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Annual Report 2019

Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands Project (SECSIP II)



PROJECT INFORMATION

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Implementing Partner: Solomon Islands Electoral Commission (SIEC)

Chief Technical Advisor: Olga Rábade

DONOR PARTNERS



Table of Contents

LIST OF ACRONYMS.....	4
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION 2019 – KEY FIGURES	7
II. ACTIVITIES BY OUTPUT	9
OUTPUT 1: Sustainable voter registration system to strengthen the inclusiveness and integrity of the electoral cycle	9
OUTPUT 2: More efficient and effective administrative procedures for the Solomon Islands Election Commission to fulfill its mandate	10
OUTPUT 3: National authorities and local networks have better capacity to train and educate the population on voter awareness and civic engagement.....	16
OUTPUT 4: Electoral and legal reform supported to contribute to a stronger electoral commission and a representative democracy	24
OUTPUT 5: Capacity of the SIEC to promote gender mainstreaming	27
III. UPDATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK.....	35
IV. MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT	52
V. EXPENDITURE	53
VI. RISK LOG.....	54
ANNEX 01: CSOs coverage through face to face voter awareness activities.....	60
ANNEX 02: DISTRIBUTION OF VOTER AWARENESS MATERIALS	64
ANNEX 03: 2019 NGE Statistics	66
Annex 4: Updated result framework.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
ANNEX 05: SECSIP FACT SHEET	67

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AWP	Annual Work Plan
BVR	Biometric Voter Registration
CEO	Chief Electoral Officer
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
EO	Electoral Office
EU	European Union
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FIFA	International Federation of Football Association
IMEOC	Inter-Ministerial Electoral Operations Committee
MASI	Media Association of Solomon Islands
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Member of Parliament
MWYCFA	Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs
NGE	National General Election
OA	Operations Adviser
PBM	Project Management Board
PPC	Political Parties Commission
PSU	Procurement Service Unit
PWD	Association of Persons with Disabilities
Q&A	Questions and Answers
RM	Registration Manager
RSIPF	Royal Solomon Islands Police Force
RO	Registration Officer
SECSIP	Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands
SIBC	Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation
SIEC	Solomon Islands Electoral Commission
SIEO	Solomon Islands Electoral Office
SMS	Short Message Service
TOT	Training of Trainers
TSM	Temporary Special Measures
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WPL	Women Participation and Leadership
WRAM	Women's Rights Action Movement
WSN	Women Support Network

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Solomon Islands Electoral Office (SIEO) held the National General Election (NGE) on the 3rd April 2019. The process was reported as inclusive, competitive and the voters were generally free to express their will¹. This was the first NGE following the departure of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) in June 2017. The voter turn-out was estimated at 86% of the total number of registered electors.

Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands Project (SECSIP) through UNDP was instrumental in strengthening the operational and human resources capacities of the Electoral Office. SECSIP initiative to foster domestic observation through a partnership with OXFAM resulted in the accreditation and deployment of 167 domestic observers (74 women, 7 people with disability) to different polling stations for NGE 2019. Domestic observers and monitors including CSOs were directly engaged for observation of East Makira by-election and provincial assembly elections 2019 as well. SECSIP core support included electoral operations as well as data management expertise contributing to mitigate some of the limited functionalities of the voter registration system and the management of electoral results.

Solomon Islands has now three women Members of Parliament (MPs) for the first time in its history. Two women were elected as a result of the on 3 April NGE and one elected in the East Makira by-election on 11 December. With respect to support to women candidates, SECSIP implemented a multi-layered approach which included capacity building actions (candidate schools, one to one mentoring), and support through four women resource centres.

SECSIP engaged an Electoral Operations Adviser who played an important role contributing to the enhancement of the capacities of the Electoral Office. Technical support was instrumental to build the capacity of electoral officials, polling data analysis and management, asset inventory and management. The Electoral Office for the first time conducted the pre-polling for police and electoral officials. After the 2019 NGE, the Electoral Office, with SECSJP support conducted three lesson learned workshops in Gizo, Auki and Honiara. The exercise provided a forum to share experiences on the 2018 voter registration and on the 2019 National General Elections as a learning tool to identify best practices and contribute to the building of the institutional memory.

Enhancing inclusiveness was one of the project's priorities throughout the 2019. A two-day awareness raising training for 22 people with disability (9 male) enhanced their knowledge on voter education and helped the EO to take measures with a view to enhance participation of people with disabilities (PWD). Inclusiveness also included innovative voter awareness activities. SECSIP identified a private enterprise,

¹ Report of the Commonwealth Observer Group, Page 39

SolRice (a wholesaler rice distributor) to use its extensive network for the dissemination of a voter education booklet inserted in a pouch adhered to the bags of rice which expanded outreach to remote locations. The project also supported the Electoral Office in face-to-face voter awareness actions conducted at market places where electoral information materials were distributed.

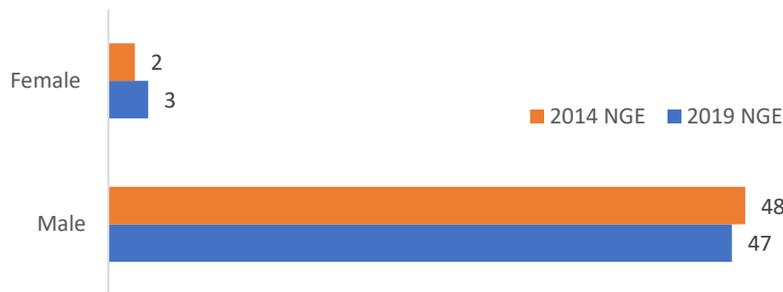
SECSIP also established partnerships with CSOs at grass root level for voter awareness activities which reported face to face interaction activities with an estimated outreach of 20,663 people (10,148 women, 20 people with disability). SECSIP also supported the production of three videos on 'how to vote', 'youth messages to choose the right candidate' and 'electoral offences' widely disseminated before the NGE. Youth were particularly active in the production and dissemination of these videos which were broadcasted on TV and also disseminated through the use of mobile telephone platforms not requiring internet network.

In accordance with its 2019 working plan, SECSIP commissioned a Knowledge Attitude and Practices (KAP) study to document the changes in voter awareness and behaviour in connection with EO's voter awareness actions supported by SECSIP. In accordance with its findings, out of the respondents who encountered voter awareness messages, the most common were related to procedural aspects: how to vote (46.1%) and the registration process (35.6%). One-fifth of the respondents also heard messages about electoral offences (20.2%) and the election date (20.2%). Participants also indicated higher levels of knowledge about electoral offenses than in the 2015 survey suggesting that the messages on electoral offenses were effective

Solomon Islands parliament has now 6% women representation in the National Parliament. Some positive indicators are that the increase in the percentage of vote cast for women in NGE 2019 has been in comparison with the NGE 2014. These results indicate the need for a continued approach to enhance women's political participation and leadership. In this context, SECSIP has designed an innovative action, 'Outstanding Women' to promote women's leadership in the community which has been conducted in 5 provinces. This initiative is expected to be completed in the remaining 5 provinces within the first quarter of 2020.

NATIONAL GENERAL ELECTION 2019 – KEY FIGURES

a) Distribution of MPs by gender after NGE and East Makira by-election 2019



b) Candidate composition in 2019 NGE

SN	Candidate	Political Party	Independent	Total	%
1	Male	153	153	306	92%
2	Female	17	9	26	8%
Total		170	162	332	100%

c) NGE 2019 results by nominated and elected candidates

Thirteen (13) political parties contested in the 2019 NGE and only eight (8) parties won seats in one or more than one constituency. Five (5) parties did not get seats. Solomon Islands KADERE Party and Solomon Islands Democratic Party got the highest number of seats (eight (8) seats each), United Democratic Party four (4) seats, Democratic Alliance Party three (3) seats, Peoples Alliance Party and Solomon Islands United Party two (2) seats each, Solomon Islands Party for Rural Advancement and People First Party got 1/1 seats. Independent candidates got a total of 21 seats.

d) Distribution of registered voters, candidates, seats by province

SN	Province	% of seats allocated	% registered Voters		Candidate	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
1	CHOISEUL	6	2.45	2.33	5.72	0.60
2	WESTERN PROVINCE	18	8.45	7.45	9.04	0.60
3	ISABEL	6	2.65	2.46	4.52	0.30
4	MALAITA	28	15.21	15.12	26.81	1.20
5	CENTRAL PROVINCE	4	2.47	2.37	6.02	0.30
6	RENNELL-BELLONA	2	0.51	0.48	1.81	0.00
7	GUADALCANAL	16	7.67	7.38	11.14	1.51
8	HONIARA CITY COUNCIL	6	6.25	5.41	8.13	1.51
9	MAKIRA-ULAWA	8	3.77	3.44	10.54	0.60
10	TEMOTU	6	2.03	2.11	8.43	1.20

e) Turn out of voters against registered voters

Honiara City Council had the lowest turn-out of 77.52% registered voters whereas Central province had the highest turn-out of 91.81% registered voters.

Province	Registered Voters	Votes Cast	Turn out %
Central	17,420	15,993	91.81%
Choiseul	17,193	14,127	82.17%
Guadalcanal	54,114	49,511	91.49%
Honiara city council	41,908	32,489	77.52%
Isabel	18,346	16,407	89.43%
Makira-Ulawa	25,925	22,261	85.87%
Malaita	109,034	96,287	88.31%
Rennell-Bellona	3,563	3,025	84.90%
Temotu	14,865	11,801	79.39%
Western province	57,155	48,766	85.32%
Grand Total	359,523	310,667	86.41%

f) Registered voters by age groups and sex

Age Group	Male Count	Female Count	Total	% of voters
18-21	24,688	23,225	47,913	13.33
22-35	73,497	69,453	142,950	39.76
36-55	62,465	59,240	121,705	33.85
56-70	17,454	16,709	34,163	9.50
70+	6,902	5,890	12,792	3.5
Grand Total	185,006	174,517	359,523	

An important segment of the population of Solomon Islands is young adults. The combined age group (18-21 and 22-35) can be considered as youth group². With a view to identify eligible new voters, an age group of those within 18 to 21 years of age has been set which covers 13.33 % of registered voters. The age group 22-35 covers 39.76% of registered voters. The combined group of age segments 18-21 and 22-35, therefore, includes more than 50% of registered voters (53.09%).

² Solomon Islands National Youth Policy 2017-2030 define youth as 'persons between the age of 15 years of age and 34 years of age' inclusive.

II. ACTIVITIES BY OUTPUT

OUTPUT 1: Sustainable voter registration system to strengthen the inclusiveness and integrity of the electoral cycle³

1.1 Support in the lead up to NGE

Technical expertise on biometric software was provided by the vendor engaged by the Electoral Office.

SECSIP operational expertise provided key assistance to the Electoral Office in the planning of the national voter registration campaign. SECSIP expertise was instrumental for the planning of the distribution of voters assigned to each polling station and overall operational advice in compliance with the law as reflected under Output 2.

Additionally, during the voter registration exercise, the IT and the 2 Field Coordination graduates played an important role in support of the national campaign.

1.2 Follow up actions

Consideration should be given to the development of a strategy towards a sustainable and nationally owned voter registration system. This may include:

1. Appropriate data recovery policies and infrastructure.
2. Availability of in-country technical support for troubleshooting. Information Technology and software development. Related national capacities should be developed.
3. Synergies can be built with relevant state-owned statistics institutions. Intra-governmental cooperation on data exchange can be a cost-efficient way to automate some of the registration activities e.g. removal of deceased persons' registration records.

³ Technical expertise was provided until September 2018

OUTPUT 2: More efficient and effective administrative procedures for the Solomon Islands Election Commission to fulfill its mandate

Key results

- Operations and logistical supports contributed to the successful organization of 2019 NGE, East Makira by-election and provincial assembly elections.
 - Conduction of pre-polling for police and electoral officials for the first time in Solomon Islands history.
 - Technical support was instrumental to build the capacity of electoral officials, polling data analysis and management, asset inventory and management.
 - Analysis of statistical data and results of 2019 NGE. The report provides a comparative analysis with 2014 national general election contributing to the identification of trends and the building of institutional memory.
 - Post-elections lessons captured through participatory workshops in provinces and Honiara.
 - Enhancement of EO infrastructure with additional office space and better security.
 - A UN Needs Assessment Mission conducted to establish the parameters of future UN electoral assistance.
-

2.1 Support in the lead up to NGE 2019

Procurement

SECSIP procured 1,700 polling kits which were delivered to the EO warehouse with additional 100 ink bottles and packing materials as well. Technical advice was provided throughout the procurement process which resulted in the final printing of 550,000 ballot papers.

Analysis of final Voter Lists

The 2019 voters' roll includes 359,521 registrants (48.54% are female). The highest number of registrants (27.10%) was from 18-25 years age group. SECSIP electoral operational advice and quality assurance mechanisms contributed to the early detection and correction of a discrepancies due to an administrative error (misplacement of objection forms) and subsequently amended the voter lists.

Candidate nomination (CN) process

The nomination process was completed as scheduled on 20 February despite challenges due to bad weather which prevented candidates to travel to the constituency nomination centres to submit their nomination. In order to facilitate the timely submission of nominations and in accordance with the Electoral Act, secondary nomination centers were opened outside the constituencies located in provincial capitals and in Honiara. After final verification of candidate eligibility, the total number of candidates contesting in 2019 National General Election (NGE) was 332 including 26 female candidates.

Electoral Manager Manual

With the support of SECSIP and ESSP, the electoral operations plan was completed and shared with stakeholders. SECSIP also contributed to the Electoral Managers Manual designing the templates for complaints forms in connection with polling and counting.

Capacity building of Election Managers (EM) and Returning Officers (RO)

SECSIP Operations Adviser and officials of the Australian Electoral Office facilitated two trainings. In the first training, organized from 25 to 28 January in Honiara, EOA facilitated two sessions for 70 participants: a) Polling Station (PS) assessment and allocation of Voters to the PS's; and b) communications and reporting. The second training was for 10 EMs and 50 ROs on polling, counting, media and observer relations. Special emphasis was placed on the pre-poll and changes in the counting procedures (mixing and making of batches to enhance secrecy of the vote). SECSIP support was instrumental to prepare the templates for the filing of voting and counting complaints which were included in the training manuals with a view to streamline and build the credibility of the process.

Coordination with Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF)

In accordance with SECSIP Risk Assessment, SECSIP supported the Electoral Office efforts to maintain effective coordination with RSIPF on electoral security related issues in connection to national general election 2019. Several briefings on security issues and information sharing inclusive of identified hot spots were jointly conducted with RSIPF.

Pre-polling for police and electoral official

The EO successfully conducted an early voting on 21 March 2019 enabling police and electoral officials engaged in official duties on polling day to exercise their right to vote. The pre-poll was conducted in Honiara and provincial capitals of 8 provinces (except in Temotu as no applications for pre-poll were received from this province). The overall turnout was 90.5% out of the total number of applicants (out of 1319 total registered pre-poll applicants, 1195 cast their votes).

Support to Political Parties Commission (PPC)

Two SECSIP graduates providing support as legal and research worked for the PPC and participated in the process of assessment of applications for registration of political parties and the issuance of certificates for candidates endorsed by political parties. SECSIP Graduates supported awareness raising actions including the preparation of radio programmes on the functions of the Political Parties Commission and the process for the registration of political parties.

Senior Electoral Advisor, Mr. Carlos Valenzuela conducted two in-country missions (February and April 2019) in Solomon Islands contributing to provide high level advice and guidance on election preparation for polling, counting and release of results.

National General Election (NGE) 2019

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On 3 April 2019, Solomon Islands held the first national general election since the departure of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) in June 2017. SECSIP contributed to the planning and strengthening of the operational and human resources capacities of the Electoral Office (EO) for the organization of the NGE. The polling, organized by Solomon Islands Electoral Office (SIEO), was reported by national and international observers as a credible process with no serious disruptions. The results for all 50 constituencies were announced by 7 April 2019. The voter turn-out was approximately 86% of registered voters. SECSIP team provided technical support for preparation and management of the polling, counting and declaration of results.



Polling data analysis and results management

Upon the request of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), SECSIP engaged a data management expert to design tools for the setting of batches of ballots for the counting process as well as for consolidation of data and results analysis.

A report (accessible at <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Zy-QI8R-qlxEt5L41Bj5WdWQbiaBK6t7>) was developed under the guidance of SECSIP CTA which included the compiled statistical data to identify trends and results.

2.2 Post-Election Support

Post-election lesson learned exercises

Three lesson learned workshops helped to identify good practices, challenges and way forward for future improvement of electoral activities. It contributed to identify weaknesses in the training of polling staff and the need for the continuous capacity building efforts for electoral officials. The increase in the number of polling stations (calculated by allocating 600 voters for a polling station) and selection of locations contributed to an enhancement of the accessibility of voters to the polling stations.

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These three workshops were held in Gizo (15-17 April), Auki (26-27 April) and Honiara (23-24 April). SECSIP supported the EO in its organization, logistics and funding. The concept and agenda of the workshops were designed by Mr. Moses Saitala Chief Electoral Officer in consultation with UNDP-SECSIP Electoral Operations Adviser who led the facilitation of the workshops. Participants included Election Managers and Returning Officers of respective provinces, Electoral Office staff and international advisers. The initial findings were discussed during a 1-day de-briefing and review session with Honiara based staff held on 29 April 2019.

The UNDP Regional Electoral Adviser also conducted a one-week mission (13-17 May) in Solomon Islands to assist to identify challenges and needs in terms of project support. During his in-country mission, the adviser had bilateral discussions with stakeholders including national electoral authorities, police senior officers, CSOs, international development partners and UNDP staff. This assessment was considered as an important tool for designing an integrated electoral project support strategy during the next phases of the electoral cycle.

Support to Makira elections (Provincial Assembly and East Makira by-election)
By-election and provincial assembly elections in Makira: SECSIP provided logistical and capacity building support to the Electoral Office (EO) to organize the East Makira by-election for the National Parliament seat for East Makira simultaneously held with the elections for the Makira Provincial Assembly on 11 December 2019. For the first time both processes were organized under the responsibility of the Electoral Office. Hon. Lily Maefai was elected as a Member of National Parliament representing the East Makira constituency. With the election of Hon. Maefai, Solomon Islands Parliament has now 3 women MPs (6% women representation).

The Project also assisted with the dissemination of awareness materials and face to face voter awareness activities. SECSIP support was also instrumental to organize the training for Assistant Returning Officers in Honiara particularly relevant given that this was the first time while two elections processes were simultaneously held.

Other support

Asset inventory and management: In compliance with UNDP asset management practices SECSIP conducted an inspection of project assets included in its inventory. The aim of this exercise was two-fold: to check asset status and to identify assets to be considered for transfer to the Electoral Office (EO) and/other entities. Additionally, with support from SECSIP Field Coordination Graduate, the EO Head of Operations updated the EO inventory in September 2019, a timely exercise in view of the by-elections in East Makira.

Extension of Electoral Office premises: In line with the envisaged increase of the staffing structure of the Electoral Office, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) requested the support of SECSIP to carry out construction work for the extension of the office space. Two additional rooms and the extension of the reception area were built adjacent to the main structure. An engineer from the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development conducted periodical site inspections to certify the progress and final completion of this work.



UN Electoral Needs Assessment Mission (NAM)

In response to the letter of request of the Solomon Islands Government dated 6 September 2019 for the continuity of the UN electoral assistance, a UN Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) was deployed from 29 October to 1 November in Solomon



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Islands. The purpose of the NAM was to evaluate the current political and electoral environment in Solomon Islands, the legal and institutional framework governing the electoral process and the capacity and needs of the various election stakeholders, to recommend parameters of any future UN assistance.

To this end, SECSIP organized a schedule of meetings for the mission members who were able to have discussions with national authorities and international partners. The agenda included meetings with senior officials from the Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening, Ministry of Women Youth, Children and Family Affairs, Ministry of Education, Human Resources and Development, Royal Solomon Islands Police Force, and the Office of the Leader of the Opposition. The NAM also met with representatives from Honiara City Council, Electoral and Political Parties Commissions, International Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations and Women leaders groups.

2.3 Follow up actions

- Advice on the implementation of the recommendations documented in the lessons learned exercises. Consideration of the findings in the design of future strategies.
- Support to the expansion and strengthening of the EO to enable the implementation of its mandate in accordance with the 2018 Electoral Act (EA). This includes responsibility over Provincial Assembly and local elections and possible continuous voter registration. To this effect, the EO plans to establish a permanent field presence to carry out its expanded mandate.
- Continuous building institutional capacities such as field coordination, procurement, and other administrative procedures.
- Identification and support to capacity building/formative action opportunities particularly in terms of electoral operations, finance/budgeting and leadership.

OUTPUT 3: National authorities and local networks have better capacity to train and educate the population on voter awareness and civic engagement

Key results

- Inclusive group of national observers and monitors accredited and deployed for National General Election, by-election and provincial assembly elections contributing to the credibility and transparency of the processes.
 - Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) study analyzing changes in voter awareness and electorate behavior in comparison with 2014 elections.
 - Voter awareness workshop with 22 PWDs (9 male & 13 female) from various provinces. Participants received voter information and also provided the EO with direct feedback on the needs and challenges experienced by this segment of voters assisting electoral authorities on the identification of possible mechanisms to enhance their participation.
 - Media refresher workshop (Malaita) participated by 18 media professionals and civil society representatives on electoral related topics. The workshop included a module with focus on women's candidacies and political participation facilitated by SECSIP adviser Ms. Afu Billy.
 - Face to face interactions conducted by CSOs engaged by SECSIP with an estimated outreach of 20,663 (10,148 women, 20 people with disability).
 - Production and distribution of voter awareness booklet utilizing an innovative dissemination mechanism in collaboration with a private sector company (SolRice). This led to the successful distribution of 110,000 voter education booklet throughout the country even to remote locations.
 - Support to the design and implementation of voter awareness actions and products including face to face market voter awareness activities, production and broadcast of short videos, telephone hotline, radio advertisements, radio talkback shows, FAQs, posters, manuals, booklet, calendar, brochures.
-

3.1 Support in the lead up to NGE 2019

Domestic Observers for National General Elections 2019

With a view to enhance transparency and credibility of the national general election, SECSIP initiated contact with a view to collaborate with OXFAM and the Solomon Islands Social Accountability Coalition (SISAC) in the engagement of domestic observers. It was pleasing to reach an agreement and guidelines to promote inclusiveness which resulted in the accreditation of 167 domestic observers (74 women and 7 members of the Association of People with Disabilities) to observe the national general election. SISAC is comprised of the major nine civil society organizations in Solomon Islands that work in the area of anti-corruption, good governance and transparency who were all represented in this exercise.



The EO with support of SECSIP and ESSP organised a briefing session on Election Observation on 22 March in Honiara. Given the importance of having accredited domestic observers through SISAC (not present in 2014 elections), a questionnaire prepared by SECSIP was distributed to gather some initial information and feedback on the background and composition of this group. A report from this group on the findings on the 2019 National General Election was prepared and shared with different stakeholders.

Voter awareness training for People With Disabilities (PWD)

SECSIP organised a two-day awareness raising training for 22 PWDs (9 male and 13 female) in Lunga, Honiara on 26 and 27 February. The participants were members of the Solomon Islands Association of People with Disabilities and included provincial representatives and 2 sign language interpreters. The focus was to provide electoral information with particular focus on the changes introduced by the 2018 Electoral Act (i.e. no serial number in ballot papers, polling procedures for voters requiring assistance). During this training, the participants expressed their interest on the topics discussed noting that for the majority this was the first time that they were invited to learn and discuss about elections and their voting rights. This was also an opportunity for the Electoral Office to receive information on the needs and challenges experienced by this segment of voters. The feedback received will assist electoral authorities to explore possible mechanisms to enhance their participation.



"I have finally known the rights of disable people during election. Knowing that our ballot paper has the same power as any able person is encouraging and should send a clear message that we are equally important, and our disabilities should never be counted."

Quote from a PWD participant

Continued collaboration with SolRice in Voter Awareness

Building on the first innovative and successful collaboration with SolRice to distribute to remote islands 110,000 leaflets providing voter registration information in 2018, SECSIP undertook a second collaboration with SolRice. This time SolRice agreed to distribute through its channels and networks, again on a pro-bono basis, approximately 110,000 civic education booklets (https://drive.google.com/open?id=1quFfu4osbESHifl094R6aub66e7Pbw_B).



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The booklets provide basic information on concepts of democracy, parliament election, role of members of parliament, civil society and media. Like in the first initiative, the members of the Association of the PWD inserted the booklets in plastic pouches which were then adhered to the rice bags and distributed through SolRice networks. A press conference in presence of Australian High Commissioner, CEO, SI Association of PWD, SECSIP and media professionals was held on 11 February to launch this second collaboration.

Media refresher workshop in Malaita province

A total of 18 media professionals and civil society representatives based in Malaita province participated in a media refresher workshop on electoral related topics. The participants (4 provincial journalists, 2 women with disabilities, 4 CSOs members, 3 women candidates, 2 women leaders, 3 women supporters) discussed issues related to the role of media concerning elections, impartial and gender balanced reporting, inclusiveness and the changes introduced by the 2018 Electoral Act in one-day workshop held in Auki, Malaita on 13 February 2019.

Reflection workshop with CSOs

Lessons from face to face voter awareness activities conducted by CSO partners were documented through a three-day reflection workshop organized in Honiara (23-25 January). To ensure coherence with the Communication Strategy of the Electoral Office



its Senior Voter Awareness Manager, Ms. Philothea Paul, facilitated sessions on voter information, electoral materials and trained participants in some of the changes brought by the adoption of the new Electoral Act. Representatives of the three new CSO partners contracted in early 2019 (Tawatana Community Conservation Development Association, Ngela Forum Trust Board (NFTB) and Nuo Theatre Trust Board) also attended this workshop. The findings and recommendations were documented as a tool to continue building the electorate knowledge. The workshop had 23 participants (12 women) from 8 CSOs partners.

In view of the positive feedback received on face to face actions implemented by SECSIP partners, the project amended the contracts of 5 CSO's (Hearts of Hope, Tefila, Guadalcanal Provincial Council of Women, Stages of Change) to enable the continuity of their awareness actions until the end of June 2019 in support of the provincial elections . To expand outreach, the Project also identified new three partners, i.e. Tawatana Community Conservation Development Association (TCCDA) to do awareness activities in East and West Makira Constituencies, Ngela Forum Trust Board (NFTB) and Nuo Theatre Trust Board (NTTB) to cover Ngela Constituency and Temotu Pele and Temotu Nende respectively.

Other Voter Awareness Activities and products

- SECSIP in partnership with Telekom Television Ltd (TTV) produced a 5 minutes video (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FtqKA8J0N9NFrBCRu7ytlwbOwClIKZV1/view?ts=5c9b5b87>) demonstrating 'how to vote' and aired from 29 March to 3 April.
- SECSIP supported the EO in the production of 1 video on 'youth messages to choose the right candidate' and 2 other videos featuring animations on 'electoral offences'. These videos were designed by a youth group and broadcasted by TTV as well as disseminated by youth activists using *share it* application with their mobile telephones. These videos were very positively received by electors. As an example of the positive feedback, Hon. Mr. Patteson J Oti (former politician and currently Speaker of the 11th National Parliament) posted a message congratulating the youth of Solomon Islands. Video and animation links: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16PFTgMaatYayPlm4ywrJfo9AtaNhSHMs?usp=sharing>
- During the second phase (January to June 2019) of face to face voter awareness activities, seven CSOs reported an estimated outreach of 20,663 (10,148 women, 20 people with disability) people in 13 constituencies.
- SECSIP provided technical and financial support to the voter awareness activities in market places (February/March 2019). This action implemented under the guidance of the EO Voter Awareness and Media Manager with the support of SECSIP graduates and national media consultant facilitated dissemination of voter information to groups of people gathering at market sites.
- The EO communication team designed a training action participated by 18 women staff from 9 CSOs to enhance outreach of voter education in Western Province. This action was supported by SECSIP CSO Coordination Manager (CSO CM) who also conducted voter awareness actions in four communities of North Vella and distributed materials amongst participants (700 mini voter awareness booklets, 22 offences and penalties posters, 22 how to vote poster and 22 sample ballot paper posters).
- SECSIP contributed to the designing of brochures on 'election activities', on 'electoral offences and penalties' and to the revision of the handbook of code of conduct for media professionals.
- SECSIP designed and funded the setting of a hotline number (Nov 18 to March 2019; available every day from 7am to 9pm, including Saturdays and Sundays), and contributed to the contents and funding for the production of 8 weekly radio programs (pre-recorded and edited by SECSIP Media Consultant using project provided recording equipment) and drafting of press release.



- SECSIP produced and distributed a 2019 calendar with key electoral dates containing art work illustrations made by the participants of the secondary school competition on women's leadership and political participation (poster category).

3.2 Post Election (NGE) support

Provincial Assemblies Elections (PAE) 2019

For the first time Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were engaged for the monitoring of Provincial Assembly elections (PAE) held on 12 June. SECSIP engaged CSOs Tefila and Stages of Changes which deployed a total of 25 (15 women) national monitors to for a technical follow-up of the PAE in the provinces of Guadalcanal, Ngella and Malaita. The Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening (MPGIS), Returning Officers and SECSIP provided trainings to the monitors prior to their deployment to the selected provinces. SECSIP also provided information on relevant legislation (Provincial Government Act and Regulations). These CSOs submitted monitoring reports in July 2019. SECSIP Women Leadership Adviser also (WLA) provided support to provincial election women candidates and monitored 11 polling stations located in East and West Guadalcanal

Domestic observers for East Makira NGE By-Elections and provincial assembly elections

Given the successful experience of deploying domestic observers for NGE held on 3 April 2019 coordinated by the platform of national CSOs Development Services Exchange/SISAC (SI Social Accountability Coalition) and the importance of the electoral processes conducted on 11 December in Makira where for the first time the by-election was simultaneously held with the Provincial Assembly elections, the. EO supported by SECSIP facilitated the process of accreditation and deployment of 3 domestic observers to East Makira.

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) study

In October 2019 SECSIP commissioned Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) study report. The focus of the KAP study was to see the impact of its voter awareness activities, to reveal the progress made in voter related knowledge and assess changes in attitudes towards the electoral process. On 28 May 2019, the Project Board endorsed the proposal to engage an international consultant and enumerators through the umbrella organization Development Service Exchange (DSE is comprised of 65 CSOs in Solomon Islands and has presence in all provinces) for this study. This enabled to have an inclusive team of enumerators representing various civil society groups and with different language skills. SECSIP provided a two-day training (31 July-1 August) to the 17 enumerators (9 female) on data collection and data entry before deploying them to provinces. The survey tools were developed in consultation with the Electoral Office which had been endorsed by the CEO.

The survey analyzed the findings from 409 close ended interviews with household members from 10 constituencies and 9 key informant interviews with CSO partners and EO staff. This study also included a comparative analysis with findings from previous studies in similar/related areas giving readers an overview of the progressive impact of voter awareness programmes. The KAP report was shared with donors and stakeholders during the Technical Advisory Committee meeting held on 16 October 2019. In accordance with its findings, out of the respondents who



encountered voter awareness messages, the most common were related to procedural aspects: how to vote (46.1%) and the registration process (35.6%). One-fifth of the respondents also heard messages about electoral offences (20.2%) and the election date (20.2%). Participants also indicated higher levels of knowledge about electoral offenses than in the 2015 survey suggesting that the messages on electoral offenses were effective.

Reflection workshop with NGE 2019 observers and Provincial Assembly Elections (PAE) monitors

SECSIP organised a reflection workshop on 8 August 2019 with a view to receive feedback and discuss findings on the NGE and PAE. The workshop was attended by 25 team leaders (8 PAE monitors). SECSIP CSO Coordination Manager facilitated group discussions on the findings, assisting in the identification of any gaps/missing information as a tool to contribute to validate findings. For the NGE 2019, observers reported an overall improvement over 2014 NGE and noted that there has been higher participation of people with disability (PWD). Some concerns expressed were the number of cases of cross-border voter registration and the process of recruitment of polling staff. The need to continue civic/voter awareness actions through the electoral cycle came out as a recommendation. Regarding 2019 PAE, some of the key findings referred to the perception of a different attitude (less motivated to participate) by citizenship. It was also noted that there is a need to train and enhance skills of polling staff and voters.



SECSIP Steering Committee (SC) on Civil Society

On 24 July SECSIP called for a meeting of the Steering Committee to provide update on face to face voter awareness activities. During this session, the project shared a draft report on actions implemented with CSO partners. The Project also presented a proposal for the handover of equipment bought under the SECSIP's Micro-Grant agreement with CSOs and sought the endorsement of its transfer. Attendants included the UNDP Governance Team Leader, Governance Programme Associate, UNDP Results & Resource Management & Knowledge Analyst, Electoral Office Assistant Awareness Electoral Officer, and SECSIP staff.

3.3 Follow up actions

- Identify additional innovative communication channels to continue expanding the outreach of voter education actions.
- Building on the achievements made by the EO communication team, continue identifying other partners and stakeholders to improve sustainability of voter education activities.
- Continuous engagement of target groups particularly youth turning 18 in 2023, PWD and women developing specific campaigns for each of these segments.
- Intensify collaboration with key media outlets contributing to a stronger media sector as an essential player for the consolidation of democracy.

OUTPUT 4: Electoral and legal reform supported to contribute to a stronger electoral commission and a representative democracy

Key results

- Support to PPC in awareness raising activities.
 - Regional political parties conference held in Honiara.
 - Electoral Act review workshop to identify issues for legal review
-

During the reporting period no amendments were made to the 2018 Electoral Act. Development of procedures through subsidiary legislation (regulations) was adopted by the Electoral Commission. This included the regulations revising the ballot draw procedures as well as those developing Section 69 of the Electoral Act on the obligation of all candidates who contested the national general election to file a Statement of Accounts within 90 days from the publication of the election results.

With respect to the candidate nomination process and the non-eligibility of public office holder candidates, the Electoral Office requested an interpretation of the relevant provisions from the Attorney General's Office. "The Electoral Office asked for clarification from the Attorney General's Office, in particular in regard to who is declared working in a 'public office' for the purposes of eligibility as a candidate. The advice of the Attorney General was that anyone involved in substantive operational tasks regarding voter registration, such as data entry officers, were prohibited to contest the elections. A further clarification dealt with members of the Provincial Assemblies. In a first clarification, the Attorney General Office explained that any MPA would be required to resign if intending to contest the election; the advice was later clarified that only the members of Provincial Assemblies that had not been dissolved were required to resign."

Several other legal issues were encountered during the last weeks prior to the NGE. This included seeking the legal opinion of the Attorney General on issues related to candidates' lists in 4 constituencies (due to incorrect order of candidates, addition of a candidate, 2 disqualifications)⁴.

The Electoral Office included templates in its training manuals prepared with SECSIP support for the filing of voting and counting complaints, with a view to streamline the process, enhance consistency, coherence and contribute to build the credibility of the process. Specific templates for complaints concerning polling and counting were also designed and included in the manuals.

Pursuant to Section 57 and 57A of the Constitution and the 2018 Electoral Act the composition and appointment of the members of the Electoral Commission now includes the Chief Electoral Office as a non-voting member and requires that at least one member of the Commission must be a woman. Section 58 of the Constitution

⁴ This resulted in the late reprinting of ballots for 4 constituencies due to the lack of provisions in the Electoral Act establishing a time period for the changes in the lists/ballots.

(which was not amended) provides for the general responsibilities of the Commission.

Electoral Act (EA) 2018 review workshop

As part of the lessons learned workshops conducted during the post-election phase, a one-day workshop was held in Honiara on 19 June to discuss the 2018 Electoral Act. At the request of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), SECSIP provided logistical and



financial support for this exercise which was attended by Electoral Office staff, Elections Support System Programme (ESSP) advisers and SECSIP project staff. Participants commented on the 146 sections of the 2018 EA with a view to identify issues and consider whether a review of the legal provisions is necessary. This workshop was a timely first exercise to commence the identification of possible areas that may require electoral legal review and could be included in the priority lists identified after 100 days of the government.

Regional Political Party's Conference

Recognizing the significance of the annual UNDP Pacific political parties regional

conference, SECSIP raised the possibility of holding this year's event in Honiara. Konrad Adenauer Institute which provided funding for this event agreed to SECSIP proposal to hold this conference in Honiara. The focus of this year's conference was inclusiveness and included



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topics related to engaging youth, women and minority groups. The holding of this event in Honiara (18 to 23 September) provided a timely opportunity to political party executives, youth and women representatives to share experiences and suggest measures to continue building and consolidation of democracy in the Pacific Region. SECSIP supported UNDP Pacific Office in the organization of the event. The Project identified the members of the Solomon Islands delegation also provided administrative and logistics support. in Honiara, Solomon Islands. The event was structured in 2 days discussions at regional level attended by political party members and relevant stakeholders from the Pacific and a third day for Solomon Islands delegates dedicated to the 2014 Political Parties Act and possible areas for legislative review. SECSIP staff contributed in the discussion on issues related to Temporary Special Measures (TSM) and PWD. The participants agreed to recommend the adoption of measures to establish 10 reserve seats for women in Parliament which is aligned with the recommendation adopted in the Regional Conference on Women's Leadership held in May 2015. One of the recommendations of the participants was to have a presentation on the introduction of TSM by a recognized male supporter to the SI Government /Caucus and/or Cabinet.

Follow up actions

- The scope of duties of the Electoral Commission needs to be further developed establishing concrete tasks by way of the review of the Electoral Act or via subsidiary legislation.
- Support to the drafting of the electoral legislation as required (e.g. electoral subsidiary legislation to enhance the internal regulatory framework).
- Provide expert advice on options to introduce Temporary Special Measures (TSM) to enhance the representation of women in elected bodies.

OUTPUT 5: Capacity of the SIEC to promote gender mainstreaming

Key results

- Two candidate schools instrumental to provide intending women candidates with information, materials and skills to be incorporated into their campaigns
 - 15 female and 15 male supporters trained through candidate schools. Training materials distributed to all 26 NGE women candidates. Three women MPs elected for the first time in Solomon Islands (the 2 male supporters of the two MoP elected in April participated in the candidate school organized in February; the third MoP elected for East Makira constituency in December and the other woman candidate contending this constituency received the same training and materials as the ones facilitated in February for the NGE).
 - Feedback and recommendations on women support collected from 12 NGE women candidates who contested in 12 constituencies.
 - 16 women candidates running for provincial assemblies' elections in Isabel, Malaita, Guadalcanal and the Central Provinces were assisted to enhance basic knowledge about Provincial Government Act and electoral regulations.
 - SECSIP handed over office equipment provided to women resource centres to hosting entities included laptop, printers and other IT equipment.
 - Five outstanding women elected in five provinces through Outstanding Women (OW) initiative.
-

5.1 Support in the lead up to NGE 2019

Women candidate school for National General Election (NGE)

Two women candidate schools organised by SECSIP provided intending women candidates with information and materials to continue building skills and developing practical tools which could immediately incorporate into their campaigns. Training modules included design of campaign strategies, fundraising opportunities, communications, canvassing. The first candidate school, organised from 25 February to 1 March, was attended by NGE women candidates and one male supporter for each candidate. A total of 15 women candidates and 15 male supporters participated throughout this one-week training. Following the successful completion of the first candidate school, SECSIP organized a second school from 4 to 8 March which was attended by 19 women intending to run for the 2019 elections for provincial assemblies.

Both candidate schools were facilitated by an international consultant with expertise on gender and women leadership engaged by SECSIP. The content of the candidate schools was designed taking into account the findings of SECSIP Research on Women's Leadership in Selected Constituencies conducted in early 2018 as well as the priorities identified by women candidates during different project actions with women leaders.



A closing ceremony of this capacity building initiative was held in Honiara on international women's day (8 March 2019). Ms. Ethel Sigimanu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs addressed the participants. The Counsellor for Human Development of the Australian High Commission Ms. Melissa Stutsel and UNDP Country Manager Ms. Anna Chernyshova also addressed the participants emphasizing the importance of their role as women leaders.

Support network for women candidates

During the reporting period, the project planned, organized and financially supported the setting up of a group of women, the Women Support Network, to provide a forum for discussions on women's leadership and political participation. Ms. Taesi Sanga, Chair of the Political Parties Commission and Electoral Commissioner presided some of the network meeting sessions which benefitted from the presence of the CEO to present important electoral information for women candidates on 31 January. These women support network also provided feedback and suggestions to SECSIP in connection to the women candidate schools, the women candidate resource centres, or information on the procedures for political party affiliation and candidacy requirements. Ms. Ethel Sigimanu (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs) and Ms. Vaela Ngai (Supervising Director, Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs) also provided their continuous support to the Women Support Network discussions.

5.2 Post National General Election (NGE) support

Handover of women resource centre office equipment

On 23 July, SECSIP hosted an event to mark the hand-over of office equipment provided to women resource centres to hosting entities. Among the equipment, there were laptop, printers and other IT equipment handed over to the Provincial Council of Women of Malaita, Isabel and Makira and to the Young Women's Christian



Association (YWCA). Since March 2019, the three councils and the YWCA had been hosting four women resource centers, to provide support to women candidates running for the national and provincial elections this year. The key note address of the hand-over ceremony was provided by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Family Affairs (MWYFA) who expressed his office support to



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SECSIP initiatives. Attendants included women candidates, Electoral Commissioner Ms. Taeasi Sanga, the Chief Electoral Officer, members of the partnering institutions, representatives from CSOs and development partners from the Australian High Commission and UNDP.

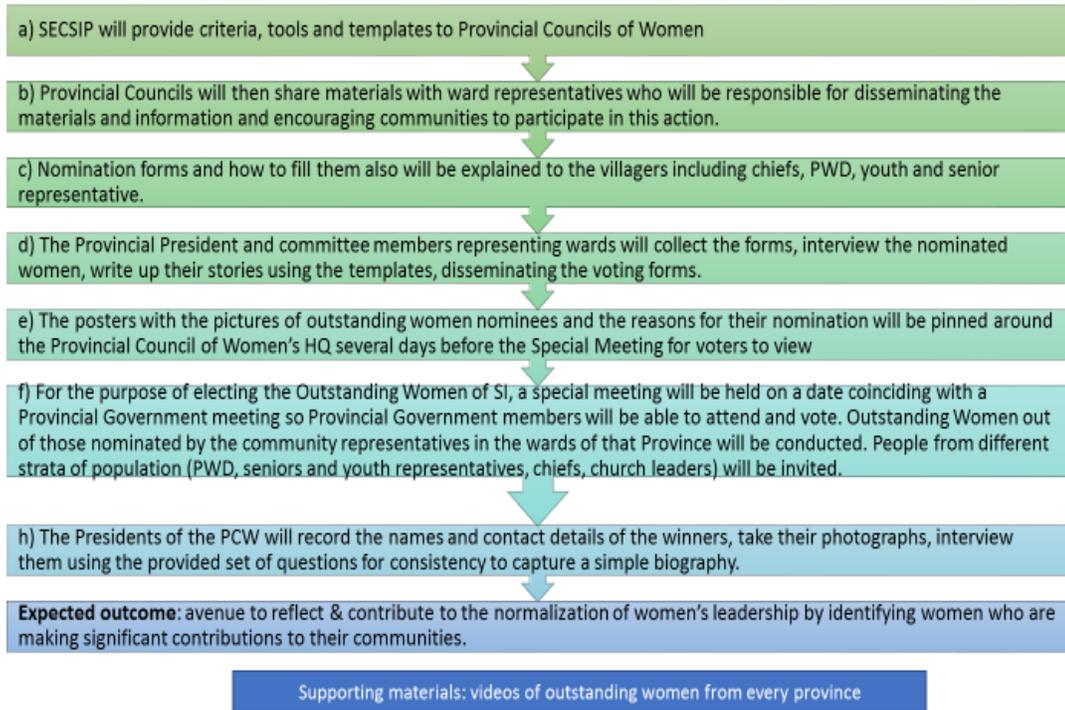
The project established four resource centres in Malaita, Makira, Isabel and Honiara provinces for women candidates in NGE and provincial assembly elections. This enhanced access to office equipment and services including design of campaign materials, printing, photocopying and access to electoral legislation and other relevant information. These centres also used as the service points for distribution of posters, voter education booklets, leaflets etc. prepared by the Electoral Office and SECSIP.

Statements of Intent defining the framework of collaboration and attaching guidelines on the use of the resource centres were signed by UNDP Country Manager and representatives of the collaborating entities on 8 March during the closing ceremony of the second women candidate school.

Outstanding Women (OW) Initiative in Solomon Islands

SECSIP launched the 'Outstanding Women (OW) of Solomon Islands' initiative on 23 July 2019 to find out most valued women in 10 provinces. This initiative focuses on the identification/acknowledgement of women leaders in small communities. The initiative has been designed in line with the findings of SECSIP research on "Women's political participation and leadership in 10 selected constituencies" with identified key behaviors and qualities that could have a positive impact on the perception of women as leaders. In this context, Outstanding Women provides an avenue for the acknowledgement of women who due to their actions, behaviour and who are well respected and valued in their communities. Upon nomination and voting at ward level, an election at provincial level is conducted in each province to select the Outstanding Woman.

Outstanding Women of Solomon Islands



To this end SECSIP signed ten grant agreements with the Provincial Council of Women and Honiara City Council for the implementation of the Outstanding Women initiative. SECSIP also engaged a video producer to conduct the filming of 10 videos (1 per each of the 9 provinces plus Honiara City Council) on the Outstanding Women initiative. The videos will be used as a tool to enhance women's normalization of women's leadership.

Five out of the ten Solomon Islands provinces have elected their Outstanding Women., These are Central Islands, Rennel-Bellona, Choiseul, Makira and Isabel completed their OW activities for the election of their 5 Outstanding Women.

SECSIP Women's Political Participation Adviser visited Provincial Councils in different provinces to jointly develop plans and timelines and conducted civic awareness actions as well.

Post-NGE reflection workshop with women candidates

SECSIP organised a reflection workshop on 15 May in Honiara. The workshop was attended by 12 NGE women candidates who contested in 12 constituencies in Guadalcanal, Choiseul, Malaita, Makira and Isabel provinces and Honiara as well.

“The skills and tool we learned from SECSIP were very helpful during our campaigns. We think, SECSIP should continue supporting us to target 2023 election from now on.” Participants’ remarks during the workshop



The participants provided several recommendations related to policy and legislation, future role of SECSIP and women based organisations following two group works. The recommendations included the following:

Policy and legislations related recommendations:

- Review the Electoral Act 2018 in consultation with women based CSOs and other relevant stakeholders.
- The Solomon Islands Government (SIG) needs to support TSM to increase women’s political participation in Solomon Islands.

Recommendations for SECSIP:

- Need for continuous work with the women candidates for the next four years targeting 2023 NGE throughout the electoral cycle.
- Support to women empowerment providing networks that assist to identify capacity building actions and funding opportunities utilizing their skills for fundraising ideas etc.
- Need for continuous voter education and awareness actions throughout the electoral cycle.
- Advocate for integrating women’s political leadership within school’s curriculum.
- Assess women candidates for their credibility and validity in running for the elections.

Recommendations for Women’s Organisations:

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- Review of the electoral legal framework taking into consideration women's perspective and further encouragement of women's political participation
- Conduct and increase advocacy on women's political leadership and participation.
- Establish a women's political party.

Capacity building of female candidates running for East Makira by-election:

Building on SECSIP plan to support women's political participation, the Project in the lead up to the East Makira by-election organized and facilitated individual training sessions for each of the 2 women candidates running for parliament. As per previous agreement with the Provincial Council of Women, by-election and provincial assembly candidates were encouraged to use the candidate resource centre located in Kira Kira (Makira provincial capital) and the equipment therein.

As a result of the by-election, Hon. Lily Maefai secured 3371 votes and was chosen Member of Parliament (MP) to represent East Makira. Her nearest contestant, a former MP for the East Makira Constituency in the last Parliament, received a total of 1196. The other woman candidate, Rose Murray, obtained the third position out of 9 candidates.

As a result of this by-election, for the first time ever Solomon Islands National Parliament has now three women MPs (6% female representation) which constitutes an important milestone in the history of Solomon Islands and in the Pacific region.

Women candidates' performance in 2019 NGE

Out of 332 candidates, there were 26 women who contested the 2019 NGE in 9 provinces (there was no women candidate in Renbell). Seventeen (17) women candidates were nominated by political parties and 9 of them were independent candidates. A total of 7 women candidates of 2019 NGE had previously participated in 2014 NGE.

In 2019 the percentage of elected candidates over nominated candidates was 7.69% for women (15.69% for male candidates) while in 2014 NGE, it was 3.85% for women (10.40% for men). The percentage of people who voted for women candidates in 2019 was 4.49% of the total number of votes. This provides a slight increment over the percentage of people who voted in 2014 NGE for women candidates (2.72% of the total number of votes).

In terms of the total votes cast in a specific constituency, a woman candidate was able to secure more than 50% of total votes cast in her constituency in 2019 whereas no woman could secure such percentage of votes in 2014 NGE. Additionally, three (3) women candidates secured between 30-40% of votes in their constituencies in 2019

whereas no woman attained these results in 2014 NGE. The table below shows the polling data for women candidates.

Votes for women candidates	2014 NGE	2019 NGE
Votes received by women candidates	7,043	13,935
% of total votes cast for women candidates	2.72%	4.49%
Nominated women candidates	26	26
Winner candidates (women) including East Makira by-election	1	3
Women candidates with >50% votes including East Makira by-election	0	2
Candidates with 30-50%	0	3
Candidates with 20-30%	1	1
Candidates with 10-20%	4	1
Candidates with <10%	21	20
Candidates contested in previous NGE	7	

5.2 Follow up actions

-
- Revision of SECSIP action plan to maintain its support until June 2020 and identify future actions to continue building an enabling environment to enhance women political participation.
- SECSIP will use post-election lessons to design longer term support and in consultation with national and international actors develop a longer term action plan for the promotion of women's political participation.
- Continue with the identification of local power-brokers, setting up women candidate support committees and establishing linkages with local partner CSOs, church/faith groups and community leaders to raise awareness of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Continue the implementation of "Outstanding Women of Solomon Islands" initiative. If funding available, then scale up this initiative and continue working with these OW to build their capacities.

III. UPDATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
Output 1: Sustainable and reliable voter registration system created to strengthen the inclusiveness and integrity of the electoral cycle	1.1 Proportion of eligible voters who are registered to vote, disaggregated by sex, age, and location (Same indicator as Outcome level indicator No. 3.)	% of eligible electorate registered compared to population estimates	85% (estimate) ⁵ 51.6% m/ 48.4% f Youth 18-27: 30.1%	2014	----		90%	T: 95.24% F: 48.5%	90%	T: 95.24% F: 48.5% Y (18-35 age group):53.09%
			70% (estimate)	2017						
1.1 Enhanced sustainability and inclusiveness of registration system	1.1.1 Increased integrity and reliability of IT systems and BVR database Index that shows if BVR	<i>Sum of Index: Functional BVR system with safeguards</i>	Not reliable or protected	7/17	System stabilized		System updated	System updated		
		<i>1) State of database back up</i>	No back up of BVR database	7/17	Replica of database created		Upgraded database architecture to automate backups	Upgraded database architecture to automate backups		

⁵ 2014 data from SECSIP *Annual Report 2014*. Percentages by provinces m/f: Central Province: 51.9/48.1; Choiseul: 51.3/48.7, Guadalcanal: 51.2/48.8, Isable: 51.9/48.1, Honiara City Council: 54.3/45.7, Makira Ulawa: 52.3/47.7; Malaita: 50.4/49.6; Rennell and Bellona: 51/49; Temotu: 48.5/51.5; Western Province: 53.2/46.8. Disaggregated by age: 18-22: 16%; 23-27: 14.1%, 33-57: 43.8%, 58-62: 3.8%, 63-38: 3.2%, 68+: 3.8%

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
system is functional and has safeguards based on the 5 criteria listed in measurements		2) <i>State of IT equipment for database</i>	BVR server in critical condition, unreliable	7/17	Old server revived		New servers procured	Procurement of server equipment		
		3) <i>Level of security for BVR database</i>	No security mechanisms or logs for changes to BVR database	7/17	----		Security protocols developed & used			
		4) <i>Quality of voter id cards</i>	Voter IDs not reliable (no security mechanism & no collection of 2014 double registrants' cards)	7/17	Assess current system		Develop more secure cards			
		5) <i>Ability to detect double registration (as % of double registrations detected and deleted)</i>	2% of entries deleted as multiple entries (5,290 cases). No assessment of quality of deduplication conducted in country. Coarse criteria for deduplication	2014	Make recommendations-		Upgrade of BVR system & test of deduplication engines			

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EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
	1.1.2 Increased SIEC capacity to manage BVR IT system and database	<i>Number of IT students completing 2 year graduate programme for SIEC IT and able to maintain BVR system</i>	No in-house capacity, limited pool of qualified IT outside SIEC, no grad program	7/17	Establish graduate program		30 start training			
		<i>Ease of use of IT equipment and software for BVR</i>	IT engineer required, complicated manual system	7/17	Assess situation		New system set up			
Support for voter registry updating	1.2.1 Updated voter registry	<i>Number of locations with updated voter registries disaggregated by province and Honiara</i>	List not updated since 2014 elections	7/17	---		2 - 4 provinces	List updated for all provinces		
	1.2.2 Trained electoral officials for voter registration	<i>Number/type and % of electoral officials trained by SECSIP II with updated training materials on registration, use of BVR disaggregated by gender/location</i>	Last training 2014	2014	--		Material updated 25/30 BVR operators (100%)	Manuals updated; all BVR operators were trained by BVR vendor		
		<i>% of: 1) claims</i>	0.7%	2014	No Increase over base		No Increase over base			No increase over base
		<i>2) objections</i>	0.9%	2014	No Increase over base		No Increase over base	No increase over base ⁷		No increase over base

⁷ Registered voters: 2018-359690; 2014-287562. Registered voter increased by 25% in 2018. Percentage of objection in 2018 was 4.58. Considering the increased in registration, % of objection on registration not increased over base.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
		<i>received on voter lists⁶</i>									
Output 2: Strengthened capacity of SIEC to fulfil its mandate more efficiently and effectively	2.1 Electoral authorities with improved administrative and human resource capacities to fulfil mandate (UNDP SP Indicator: 2.1.1.b)	<i>Competency rating (qualitative indicator) Assessed on scale: 0= UNDP not building capacity of SIEC 1= Capacity not improved 2= Capacity only partially improved 3= Capacity partially improved 4= Capacity largely improved</i>	SECSIP I provided capacity building for SIEC since 2013. Only 6 of those persons remained at OSIEC at start SECSIP II	7/17	2 (for ICT)			3	3	4	4

⁶ Baseline is low. An increase in voter information on the claims and objections process could also lead to an increase in number of complaints so care needs to be taken during the assessment of this indicator as to what it is actually measuring.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
2.1 Enhanced capacity of the SIEC to manage the electoral cycle and the elections	2.1.1 Ability of SIEC to keep to the electoral calendar for key electoral milestones ⁸	<i>Measured by meeting calendar deadlines for:</i> 1) <i>Voter registration</i> 2) <i>Voter information</i> 3) <i>Candidate registration</i> 4) <i>Posting of final voting list</i> 5) <i>Posting of election results on website</i>	TBC Voter information started late	2014	Meet 1)		Meet 1) & 2)	Meet 1 & 2	Meet all	Meet all
		<i>Provision of personnel and future public servants through creation of graduate programme</i>	No graduate program, OSIEC skeleton staff. 3 out of 8 positions empty	7/17	Grad program estb		5 grads	7 graduates to SIEC	5 grads	7 graduates to SIEC
	2.1.2 Quality of election administration for the national elections Similar indicator to	<i>Quality of election administration and polling officials for general elections as reported by independent observer reports</i>	Credible, generally peaceful; inconsistent approaches in		2014	-		-		Professional admin with consistent approach to functions

⁸ Other common milestones include training for polling officials, announcement of preliminary results, resolution of electoral disputes. These can be used as well assuming SECSIP II has a role in supporting the organization, planning, equipping or training needed to achieve these milestones. Even if SECSIP II does not play a direct role, its other support to the SEIC is to help create a strengthened institution that can meet the deadlines in the electoral calendar.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
	Outcome indicator No. 4		performance of functions ⁹								
	2.1.3 Essential commodities procured (by SECSIP II or with SECSIP II funding)	<i>Procurement and delivery of commodities in sufficient time for registration & elections as planned on the electoral calendar</i>	Manuals and voting materials available and on display on Election Day ¹⁰	2014	-		Yes	Yes	Yes (list) ¹¹	Yes (more than 90% observes said yes)	
2.2 Improved infrastructure for more efficient electoral management	2.2.1 Quality of OSIEC office facilities and ability of staff to work efficiently in conditions Index that shows if OSIEC office	<i>Level of efficiency and security of premises Index measured by: 1) Safe and secure working location 2) Number of SIEC locations in Honiara 3) Premises have the essential equipment needed to work</i>	Sum of Index: Not efficient or secure	7/17	Secured		More efficient & secured	More efficient and secured	Efficient & secured	More efficient and secured	
			1) Premises have health and safety risks	7/17	--	Physical premises & security improved	Boom gate, security room and guard at the main gate; ...security cameras	No risks	Boom gate, security room and guard at the main gate; ...security cameras		
			2) 2 locations (data centre off site)	7/17	-	1 location	1 location	1 location	1 location		

⁹ Commonwealth observers report 2014. Pacific Islands Forum observer report 2014: *Need grooming and sustainable capacity development of SIEC permanent staff as well as contracted polling and count officials to ensure consistency in implementation of procedures for polling & post-polling periods. This would have increased efficiency and timelines of electoral processes which are also aspects of free and fair elections.*

¹⁰ Commonwealth Observer report 2014

¹¹ In narrative quarterly/annual report, list commodities procured and their delivery dates charted against the dates in electoral calendar, and provide the proportion of goods procured within the required dates (such as 95% for voter registration). Target would be 100%

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
	is functional and allows for the staff to work efficiently based on the 3 criteria listed in measurements		3) Basic equipment lacking (functional computers, desks, copier, etc)	7/17	--			Has basics	Has basics	Has needed equipment	Has basics
2.3: Strengthened partnerships and coordination	2.3.1. SIEC holds regular coordination meeting with partners to share information and strengthen participation	<i>Range of partner WGs established & meeting regularly to share info & strategize on issues & problem solving. This includes:</i> 1) Voter Awareness WG 2) MOHA & Civil Reg Unit 3) ICTSU 4) MPGIS 5) Election Security 6) Political Parties 7) Traditional authorities 8) Media 9) Women's groups	1): Created in 2016, has TOR but has not met since Remainder not organized or meeting regularly since 2014 elections	7/17	--			1; 2; 3; 8		All	1,2, 4,5,6,8,9

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
Output 3: National authorities and local networks have better capacity to train and educate the population on voter awareness and civic engagement	3.1 General level of electorate's understanding on electoral process	<i>Independent electoral observers' assessment of whether the electorate understood the electoral process (registration, voting, etc)</i>	Voters generally understood voting process, misconceptions around secrecy of vote ¹²	2014	-			Improved understanding	Improved understanding		Improved understanding; better knowledge around secrecy of vote. KAP 2018 survey found out that 52% of voters know that their ballot was secret
	3.2. Electorate performance on election date	1) % of invalid ballots cast 2) % of registered voters that turned out to vote 3) peaceful e-day (# of incidents)	0.63% invalid ballots ¹³	2014					-	Under 1%	0.29%
			90% turnout						90%	86%	
			Peaceful # incidents TBC						Peaceful, no increase in # incidents	Peaceful	

¹² Commonwealth observer report 2014

¹³ SIEC Annual Report 2014

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
3.1 Enhanced strategic ability of the SIEC to conduct civic and voter education	3.1.1 Reach and effectiveness of SIEC's voter education messages, materials and efforts	<i>Measured by: 1) Mapping reach disaggregated by key messages and medium 2) Scores on KAP/Voter ed surveys on key messages (KAP scores measured & tracked under 3.2.1)</i>	Mapping data to be collated early 2018 by SIEC/SECSIP II	2014 - 7/17	Data saved, not aggregated			Map done for baseline; Map started for 2017-2018	Map done. CSO contracted to provide voter awareness	Mapping continued, kept up to date	15 CSOs reached 25 constituencies of nine provinces
	3.1.2. Use of SIEC website by electorate	<i>Website statistics (analytics) on usage for: BVR, Elections, Candidates, Media, etc (analytics disaggregated by location, method of access and dates</i>	Website re-established with SECSIP support after earlier hacking	12/17	# visits, time on site			% increase TBD	939 (Nov-Dec 2018) to 1820 (Jan-7 Feb 2019) 93.8% increase	% increase TBD	10,000 Facebook users accessed page in Feb, Mar, Apr 2019
3.2. Strengthened civic and voter education	3.2.1. Level of citizen knowledge and confidence in process	<i>% of electorate with: 1) basic understanding of the electoral process and its components</i>	Partial data from survey 2015: 89% able to cite some steps for voting; 23% knew 6 out of 8 steps ¹⁴	2015	-			TBD		TBD	Improved understanding; better knowledge around secrecy of vote. KAP 2018 survey

¹⁴ 76% could recall need to check name on list; 58% to mark ballot correctly; 85% to put ballot in box. Only 47% aware could do something about a mistake on the voter list; 82% aware illegal to give gifts for voting; 76% know vote supposed to be secret; 20% believe candidates find out who voted for them; less than 10% admitted that vote buying was motivation to vote; 34% said personal benefit was motivation.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
		2) % of level of trust in the SIEC, polling officials and process	KAP to be done 2018- can set baseline							found out that 52% of voters know that their ballot was secret
			No data on trust SIEC/elections KAP to set baseline		--		TBD		TBD	43.4% trust electoral officials. 51.9% trust national electoral process
	3.2.2. Extension of voter education activities to schools to reach youth and first time voters	1) Addition of election curricula to school system and 2) number of schools using curricula	Pilot done with 3 schools per province. Most done under SECISP I Curricula not part of educational system	2017	Pilot project done		All social study teachers in all provinces		MoEd includes election topic in forum 2 curricula	Advocacy going on
		Number of participants (students/schools) and sponsors for school essay competition	41 students from 36 schools, no \$ sponsors other than SECISP II	2017	100 students		200 students 150 schools + University sponsors	170 students and teachers from 31 Secondary Schools ¹⁵ . However, competition info was disseminated to around 250	300 students 200 schools + University sponsors	Not done in 2019

¹⁵ Essay and Poster competition press release

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
								secondary schools			
3.3 Increase in evidence based reporting and research to support the integrity of the electoral process and the fuller participation of women, youth, and PWD	3.3.1 Level of citizen understanding of and attitudes on key electoral issues and concepts	<i>% change on KAP surveys on attitudes/knowledge of:</i>	TBD	2018	-			TBD		TBD	84% believe that women should participate in NGE; 79.2% would be willing to vote for a female candidate
		<i>1) Value of participation of women, PWD and other marginalized/vulnerable groups</i>									
	<i>2) Electoral integrity issues such as vote buying, selling voter information, etc</i>	TBD	2018	-			TBD		TBD	94% people know that receiving money or gifts in exchange for a vote is not legal	
	3.3.2 Quality of media coverage of the electoral process and of candidates	<i>Quality of media coverage of the electoral process and treatment of candidates (male/female) as assessed by independent observers and by a Media Index Panel on Media</i>	<i>"election coverage by print media seemed balanced, overall media provided comprehensive coverage of elections including analyses and</i>	2014					Balanced, responsible coverage	Balanced, responsible coverage	

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
		<i>Professionalism in Electoral Processes Coverage</i>	commentaries ¹⁶								
			Media Index baseline & targets to be done early 2018	2018			TBD		TBD		
	3.3.3. Level of public confidence in the accuracy and integrity of media's coverage of elections	<i>% of public confidence in accuracy and integrity of the media's coverage of the electoral processes and issues</i>	Trust in newspapers 5.36% Trust in radio: 31.19%	2015	--			TBD		TBD	65.3% trusting the radio and 54.7% trusting newspapers
Output 4: Electoral reform, advocacy and monitoring supported to contribute to a stronger electoral commission and	4.1 State institutions with improved administrative and human resource capacities to undertake drafting, public	<i>Assessed on scale: 0 = UNDP not building capacity of the SIEC/PPC 1 = Capacity not improved 2 = Capacity very partially improved 3 = Capacity partially improved 4= Capacity largely improved</i>	SECSIP I provided assistance for outreach, but systems not sustained beyond election period, & work done by electoral reform task force	2017	2			3	3	4	4

¹⁶ Commonwealth observer's report 2014

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
representative democracy	outreach and consultation and with mechanisms to ensure the participation of women and marginalized groups. UNDP SP Indicator: 2.1.1.b	<i>Number of laws or amendments drafted with UNDP TA to improve the legal framework for credible elections</i>	2 in draft (PPIA, Electoral Act)	7/17	-			2	3	N/A	-
		<i>Number of TSM¹⁷ measures passed at: 1) national level 2) provincial level</i>	None	7/17	2: 1			2: 1 (+3 seats)	2: The possibility of amendment of the Provincial Act to enable the introduction of TSM at local level (provincial assemblies) has been considered. In consultation with the project national gender adviser, it is unlikely that this could take place prior to 2020. (Solomon Islands Electoral Project)	2: 2	2: The possibility of amendment of the Provincial Act to enable the introduction of TSM at local level (provincial assemblies) has been considered. In consultation with the project national gender adviser, it is unlikely that this could take place prior to 2020. (Solomon Islands Electoral Project)

¹⁷ TSM : Temporary Special Measures

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
4.1 Strengthened capacity of the PPC, SIEC and other actors involved in the reform process	4.1.1 Tools provided to electoral reformers to support their efforts to fulfil their mandate and make evidence-based decisions	<i>Tools include:</i> 1) <i>Research & survey data</i> 2) <i>Technical expertise</i> 3) <i>Support for public outreach and consultations</i>	2015 voter survey for info on voter ed efforts & some attitudes Provincial consultations supported 2016-2017 for electoral reform	2017			KAP Research on women candidates		KAP	KAP done by August 2019
					TA		TA	1 legal drafter provided by SECSIP who drafted three bills	TA	CTA advised on different legal issues to EO
					Consultation		Voter info Consultation		Voter info Consultation	15 CSOs contracted for voter info consultation
4.2 Strengthened capacity of PPC to implement its mandate and work with political parties	4.2. Increased capacity of PPC to regulate parties, issue integrity standards and strengthen the development of political parties	<i>Measured by:</i> 1) <i>Number of grad students supported by project interning at PPC</i> 2) <i>Provision of TA</i> 3) <i>Number of parties attending training, & # parties that adopt more issue-based platforms (as perceived by trainers & PPC)</i>	1) 0 2) 0 3) 2 trainings for 7-8 parties out of 13 registered done in 2016 & 2017	2017	--		3	3	3	2
					TA		TA		TA	In progress
					--		8	12	8	12
4.3 Increased advocacy and monitoring for electoral	4.3.1. Increased public awareness on issue of electoral	<i>Measured by:</i> 1) <i>Scores on KAP survey on integrity questions disaggregated by</i>	TBD	2018	-		TBD		TBD	94% people know that receiving money or gifts in exchange for a vote is not legal

SECSIP is implemented in partnership with the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission. It receives financial assistance from the Government of Australia, the European Union and UNDP

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
reforms and integrity	integrity, standards and accountability	<i>occupation (& other variables)¹⁸</i> <i>2) Increased breadth of media coverage on electoral integrity issues & reforms (measured through Media Index process)</i>	TBD by Media Panel	2018	-			TBD		TBD	Integrity issues covered by print media, Radio, TV and small videos posted on Youtube, Facebook
Output 5: Increased women's political participation and leadership	5.1 Proportion of women (to men) participating as candidates in local and national elections (UNDP SP Indicator 2.1.3)	% of female candidates running in: <i>1) national elections</i> <i>2) provincial elections</i>	5.9% (26 w / 417m) 15 aspirants	2014 7/17					11%	7.51% (25 w, 308 m)	
			TBC		TBD				32	34 (including HCC)	
	5.2 Proportion of women candidates that are successful in elections	% of women candidates winning seats in: <i>1) National elections</i> <i>2) Provincial elections</i>	2%	2014	-			-	30%	4%	
			TBC		20%			20%	20%	4 won (including 1 in HCC)	

¹⁸ KAP should include a question that measures the level of consumption of political and electoral information among target groups (compared to non-targeted groups).

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS						
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement	
	5.3 Proportion of votes for women candidates	% of the vote for women candidates for: 1) National election 2) Provincial elections	Per 2015 survey: 4.5% of voters TBC from voter data	2014	=			-		4%	4.49%
			TBC from voter data		TBD		TBD		TBD	TBD	4.49% of total votes in NGE
5.1 Enhanced ability of women to participate in the electoral and political processes	5.1.1. Number of persons reached directly on issues of equal participation and women's participation (trainings, workshops, conferences, etc) (Voter education efforts (posters, radio spots, etc) should be reported and tracked under Output 3	Number of persons/ organizations trained/sensitized by project & grantees disaggregated by position/type of organization 1) Candidates/aspirants 2) parties, 3) CSOs/FBOs 4) Community leaders 5) Elected officials 6) Electorate 7) Media/journalists And by sex/age/location as pertinent	22 female aspirants	11/17	22 candidates			50 female candidates	25 candidates	50	26 candidates for NGE
			8 parties out of 13 registered/15 persons (TOT)	2016	-			TBD		TBD	N/A
			0	6/17	5 churches for TOT			TBD	12 CSOs	TBD	15 CSOs
			TBC	6/17	TBC			TBD		TBD	Community Chief, religious leaders of 25 constituencies
			TBC	6/17	TBC			TBD		TBD	
			TBC		-			TBD		TBD	
			32 journalists, 10 student j.	2017	-			TBD	Average 34 (total 204 persons through 6 programs including	TBD	Average 34 (total 204 persons through 6 programs including

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEASUREMENTS	BASELINE		TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS					
			Value	Year	2017 7-12/17 Target	2017 Achievement	2018 Target	2018 Achievement	2019 target	2019 Achievement
								repeated persons)		repeated persons)
	5.1.2. Proportion of electorate who think women can be as good as men as leaders or politicians	1) % of electorate who think women can be as good as men as leaders or politicians 2) % of electorate who think a women's role does not include being a leader or politician Disaggregated by sex, age, location, profession	81% (82% for w respondents)	2015	--			TBD		81%
			less than 8% ¹⁹	2015	-			TBD		TBD
										84% think women should be MP

¹⁹ Sustineo survey 2015: Of survey respondents: who believe women are as good as men at being politicians compared to percentage saying not as good: Guadalcanal 84%/12% Honiara 80%/13%, Makira-Ulawa 91%/7% Malaita 81%/14%, Western province 75%/21%

IV. MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Roundtable discussion with Development Partners (DPs)

At the invitation of the CEO, a roundtable discussion was held on 14 February. The agenda included an update on the preparation of the national general election, and a presentation by SECSIP CTA on project achievements, future actions and project financial status. Attendees included representatives from the Australian High Commission, Embassy of Japan, Asian Development Bank, British High Commission and New Zealand High Commission.

Project Board Meeting (PBM)

Two Project Board Meetings were held during 2018. The first Project Board meeting was held on 28 May 2019. During this meeting, SECSIP CTA provided an update on the ongoing activities of the project and presented to the Board the possibility of contractual extensions for SECSIP Graduates and for two national consultants. A revision of the Project Annual Working Plan (AWP) reflecting a new contribution from the Government of Australia and additional UNDP TRAC 2 funds was presented and endorsed by the Board. Other key issues discussed were the post-election lesson learned, outstanding women initiative, voter awareness activities, and knowledge attitude and practice survey (KAP).

In addition to the Board members Hon. Mr. Patteson Oti, Speaker of National Parliament, Chairperson of SIEC; Mr. Mose Saitala, Chief Electoral Officer and Ms. Anna Chernyshova, UNDP Country Office Manager (acting). The meeting was also attended by SIEC Commissioner, Ms. Taeasi Sanga and SIEC Head of Operations, Mr. Freddie Bosoboe and international partners (Ms. Olivia Chambers, Second Secretary and Ms. Natalina Hong, Senior Programme Manager from the Australian High Commission; (EU presented its apologies). Also in attendance were ESSP advisers UNDP Effective Governance Team and SECSIP staff.

SECSIP Project Board held the second meeting on 14 August 2019. During this meeting, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) informed attendees of EO upcoming actions particularly in respect to Makira By-elections. SECSIP CTA provided an update on the ongoing activities of the project and presented to the Board the proposed revision of the Annual Working Plan (AWP) proposing adjustments to the budget with a view to address EO support requests from for Makira by-election. The Board endorsed the proposal presented by the Project increasing the budget to USD 1.8M and therefore programming the utilization of all the funds mobilized by the Project.

SECSIP brought to the attention of the Board and stakeholders that while the period of implementation established under SECSIP PRODOC established that the project was due to end in June 2020, the continuity of operations would require the mobilization of additional funds.

V. EXPENDITURE

Outputs	Total Budget USD	Total Expenditure USD
Output 1: Sustainable voter registration system created to strengthen the inclusiveness and integrity of the electoral cycle		
Output 2: Enhanced capacity of the SIEC to manage an electoral cycle	455,964.35	635,998.71
Output 3: National authorities and local networks have better capacity to train and educate the population on voter awareness and civic engagement	182,801.00	244,176.68
Output 4: Electoral and legal reform supported	13,201.00	10,538.68
Output 5: Capacity of the SIEC to promote gender mainstreaming	177,392.00	138,518.63
Project Management	890,909.05	813,862.62
Total	1,720,267.00	1,843,095.32
Rate of delivery		107%

VI. RISK LOG

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
<p>Engagement of stakeholders by the Electoral Commission is not as extensive as originally envisaged</p>	<p>Activating inter agency coordination body, IMEOC for better collaboration of national general election</p> <p>Collaboration between SIEC and RSIPF.</p> <p>SECSIP envisages activities to enhance engagement of stakeholders (public, government ministries, donors and CSOs). This may involve collaboration mechanisms to build awareness and encourage participation.</p>	<p>Nov 2018- May2019</p>	<p>IMEOC. In line with SECSIP ProDoc and the Election Assessment conducted in May-June 2018, a proposal for the revision of the charter for the Inter-Ministerial Electoral Operations Committee (IMEOC) was conducted in 2018. The IMEOC commenced its coordination activities at the beginning of 2019. The reactivation of the IMEOC as a transversal inter-departmental mechanism facilitated the coordination amongst state agencies in the lead up to the 2019 national general election.</p> <p>The Electoral Office (EO) signed a MOU with RSIPF (in September 2018) to facilitate coordination of electoral related security issues during 2019 national general election. SECSIP Operations Adviser regularly attended coordination meetings.</p> <p>Partnerships had been established with CSOs, religious/faith groups and private sector. This has enhanced outreach of voter awareness and dissemination of supporting materials. Efforts have also been made to build CSO capacity through periodical meetings and, one to one coaching. Grant support provided to CSOs till May 2019.</p>
<p>Electoral Legal Framework passed by Parliament close to the election. This may affect EO capacity to implement its mandate. It will also affect</p>	<p>Engagement of technical expertise for legislative drafting.</p>	<p>May-Sept 2018</p>	<p>SECSIP support included the engagement of a Legislative Drafter (Sept 2017-2018) who worked with the Task Force for drafting three bills for Cabinet approval (Electoral Bill, Political Parties Integrity (Amendment) Bill, and Constitution (Consequential Amendment) Bill). However, SI parliament passed the three bills only in Aug 2018 entering into force upon publication in September</p>

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
Adoption of subsidiary legislation, development of procedures and socialization of new legal provisions in a timely fashion.	<p>Identification of priorities to be developed through subsidiary legislation.</p> <p>SECSIP proposal of introduction of voter registration objection forms detailing grounds and providing a non-exhaustive list of possible documentary evidence.</p>		<p>2018. SECSIP provided technical advice contributing to the preparation of drafting instructions for voter registration regulations.</p> <p>This resulted in the review of previous regulations and adoption of changes consistent with the act (ballot draw, campaign, statement of accounts). The introduction of pre-poll to electoral officials and police forces (other categories would require development of subsidiary legislation).</p> <p>Forms were submitted and approved by the SI Electoral Commission. This contributed to streamline voter registration complaint process & enhance consistency of decision-making by Revising Officers.</p> <p>Need for legal technical expertise for the review and continuous development of the Electoral Legal Framework, including the Political Parties Bill not yet debated in Parliament.</p>
Capacity constraints in key institutions (SIEC/EO, PPC, Ministry of Home Affairs) to implement and participate in electoral activities.	Careful and pragmatic prioritisation, planning and sequencing of activities together with stakeholders.	On-going	<p>SECSIP engaged an Electoral Operations Adviser who worked closely with electoral office Head of Operations in the planning and implementation of election events (June 2018-May 2019). He provided operational support in the lead up to the NGE and post-election operational lessons learned exercises.</p> <p>Engagement of a national Human Resources Adviser by SECSIP who assisted the EO in the recruitment of temporary staff in the lead up to the election and in the planning of the proposal for the review of the EO staffing structure.</p>

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
<p>Vulnerability given the dependability of biometric voter registration system from a foreign commercial vendor. Access to sensitive data. No appropriated data recovery processes and infrastructure. No sustainability (technical, human & financial)</p>	<p>Technical assessment of biometric voter registration system and proposal of a plan endorsed by CEO with a view to contribute to the enhancement of BVR reliability and sustainability.</p>		<p>Graduate Programme. A total 10 graduates engaged with (7) electoral office and (3) PPC in different capacities to address capacity constraints (from June 2018 onwards). The number of graduates after the NGE has been progressively reduced.</p> <p>SECSIP engagement of expertise to support BVR in accordance with endorsed plan by CEO. Due to engagement by Electoral Office of foreign commercial vendor to provide services (including those initially expected to be provided by SECSIP experts), SECSIP suspended provision of project technical expertise.</p> <p>Engagement of a Data Management Expert (short-term consultancy) at the request of CEO. The DME developed tools and forms for the setting of batches of ballots for the counting and consolidation of results. This contributed to mitigate the limited capacities of the voter registration database and to enhance the management of data and election results</p>
<p>Voter registration update does not include all eligible citizens</p> <p>Significant number of cross-constituency voter registration</p>	<p>The roll had not been updated since 2014 (partial update conducted in 2017 limited to Western Province and Choiseul). Citizens who have turned out 18 (an important segment of the voting population) need to be included. Those who have deceased have to be deleted from the roll.</p> <p>Design of voter registration objection forms detailing grounds</p>	<p>Completed (January 2019)</p>	<p>The estimated percentage of citizens included in the 2018 voter registration is within 85 to 90% of the eligible population. https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Zy-QI8R-qlxEt5L41Bj5WdWQbiaBK6t7</p> <p>Voter registration was completed in September 2018 with high number of registration activities.</p>

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
(vagueness of 'ordinarily resident')	<p>and providing a non-exhaustive list of possible documentary evidence.</p> <p>Support to awareness efforts with a view to enhance inclusiveness and reliability of the roll:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeting key segments of the population to encourage (youth, women, rural population in remote locations) - Design actions and products to explain the 'ordinarily residence' criteria and encourage registration accordingly 		<p>Period for lodging objections/omissions ended on 29 November 2018 (more than 16,000 objections). Public hearings by Revising Officers to decide on objections were held in December (completed by 23 December 2018). Efforts were made to identify case scenarios to train Revising Officers particularly those with respect to criteria for 'ordinarily residence'.</p> <p>More detailed objection forms contributed to the consistency and coherence of the decision-making process, as well as build the knowledge of the electorate with respect to the objection process and assist the SIEC for lessons learned exercises.</p> <p>Final lists were published in January 2019.</p> <p>In addition to face to face conducted with CSO partners, SECSIP support included media actions through radio, SMS, and production and dissemination of materials explaining criteria for compliance with 'ordinarily residency' and the objection process. This included leaflets and posters as well as banners, booklets. The Project also proposed and supported the telephone hotline and the upgrade of the SIEC website facilitating access to voter information. Supplementary actions targeting youth had included school elections project and secondary school poster and essay competition.</p>
An increasingly contested electoral environment may result	Ensure electoral preparations adequately account for the potential of increased local contestation.	Completed (April 2019)	SECSIP Operations Advisor closely worked with EO Head of Operation to timely implement electoral operational plan. As part of a joint action (Australian Electoral Commission, ESSP

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
<p>in more focus on issues related to poor electoral administration as a basis for contesting elections. This may place electoral authorities under a greater degree of pressure and may politicise electoral processes</p>	<p>Ensure this recognition is reflected in robust electoral preparations including training and logistical arrangements so that electoral officials will be better placed to respond to pressures applied by candidates</p> <p>Accreditation of electoral observers (international and national)</p>		<p>and SECSIP), formative actions were provided to enhance capacities of Registration Officers, Election Managers, Revising Officers. To build transparency and commitment of relevant officials, a pledge certificate and ceremony was designed by SECSIP and introduced as part of the trainings. These officers then conducted cascade training actions for polling staff.</p> <p>An enabling environment for the participation of domestic observers was facilitated by arrangement made by SECSIP with OXFAM/DSE (Development Service Exchange)/SISAC (SI Social Accountability Coalition). SECSIP provided guidelines to encourage the inclusiveness in terms of composition of the observer group. This resulted in 167 domestic observers from national CSOs being accredited (74 women observers and 7 from SI Association of People with Disabilities).</p>
<p>Election-related violence expected to be localised in origin.</p>	<p>Local communities, and key local institutions such as churches with an important role to play in helping manage election related conflict. Electoral preparation should consider how to engage and incorporate communities into election planning and security arrangements.</p> <p>Security planning should include sufficient focus on police training</p>	<p>Completed (April 2019)</p>	<p>Continuance of engagement of local CSOs and religious/faith groups through face to face actions implemented by the Electoral Office with the support of SECSIP National Media Adviser and Awareness Graduates. EO design of face to face awareness campaign held at markets supported by SECSIP with particular focus on electoral offences & penalties. Awareness products on election offences included posters and video. SECSIP micro-grant scheme establishing partnerships in 25 constituencies within 9 provinces (including Honiara City Council).</p> <p>Information sharing mechanisms through SIEC/RSIPF Joint Operation Center established under MOU were in place</p>

Risk	Mitigation Action	Timeframe	Progress of Mitigation Action (s)
	and community outreach as part of election-related security operations.		<p>ahead of NGE 2019. SECSIP technical expertise supported the mechanisms to facilitate the coordination of information sharing between the two institutions.</p> <p>Some security related incidents took place in Honiara once the result of the parliamentary voting to elect a new Prime Minister was communicated to the public.</p>
Natural disasters that impact directly on stakeholder priorities and ability to implement and participate in activities under the project.	Ensure flexible schedule for activity implementation to minimise potential impact on outputs and ensure sequenced and timely implementation of project activities, with adjustments made where necessary.	Jan-April 2019 (NGE) Nov-Dec 2019 (Makira)	<p>No major natural disasters during the reporting period. During the candidate nomination period, due to difficult weather conditions (heavy rain) most candidates had problems to travel to the nomination centres located in the constituency. This triggered that the decision of the Electoral Commission to open second nomination centres located at provincial capitals as foreseen in the law. This enabled a timely completion of the candidates' nomination procedures. The Electoral Office sought a legal opinion from the Attorney General's Office.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to review/introduce legal provisions to ensure clarity and flexibility in accordance with the law enabling the SIEC to have a clear mandate to react should these circumstances occur.</p>

ANNEX 01: CSOs coverage through face to face voter awareness activities

CSO	First Phase-constituency	Communities	Second Phase-constituency	Communities
Guadalcanal Provincial Council of Women (GPCW)	South Guadalcanal Constituency East Guadalcanal Constituency (Guadalcanal province)	East Guadalcanal: Totongo Community at Loggu ward, Macolu community, Nangali community, Bolale community, Ghombu community South Guadalcanal: Malagheti, Peo, Kuma, Haliatu, Raeavu, Koleulawith	North West Guadalcanal and East Guadalcanal. (Guadalcanal province)	NWG: Selwyn college, Maravovo, Cholala, Visale, Tamboko, Kakabona, Tanagai, Barana, Vatukola, Tamboko, Tanaghai Parish, Vatukulau. East Guadalcanal: Bilitania, Kopiu, Avuavu station, Marau Market and Mangautu.
Hearts of Hope (HoH)	East Kwaio, West Kwaio (Malaita province)	Ogou Village, Kwaimela, Kingstone, Balafi, Oloburi Community High School, Nunubilau, Nunubilau Community High School, Malou, Gounabusu, Gounabusu Community high School, Abitona, Canaan, Ilanunu, Sifilo, Naau, Kwariakwa, Asimana, Baunani, Maolaijala, Maa, Kwaa and Ngariwane, Faubaba, Gwale (correct name and spelling Kware)	East Malaita and West AreAre (Malaita province)	East Malaita: Nazareth, Aekafo, Gatesamani, Manulele, Tabakwaru, Nafinua, Anofiu/Foubaba, Anoasia, Ngongosila, Kwai, Foumamanu, Uatae West Are Are: Tavairoi, Uhu, Nariekeara, pipisu, Aiarae , Wairokai, Waisisi, Kiu, Hauporo/Wairaha, Tawaimarea

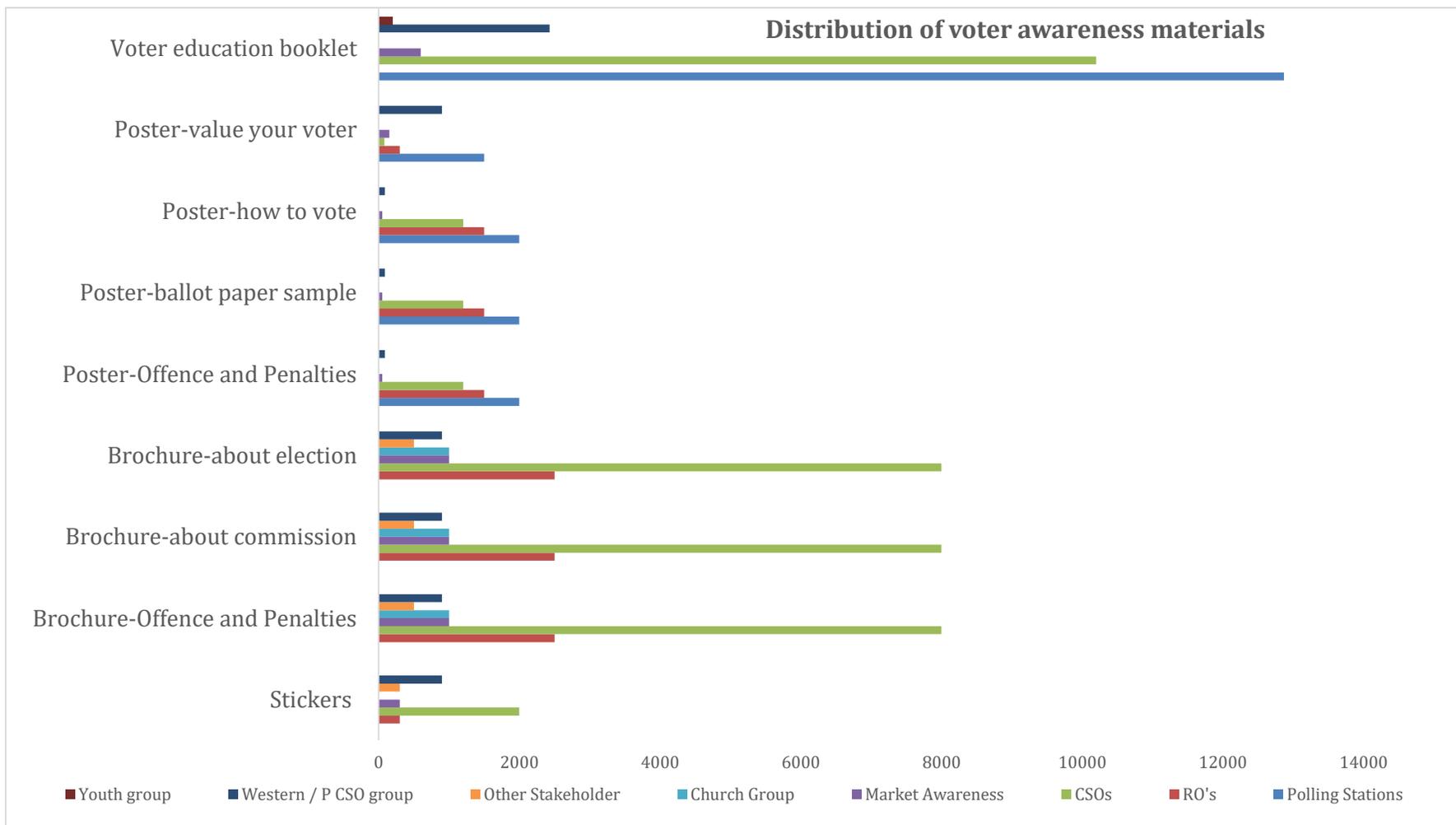
TEFILA (Malaita)	Fataleka, Baegu/Asifola (Malaita province)	Kware, Kakalano, Gwaunatafu, Sisifu, Tasisi, Manaere, Ata'a, Sulufou, Rufoki and Subobonu of Fataleka Constituency, Malaita province. Baegu constituency: Gwaunatolo/Fouia, Sulione/Aiaofia and Bush Communities, Fersubua Community, Manabeu, lilifia, Usu sue Catholic Mission Station, Kofiloko community, Ailali, Whitestone community	West Kwara'ae and Small Malaita Constituencies (Malaita province)	West Kwaraae: Fiu, Gwaunaruu, Buma, Gwaunaoa, Bio, Fote, Dala-South, Kakara, Aota, and Boboilangi. Small Malaita: Roone, Fanalei, Walande, Saa, Liwe, Parasi, Tarapaine, Sarawasi, and Riverside. Total 600 sets of voter education materials were distributed in Roone, Kalona, Bulu, Unimenu, Oloha, and Taramate communities.
Stages of Change (SoC) Theatre	Rennell Bellona Islands (Rennell and Bellona province)	Matamoana, Ngongna, Pauta, Matangi, Hutuna, Tegano, Lavangu, Tahanuku, Gongona	North West Choiseul and South Choiseul Constituencies (Choiseul province)	Paranui Community, Sasamunga High School and Sasamunga Community, Nukiki Community, Taro Market, Vurango Community, Sirovanga, Chivoko, Molevanga, Choiseul Bay High School and Taro Community
FRIENDS OF the CITY (Honiara)	East Honiara, Central Honiara West Honiara (Honiara)	East Honiara: Burns Creek soccer field, Pnatina SSEC compound, Gilbert Camp, Anglican road front, Fulisango SSEC field Central Honiara: Kaibia SSEC community, Tuvaruhu Community, Lord Howe Settlement, Choviri Community	-	-

		West Honiara: Tasahe A Area, Buburu/Lengakiki Community, Windy Valley Community, Namoruka Community		
Church of Melanesia (ACOM)	Gao/Bugotu Constituency (Isabel province)	Tausese village of Gao/Bugotu constituency; Kolomosu, Kmaga, Buala villages of Marine Kokota constituency.	-	-
Nuo THEATRE Trust Board	-	-	Pele constituency and Nende constituency of Temotu province	<p>Pele: NTTB covered following villages - Nyivale, Laro, Lipe/Nyibanga, Temoa, Nyimoa /Balipa'a, Otelu/Ngamanyie/Nyialo, Nopali, Nyibanga, Nende/Banepe, Nyieli/ngamubulou, Nenubo, Otabwe /Ngamanyie/Manuopo, Ngamanyie, Ngawaa/Nola, Ngadeli/Ngarado, Nipiloli/Matema/Pilene, Tanga/Nuwaa, Malapu/Nganamaala'a, Malobu, Tuo</p> <p>Nende: the villages covered were – Lata market, Nea/Neboi, Neba/maneputi, Nole, Noipe, Vanga/ Nyela, Mrnau/Uta/Banua, YO'O/ Naban, Malo/Menevi, Nangu, Bamoi /Bonate/Bibir, Gaito /Akaboi/Ma'ango, Gaito, Mango juice /kaLa bay/Noka, Niumatema/Manepina/Manelu/Naban, Landing wharf, Matu, Nyivale, Lipe &</p>

				Nyimoa, Ngamubulou & Nenubo, Nieli & Banepe, Napali, Otelo, Ngamanie, Otambe, Laro, Malobu, tuo, Nialo, Manuopo.
Nggela Forum Trust Board (NFTB)	-	-	Nggela Constituency in Central Islands Province	Soso-Sandfly/Buena Vista; Olevuga-Sandfly/Buena Vista; Leitongo - Sandfly/Buena Vista; Toga- Big Gella; Vura- Big Gella; Polomuhu- Big Gella; Boromole - Big Gella; Gairavu - Big Gella; Taroaniara- Big Gella; Aviavi- Big Gella; Halavo- Small Gella; Voloa- Small Gella; Bokolonga- Small Gella; Vunuha- Small Gella; Gumba- Small Gella; Dende- Small Gella; Vurenimala- Small Gella; Longapolo- Small Gella; Vuturua- Small Gella; Salesapa- Small Gella; Kobe- Small Gella; Belaga- Small Gella; Tulagi- Central Provincial Head Qrt
Tawatana Community Conservation and Development Association (TCCDA)	-	-	East Makira and West Makira Constituencies (Makira province)	West Makira: Tawatana, Ubuna, Tetere, Heuru, Asimanioha, Borodao East Makira: Toraa, Tawaroga, Nahuhu, Maniate, Toroa, Ramah

ANNEX 02: DISTRIBUTION OF VOTER AWARENESS MATERIALS

Items	Stickers	Brochure- Offence and Penalties	Brochure- about commission	Brochure- about election	Poster- Offence and Penalties	Poster- ballot paper sample	Poster- how to vote	Poster- value your voter	Voter education booklet
Polling Stations					2000	2000	2000	1500	12870
RO's	300	2500	2500	2500	1500	1500	1500	300	
CSOs	2000	8000	8000	8000	1200	1200	1200	80	10200
Market Awareness	300	1000	1000	1000	50	50	50	150	600
Church Group	0	1000	1000	1000					
Other Stakeholders	300	500	500	500					
Western/CSO group	900	900	900	900	90	90	90	900	2430
Youth group									200
Total	3800	13900	13900	13900	4840	4840	4840	2930	26300



SECSIP is implemented in partnership with the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission. It receives financial assistance from the Government of Australia, the European Union and UNDP

ANNEX 03: 2019 NGE Statistics



SECSIP is implemented in partnership with the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission. It receives financial assistance from the Government of Australia, the European Union and UNDP

ANNEX 05: SECSIP FACT SHEET





SECSIP is implemented in partnership with the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission, & receives financial assistance from the Government of Australia, the European Union and UNDP.

STRENGTHENING THE ELECTORAL CYCLE IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS PROJECT (SECSIP)

Project focus: Provision of United Nations electoral technical assistance to support the sustainability and credibility of electoral processes in the Solomon Islands. Since 2013 SECSIP assists the electoral authorities, particularly the Electoral Office and Political Parties Commission, in the timely and effective implementation of their mandate contributing to provide an enabling environment for democratic development.

Background: Following the request of the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) to receive UN electoral technical assistance, an initial Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) was deployed in September 2012. The endorsement of the findings and recommendations of the NAM informed the project formulation rolled out in July 2013. In 2015, another NAM was deployed in response to a second request of SIG seeking the continuity of UN assistance. This resulted in the extension of SECSIP I until June 2017 and the formulation of a second project phase with an expected duration of 3 years ending in June 2020.

Implementation period:
Phase I July 2013-June 2017; Phase II July 2017-June 2020

Key outputs:

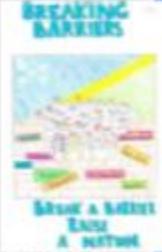
- 1 Sustainability and inclusiveness of Biometric Voter Registration
- 2 Supporting the capacity of the electoral national authorities to manage an electoral cycle
- 3 Enhancing the capacities of national authorities & local networks to train and conduct voter and civic awareness
- 4 Support to electoral, legal and administrative reform
- 5 Promotion of women's leadership and political participation

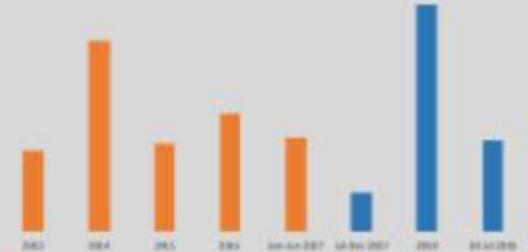
Partners:

- Solomon Islands Electoral Office (SIEC) and its Secretariat, the Electoral Office
- Political Parties Commission (PPC) and the Office of the Registrar of the PPC.
- SECSIP has established key alliances with other partners
- MEHRD, MWYFA, RSIPP
- Civil society organizations: NCW, GPCW, SIALC, VTT, TEFILA, HOH, Destiny Global, MASI, TSI, SOC, Melanesian Board of Mission, FOC, TCCDA,
- Private sector: SolRice

International Development Partners: Australia (CSA expiration 30 June 2020); EU (as per Contribution Agreement Amendment 31 Dec 2019)

Estimated budget (Phase II): USD 5,860,986
 Resource mobilised: USD 5,033,125 (Australia: 2,509,864; EU: 1,933,540; UNDP: 550,000+39,000 (TRAC 2))
 Shortfall: USD 827,861.43
 2019 annual delivery as of 30 July 2019: 62.9%
 Annual delivery chart (Phase I and Phase II)




Project's annual delivery during the first phase (2013-June 2017)

Project's annual delivery from Jul-Dec 2017, 2018, Jul 2019 of the second phase (July 2017-June 2019)

