

Factsheet

Electoral Support Project - Nepal



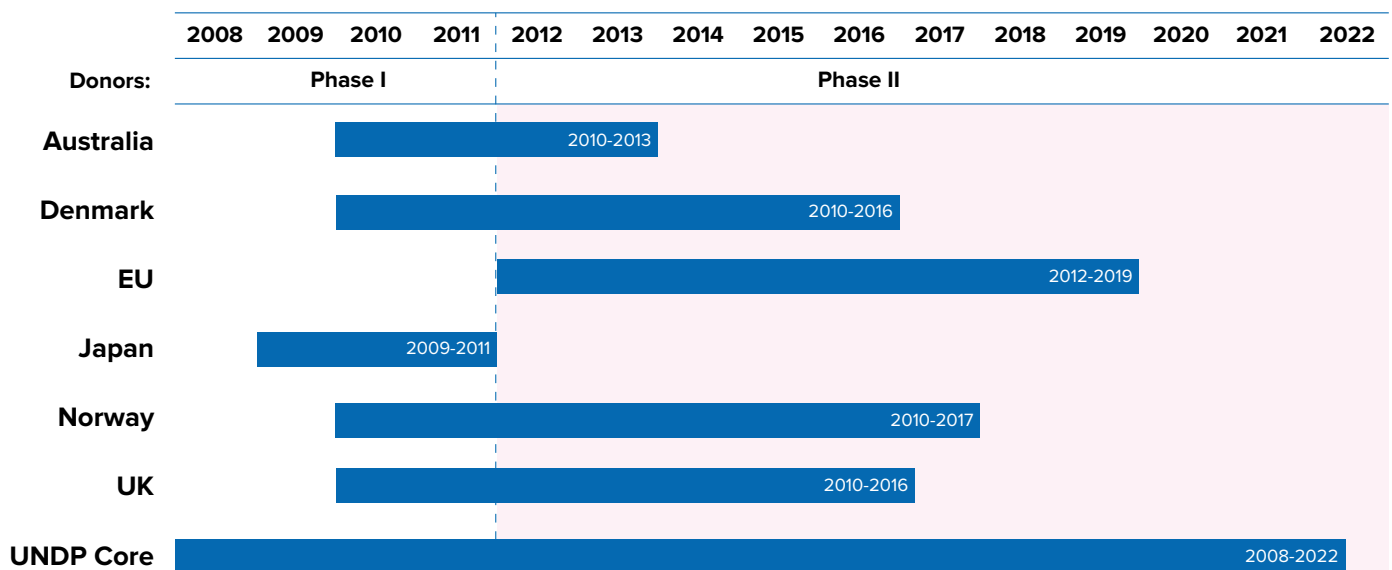
AT A GLANCE

As part of the UNDP programme to promote democratic governance, the Electoral Support Project (ESP) is dedicated to strengthening electoral system and processes in Nepal.

DETAILS:

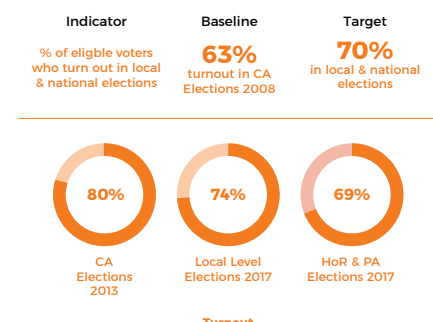


Core Development Partners:

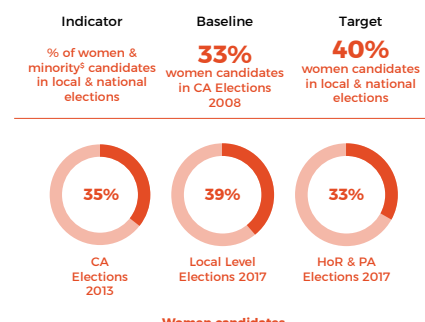


PROJECT OUTCOME:

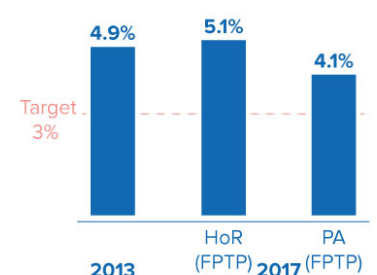
Voters Turnout



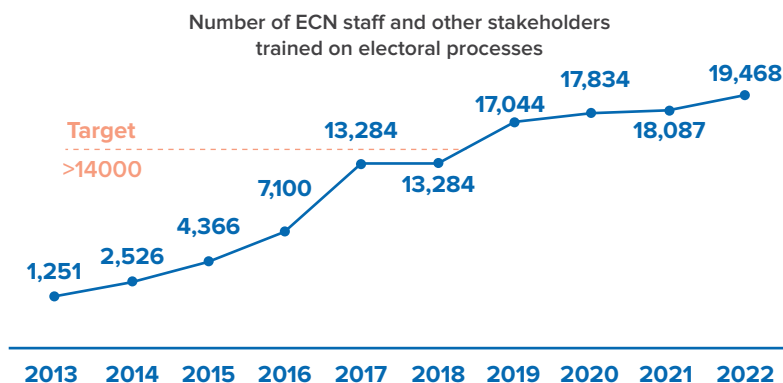
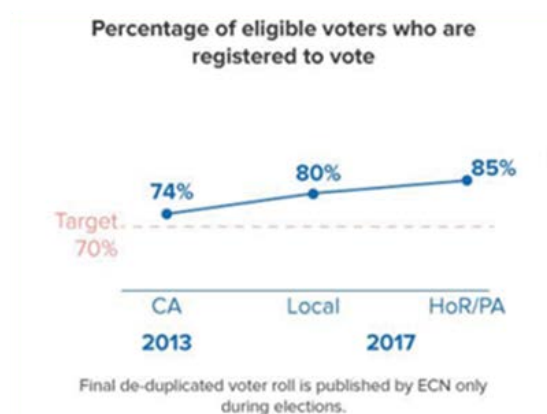
Women Candidates



Percentage of Invalid Votes



THE PROJECT OUTPUTS

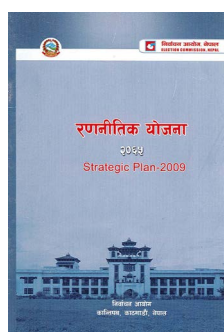


Output 1	Output 2	Output 3	Output 5
Strengthened capacity of the Election Commission Nepal to function as a permanent, independent, credible and professional institution of governance.	Electoral cycle conducted in an effective, credible and sustainable manner.	Expanded democratic participation in the next cycle of elections, particularly for under-represented and disadvantaged segments of the Nepali society.	Increased awareness and compliance with measures to minimize the impact of Covid-19, especially among disadvantaged segments of Nepali society.

KEY SUPPORT FROM ESP TO ECN

1. ECN's Strategic Plans

Supported in the formulation of



First Strategic Plan
2009 - 2013

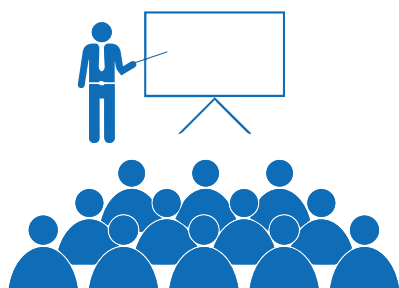


Second Strategic Plan
2015 - 2019



Third Strategic Plan
2019 - 2024

2. Staff Retention and Professional Development of ECN



19,468

people (**4857 Women**) trained on various electoral themes and issues.

1,274

people (**410 women**) trained through internationally recognized *Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE)* training methodology.





254

ECN staff and other electoral stakeholders gained international exposure.



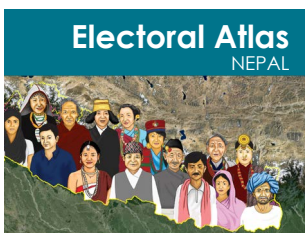
Created a version in **Nepali language** and uploaded various knowledge products, upgraded the **ACE Electoral Knowledge Network website**.



Supported in formulation of ECN's **Human Resources Policy**.

- Conducted a study on **staff retention strategies of ECN**.
- Developed a system requisition specification (SRS) for Monitoring and Evaluation Management Information System.

3. Geographic Information and Electoral Mapping Systems Support



The first-ever **Electoral Atlas of Nepal** published in 2014.



More than
300

ECN officials trained on GIS and the use of GPS.



More than
10,000

polling locations located across the country.



Provided
80 units

of handheld GPS trackers for polling location identification.

4. Support with Creation and Display of New Voter Register



3600
laptops



3600
fingerprint scanner



3600
web-camera



1000 units
portable generator

PROVIDED AS PART OF THE VOTER REGISTRATION KITS.



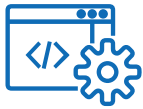
600 units

of rugged new laptops which can be used in tough weather conditions to replace the older laptop from the voter registration kits.



900 units

of laptop and printer to support online candidate registration and election results transmission in 2017.



Prepared a detailed **System Requirement Specification (SRS)** of Voter Registration Software.

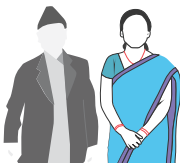


Central Data Centre established to store voter registration information at ECN; disaster recovery site established at the Government Integrated Data Centre in the Singha Durbar.



ECN successfully published the **new voters roll with photographs** and used it in the 2013 CA elections and 2017 local, provincial and federal level elections.

5. Support with Procedures and Training



6,963

2,114
Female

1
Other

ECN and election officials and election stakeholders trained on electoral procedures, security management, administration and logistics, election observation and election reporting.

Supported the production of

- History of Elections in Nepal Vol I and II,
- Handbook on Promoting Political Participation and Voter Education with NAB 2019,
- Training manual and resource materials with NAB on Strengthening Capacity of Blind and Visually Impaired People of Nepal on Political Rights 2019,
- Training Manual for people with hearing disability and visually impaired on electoral education 2016,
- Training Manual on Administrative Leadership 2016.

A list of ESP supported knowledge products is available [here](#).



6. Support with Election Operations and Logistics

- Supported in Guidelines on electoral operation during COVID 19 pandemic.
- 485 tons of paper procured for the 2013 ballot papers.
- Purchased 2 units of high-speed heavy duty color printers for ECN to produce voter roll and voter ID card as well as one unit of air compressor table hydraulic paper cutting machine (1 set and Ballot Paper Numbering System - 4 sets with accessories) for the Janak Educational Materials Centre to allow for the timely production of ballot papers.
- 6 SUVs, 5 pickup and 25 motorcycles procured for the ECN in 2014.
- Assembly area for polling station kits at the ECN premises established which is currently being used as storage facility.
- In 2020, prepared an outline of key content for the operational plan for the 2022/23 elections.
- Procured a Mediatoolkit for social media monitoring group in the local level election 2022.
- Procurement Zoom license to the ECN for virtual meetings following COVID-19 pandemic.



7. Support with Electoral Dispute Resolution

Adopted a **standard operating procedure on EDR**,

553 (72 Females)
election officials, the judiciary
and other stakeholders

participated in capacity-building training on electoral dispute resolution, conducted together with the National Judicial Academy.

Produced Nepal's first
**resource book on
electoral justice** that
was launched by the
President of Nepal in
2020.



29
**cases of
disputes**

including two cases filed in the Returning Officer's office in 52 by-elections, November 2019

8. Support with Electoral Security



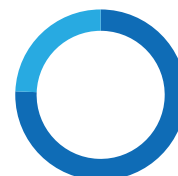
- Conducted assesment on **Electoral Violence Mitigation Strategy 2012**.
- Established the Joint Election Operation Centre in the ECN headquarter.
- Worked with UNDP's Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation to organise campaigns to promote a conducive environment for inclusive and credible elections.
- Prepared 4 digital posters to prevent GBV/VAW in elections and shared on social media platforms targeting the Local Level Election 2022.

9. Support with Public Outreach, Civic and Voter Education



Supported development of
**Electoral and Voter Education
Policy**.

468
Female



1455
Male

were trained on enhancing public outreach,
civic and voter education.

2017 elections

29 districts

8,000
voter education events

2,00,000
(56% women and
marginalized community)
voters reached directly.



26 districts

12,000
(40% women and
marginalized community)
voters reached directly.

2022 elections



Supported the production **PSAs**, and 16 episodes of TV and 8 weekly radio programmes '**Nirwachen Sarokar**'.

Local Level Election 2022

- **4 Radio Programmes** on election themes.
- **Radio Jingles** in 7 different languages.
- **Digital display** at WTC, Tripureshwor



A Resource Book for **Social Studies Teachers on Electoral Education, 2016** Developed.

427

Social Studies teachers from secondary schools were trained, benefiting more than

25,000
students

- Collaborated with Centre for Education and Human Resource Development to update the Curriculum of Social Studies from grade 3-10.
- Collaborated with UNESCO to work with the Ministry of Education's 298 **Community Learning Centres (CLCs)** across 31 districts to impact civic and voter education to the grassroots.
- A set of 18 civic and voter education booklets produced.
- 340 people reached through mobile application on electoral education, Nirwachen Skishya.
- An **animation** that uses a school election to explain the different steps in the electoral process in simple terms.
- A one-hour movie entitled **Ek Vote (one vote)**, demonstrating the importance of transparent elections to support democracy and governance developed.



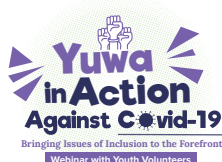
निर्वाचन शिक्षा (Electoral Education)

GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store



- Support with ECN's **Social Media Policy**, which were made in a manner that is accessible to persons with hearing disabilities.
- Study on "**Curricula on Electoral Content for Training Institutes**." Based on the report, the electoral content has also been included in curricula of Public Service Commission and National Administrative Staff College.



790 participants directly reached through UNDP, UN Resident Coordinator's Office, UN Volunteers in Nepal organized youth webinars, branded under UN75. Report is available [here](#). A blog on the event is available [here](#).



Up until June 2022, ESP supported ECN with

102 Posts
on civic and
voter education

that reached
2.3 million
People **Female 10.5%**



through
posting on
facebook.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on elections compiled and launched as the Election Question and Answer Book.



Supported with over **50 knowledge products** for the ECN, available [here](#).

10. Support with Establishment of Electoral Education and Information Centres (EEIC)



- Constructed the EEIC building, as well as provided the necessary equipment for the place. The **Election Education and Information Centre (EEIC)** is an interactive venue that provides information on electoral procedures, the constitution, democracy, political parties and political processes.
- Supported the establishment of additional EEICs at the regional and later provincial level in Pokhara (in 2015), Dhangadi (in 2015), Biratnagar (in 2019), and Surkhet (in 2019).
- Mobile EEICs were introduced for remote locations.
- 30,444 people already visited the EEICs.



11. Support with External Relations

- Constructed the Media Centre; Call Centre, Observers Resource Centre and Warehouse at ECN HQ.
- Supported media monitoring of the 2013 election through [Nepal Press Institute](#).



- Collaborated with ECN, UNESCO, Federation of Nepali Journalists and other development partners to mark the **WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY** event: a one-page infographic is available [here](#).
- 565 People (312 - Female, 1 - Other) from Civil Society, Political Party, and Electoral Stakeholders participated in interactions on electoral process and issues.
- Established a mechanism to enhance election-related activities all the way to the grassroots level, through the appointment of Electoral Focal Persons at all 753 local level and 7 provincial level governments.
- A Master Training of Trainers for the Electoral Focal Persons included 23 participants and 12 facilitators, acquainting them with the workings of the Commission.
- Conducted 14 province level public hearings/dialogs events in seven provinces in collaboration with the UNWOMEN and reached to 700 people from political party and local leaders, media and CSOs. Programmes were conducted before the Local level elections to sensitize people on the issues of inclusion in elections.

12. Support with Gender, Social Inclusion and Vulnerable Groups



Launched its first Gender and Social Inclusion Policy in 2013, as well as an updated **Gender and Inclusion Policy in Electoral Management in 2021**.



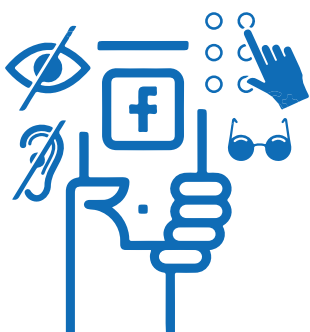
Developed Election Commission's first Social Media Policy.



Developed Human Resources Policy



574 (Female: 542) people reached through trainings on gender and social inclusion.



Organized training on
PWD FRIENDLY SOCIAL MEDIA and reached **32 people**.



16
Male



16
Female

Supported sign language interpretation in live press meets organized by the ECN every Mondays and Thursdays through out the LLE 2022.

Organized an interaction on ECN's Gender and Inclusion Policy with 9 Constitutional Commissions.

ESP worked with 24 CSOs to enhance women's leadership and participation in 2017 elections. 2,000 orientations across 26 districts organized;

52,268

local women engaged directly

4000

became candidates

1000+

won seats

Also supported ECN in preparing a training manual for a women empowerment programme.



Collaborated with the **UNWOMEN** to empower **1,500 Women, Dalit and Marginalized People** for their democratic participation and representation in election.



2,301 participants reached directly, including 991 females through collaboration with **National Deaf Association of Nepal** and the **Nepal Association of the Blind** to conduct voter education considering the special needs of this audience.



FUTURE ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

On request of the Government of Nepal and the Election Commission, Nepal, an Electoral Project Support III is being planned. This successor project will build upon the lessons learned and achievements in the last decade of UN assistance, while supporting the Commission as it assumes new roles and responsibilities and consolidates its legal framework.

For any inquiries, please contact

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