## 2023 FACTSHEET



Elections, when conducted in a fair and inclusive manner, can encourage conciliation, give voice to citizens, and support peaceful transitions. As the UN system-wide Focal Point for electoral assistance, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Ms. Rosemary A. DiCarlo, is responsible for advising the Secretary-General on requests from Member States and ensures consistency in the delivery of UN electoral assistance. She is supported by the Electoral Assistance Division in this regard.

The Department assists Member States – either at their request or as mandated by the Security Council or General Assembly – to hold elections that legitimately express the people's will and are deemed credible by national stakeholders. DPPA also conducts a variety of training activities on electoral matters, capacitybuilding and knowledge-sharing initiatives, for regional and sub-regional organizations. As the Focal Point, the Department also ensures coordination and coherence across the United Nations system, including through provision of relevant guidance.

DPPA's electoral assistance activities rely on funding from the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA). This has critically enabled the Department to provide technical assistance to over 100 Member States to date. The Department combines technical assistance with political engagement aimed at supporting national efforts to ensuring peaceful elections and preventing violence around elections. Going forward, it is anticipated that DPPA will need to conduct around 55 electoral missions of various types annually between 2023-2026. The MYA's continued support will be critical in this regard.

## What we do

DPPA provides tailored electoral assistance, including with a good offices lens, depending on the specific needs of Member States and regional organizations. In doing so, the Department coordinates with other UN entities including the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), UN Women and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

DPPA provides a range of electoral assistance, but most of our support focuses on tailored technical assistance. This can include, for example, legal, operational and logistical assistance to develop or improve electoral laws, processes and institutions. Assistance is delivered on the basis of Needs Assessment Missions, aimed at understanding the needs and capacities of the various election stakeholders and making recommendations for UN support to related electoral processes. DPPA also conducts a variety of capacity-building and training activities, for Member States, and regional and subregional organizations.

Gender equality and women's participation continued to be a fundamental consideration in all electoral assistance activities in 2022. For example, all electoral needs assessment reports contained analysis and recommendations on women's electoral/political participation and where appropriate incorporated dedicated analysis and recommendations on temporary special measures, including quotas. Promoting women's electoral and political participation was a key guiding principle for regional trainings initiated, co-organized or supported by DPPA.

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For more information on UN electoral assistance, please visit the <u>dedicated website</u>.

## 2022 Highlights

Provision of electoral support to around 50 Member States, including with regard to 19 specific electoral events (including in Chile, Fiji, and São Tomé and Príncipe and Timor-Leste)

Conduct of 51 electoral missions, including 16 Needs Assessment Missions

Coordinated responses communicated to Member States within four weeks of receiving their requests for electoral assistance in 88 per cent of cases

100 per cent of electoral needs assessment and desk review reports contained specific analysis and recommendations regarding women's electoral/political participation

100 per cent of needs assessment and desk review reports included analysis and recommendations on election-related violence

