



Uganda: Strengthening Political Pluralism, Parties and the Electoral Process

IFES Quarterly Report: January 1, 2005 – March 31, 2005

**USAID Associate Agreement: 617-A-00-04-00002 under
Leader Agreement DGC-A-00-01-00004-00**

Project Period: October 1, 2003 – June 30, 2006

Total Budget: \$480,000 Expenses Recorded to Date: \$222,381

Results Statement

- IFES consultants Don Campbell and Annie Longley conducted a 2-week Training of Trainers (ToT) session for the Uganda Electoral Commission (UEC) staff in Kampala.
- IFES consultants traveled to four regions of Uganda to oversee the Basic Electoral Administration Training (BEAT) that was conducted by the newly trained staff.
- As a result of this training, the UEC now has a solid team of core facilitators that are capable of training their colleagues in electoral administration.
- At the invitation of the UEC, IFES participated in their inaugural stakeholder workshop on Multi-Party Disposition.
- IFES attended the USAID pilot study workshop on enfranchising disabled populations.

Background

Taking BEAT to the UEC commissioners and staff had been a recommendation of Mr. Frank Vassallo in his comprehensive report on the way forward for the UEC. In 2004, IFES conducted training sessions with headquarters and some district staff from August 7-22, and with commissioners and department heads from October 12-21, 2004. The BEAT 3 sessions conducted this past quarter built on these previous BEAT training facilitations.

Activities

IFES commenced BEAT 3 Training in mid-January 2005, under the leadership of consultants Don Campbell and Annie Longley. The purpose of this visit was to provide permanent field staff of the UEC both in headquarters and in the districts with BEAT training. This consisted of the following modules: Principles of Election Administration, Free and Fair Elections, Women in Election Administration, Election Planning, Logistics, Ethics in Election Administration, Conflict Management, Electoral Law, and Working with the Media. Unlike BEAT 1 and 2, Beat 3 started with the training of executives and was taken outside headquarters to four locations in the field. As a result of these sessions, 150 people were trained, including 95 from regional trainings. The UEC has committed to continue using BEAT to train their staff at both headquarters and in the districts.

Through the BEAT sessions, IFES was able to develop a reputation with commissioners and staff of the UEC as an organization that they could turn to for assistance during the forthcoming Referendums (2005) and the National Elections in 2006. In addition to the BEAT sessions, IFES conducted the following:

- 1) Attended the UEC's inaugural stakeholder workshop on Multi-Party Disposition;
- 2) Encouraged progress on the manuals and procedures taskforce;
- 3) Observed the voter registration update process in the field; and
- 4) Discussed issues facing Internally Displaced Persons and the Disabled.

The trip was extended a total of ten days to enable representation of IFES at the USAID pilot study workshop on the Disabled. At all times, steps were taken to identify findings or conclusions that could impact future BEAT sessions and to look at directions for IFES' support to the EUC.

Activities Planned for Next Quarter

- Deploy a Country Director to Kampala.
- Set up a field office and hire local support staff.
- Finalize the work-plan calendar and PMP for IFES activities with the UEC.