributed Baseline: 60,000 ballot boxes, more than 41 million ballot papers and 70,000 Indelible Ink packs; Target: As per ECN election plan</p> <p>Indicator: Number of polling stations opened on time and operated throughout the polling day Baseline: 86%, Target: 100%</p> <p>Indicator: # of staff deployed in polling stations (with proportionate representation of women and disadvantaged</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • ESP Election Operational and Logistics officer • Reports from other electoral stakeholders | After Election | ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • ESP Election Operational and Logistics officer • Reports from other electoral stakeholders | Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year |

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| | <p>groups) Baseline: No disaggregated data; Target: Disaggregated data maintained</p> <p>Indicator: % of election procurement done by ECN (cost-wise) - in comparison to all remaining procurement done by international organization) Baseline: To be confirmed; Target: Higher % by ECN</p> | | | | | |
| <p>2.3 Support with Electoral Dispute Resolution</p> <p>Result: Enhanced Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) skills acquired by the ECN and the judiciary, which lead to a tangible decrease in the number of unresolved disputes in future elections, thus enhancing stakeholders' confidence in elections</p> | <p>Indicator: Electoral Dispute Resolution System established and implemented Baseline: ESP reviewed and assessed Nepal's EDR framework Target: Recommendations made on review and assessment implemented</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • EDR policy of ECN | After Election | ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports <p>EDR policy of ECN</p> | The ECN with the technical assistance of the Project initiated developing a 'Model Election Code of Conduct' for the future elections. |
| <p>2.4 Support with Electoral Security</p> <p>Envisaged Result: Peaceful elections with any isolated incidents contained using carefully designed electoral violence mitigation strategies</p> | <p>Indicator: Electoral Violence Mitigation Strategy in place Baseline: 0, Target: Strategy in place</p> <p>Indicator: Establishment of Joint Election Coordination Mechanism between ECN, MoHA, Security Agencies to coordinate and improve electoral security response</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN reports • Domestic and International Observer Reports • Reports from other electoral stakeholders • ESP Reports | After Election | ECN, ESP, Election Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports <p>EDR policy of ECN</p> | Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year |

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| | <p>Baseline: 0; Target: JEOP in place</p> <p>Indicator: Risk management tool developed, implemented and instrumental covering all districts</p> <p>Baseline: 0, Target: Risk Management Tool developed</p> | | | | | |
| <p>Output 3: Increased democratic participation in the next cycle of elections, particularly for under-represented and disadvantaged segments of the Nepali society</p> | <p>Indicator: Voting turnout % of people who take part in the elections Baseline: 62.5%, Target: 67%</p> <p>Indicator: % of women, youth (18-39), senior (60+) and different under-represented and disadvantaged groups participating in the elections / electoral events Baseline: No disaggregated data, Target: Disaggregated data maintained</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observers Report • ECN Reports • Civic and Voter Education Reports • Voter Education Assessments and Evaluation | After Election | ECN, ESP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Domestic and International Observers Report | <p>A historic turnout of 79.9 % in CA Elections 2013</p> <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> |
| <p>3.1 Support with Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education</p> <p>Envisaged Result:</p> <p>Voters well-informed about electoral processes resulting in an increased voter turnout, especially by under-represented groups and disadvantaged segments of the Nepali society.</p> | <p>Indicator: % of public who show or perceive an increased knowledge and awareness on Civic Education (on <i>elections and electoral processes</i>)</p> <p>Baseline: 47 % of public are aware of the electoral system followed in the CA Elections 2013</p> <p>Target: 60%</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey | Annual | ESP | Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey Report | <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> |

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| | <p>Baseline: 14 % of public are aware of the number of constituencies under the FPTP system</p> <p>Target: 25%</p> <p>Baseline: 30 % of public who are aware of the Electoral Management Body (EMB) in Nepal</p> <p>Target: 50%</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who show or perceive an increased knowledge and awareness on Voters Education</p> <p>Baseline: In terms of invalid votes, respondents reported the following should not be done: stamp outside the box (75%); stamp in between two symbols (45%); stamp in more than one symbol in one ballot paper (43%); stamp in multiple boxes (32%); use thumb prints or other signs (37%); use ballot paper without polling officer's signature (12%); stamp in blurred manner (8%).</p> <p>Target: Stamp outside the box (85%); stamp in between two symbols (55%); stamp in more</p> | | | | | |
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| | <p>than one symbol in one ballot paper (60%); stamp in multiple boxes (50%); use thumb prints or other signs (38%); use ballot paper without polling officer's signature (25%); stamp in blurred manner (15%).</p> <p>Indicator: % of public's awareness of ECN's Civic and Voter Education activities and programs</p> <p>Baseline: 68 % of public who are aware of the voter education programs and materials produced by the ECN</p> <p>Target: 75%</p> <p>Baseline: 63% of public have seen/heard/read voter education programs and materials in local languages</p> <p>Target: 75%</p> | | | | | |
| 3.2: Support with Electoral Education and Information Center | <p>Indicator: # of stakeholders who visit the EEIC (disaggregated by gender, type of stakeholders)</p> <p>Baseline: 6172, Target: 30000 (4000 annual)</p> <p>Indicator: % of surveyed visitors who report improved knowledge and awareness on</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • EEIC Reports • ESP Financial and Annual Reports • EEIC Visitors | Monthly | ESP | EEIC Reports | <p>5044 citizens visited the center in 2014</p> <p>97% of the surveyed</p> |

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| | <p>democratic and electoral system</p> <p>Baseline: More than 70, Target: More than 75%</p> <p>Indicator: % of public who are aware of EEIC and its programs Baseline: 14%; Target: 20%</p> <p>Indicator: % of ECN's financial contribution in EEIC's operational cost Baseline: 0; Target: 70%</p> | <p>Evaluation</p> <p>Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey</p> | <p>Monthly</p> <p>Annual</p> | <p>ESP</p> <p>ESP</p> | <p>EEIC Visitors Evaluation Report</p> <p>Public Knowledge and Opinion Survey Report</p> | <p>visitors report increased knowledge and awareness</p> <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> <p>100% ECN's contribution in EEIC's operational cost</p> |
| <p>3.3: Support with External Relations</p> <p>Envisaged Result: Well informed and engaged civil society and political contestants facilitate increased participation</p> | <p>Indicator: # of registered observers – national and international Baseline: 61,854 domestic and 783 international , Target: Reduced number of observers</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Media Reports • ESP Reports | <p>After Elections</p> | <p>ECN, ESP, Electoral Stakeholders</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECN Reports • Media Reports • ESP Reports | <p>Not applicable because baseline survey data was obtained in 2014 and hence follow-up survey was not conducted this year</p> |

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| and independent observation of elections by civil society groups and party agents, which contributes to a transparent electoral process. | | | | | | |
| <p>Envisaged Result:</p> <p>Mainstreaming of policies and mechanisms for inclusion of women and other minorities, marginalized and vulnerable groups which include Madhesis, Dalits, Janjatis, elderly, youth, and others.</p> | <p>Indicator: Revised policies, acts and strategies of Election Commission are more progressive with regards to GE/SI components Baseline: No special chapter on GE/SI; Target: Ge/SI Policy endorsed & implemented</p> <p>Indicator: Number and type of GE/SI trainings for the ECN supported by ESP Baseline: 5 , Target: 30</p> <p>Indicator: Number of ECN staff & other stakeholders trained on gender and inclusion issues Baseline: 105, Target: 250</p> <p>Indicator: # of public outreach, civic and voter education material targeting women and marginalized groups Baseline: 2008 election reports (Carter Center, IDEA, Gender Mapping) point out gaps in targeting women and marginalized groups Target: 15</p> | ECN Reports ESP Gender Reports Donor Coordination Meetings | Monthly, Quarterly | ECN, ESP | ECN Reports ESP Gender Reports | <p>Gender Committee under the leadership of the Commissioner was formulated and Gender Unit was established at ECN headquarter</p> <p>4 BRIDGE trainings on "Gender, Social Inclusion and Election" were held this year.</p> <p>Around 100 ECN staff trained on gender and social inclusion issues</p> |

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| | <p>Indicator: # of GE/SI knowledge products produced Baseline: Gender Mapping Study , Target: 4</p> <p>Indicator: % of ECN staff who show or perceive an increased awareness and more GE/SI sensitive action within the ECN Baseline: Less than 25% , Target: 40%</p> | <p>ECN Staff Survey ECN Staff Survey about staff perception of ECN institutional and individual capacity improvement</p> | Annual | ESP | ECN Staff Survey Report | <p>No specific materials produced.</p> <p>Gender Book "Her Voice her Choice" capturing success stories and lessons learned of 2013 CA elections was published and launched</p> |
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Annex 3: Provisional Financial Statement

| Activities | Total Approved Budget 2014 USD | Expenditure Incurred in 2014 (USD) |
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| <i>Output 1. Strengthened capacity of the ECN to function as a permanent, independent, credible and professional institution of governance.</i> | | |
| Activity 1.1: Support with Strategic Planning | 446,190 | 420,734.27 |
| Activity 1.2: Support with Professional Development and Cooperation | 121,730 | 118,704.82 |
| Activity 1.3: Support with Geographic Information and Electoral Mapping | 89,046 | 86,538.52 |
| Activity 1.4: Support with Creation and Display of New Voter Register | 502,780 | 518,101.44 |
| Sub Total | 1,159,746 | 1,143,919.12 |
| <i>Output 2. Election cycle conducted in an effective, sustainable, and credible manner.</i> | | |
| Activity 2.1: Support with Procedures and Training | 235,935 | 237,855.78 |
| Activity 2.2: Support with Operations and Logistics | 1,129,044 | 1,095,026.34 |
| Activity 2.3: Support with Electoral Dispute Resolution | 11,663 | 8,634.98 |
| Activity 2.4: Support with Electoral Security | 4258 | 1,819.03 |
| Sub Total | 1,380,900 | 1,343,336.13 |
| <i>Output 3. Increased democratic participation in the next cycle of elections, particularly for under-represented and disadvantaged segments of the Nepali society.</i> | | |
| Activity 3.1: Support with Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education | 307,843 | 290,417.08 |
| Activity 3.2: Support with Electoral Education and Information Center(s) | 203,684 | 189,546.36 |
| Activity 3.3: Support with External Relations | 94,160 | 95,596.26 |
| Activity 3.4: Gender social inclusion and vulnerable groups | 72,478 | 46,236.22 |
| Sub Total | 678,165 | 621,669.04 |
| <i>Output 4. Programme management and quality support</i> | | |
| 4.1 Monitoring & Evaluation | 75,970 | 79,928.79 |
| Activity 4.2 UNDP Project Set up, Running Costs | 505,220 | 476,377.70 |
| Deprecation of Fixed Assets & Changes in accounting policies | | 104,407.14 |
| Sub Total | 581,190 | 660,713.63 |
| Total | 3,800,000 | 3,769,924.73 |

Annex 4: Publications/reports supported by the project

(Please see attached DVD for Annex 4)

1. Publications

- 1.1 Electoral Atlas
- 1.2 Gender Book
- 1.3 Analytical Report on Media Monitoring

2. Reports

- 2.1 Baseline Survey of Electoral Support Project
- 2.2 EEIC Evaluation Report
- 2.3 Study on Overcoming the Constraints in Political Participation of Women in Elected Offices in Nepal

3. Weekly Reports

4. FEMBoSA

- 4.1 Booklet
- 4.2 Brochure
- 4.3 Folder
- 4.4 Notebook
- 4.5 Pen
- 4.6 Event Photographs

5. Photographs of the activities conducted in 2014

6. Visibility



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Resilient nations.*

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