**UNDP AFGHANISTAN**

**UNESP**

Duration: 10/2017 to 12/2019

Budget: US$ 175 million

Donors: Denmark, EU, Germany, Japan, Norway, UK, USA

Implemented By: UNDP

Key Partners: Afghanistan Independent Election Commission, Electoral Complaints Commission

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**THE ISSUE**

**ELECTIONS**

are an essential element of democratic governance, but:

1. Lack of trust in in Afghan electoral management bodies
2. Low level of female participation in electoral processes
3. Delayed parliamentary and district council elections

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**MORE INFO:**

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The difference we make

Representative democracy and equitable elections

We assist and advise the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission on:

- **Electoral management**
  - Plan, prepare and conduct credible elections
  - Formulate legal and institutional frameworks for electoral operations

- **Voter awareness**
  - Design and deliver public outreach campaigns
  - Increase transparency of electoral processes

- **Participatory democracy**
  - Enable Afghan voters to choose their leaders
  - Encourage women to participate in elections

- **Good governance**
  - Improve legitimate governance by means of effective, inclusive and transparent elections
  - Improve electoral case management system

**Credible elections** conducted in 2014 and 2018 throughout the country, with high voter turnout

**Institutional capacity** of the IEC and the ECC strengthened

**Legal** and institutional cooperation frameworks for the IEC and ECC in place and functional

**Trusted** electoral complaints adjudication system institutionalized

**Women** and other marginalized groups participate in elections as voters, candidates and observers

**Popular perception** of credible and transparent electoral processes and institutions improved

**UNDP experience in Afghanistan**

UNESP builds on 15 years of experience in supporting Afghan elections:

- **Voter Turnout**
  - More than 7.1 million valid ballots cast in 2014 elections
  - 2,713 Provincial Council candidates contested seats
  - 15,000 observers monitored the elections

- **Women in Elections**
  - Up to 37% of total ballots cast by women
  - 21% of Provincial Council seats won by women
  - 32% of electoral observers were women

- **Electoral Capacity**
  - IEC capable of independently planning and conducting national and local elections
  - ECC capable of adjudicating electoral complaints

We assist and advise the Independent Election Commission and the Electoral Complaints Commission on: