

ANNUAL REPORT



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We are
a not-for-profit
organisation
promoting
credible elections
and sustainable
democracies
in Africa.

The Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) is a registered not-for-profit organisation established in South Africa since 1996, then known as the Electoral Institute of South Africa.

The organisation is headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, with a regional office in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire and has a multi-lingual staff component of English, French, Arabic and Portuguese speakers across its field offices.

Much of EISA's early work also contributed conflict monitoring, mediation, and mitigation strategies around elections. These early experiences have been highly beneficial in allowing EISA to continue this work in many other post-conflict and transitional spaces. The organisation's programmatic scope naturally adapted to activities beyond elections to areas of the democratic and good governance support. It also broadened its coverage to encompass the whole of Africa.

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.

Our Impact

**27****Years of Experience****7****Current Offices****200****Missions Supported****2,000****Publications**

To date, EISA has been involved in hundreds of electoral processes in Africa. It has also conducted projects and programmes aimed at enhancing the institutional capacity of electoral management bodies (EMBs), political parties, parliaments, and national and local governments.

Additionally, EISA works closely with organised civil society to enhance its participation in democratic processes. EISA has become an internationally recognised centre for policy, research, information, and technical assistance. With its multilingual staff and field offices across the continent, EISA is strategically placed to play a key role to advance democracy on the continent. EISA is widely recognised for its effective and efficient programmes.

At sub-regional and regional levels, the Institute has built strong and effective partnerships with key Pan-African bodies, namely the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Pan African Parliament (PAP) as well as Regional Economic Communities, such as EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, ICGLR and SADC. The strategic choice to provide technical assistance to these organisations has strengthened their capacity to assess elections as well as supporting a sustainable democratic development in Africa.

EISA has been able to bring African perspectives to the international discourse on democracy building and to contribute to the global definition of problems, and the shaping of solutions.

EISA's programmatic approach is focused on two main areas of work, namely elections and governance. Its Elections and Political Processes (EPP) programme focuses on supporting regional, sub-regional and national stakeholders to foster inclusive, peaceful, and credible elections. In this regard, EISA provides support to inter-governmental bodies, civil society and electoral commissions through election assessment and electoral assistance initiatives. Its governance programmes work towards strengthening governance institutions in their mandate to promote open, inclusive and democratic societies. The Governance Institutions and Political Processes (GIPPS) programme provides support to political parties, parliaments, civil society, and other relevant government institutions. These interventions are implemented through applied research, capacity building and training and academic research, analysis, and publishing.



Chairperson's Message

DR. ROUKAYA KASENALLY

2022 saw the 17th consecutive year of the decline of democracy across the world. This was coupled with Russia's frontal attack on Ukraine. Despite democracy's decline, support for democracy across Africa remains strong (Afrobarometer Round 9).

However, we are all aware that Africa is far from being a homogenous block and there have been a number of worrisome trends observed especially in the Sahel strip and parts of the Horn of Africa.

Human rights abuses, erosion of security and the flaring of jihadist presence have made the region both dangerous and unstable. Human rights have deteriorated in Mali. Burkina Faso witnessed two coups in 2022 making it the stage to deadly attacks by violent extremist organisations. As for Chad, the national reconciliation dialogue is yet to be signed. Bringing all parties on board has been a tall order. This new disorder is happening in the presence of a mercenary group – the Wagner Group. Its influence seems to be growing and there is need in the future to monitor carefully that space.

On the elections front – Kenya and Angola organised presidential elections. Kenya in the past has been no stranger to contestation as both the 2013 and 2017 presidential election results were contested in the Kenyan Supreme Court. In 2022, President Ruto's win was upheld once again by the Supreme Court. In fact, this poses the question of the role of the Court in delivering election results. In the case of Angola, incumbent President Lourenco was re-elected giving him his last second term as per the Constitution.

Protests, anger and dissatisfaction were recurrent features across Africa.

The war between Ukraine and Russia was often used to explain the high cost of living and galloping inflation in a number of African countries.

The above demonstrates why organisations such as EISA remain highly relevant. In fact, EISA deepened its presence in West Africa. This was done with the opening of EISA's regional office in Abidjan.

EISA through its different programmes cover some of the more salient needs required to strengthen democracy on the continent. The development and testing of a number of practical tools such as the 'Digital Toolkit on Civic and Voter Education' and the 'Online Integrity Tool' are testimony of using technology to enhance citizen / voter experience.

Another unique tool to EISA is its 'Journal of African Elections' (JAE). In fact, JAE offers a unique repertoire of election related content since its creation in 2001.

2022 saw EISA's Executive Director - Baidessou Soukolgue fully embrace his position with the full support of the Board. We thank him for his leadership and commitment to EISA.

Lastly, I would like to thank our different donors for their continued support and trust towards EISA.

You have allowed us to continue existing programmes but also roll out new programmes especially at a time when democracy is most threatened. We are equally grateful towards all partners that have joined forces in making African democracy resilient.



Executive Director's Message

BAÏDESSOU SOUKOLGUÉ

Before joining EISA as the Executive Director in November 2021, I thought a lot about why I wanted to assume this position, and why now. My decision came down to several fundamental convictions that have guided my life and career.

I'm driven by the unwavering belief that enhancing capacity and strengthening the voice and agency of different stakeholders, including state and non-state actors, can contribute to peaceful and inclusive electoral processes, guaranteeing democratic governance, human rights and citizen participation.

From various perspectives, **2022 has been a year of transition.** We faced the daunting task of recovering from the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on our Institute's programmes. In addition, we had to navigate structural changes and adapt to numerous challenges, including the simultaneous departures of our long-serving former Executive Director and Director of Operations, as well as the restructuring of our organization, all within an unfavourable international ecosystem.

Assuming leadership after the departure of the individual responsible for the Institute's expansion, while also losing the valuable experience and advice of what some aptly referred to as "the Queen Mother," presented a formidable and difficult task. However, with the support of our partners, board, and staff, EISA has remained resolute in its mission to promote open and democratic political and electoral processes on the continent.



In line with this commitment, EISA expanded its efforts in terms of country presence, programmes, visibility, and resources. For instance, the Institute has initiated and launched several new projects in the Central African Republic, Chad, Madagascar, Niger, and Liberia. Furthermore, at a continental level, EISA has launched the third phase of the Enhancing the Legitimacy, Integrity, and Transparency of Elections (ELITE III) project in support of the African Union. **These new projects serve as evidence that the Institute continues to receive support from its traditional partners, including the European Union (EU), the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).**

However, there are still many initiatives to be undertaken to sustain the Institution's momentum and relevance across different regions of the continent. For instance, fundraising efforts play a pivotal role in supporting these initiatives and ensuring their success. Therefore, it calls for concerted efforts from the leadership, management, and staff.

Continuous review, adaptation, and learning are of paramount importance as we advance the vision and mission of EISA going forward.

In the upcoming months, the Institute will actively pursue its restructuring efforts, aiming at establishing an organizational and functional structure that streamlines the reporting lines and chain of command, while at the same time promoting better control of operating costs. This will inevitably lead to a re-articulation of work and positions and a review of both administrative and financial procedures with a view to further consolidating the Institute's administrative and financial governance in those areas.

The restructuring also includes the setting of a new communication strategy, which will culminate in facelifting of the Institute's website to effectively showcase its work across the continent and in the countries where projects are being implemented.

These initiatives, which are more essential and imperative than ever, are likely to generate uncertainty and concern. Therefore, we will carry them out in consultation and collaboration with all the stakeholders within the

Institute, particularly involving our dedicated staff who need to fully comprehend their importance.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our gratitude to our partners and development partners for their unwavering support and confidence. It is our responsibility to deliver on our mission. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Board of Directors, led by Dr. Roukaya Kasenally, for their multi-faceted support since I assumed this position. I would like to pay tribute to our remarkable staff for their commitment and professionalism. Together, we will overcome obstacles to the best of our ability and proudly carry the torch of our Institute forward.

Finally, I have been incredibly impressed by the hard work that has been put in by the stakeholders who partner with us in different interventions across the continent in field offices. Thank you for standing by our side. We are humbled to do this work alongside you. With your support, we will lay the groundwork for the EISA we want and need to be: an organisation that strives for excellence in the promotion of credible elections, citizen participation, and the strengthening of political institutions for sustainable democracy in Africa.

Board of Directors

EISA's board of directors consists of a diverse group of experts in the field of African elections and good governance from a wide array of backgrounds, including academia, government and non-governmental organisations, and Business.



**Dr. Roukaya
Kasenally**



**Mr. Baïdessou
Soukolgué**



Prof. John Stremlau



Ms. Martha Chizuma



**Ms. Charlotte
Kesson-Smith**



**Dr. Tadjoudine
Ali-Diabacté**



Prof. Tom Lodge

Key Events 2022

MARCH



- EISA attended the AU Workshop on Technical Review and Validation of the Draft AU Electoral Assistance Guide.
- EISA hosted a regional workshop for political parties from Great Lakes, East and Southern Africa region in order to review its “Benchmarks for enhanced political party performance for democratic governance in Africa”.
- In March 2022, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Samia Suluhu Hassan, delivered the opening address at the Post-Election Dialogue on Peace and Reconciliation which was organized by TCD with support from EISA and other development partners. In her address, the President highlighted her commitment to dialogue with all stakeholders in the country. She also outlined steps she has taken to shift the political culture in the country towards greater respect for human rights and tolerance.

MAY

- EISA South Africa facilitated an **online expert discussion on South Africa’s Electoral Amendment Bill**.
- **The Principles for Elections Management, Monitoring and Observation (PEMMO)**, first adopted in 2003 by SADC, was **revised in 2022**. The working group finalized and validated the document during a physical meeting on the 25th and 26th of May 2022 in Gaborone, Botswana.

JANUARY

- The EISA Madagascar office met with the **President of the Commission Electorale Nationale Independante (CENI)**, Mr. Retaf Arsène Dama, in Madagascar to deepen the collaboration between EISA and CENI.



APRIL

- EISA convened a **National Conference on Justice, Peace and Reconciliation** in Tanzania which brought together the President, political parties, NEC and other electoral stakeholders.
- Opening of the **BRIDGE training on gender and election** in Andakana with the Vice-President of the Electoral Commission, the head of the Gender and Development Committee from the National Assembly, one woman senator and the EISA Country Representative of the EISA Madagascar Office.



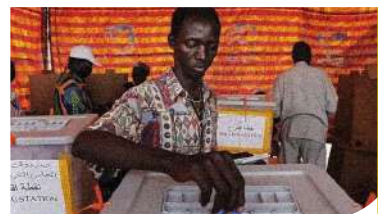
Key Events 2022

JULY



- EISA conducted civic dialogue in the Adado district, Galmudug state, Somalia. The dialogues are part of a broader project promoting peace and nurturing community co-existence in different levels of community structures.
- Launch of the **Somalia CSOs Election Situation Room report for the Somalia 2021/22 elections**. The report documents the experiences and lessons learned for future elections.

SEPTEMBER



- EISA conducted a technical mission to Angola.
- The EISA Sudan office conducted a series of regional consultation meetings at the start of the **“Strengthening Electoral Stakeholder Capacity in Sudan” (SESCS) project** aimed at identifying potential partners who will form the Sudan Election Monitoring Group (SEMG).
- The **NDAO HIFIDY project, funded by USAID, commences in Madagascar**. The electoral support programme aims to increase citizen's understanding of and confidence in electoral process to ultimately improve voter turnout and promote informed and inclusive public participation in the 2023 Madagascar elections.

JUNE

- Published Vol 21, 1 of the JAE



JOURNAL OF AFRICAN ELECTIONS



AUGUST

- The EPP department deployed a short-term election observer mission to observe the 09 August 2022 General Elections in the Republic of Kenya. The mission was comprised of **21 international observers led by His Excellency Goodluck Jonathan, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**.
- The GIPPs department coordinated the **“ObSERV” project embedded data and security specialists within the EISA EOMs in Kenya**. This project aims to improve election observation in the area of conflict analysis. The comprehensive, constituency-based security assessment tool has been developed mapped on top of EISA's existing EOM data collection.
- EISA supported international observer missions from **ICGLR, SADC and the AU** for the 24 August 2022 Angolan general elections.

Key Events 2022

NOVEMBER

- EISA staff arrive in Chad to set up the office for the **Appui aux Acteurs Citoyens Tchadiens et Aux Élections (ACTE)** project.
- Published Volume 21, 2 of the JAE



OCTOBER

- EISA supported the SADC Observer Mission in Lesotho.
- The revised PEMMO was adopted at the 24th AGC of ECF-SADC held from 24th to 28th October 2022 in Namibia



DECEMBER

- The GIPPS department **successfully handed over completed Gender Audit Reports to political parties represented in Botswana's parliament.**
- **The Liberia International Election Observation Mission (IEOM) project commences.** The project will support efforts for electoral integrity and credibility for Liberia 2023 elections through independent impartial observation and of the electoral process in adherence to national law and regional and international principle and obligations for democratic elections.
- **On December 06 and 07, 2022, the STEP programme hosted a forum on the theme “civil society’s follow-up on election recommendations: lessons learnt from recent electoral processes in the region and a framework for sustained collaboration amongst civic groups” in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.**

EISA Head office South Africa

The EISA Johannesburg office provides strategic, programmatic, operational, financial, and administrative support to all the organisation's field offices and projects.

The EISA Office in Johannesburg has a long history of supporting civil society, political parties, and governmental and inter-governmental institutions.

Complementing EISA's regional office based in Abidjan, the Johannesburg office works towards stronger democratic processes and systems with a focus on the Southern and East Africa regions.



EISA Regional Office Cote d'Ivoire

Through its regional office for West and Central Africa, based in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, EISA is able to build local networks, deliver context, demand driven interventions that are specific to the needs and nuances of the sub-region and provide appropriate and timely support to this effect.

EISA's programmes and interventions in the Central and West African sub-regions work towards addressing challenges around three key areas.



Support Staff

EISA Operations



Ilona Tip
Operations Director
Until Sep 2022



Melanie Meirotti
Research & Quality
Assurance Manager
From June 2022



Zahira Seedat
Office coordinator



Ivy Pillay
Receptionist

ICT and Website



Marie Reyneke
Librarian



Michael Molefe
Senior Library and
Publications Clerk



Thembelani Mazibuko
Senior Website Researcher



Irene Sekamogeng
ICT Coordinator

Support Staff

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning



Tokologo Ramodibe
MEL Programme Assistant



Kerryn Kotler
MEL Senior Programme Officer

Finance



Drake Orurach
Head of Finance



Dipti Bava
Senior Accountant



Thapelo Maboko
Assistant Accountant



Usha Kala
Senior Bookkeeper



Tuelo Molope
Bookkeeper



Nthabiseng Botipe
Payroll Administration Officer

Regional Office



Baïdessou Soukolgué
Executive Director



**Samira Ble
Gnagale N'guessan**
programme assistant



Nils Dallo
Finance Officer
and Administration

PROGRAMMES

Governance Institutions and Political Processes

The GIPPS programme was formed in January 2017 through the merger of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and Political Parties Unit.

Since the merger, GIPPS has engaged in work that aims to enhance democratic and accountable governance in Africa while contributing towards open and inclusive political systems. To achieve this, GIPPS has partnered with various

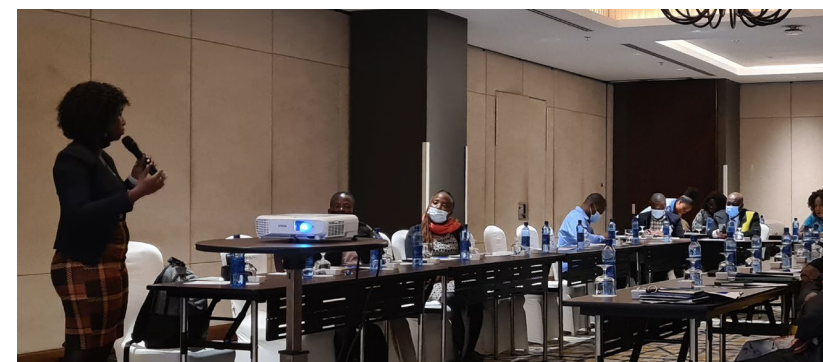
governance stakeholders who play a role in the governance and political system of a country.

These stakeholders include political parties, election management bodies (EMBs) and civil society organisations (CSOs).

GIPPS implemented two key projects during 2022 with the respective goals of:

- **Enhancing primary research into local causes of electoral violence; and**
- **Promoting and strengthening democracy in the African continent.**

Supported by Sweden, through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), GIPPS contributed to EISA's overall work under the Africa Democracy



Strengthening programme. The work focused on political party support, research into social cohesion in democratic states, and technology's impact on the democratic field. GIPPS supported the EISA IEOM in Kenya 2022 elections to use advanced data collection and statistical analysis.

GIPPS further successfully completed the reports for political parties on gender and youth inclusion in Botswana in support of equal participation of women and youth in the political process in the continent. Lastly, GIPPS published six policy briefs on democracy and technology in Africa.

GIPPS

Our Impact

Enhanced knowledge on the impact of technology in elections

Recognising the increasing role of technology in electoral processes, EISA conceptualised a series of policy briefs focused on key thematic areas of lessons learned across the Continent.

The series provided a platform for experts to share best practices and disseminate knowledge on methodologies on Internet governance. A total of five policy briefs were produced and widely disseminated during the last half of 2021. The policy briefs were successful in garnering the interest of a wide range of stakeholders.

EISA then hosted a webinar in 2022 to reflect on key policy alternatives brought forward by the series of policy briefs.

Participants concurred that technology was not a means to an end but rather a tool that should be utilised responsibly, in respect of fundamental principles of democracy and human rights. Through the policy briefs and webinar, EISA contributed to a body of evidence and learnings that can inform policymakers and civil society actors in ongoing digital transitions at the local context, enabling democratic practitioners to draw lessons for their work in the space of digital democracy.



Our Team



Grant Masterson
Head of Department



Noxolo Gwala
Programme Officer



Sandile Khuboni
Assistant Programme Officer

GIPPS

Key Events

Gender Audit and Action Plans in Botswana and Zambia

The GIPPs gender audit and action plan interventions worked towards strengthening inclusion in political parties through diversity audits with a primary focus on political parties as vehicles for driving inclusion and empowerment of women and youth in political processes. In 2022 GIPPs produced six confidential gender audit reports for the six parties represented in the parliament of Botswana. Each party received a tailor-made report based on specific themes. The reports highlight strengths as well as areas for improvement and intervention, with recommendations and best practices to help parties to develop and implement their own targeted interventions guided by action plans. The project was also introduced to parties in Zambia, and GIPPS held consultative meetings and focus group discussions with parties. Through these interventions EISA has managed to raise awareness of the importance of reflecting on how internal party culture and practices can be improved for the betterment of the political party, contributing to inclusive political processes at national level.

Understanding the effect of Social Cohesion in Kenya

Between 2020 and 2021, EISA conducted a wide scale assessment on the impact of social cohesion on democracy - especially during elections. Using this research EISA developed and then tested a tool in the August 2022 national elections in Kenya through two rounds of surveys (before and after the elections). EISA's key objective was to understand whether there is any deviation between levels of cohesion that exist before and after the election. The findings showed that citizen sentiments, in this case, did not change significantly through both electoral phases as their concerns remained the same. The survey targeted Kenyan citizens across four regions of Kenya, with a total of 16 focus Group Discussions with over 100 participants. Survey findings indicate that citizens strongly believe that social cohesion can be best improved through good governance, based on a culture of continuous public participation especially over decisions that are made on behalf of the public.

Local patterns of election-related violence and peace in Africa researched

With the support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY) titled "ObSERV" (Observation of Subnational Election-Related Violence and Security in Africa), there were data and security specialists embedded within the EISA EOMs in Kenya. This project aims to improve election observation in the area of conflict analysis. The comprehensive, constituency-based security assessment tool has been developed mapped on top of EISA's existing EOM data collection. The collaborative work done by EISA's GIPPs Department, the University of Michigan and the University of the Witwatersrand, has improved the quality of data collected by EISA by incorporating statistical research methods to observe elections, while, at the same time, enhancing the understanding of local violence during the election period.

1

Gender Audit and Action Plans in Botswana and Zambia

2

Understanding the effect of Social Cohesion in Kenya

3

Local patterns of election-related violence and peace in Africa researched

PROGRAMMES

Elections and Political Processes

The EPP department works towards supporting regional, sub-regional and national stakeholders to foster inclusive, peaceful, and credible elections.

This is done through conducting independent election observation and providing technical support to inter-governmental bodies, civil society and electoral commissions through election assessment and electoral assistance initiatives.

In 2022 EPP provided technical support to the African Union and other Regional Economic Communities in conducting election observation. Particularly, EISA supported the AU in the elections in Kenya, Angola, Lesotho, Equatorial Guinea and Tunisia.

EISA also supported the ICGLR, SADC, EAC in the elections in Kenya, Angola and Lesotho.

To improve the quality of election observation, EPP conducted training for SADC long-term election observers and newly inaugurated SEAC members. These trainings create a pool of observers from which SADC can draw during elections in the region. Training was also conducted for South African civil society organisations to equip them to effectively observe the upcoming 2024 elections in South Africa.



EPP

Our Impact

The EPP department deployed a short-term election observer mission to observe the 09 August 2022 General Elections in the Republic of Kenya.

The mission was comprised of 21 international observers (10 female, 11 male) drawn from Election Management Bodies (EMBs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and academia from across the continent.



The Mission was headed by His Excellency Goodluck Jonathan, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. EISA used a random sampling method to deploy observers who observed a total of 187 polling stations, which enabled EISA observers to access polling stations that have not been observed by international observers in any election before.

Elections in Kenya have often been plagued by violence, and non-acceptance of results, and the courts have most of the time been involved in finding a solution.

Following the disputed 2017 presidential elections and subsequent nullification of the results by the supreme court, observing the Kenya elections was crucial for EISA to track the acceptance of the use of technology in the elections, considering the weaknesses revealed in the petition.

The 2022 election also showed the maturing of democracy in Kenya and the trust in the redress mechanisms instituted in country.

In this election, the party that was aggrieved by the election results, proceeded to file their petition in the Supreme Court on August 22, 2022 rather than calling for mass action to protest the elections as was the practice in previous elections.

Our Team



Baidessou Soukolgue
Executive Director –
Interim Head of EPP



Lenny Taabu
Programme Officer



Mmapitsi Raphala
Programme Assistant

EPP

Key Events

1 SADC LTO and SEAC Trainings

2 AU Validation Workshop for the development of a pedagogic toolkit for the rule of law stakeholders in Africa (Dakar and Kinshasa)

3 IEC/UNDP Citizen Observer Training



SADC LTO and SEAC Trainings

In anticipation of SADCs observation of several elections in 2022 in the Southern African region, the Regional Economic Community requested training from EISA for 55 long-term observers. This training contributed to improving SADCs election observation methodology and capacity. The trained LTOs formed part of a pool of trained observers which were deployed by SADC during its EOMs in Angola and Lesotho elections in 2022. The 7-day training was conducted by four EISA staff members and participants were drawn from the SADC secretariat, SEAC members and participants from member states.

Additionally, the EPP department conducted an induction workshop for the newly elected SADC Electoral Advisory Council (SEAC) members following the expiry of the tenures of serving officials. The objective was to equip them with the tools required in the observation and assessment of electoral processes and prevention of election-related conflict and disputes.

AU Validation Workshop for the development of a pedagogic toolkit for the rule of law stakeholders in Africa (Dakar and Kinshasa)

Due to increasing weaknesses in human rights, justice and rule of law mechanisms in Africa and the capacity deficiencies exhibited by the lawmakers, there is a growing need to equip stakeholders with advanced knowledge, deployable skills, and tools for guaranteeing the rule of law, in all circumstances, and with due respect for fundamental human rights. Additionally, educational institutions can play a vital role in entrenching the culture of democracy, good governance, rule of law and human rights among future generations. EPP attended and provided technical support at the Validation Workshops on the Draft Roadmap for the Promotion of the African Union Guidelines on Constitutional Amendments by Member States; the Teacher's Guide for the Integration of ACDEG in School Curricula; and the Finalization of the African Union Educational Tool for the Rule of Law Stakeholders in Africa. The workshops provided a platform for stakeholders to design an implementation roadmap for the school's curriculum, review and finalise the rule of law toolkit and adopt the draft road map Guidelines for its implementation in the most reasonable time frame.

IEC/UNDP Citizen Observer Training

EISA, in partnership with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) of South Africa and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), embarked on a training project aimed at enhancing the capacity of South African citizen observers in the lead up to the 2024 National and Provincial elections. The training project will contribute to more effective and professional election observation. During the training, a core group of South African citizen observers from all nine of South Africa's provinces were introduced to the general principles and methodology of election observation. This partnership with the IEC achieved its outcomes of improving knowledge, expertise and efficacy of South African citizen observers to assess elections. As a result, some of these trained observers will be deployed to observe elections in Zimbabwe and Mozambique in 2023.

PROGRAMMES

Supporting Transitions and Electoral Processes (STEP)

STEP aimed to achieve more inclusive, transparent, and accountable political and electoral processes in Africa, by drawing on and sharing lessons regionally.

The outputs of the project are disseminated throughout the region. The STEP project commenced in September 27, 2017, and ends in May 2023 following an extension.

The overarching goal of the STEP project has been to contribute to improved political transitions with strengthened democratic institutions, and well-managed electoral processes.

EISA draws lessons from its country-level interventions - focusing on Mali, Madagascar and Mozambique - as well as broader regional work with political parties and Civil Society Organisations, and synthesizes these lessons into knowledge products.

Our Team



Justin Doua Goré
Chief of Party



Drake Orurach
Finance Manager



Cecile Bassomo
Elections and Political
Transitions Specialist

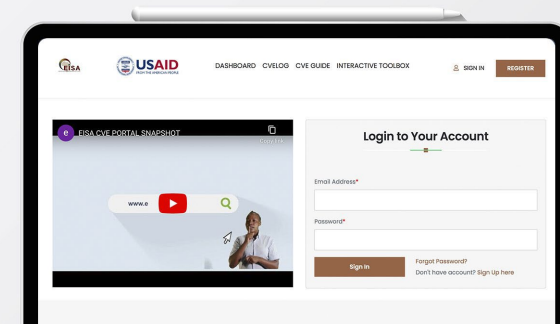


Kerryn Kotler
M&E Program Officer

Launch of EISA's Digital Civic and Voter Education in Africa Toolkit

The STEP programme launched EISA's first ever online toolkit dedicated to civic and voter education (CVE) in Africa. The [CVE toolkit](#) has been disseminated through EISA's networks of election management bodies (EMBs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) at national, sub-regional and regional levels. The final stage of the digital development entailed digitising the practical civic and voter

education guide in English, French and Portuguese. The multi-linguistic options of the platform have increased the reach and use of the knowledge products. **The STEP programme digital toolkit has the potential to inform, and shape civic and voter education campaigns conducted by EMBs and CSOs as lead CVE programming implementers in Africa.**



STEP

Key Events

1

The PEMMO revised

2

Further development of EISA's online Citizen Election Follow-up and Advocacy Toolkit

3

A Regional forum on follow-up strategies and collaboration framework

The PEMMO revised

The Principles for Elections Management, Monitoring and Observation (PEMMO), first adopted in 2003 in the Southern Africa Regional Economic Community (SADC), was revised in 2022. Some of the gaps identified in the first edition of the PEMMO were addressed in the revised version. These gaps include gender and social inclusion; long-term election observation; information and communication technologies; and campaign financing and political party funding. The revised PEMMO also includes a number of new items, for example, the composition and heads of observer missions and the analysis and reporting by observer missions.

A draft of the reviewed PEMMO document was discussed extensively, amended, and reviewed before it was presented to the Working Group. The group finalized and validated the document during a physical meeting on the 25th and 26th of May 2022 in Gaborone, Botswana. Participants came from the Electoral Commissions of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Botswana and Namibia, the secretariats of the Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC countries (ECF-SADC) and EISA, including the EISA Executive Director Mr Baidessou Soukolgué. The revised PEMMO was finally adopted at the 24th AGC of ECF-SADC held from 24th to 28th October 2022 in Namibia.

Further development of EISA's online Citizen Election Follow-up and Advocacy Toolkit

In 2022, the STEP programme continued to develop the digital 'Citizen Election Follow-up and Advocacy (CEFA) Toolkit'. The CEFA resource portal went live and now includes digitised templates in a user friendly, interactive toolbox. These resources can now be used to guide CSOs in long-term observation of electoral processes.

There is also a focus on post-election follow-up on recommendations and how these may be translated into electoral reforms. To further guide users, the toolkit highlights good practices on post-election advocacy for reforms.

A Regional forum on follow-up strategies and collaboration framework

On December 06 and 07, 2022, the STEP programme hosted a forum on the theme "civil society's follow-up on election recommendations: lessons learnt from recent electoral processes in the region and a framework for sustained collaboration amongst civic groups" in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The forum sought to collect data on CSOs' follow-up and advocacy strategies and discuss possible synergy between the goals and approach of CSOs and Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

The outcome of the discussion pointed to the need for enhanced collaboration amongst CSOs and between RECs and CSOs.



WHERE WE WORK

Central African Republic

The overarching objective of the project is to increase and strengthen the contribution of CAR's civil society in democratic processes.

The 'Electoral reforms by Central African civil society' project (Projet pour les reformes électorales par la société civile Centrafricaine), funded by the European Union (EU), aims to foster citizen engagement in the Central African Republic through its initiatives supporting credible, inclusive, and peaceful local elections.

The EISA office in CAR works with an umbrella of 17 CSOs collectively known as 'Reseau Arc-en-Ciel'. EISA has enjoyed a successful working relationship with the grouping in previous projects.

The current project is composed of complementary operational axes that include monitoring the implementation of the 2020-2021 election observation's recommendations as well as voter

education and electoral observation. Activities centred around the 2023 municipal and regional elections follow the successful conclusion of the 2020-2021 presidential and parliamentary elections in CAR.



Networks & Partners



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Our Impact

Moving beyond election observation recommendations to impactful electoral reforms

Among the key recommendations made in the election observation reports of the 2020 CAR elections, was the need for an improved electoral legal framework.

The envisaged legal framework around elections would accommodate and promote inclusive elections, particularly an increased participation of citizens who are discriminated against, as candidates.



EISA assisted the Réseau Arc en Ciel to capitalize on the momentum of the 2022 local elections to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the legal framework, document areas for improvement, propose reforms, and advocate for their implementation.

The advocacy efforts have been oriented towards a reform of the electoral code, which is an important step in improving the electoral participation of disadvantaged citizens such as women, the youth, disabled persons, and ethnic minorities.

The objective is advocate for laws that contribute to election choices and results that reflect the social and gender diversity of Central African society. **The municipal and regional elections were therefore an important entry point to include more marginalized citizens on candidates lists, and subsequently, in municipal councils.** It is hoped that the gains made during the local elections will assist in promoting women and youth candidates for the 2025 parliamentary elections. Civil society working on issues around electoral and institutional reforms

demonstrated innovation in their contribution to democratic elections. **Considering the lack of citizen experience working at the fore front of such initiative, EISA's partners have been commended for their engagement. They have moved beyond election observation, following up on recommendations and have acted directly towards implementing positive and impactful change.** EISA's technical support and capacity building initiatives have been essential for the empowerment of civil society in CAR.

Our Team



Marie Laure Digbeu
Country Director



Bakary Sidibe
Training and Programme
officer International



Rosalie Kobo-Beth
National Program Officer



Lisette Nday Toubila
National Finance and
Administration Assistant

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Key Events

Compendium for reforms of the electoral code

Advocating and lobbying for the inclusion of women and disabled as voter and candidate

With the technical assistance provided by EISA, the Réseau Arc en Ciel was able to publish the first citizen driven compendium for reforms of the electoral code. This compendium has become an instrumental reference tool for the electoral review committee set up by the government.

The current code was adopted in 2019, with insufficient provisions on local elections. For instance, there is no description on what electoral system or dispute management rules will apply to local elections. The proposals made by the CSOs have meaningfully contributed to correcting these shortcomings.

Despite a Parity law adopted in 2016 which makes provisions for a quota of 35% of women at all nominative and elective positions, this law has not been fully implemented, due to social, political, and legal barriers. The Réseau arc-en-ciel's analysis has shown that the adoption of the law alone is insufficient to produce the expected changes.

Furthermore, the analysis found that there was a strong need for additional political measures to promote the participation of women in public affairs. **The use of the voting lists in the local elections is a unique opportunity to promote gendered candidacies.** Civil society groups have proposed that the lists should be composed of 50% of each gender – often referred to as the zebra list system.

The citizen advocacy and lobbying for the reform of the electoral code received strong political support from the government as well as diplomatic stakeholders such as the EU, the USA and the UN.

- 1 **Compendium for reforms of the electoral code**
- 2 **Advocating and lobbying inclusion of women and disabled as voter and candidate**



WHERE WE WORK

Democratic Republic of Congo

Supported by the European Union, EISA commenced with the *Project de Renforcement des Initiatives de Suivi des Mécanismes Electoraux* (Project to Strengthen the Initiatives for Monitoring Electoral Mechanisms) (PRISME) in the DRC.



The objectives of PRISME are to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations in advocating for electoral reforms, monitor the implementation of laws related to the elections, and prepare for citizen election observation for the 2023 elections

Networks & Partners



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Our Impact

Advocacy for electoral reforms

PRISME and its partner iREVE continued meeting with stakeholders, including members of parliament.

The advocacy work done contributed to major amendments, including the introduction of the admissibility threshold (to 60% of seats), acknowledgement of gender dimension in the lists resulting in the non-payment of application fees for any list comprising of at least 50% of women.

CENI is now also obliged to display the results at polling stations, at the polling centres and local results compilation centres, as well as its website.

There were however critical amendments not voted in, including the prohibition of multiple candidacies, family replacement on the candidates list, and the removal of any CENI agent who does not apply the provisions of the electoral law.

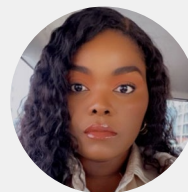
PRISME has therefore decided to continue its advocacy efforts to strengthen the transparency of election operations and the electoral law enforcement measures.



Our Team



Dr Raphael Ouattara
Country Director



Chrystelle Kanyeba Lukanda
Finance Manager
From March 2022



Pierre Claver Kalonda
Assistant Programme Officer



Sandra Mboyo
Administration and Finance Assistant



Clarisse Katuala
Finance Manager
Until January 2022



Laurene Dasonama
Finance Assistant



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF CONGO

Key Events

1

Review of the CENI elections roadmap

EISA's PRISME project core team and the project's beneficiaries participated in a working session on February 15, 2022, to assess the CENI roadmap for the 2021-2027 electoral process, published on the 3rd of February.

The participants in this workshop identified the strong points and the weakness of this roadmap and formulated recommendations towards a successful electoral process. The analysis and recommendations were shared with PRISME partners for validation. When the PRISME core team reviewed the CENI roadmap on 15 February, they issued a call to parliament to review the electoral laws.

2

PRISME and iREVE joint delegation to the National Assembly

PRISME and iREVE joint delegation to the National Assembly

EISA's PRISME together with its partner, iREVE, participated in three plenary sessions at the National Assembly and six immersion sessions in the Political, Administrative and Judiciary (PAJ) commission of the National Assembly between April and May 2022.

The purpose of the delegation was to follow up on the submissions made on several electoral reforms, and to respond to queries or areas of clarification. A significant outcome of this participation has been the recognition of the delegation as experts who can be consulted when needed. Furthermore, some of the proposed amendments that had been rejected previously, were debated again.

3

Monitoring of laws with electoral aspects

Monitoring of laws with electoral aspects

The project monitored the implementation of three laws: (i) Organic Law No. 22/003 of May 3, 2022 on the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities (PWD); (ii) the Electoral Law amended and promulgated on June 29, 2022; (iii) the Ordinance No. 20/013 bis of March 17, 2020 on the creation, organization and operation of a specialized service called "Agency for the Prevention and Fight against Corruption" (APLC), and the Decree 05/026 of May 6, 2005 on the Operational Plan for Securing the Electoral Process in DRC. PRISME invited each of the targeted stakeholders to a 2 days' workshop on September 22 -23 during which they were asked to present the enforcement measures they have developed.



WHERE WE WORK

Madagascar

The overall objective of the projects being implemented in Madagascar is to strengthen democratic governance in the country.



The EISA Madagascar office implemented interventions under five separate projects in 2022.

The overall objective of the projects is to strengthen democratic governance in Madagascar. Interventions are focused on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of parliamentary work and promoting the principle of gender equality; promoting peaceful conflict resolution by strengthening women's leadership in decision-making processes; and increasing citizens' understanding of and confidence in electoral processes in order to improve voter turnout (especially among young people, women and people living with disabilities). The desired outcome of this work is to contribute to a high level of informed and inclusive participation in the 2023 Malagasy elections.

The Africa Democracy Strengthening, Phase IV, support to the Malagasy Parliament, funded by Sida (began in 2018 and ended in December 2022),

- Providing the Malagasy Parliament with the tools and guides it needs to carry out its mandate.
- Strengthening the skills of parliamentarians, parliamentary committees, and the parliamentary administration in the various aspects of their mandate, as well as gender mainstreaming.
- Support for the implementation of the strategic plans of both Houses of Parliament and the Women's Parliamentary Caucus.

Networks & Partners



Democracy Fund

WHERE WE WORK

Madagascar

Talily Raïke: Promoting peaceful conflict resolution through strengthening women's leadership in decision-making processes, funded by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF) (began in February 2021 and ended in November 2022).

- Preventing community conflicts in the communities of the target communes,
- Strengthening the influence of elected women in the target communes,
- Promoting the positive contribution of Malagasy women to the peace-building process,
- Men and women were also involved in promoting greater female participation in decision-making processes.

Research/action project on youth electoral participation, funded by the Canadian Local Initiatives Fund (September 2022 - March 2023).

- Raising awareness and informing young citizens (aged 18 to 35) about the principles of democracy and their rights and duties as citizens, to enable informed participation in the electoral process.
- Women and youth: actors in the consolidation of democracy with UNDP as partner (October 2022 to December 2022, extended to March 2023).**
- Civic and electoral education awareness campaign in the target regions,
 - Develop, through the media, a broad national campaign to raise awareness and mobilize first-time voters to register.

NDAO HIFIDY, an electoral support program supported by USAID (began on October 1, 2022 and will continue until March 31, 2024)

- Strengthening citizens' understanding of democratic principles, voting rights and responsibilities, other key factors in the electoral process, and the main political and strategic issues at stake in the 2023 - 2024 elections,
- Strengthening citizens' knowledge of voting procedures,
- Improving the accuracy of election-related information by identifying, reporting and combating misinformation and disinformation during the electoral process.



MADAGASCAR

Our Impact

As Madagascar approaches its general elections in 2023, the EISA team continued to work with all election stakeholders to promote democracy in the country.

The EISA Madagascar office ran multiple symbiotic projects with activities that have had a direct impact on the preparations for the 2023 electoral process.

The activities in Madagascar have a strong focus on inclusive and large-scale participation of citizens in the electoral processes.

Significant interventions to this end include the 'Women and youth: actors in the consolidation of democracy' project (in partnership with UNDP); the 'Campaign to raise awareness and enrol young people on the electoral roll' (supported by the Canadian Local Initiative Fund) and 'NDAO HIFIDY: programme d'appui aux processus électoraux' (with financial support from USAID). Together these initiatives helped to inform and mobilize voters to register on the electoral roll during the total overhaul.

The collaboration of 90 civil society organizations and 284 local facilitators during the Ny Feoko voter registration campaign, rolled out in three target locations (Antananarivo,

Toamasina and Toliara), encouraged Malagasy citizens, particularly women and youth, to register to vote and participate in the democratic process.

Through various outreach efforts, including social media, community events, community dialogues and focus groups, and neighbourhood canvassing, EISA and its local CSO partners were able to raise awareness on the importance of voter registration. These efforts have resulted in a significant increase in the percentage of women on the voters' roll. Prior to the campaign, women accounted for an average of 51.74% of registered voters in the targeted locations. Following the outreach efforts, that percentage has increased to an average of 55.06%.

The promotion of political participation of young people and women was a key feature of the actions carried out to strengthen intergenerational dialogue and networking. Beyond the focus of increasing participation in voting, EISA also supported young women as future leaders & decision makers. **During the 'Young Women in Politics Program', 23 young women received advice, mentoring and orientation from experienced political personalities for four months.** During the intervention ten gender champions also advocated for greater political participation by women.

Our Team



Valdiodio Ndiaye
Country Director



Niaina Ramaroshon
Finance and
Administration Officer



Soa Razafimanjato
Programme Officer



Andriaharivola Reine
Ramananjahary
Programme Officer



Haingotiana
Randiamazaoro
Finance Assistant



Manitra Ala
Ratsimbazafy
Communication Officer

MADAGASCAR

Key Events



Tangible results in support of the Malagasy Parliament achieved under the 'Africa Democracy Strengthening Programme' (ADS IV) include:

- The revision of the five-year strategic development plan.
- The creation of guides such as a mobile application on finance law for parliamentary use.
- Capacity building of parliamentarians, with a focus on women in parliament.
- Support for the development and operationalization of local consultation structures. These consultations improve the quality of local governance and aid in the changes in perceptions of women in decision making roles.

A successful civic and voter education campaign was achieved by mobilizing citizen relays in the target districts of Madagascar's regions. Awareness-raising activities included the organization of mobile and fixed stands, home visits and inter-personal communications. The sensitization strategy was carried out in tandem with CENI, through interaction on the intervention zones requiring a particular focus and harmonization and complementarity of the sensitization tools to be used.



WHERE WE WORK

Niger

The overarching goal of the project is that a professionally organized and functioning CENI and CSC lay the groundwork for the holding of future, free, transparent, credible, and peaceful elections in Niger.

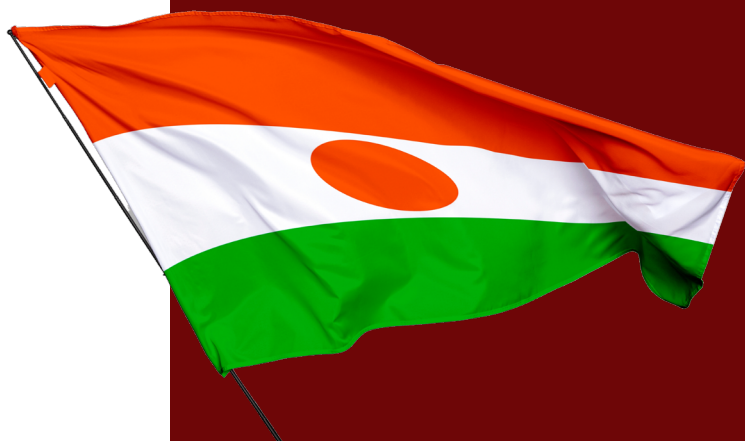


The focus of the project activities in Niger pivoted in 2022 from support to the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) and the Superior Communication Council (CSC) of Niger for fair and inclusive elections (2020 - September 2022), to a project supporting the sustainability of the achievements of both institutions (2022-2025).

This project provides institutional support and capacity building to the CENI and the CSC to fulfil their mandates in electoral administration and regulation respectively.

This work is made possible with support from the European Union.

Networks & Partners



NIGER

Our Impact

Strengthening the CENI in Niger

One of the most significant impacts of EISA's action in Niger has been the successful support provided to the CENI towards the strengthening of the institution.

The project began with an internal evaluation of the institution to determine how and where the CENI could best be supported and strengthened. The evaluation provided helpful direction that led to the establishment of administrative and financial regulations at the CENI.

Notably, since its establishment as a permanent institution, the CENI has not had the tools necessary for the effective day-to-day and professional management of the organisation. These structuring tools will aid in strengthening the transparency and efficiency of the management of this EMB while also promoting confidence from

stakeholders in the institution. Ultimately, this intervention lays a good foundation for better management of the upcoming electoral processes (2025) in the country.

Further contributing to the capacity of the CENI, EISA provided post-electoral capacity building for 95 members of the CENI through BRIDGE trainings. The subjects of the trainings included: an introduction to election administration, civic education, and media and elections. Two CENI members were accredited as workshop facilitators.



Our Team



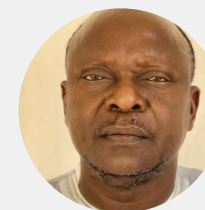
Aimé Konan
Country Director



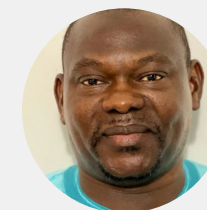
Kadiatou Toure
Finance and
Administration Officer



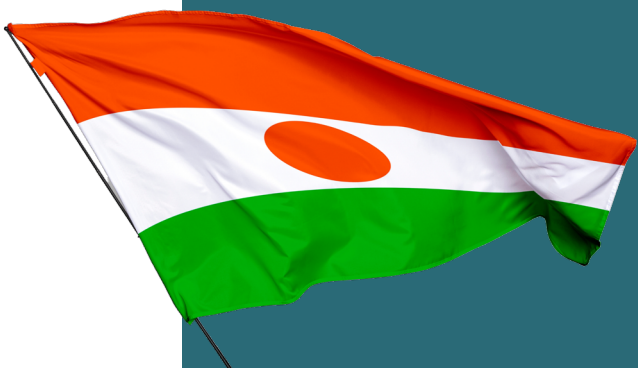
Bintou Moussa Kaka
Finance and
Administration Officer



Gorko Oumarou
Programme Officer



Rouafi Gagara
Programme Officer



NIGER

Key Events

1 Repatriation and archiving of election material in Niger

2 Electoral registration of the Niger diaspora

3 Building the capacity of CSCs



Repatriation and archiving of election material in Niger

To avoid the loss or deterioration of election materials deployed during past elections, EISA supported the CENI in repatriating these materials to regional warehouses. This mission was held from 15 to 28 June 2022 in 3 regions (Maradi, Tahoua, Dosso). At the end of this activity, out of a total of 33,652 ballot boxes inventoried in the three regions, 25,805 ballot boxes (76.68%) were repatriated. Some boxes could not be collected because of the rainy season. In the Agadez, Diffa and Zinder regions, the operations were delayed for financial reasons.

Furthermore, EISA supported the EMB in the process of digital archiving of these materials. After repatriation, each type of material receives an identifier (code). When it's done, the different codes must be traced using software designed by EISA.

Electoral registration of the Niger diaspora

The registration of Nigeriens abroad was not done during the previous electoral cycle - despite it being a requirement under Nigerien law. The CENI intended to correct this oversight as three seats in the National Assembly are reserved for this group. EISA supported the CENI in its preparations for this operation. To this end, EISA assisted in the production and dissemination of electoral awareness materials, training of supervisors and technicians for the biometric registration of diaspora voters, and the transport of materials and staff for the operation. This operation officially started on 15 October 2022 in 15 selected countries.

Building the capacity of CSCs

The capacity of CSCs to effectively monitor and evaluate projects, programs and reporting was strengthened through training workshops run in April 2022. The training capacitated CSCs to better determine progress within the framework of the programs they implement. Ten CSC agents, including three women benefited from this training.

Further capacity building included monitors and other CSC executives on thematic monitoring methodologies of traditional media and social networks. The training in September included 21 monitors and four administrative and technical agents of the CSC, including the head of the radio service, the head of the television service, the head of the written press department and the head of the monitoring department.

WHERE WE WORK

Somalia

Strengthening local governance structures for more accountable and inclusive Federal Member States in support of the WADAJIR National Framework – Phase II.



The 'Strengthening local governance structures for more accountable and inclusive Federal Member States in support of the WADAJIR National Framework' project's overall objective has been to contribute to the strengthening of stability in Somalia through an inclusive formation of district councils and authorities.

The focus of the interventions has been to integrate and strengthen gender and youth inclusive governance and administration.

Networks & Partners



SOMALIA

Our Impact

Adado district women advocate for gender equality

Gender equality and social inclusion are essential elements in building stronger local government in Somalia.

Stronger, more inclusive local actors are able to support a more gender responsive administration. The previous Adado district administration did not have women representatives. However, after participating in community dialogues and social inclusion workshops, women were inspired and motivated to serve



their community. Their involvement is key to bringing equality and more development to Adado district which lacks basic social services like schools and good hospitals. For the first time, five out of the 27 elected council members were young women. **In a society where girls drop out of schools due to early marriage and unequal social standing, their representation will encourage other women to compete for male dominated opportunities.** These women are role models and change agents for women and young people in Somali society.

Promoting peaceful coexistence in Adado district

In promoting peace and nurturing community co-existence in different levels of community structures, EISA conducted civic dialogue session in July 2022 in Adado district, Galmudug state. Male and female participants deliberated on how to best promote and ensure a community ownership of the process of forming inclusive and well-functioning district councils in line with the Wadajir National Framework (WNF).

Support to new local council members in Adado district

With the objective of establishing and strengthening the capacities of the newly elected Adado local council members, in August 2022 EISA conducted a three-day induction training for the twenty-three (23) elected council members. The training will contribute to the local council members' ability to perform their roles and responsibilities including the provision of equitable basic service delivery to the citizens.

Our Team



Ibrahim Abdullahi Maalim
Field Coordinator



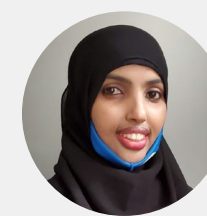
Abdullahi Abdow Ali
Governance Officer



Abdullahi Abdulrahman Aligab
Governance Officer



Yassin Aden Mohamed
Governance Officer



Fowzia Mohamed Abdullah
Finance & Administration Officer

SOMALIA

Peace Project

The overarching goal of this 21-month action was to increase the capacity of CSOs in reducing election-related conflict and thus increase women's political participation in electoral processes during the Somali 2020/21 election cycle.

The Support to peaceful elections in Somalia and Somaliland (-PEACE) project was a European Union (EU) funded project managed by the Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI) and implemented in collaboration with local CSOs networks in Somalia and Somaliland.

The CSO network comprised of the Somalia Non-State Actors (SONSA), the Puntland Non-State Actors Association (PUNSAA) and Somaliland Non-State Actors Forum (SONSAF) as co-applicants worked with EISA to achieve the overall project objective of supporting peaceful elections in Somalia and Somaliland. The specific project objectives were to contribute to reducing electoral conflict through the Election Situation Room (ESR) and enhance women's participation in Somalia and Somaliland in the pre-election, election, and post-election periods.

Networks & Partners



PUNSAA



SOMALIA

Our Impact

Launch of the Somalia CSOs Election Situation Room report for the Somalia 2021/22 elections: Documenting the experiences and lessons for future elections.

EISA together with its Somalia civil society organization (CSOs) partners, SONSA and PUNSAA, launched the Election Situation Room (ESR) report for the 2021/22 indirect elections in Somalia.



The report launch took place on Sunday 24 July 2022 at the Decale Hotel in Mogadishu and was attended by 60 representatives from CSOs, government ministries, members of parliament, media, and international development partners. Supported by the EU-IcSP project, this initiative aimed to enhance the capacity of Somali civil society in promoting peaceful and inclusive elections. The final report included 30 recommendations, covering various aspects such as increased access for CSOs and the media in election-related policy spaces, the importance of inclusion, particularly

of women, the need for reconciliation and strengthening of the legal system, and the establishment of clear rules for electoral competition.

The report and its implications were discussed by the participants who emphasized the crucial role of civil society in ensuring fair and transparent elections, promoting voter engagement, and facilitating the acceptance of election results by the population. The report was seen as a valuable tool for reflection and learning to guide future electoral processes in Somalia.

Our Team



Antonetta Hamandishe
Programme Manager



Ubaid Hersi Hashi
National Programme Officer

“Today, we are very happy as CSOs in Somalia to be able to give our voice towards contributing to the holding of peaceful electoral process in Somalia. In this report we were able to share our assessments and recommendations in an independent way.”

Osman Moallim
SONSA Chairperson

SOMALIA

Key Events

Orientation for newly sworn-in women members of parliament in Somalia.

Meetings with the parliamentary committee and civil society organisations to promote women empowerment and contribute to conflict mitigation.

Monitored and reported on conflict occurring during the pre-election, election, and post-election periods in Somalia through the CSOs ESR centres' early warning system.

EISA organized a two-day orientation workshop in collaboration with Somalia Non-State Actors (SONSA) and the Federal Parliament of Somalia. The workshop involved newly sworn-in women members of Somalia's 11th Parliament in Mogadishu. The orientation focused on three components: communication skills and parliamentary duties, strengthening synergies between newly elected and re-elected members of parliament, and identifying collaborative ways to promote gender-sensitive legislatures and strategies to address underlying social causes of gender disparities and identify positive change initiatives.

The meeting was the first post-election high-level collaboration held with the federal parliament sub-committee members following the end of the establishment of the 11th Somalia federal parliament in May 2022 and the establishment of 14 sub-committees on 21 August 2022.

The meeting was officially opened by the second deputy chairperson of the Federal House of Representatives, Honourable, Abdullahi Omar Abshir (Abshirow). The meeting was covered by two national radio and television stations, namely, Goob Joog and Somali National Television. The coverage received more than 4000 views on both platforms. An additional 120 copies of the ESR report were handed over to the sub-committees. At the conclusion of the meeting, the CSOs and sub-committees agreed to ensure the continuity of the dialogue and collaboration.

EISA, in collaboration with CSOs, established the CSO Election Situation Room (ESR) platform in Somalia to monitor and report on election-related conflicts. The ESR was the first of its kind in Somalia and aimed to promote transparency and accountability for a peaceful election. Despite the challenging political and security environment, the CSO ESR independently monitored incidents of election conflict. Its adherence to procedures, contributing to increased confidence in the credibility of the presidential election.

The ESR issued 18 press statements raising concerns over political tensions and providing recommendations to mitigate disputes. The ESR also produced and electronically disseminated 13 weekly ESR updates on election-related conflict, for the lower house elections and presidential elections.



SOMALIA

STAND-UP Somalia

Support Toward a Democratic, Unified and Peaceful Somalia (STAND UP SOMALIA)

The Support Toward a Democratic, Unified and Peaceful Somalia (STAND UP SOMALIA) was a 30-month project (July 2019 to January 2022) made possible with support from the Embassy of Sweden in Nairobi, Kenya.



The project aimed to address the limitations of the legal framework that makes it difficult for the fragile Somali government and its institutions to carry out their mandate.

It also sought to address the difficulties in including women and youth in political and public life, the lack of cohesion and coordination among non-state actors in promoting democracy and peace, and a weak legal framework that made it difficult to enforce laws.



Networks & Partners



SOMALIA

STAND-UP Somalia



Significant project achievements

An increase in democracy and public participation, as demonstrated by the increase in inclusive participation of state and non-state actors in Somalia's democratic and governmental processes. The 2016 election framework was changed - in each of the federal member states, the number of polling sites increased from one to two, increasing the number of all polling sites to 11, also increasing the number of members in the electoral college from 51 to 101 for each lower house seat.

Increased agency and voice of the marginalised, as well as participation of decision-makers and influencers, particularly elders, who began displaying a change in attitude regarding women's political participation.

A shift in how people view gender in relation to Somali women's participation in politics and society at large, as well as a move toward a rights-based perspective. A 30% minimum quota was set on both houses of parliament as a temporary measure to ensure women were represented in both

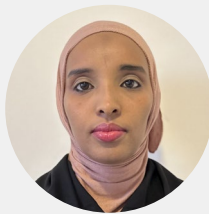
parliaments. However, there was a great deal of ambiguity about how to implement the quota and distribute the seats designated for women.

The 30% women's quota was met in each electoral college. This heightened women's political participation in electoral processes. The percentage of female delegates who cast ballots in the House of People's and Senate elections also showed compliance with the 30% requirement.

Our Team



Tawanda Chimhin
Field Coordinator



Suad Ahmed Nur
Administration and
Finance Officer



Abdifataah Mohamed
National Programme
Officer



Naphtaly Sekamogeng
International Programme
Officer



Pontsho Motaung
Senior Finance Officer



Khalid Macaow
National Programme
Officer

WHERE WE WORK

Sudan

The project is aimed at strengthening the capacity of Sudanese electoral stakeholders during the transition period expected to lead the country to its first democratic elections post the 2019 revolution.



Since October 2021, EISA has been implementing a project titled “Strengthening Electoral Stakeholder Capacity in Sudan”.

The programme is implemented closely with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) as well as the Sudanese Electoral Commission. EISA envisages the creation of “the Sudanese Election Monitoring Group – SEMG” for the implementation of the interventions countrywide. The SEMG is a network of 12 Sudanese CSOs including youth and women’s groups. Under the project there is an election-related violence focus in selected states.

Networks & Partners



SUDAN

Our Impact

EISA organised a series of consultations with CSOs in various regions throughout Sudan.

The consultations contributed to the selection of the SEMG but also raised a sense of hope for the elections which were not yet scheduled. The consultations provided CSOs from a wide background the opportunity to discuss the complex electoral processes which have been marred with myriad of conflicts and divisions among stakeholders. The meetings intentionally included youth and women.

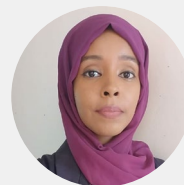
The consultation approached every state with due consideration for their unique context which allowed CSOs to relate more easily to the information and ultimately contributed to a clearer understanding of the electoral processes.



Our Team



Mukenyi Badibanga
Country Director



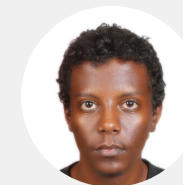
Tasnim Mohammed
Admin and Finance Officer



Ange Marie Nijimbere
Admin and Finance Officer



Deo-Gracias Kanyinda
International Programme Officer



Abdallah Elsheikh
Program Assistant



Aamir Bashir
Interpreter

SUDAN

Key Events

Introductory meeting

The project introductory meeting came after an Inception Phase series of EISA engagements with local and international stakeholders working in the same space. A total of 35 participants representing 21 CSOs from all the regions in Sudan attended the meeting. Women and youth were represented at the meeting, 28,6% and 31,42%, respectively.

Stakeholder participation in EISA election observation missions

EISA sponsored the participation of its partners from Sudanese civil society in the EISA International Election Observation Mission (IEOM) deployed in August 2022 to the general elections in Kenya. The group was comprised of representatives from the Sudanese Centre for Democracy and Development (SCDD), and Youth Training and Employment Organization (Youth TEO). The representatives that participated in the mission were grateful for the opportunity to learn and eventually apply these lessons to the benefit of the expected electoral process in Sudan.

Regional Consultation meetings

To lay the foundation for its intervention in Sudan titled “Strengthening Electoral Stakeholder Capacity in Sudan” (SESCS), EISA engaged in a series of eight (8) regional consultation meetings from 12th September 2022 to 30th November 2022. The consultation meetings aimed at identifying potential partners who will form the Sudan Election Monitoring Group (SEMG). The meetings included youth and women groups and reached 166 CSOs representatives, of which 57 (34%) were women. A total of 123 CSOs were engaged.

1

Introductory meeting

2

Stakeholder participation in EISA election observation missions

3

Regional Consultation meetings



WHERE WE WORK

Tanzania

The overarching goal of the project is to contribute to stronger citizen engagement in the democratic institutions, particularly the electoral process in Tanzania.



The Tanzania Election Stabilisation and Democracy (TESD) project worked towards promoting stronger citizen engagement in democratic institutions and electoral processes.

This was achieved by engaging with communities and providing information on human rights and the early identification of election related conflict. The activities were implemented by the EISA, working in partnership with the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) and the Centre for International Policy (CIP) and Zanzibar Fighting Against Youth Challenges (ZAFAYCO).



Networks & Partners



Tanzania Episcopal Conference(TEC)



TANZANIA

Our Impact

Stakeholder consensus reached on elections in Tanzania

EISA, in partnership with the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) and the Tanzania Centre for Democracy (TCD), supported the first post 2020 general elections symposium.



The Tanzania Election Symposium of 2022 was organised as an opportunity to build election stakeholders' understanding of key electoral processes.

The event also considered potential triggers of election related conflict and explored post-election dialogue as an option to address these triggers and to strengthen recommendations which would reduce election related conflict in future elections in Tanzania.

The high-level symposium was facilitated by regional and continental election experts, election administrators and representatives from civil society organisations. These experts were a valuable resource to all the major political parties in Tanzania, particularly, the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), CHADEMA and ACT Wazalendo.

Other beneficiaries included the election management bodies, National Election Commission

(NEC), the Zanzibar Election Commission (ZEC), faith-based organization including TEC, Bakwata and the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) and election related civil society organisations. The symposium contributed to building consensus on some priority areas for electoral reforms that are now being championed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan. This includes a commitment by all stakeholders to use dialogue to address future election challenges.

Our Team



Tawanda Chimhini
Country Director



Thapelo Maboko
Finance and Administration
Manager



Naphtaly Sekamogeng
Programme Officer
April 2022 – August 2022



TANZANIA

Key Events

President Samia sets the tone for dialogue on electoral reforms in Tanzania

Tanzanians input electoral reform proposals

FBOs and CSOs Map a way forward with EISA

In March 2022, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Samia Suluhu Hassan, delivered the opening address at the Post-Election Dialogue on Peace and Reconciliation which was organized by TCD with support from EISA and other development partners. In her address, the President highlighted her commitment to dialogue with all stakeholders in the country. She also outlined steps she has taken to shift the political culture in the country towards greater respect for human rights and tolerance. President Samia invited political parties who were yet to join the inclusive platforms for dialogue to do so, so that they could be heard. She further reiterated her commitment to considering reform proposals from TCD. President Samia noted that proposals should reflect the interests of Tanzanians and that “if rubbish was proposed, rubbish would be thrown out.” Her remarks were broadly reconciliatory in nature and welcoming of development partners’ efforts to support justice, peace, and reconciliation in Tanzania.

In partnership with the TCD, EISA engaged citizens on the adoption of a resolution by major political parties in Tanzania to endorse two model laws on elections and political parties. While the model bills were a product of stakeholder input and consultation through the Legal Human Rights Centre (LHRC), it was deemed necessary to also solicit public input in what political parties had agreed upon. Five discussions were held in different regions across Tanzania in July 2022. Citizens agreed with some of the proposals, disputing some and adjusting others based on their lived realities with elections. It was clear in some of the discussions that the impressions of national leaders about the elections did not always match with those of citizens who bear the brunt of election related conflict. Ultimately, citizens were able to refine some of the reform proposals, particularly those relating to political parties and the election management bodies.

Before concluding the two-year TESD project, stakeholders in the various interventions came together to reflect on what has worked well, where challenges remain, and considered potential future programming and partnerships. Project partners acknowledged challenges relating to the initial operating environment which was characterised as being restrictive and even dangerous for non-state actors. Partners confirmed that cooperation from some state institutions, while difficult at the start of the project, eventually contributed immensely to the successful completion of planned activities. It was agreed that there is tremendous opportunity to build on the gains made towards stronger electoral and democratic processes. The stakeholders in the discussions committed to pursuing future partnerships which would contribute towards a democratic Tanzania.

1 President Samia sets the tone for dialogue on electoral reforms in Tanzania

2 Tanzanians input electoral reform proposals

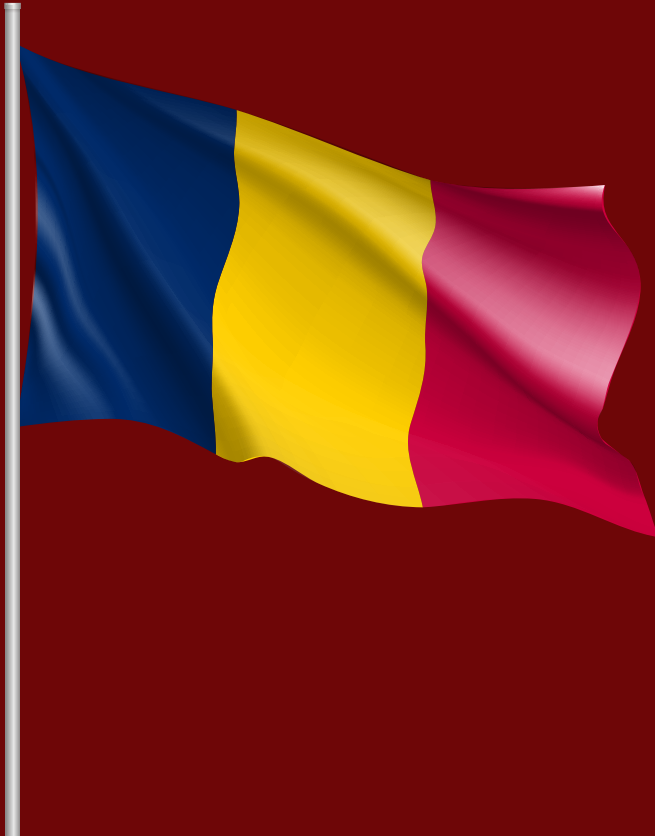
3 FBOs and CSOs Map a Way forward with EISA



EISA is pleased to announce the opening of two new field offices in 2022

Chad

**Project started
September 2022**



Liberia

**Project started
December 2022**



WHERE WE WORK

Chad

The overarching goal is to promote an active role for civil society organizations in monitoring the post-transition electoral process, with a view to supporting inclusive, transparent, and peaceful elections.



Networks & Partners



CHAD

Our Impact



The 'Supporting Chadian Citizens and Elections' - Appui aux Acteurs Citoyens Tchadiens et Aux Élections (ACTE) project provides citizen actors in Chad with the tools and technical support necessary to strengthen the electoral processes in the country.

The ACTE Project is a two-year project, focused on elections observation, civic education, advocacy, capacity building, and funded by the European Union.

This goal will be achieved through 2 intermediate results (IR):

- **IR1:** Strengthen the capacities of citizen actors to develop and implement a strategy of civic and electoral education, voters'

mobilization and dissemination of fundamental elections related legal texts.

- **IR2:** Strengthen the capacities of CSOs to enable them to develop an adequate mechanism for citizen observation of the constitutional referendum as well as the presidential and legislative elections at the end of the Transition.

The project was approved in September 2022, and the first staff set foot in the field in November to begin setting up the office with activities due to begin in early 2023.

Our Team



Pierre Kadi Sossou
Country Director



Hikmat Abdramane Adamou
Admin And Finance Officer



Ali Simeï Guessé
Program Officer



Elhadj Souleman Ndinga
Program Assistant



Christine Tapra Konsebe
Program Assistant

WHERE WE WORK

Liberia

The overarching goal of the project is to support efforts for electoral integrity and credibility for Liberia 2023 elections through independent impartial observation and of the electoral process in adherence to national law and regional and international principles and obligations for democratic elections.

The Liberia International Election Observation Mission (IEOM) project seeks to conduct impartial and ongoing monitoring, assessment and reporting on all aspects of the electoral process and demonstrate international support for a democratic electoral process in Liberia by sharing timely, constructive recommendations to improve current and future electoral processes in Liberia. The IEOM will be implemented in close coordination with USAID/Liberia which is also funding the project. The IEOM will also complement the efforts of other electoral stakeholders.

This USAID funded project is covering eighteen months from December 1, 2022, to May 31, 2024.



Networks & Partners



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

LIBERIA

Our Impact



The EISA-EOM will apply a comprehensive rights-based observation methodology to assess all phases of the electoral cycle. The long-term methodology is anchored in public international law and assesses the extent to which a country's elections meet established international and regional standards for democratic elections as articulated in international rights treaties to which they are a signatory.

To best assess the electoral processes and institutions, this project will include an electoral violence monitoring and mitigation component; a media monitoring component; and a gender integration and social inclusion dimension.



Our Team



Grant Masterson
Country Director



Antonetta Hamandishe
Electoral Expert and
Observers Coordinator



Pontsho Motaung
Finance and
Administration Manager

Balloting & Electoral Services

BES enhances the credibility and legitimacy of organisational elections by providing independent and impartial electoral administration, management, and consultancy services.



Our Team



Crystal Africa
Senior Programme
Officer



Riana Henley
Project Coordinator

During this period, post the COVID-19 pandemic, BES responded to the continued requests for electronic nominations and voting including Zoom elections as an alternative to manual voting.

Some clients could not conduct elections during the COVID-19 restrictions and proceeded with their elective events, once large groups could gather. The department continued to serve recurring clients, signed up new clients and introduced electronic voting to existing clients who traditionally applied manual voting.

National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa National Elective Congress

NUMSA is a trade union with the objective of promoting the rights of all metal workers in South Africa. The election of National Office Bearers was conducted in accordance with the NUMSA Constitution following the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions. Following a court interdict against the elective congress there was a successful appeal by the union allowing EISA to manage the election of national office bearers. All candidates were elected unopposed into their positions.

South African National Taxi Association (SANTACO) National Elective Congress

SANTACO was formed in 2001 as an umbrella body governing the mini-bus taxi industry in South Africa. The Association held its 6th national elective congress in May. EISA managed the election of its national office bearers by eligible voting delegates representing the minibus taxi industry in all nine provinces. All positions were elected unopposed. EISA delivered a peaceful election in what is generally perceived as a volatile industry.

South African Policing Union (SAPU) National Elective Congress

The mandate of SAPU is to support members in the South African Police Service, the department of Correctional Service, Metro Police departments and Traffic departments. The union held its 7th national elective congress in 2022. A total of 21 branches from across the country took part in the election process consisting of 111 voting delegates to elect its top structure. EISA distributed the nomination forms at the venue and captured the nomination audit. All candidates were nominated unopposed and thus duly elected.

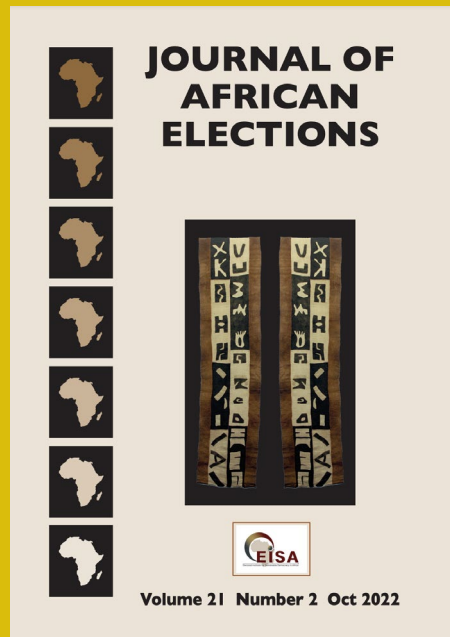
Krokodilkraal Co owners Association Executive Committee

The Association is a legal body and consists of 117 original co-owners of Krokodilkraal Farm 426JQ and their descendants. The election is important as the executive committee is responsible for the management and good governance of the Farm projects. At a special meeting in Brits EISA, assisted by the appointed administrator and two observers, successfully managed the complex nominations and voting processes. There was a total of 18 nominees for the executive committee positions consisting of eight members.



Publications

Journal of African Elections



Research Reports

**Localised Patterns of Violence During Elections in African Countries:
The 2019 Election in South Africa and Mozambique, Research Report**

Policy Briefs

**Why Gender Quotas Don't Work In Somalia?
The Influence Of The Electoral System And Clan Politics**

**The Impact Of Artificial Echo Chambers On African Elections
And Democratic Ideals**

The Digital Revolution And It's Impact On Democracy

**Politicking In The Digital Age:
Separating The Hype From Reality**

Digital Censorship And Africa's Democratic Future

Data, The State And Digital Intrusion In Nigeria

Booklets

**Women and elections in Somalia: 2021/22:
"Reliving the Experiences", 2022**

EOM

Preliminary Statement, Kenya 2022 General Elections

Joint Pre-Election Statement

Arrival Statement, 2022 Kenya General Elections

Pre-Election Assessment Mission Report, Kenya

Partnerships



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office



United Nations
Peacebuilding
Peacebuilding Fund



United Nations
Democracy Fund



Finn Church Aid





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