



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Strengthening Democracy
Through Partnership

Democratic Elections and Political Processes



PROGRAM GOAL

Strengthen democratic development by supporting credible and competitive political processes and transitions

AWARD TYPE

Cooperative Agreement - Leader with Associates Award

PERFORMANCE PERIOD

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2026

CONTACT

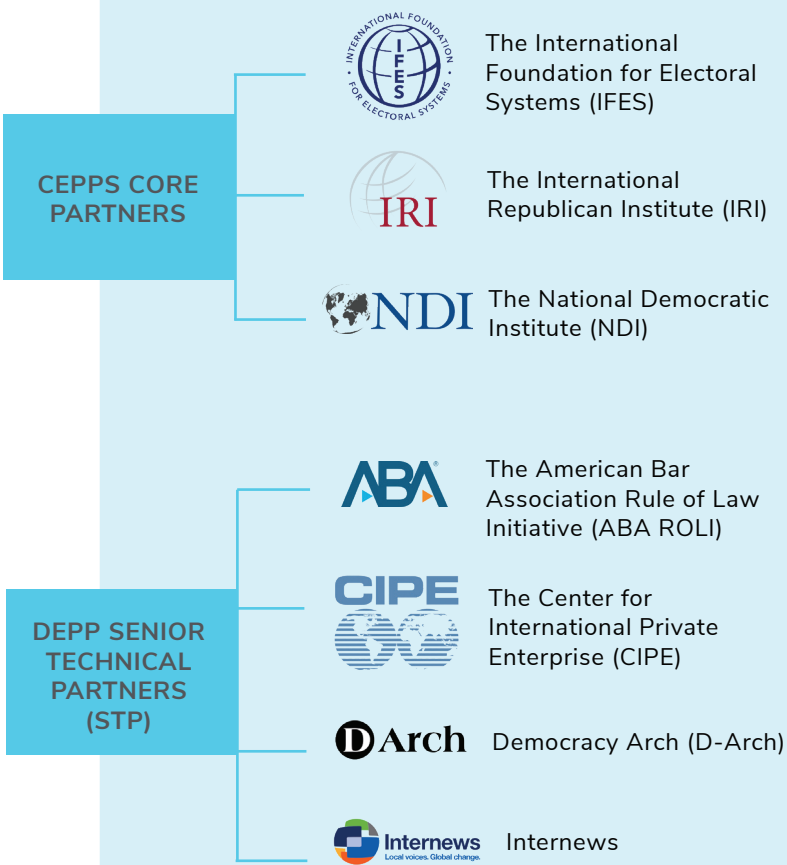
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OVERVIEW

The Democratic Elections and Political Processes (DEPP) program supports the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) goals and objectives, under the "Governing Justly and Democratically" area of the Foreign Assistance Framework. The program is administered by USAID's Center for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, and is implemented by the Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening (CEPPS).

The DEPP program builds on more than 25 years of partnership between USAID and CEPPS and supports results-driven interventions which promote inclusive, accountable, representative governance that delivers for all people.

Under DEPP, CEPPS pools the resources of seven premier international organizations dedicated to democratic development:



DEPP LEADER AWARD ELEMENTS:



RAPID AND FLEXIBLE RESPONSE (RFR) PROGRAM:

Responds to and addresses unanticipated needs, emerging opportunities and critical gaps in programming through specific, targeted, short-term interventions. These programs are typically less than one year in duration and operate with less than \$1,000,000.



TARGETED INTERVENTIONS OR PILOT PROGRAMS:

Allows for measured risks in testing new solutions, as well as the implementation of innovative activities which address challenges to elections and political processes.



TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:

Includes applied research, knowledge management activities, evaluations, and development of user-friendly tools and training publications in which to disseminate lessons learned.



DEPP ASSOCIATE AWARDS

Each associate award is a separate Cooperative Agreement funded by a USAID Mission or other USAID operating unit, and must fit within the scope of the DEPP Leader Agreement. No further competition or waiver to competition is required for any DEPP Associate Award Agreements. Associate awards may be awarded for up to an initial five-year period, with extensions possible.

CEPPS's unique approach to programming under DEPP is:

QUICK AND EASY TO PROCURE:

The DEPP LWA features a convenient, pre-competed mechanism through which USAID can choose to work with any combination of CEPPS partners collectively, or individually, as needed.

HOLISTIC AND SUSTAINABLE:

CEPPS's global theory of change recognizes inclusive and accountable democracies as the linchpin for protecting human rights and achieving global development goals. In response, CEPPS offers sustainable whole-of-society approaches that reinforce links across sectors and build resilience to internal and external challenges.

CONTEXT SPECIFIC AND FLEXIBLE:

CEPPS practices and exemplifies USAID's thinking and working politically approach. CEPPS prioritizes political analysis to identify appropriate entry points within local systems and maximizes flexibility and learning throughout associate award programming using a continuous, four-step process: 1) assess 2) design 3) implement and 4) adapt.

LOCALLY FOCUSED:

Bolstered by an emphasis on local engagement, CEPPS programs are designed to be highly dynamic and built around the needs and inputs of local stakeholders and beneficiaries. We take an inclusive approach to engaging more diverse local, regional, and international partners to build sustainability, support networking and peer learning, and provide specialized technical support to increase global reach and scalability as needed.

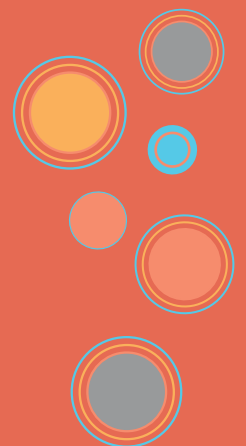
EVIDENCE BASED AND RESULTS ORIENTED:

CEPPS relies on robust Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) processes to link associate award interventions with leader award activities. At the leader level, CEPPS pilots, learns, and scales across associate-level interventions. At the associate award level, CEPPS tracks outputs and outcomes to flow up to leader-wide learning which is shared with USAID and the wider Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG) community.

RESPONSIVE CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT:

CEPPS has enhanced its management system to represent a single team through which USAID can easily and quickly access practical solutions which meet the full array of DRG challenges.

DEPP Leader Agreement activities and associate award projects may involve one or multiple CEPPS core or STP partners.



Visit our website for more information:

cepps.org



Democratic Elections and Political Processes Program

CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES

GENDER AND YOUTH

MARGINALIZED GROUPS

LOCAL PARTNERS

ANTI-CORRUPTION

SUSTAINABILITY



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES



POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Encourage participation by all citizens and social groups in electoral and political processes by identifying and addressing social, economic, legal, and political barriers to participation.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

Facilitate the development of accountability and oversight mechanisms for responsive and democratic governance, both within the state and by citizens and civil society.



INFORMATION INTEGRITY

Facilitate citizen access to accurate information about policy and political processes.



CONSENSUS BUILDING

Facilitate the development and implementation of consensus-building processes and legal frameworks, including peace processes, constitutional reform and support during political transitions, and democratic breakthroughs.



CAPACITY BUILDING

Build capacity of stakeholders including citizens, media, civil society, political parties, and government to advance political freedoms and establish democratic political processes.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Improve democratic governance and the quality of representation throughout the political system, including by supporting country efforts to build representative multiparty systems and legislative bodies, and improving the responsiveness of governing institutions to citizens.

TECHNOLOGY

Promote the appropriate use of technology in political processes while mitigating its negative consequences.

ELECTORAL INTEGRITY

Promote electoral integrity and sound election administration in the pursuit of free, fair, and competitive electoral processes.

POLITICAL AND ELECTORAL VIOLENCE MITIGATION

Encourage peaceful political processes and prevent and mitigate electoral violence.