



IFES in Indonesia

Indonesia is today the world's fourth most populous country—with the world's largest Muslim population—and a major Southeast Asian power. Five years ago, Indonesian citizens installed the first democratically-elected government in 45 years. Concurrently, IFES was asked by USAID to work with the Indonesian government and citizens alike to strengthen their new democracy.

ELECTION ASSISTANCE

IFES works with the Indonesian National Election Commission (KPU) and its secretariat on a variety of issues, including electoral management, election operations and public outreach. An important aspect of IFES' work in the last six months has been working with the KPU to determine their electoral districts. By mid-December 2003, IFES had helped to draw the final boundaries and produce maps and descriptions for nearly 2,000 electoral districts - 69 national, 206 provincial and nearly 1,700 local districts.

VOTER EDUCATION

Since the passage of the new electoral law in March 2003, IFES has been working with the KPU to conduct public education campaigns on the new election laws and voter registration. The United Nations Development Program has

funded IFES to assist the KPU to conduct a multifaceted voter registration information campaign. Through a local advertising agency, IFES has supported television and print advertisements that inform citizens about the stages in the voter registration process.

IFES, in conjunction with local partners, also conducts regional seminars on the general and presidential election laws. More than 50 seminars were held in 2003 with high participation rates and local radio and television coverage.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

IFES has helped provide Indonesian citizens with an inside view of how their government operates through SWARA, a government affairs television channel modeled on C-SPAN in the U.S. SWARA airs 24 hours per day and features live broadcasts of parliamentary proceedings. SWARA has expanded its programming to include interviews with the party leaders, profiles of parliamentary members and highlights of key debates and activities. In the months leading up to the election, SWARA has covered parliamentary debates on the election and political party laws as well as developed a show highlighting women's participation.

IFES

1101 15th Street, N.W.

Third Floor

Washington, DC 20005

Tel: 202.828.8507

Fax: 202.452.0804

www.IFES.org