

2017 ANNUAL REPORT





ABOUT IFES

VISION

Our vision is a world in which strong democratic institutions empower citizens to have a voice in the way they are governed.

MISSION

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) supports citizens' rights to participate in free and fair elections. Our independent expertise strengthens electoral systems and builds local capacity to deliver sustainable solutions.

As the global leader in democracy promotion, we advance good governance and democratic rights by:

- Providing technical assistance to election officials
- Empowering the underrepresented to participate in the political process
- Applying field-based research to improve the electoral cycle

Since 1987, IFES has worked in over 145 countries – from developing democracies, to mature democracies.





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EXECUTIVE MESSAGES

Dear Friends and Supporters of IFES,

We celebrated our 30th anniversary as the global leader in democracy promotion in 2017, giving us the opportunity to review our organization's immense impact. Throughout the last three decades, IFES has supported citizens' rights to participate in free and fair elections. Our independent expertise strengthens electoral systems and builds local capacity to deliver sustainable solutions. To mark our 30th anniversary, we featured 30 human interest stories throughout the year that highlighted our unique contribution to giving a vote to every voice.

In October, we held the Eighth Annual Charles T. Manatt Democracy and 2017 Joe C. Baxter Awards at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, D.C. The 2017 awardees included His Excellency Luis Almagro, secretary general of the Organization of American States; former IFES Board Vice Chair Judy Black (R); Congressman David Price (D-N.C.); and Joe C. Baxter awardee Tamar Zhvania, chairwoman of the Central Election Commission of Georgia. *Cook Political Report* Editor and Publisher Charlie Cook emceed the ceremony, which was co-chaired by IFES Board Director and Connecticut State Treasurer Denise Nappier and IFES Board Director and Foley & Lardner LLP partner Cleta Mitchell.

IFES was engaged in critical elections around the world in 2017. In Africa, IFES supported Kenya's Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission and Liberia's National Elections Commission with innovative strategies for civic and voter education that were critical for reaching women, youth, and other marginalized communities and building the reputation of both election commissions, as the two countries held general and run-off presidential elections in 2017.

Elsewhere, IFES supported the Election Commission of Nepal in its efforts to register three million new voters, simplify complex ballots and improve transparency around campaign spending as the country held its first local elections in 20 years and its first-ever simultaneous provincial and national elections.

In Macedonia, IFES offered guidance and technical assistance on a wide range of issues across ethnic and political lines. Notably, our close collaboration with the State Election Commission led to a finalized Voter List Information Management System, which strengthened Macedonia's electoral institutions and increased public trust in the country's democracy.

As Haiti continues its transition from the post-disaster era, IFES worked to protect the right of women's participation as voters, candidates, election officials, activists, and political party leaders in the lead-up to the 2017 elections. With IFES support, the Haitian Provisional Electoral Council and the Ministry of Women Affairs, implemented the first-ever national gender strategy and worked with male allies to increase understanding of gender equality.

We would like to thank all of our supporters and partners for their efforts to help IFES advance its democratic mission to give a vote to every voice.



Hon. J. Kenneth Blackwell
Chairman





Donald R. Sweitzer
Co-Chairman



Dear Friends,

I first joined the IFES Board of Directors in 1993, was chair from 1999-2001, and then joined as president and CEO in 2009. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience. With the organization in a strong place, I feel that it is time to step aside and allow for fresh leadership. As I reflect back on my many years with the organization, there are four themes that come to mind.

IFES is all about its people. I have had the opportunity to work with so many gifted individuals and marvel at the unique collection of talent coming from all over the world from many diverse backgrounds and perspectives. Under the IFES umbrella, this remarkable team is at the forefront of promoting credible and transparent elections and protecting the right to vote.

When I first started in the summer of 2009, I attended a conference of some of the leading thinkers and implementers of the global democracy movement and vividly remember being told that IFES was just a “contractor” that didn’t “contribute to the debate.” Back then, I was fond of saying that we were the best-kept secret in Washington. Today, our presence on Capitol Hill and on other panels and conferences; IFES’ many toolkits, guides, integrity assessments, surveys and frameworks used by a variety of election stakeholders around the world; the visibility from the Charles T. Manatt Democracy and Joe C. Baxter Awards; and our research and publications speak to the breadth and depth of our work and the recognition of IFES as a leader in democracy promotion.

Among the many contributions IFES has made, our work on disability rights stands out to me in particular. This core part of our work is increasingly mainstreamed throughout all of our programs and I am proud that IFES is a recognized leader. A few simple policy and procedure changes can make a big difference to the experience of a citizen with a disability during the electoral cycle. Former U.S. Vice President Hubert Humphrey famously argued, “[T]he moral test of government is how that government treats [...] those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy.” The job of an election commission is to ensure the full participation of all, and our work on disability rights – along with programming on women’s empowerment, indigenous groups and other marginalized peoples – has helped ensure that this mission is fulfilled.

One of my first goals when I came on board was to diversify IFES’ funding sources. While we continue to rely on support from the U.S. government, IFES’ support from Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, the European Union, Switzerland, the United Nations’ Development Programme and private donors, among others, has significantly increased since 2009. This will set IFES on the path for continued success in the years to come.

Finally, I would like to thank the whole IFES team in every corner of the globe and the IFES Board of Directors for your hard work and dedication and express my gratitude to all of IFES’ partners. It has been a great pleasure to work with all of you and support the critical mission to give a voice to every vote. Together, we have significantly enhanced the reputation and quality of IFES’ contributions to the practice of election administration, and contributed to the global debates about democracy and governance.

Thank you,



William R. Sweeney Jr.
President and CEO



GLOBAL RESEARCH

Strengthening Democracy Through Research

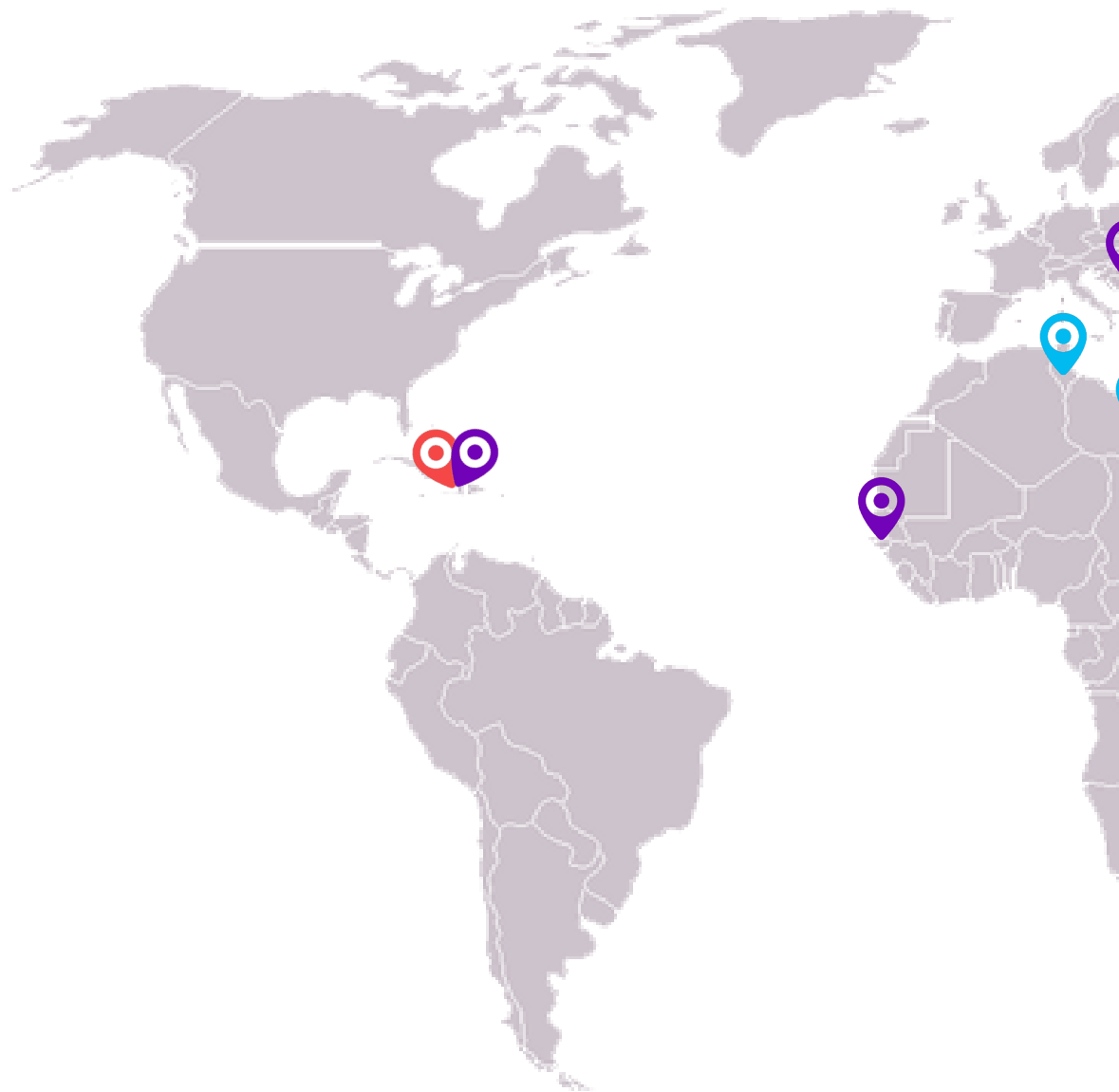
In 2017, it became clear that democratic institutions face global threats that undermine their ability to represent and serve the public. At the same time, investments in international support to these institutions are being questioned. Research – including rigorous assessments, scholarly analysis, and public opinion polling – helps us to understand how democratic institutions and values contribute to stability, the rule of law, and effective governance. Despite immense variability in how democracy works across the globe, our shared international commitments to human rights give us a common language for support.

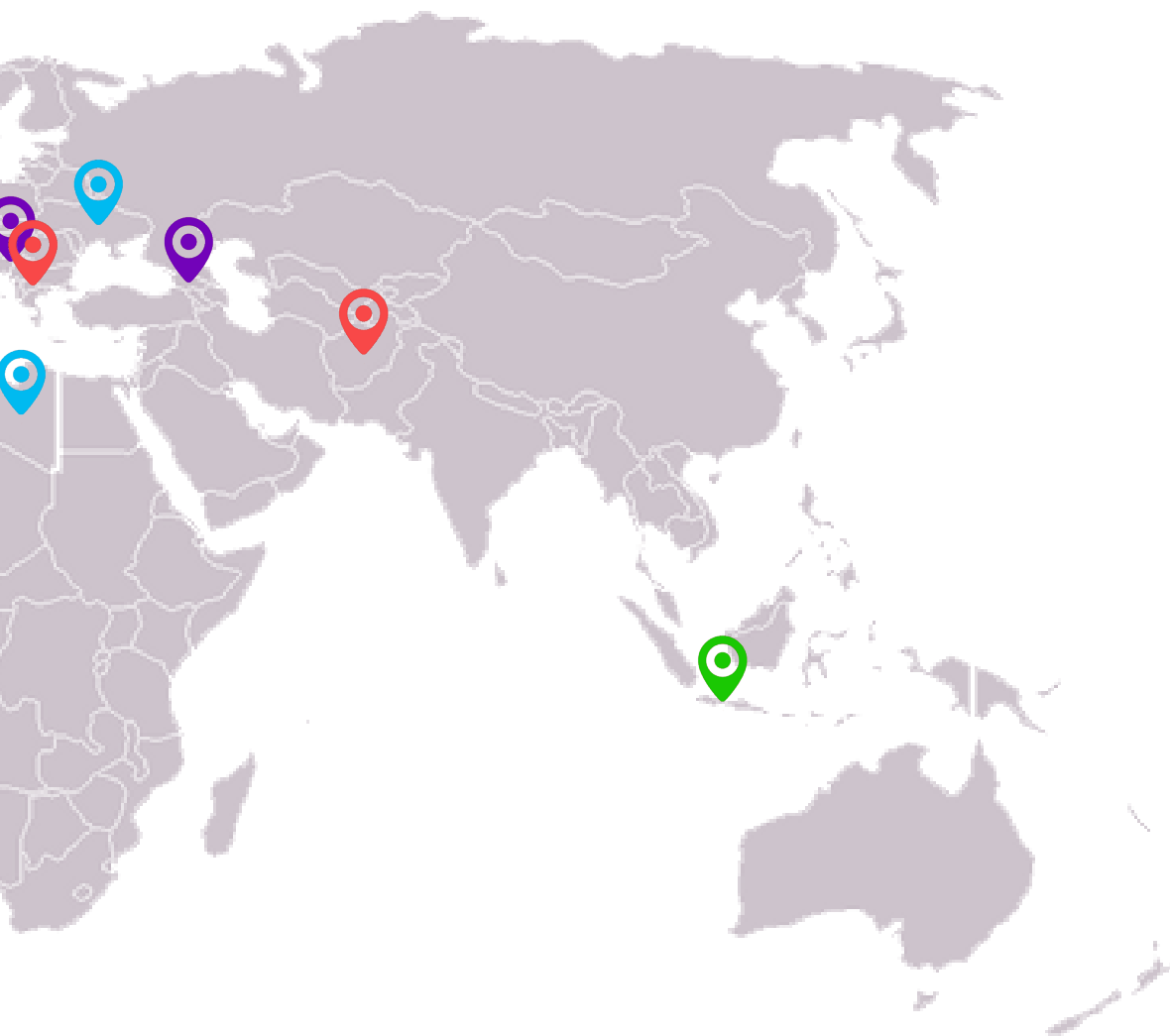


IFES research draws on a variety of sources, including public opinion data, in-country interviews, and a diverse array of laws, regulations, and policies, with the aim of offering practical tools for supporting democratic institutions and the rights of individuals to participate in political life. In 2017, IFES contributed a chapter to the Oxford University Press **publication** *Election Watchdogs: Transparency, Accountability, and Integrity*, which examines international support to high-stakes and high-profile post-election audits in **Haiti**, **Afghanistan**, and **Kosovo**, and offers detailed guidance on avoiding common pitfalls.



An IFES **paper** in the *Nordic Journal of Human Rights* addresses another area of major concern in democracy support: barriers to political participation. Disability-inclusive election observation provides the opportunity to address barriers to political participation and to empower men and women with disabilities to serve in leadership roles. A case study on **Indonesia** illuminates how practical improvements in election observation can support expanded access to the political process.





In-country assessments using rigorous, tested methodologies offer another way to support democratic institutions to meet human rights commitments and serve their citizens. Some IFES methodologies are holistic, taking a broad view of the election process (such as the Electoral Integrity Assessment, used in **The Gambia** in 2017). Others are narrowly tailored to assess capacity of beneficiary institutions (such as the Election Process Diagnostic assessment used to support **Haiti's** Provisional Election Council), or to investigate problematic but under-researched areas of vulnerability. For example, the Abuse of State Resources (ASR) Research and Assessment Framework, used in **Georgia** and **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, is a new IFES tool that explores how ASR can introduce or exacerbate power inequalities, compromise the integrity of an election, and reduce public trust in the legitimacy of the electoral process and its outcomes.

Public opinion research offers another way to inform technical assistance and ensure that the benefits of democratic governance accrue to all citizens. In 2017, IFES continued to explore attitudes of citizens toward political and electoral developments in their countries, including via a nationwide survey in **Libya**. IFES also developed new survey tools to gauge opinions and attitudes of marginalized communities, including internally displaced persons in **Ukraine** and illiterate voters in **Tunisia**.

AFRICA

Engaging in Innovative Multimedia Campaigns to Educate Liberian and Kenyan Voters

In 2017, IFES supported Kenya's Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to conduct general elections in August and a presidential re-run election in October. While in Liberia, IFES worked with the National Elections Commission (NEC) to conduct general elections in October and a presidential run-off in December. In both countries, innovative strategies for civic and voter education were critical for reaching women, youth, and other marginalized communities and building the reputation of election commissions as trusted and reliable sources of information.



In Liberia, IFES worked with the NEC to design and execute civic and voter education initiatives based on traditional and newer platforms. IFES engaged local troupes to convey key voter education messages through dance and musical performances in locally-appropriate languages and musical styles. IFES also used local mass media to broadcast dozens of public service announcements, a radio drama serial in local dialects, and a radio show called "Elections and You."



Recognizing Twitter and Facebook as information sources in Liberia, IFES assisted the NEC in developing new content and usage protocols. The NEC's Facebook page was viewed over 250,000 times on the day of the first provisional results announcements. Between October 10, 2017 and January 8, 2018, the NEC's Twitter page made 493,200 impressions (a daily average of 5,400). In Kenya, IFES also complemented in-person outreach with Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube to reach 16,667,755 people through youth-focused media campaigns, 1,146,071 through peace media campaigns, and made 104,815,233 impressions with an anti-hate speech campaign. Fostering collaboration and trust between citizens and election commissions, IFES also ensured local ownership among its partners, who now better understand their role in educating voters.



In Kenya, IFES worked with 78 women from *chamas* – community microfinance groups – in the informal settlements of Kayole and Soweto in Nairobi. One woman, Ann Kutswa, explained her experience:

“Until IFES recruited *chama* women to become voter educators, I never imagined my role as a change agent in easing ethnic tensions or mobilizing women to participate in electoral processes. IFES’ training equipped us to educate and motivate women to vote. We had never been approached by other nongovernmental organizations, but only by politicians who would use our networks for personal gains. IFES’ collaboration with the IEBC to facilitate trainings gave us an opportunity to engage with the commission. This was healing — many of us bombarded the members with questions, concerns, and clarifications. The dialogue served to restore hope and change our perceptions.

“Lack of information was one of the key barriers to electoral participation in my community. This new role earned me the honored community title of ‘*mwelimu*’ — meaning teacher in Swahili. I now realize I have a role beyond elections in helping women understand why they need to participate in civic issues and help reduce ethnic intolerance. Each day grants me an opportunity to restore optimism.”



ASIA-PACIFIC

Supporting Conduct of Credible Elections and Promoting Inclusion of Marginalized Groups

Over the last three decades, IFES has provided technical expertise across the Asia-Pacific region, developing innovative tools to conduct peaceful, inclusive, credible elections. In 2017, IFES supported 11 elections in Asia-Pacific.

During an intense 12-month period, the people of Nepal went to the polls to vote in local, provincial and national elections. It was the first time in 20 years that successful local elections were held, and the first-ever simultaneous provincial and national elections. IFES supported the Election Commission of Nepal in their efforts to register three million new voters, simplify complex ballots and improve transparency around campaign spending.



SHE LEADS
in Asia
the facts & figures:

2017

2,300+

WOMEN TRAINED
UNDER **SHE LEADS** IN
ASIA LEADING TO
TANGIBLE POLITICAL
AND ELECTORAL
ADVANCEMENTS IN:



“
BEFORE THE
TRAINING,
I HOPED I MIGHT
BE A LEADER.
NOW I KNOW
I WILL BE
A LEADER.”
SHE LEADS,
YOUNG WOMEN'S
TRAINING PARTICIPANT

IN INDONESIA:

THE ONLY TWO
WOMEN SELECTED
AS NATIONAL
ELECTION
COMMISSIONERS
WERE **SHE LEADS**
ALUMNAE

57%
OF ALUMNAE TOOK
ON ROLES IN
SUB-NATIONAL
ELECTION
ADMINISTRATION



IFES also supported large-scale, multilingual voter education reaching diverse populations. IFES has been engaged in Nepal for over 18 years.



IFES supported the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Electoral Commission (PNGEC) to administer the 2017 national elections. The PNGEC made great strides in operational planning, innovative voter education campaigns, and promoting women internally. In addition, IFES support to the PNGEC and the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commission resulted in the establishment of the Bougainville Electoral Commission Charter, the body that will conduct the referendum mandated in the Bougainville Peace Agreement. IFES has been active in PNG since 2001.

Women's empowerment and active participation in political processes requires a sophisticated woman-led approach supported by male allies. In Sri Lanka, nearly 500 Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim women took part in IFES' flagship She Leads program, building their political leadership skills. Forty-two percent of the participants went on to contest the February 2018 local government election. IFES also worked with election observers, police, gender-based violence service providers and women's rights advocates to produce locally-owned resources and promote national recognition of the need to end electoral violence against women. IFES has been active in Sri Lanka since 2005.



Regional efforts have also resulted in significant successes in the electoral rights of minorities and marginalized groups. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has reached a critical juncture for upholding the rights of persons with disabilities. ASEAN's Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights has recognized the need to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities through the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025. This positive regional development marks the culmination of seven years of engagement and advocacy by the ASEAN General Election Network for Disability Access, launched and supported by IFES, and has sparked tangible results in South Asia and the South Pacific.





EUROPE & EURASIA

A Pivotal Year for Electoral Democracy and Citizen Engagement

In 2017, IFES showcased a range of projects and expertise that continues to make it a key international partner in numerous countries in Europe and Eurasia (E&E). With democracy under increasing pressure in E&E due to backsliding and the influence exerted by a resurgent Russian Federation, 2017 was a pivotal year to support electoral democracy and citizen engagement in the E&E region. Assistance efforts ran the gamut of IFES' diverse portfolio, requiring tailored approaches and creative design in addressing the technical needs of election commissions, serving underrepresented and displaced persons, empowering citizens' groups, and inspiring future voters through educational initiatives. IFES succeeded in helping to strengthen local institutions in both government and the private



sector at a critical time, as threats to democratic progress demanded courage and resilience.

Taken collectively, IFES activities in 2017 demonstrated its long-held practice of working across the spectrum of local stakeholders, from government and official institutions to citizens groups, youth and other marginalized communities. IFES' efforts have cross-regional benefit, with good practices shared across individual country programs. For example, IFES launched its innovative Abuse of State Resources Research and Assessment Framework methodology in Georgia in mid-2017 and in Bosnia and Herzegovina in late 2017. The assessments contribute to enhancing anti-corruption policy-making to achieve greater transparency and enforcement of both legal and regulatory frameworks, identify constraints to political will and opportunities for reform, and provide recommendations for future progress and improvement in tracking and expenditure of state resources in the conduct of electoral campaigns.



Concerning youth education, 2017 was a significant year of expanding outreach and engagement in several countries. In the Kyrgyz Republic, 120 students participated in Summer Democracy Camps, an initiative aimed at improving critical thinking and democratic values through interactive group activities and use of multimedia technology. In Georgia, students from 28 universities participated in an IFES-designed Democracy and Citizenship course and extracurricular civic education activities to become young leaders and advocates in strengthening civic engagement and active democracy.

In addition to its groundbreaking work in Georgia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, IFES provided guidance in developing the first e-learning module for poll workers in Kosovo and pursued its long-standing goal of women's empowerment, aiding the Central Election Commission in drafting a Gender Assessment, Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan. In neighboring Macedonia, IFES offered guidance and technical assistance on a wide range of issues, in one key project working closely with the State Election Commission to finalize the Voter List Information Management System, which strengthened Macedonia's electoral institutions and increased the public's trust and confidence in the country's democratic development.

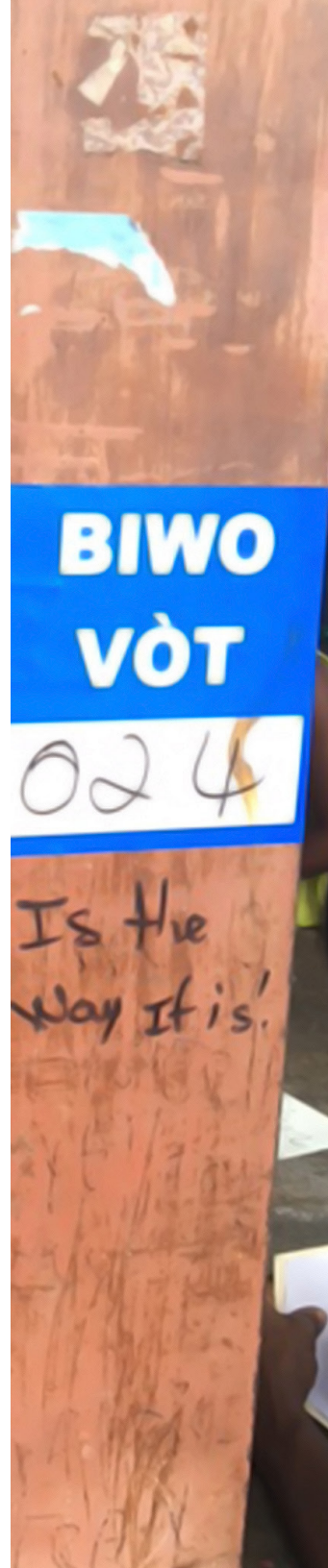


Through its focus on inclusion and promotion of voting rights, IFES worked to inform and engage elected officials on issues pertinent to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine. With an estimated 1.8 million IDPs in the country, IFES partnered with 197 civil society representatives to develop a draft law guaranteeing voting rights. The importance of an inclusive, civic-minded society was further illustrated through IFES' training of 300 civic actors and election officials on international standards and national legislation for inclusion of IDPs in the electoral process.

THE AMERICAS

Amid Setbacks, Latin Americans Increase Inclusive Political Participation

In 2017, sluggish economies, corruption scandals, political outsiders, social conflict, and the rise of populism shaped the landscape in the Americas. Despite these setbacks, there are many reasons for optimism to continue to advance inclusive political participation in the region. These include more women, youth, and persons with disabilities engaged in politics – impacting the core of IFES' work.



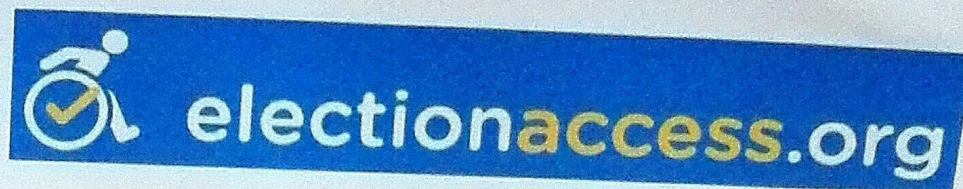
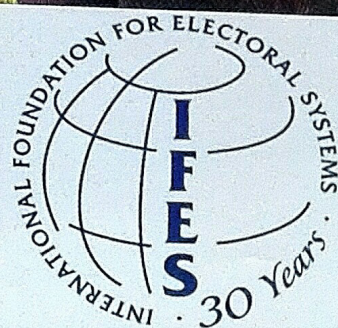
Our work is grounded on locally-led and owned solutions to implement innovative programming with a desire to connect people's capacities often through co-operation in the Americas. In 2017, IFES began new electoral administration programming in Haiti and Guatemala and received an award to implement a political leadership program for youth with disabilities in the Dominican Republic in 2018. We also signed memorandums of understanding with the Electoral Institute and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Mexico and the Dominican Republic Central Electoral Board.



Haiti is transitioning from a post-disaster era to one of reconstruction and long-term development. IFES is proud to serve as a partner in this transformation. Leading up to the 2017 elections, IFES worked to protect the right of women to participate as voters, candidates, election officials, activists, and political party leaders. The Haitian Provisional Electoral Council and the Ministry of Women Affairs implemented the first-ever national gender strategy. Some elements included a women complaint registry hotline, free legal assistance through IFES' support to the Haitian Bar Association, and electoral dispute resolution training. In addition, a Male Allies for Leadership Equality (MALE) program was implemented to increase the understanding of gender equality and encourage actionable steps. In the weeks following the election, the trained MALE allies held 62 community dialogue sessions with 599 men in 10 departments.

Guatemala experienced a deep political crisis in 2017. The president declared the head of the International Commission Against Impunity a persona non grata, only to have the expulsion blocked by the Constitutional Court. IFES programming was timely in the fight against corruption. Providing technical assistance to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE), our work advances second-generation electoral reforms to increase accountability, enhance the transparency and inclusivity of the electoral system, and expand the TSE's mandate as a political finance regulator. IFES also works with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (CONADI) to improve the advocacy capacity of disabled persons' organizations. The TSE's chairwoman participated in a social media campaign to advocate the removal of barriers that impede the full participation of persons with disabilities as voters and candidates. With IFES' assistance, the TSE incorporated accessibility and participation measures in their electoral law reform proposal submitted to Congress.

In November, members of CONADI and María Eugenia Mijangos, chairwoman of Guatemala's TSE, participated in a social media campaign. Mijangos highlighted the barriers people with disabilities encounter when voting and running for office.



Inclusion

empowers women with
disabilities as political leaders.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Challenges and Innovation

The growth of extremist movements and armed conflicts, escalating geopolitical competition, struggling economies and ruthless repression continue to pose serious challenges for democratization, stability and security in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). As such, support to credible, competitive and inclusive elections and political processes in the region is more critical than ever, particularly given the slow pace of political, economic and social reforms.



In 2017, IFES engaged in many countries in the MENA region – including Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia – supporting the democratic institutions that will form the backbone of emerging democratic societies, such as election management bodies, judiciary, civil society, parliaments and independent media, with support from the United States Agency for International Development; the U.S. Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative and Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.



Despite the challenging operating environments, IFES' work in the MENA region focuses on building local capacity to deliver

sustainable solutions in countries seeking to enhance their governance structure and building the foundations that are essential for the development of civic culture and effective, resilient democratic institutions. Our programs aim at empowering local institutions and civil society by providing information, resources and training on democratic norms and international standards. We support the capacity development of governmental and regional organizations emerging as lead institutions on elections and political transitions, by promoting best practices and facilitating sharing of experiences.

IFES successfully developed and mainstreamed innovative approaches to program design and implementation in 2017. In Libya, IFES works through a nationwide network of domestic civil society organizations to implement civic and voter outreach activities aimed at reaching traditionally marginalized populations in areas prone to conflict and developing mobile and web-based resources for youth.

In Syria, IFES' Building Leaders program has been designed to develop adolescents' abilities and capacity to be leaders in their communities through concrete skill building, such as public speaking, combined with exercises to increase self-confidence and develop knowledge. Participants have gone on to create and implement independent projects and propose new activities. In Tunisia, IFES organized Hack4Democracy camps, bringing together young Tunisians from around the country to design high and low-tech solutions to support youth civic engagement. IFES also worked with community radio stations to air a show called "Soutkom" (Your Voice) in remote areas across the country using its mobile radio studio, providing information about the upcoming municipal elections.

Alongside these innovative responses to operational and programmatic challenges, IFES continues to provide technical assistance to election administrators to enhance their country's electoral processes.



FOR

CRACK

JEUN

2017

SEPTEMBRE 2017

SPECIAL EVENTS

Eighth Annual Charles T. Manatt Democracy Awards and 2017 Joe C. Baxter Award

On October 2, IFES held the Charles T. Manatt Democracy and Joe C. Baxter Awards at the Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, D.C. The 2017 awardees included His Excellency Luis Almagro, secretary general of the Organization of American States (OAS); former IFES Board Vice Chair Judy Black (R); Congressman David Price (D-N.C.); and Joe C. Baxter awardee Tamar Zhvania, chairwoman of the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Georgia. *Cook Political Report* Editor and Publisher Charlie Cook emceed the ceremony, which was co-chaired by IFES Board Directors Denise Nappier and Cleta Mitchell. The 2017 ceremony also celebrated IFES' 30th anniversary.



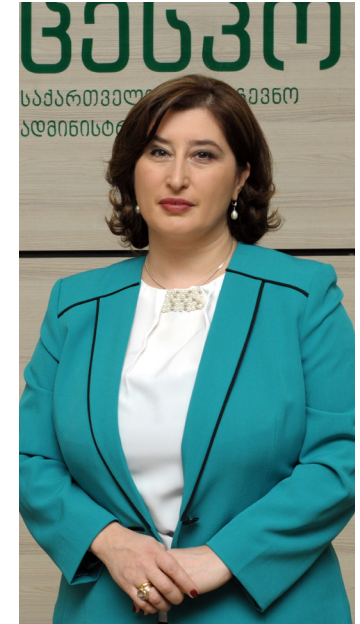
Secretary General Almagro was elected secretary general of the OAS in 2015. Upon taking leadership of the OAS, he announced he would work to ensure “more rights for more people” and contribute to ensuring more democracy, security and prosperity for all. A career diplomat, Almagro was foreign minister of Uruguay, has extensive regional and international experience, and was elected senator in the national elections in 2014. Almagro has been an outspoken critic of Nicolas Maduro’s oppressive regime in Venezuela.



Judy Black is a government relations policy director at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, where she helps clients participate in the public policy process. She was vice chair of the IFES Board of Directors, where she served for 22 years (1995-2016). Black also served in the White House from 1987 to 1989, as special assistant to President Reagan for intergovernmental affairs and as co-chairperson for Women for McCain in 2008. Black has also served as chairman of the Board for the American Council of Young Political Leaders and participated in delegations to many different countries.



Congressman Price was first elected in 1986 and he currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee and subcommittees, covering homeland security, State Department, and foreign operations funding, and is the ranking Democrat on the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee. Congressman Price was the executive director of the Democratic Party’s Hunt Commission on Presidential Nominations, which was set up to change the way the party selected presidential candidates. He is a recognized leader in foreign policy, co-chairing the House Democracy Partnership, which he helped launch to strengthen parliaments in emerging democracies.



Zhvania has been the chairperson of the CEC in Georgia since September 2013. Under her leadership, the CEC has conducted credible elections and continued to professionalize its election management efforts. She was appointed with the endorsement from major political forces, as well as from civil society groups. IFES has partnered with the CEC on the development of a gender policy, an electoral integrity management plan, and on electoral security measures.



30TH ANNIVERSARY

IFES@30: Advancing Good Governance and Democratic Rights

IFES celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2017. To mark three decades of service, we featured 30 human interest stories – including written articles, podcasts, videos and photos – that illustrate the positive impact of our work. Below are some of the voices featured in our 30th anniversary campaign.

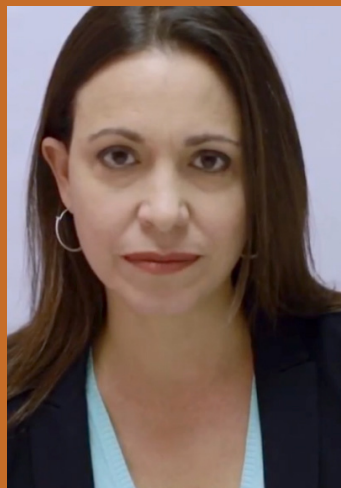
“I would like to ask the world to see our ‘abilities,’ not our ‘disabilities.’ We are not just the beneficiaries or dependents of the community but also contributors and productive human resources for our society. Let us try to work together to mainstream disability issues in all areas including political and electoral sectors.”

Nay Lin Soe, CEO, Myanmar Independent Living Initiative and 2016 Charles T. Manatt Democracy awardee



“We thank IFES for this recognition, which is a vote of confidence for the immense power of organized Venezuelan citizens to shape the future of their nation through the democratic expression of their will.”

Maria Corina Machado, Venezuelan opposition leader and 2014 Charles T. Manatt Democracy awardee



“I greatly appreciate IFES’ consultative approach and credit that approach with the success of the Women’s Network in Cote d’Ivoire. Everyone’s opinion, insight and effort mattered.”

Marie-Paule Kodjo, women’s rights advocate, Cote d’Ivoire



“Election management bodies around the world continue to face challenging circumstances, and there will be a continued need for organizations like IFES to do research, spread best practices and facilitate dialogues. All of this is key to advancing better elections around the world.”

Kyle Lemargie, Asia-Pacific advisor, IFES



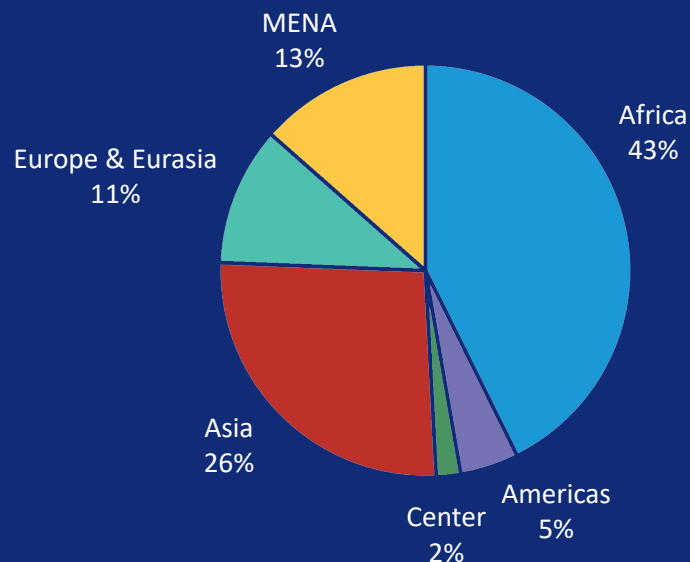
“[IFES Libya’s] program helped me in many ways. It made me realize that women have great capabilities. It helped improve my communication skills, gave me knowledge about different election cycles and political systems, as well as opened my eyes to different constitutions around the world.”

Noura Mohamed Al-Tabalgi, participant, IFES Libya’s Women’s Leadership Program

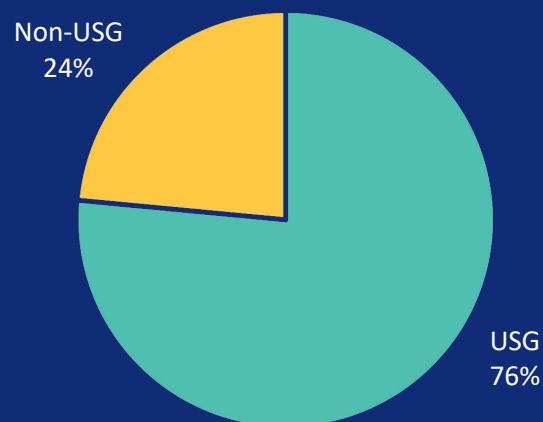


FINANCES

Revenue Distribution by Region



Revenue Distribution by Donor



Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | 11,508,755 |
| Investments | 1,986,246 |
| Advances | 564,892 |
| Receivables | 1,213,850 |
| Prepaid expenses and deposits | 697,212 |
| Furniture and equipment (net) | 2,938,801 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Total Assets | 18,909,756 |
|---------------------|-------------------|

Liabilities and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Accounts payable | 1,238,631 |
| Accrued payroll and leave | 1,125,540 |
| Other accrued expenses | 5,276,622 |
| Deferred revenue - See Note 1 | 6,954,595 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Liabilities | 14,595,388 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Net Assets | 4,314,368 |
|-------------------|------------------|

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | 18,909,756 |
|---|-------------------|

Note 1: Deferred revenue represents the net of grant pre-payments and advances against the federal reserve letter of credit.

Disclaimer: The above information represents unaudited financial statements of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems for the period ending September 30, 2017. Audited financials will be posted and available online at www.IFES.org when complete.



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IN MEMORIAM

Senarath Attanayake

IFES was deeply saddened by the passing of Uva Provincial Councilor (UPC) Senarath Attanayake, who died in Colombo, Sri Lanka on August 29. He was the first wheelchair user to join the bar and the first person with a disability to enter politics in Sri Lanka. Becoming the first person with a disability in Sri Lanka to hold ministerial portfolios, Attanayake served as the minister of agriculture, irrigation, livestock and land from 1999-2004 and as the acting chief minister for a brief period.

His work as a politician modeled advocacy for accessibility as well as leadership of persons with disabilities within the community, for which he received the Henry Viscardi Achievement Award in 2016. As provincial councilor, Attanayake conceptualized and implemented, in partnership with the UPC, the World Health Organization (WHO) and several other key stakeholders, Sri Lanka's first disabled and age-friendly city. In 2012, the city of Wellawaya became a member of WHO's Global Age-friendly City Network, and he expanded the project to cover the entire district of Moneragala.

Our sincerest thoughts are with his wife, Lasanthi, daughter Chetianga, and the rest of his family and friends.



Ko Kyaw

In November 2017, IFES Myanmar lost Ko Kyaw Zin Hlaing. Ko Kyaw was one of IFES' first team members in Myanmar when the office opened in 2013. Throughout his time at IFES, he was much more than a driver: Ko Kyaw was a true team player, providing support to the team on anything that needed to get done. He was an adored member of the IFES team, and took care of his colleagues like family. On Election Day in 2015, he voted for the first time in his life, and remarked how proud he was to be part of IFES and contribute to an important moment in his country's history. His wonderful spirit will be missed by the IFES team and all who knew him.

Ko Kyaw leaves behind a large beloved family, including four children, and the entire IFES family offers our condolences to them.

Chris Msando

IFES was shocked and saddened by the murder of Chris Msando, the head of the Kenyan Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission's (IEBC) information technology department, in the weeks leading up to the August 2017 elections. In the aftermath of his death, the international community expressed grave concern over his murder and its effect on the electoral process. While his murder cast a shadow over the elections for some, IEBC staff had a common resolve to "do this for Chris." Elections professionals like Msando face many dangers in their work to give people a say in how they are governed, and should be lauded for their courage and resilience.

IFES expresses our condolences to his family and celebrates the contributions he made to his country's electoral process.



PHOTO CREDITS

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