

Annual Report **2018**



Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa



Annual Report
2018

about eisa

OUR VISION

AN AFRICAN CONTINENT WHERE
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE,
HUMAN RIGHTS AND CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION ARE UPHELD IN A
PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT.

OUR MISSION

EISA STRIVES FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE PROMOTION OF
CREDIBLE ELECTIONS, CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION, AND THE
STRENGTHENING OF POLITICAL
INSTITUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA.

TYPE OF ORGANISATION

EISA is an independent, non-profit non-partisan non-governmental organisation whose focus is elections, democracy and governance in Africa.

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT

July 1996.

OUR PARTNERS

Electoral management bodies, political parties, civil society organisations, local government structures, parliaments, and national, Pan-African organisations, Regional Economic Communities and donors.

OUR APPROACH

Through innovative and trust-based partnerships throughout the African continent and beyond, EISA engages in mutually beneficial capacity reinforcement activities aimed at enhancing all partners' interventions in the areas of elections, democracy and governance.

OUR STRUCTURE

EISA consists of a Board of Directors comprised of stakeholders from the African continent and beyond. The Board provides strategic leadership and upholds financial accountability and oversight. EISA has as its patron Sir Ketumile Masire, the former President of Botswana.

The Executive Director is supported by an Operations Director and Finance and Administration Department. EISA's focused programmes include:

- Elections and Political Processes
- Balloting and Electoral Services
- Governance Institutions and Processes
- Supporting Transitions and Electoral Processes Programme

In 2018 EISA had 7 field offices, namely, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Somalia, and Zimbabwe and a Central Africa regional office (Gabon).

CONTACT INFORMATION

www.eisa.org.za | eisa@eisa.org.za |

Tel: +27 11 381 6000 – 7 | Fax: +27 11 482 6163

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DR CHRISTIANA THORPE
CHAIRPERSON



DR R KASENALLY



SHEIK ABDUL CARIMO SAU



THE HONOURABLE,
CHIEF JUSTICE MAMBILIMA



PROFESSOR JOHN STREMLAU



PROFESSOR TOM LODGE



DR NANDINI PATEL



MR DENIS KADIMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MS ILONA TIP
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Chairperson's message

The continent saw positive developments, such as the African Union establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) signed by 44 countries in March 2018. Once effective it is estimated to have a market of over a billion people. The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) is underway and many countries are positively making efforts to embrace the technology with a view to providing more opportunities to its citizens, including in the field of elections.

The challenge to ensure ongoing consistency of the quality elections, accountable governance and a strong and active citizenry continues to be the backdrop to EISA's work on the African continent. From the 13 national elections held in 2018, Sierra Leone and Madagascar (which held the first presidential election since 2013) saw changes in government. Transfer of power was seen in Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa and Zimbabwe, with incumbent presidents stepping down or resigning their positions as either president or as party leader. In other countries such as São Tomé and Príncipe, the current ruling party won the 7 October 2018 elections, in Cameroon the current president was the successful candidate, having been in power since 1982 and in Rwanda the ruling party and incumbent president won the elections.

Voter turn-out varied from country to country that included Sierra Leone having a voter turnout for the first round presidential of 84.2% and 81.1% in the second round, to Madagascar and Cameroon presidential elections seeing a poll of 48.09% and 53.9% respectively. The DRC saw a voter turnout for the presidential election of 45.4%, while the Zimbabwe 2018 harmonised elections saw a high voter turnout of 85.1%. The Zimbabwe elections were held following the 2017 change in the leadership of the ruling party, and the first election since the 30-year rule of the former president Robert Mugabe at the helm of the country. However, a number of these elections saw election results unsuccessfully contested in courts of law. What is reassuring is that unsuccessful parties are challenging outcomes within the legal framework. Where local and international observers were deployed, a number of recommendations have been made. This creates opportunities for electoral reforms, that if positively responded to, can strengthen the foundation of the democratic process.

EISA's departmental and field office reports reflect the expanded focus of the Institute in strengthening links and providing technical support to regional bodies, political parties and civil society. EISA has shown a strong commitment to other continental and international voices to improve the quality and participation of women and youth in taking ownership of the decisions that impact on them in society.

The Institute's programme in Madagascar continued to support women's efforts to play a more prominent role in their respective political parties and in Parliament. In Somalia, EISA supported local women's groups in convening a series of roundtables that aimed at improving their participation in public affairs in their communities. The EISA Somalia office conducted capacity-building training for youth organisations introducing them to concepts of results-based strategic management and skills to manage grants to conduct civic and democratisation

programmes. EISA also extended its outreach and support to the community of People with Disabilities organising a two-day training on civic participation, making an effort to ensure the inclusivity of all stakeholders in having a say in their society.

EISA continued to play a role in strengthening democratic electoral processes providing support to regional bodies, civil society organisations in election observation, expanding the use of its *popola* system that through the use of technology such as tablets or mobile phones, enables observers to record and share their observations in real time. In regard to support to election management bodies, EISA provide technical support and advice to EMBs, such as in Zimbabwe and Mozambique and in the governance area to parliament, both to elected representatives and parliamentary staff, in their quest to engage with their constituencies and build confidence in the governance institutions.

The year was not without challenges including the economic environment, the impact of climate change and in some countries, political and social instability. Almost 60% of Africa's population is under the age of 25 and almost 16 million young Africans (about 13.4%) of the total labour force in the 15-24-year-old age group face unemployment. This places a responsibility on organisations such as EISA, to ensure that it remains an institution responsive to the needs of its partners.

The success of 2018 for the Institute would not have been possible without the dedication of the EISA Board, its staff, under the leadership of the Executive Director, Mr Denis Kadima, and its partners across the continent. EISA extends its sincere appreciation to the donor community for their continued confidence in its ability to contribute to peace and stability on the continent.

DIRECTORATE



DENIS KADIMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ILONA TIP
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR



ZAHIRA SEEDAT
SENIOR ASSISTANT - DIRECTOR

Executive director's message

EISA, for a further year, confirmed its position as a leading institution in the field of elections and democracy. It is gratifying to say that with the support of the EISA Board and dedication of its staff, EISA had a productive 2018. This was made possible with the much appreciated and continued support of our pan-African, sub-regional and national partners and donors. EISA extended its field offices with the opening of an office in Mali in support of citizen observation. Parallel to its geographical extension, EISA continued to deepen its democracy, elections and governance work. This included deploying its own election observation missions, supporting the African Union (AU) and selected regional economic communities (RECs) for the 13 national elections that were held in 2018.

EISA has contributed to the existing knowledge base on democracy, elections and governance through research, annual symposium, capacity building, publications and policy dialogue. This year's annual continental symposium on the theme "Realising democratic gains through social cohesion in Africa" excited great interest. <https://www.eisa.org.za/symp2018.php> providing an opportunity for exchanges of experiences and ideas.

EISA's achievements are illustrated in detail in this annual report in keeping with EISA's strategic goals, with selected highlights indicated below.

STRATEGIC GOAL 1: ELECTORAL PROCESSES ARE INCLUSIVE, TRANSPARENT, PEACEFUL AND WELL-MANAGED

Under this goal EISA conducted two Pre-Assessment Missions (PAMs) i.e. to Zimbabwe and Madagascar ahead of their respective elections. EISA also deployed election observation missions to the 2018 general elections to Sierra Leone and to the 2018 Mozambique municipal elections. EISA continued its fruitful relationship with the African Union and Regional Economic Communities, providing technical support to their EOMs, training observers and their use of the EISA *popola* system, which allows observers to use smart tablets for data collection, transmission and analysis. EISA provided technical support for a pilot post-election follow up mission of the ECOWAS Network of Electoral Commissions (ECONET). This is a positive step in ECOWAS election assessment methodology.

In regard to support to the relevant election authority, EISA provided support in a number of areas outlined below.

EISA continued its support for the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission's (ZEC) dialogue process with electoral stakeholders in the run-up to the July 2018 Harmonised Elections, including supporting the ZEC in strengthening alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms and conducting a post-election review process attended by all stakeholders.

In Somalia, EISA appreciated the opportunity to support the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR), the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA), and civil society organisations in drafting the electoral law, the constitutional review process and building civic engagement.

EISA provided advisory services to the Electoral Commission in Mozambique on different ways of collecting gender-based voting data.

EISA's regional office based in Gabon continued to strengthen its support to the Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS) in their deployment of election observation missions and helped ECCAS develop sub-regional election standards and principles.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, EISA was subcontracted by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy to conduct an assessment of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). The work of EISA contributed to the beginning of some conversation about the controversial machines ahead of the 30 December 2018 national and provincial elections.

EISA also provided poll watch training to political parties in Mozambique and Madagascar. EISA continued its work supporting the three parliamentary parties in Mozambique. This included supporting the three parliamentary parties in training local candidates in the run-up to the October local elections. Recognising the importance of electoral reforms based on recommendations by stakeholders in previous elections, in Mozambique EISA trained and provided technical advice to the parliamentary Committee on Public Administration and Local Government.

The Balloting and Electoral Services (BES) conducted a variety of elections for boards of trustees, community organisations, political parties and trade unions in South Africa, making use of its suite of technology services.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2: CITIZENS PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

Among the areas of support provided to citizen participation in the democratic process, in Somalia EISA supported a range of civil society interventions and capacity building programmes as the country moves towards democratic elections in 2020. In particular, EISA supported marginalised groups in strengthening their engagement in dialogue processes. This included support to local women's groups in organising dialogue roundtables on best practices in good governance at local level with more than 200 women leaders and community influences benefitting from these roundtables; co-building workshops for youth organisations; and a two-day training for People with Disabilities on the theme "Civic participation for people with disabilities".

With EISA's support the use of social media, videos, roadshows (caravans) and the use of tablets by local observation networks, in the DRC, Mali and Mozambique, civil society organisations and networks conducted voter and civic education programmes and also strengthened their capacity to observe and analyse the technical aspects of electoral processes. In Mozambique, an innovative digital booklet for civil society organisations delineating the main constitutional and electoral legal framework was developed.

In Madagascar EISA launched a national civic and voter education campaign focussing on Malagasy women and youth, working with 23 local CSOs using mobile caravans, community radio and direct engagement with the public. The EISA Madagascar office facilitated social dialogue platforms to encourage dialogue between citizens and elected leaders and between senators and mayors of municipalities to consider local issues, gain a better understand of their respective roles and responsibilities and seek joint solutions.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3: POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES ARE DEMOCRATIC AND FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY

Pursuant to its strategic goal 3, EISA, in partnership with two other international institutions, was involved in a pilot project to identify innovative bottom-up indicators of citizen inclusion and confidence in transitional processes through its Governance Institutions and Political Process (GIPPS) department.

Building on its work over the past three years, the EISA Madagascar office continued its support to parliament by organising workshops and seminars for Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff to increase their leadership skills, knowledge and information to more effectively carry out their responsibilities. To make this a more effective training, two short videos were produced and used as an effective facilitation tool.

EISA continued its support to political parties. This included an induction workshop for temporarily registered political parties in Somalia. After refining its political party gender auditing tool, EISA held consultations with political parties in Botswana, Lesotho and Malawi and piloted the tool in Botswana and Malawi.

EISA convenes an annual continental symposium that provides a platform for discussion and information sharing amongst governance and election stakeholders. In 2018, the 13th Annual Symposium, held in Johannesburg, engaged with the topic “Social cohesion and democracy”, as a means of building stronger democracies in Africa. Presenters from across the continent and beyond, and participants engaged in fruitful discussions and shared experiences. The symposium also provided an opportunity to launch the book “State capture in Africa: Old threats, new packaging”, a collection of the papers presented at the 12th EISA annual continental symposium. <https://www.eisa.org.za/pdf/sym2017papers.pdf>

STRATEGIC GOAL 4: EISA IS A STRONGER AND MORE INFLUENTIAL ORGANISATION

During this period EISA maintained its partnerships and participation in global networks such as the Declaration of Principles for International Observation as a member of the planning committee and participation in the annual conference and as a member of the Steering Board and active partner of the Ace Knowledge Network. EISA, as a member, also participated in and presented at the Second Plenary Assembly of the Global Network on Electoral Justice, held in Mexico.

EISA staff were invited to present papers at conferences and workshops at national, regional, continental and globally. Details of these events are outlined in the departmental and field office reports. EISA published two editions of the Journal of African Elections, the only accredited African journal on election. See <https://www.eisa.org.za/jae.php>

EISA continued to share lessons learned and developed tools that can contribute to information sharing and increased knowledge. These publications are available on <https://www.eisa.org.za/about-publications.php>.

PROGRAMMES

- ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PROCESSES
- BALLOTING AND ELECTORAL SERVICES
- GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES
- SUPPORTING TRANSITIONS AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES

ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PROCESSES



OLUFUNTO AKINDURO
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



CECILE BASSOMO
PROGRAMME MANAGER



RANDRARA RAKOTOMALALA
ASSISTANT PROGRAMME OFFICER
(until April 2018)



NOXOLO GWALA
SENIOR PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



LENNY TAABU
INTERN

Elections and Political Processes (EPP)

OVERVIEW

Elections were held in 13 African countries in 2018.

The general elections in Sierra Leone on 7 March were followed by a run-off on 3 April which resulted in a change of government with the victory of the opposition's Julius Maada Bio. In Mali two rounds of presidential elections, on 29 July and 12 August, resulted in the re-election of the incumbent, President Ibrahim Keita. Zimbabweans voted in the first post-Mugabe-era general elections on 30 July, electing President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who had replaced President Robert Mugabe when the latter stepped down at the end of 2017. The results were challenged by the opposition Movement for Democratic Change but confirmed by the Constitutional Court.

In Rwanda the election of two members of Parliament from the Rwanda Green Party paled into insignificance in comparison to the 40 seats secured by the ruling party, the Rwanda Patriotic Front in the parliamentary elections in September. After several postponements since 2016 Gabon held its legislative and local elections on 6 October 2018 in a climate characterised by deep-seated political divisions.

The ruling Independent Democratic Action in São Tomé and Príncipe won the 7 October 2018 legislative elections while in Cameroon on the same day the presidential election took place against the background of the crisis in the Anglophone areas, a security crisis in the north and growing popular dissatisfaction with the current administration. The election, though challenged by the opposition, was won by the incumbent, Paul Biya, who has been in power since 1982.

The two-round presidential election in Madagascar on 7 November and 19 December 2018 was won by Andry Rajoelina, whose victory was confirmed by the Constitutional Court and accepted by his opponent, former president Marc Ravalomanana.

The DRC's long-awaited presidential election, initially scheduled for 23 December 2018, was held concurrently with national and provincial assembly elections on 30 December. The victory of Felix Tshisekedi, confirmed by the electoral commission and the Constitutional Council, was unsuccessfully challenged by Martin Fayulu, the presidential candidate of the Lamuka coalition.

There was political change in Botswana and South Africa. In Botswana President Ian Khama stepped down after 10 years in office and was replaced by his vice-president, Mokgweetsi Masisi, who was elected president by his party in an internal party election. General elections are scheduled to be held in October 2019. In South Africa, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa took office after the resignation of President Jacob Zuma following his recall by his party.

The EPP department co-ordinated EISA's continental election support initiatives, providing research, training and technical support to the African Union (AU), regional economic communities (RECs) and civil society organisations (CSOs). The department also deployed an EISA election observation mission (EOM), an EISA technical assessment mission (TAM), EISA's first voter registration assessment mission, five technical support missions to the AU and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) observer missions and two EISA pre-election assessment missions (PAMs).

ACHIEVEMENTS

ELECTION ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES

EISA pre-election assessment missions

EISA PAMs were deployed from 18-22 June in Zimbabwe and from 3-11 August in Madagascar, ahead of the critical elections in those countries. The PAM to Madagascar was undertaken in partnership with The Carter Center. PAMs are an important aspect of EISA's efforts to generate knowledge about elections in Africa. Their findings constitute a basis for the advisory and technical support EISA provides to its partners, including the AU, RECs and CSOs. EISA PAM reports are available on its website: <https://eisa.org.za/eom.php>

Election observer mission to Sierra Leone



His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, Leader of EISA EOM with His Excellency Kgalema Motlanthe (Head of AU EOM), His Excellency, Prof. Amos Sawyer (Head of ECOWAS EOM) and His Excellency, John Mahama (Head of Commonwealth Observer Group)

An EISA EOM was deployed to the 2018 general elections in Sierra Leone held on 7 March 2018 and a TAM was deployed to assess the run-off presidential election held on 31 March. The EOM, comprised of 12 observers, was deployed from 26 February to 11 March, while the TAM, comprised of four technical experts, was deployed from 21 March to 3 April 2018. Both missions were led by His Excellency Dr Goodluck Jonathan, former Nigerian president. Because of the keenly contested election in Sierra Leone EISA included a high-profile mission leader in its technical assessment team. The leadership of the EISA TAM made a valuable contribution to the efforts by international EOMs to mitigate the conflict between the two contending parties and the National Electoral Commission. Due to the limited election-day coverage of the TAM a public statement was not issued. The statements and reports of the EISA EOM are available on its website: <https://eisa.org.za/epp-sierra.php>.



Press Conference of the EISA EOM to Sierra Leone

Voter registration in Mozambique

The EPP department supported the EISA Mozambique office, deploying a TAM to observe voter registration and the public inspection of the provisional voters' roll. The mission was deployed in two phases, from 14-25 March and from 13-22 May. The mission enabled EISA to strengthen its methodology for assessing specific thematic electoral issues. The mission also provided an opportunity to interrogate the value of the use of biometric registration in the country. Statements and reports issued by the EISA mission are available at: <https://eisa.org.za/moz2018eisa.php>.

Municipal elections in Mozambique

EISA deployed a medium-term EOM to the municipal elections held in Mozambique on 10 October 2018. The mission comprised 17 medium-term observers, who were deployed from 25 September to 16 October. The EOM covered the campaign period, the election period and the immediate post-election period, building on the assessment of the mission EISA had deployed during the voter registration process. The statements issued by the mission are available at: <https://www.eisa.org.za/pdf/moz2018eom0.pdf>

AU AND RECS

EISA's support during the year under review further contributed to renewed efforts by its continental and regional partners to improve election integrity in Africa. The AU and RECs further advanced their mandate for democratic consolidation in line with key normative frameworks governing democratic governance on the African continent.

African Union

The EPP department co-ordinated the deployment of EISA technical support teams to the AUEOMs deployed to the transitional elections in in the DRC, Madagascar and Sierra Leone. The technical teams facilitated the pre-deployment training of AU observers, provided technical support in the use of smart tablets for data collection and analysis and supported the report drafting team. The teams included a media consultant who supported the public profiling of the EOMs.

EISA experts co-facilitated two training workshops on AUEOM reporting in Addis Ababa from 2-5 May 2018. These workshops contributed to building the capacity of AU core teams and long-term knowledge transfer to personnel. Through the training EISA contributed to discussions about the consolidation and improvement of the structure and content of AUEOM outputs, including weekly reports, statements and final reports.

ECOWAS

As part of its support for ECOWAS's cycle-based election assessment methodology, EISA provided technical support for the implementation of a pilot post-election follow-up mission (PEFuM) deployed by the ECOWAS Network of Electoral Commissions in Guinea Conakry from 7-13 June 2018. The deployment of the PEFuM constitutes the final aspect of the implementation of the election assessment methodology. EISA was instrumental in the development and adoption of this broader methodology for election assessment in 2015. An EISA expert was deployed to support the ECOWAS PEFuM in Guinea, where the mission sought to track the implementation of the EOM's recommendations and identify possible areas of support to enable Guinea Conakry to implement the recommendations. This methodology provides a platform for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of ECOWAS engagement in its member states throughout the electoral cycle to ensure there is an early response to any challenges identified in the process.

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

In line with the work plan agreed after signing a memorandum of understanding with the ICGLR, EISA co-facilitated a methodology and peer-learning workshop titled 'ICGLR's Thematic Focus on Democracy and Elections' on 14 and 15 August. Participants were drawn from ICGLR, AU, the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the European Union, EISA, the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division, Embassy of Germany, ECOWAS and civil society groups.

The workshop sought to examine the ICGLR's framework for promoting democracy within the Great Lakes region. It provided a platform for a review of the ICGLR's current programme strategy and the development of a plan of action for enhancing the output of its Democracy and Good Governance Programme. Because there is an overlap between ICGLR and other regional intergovernmental bodies such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, EAC, SADC and ECCA, the need to harmonise election observation approaches within the region was intensively debated throughout the workshop.



Participants at ICGLR Thematic Workshop in Bujumbura

As part of its efforts to strengthen the ICGLR's election observation methodology EISA facilitated the endorsement of the Declaration of Principles (DoP) for International Election Observation. ICGLR's endorsement of the DoP will expose it to the wider community of practice on election observation and promote peer learning within the community to further strengthen the methodology.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

EISA continued to provide support for SADC's Election Support Unit and Electoral Advisory Council in developing a comprehensive cycle-based election observation methodology in line with the 2015 Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections.

Notable achievements during the reporting period include: the completion of the development of an observer training curriculum for SADC long- and short-term observers, piloting the training curriculum during a two-week training of SADC long-term observers (LTOs) and short-term observers in Pretoria from 1-12 May, the configuration of the EISA *Popola* system on SADC servers and training of designated SADC staff in the use of the system and technical support for the use of tablets during SADC observer missions in Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Madagascar and the DRC.

In 2018 SADC conducted its first long-term EOM in accordance with the SADC observer reference manual and the training curriculum for long- and short-term observers that were developed with support from EISA. The EPP department also facilitated the pre-deployment refresher training and briefing sessions of the SADC electoral observer missions deployed in Zimbabwe, Eswatini and Madagascar.

ACE PROJECT

EISA strengthened its position as an authority on African electoral processes through its increased contribution to the ACE electoral knowledge project. In 2018 EISA provided comparative data updates for the following African countries that held elections in 2018: Sierra Leone, Mali, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Cameroon, Rwanda, Madagascar and the DRC. EISA also contributed to profiling African elections and to the content of the new ACE website through its updates and posts on the ACE Facebook page.

The year 2018 marked the 20th Anniversary of the ACE project. EISA's operations director, who represents EISA on the ACE Steering Board, attended the 20th anniversary celebrations and the ACE Steering Board meeting in Mexico City on 24 October 2018. The revamped ACE website was launched during the celebrations. At the steering board meeting EISA was assigned the additional task of facilitating the English ACE practitioners' network from 2019. Further information on the ACE project can be found at <http://aceproject.org/>.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN SENEGAL

From 5-9 November the EPP department facilitated consultative meetings with political formations represented in the Senegalese National Assembly. At these meetings EISA formally introduced the political party gender audit project it is piloting in Malawi, Botswana and Lesotho. All political formations consulted expressed interest in working with EISA. The gender audit initiative seeks to contribute to strengthening the institutional capacity of parties to mainstream gender effectively in order to enhance equitable gender participation within the political formations.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Staff of the EPP department contributed in different capacities to the following events and activities that provided opportunities for knowledge dissemination and promotion of electoral good practice.

2.5.1 Support for EISA programmes and field offices

In line with EISA's approach to promoting and transferring interdepartmental and field office skills and expertise the EPP department contributed to the following:

- Collaboration with the GIPP department to facilitate consultative meetings with political parties in Lesotho and Botswana on the EISA gender audit project.
- Support for EISA's Gabon regional office to facilitate the joint ECCAS- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa PAM in the DRC.
- Support for EISA's Gabon regional office in drafting and finalising the ECCAS Election Observation Manual.
- Support for the Mozambique office within the Supporting Transitions and Electoral Process Programme to train and assist in the conduct of parallel vote tabulation (PVT) during the mayoral by-election in Nampula Province in January 2018. This support provided an opportunity to try out the *Popola* system in preparation for the PVT planned for the October 2018 municipal elections in Mozambique.

- Support for EISA's DRC office in co-facilitating a training workshop for selected *Projet de Renforcement de l'Observation Citoyenne* beneficiary organisations in methodology for assessing the inclusion of specific marginalised groups in the electoral process. The workshop was held in Lubumbashi from 4-13 June.
- Support for the directorate in conceptualising a training programme for poll watchers and political party legal counsels in electoral dispute resolution in the DRC.

2.5.2 Conferences and workshops

EPP staff were invited to participate in several event in 2018. These included:

- Organisation in collaboration with Human Rights Watch of a roundtable event in Johannesburg on 9 April on the theme 'Political, Electoral and Human Crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Learning from Experiences in South Africa and the SADC region'.
- Training sessions for ECOWAS's LTOs at the Kofi Anan International Peace Training Centre, Accra, Ghana, on 26-27 April in the use of the Popola system.
- Presentation on EISA's approach to gender-sensitive and responsive election observation at a regional forum on gender-sensitive election observation methodologies held in Nairobi on 27 August. The workshop was hosted by the Southern and Eastern African Regional Office of UN Women.
- Participation in a joint SADC-UN BRIDGE Workshop in Pretoria from 26 to 28 March on Gender and Elections.
- Participation in a roundtable on 'Advancing Participatory Democracy – Looking to the 2019 National Elections and Beyond', hosted by the Open Society Foundation-South Africa in Johannesburg from 14-15 March.
- Participation in a roundtable on 'Promoting Youth Voting – 2019 and Beyond', hosted by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in Pretoria on 28 March.
- Participation in a workshop on 'Future Value of Data', co-hosted by Facebook and IBM Research Africa in Johannesburg on 17 May.
- Participation in an ISS closed roundtable on 'Elections in Zimbabwe' on 17 July.
- Presentation of 'Guidelines on Access to Information and Elections in Africa' at the 63rd ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul on 10-11 November 2018. EISA served on the working group that developed the guidelines.
- Participation in the planning meeting of the convening committee of endorsers of the 'Declaration of Principles on International Election Observation' (DOP) on 8 June and the 13th annual implementation meeting of endorsers of the DOP from 28 to 30 November. Both meetings were hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.
- EISA provided a technical expert, partnering with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, to assess the electronic voting machine introduced by the CENI in the DRC for the 2018 elections.
- Presentation to the Pan-African Parliament Committee on Cooperation, International Relations and Conflict Resolution on 8 August 2018 on the status of electoral democracy in Africa and the role of international observation in promoting democracy.
- Panelist on 'The use of technology in elections' at the 20th Annual General Conference of the Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries on 24 October in Maseru, Lesotho

PLANS FOR 2019

- Deploy EISA PAMs in Nigeria, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Malawi, Mauritania, Guinea, Botswana, Tunisia, Namibia, Mauritius, Mozambique and Chad
- Support the AUEOMs in Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Comoros, Algeria, Benin, Malawi, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Botswana, Cameroon, Namibia, Chad and Guinea
- Deploy EISA EOMs in Nigeria, South Africa, Mozambique and Tunisia
- Deploy an EISA TAM to a selected local election
- Develop EISA methodology for follow-up missions
- Finalise the election integrity scorecard and hold a workshop for the adoption of the online integrity tool
- Support ECOWAS post-election follow-up missions deployed in selected countries, including Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo
- Train ECOWAS core team experts in selected thematic areas
- Support the EAC with methodology development and the PAM to Burundi
- Support ICGLR to develop strategies for and approaches to election assessment
- Facilitate SADC pre-deployment refresher training in South Africa, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia and Mauritius
- Facilitate standalone training for SADC long- and short-term observers
- Develop a training curriculum for SADC core team experts in line with the Revised SADC Principles and Guidelines
- Facilitate pilot training for SADC core team experts
- Provide support for EISA field offices in Gabon on development of knowledge materials for ECCAS and training of ECCAS observers
- Collaborate with GIPP and the Madagascar office to facilitate gender audit initiatives in Madagascar, Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire
- Formerly hand over the Popola system to SADC
- Conduct SADC pre-deployment training in South Africa, Malawi, Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia and Mauritius
- Update ACE comparative data pages for 11 African countries that will hold elections in 2019

BALLOTING AND ELECTORAL SERVICES (BES)



CRYSTAL AFRICA
PROGRAMME OFFICER



RIANA HENLEY
SENIOR PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



ILONA TIP
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Balloting and Electoral Services

OVERVIEW

2018 was a positive and challenging year for the Balloting and Electoral Services department (BES), marked by a substantial increase in requests for electronic voting and BES staff having to conduct complex elections, some of which ran concurrently. Notwithstanding these challenges, the unit reached significant milestones and continued to support the organisational strategic goal: EISA is a stronger and more influential organisation.

The department continued to serve and satisfy clients' needs, thus ensuring free, fair and credible elected structures. It also contributed to broadening the knowledge of electoral integrity and principles among observers and key role players it briefed.

ACHIEVEMENTS

PENSION/PROVIDENT FUND BOARDS OF TRUSTEES

South African Local Authorities Pension Fund (SALA) Employer, Employee and South African Police Services (SAPS)

In accordance with the Rules of the Fund, voting was for provincial committees comprising two delegates from each local authority in each province. BES successfully managed these elections in all nine provinces between March and April 2018. Three elective meetings were held in each province: the first for the employee representatives, the second for employer representatives and the third for SAPS representatives.

Transnet Second Defined Benefit Fund (TSDBF)

EISA was once again appointed to administer elections for the TSDBF Fund, one of the funds in the Transnet group of companies. The elections commenced on 5 October 2018 and will be concluded on 31 March 2019. BES applied its suite of technological tools to allow pensioners to elect four trustees via online postal email, fax and SMS (USSD) voting.

Impala Provident Fund

Impala members at two Lonmin mines, one in Rustenburg and one in Limpopo, voted from June to August 2018 for seven member-elected trustees and seven alternate trustees. EISA conducted successful nominations, mass meetings and voting days at four voting sites – North, South and MinPro shafts at Rustenburg mine and Marula mine in Burgersfort, Limpopo. Voting at Marula mine was postponed due to community unrest around the mine and was later concluded.

Since the fund's rules provide for special votes, EISA ensured that 'special voters' at the mine hospital and laboratory could cast their votes the day before the general voting day.



The EISA voting site for special votes at the Impala mine hospital

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) ELECTIONS 2018

University Of South Africa (Unisa)

EISA was contracted to use and support a fully integrated technical solution to conduct the annual Unisa SRC elections. The BES electronic voting platform provided both hardware and software to meet the requirements of online, kiosk and SMS voting. Part of EISA's brief was to report to Unisa's Independent Electoral Body (IEB) and to present the online voting system to student structures in seven provinces during their manifesto presentations. An auditing firm contracted to audit the online voting system prior to voting day presented a system shut down audit review. BES was also requested to provide technical support for the UNISA SRC national parliamentary election, which was held on Tuesday 9 October and attended by student leaders from all nine provinces.

University Of Venda (Univen)

For the SRC elections at Univen in Thohoyandou, Limpopo, BES was required to set up an election office on campus staffed by a full-time presiding officer. The presiding officer was joined by 25 BES election officials during the election. A total of 5 466 members of a student population of 16 900 voted for the Univen central SRC and representatives of the eight faculties as well as residences and sports clubs. BES was asked to return to Univen for the reconvened sitting of the SRC parliament. Following the SRC election BES successfully conducted the election of the speaker and deputy speaker of the SRC.

Nkangala Technical and Vocational Education and Training

BES conducted elections for the Nkangala Technical and Vocational Education and Training SRC in Witbank in March 2018. The nomination process was handled by the college, while EISA's responsibility was to set up polling stations on five campuses in Witbank and Middelburg for one day of voting. Counting of ballots commenced immediately after the polling stations closed. The climate was conducive to elections and EISA gave the election results to the college management, who shared them with the student population.

POLITICAL PARTY PROCESSES

African National Congress: Limpopo Provincial Elections, Peter Mokaba and Waterberg Regional Elections

The Limpopo provincial elective congress, held in Polokwane in June 2018, was attended by 1200 voting delegates from five regions in the province. Delegates voted for five provincial executive committees and 30 additional members. BES conducted the nomination audit before the start of the congress and took further nominations from the floor. EISA election officials then set up a polling station where 1232 voting delegates cast their votes during the night.

BES also conducted elections at the Peter Mokaba and Waterberg regional elective congresses, where 618 voting delegates voted for regional office bearers.

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS LIST PROCESSES

In preparation for the 2019 national and provincial elections EISA was one of four institutions appointed to conduct elections for the African National Congress lists processes. EISA was appointed to administer the KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo provincial and national list process. EISA appointed a project coordinator for the duration of the project and set up an operations room at the EISA Johannesburg office for a team to capture data received from branches.

Working closely with the KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo provincial list committees and the national list committee, EISA captured nomination forms received from branches, prepared a list of qualifying candidates for each province and presented a draft candidate list to the national list committee. In addition, EISA was tasked with capturing data received from all nine provinces for the national candidate list. The KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo list conferences were held in December 2018 and the national list conference will be held in the next reporting period.



Voting under way at the ANC Limpopo provincial list conference

TRADE UNION OFFICE BEARER ELECTIONS

DEMOCRATIC NURSING ASSOCIATION (DENOSA)

BES successfully conducted the election of provincial office bearers for Denosa Free State, Northern Cape and North West in January and February 2018 and will administer elections at the DENOSA national congress in March 2019. A total of 120 delegates voted for nine positions at the three elective conferences. The election results were accepted by all delegates at these events.

Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU), Durban Metro, Ehlanzeni And KZN Midlands By-Elections, Limpopo And Tshwane

EISA has been, and continues to be, the preferred election agency for AMCU, managing all its regional elective congresses. BES successfully conducted elections at the Johannesburg Metro regional elective congress in March 2018 and at the Durban second regional elective congress and Midlands by-election in October 2018. The Tshwane elective congress collapsed when members staged a walkout over grievances with the union and was reconvened and finalised later.

South African Transport and Allied Workers Union (SATAWU)

This election was held at SATAWU's fourth national elective congress in Midrand, Gauteng, from 15 to 16 September 2018. A total of 511 delegates from nine qualifying provinces nominated and voted for candidates for the six national positions. Voting took place for all qualifying positions and a totally new SATAWU national structure emerged.

SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE UNION (SAPU) NATIONAL

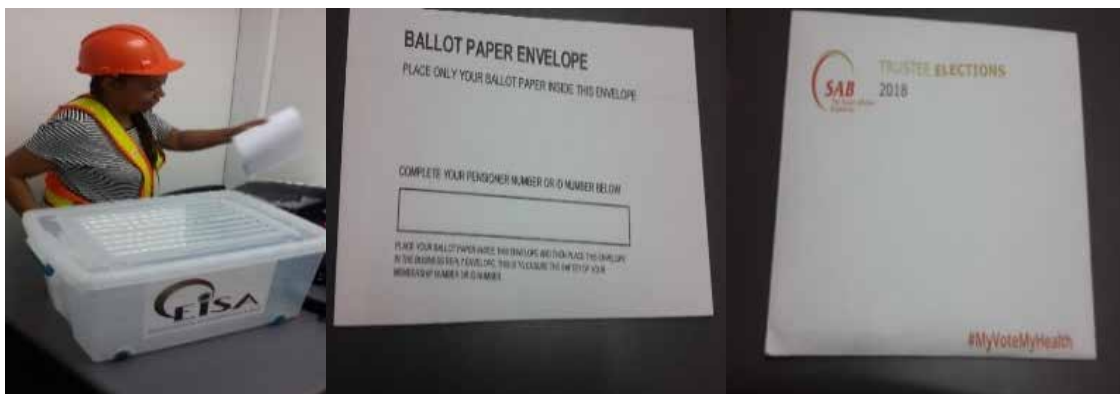
Eighty-six voting delegates attended the SAPU national elective congress in Durban. Elections are conducted in terms of Section 24 of the updated SAPU Constitution 2009. BES conducted nominations at the congress and all the current office bearers were re-elected unopposed.

MEDICAL AID SCHEME TRUSTEE ELECTION

SOUTH AFRICAN BREWERIES MEDICAL SCHEME (SABMAS)

SABMAS, a new client, approached EISA to conduct elections for five member-elected trustees and five alternate trustees for the SABMAS Board in April and June 2018. The elections were conducted countrywide and included online voting, onsite voting and postal voting. BES prepared voting information packs in consultation with the scheme and distributed them to 10 092 members across the country. In addition, bulk emails and SMSs were sent to members during the voting phase of the election to encourage them to vote.

Manual ballots were counted at the EISA office in the presence of SABMAS officials. EISA announced the election results at the SABMAS AGM in Midrand on Wednesday 20 June 2018.



EISA at the SAB KwaZulu-Natal, Prospecton brewery

Lonmin Medical Scheme

The scheme's rules provide for the election of four member trustees. Alternate trustees are appointed by the board. EISA delivered ballot boxes and nomination forms to four sites on the mine in Rustenburg, into which members could deposit completed nomination forms. When the first round of nominations was unsuccessful, BES was approached for assistance and suggested several ways to encourage greater member participation. Eighty members voted at the AGM on 21 June 2018, where BES managed the polling station and announced the names of the four member trustees immediately after the votes had been counted.

OTHER ELECTIONS

South African National Taxi Council (SANTACO)

SANTACO elected nine national office bearers at its eighth national congress, held in Boksburg on 18 April 2018. The congress was attended by 688 voting delegates, representing all nine provinces. EISA was requested to receive nomination forms at the SANTACO offices and to verify the forms in the presence of observers at the congress. All candidates were elected unopposed and the EISA presiding officer announced the election results at a gala dinner at the congress.



The EISA presiding officer briefing SANTACO observers

Africans Rising for Justice, Peace and Dignity (AR)

After the formation of a partnership between EISA and Africans Rising, a newly formed continental civil society movement, EISA was asked to conduct the election for AR's first coordinating collective. The election gave EISA and AR the opportunity to work together to strengthen the organisation's continental footprint. EISA designed the election methodology and assisted the AR interim working committee to establish an international nominations committee, draft the terms of reference for the committee, brief its members on their roles and functions and set up the online voting platform and SMS voting. Forty-six candidates, representing individuals and various organisations from across the diaspora, contested the election in November 2018. Voters were able to cast their votes electronically on BES's online voting platform and email via a link and a one-time pin. The election was conducted successfully and generated interest across the continent.

Bureau of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP)

As part of its ongoing partnership with the PAP, EISA provided technical support and observed the conduct of PAP's elections held in Midrand in May 2018, where it elected a president and first, second and third vice-presidents.



EISA official at the Pan African Parliament elections 2018

Legal Practice Council (LPC)

Between August and October 2018 EISA was appointed to manage the election of members of the first national legal practice council of the National Forum, which falls under the auspices of the Department of Justice. The election was held in terms of section 98(4) of the Legal Practice Act, 2014 and a *Government Gazette* Notice & Proclamation dated 31 August 2018.

This was a challenging election as BES had to distribute election material to legal professionals across the country. The process entailed printing serialised ballots, distributing them and receiving them back from approximately 70 voting sites.

Eastern Cape Small-Bus Operators Council (ECSBOC)

ECSBOC's aim is to empower previously disadvantaged small-bus operators. The council's annual general meeting, held on 7 August 2018 in Mthatha, was attended by 85 members in good standing, who elected the ECSBOC provincial executive committee. EISA conducted nominations from the floor at the congress. All nominees were elected unopposed and the EISA presiding officer announced the election results at the meeting.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Finalise the TSDBF and Standard Bank Trustee elections
- Conclude the Masakhane by-elections
- Respond to requests from clients to conduct elections
- Market BES's services
- Contribute to enhancing EISA's technology tools
- Participate in EISA events

GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES



GRANT MASTERSON
SENIOR PROGRAMME MANAGER



MELANIE MEIROTTI
PROGRAMME OFFICER



SANDILE KHUBONI
INTERN

Governance Institutions and Processes

OVERVIEW

During 2018 GIPPS, which is funded by the Embassy of Sweden, delivered on four key outcome areas, namely: the EISA 2017 Symposium book on state capture in Africa; the EISA 2018 Symposium; a collaboration with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Oslo Centre, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, to develop indicators to measure 'citizen perceptions of inclusion in transitional societies' and support for political parties in Lesotho, Malawi and Botswana, with the aim of 'enhancing equitable gender participation in political parties through gender audits and action plans'.

ACHIEVEMENTS

TRANSITIONAL PROCESSES AND CITIZEN INCLUSION IN KENYA AND SOUTH SUDAN: LOCAL PERSPECTIVES ON SUSTAINABLE PEACE'

EISA, NDI and the Oslo Centre are jointly involved in a pilot project to identify innovative bottom-up indicators of citizen inclusion and confidence in transitional processes. The intention of this project is to develop indicators that can inform national and international policymakers' understanding of citizens' priorities with regard to inclusion and the design of inclusive processes. EISA, together with a Kenyan consulting company, Infotrack, held focus groups and conducted surveys in Kenya and, based on the analysis of the data, developed a draft indicator list. The partner organisations completed a full project report, including the indicator lists for Kenya and South Sudan. The report was presented and positively received in Nairobi, Johannesburg, Addis Abba and Washington, DC at the end of 2018.



Transition team (left to right) Anastasia Bizos, Noxolo Gwala, Melanie Meirotti, Grant Masterson, Maria Lausund, Karoline Ronning



Melanie Meirotti and Grant Masterson speak during the stakeholder validation conference on the Transitional Justice project in Nairobi, Kenya.

EISA 2017 SYMPOSIUM BOOK

Melanie Meirotti and Grant Masterson co-edited a 13-chapter volume entitled *State capture as an obstacle to democratic consolidation in Africa*, compiled from papers presented at the 2017 EISA Symposium with the same title. The book, which was published in June 2018, is available both in print and online at: www.eisa.org.za/pdf/sym2017papers.pdf

ENHANCING EQUITABLE GENDER PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL PARTIES

This programme, in consultation with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, based in Warsaw, Poland, adapted that organisation's 'political party gender auditing tool', action plans and related documents to an African context. The objective of working with political parties in Southern Africa using the auditing tool and action plans is to enhance gender partition in political parties and, ultimately, in government decision making.

The GIPPs team visited the three countries for consultative meetings with political parties in August (Malawi), September (Botswana) and October (Lesotho). The purpose of the meetings was to initiate a conversation and establish a relationship with the parties, explain the purpose and processes of the project and invite party members to a workshop.

Successful workshops were held in Malawi and Botswana. In Lesotho the workshop was postponed due to a coinciding national reform debate in that country. In the countries where the workshop did take place, all parties represented in Parliament attended and completed a draft gender audit and action plan.

EISA SYMPOSIUM 2018: 'SOCIAL COHESION AND DEMOCRACY'

The GIPPs team developed a concept note and draft programme for the 2018 EISA Symposium on the subject of social cohesion as a means of building stronger democracies in Africa. The Symposium took place on 20-21 November at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Rosebank,

Johannesburg. Participants examined various definitions of social cohesion before exploring the concept as it relates to informal democracy, trends in a globalising world (specifically migration related issues), socio-economic issues and the state and elections and cohesion. Although there were fewer participants than in previous years, the Symposium attracted several experts in the field, which allowed for enriching discussions.

LOCAL PATTERNS OF ELECTION-RELATED VIOLENCE

Work began on the Carnegie Corporation-funded project examining local patterns of election-related violence in Africa. The project got off to a slow start because of administrative issues with EISA's partner, the University of Michigan. The GIPPS team, along with Prof Rod Alence from the University of the Witwatersrand, observed the coordination of the Mozambique local government elections in October 2018.

EXTRA-PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT

In the course of 2018, in addition to their work on GIPPS' core programmes, GIPPS staff supported the work of other EISA and partner organisation programmes. The following is a brief synopsis of these support activities.

Mozambique local government elections, January and March

Grant Masterson, with Olufunto Akinduro and Kerry Kotler, helped the EISA Mozambique office to conduct a comprehensive parallel voter tabulation (PVT) of the mayoral by-election in Nampula district between 22 and 28 January 2018 and another of the run-off elections in March. The PVT gave EISA its first opportunity to test the efficacy of its *Popola* data collection system. Head Office staff provided backroom technical support for this exercise and have subsequently engaged the *Popola* contractor about refinements and amendments to the system which will make it more useful for PVT exercises in future. GIPPS will continue to offer backroom technical support for that exercise.



Training for local PVT monitors, Nampula, Mozambique, January 2018

SADC EOM training and support, Zimbabwe Elections 2018

EISA introduced the Southern African Development Community (SADC) coordination team to the *Popola* system for collecting election-day data, training its permanent staff and mission coordination team members to use the system to set up, use and collate information. Zimbabwe was the first country in which SADC used the system to capture observer data digitally.

Seminar on the use of electronic voting machines, Gaborone, March 2018

GIPPS participated on behalf of EISA in a live broadcast seminar in Gaborone on 27 March 2018 to discuss the merits and demerits of introducing electronic voting machines for Botswana's 2019 elections. The seminar was rated highly both for attracting listeners and for its engagement with the issues.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Project on election related violence indicators in South Africa, Tunisia and Mozambique, supported by the Carnegie Corporation
- Continuation of gender audits for political parties in Malawi, Botswana and Zambia, supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- 2019 EISA Annual Symposium.

SUPPORTING TRANSITIONS AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES (STEP) PROGRAMME



CATHERINE MUSUVA
CHIEF OF PARTY



OLUFUNTO AKINDURO
DEPUTY CHIEF OF PARTY



DRAKE ORURACH
FINANCE MANAGER



CECILE BASSOMO
*ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL
TRANSITIONS SPECIALIST*



BAIDESSOU SOUKOLGUE
*ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL
TRANSITIONS SPECIALIST*



KERRYN KOTLER
*MONITORING AND EVALUATION
SPECIALIST*



JESSICA RANOHEFY
GENDER SPECIALIST

Supporting Transitions and Electoral Processes (STEP) Programme

OVERVIEW

The Supporting Transitions and Electoral Processes (STEP) programme is a five-year Leader with Associates (LWA) cooperative agreement between EISA and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The programme, which commenced on 27 September 2017, seeks to achieve more inclusive, transparent and accountable political and electoral processes in Africa by drawing on and sharing lessons learned from the region. In 2018 the programme was implemented in three transitional/fragile African democracies: Madagascar, Mali and Mozambique, all of which held elections in that year.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MOZAMBIQUE

Parliamentary committee overseeing legal reform

On 14 and 15 April EISA trained and provided technical advice to the fourth parliamentary committee, also known as the Committee on Public Administration and Local Government, on the impact of a pending constitutional amendment on electoral legislation. On 18 June EISA made an oral submission to the committee during a public hearing on the content of the pending amendment. At the request of the parliamentary caucus of the main opposition party, Renamo, EISA also provided training and technical assistance to 23 senior members of the caucus on 8 June on the content of the proposed electoral legislation, to help define their position vis-à-vis the draft Bill. In line with the proportion of women in the Renamo parliamentary caucus (32.6%), seven women MPs (a little above 30%) participated. The other two party parliamentary caucuses did not request EISA's support.

Civil society organisations

EISA developed a digital booklet for civil society organisations (CSOs) delineating the main constitutional and electoral legal framework changes brought about by the political agreement between the Government of Mozambique and Renamo in February and their impact on

decentralisation, local governance and the electoral process. The booklet was presented at a workshop on 27 September at Gloria Hotel, Maputo, to 13 representatives (46% women and 46% youth) from seven civil society platforms and organisations and was published on the EISA website for public access and further disseminated by email to several local citizen platforms.

Gender disaggregated data

EISA provided advisory services to the electoral commission on two main levels. Firstly, it impressed upon the commission the usefulness of having gender-disaggregated voting data to better inform civic and voter education (CVE) and contribute to a greater understanding of gender-based voting dynamics and participation. Secondly, EISA advised the commission on different ways of collecting gender-based voting data, either by having a statistics officer at each polling station to collect data (the Zimbabwean model) or using copies of the manual voters' roll, where voter names are crossed off, and transferring the information to the electronic voters' roll, from which data can be produced digitally. The commission adopted the second option and has informed EISA that the voting database is now able to generate gender-disaggregated data, which will be processed and published in early 2019.

Gender policy and implementation plan

EISA developed a draft gender and inclusion policy document and submitted it to the electoral commission in September. Due to the challenges of having to conduct an election less than two months after the approval of a new electoral law, the commission was unable to review the draft policy until after the October election.

Citizen observers

A total of 430 observers from the Observation Platform network were trained from 16-22 January to observe the by-election held on 24 January following the death of the mayor of Nampula city. In addition, STEP provided technical support to the network to carry out parallel voter tabulation (PVT). The PVT forms and mobile devices were set up from 12-22 January on EISA's *Popola* system, 54 PVT supervisors were trained on 23 January and data were collected, aggregated and verified on 24 and 25 January.

Poll watchers

Ahead of the Nampula mayoral election EISA trained a total of 802 party agents as poll watchers. The training covered key elements of electoral legislation, election-day procedures, including complaints, and key issues to look out for based on past experience.

MADAGASCAR

CSO mapping

A mapping exercise of Malagasy CSOs working in the field of human rights, democracy and governance was conducted and completed in March. The published report contains useful information about the national and local ability to conduct CVE and to observe elections. It also analyses the strengths and weaknesses of CSOs in these areas and their plans for the 2018 electoral process. The report enabled EISA to identify potential partners and beneficiaries for its activities and provided information about CSOs involved in election-related work. The findings were shared with the electoral commission (CENI) and members of the CENI's partners' coordination platform.

Civic and Voter Education (CVE)

EISA conceptualised and designed a CVE manual that was reviewed and validated by CENI, its technical partners and CSOs between June and August. The manual, which was produced in French and Malagasy, served as the key document for the EMB and CSO voter education campaigns. It also included strategies for participating actively in public life. After the development and adoption of the curriculum EISA organised training for relevant CENI staff. The STEP EPT Specialist and CENI vice-president trained 22 of CENI's permanent regional secretaries and other staff in charge of coordinating the voter campaigns conducted by CSOs and supported by the United Nations Development Programme in their respective regions. A total of 32 participants (31% women and 25% youth) attended the workshop held on 13 and 14 August at the Louvre Hotel in Antananarivo.

EISA also organised a training of trainers (ToT) specifically targeting CSOs on 30 and 31 August at Motel Anosy in Antananarivo. The training was attended by 60 participants from 47 CSOs, 52% women and 43% youth. This was a higher number than the 25 initially planned for. The CSO representatives were selected through a call for expressions of interest issued by EISA and CENI based on the CSO mapping report cited above. Women and youth were given preference, especially in regions where their participation in the last election and voter registration was lowest.

After the presidential election the CENI sent a letter of appreciation for STEP's continued support and availability in the pre-election and election periods.

Poll watching

Ahead of the December presidential election in Madagascar EISA conducted a ToT in poll watching for representatives of all 36 candidates, five of whom were women. Although the training initially targeted 20 participants drawn from political parties represented in the National Assembly, it was decided to include all the candidates to avoid some feeling excluded. Of the 36 participants 44% were women and 22% youth. The training, which took place from 19-21 September at the Carlton Hotel in Antananarivo, was conducted in French and Malagasy and facilitated by the STEP EPT specialist, EISA's Madagascar country director and the CENI vice-president.

MALI

Multiparty Liaison Committee (MPLC) meetings

Between May and July EISA supported three MPLC meetings between various political parties and the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation (MTAD). The meetings, which were hosted by the ministry, focused on preparedness for the presidential election, especially the distribution of voter cards and deployment of electoral materials. Several unresolved issues were highlighted: the absence of local authorities from at least 98 localities; lack of distribution of voters' cards; use of the NINA (identity) card by voters who could not collect their biometric voting cards and the cancelled televised presidential candidates' debate. The MTAD wrote a formal letter to EISA recognising and appreciating its support for the three MPLC meetings.

Poll watching

Ahead of the July presidential election EISA, in partnership with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), organised a ToT in poll watching. The selection of participants was based on the following criteria: the capacity of the party to cascade the training at the local level; representation of the party in the National Assembly or in a local council and the participation of the party in the presidential election either by fielding a candidate or supporting a candidate within a coalition. Of the 148 participants trained from 4-10 July in Bamako, 40 were supported by STEP and 108 by EMERGE, NDI's project. Of the 40 supported by STEP 33% were women and 22% youth.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

DATABASE OF EXPERTS

EISA completed the development of a database of African election experts and tested it internally. A privacy policy and user terms of reference for the database were also developed.

EISA'S CAPACITY STRENGTHENED

EISA built its capacity to manage USAID awards, with STEP key personnel and other EISA staff trained in USAID rules and regulations, financial management for US government funding, sub-award management and project management. In addition, STEP personnel participated in two international events at which they profiled EISA and established networks. The events were the annual meetings of endorsers of the Declaration of Principles for International Observation hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat in London and the USAID Democracy, Human Rights and Governance Partners' Forum in Washington, DC.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Draw lessons from the country-level interventions implemented in Madagascar, Mali and Mozambique as well as EISA's broader work on the continent and synthesise them into knowledge products
- Work on reviewing regional standards for election management and election observation and developing tools for CVE election observation
- Prepare to implement associate awards

FIELD OFFICES

- CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE (GABON)
- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
- KENYA
- MADAGASCAR
- MALI
- MOZAMBIQUE
- SOMALIA
- ZIMBABWE

CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE (GABON)



FLORENT KABONGO
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Field office report:

Economic Community for Central African States – ECCAS

OVERVIEW

The general situation in the Central African region in 2018 was largely similar to that in 2017. All 11 ECCAS member states continued to experience financial difficulties as result of low commodity prices on the international market. On the security front, the region has faced momentous challenges relating to the persistent presence of armed groups, militias, terrorist organisations and cases of inter-community violence in a number of countries. However, politically, the situation has remained largely stable. There were elections in Cameroon, Gabon, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), São Tomé and Príncipe and Rwanda. Although those in São Tomé and Príncipe were free, fair and peaceful, the results of those in the other four countries were contested and even rejected by national stakeholders.

EISA continued to support the ECCAS general secretariat through its Africa Democracy Strengthening Programme, supported by the Embassy of Sweden.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

ASSESSMENT AND OBSERVATION MISSIONS

Pre-Election Assessment Mission

From 9 to 15 September 2018 the ECCAS electoral unit, supported by EISA, conducted a pre-election assessment mission in Cameroon. It also conducted a joint ECCAS-Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) mission in the DRC from 11 to 16 November. The DRC mission was led by Ambassador Baudouin Hamuli Kabarhuzza, Director of ECCAS's Political Affairs and Mechanism of Rapid Alert of Central Africa and Elizabeth Mutunga, Head of the Governance, Peace and Security Unit of COMESA. It also included the members of the COMESA Committee of Elders, the representative of the Secretary General and head of the ECCAS DRC Office, the electoral officers and experts of the two communities and representatives from EISA, who provided technical support.

ECCAS election observation missions

EISA supported ECCAS in observing elections in Cameroon and the DRC. ECCAS also shared information with the African Union in those countries.

ECCAS ELECTION OBSERVATION MANUAL

EISA helped ECCAS to draft, develop, print and disseminate its first manual for observers. The manual, which was translated from French into Portuguese and Spanish, with 400 copies printed in French and 150 in Spanish and Portuguese, was disseminated and used for the first time during the ECCAS international election observation mission to the presidential, legislative and provincial elections in the DRC on 30 December 2018.



Workshop with EMBs and CSOs for peaceful and transparent elections. Brazzaville (Republic of Congo), 24 and 25th October 2018.

SUB-REGIONAL ELECTION STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES

EISA helped ECCAS to develop sub-regional election standards and principles. Following a roundtable held in November 2017, a two-day validation workshop was held in May 2018 led by EISA's executive director. Participants included the chairpersons of election management bodies and members of civil society organisations in the region. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Office of Central Africa (UNOCA) also attended. Participants included representatives from Angola, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, the Central African Republic, São Tomé and Príncipe and Chad. Following the workshop EISA finalised draft guidelines, which have been submitted to the secretary general of ECCAS for adoption by the relevant ECCAS authorities. Once the guidelines have been endorsed they will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for adoption and thereafter transmitted to the Council of Heads of States for signature. In the lead-up to the adoption the ECCAS electoral assistance unit, with the support of EISA, will lobby member states.

METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP

With technical and financial support from EISA, ECCAS organised a two-day workshop in Congo-Brazzaville (Republic of Congo) on 24 and 25 October 2018. The theme was 'Prevention of crises and violence related to electoral processes in Central Africa'. The workshop was attended by 24 participants, three of them women. They included the chairpersons of election management bodies, members of civil society organisations from ECCAS member states and a representative from UNOCA. A report on the workshop included recommendations addressed to the General Secretariat of ECCAS for the effective prevention of crises and violence-related electoral processes in Central Africa. This was the first time the participants had engaged constructively and made recommendations about preventing and managing election-related conflict.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Provide technical support to ECCAS PAM and the EOM in Chad
- Draft an ECCAS staff manual on planning and implementing EOMs
- Organise meetings of ECCAS's CSO and EMB forums
- Visit Angola, Cameroon and the DRC to promote the draft benchmarks

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)



ANDRÉ KABUNDA
*EISA COUNTRY DIRECTOR, DRC,
PROCEC TEAM LEADER*



MARIE LAURE DIGBEU
*COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICATION
EXPERT, PROCEC*



CLARISSE MIANDA KATUALA
*ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
OFFICER*



BARUTI MUNDA SIMAMBA
TRAINING EXPERT



PIERRE-CLAVER KALONDA
PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



JULIENNE LORRAINE DIASONAMA
*ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
ASSISTANT*



JEAN-MARIE BUILA BANTU JHUME
DRIVER



JOHN MEYI MAVAKALA
DRIVER



MIMI MPANDA,
CLEANER

Field office report:

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

OVERVIEW

In 2018 the European Union guaranteed the EISA-Democracy Reporting International consortium support for a further two years for the *Projet de Renforcement de l'Observation Citoyenne des Elections au Congo* (PROCEC II) to support citizen observation. This includes helping the *Synergie des Missions d'Observation Citoyenne des Elections* (SYMOCEL) to build its capacity to observe and analyse all the technical aspects of an electoral process, particularly at provincial level. EISA is working with 12 community service organisations (CSOs) supporting election observation, 11 of which fall under the SYMOCEL umbrella.

All EISA's activities were conducted in a challenging political environment. Despite voter registration being concluded in January 2018, problems with the electoral process resulted in the presidential, legislative and provincial elections only taking place on 30 December. There were several challenges related to the election. Among these was respect for the Saint Silvestre Agreement, also known as the New Year's Eve Agreement, which was reached on 31 December 2016. The deal envisaged a 'political transition' in terms of which President Joseph Kabila would remain president until the end of 2017 and guaranteed that he would not seek a third term or organise a referendum to amend the Constitution and political figures would be released from jail. At a practical level there was a problem with the use of electronic voting machines.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

LAUNCH OF PROCEC II

On 25 January 2018 EISA organised a workshop with its partners to brief them on PROCEC II and agree on an implementation strategy for the project. The new programme was launched on 8 February 2018 at the Memling Hotel in Kinshasa in the presence of the European Union ambassador to the DRC, the president of the DRC's Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) and the executive director of EISA.



Several dignitaries were among the audience that attended the launch of PROCEC II in Kinshasa

SYMOCEL EOM

EISA organised a workshop from 4 to 5 April 2018, in consultation with SYMOCEL, to draft an operational plan for SYMOCEL's electoral observer mission (EOM). Participants re-examined SYMOCEL's and EISA's mandates, identified technical and logistical issues relating to the deployment of the EOM, scrutinised the electoral calendar and identified activities leading to the completion of the deployment plan, which served as the blueprint for the implementation of the observation mission project, its evaluation and post-election follow-up.

TRAINING IN POLITICAL, ELECTORAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

EISA organised a workshop, attended by 25 participants, 12 of them women, in Kinshasa from 20 to 22 April 2018, to provide the partners' provincial representatives with the necessary tools to undertake political and electoral analyses. Participants were trained to assess the political environment in relation to the electoral process, analyse CENI's activities and engage effectively in electoral reform. The programme was adapted to the needs, interests and abilities of the beneficiaries.

A second workshop, held in Kinshasa from 2-4 May 2018, focused on equipping CSOs with the necessary tools to analyse laws, regulations and international instruments relating to the electoral process and providing them with the techniques necessary to identify human rights violations during an electoral cycle. The second workshop was attended by 14 participants, seven of them women.



Workshop on legal analysis, Kinshasa, 2-4 May 2018

MARGINALISED GROUPS

Workshops were organised in Lubumbashi from 5-7 June, in Kinshasa from 19-21 June and in Kisangani from 4-6 July 2018, on mainstreaming gender, youth and minorities in the electoral process. The workshops contributed to better understanding by citizen observers of marginalised groups and ways of advocating for better integration of women, youth and minorities in the conduct of national affairs. Women were well represented among the participants, numbering 44 of the 66 people who attended. The workshops were facilitated by three CSO representatives, supported by staff from EISA's Madagascar and head offices.



Participants in the workshop held in Lubumbashi from 5-7 June 2018

CALENDAR FOR SYMOCEL EOM

EISA organised a workshop, from 25-26 July 2018 to finalise the calendar for the publication of the SYMOCEL EOM report. The workshop was attended by the 11 partners. The calendar enabled the partners to identify the requisite reports and statements and the dates on which they should be published. EISA worked with SYMOCEL to develop a template to enable participants to evaluate their own performance.

CHECKLISTS

EISA organised workshops for the SYMOCEL EOM core team on 3 and 10 August 2018 to design and develop observer checklists, thus strengthening the capacity of the team to create templates to be used by the mission's long-term observers (LTOs). The team also identified tools for the collection of data from the LTOs' election campaign checklists, electoral dispute and incident report forms and an LTO observation checklist. The checklists and tools were validated by SYMOCEL at a one-day workshop on 16 August 2018 which consolidated the professionalism of the mission.

Similarly, EISA organised a workshop on 3 September 2018 to develop checklists for short-term observers (STOs). All 11 partners attended. Three checklists – opening, voting and closing and counting – were approved. The workshops enabled the SYMOCEL core team to identify relevant data to be collected on election day.

TRAINING

Throughout December 2018, using the cascade training approach, EISA supported partners in training provincial coordinators, building their capacity to train territorial and junior supervisors in election observation. The training included tools and guidelines for observer recruitment, deployment, data collection and observation techniques. The junior supervisors were required to oversee 33 STOs on election day and gather their data, which were then given to the territorial supervisors who collated the data and prepared reports for their provincial coordinators.

EISA helped the SYMOCEL EOM to design and implement its deployment plan. The mission covered 26 provinces and used the services of 768 local and territorial supervisors, 275 LTOs and 20 000 STOs on the ground. Elections in Beni territory, Beni City, Butembo City (North Kivu province) and Yumbi in Mai-Ndombe province were postponed until March 2019.

MEDIA PRESENCE

EISA assisted the SYMOCEL EOM to design its communication and publication strategy and action plan, which will contribute to ensuring effective and timely communication targeting appropriate audiences with relevant messages. EISA's public and media relations initiatives have ensured the SYMOCEL EOM extensive national and international media coverage, including from Radio Okapi, Top Congo FM, Radio France International, TV5, VOA, BBC and Reuters, thus positioning SYMOCEL as the key national independent and non-denominational citizen election observation group in the DRC.

EISA also assisted SYMOCEL to operationalise its website and social media platforms (www.symocel.org, MOESYMOCEL and @symocel) and connect with key local online media and bloggers for more effective digital coverage. SYMOCEL presents its findings and key electoral patterns through data graphics and short videos, an approach that helps it to disseminate useful electoral information, extend its scope and generate increased social media followers and interactions.

Engaging more proactively within the media environment has made SYMOCEL a key electoral interlocutor and enabled it to build an effective relationship with the media, political parties and key national and international stakeholders such as diplomats, UN representatives, activists and CSOs. EISA has supported SYMOCEL in the use of graphics and social media to broaden the distribution of statements and reports.

ELECTORAL REPORTING

EISA conducted a two-day training workshop aimed at giving mainstream and electronic media practitioners a deeper understanding of electoral issues. Fifty participants received in-depth information about the electoral cycle and the types of issues that might arise during the cycle. Participants were given practical examples of how to report electoral operations accurately and a better understanding of the legal implications of relaying fake news during election periods.

SITUATION ROOM AND CALL CENTRE

From 29 December 2017 to 1 January 2018 EISA helped SYMOCEL establish and promote an election situation room (ESR) and call centre. The impressive, well-organised call centre was staffed by more than 120 young Congolese, who compiled real-time observation results, receiving information from observers on election issues and providing it to the relevant stakeholders. Regular press conferences were held, backed up with easy-to-read graphics reflecting the field work of the 20 000 observers. Among the high-profile personalities who visited and commended the situation room were delegations from the African Union, the Southern African Development Community, the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie*, European and African ambassadors and UN representatives in the DRC. The ESR was also visited by presidential candidate Martin Fayulu and the special envoy of Felix Tshisekedi, also a presidential candidate.



A view of the call centre



Press conference held by the head of the SYMOCEL EOM, Bishop Abraham Djambo Samba wa Shako



The head of the AUEOM, S E le Pr Dioncounda Traoré, and the AU political affairs commissioner, SE Cessou Minata Samate, visit the ESR

PLANS FOR 2019

- Continue to build the capacity of CSOs to observe local elections
- Support SYMOCEL in deploying observers for the local elections
- Support SYMOCEL in developing and writing publications and communicating information about elections
- Support SYMOCEL in disseminating its observer reports
- Support SYMOCEL's advocacy for electoral reforms

MADAGASCAR



JESSICA RANOHEFY ANDREAS
COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE



NIAINA RAMAROSHON
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
OFFICER



SOA RAZAFIMANJATO
ASSISTANT PROGRAMME OFFICER



MAMY RAZANADRAFARA
PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



NY AINA RAHAGALALA
PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



DIDI MICKAEL MIARIMANANTSOA
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



HARIZO RABESAONA
DRIVER



VOLOLONA ZEZELE
HOUSEKEEPER



HAJA ANDRIANTSITOTHERINA
SECURITY

Field office report:

Madagascar

OVERVIEW

In 2018 Madagascar held its first presidential election since 2013. Despite a tense pre-election phase, the country voted peacefully for its new president, paving the way for a democratic transition of power in January 2019. Political disagreements about the legal framework for the election led to several months of unrest and affected the normal functioning of public institutions, including Parliament.

The crisis resulted from a lack of transparency and dialogue about the adoption of the new electoral laws as well as alleged corruption within the National Assembly. After several weeks of uncertainty the Constitutional Court's decision on a petition to impeach the president was viewed as a means of resolving the crisis. The judgement, which was more a political 'roadmap' than a legal decision, provided for the appointment of a consensus government in June 2018 that would support the Electoral Commission (CENI) in organising the election. However, new tensions followed when 21 of the 36 candidates questioned the independence of the CENI and raised concerns about the reliability and accuracy of the voters' roll. In the meantime, the polarisation of public opinion around the candidatures of two former heads of state, Marc Ravalomanana and Andry Nirina Rajoelina, generated additional strains in an already volatile context.

Despite the negative impact of the political climate, the first round and run-off of the presidential election took place on 7 November and 19 December 2018 without any major incidents. The official results announced by the Constitutional Court on 8 January 2019 named Rajoelina, the former president of the Transition Authority, as the winner, with 55.66% of the vote against 44.34% for Ravalomanana. The turnout of 48.9% was one of the lowest in decades. The candidates accepted the results, preventing the country from plunging into a post-election crisis. As a symbol of this successful transition and, for the first time in the country's history, all three former presidents of Madagascar – Didier Ratsiraka, Marc Ravalomanana and Hery Rajaonarimampianina – attended the swearing-in ceremony of the new elected president on 19 January 2019.

EISA continued to provide support to the Malagasy Parliament through capacity-buildings workshops and remained a key partner in bridging the gaps between members of Parliament (MPs) and citizens by setting up platforms of dialogue and organising Parliament 'open houses' in the regions. For the first time media were trained to better understand and report on parliamentary processes. Part of EISA's focus was to promote gender equality in and beyond Parliament by providing technical support for women MPs, including in advocating gender equity on International Women's Day and sensitising party members, as well as

training media professionals. Apart from the parliamentary programme funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), EISA supported CENI by training civil society organisations in civic and voter education and party agents in poll-watching, with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) STEP programme. With support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), EISA Madagascar conducted a nation-wide civic and voter education campaign in the run-up to the presidential election and will continue its voter education programme in the run-up to the 2019 legislative elections

ACHIEVEMENTS

EISA contributed in a variety of ways to making Parliament more effective by organising workshops and seminars for MPs and members of the parliamentary staff.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

In celebration of International Women's Day, on 9 March 2018 EISA and the Liaison Office of the African Union in Madagascar held a seminar with the National Assembly parliamentary women's caucus on strategies for reaching the quota of 30% participation of women in public life by 2020. Seven women MPs from different parties in the lower house facilitated the panel. A total of 206 parliamentary staff members also attended the seminar, which allowed MPs not only to share best practices in increasing women's participation in the next legislative elections but also to commit to reaching the 30% quota.

EISA also participated in a celebration organised by the Ministry of Population on 10 March, with a discussion on the evolution of women's participation in public life in Madagascar, facilitated by the head of the caucus of women MPs together with the EISA Madagascar country representative.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Parliamentary staff

EISA supported two capacity-building workshops targeting staff of the National Assembly and the Senate. The workshops complemented efforts to promote a more efficient and effective Parliament with well-equipped human resources and technical departments. Sixty-three parliamentary staff, including heads of departments and managerial staff, benefited from the training.

National Assembly executives

EISA organised a training workshop in Antananarivo from 29 to 31 January 2018 to strengthen the leadership skills of National Assembly executives. Ten executives participated. The workshop gave participants the opportunity to reflect on ways to improve their leadership within their respective departments.

TRAINING IN CEREMONIAL PRACTICES AND INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION

Thirty-three National Assembly and 20 Senate staff members benefited from capacity-building training in institutional communication and public relations. The training was requested by the head of the department to improve the image of the institution and strengthen the skills of the staff in assisting MPs in their interactions with citizens. Two training sessions were held in Antananarivo – on 18 and 19 June and 18 to 20 July 2018.

PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE

On 1 February 2018 four senators and 27 mayors of municipalities around the capital convened for an information session on rural electrification and natural disaster management. This initiative, chaired by the speaker of the Senate, is part of the Senate's role as representative of the local and regional authorities. The exchange allowed MPs to deliberate on the new rural electrification policy and clear up some misunderstandings about natural disaster management.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MEDIA

From 20 to 22 February 2018 a capacity-building workshop for media professionals was held in Antsirabe, in partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The aim of the workshop was to improve journalists' understanding of parliamentary work to enable them to contribute to the increased accountability and transparency of governance processes. Thirty journalists from 15 regions of the country participated in an initiative with which, for the first time, regional radios were associated, an important advance, since more than 80% of the population of Madagascar lives in rural areas with limited access to information. As radio is the most accessible and popular medium in the country, radio journalists can play a crucial role in reporting on and sensitising the population to democratic processes.

RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

At the request of the Senate a parliamentary seminar on the ratification of international treaties and agreements was held on 29 June 2018 in Antananarivo and attended by nine senators. The intention of the seminar was to respond to MPs' needs and concerns about the procedures for ratifying international treaties and protocols and their implications for the domestic legal order. Senators gained a greater understanding of the implications and the monitoring and control of the obligations entailed in ratifying such treaties.

GENDER EQUALITY

A two-day workshop on the role of women in political parties, especially during the electoral cycle, was held on 13 and 14 August and attended by 28 women from different parties, including one MP. The workshop focused on improving the self-esteem of women in leadership positions in public life with a view to equipping them with the necessary skills to engage effectively within their parties and advocate for gender equality.

PARLIAMENT OPEN HOUSE DAY

Responding to a request from both houses of Parliament, EISA, together with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and UNDP, supported a third Parliament Open Day in the province of Mahajanga (Boeny Region) on 25 and 26 September. A total of 1 086 visitors attended the event, which comprised exhibitions, debates and economic and social fora and a competition in which CSOs competed in a quiz on democracy that was broadcast on local television. The event contributed to reconnecting the local population with its representatives, particularly as the country moves towards its next parliamentary election.

Concurrently with the Open Day, conferences were held on issues in the Boeny region. The conferences, which were open to the public, were attended by 14 MPs and 13 senators (including all MPs representing the region).

VIDEOS AND A RADIO DRAMA

EISA produced two short videos on the roles and functions of MPs and on the legislative processes, clarifying the different roles of Parliament and the executive. The videos are intended to help voters make informed choices when electing their representatives and to contribute to voter education as the country prepares for parliamentary elections. A radio drama on the same topic was broadcast by 26 local radio stations across the country. The video on the roles and function of Parliament was posted on EISA's Facebook page and Youtube, reaching almost 14 000 viewers in Madagascar and shared 299 times in just a few weeks. The video is available on www.facebook.com/EISA.Madagascar/videos/1808297029247642/ and on www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQ6Xv87qXpU

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL MAHAJANGA

EISA was requested by this organisation (funded by Francophonie) to facilitate a train-the-trainer workshop on civic and voter education, advocacy and lobbying. The training took place in Mahajanga from 9 to 13 July and was attended by 35 representatives of local women's associations. The workshop enabled EISA to empower local CSOs to contribute to a more inclusive electoral process.

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE

Twelve female heads of CSOs working to promote women's participation in public life attended a workshop in Antsirabe on 8 and 9 August. Before the workshop an organisational audit of the CSOs' structure and human and financial resources was conducted and the results presented at the meeting. The audit also included recommendations of ways to improve the participation of women. The workshop gave EISA an opportunity to review its support and achievements since 2007 and explore further areas of partnership with public institutions and women's associations.

GENDER EQUALITY

On 11 and 12 September EISA held two days of training in Antananarivo for media professionals from the capital and other regions of Madagascar in covering gender news more sensitively. Media professionals play an important role in sensitising readers, promoting a democratic culture and encouraging equality between men and women. Of the 18 journalists who attended, eight came from regions where women struggle to participate.

NATIONAL CIVIC AND VOTER EDUCATION

In October 2018 EISA launched a national civic and voter education campaign (CVE) specifically focusing on Malagasy women and youth. The programme is expected to end in June 2019 with the conduct of the parliamentary elections. The campaign for the presidential election was officially launched on 15 October 2018 in Toliara in the presence of the chairperson of CENI, representatives from UNDP/Soutien Au Cycle Electoral de Madagascar (SACEM) and local authorities. CVE activities were conducted in 116 of the 119 districts and involved about 23 local CSOs, mostly those concerned with the interests of youth and women. Mobile caravans – cars equipped with sound systems broadcasting sensitisation messages and songs – travelled through the 116 districts. Other activities included home visits to people in rural areas, awareness booths and media outreach. During the first round EISA mobilised 819 animators to conduct the campaign in 114 districts, 284 municipalities and 900 Fokontany (the lowest administrative unit of governance), reaching 421 624 citizens. The campaign continued into the presidential run-off, when 513 animators covered 116 districts, 780 municipalities, 350 Fokontany and reached 782 371 citizens. EISA also concluded the campaign officially in Antananarivo on 14 and 15 December, with a mobile caravan touring the six districts of the city calling for voters to cast their votes on election day.

PARTY CAPACITY BUILDING

TRAINING PARTY AGENTS IN POLL-WATCHING

Given the success of the train-the-trainer workshop on poll-watching for party agents held under the STEP programme and in response to a request from the CENI and beneficiaries, with support from the Sida-funded project, EISA Madagascar conducted another workshop, training 179 party agents, including 49 women in five other provinces (Toamasina, Toliara, Fianarantsoa, Antsiranana and Mahajanga). Conducted in French and Malagasy, the workshops covered topics such as training and deploying party agents, voting, closing and counting procedures, selection criteria for party agents and monitoring the compilation of votes. All 36 presidential candidates attended and benefited from the workshops, which were welcomed by candidates and the CENI. According to the CENI, the initiative contributed to a more inclusive electoral process by encouraging candidates' representatives to play an active role in monitoring election day. It was also the only initiative that targeted the political parties and was essential for a better understanding of their rights and duties during the election.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

REVIEW MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

A review meeting conducted with the National Assembly and the Senate on 5 and 6 December in Ampefy was attended by five MPs and 12 staff members from both houses. The meeting reviewed the parliamentary support provided by EISA and gathered recommendations for continued support. During the meeting MPs and staff emphasised EISA's strategic role in strengthening Parliament's mission and image, particularly in its support for women MPs. The social dialogue and 'open house' events were also acknowledged as having played a role in bridging the gap between MPs and their constituents.

NATIONAL POLICY ON GENDER

Support for the Ministry of Population and Gender Promotion started in September and the draft of the national gender policy was finalised in December 2018 and will be followed by a national action plan in 2019. This will give the country an up-to-date national policy that should provide a base from which to advocate the adoption of legal reforms on gender equality.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Support newly-elected MPs and parliamentary staff with capacity-building, social dialogue and promoting accountability.
- Train party agents in preparation for the 2019 parliamentary elections in six provinces.
- Continue the civic and voter education campaign in preparation for the 27 May legislative election.

MALI



AIMÉ KONAN KOUADIO
RESIDENT DIRECTOR



PONTSO MOTAUNG
*FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
MANAGER*



BAIDESSOU SOUKOLGUE
*ELECTORAL EXPERT
(INTERNATIONAL)*



BAKARY SIDIBE
PROGRAMME OFFICER



AHMEDOU AG MOHAMED
PROGRAMME MANAGER



**DANIEL SORY BOURAHIMA
DIALLO**
PROGRAMME MANAGER



KADIATOU TOURE
*ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
ASSISTANT*



MARIAM DOUMBIA
CLEANER OFFICE

Field office report:

Mali

OVERVIEW

2018 was a pivotal year in the Republic of Mali, characterised by general elections. The first round of the presidential election was planned for 29 July and the second for 12 August. Legislative elections were scheduled for September.

The electoral process took place in a tense security environment characterised by insecurity and terrorist attacks in the north and centre of the country. While this situation cast doubt on the prospects of an effective election and the mobilisation of citizens in these areas, the presidential elections were held as scheduled.

The first round was contested by 24 candidates and the two who qualified for the second round were the incumbent, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, and opposition leader Soumaila Cisse. Keita was declared the winner with 67.16% of the vote but opposition parties contested the conduct of the election and the veracity of the results. Forming themselves into two coalitions after the election, they organised public demonstrations almost every week from September to December 2018, which were banned and repressed by the authorities.

The legislative elections, due to be held in September, were postponed indefinitely on the advice of the Constitutional Court and instead the government launched regional consultations about a new territorial and administrative division more in line with the Algiers Peace Agreement, which had been signed on 15 May and 20 June 2015 in Bamako (after negotiations in Algiers between the government of Mali and the rebels of the Coordination of Azawad Movements). The intention of the consultations was to achieve a national consultation to synthesise the results. This did not happen before the end of the year.

EISA reopened its field office in Mali on 1 May 2018 to support the ongoing electoral process, implementing the project 'Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Promoting Peace, Social Cohesion and the Electoral Process in Mali', financed by the European Union. The Mali office supported three networks, made up of 15 civil society organisations (CSOs), namely: The Pool for Citizen Election Observation in Mali (POCIM), in charge of domestic observation; the Citizen Mediation Network in Mali (RCIM), in charge of electoral and community mediation; and the Citizen Synergy for Peaceful Elections (SCIEL), which deals with electoral awareness and social cohesion.

ACHIEVEMENTS

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

EISA developed material relating to election conflict management skills and trained a panel of 420 mediators, 31.42% of them women, drawn from CSO partners countrywide. In addition, a high-level national panel of six mediators was trained to mediate conflicts that might arise among party leaders before, during and after the elections. Eight training sessions were conducted across the country to ensure a geographic spread. A report was produced tracing the location of conflicts, those involved and the nature of the conflicts and published in November 2018 with EISA's support. The report is available at: <http://eisa-mali.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/rapport-de-m%C3%A9diation-Election-finale-corrig%C3%A9-5.pdf>. These initiatives played an invaluable role in contributing to a peaceful election, while at the same time building the conflict management skills of EISA's CSO partners and enabling them to play an active and constructive part in the electoral process. On voting days the panel interacted with representatives from the ministry in charge of elections and with the security services by transmitting alerts received from the public reporting potential or actual conflict, allowing the appropriate body or the panel of mediators to take immediate action.

CITIZEN ELECTION OBSERVATION

With EISA's support POCIM expanded its election observation during the presidential elections of July and August and during the regional consultations about the new administrative division. POCIM also made an effort to encourage women's participation. EISA's support included three workshops held from 3 to 10 July in Bamako, where 84 long-term observers (LTOs), 46% of them women, were trained. The training was carried out countrywide through 52 workshops and trainers also trained 1 980 short-term observers (STOs), 40.26% of them women.

The official launch by POCIM of the citizen observation mission was held in June 2018. To support the smooth functioning of the observation exercise a situation room was set up in Bamako, ensuring efficient coordination of field operations using an automated data processing platform. POCIM also issued press releases and preliminary statements and published two election observation reports. A post-election evaluation and review was held on 29 and 30 September to draw on experience gleaned during the presidential elections that might prove helpful to observers deployed to the legislative elections in 2019.

In addition to the two rounds of the presidential election, 28 observers were deployed from 13 to 17 November to observe consultations about a new territorial and administrative division in the 10 regional capitals of the country and the district of Bamako.

ELECTORAL EDUCATION AND SOCIAL COHESION

EISA's CSO partners conducted an awareness campaign during the presidential election period (July and August 2018), advising citizens to collect their voter cards and to participate peacefully in the election. Awareness teams were again deployed during the annual review of the electoral lists (October and November 2018) to encourage people, specifically young people, to register.

With EISA's support, the network used social media, videos and road shows (caravans) to ensure that citizens were informed about the electoral process. The campaign included printing and distributing 2 200 T-shirts proclaiming 'I pledge for transparent and peaceful elections in Mali', with Hashtags #Mali18 and #Ankawote; three awareness-raising videos focusing on the collection of voting cards and encouraging a peaceful turnout for the vote. The messages were also posted on the Citizen Synergy for Peaceful Elections (SCIEL) Facebook page on 29 July (www.facebook.com/scielmali/videos). The videos, which were posted on Youtube on 8 August, encouraged women and young people to be involved and mobilised them to spread the message contained in the videos. Twenty banners, tarpaulins and visibility stands were designed and produced for use during awareness activities. To strengthen the awareness campaign caravans and awareness stands were set up in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Segou, Sikasso from 13 to 22 July.

In addition, 50 000 text messages saying 'All together for peaceful elections, let us mobilise to withdraw our voter cards in the town halls of our communes. #AKANWOTE, # MALI18' were sent to potential voters from 1 July and on 5 July the awareness campaign was launched on social networks specifically aimed at a young audience. The digital campaign reached more than 163 000 internet users including 20% of Malians living in the diaspora.

SCIEL conducted an awareness campaign in the ten regions of the country and the district of Bamako from 19 to 30 November. The campaign focused on the annual revision of the voters' roll and on addressing the low participation of young people aged between 18 and 24. Targeting secondary schools, it reached 8 269 young people, of whom 48% were girls. Because of this intervention SCIEL noted that 73% of those reached had not yet received their voter cards. This problem was brought to the attention of the ministry in charge of elections with the recommendation that the registration process and issuing of voter cards be reopened. This recommendation has been included in the 2019 election calendar.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Re-train and deploy mediators and observers for legislative elections
- Train awareness-raising agents in all regions of the country
- Implement a voter awareness public outreach campaign including caravans and election awareness stands

MOZAMBIQUE



MIGUEL DE BRITO
COUNTRY DIRECTOR



DR ZEFANIAS MATSIMBE
*SENIOR ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL
PARTIES EXPERT*



ANISSA IZIDINE
*FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
OFFICER*



FRANCISCO LANGA
DRIVER & ADMINISTRATION CLERK



JOSÉ COSSA
*HOUSEKEEPER & OFFICE
CLERK*

Field office report: Mozambique

OVERVIEW

In 2018 EISA's Mozambique office continued to implement the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)-funded project 'Stronger Stakeholder Capacity for the 2018/2019 Electoral Process in Mozambique'. EISA has been sub-contracted by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) to support its 'Support to consolidation of democracy in Mozambique programme' in the field of citizen observation. Through these projects EISA supports the three political parties represented in Parliament (Frelimo, Renamo and MDM), the two electoral management bodies, the Comissão Nacional de Eleições – National Electoral Commission (CNE) and the Secretariado Técnico de Administração Eleitoral – Electoral Administration Technical Secretariat (STAE), district courts that become electoral courts during election periods and Mozambican civil society organisations involved in observing elections.

The two projects were implemented during an economic and financial crisis triggered by unlawful debts incurred by the Mozambican state which resulted in international partners holding back direct support for the state budget and investors reluctant to invest because of the uncertain political situation. The negotiations between the government and Renamo, the main opposition party, to put an end to the political-military crisis continued. The 2018 local elections marked the return of Renamo to the electoral arena, contesting all 53 municipalities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

POLITICAL PARTIES

Gearing up for the 2018 local elections in October, in the first six months of the year EISA helped Frelimo to build the capacity of its mobilisation and communication secretaries and provided strategy training for Renamo's electoral mobilisation personnel and party monitors and for MDM leaders.

In the second half of the year EISA supported all three parliamentary parties in the selection and training of local candidates, party agents and party-appointed polling officials in the 53 municipalities where local elections took place.

EISA Mozambique also engaged the women's leagues of the three parties in discussions about ways to increase the number of women candidates. Similarly, EISA encouraged gender-oriented civil society organisations such as Fórum Mulher, Women and Law in Southern Africa and Mulher, Lei e Desenvolvimento – Women, Law and Development (MULEIDE), to engage with political parties for the same purpose.

LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ELECTIONS

EISA was actively engaged in the public debate over the amendment of the electoral law package, as well as discussions with and training of political parties, members of Parliament and community service organisations (CSOs) in relation to the proposed constitutional and legal reforms emanating from the political arrangement between the government and Renamo.

EISA also disseminated information about the constitutional amendments and municipal legislation approved in 2018, having developed a digital booklet for CSOs and organised public information workshops with them about these issues, particularly targeting women, the youth, people with disabilities and religious groups.

THE CNE AND STAE

EISA provided logistical support to the CNE and STAE in preparation for their planning meeting. During this meeting the two bodies reviewed the state of implementation of the election calendar for the 2018 elections (which had been provisionally approved by the end of 2017) and approved the plan and activities for the year under review and the action plan for communication with electoral stakeholders.

EISA Mozambique also supported the operationalisation of the CNE/STAE website to allow stakeholders and the general public access to up-to-date information about the local elections.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

EISA assisted citizen observation organisations with planning observation, co-ordinating and training trainers, training at the local level and the deployment of observers on election day.

EISA also supported Solidariedade Moçambique and Votar Moçambique, two civil society networks, to conduct parallel vote tabulation at eight polling stations in the Marromeu local council in Sofala province, following the ruling of the Constitutional Council after the 2018 poll that the election must be rerun at those polling stations.

In addition, in January EISA Mozambique supported citizen groups observing the first round Nampula by-election that resulted from the murder of the incumbent mayor, Mahamudo Amurane, on 4 October 2017, as well as the second round, held in March.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

GENDER AND INCLUSION POLICY

The Mozambique office also worked on drafting a Gender and Inclusion Policy for Mozambique's electoral management bodies to help them in the recruitment of both permanent and temporary staff, activity design and implementation of greater gender equity and to motivate the CNE and STAE to implement ways and means of collecting, recording and publishing disaggregated data on gender during voter registration and voting.

JOURNALIST TRAINING

In collaboration with the Mozambican National Radio (Rádio Moçambique) EISA trained more than 100 journalists in all 10 provinces in the legal framework of elections and in election coverage and reporting.

OBSERVER MISSION

EISA deployed an international mission to observe the voter registration process. The mission engaged the CNE and STAE and observed both the voter registration and the display of the preliminary voters' roll in seven provinces.

INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVER MISSION

Later, EISA deployed a 20-member international mission to observe the local elections on 10 October. The mission observed the campaign period, election day and the results tabulation process in six areas – Nampula, Zambézia, Sofala, Manica, Maputo province and Maputo city.

PLANS FOR 2019

Continue to implement the 'Stronger Stakeholder Capacity for the 2018/2019 Electoral Process in Mozambique' Project and the 'Support for Consolidation of Democracy in Mozambique'

Implement 'Safeguarding Transparency and Credibility of the 2019 Elections' project in terms of the contract between EISA and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SOMALIA



JUSTIN DOUA GORÉ
COUNTRY DIRECTOR



ANGE MARIE NIJIMBERE
SENIOR FINANCE OFFICER



MUKENYI BADIBANGA
SENIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER



SUAD AHMED NUR
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OFFICER



NAPHTALY SEKAMOGENG
TEAM LEADER (BUILD PROJECT)



BASHIR IBRAHIM
PROGRAMME ASSISTANT (BUILD PROJECT)



ABDIFATAAH MOHAMED
PROGRAMME ASSISTANT



YASSIN ADEN MOHAMED
GOVERNANCE ADVISOR (LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROJECT)



MARIA AHMED ABDIRAHIM
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OFFICER (LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROJECT)

Field office report:

Somalia

OVERVIEW

Some progress was made in developing the legal framework for Somalia's 2020 universal suffrage elections, the Constitutional Review Process (CRP) and the conduct of the highly controversial presidential elections in South West State federal state. Despite numerous political challenges facing the country, stakeholders came together to address their differences in forums such as the National Security Council (NSC), a constructive platform on which Federal Government States (FGSs) and Federal Member States (FMS's) were able to engage. One of the dividends of the NSC meetings was the adoption of closed list proportional representation as the country's electoral model for the elections. The council also agreed that the drafting and approval of the electoral law should be concluded by December 2018.

Through a programme funded by the Swedish Embassy EISA continued to play a key role in the political process by successfully supporting the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR), the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MoCA) and civil society organisations (CSOs) in drafting the electoral law, in the CRP and capacity building in civic engagement. The four-year programme, which came to an end in November, also helped newly formed political parties to build their capacity. The Swedish Embassy will be providing further support to EISA, enabling it to deepen its partnership with local stakeholders through a three-year programme titled 'Support Towards a Democratic, Unified and Peaceful Somalia', abbreviated as 'Stand Up Somalia'.

EISA also implemented its work plan for the project titled 'Bringing Unity, Integrity, and Legitimacy to Democracy (BUILD) consortium, led by Creative Associates International. Following the implementation of the first phase of the local governance programme with Finn Church Aid (FCA), EISA remains a member of the consortium for a further four years.

ACHIEVEMENTS

SUPPORT FOR MOIFAR

Drafting the electoral law

EISA supported the Electoral Law Working Group (ELWG), the body within the ministry mandated to draft the electoral law. The ELWG successfully produced and submitted the draft to the Office of the Prime Minister. It is now awaiting adoption by Parliament in preparation for the 2020 elections.



Director General of MoCA, Mr Zubeyr, Receiving the FAQs booklets from EISA staff

Support for the Banadir Administration Region (BRA)

EISA provided training for the staff of the BRA districts, extending the training to 150 officials including district commissioners, district security commanders, judges and traditional leaders. The programme included local governance, decision-making processes, political participation and service delivery.

National dialogue on federalism

Representatives from federal institutions, including the Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister, relevant ministries from the FMSs, the Boundaries and Federalism Commission (BFC), both houses of Parliament, and the MoIFAR attended a workshop to discuss federalism and establish coordination, cooperation and conflict-resolution mechanisms between the FGS and FMSs.

Capital cities and the status of Mogadishu

A total of 120 participants from CSOs and political parties attended a workshop facilitated by experts from MoIFAR, BRA, MoCA and the Office of the Prime Minister to discuss the status of capital cities in FMSs and options for the status of Mogadishu, the federal capital city.

SUPPORT FOR MOCA

Constitutional Review Process

A number of consultative meetings and public outreach events were held in support of the CRP. The meetings, led by the three mandated bodies – MoCA, the Parliamentary Oversight Committee (OC), and the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission (ICRIC) – contributed to inclusivity and to the public ownership of the CRP. The three bodies consulted with youth groups, students, women, traditional and religious leaders and state actors at FMS and federal levels. EISA also supported a public outreach event for Somali youth

to make them aware of the Constitution. The event was attended by 179 young people from the 17 districts of Mogadishu as well as from the diaspora, who learnt about the country's provisional constitution by engaging with constitutional experts and officials.

Training of Trainers for MoCA

EISA supported the launch of a comprehensive training-of-trainers workshop on civic education and public outreach. Participants were drawn from CSOs, MoCA, OC, ICRIC, FMSs & BRA. At the workshop booklets and flash drives developed by EISA in collaboration with MoCA were distributed containing frequently asked questions about the Constitution.

Operational management skills training

EISA supported a training event for MoCA staff to expose them to the workings of the ministry. The aim of the workshop was to contribute to the capacity of staff to boost their effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery.

MoCA Forum

EISA supported MoCA in initiating a quarterly forum of key state and non-state actors involved in the CRP to discuss the achievements, challenges and the way forward.

Joint visits to FMSs

With the support of EISA, the three national constitutional review bodies, MoCA, OC and ICRIC, met with the Federal Member States of South West and Jubaland to discuss the progress of the CRP. These visits led to the inclusive National Constitutional Convention of 13-15 May 2018, also supported by EISA, other international organisations operating in Somalia and the donor community.

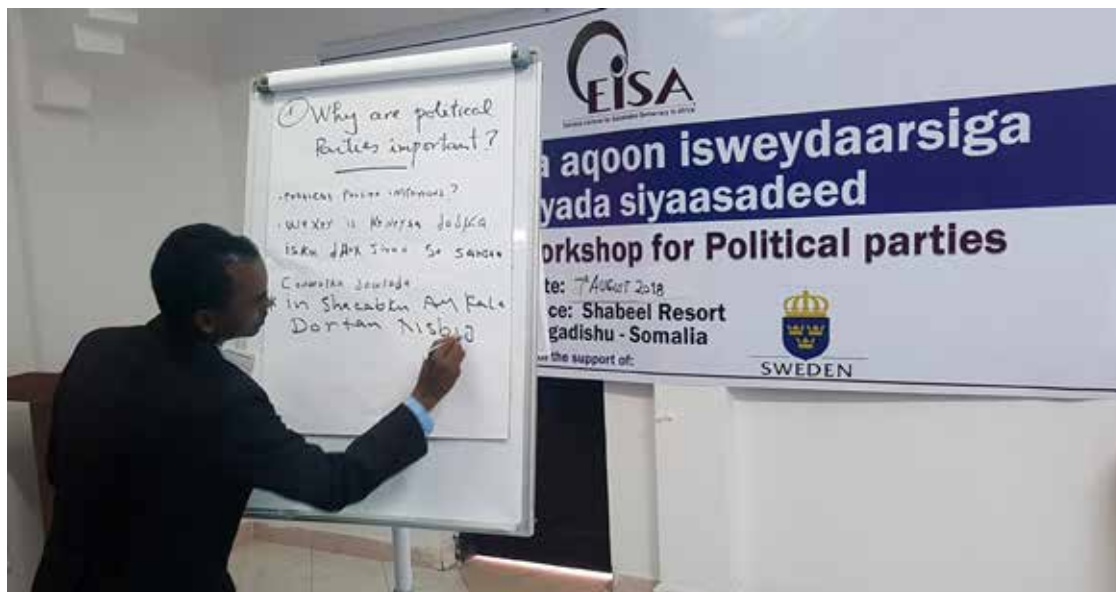
LEGAL FRAMEWORK DRAFTING PROCESS AND ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT

EISA supported a joint retreat attended by MoCA, MolFAR, the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC), and the BFC, at which the roles of these institutions in the democratisation process were discussed and participants agreed on points of convergence and collaboration with regard to their respective roles.

POLITICAL PARTIES

Induction workshops

EISA conducted four one-day induction workshops for the temporarily registered political parties, exposing them to topics such as the historical overview of the political party system in Somalia, political leadership and the roles of and relations among electoral stakeholders. The workshops were attended by 107 leaders and officials, including women, from 38 political parties.



Induction Workshop for Political Parties

Briefing on the CRP

To ensure a participatory and inclusive CRP, EISA supported MoCA in its engagement with the newly formed political parties to solicit their views on the process. The forum, which took place in Mogadishu from 9-10 and 16-17 October, was attended by 173 participants, 58 of them women.

Civil Society Organisations

The following activities were organised in terms of the programme supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida):

Support for CSOs

In supporting the organisational development of Somali CSOs and their civic engagement, EISA provided internal capacity building for CSOs in Mogadishu and in selected FMSs. In Beledwenye, Hirshabelle State, the workshop held on 9 and 10 July was attended by 110 participants, 26 of them women. Topics included project management, proposal writing, strategic planning, project monitoring and evaluation.

Public participation of women

EISA provided support to local women's groups in organising dialogue and experience-sharing roundtables on best practices in good governance at local level and enhancing cooperation between women in civil society and local authorities. Led by EISA's local partner, the Somali Women's Leadership Initiative, the series of roundtables involved community leaders, CSO activists, lobbyists and officials from districts and FMS ministries. More than 200 women leaders and community influencers benefited from these roundtables, which were aimed at improving their participation in public affairs in their communities.

In terms of the BUILD project the following support was provided:

Capacity building for Somali youth organisations

EISA conducted a series of capacity-building training sessions for youth organisations, focusing on results-based strategic management to provide them with the skills necessary to manage grants relating to civic education and democratisation. Twenty participants between the ages of 14 and 28, 12 of whom were women, attended the workshops on 17 and 18 January, completing the series of workshops started in November 2017. All the participants were awarded certificates of completion.

Media skills workshop

At a media skills training workshop participants learnt how to produce one-minute video messages on topics related to governance, democracy and political participation and to disseminate their messages on available media platforms.

Grants for CSOs

On 2 May in Mogadishu EISA conducted a workshop on reporting requirements and grant conditions for the two CSOs that had applied successfully for grants. The CSOs then conducted civic education activities in the BRA.

People with Disabilities (PWDs)

Following consultative meeting with PWD groups EISA organised a two-day training workshop on the theme 'Civic participation for people with disabilities'. The training was devoted to basic human rights, fundamental concepts of democracy and elections. MoCA was invited to make presentations on the provisional constitution and to discuss the importance of a constitution. The meeting opened the door for further discussions and future co-operation between the PWD community and the ministry.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Launch and roll out the Embassy of Sweden Stand up Somalia programme
- Develop and translate operational manual/guidelines for civic dialogue
- Train local administration staff in the civic dialogue process
- Broadcast civic dialogue messages
- Hold a meeting of key stakeholders and the community to get feedback from the civic dialogue

ZIMBABWE



VICTOR SHALE
COUNTRY DIRECTOR



GAMUCHIRAI MATSHEZA
*FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
OFFICER*



ANTONNETA HAMANDISHE
PROGRAMME OFFICER



SHINGIRAI MUTANDWA
DRIVER



MARIA MATOGO
HOUSEKEEPER



NICHOLAS CHIZANGO
SECURITY

Field office report:

Zimbabwe

OVERVIEW

Several developments in 2018 boosted the integrity of the electoral process ahead of the harmonised elections. These included the official visit of the African Union Commission Chairperson, His Excellency Moussa Faki, in February 2018; President Emmerson Mnangagwa's signing of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance during the African Union Extraordinary Summit in Kigali, Rwanda, in March and the invitation to 46 countries from around the world and 15 regional and continental bodies to observe the 2018 elections. The invitees included the European Union and the United States of America, which have not observed Zimbabwe's elections since 2002.

On 14 February the leader of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change-T, Morgan Tsvangirai, who was the party's presidential candidate, passed away.

The environment leading up to the elections was generally peaceful, with only one isolated case of violence – a deadly bomb attack on a ZANU-PF rally in Bulawayo in June. The elections were held on 30 July 2018, with a high voter turnout of 82.5%.

The beginning of 2018 marked the final stretch of election preparations by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC). The president's proclamation of the election date on 30 May set in motion the candidate nomination process from 14 June. An unprecedented number of 23 presidential candidates and 1 652 candidates for the National Assembly were nominated and certified by the ZEC.

The voter registration exercise was extended from January to February 2018 to cater for voters who had been unable to register during the September to December 2017 registration period. A record number of 5 695 706 voters were registered, of whom 54% were women. Parliament passed the Electoral Amendment Bill 2018, which included among its provisions the appointment of provincial senior special police liaison officers to deal with election violence; the establishment of multi-party liaison committees (MPLCs) at national, constituency and local authority level six months before the dissolution of Parliament and the enforcement of a code of conduct for political parties and other electoral stakeholders.

Unfortunately, the day after the elections there were violent demonstrations by opposition supporters who claimed that the ZEC was delaying the release of the presidential results. The outbreak of violence, looting and arson in Harare that led to the riot police and military descending on the city resulted in six reported fatal shootings of protesters and bystanders on 1 August.

The ZEC released the results on 3 August, declaring Mnangagwa the winner, with 50.8% of the vote, ahead of opposition leader Nelson Chamisa, who received 44.3%. The results were unsuccessfully challenged by the MDC-Alliance, which filed papers in the Constitutional Court on 10 August. Scores of protesters and political leaders were subsequently arrested on charges ranging from incitement to violence to arson and falsely and unlawfully announcing the election results. A Commission of Inquiry into the post-election violence was established by President Mnangagwa through Statutory Instrument 181 of 2018 and its report is now public.

EISA continued to support the ZEC's public outreach programme, aimed at strengthening election dispute resolution (EDR) and supported by the European Union, with an additional grant from the Embassy of Switzerland.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

Regular dialogue with political parties

Building on EISA's support for the ZEC-political-parties dialogue platform in 2017, EISA provided technical help at meetings held on 28 March and 8 May 2018. During these meetings the parties were briefed on the framework of the data consolidation and voters' roll compilation processes after registration, the upcoming voters' roll inspection exercise as well as a provisional election roadmap. Political parties also used these meetings to make inputs into the process and raise concerns with the ZEC, where applicable. The meetings provided an opportunity to discuss election-related issues, for instance, political parties were apprehensive about the printing of ballot papers and requested that the ZEC be transparent about the procurement processes.



ZEC-CSOs-FBOs consultative meeting

Civil society and faith-based organisations and statutory bodies

EISA supported the consultative engagements between the ZEC and civil society (CSOs) and faith based organizations (FBOs) in both Bulawayo and Harare. During these meetings the ZEC discussed the electoral processes and solicited views on how to improve the delivery of voter education (VE). The CSOs and FBOs were also requested to carry out VE for both registration and polling in their constituencies.

EISA also supported the ZEC's outreach to statutory bodies to strengthen collaborative and coordination efforts between the commission and these institutions on electoral matters. Statutory bodies include the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC), Zimbabwe Media Commission (ZMC), National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (NPRC), Zimbabwe Gender Commission (ZGC) and the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP). As a result of this support, EISA, the ZEC and the ZMC jointly planned and conducted training workshops for the media.

VOTER EDUCATION

EISA provided expertise in the development of innovative and comprehensive VE material for the 2018 elections. Gender sensitive and inclusive voter education campaign portfolios for the provisional voters' roll inspection and polling processes were designed in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme. In addition, EISA supported the translation of VE materials from English into all 15 official languages to ensure inclusivity and maximum citizen participation in the elections. Fifty-four ZEC and CSO representatives participated in developing the voter education portfolios.

EISA conducted two activities in support of the VE roll-out. The first was monitoring implementation across the country to assess adherence to the ZEC VE strategy and agreed content followed by a joint mid-way problem-solving workshop between the ZEC and CSOs at which VE challenges were identified and addressed. The second was monitoring polling activities in different provinces to assess the effectiveness of the voter education strategy. EISA staff considered whether voters were familiar with the voting process and procedures, the interface between the ZEC and polling staff as well as the competence of polling officials in conducting the polling and results transmission processes. Where appropriate, EISA staff provided feedback to the provincial electoral officers on polling challenges. In addition, lessons learnt from the monitoring were used to shape the post-election review and, subsequently, the development of the 2023 voter education strategy.



Casting a vote in the 2018 elections

Balanced and accurate election reporting

EISA supported the ZEC's collaboration with the ZMC to strengthen the media's ability to report the elections in a balanced and accurate way. Two media training workshops, conducted in May and June 2018, contributed to building an improved working relationship between the ZEC and the media by providing space for interaction about the role of the media and the mutual expectations of the media and the ZEC. Most importantly, through a simulation exercise the workshop enhanced the participants' understanding of the electoral process, especially election-day procedures. The training workshops were attended by editors, senior reporters and radio presenters from print and electronic media houses.

ELECTION DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Given the number of election contestants, the high voter registration turnout and the anticipated increase in election related disputes, EISA supported the ZEC in strengthening alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms. A consultative workshop that included the ZEC, political parties, CSOs and Chapter 12 commissions, the ZHRC, NPRC, ZMC, ZGC, the Judiciary Service Commission and the statutory body, the ZRP, was convened on 26 and 27 March to review the work of these institutions in EDR. Terms of reference were developed and interim EDR structures established to deal with election related disputes pending the operationalisation of the multiparty liaison committees (MPLCs) enshrined in the Electoral Act 2018.

EISA conducted a two-day training workshop for ZEC provincial election officers and senior head office personnel tasked with presiding over the MPLCs. Participants learnt about the functions of MPLCs, the management of election related disputes and practical skills in managing MPLC meetings, record keeping and processes and procedures for referring deadlocked matters to the relevant authorities for mediation. A culmination of EISA's support



ZEC and EISA personnel training in conflict management

for ADR efforts was the technical support provided for the launch of the national MPLC as well as its sittings. EISA also provided expertise to the national and 21 provincial MPLC sittings in nine provinces, which were attended by representatives of presidential candidates, members of Parliament and local councillor candidates and the ZRP.

REVIEW PROCESSES

EISA helped the ZEC plan and implement a comprehensive post-election process to inform the 2023 election cycle. The 2018 review process began with a focus on internal ZEC reviews at district and provincial levels. The International Foundation for Electoral Systems provided financial support, while EISA supported the thematic reviews of the ZEC's support to stakeholders, such as voter education for voter registration and polling, media and election dispute resolution, assessing what worked, what did not and ways of improving the system for the 2023 elections.

Media

The first post-election review workshop for the media was held on 5 and 6 November. Editors and senior reporters from print and electronic media houses in Zimbabwe assessed the performance of local and foreign print and electronic media in election reporting. The environment for election reporting, including enabling regulations, access and security of the media, was also assessed. Chapter 12 commissions (including the ZEC), as well as statutory bodies such as the police and the Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe attended.

Voter education

The second review workshop took place on 8 and 9 November. In addition to giving an opportunity for stocktaking of the collaboration efforts between the ZEC and civil society

organisations during the 2013-2018 election cycle, participants assessed the context in which voter education was rolled out, review materials used and their impact and methodologies and drew lessons for future electoral process. Participants were drawn from the ZEC Secretariat, including the executive officers, directors of departments, provincial electoral coordinators and electoral stakeholders including CSOs and FBOs.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Continue to engage with electoral stakeholders (political parties, CSOs and FBOs) over the electoral process
- Support regular meetings between the ZEC and Chapter 12 commissions and other statutory bodies
- Evaluate the EDR after the election
- Hold a multi-stakeholder national post-election review conference

OPERATIONS



MS ILONA TIP
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR



KERRY N KOTLER
*MONITORING AND EVALUATION
PROGRAMME OFFICER*

LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS



MARIE REYNEKE
LIBRARIAN



MICHAEL MOLEFE
LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS CLERK

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY



DEAN STUART
RESEARCHER



IRENE MABOEA
ICT TECHNICIAN

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
- STAFF MEMBERS
- EISA DONORS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



DRAKE ORURACH
HEAD OF FINANCE



MARIA HOOPER
OFFICE MANAGER



DIPTI BAVA
ACCOUNTANT



PONTSHO MOTAUNG
ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT LEVEL 1



THAPELO MABOKO
ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT



USHA KALA
SENIOR BOOKKEEPER



TUELO MABOKO
JUNIOR BOOKKEEPER



IVY PILLAY
RECEPTIONIST



PETER MAJE
DRIVER



MATHEMBI MEHLOMEKHULU
HOUSEKEEPER

Financial statements

ELECTORAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA NPC
REGISTRATION NO. 1996/008257/08

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 R	2017 R
ASSETS		52 319 161	62 47 268
Non - current assets		9 019 230	9 800 435
Property and equipment	3	9 019 230	9 800 435
Current assets		43 299 931	52 672 832
Trade and other receivables	4	9 605 971	2 079 153
Accrued income - grants	5	7 266 925	6 390 370
Accrued income - other	5	-	7 328 994
Cash and cash equivalents	6	26 427 36	36 874 316
TOTAL ASSETS		52 319 161	62 473 268
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		52 319 161	26 473 268
Accumulated fund		19 506 301	27 150 073
Operating fund		4 000 000	6 605 017
Unrealised foreign currency reserve		6 630 572	5 651 584
Retrenchment fund		4 930 714	4 329 194
Revaluation reserve fund		3 422 869	3 422 869
Sustainability reserve fund		522 146	7 141 409
Current liabilities		32 812 860	35 323 195
Trade and other payables	7	5 175 897	961 106
Deferred income - grants	8	25 127 565	30 932 473
Provision for leave pay	9	730 404	1 094 582
Provision - general		687 178	1 344 044
Amounts refundable	10	1 091 816	990 990
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		52 319 161	62 473 268

ELECTORAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA NPC
REGISTRATION NO. 1996/008257/08

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 R	2017 R
Income		125 712 409	80 310 803
Gross profit on services		4 733 143	7 598 586
Consulting income		12 628 120	1 218 364
Less: direct expenses		(7 894 978)	(23 619 778)
Grants	11	119 544 204	70 960 356
Interest received	12	599 638	477 305
Foreign exchange gain		45 765	577 565
Rent received		767 001	675 653
Profit on disposal of asset		-	3 110
Sundry income		22 657	18 228
Expenditure		134 335 169	86 972 436
Operating expenses		6 537 514	4 238 178
Salaries and contributions	13.3	24 551 242	23 243 183
Project expenses		103 246 413	59 491 075
(Deficit) for the year		(8 622 760)	(6 661 633)
Other Comprehensive Income		978 988	326 504
Foreign exchange gains on foreign bank accounts		978 988	326 504
Total Comprehensive income		(7 643 772)	(6 335 130)

Staff members

EISA - JOHANNESBURG

- Cecile Bassomo
- Crystal Africa
- Denis Kadima
- Dean Stuart
- Dipti Bava
- Randrara Rakoomalala
- Drake Orurach
- Grant Masterson
- Ivy Pillay
- Ilona Tip
- Irene Maboea
- Kerry Kotler
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- Marie Reyneke
- Mathembi Mehlomekhulu
- Melanie Meirotti
- Mike Molefe
- Noxolo Gwala
- Riana Henley
- Olufunto Akinduro
- Peter Maje
- Pontsho Motaung
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- Thapelo Maboko
- Tuelo Molope
- Zahira Seedat
- Helen Lenni Taabu
- Nduduzo Sandile Khuboni

STEP

- Baidessou Soukolgue
- Catherine Musuva

EISA - Central Africa regional office (Gabon)

- Florent Musakayi Kabongo

EISA - DRC

- André Kabunda
- Clarisse Katuala
- Baruti Simamba
- Julienne Diasonoama
- Pierre-Claver Kalonda
- Marie Laure Digbeu
- Mimi Mpanda
- Jean-Marie Jhume
- John-Meyi Mavakala

EISA - Mali

- Aime Konan
- Pontsho Motaung
- Kadi Toure
- Bakary Sidibe
- Daniel Diallo Sory
- Ahmedou Ag Mohamed

EISA - Madagascar

- Jessica Ranohefy
- Niaina Ramaroshon
- Harizo Rabesaona
- Mamy Razanadrafara
- Ny Aina Rahagalala
- Didi Mickael Miarimanantsoa
- Soambolanoro Razafimanjato

EISA - Mozambique

- Miguel de Brito
- Francisco Lange
- Anissa Idizine
- Josa Cossa
- Zefanias Matsimbe

EISA - Somalia

- Justin Doua
- Ange Marie Njijimbere
- Su'ad Nur
- Abdifataah Mohammed
- Yassin Aden Mohamed
- Maria Ahmed Abdirahim
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- Naphtaly Sekamogeng
- Bashir Ibrahim

EISA - Zimbabwe

- Victor Shale
- Gamuchirai Matsheza
- Antoinette Hamandishe
- Shingirai Mutandwa
- Matogo Maria
- Nicolas Chizango

EISA Donors 2018

- Department for International Development (DFID)
- European Union (EU)
- Finn Church Aid – Somalia (FCA)
- Institute for International Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)
- National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)
- Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA)
- Open Society Institute of Southern Africa (OSISA)
- Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida)
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United States Agency International Development (USAID)
- University of Michigan

14 Park Road Richmond
Johannesburg South Africa
P.O. Box 740 Auckland Park
2006 Johannesburg
South Africa

Tel: +27 11 381 6000 - 7

Fax: +27 11 482 6163

eisa@eisa.org.za

www.eisa.org.za