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پاکستان قانون دادي مشورتي فونڊه

Electoral Law Draft Consultative Meet

ENHANCING LEGAL & ELECTORAL CAPACITY FOR TOMORROW II

SECOND QUARTER PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT 2012

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project ID:	00063078
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CPAP Component:	Outcome 4: The state and non-state institutions are better able to promote democratic participation and be accountable to the public
ANDS Component:	Governance, Rule of Law, and Human Rights
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Responsible Agency:	United Nations Development Programme

DONORS



Australia



Canada *



Denmark



EU



Germany



Italy*



Republic of Korea*



Sweden



Turkey*



United States of America*

* Continued support from ELECT I budget

Note A: Prospective donors with pledged support: the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom

Note B: Japan signed an agreement with UNDP to support the IEC from Q3 2012 till Q2 2014, contributing to ELECT II capacity development objectives outside the basket fund.

ACRONYMS

AusAid	Australian Agency for International Development
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BRIDGE	Building Recourses in Democracy, Governance and Elections
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CD	Capacity Development
CEO	Chief Electoral Officer
CSO	Community Service Organisation
DIM	Direct Implementation Modality
DFID	UK Department for International Development
ELECT / II	Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow / II
GIS	Geographic Information System
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
NIM	National Implementation Modality
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
T&CB	Training and Capacity Building
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VR	Voter Registration

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UNDP project Enhancing Legal and Electoral Capacity for Tomorrow - Phase II (ELECT II) is the main vehicle of the United Nations to support the electoral process in Afghanistan. ELECT II is a two year project (2012-2013) and comprises long-term assistance to the Independent Election Commission (IEC) of Afghanistan, focusing on institutional strengthening and capacity consolidation. The overarching objective of ELECT II is to support the IEC to plan and conduct credible future elections with minimal external support.

ELECT II builds upon the ELECT project (2006-2011) and focuses on three outputs:

- I) Institutional strengthening of the IEC
- II) Improvement of voter registration
- III) Broadening democratic participation

During quarter two of 2012, Elect II initiated new activities to achieve its targets and outputs, as well as continuing to build on the foundations laid in the first quarter of the project. Significant progress was made in the area of capacity development and overall institutional sustainability, electoral reform, and the consideration of voter registration (VR) issues through a feasibility study. In addition, the IEC has organised a series of national and regional stakeholder sessions in its aim to broaden democratic engagement in the electoral process, underscoring its intention for an enhanced dialogue with electoral stakeholders.



Figure 1: ELECT II staff members. Credit: UNDP

During the second quarter of 2012, the ELECT II team expanded significantly, and the project is now operating at almost full human resource capacity. Ten international advisors were recruited for positions foreseen in the project document.

Progress in the second quarter included:

Output 1: Institutional Capacity Development IEC

- Finalisation of the IEC Strategic Plan
- Support to IEC Trainings and Capacity Building Plan: 12 trainings and workshops were undertaken by the IEC, of which six were either co-organised, facilitated by or received direct input from ELECT II advisors;
- Advice provided to the reform of the electoral legal framework;
- Security upgrades of IEC provincial offices including external quality inspection;
- ELECT II service as a funding and oversight mechanism for a range of IEC operational costs and activities.

Output 2: Improved Voter Registration

- A VR Feasibility Study was conducted to take an in-depth look at different options for VR improvement. The three-member team that conducted the Feasibility Study undertook multiple meetings in June with a large number of international and national partners and stakeholders to gain a range of insights and input. The final recommendations to the IEC, expected in July, will inform the IEC's VR conceptual and operational planning in the following months.

Output 3: Broadening Democratic Participation

- Conceptualization of a plan for external communication and public outreach, including an intensive round of meetings on this issue with relevant stakeholders;
- In addition to the development of concept papers for IEC event planning, ELECT II provided translation, interpretation and documentation support to the IEC's external relations and stakeholder consultations. On electoral reform and strategic planning, the IEC held a wide range of stakeholder meetings on national (Kabul) and regional level (Herat, Bamyan, Mazar, Kunduz, Gardez and Jalalabad). In addition, the IEC organized two press conferences in this period, announcing the submission of the draft proposal of a revised electoral law to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and hosting the signing ceremony between Japan and UNDP for support to the IEC.

II. INTRODUCTION

ELECT II is a capacity development project that focuses on institutional strengthening and capacity consolidation of the IEC. In this regard, ELECT II team members serve in an advisory capacity to the IEC. In line with the principle of “Afghanisation”, they are not expected to take the lead in electoral administration decision-making, but rather to offer specialised and targeted support to the various IEC department managers to enhance the preparation of future elections, and to plan and conduct them in a credible manner with minimal external support. All ELECT II activities for each of the three pillars of the project are guided by this approach.

To assure broad support from the international community to the IEC and the overall electoral process in Afghanistan, ELECT II aims for frequent communication with key donors and partners, in close coordination with UNAMA. In this respect, ELECT II has organized two donor meetings and one project board meeting during the second quarter. Furthermore, ELECT II management held regular briefing meetings with high level officials of major international donor partners and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General and Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General.

During the second quarter, ELECT II has also expanded to almost full human resource capacity. A large number of international advisors have been recruited, including: Electoral Legal Specialist, Strategic Planning & Procedures Specialist, Electoral Information Management Specialist, Electoral Public Outreach Specialist, IT Network Specialist, Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist, Design Engineer - Quality Oversight Specialist, Communication Specialist, and Voter Registration Operations Specialist. Six remaining positions are expected to be filled in the following months. In addition, ELECT II also plans to expand its national staff team with more than 15 positions in the upcoming months.



Figure 2: The Japanese Ambassador H.E. Reiichiro Takahashi, IEC Chairman Manawi and UNDP CD Alvaro Rodriguez at the occasion of the signing of the project agreement.

Credit: UNDP

During quarter two, ELECT II finalized cost-sharing agreements with Germany and Sweden. Other donors include Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Italy, Republic of Korea, Turkey and the United States of America. ELECT II has been continuing its discussions with the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom, and expects to finalise the respective donor agreements shortly. A separate agreement between UNDP and Japan for capacity development support to the IEC was signed outside the ELECT II basket fund, but

which also contributes to ELECT II goals.

III. RESULTS

A. OUTPUT 1: Institutional, operational and technical capacity of the IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes

1. PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES

Enhancing the institutional, operational and technical capacity of the IEC is a major component of the ELECT II project. After assisting the IEC in the previous quarter with developing its five-year strategic plan (2012-2016), training and capacity building plan, and institutional and departmental annual work plans (AWPs), ELECT II continued to intensify its focus on human resource capacity building.

a) Institutional capacity development

a. Counterpart structure

ELECT II advisors are embedded in the IEC according to a counterpart structure mirroring the respective departments. This counterpart structure is aimed specifically at building sustainable institutional capacity through the pairing of all ELECT II advisors with IEC departments for direct support and mentoring throughout the entire electoral cycle. ELECT II has recruited ten additional advisors who are appointed to support the respective IEC department heads, significantly increasing capacity development support and hence contributing to Output 1. Recently recruited positions that directly fall under Output 1 are the Legal Advisor and the Electoral Procedures advisor. From July, the Design Engineer - Quality Oversight Specialist will assist the team with quality oversight of the different construction works. In addition, a Capacity Development Advisor and a Security Advisor are expected to be recruited in the third quarter.

The progress made by establishing this approach includes:

- Regular management meeting schedules have been established between ELECT II senior management and IEC/CEO and between ELECT II and Department Heads.
- Assistance to the design and implementation of unit specific capacity development and operational plans.

b. IEC Strategic Plan

In June, the IEC has released its five-year Strategic Plan that focuses on the following three pillars: enhanced public confidence, institutional strengthening, and the constitutional mandate of conducting elections according to the law. The document identifies areas for improvement on issues that fall under the direct responsibility of the IEC, but also issue areas that have a crucial effect on the delivery of an election process - such as security and sufficient financing – but which fall under the responsibility of other government agencies. ELECT II provided advice and feedback

to the IEC during the drafting process. The full document can be found on the official IEC website in both Dari and English:

http://www.iec.org.af/pdf/plan/updated_iec_five_year_strategic_plan_05_june_2012_dari.pdf
http://www.iec.org.af/pdf/plan/updated_iec_five_year_strategic_plan_05_june_2012_eng.pdf

c. Training and Workshops

Training programs and workshops are essential tools to enhance the human resource capacity of IEC staff. In the second quarter, the IEC organized 12 different workshops and trainings for its staff. The total number of participants in the second quarter that attended the trainings and workshops was 313, out of which 21 were female participants.

Trainings and workshops where ELECT II advisors effectively contributed to delivery include:

- Ethical Code of Conduct for Electoral Staff
- Procurement Procedures for Users
- Budget Formulation Specific for Procurement Materials
- Logistics and Assets Management
- General IT Issues
- ELECT Training of Generator Usage and Maintenance for Provincial Mechanics

The workshop on the Ethical Code of Conduct for electoral staff served to revise the current Code of Conduct and was attended by more than 60 IEC staff members from headquarters and the provincial offices. ELECT II presented a general session on international best practices concerning the Code of Conduct for Electoral Management Bodies. The workshop provided a platform for IEC provincial staff to share their experiences from the 2009 and 2010 elections and to provide suggestions on how to make the Code of Conduct more effective. ELECT II will assist the IEC in finalizing a new Ethical Code of Conduct for IEC electoral staff, as well as in arranging stakeholder meetings in order to revise all other relevant Codes of Conduct, such as for candidates, political parties, media and observers.



Figure 3: Provincial Officers in a working group during the Ethical Code of Conduct workshop. Credit: UNDP

Other trainings have focused on issues of procurement, budgeting, logistics, assets management and IT aimed to improve the technical capacity of IEC officers and specialists from HQ as well as the provinces. Local staff members from all provinces were invited to Kabul to attend these trainings. It provided them with a forum for group discussions on technical issues, and at the same time allowed their counterparts in headquarters

to better understand technical issues in remote provinces.

Other significant trainings and workshops implemented as part of the IEC's Training and Capacity Building plan that is supported by ELECT II include:

- BRIDGE training: Introduction to Electoral Administration and Electoral Dispute Resolution
- Gender and Elections: provincial workshop in Panshjr, Kunduz and Ningarhar
- Civil Service Law and Procedures



Figure 4: Participants of the IEC gender workshop in Panshjr.
Credit: UNDP

The Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) training is built on a world-wide applied training module which familiarized the participants with international best practice on the work of an election administration and on principles of electoral dispute resolution. ELECT II provided direct input by translating several hundreds of pages of training material into Dari and Pashto. The gender and election workshop trained participants on gender sensitive conduct of elections. The civil service law training enhanced the knowledge of IEC HR staff

with regard to the national provisions on recruitment and personnel related issues.

ELECT II is further supporting the construction of a training centre at the IEC headquarters, which is expected to commence in the next quarter.

An overview of all trainings and workshops, and details on number of participants, are provided in Annex 7.

b) Technical capacity development

Legal reform of the electoral framework

Assistance to the IEC with regard to proposals of amendments to the electoral framework is a key element for UNDP to contribute to the NPPs, and in particular to the "National Law and Justice for All Program" and the "National Transparency and Accountability Program". A transparent legal framework for elections will increase the effectiveness of the IEC, and as such also contribute to the "National Human Rights and Civic Responsibilities Program".

Following the official request from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to revise the existing electoral framework, the IEC drafted a proposal for amendments to the Electoral Law. Referring to shortcomings identified during the 2009/10 elections (e.g. electoral system, electoral procedures, results aggregation, election dispute mechanism)¹ ELECT II assisted the IEC by offering advice in

¹ Compare e.g. OSEC / ODIHR report, Parliamentary Elections, 18 September 2010;

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/73723>

EU Election Observation Mission, Final Report Presidential and Provincial Council Elections, 20 August 2009.

http://eeas.europa.eu/afghanistan/docs/2010_election_observation_afghanistan_final_report_0809_en.pdf

line with international best practice. Topics included advantages and disadvantages of different electoral systems, the strengthening of the independence of the IEC, technical and operational adjustments to improve the procedural provisions for electoral administration based on experiences from 2009 and 2010, and a redesign of the electoral dispute resolution system.

The IEC discussed different proposals with President Karzai on 4 April. On 21 April, the IEC with ELECT II support, organized a stakeholder consultation meeting for national and international stakeholders to discuss suggested amendments for electoral law reform. After the general stakeholders' consultation at the Kabul University on April 21, the IEC also had a consultative meeting with the legislative commission of the Wolesi Jirga. Furthermore, the IEC with ELECT II support conducted regional stakeholder consultations to solicit input from the provinces.



Figure 5: Participants of the stakeholder meeting in Jalalabad.
Credit: UNDP

Reaching out to the regional centers was an explicit request from the ELECT II donors.

On June 11, the IEC officially submitted a draft Electoral Law to the MoJ. The draft law proposes a parallel electoral system that includes 1/3 closed list proportional representation and 2/3 Single Non Transferrable Vote, a system that encourages the development of political parties through the proportional component. It also proposes a dispute resolution mechanism (Election Supervisory Commission) consisting of members established through a more inclusive appointment process, and gives IEC a membership and chairing role. In addition, the draft law offers some constructive approaches to certain technical electoral issues, such as the candidate vetting process, quarantine and invalidation of votes, counting center location at provincial level, and candidate registration criteria. However, some shortcomings remain to be addressed.

The IEC had a subsequent meeting with the Minister of Justice presenting in detail the proposed changes and receiving preliminary feedback from the Ministry. The IEC will continue to provide clarification to the MoJ for possible further amendment. It is expected that the MoJ will propose the revised Electoral Law to the Ministerial Council, after which it would be submitted to the Wolesi Jirga for further discussion.

c) Operational capacity development

Field Operations, Procurement, Logistics, and Assets Management, Finance and IT

In order for the IEC to become a sustainable institution, a country-wide structure and proper internal operational systems are required. In quarter two, ELECT II continued with the strengthening of IEC field operations, logistics, procurement, assets management, IT and finance departments.

In the second quarter, the IEC continued its efforts to secure land in order to build provincial offices and warehouses. ELECT II Field Operation, Procurement and Logistics advisors assisted the IEC with developing procurement plans to hire engineers, constructors and external quality monitors. Security upgrades of provincial premises were started or continued in the following provinces: Bamyan, Daikundi, Farah, Herat, Kabul, Jawzjan, Lagman, Nangarhar, Samangan, Saripul, Uruzgan and Wardak. The IEC and ELECT II implemented rigorous quality control during the construction period. Of the twelve sites inspected, four did not meet the basic construction criteria. The construction company was asked to re-do all work before any payment will be made. ELECT II hired an international engineer to monitor and evaluate all works.



Figure 6: ELECT II and IEC engineers conducting quality control inspection in Wardak. Credit: UNDP

Furthermore, ELECT II worked closely together with the IEC on a detailed logistical plan to move non-sensitive electoral materials from Kabul to all 34 provincial offices. This includes analysing the existing stock of ballot boxes, voting screens, tables, etc., verifying the current warehouse space availability in all provinces, and developing a sound movement and assets tracking plan. The tendering of the transport contracts took place in the second quarter. The implementation of the movement of these electoral materials to Kabul, including the destruction of all redundant sensitive and non-sensitive materials from previous elections, is expected to take place in the third quarter of 2012.

To strengthen different operational skills such as procurement, assets management, IT, finance, and logistics, ELECT II advisors have co-facilitated various trainings for IEC HQ and provincial staff, as described above in section I. More details on these trainings are also provided in Annex 7.

The following table provides a snapshot of ELECT II in relation to its annual targets after Q2.

Table 1: Output 1: Q2 2012 progress

2012 Baseline	2012 Annual Targets	Q2 Planned	Q2 Actual	Q3	Q4	Comments
1: No departmental plans and procedures developed.	10 Departmental plans and procedures are developed. Implementation of 10 departmental plans and procedures: 45 % completed at IEC HQ level.	Assistance to the IEC in updating departmental plans and to finalize the IEC Strategic Plan. Recruitment of a) Capacity Development advisor, b) Legal Reform advisor, and c) Electoral Procedures advisor will be recruited to support the IEC.	The IEC has finalized and presented its 5 year Strategic Plan. ELECT II has recruited in Q2 a Legal Reform advisor and an Electoral Procedures advisor. The IEC is in the stage of establishing a Planning and Policies Unit under the Head of Operations	Recruitment of ELECT II Capacity Development advisor and Security advisor (Q3) ELECT II advisors support the IEC departments with their internal procedures and planning.		Advisors that are part of Output II and III also contribute to the Institutional Strengthening of IEC departments. The arrival of a large number of advisors has increased the capacity building support. However, ELECT II is still waiting for a number of other advisors to be fully on track.
2: Starting point based on the result of staff needs assessment completed in 2011.	At least 80% of annual training plans implemented (60 trainings, 1300 participants).	Organisation of training and workshops	In Q2 2012, the IEC has conducted 12 different trainings and workshops. The total number of participants of trainings and workshops by the end of Q2 was 403, of which 53 female. (for more details: see above)	On-going implementation of the IEC's Training and Capacity Development plan		The implementation of the training and capacity building plan is on track. The annual target (numbers of trainings and participants) as stipulated in the AWP has to be revised in line with the final training and capacity building plan.
3: Provincial offices do not have permanent office space and warehouses	Construction of eight permanent offices and nine warehouses completed in ten provinces.	a. Land made available for the construction of permanent offices b. Security upgrades on its way in 12	a. Land has been made available in ten provinces. b. Security upgrades are on-going in twelve	<u>Q3:</u> a. Continued construction work, quality oversight and evaluation of security upgrade works		Security upgrades and construction plans are on track Construction of the permanent offices and warehouses in nine

2012 Baseline	2012 Annual Targets	Q2 Planned	Q2 Actual	Q3	Q4	Comments
		<p>locations.</p> <p>c. International Design Engineer and Quality Oversight specialist is recruited</p> <p>d. Preparation to start construction of offices/warehouses in 10 provinces</p>	<p>provincial offices: Bamyan, Daikundi, Farah, Herat, Kabul, Jawzjan, Lagman, Nangarhar, Samangan, Sar-i-pul, Uruzgan and Wardak.</p> <p>c. Quality inspection by national engineers (IEC-ELECT II) have indicated that work has to be redone in at least 4 provinces</p>	<p>b. Security upgrades are finalized by end of Q3 2012</p> <p>c. Construction of eight permanent offices and nine warehouses in ten provinces has started.</p>		<p>provinces will be funded by the Japanese outside the ELECT II basket fund and project.</p>
4: Currently 36 women are employed in the IEC	The number of women working in the IEC increased by 15%.	Gender Needs Assessment and Awareness training	Gender Needs Assessment and Gender Awareness training conducted	Recruit ELECT II gender advisor. In total at least 40 women work in the IEC by the end of the year.		The recruitment of an ELECT II Gender advisor has been delayed but aimed to be recruited in Q3.

2. FINANCIALS

In Q2, a total of USD 1,028,029 was spent for this output. For more details, please see Annex 1 and Annex 2. Please note that expenses reflected under Output 1 also include expenses from Output 6 (USAID no-cost extension).

3. RISKS AND ISSUES

RISKS

- **Replacement of key staff members of the IEC**

ELECT II is a capacity development project aiming to enhance the institutional capacity of the IEC. A key factor in this process is the retention of IEC staff members through a constructive work environment. A risk to the capacity building of the IEC is the replacement of existing IEC senior leadership and essential staff. In order to encourage broad communication throughout the IEC, ELECT II works closely with all IEC department heads and aims to establish relations with the Commissioners, and encourages close communication with all management staff and key stakeholders.

ISSUES

- **Transition to new implementation modality**

ELECT II was originally designed to operate under a National Implementation Modality as part of the strategic direction of "Afghanisation". This includes that the project's budgeting, procurement and finance will be channelled through the Ministry of Finance. Due to a lack of mechanisms to allow the IEC to operate effectively under NIM, the IEC has requested UNDP to consider ELECT II implementation for the time being under Direct Implementation Modality, in which the project management is the responsibility of UNDP and certain activities are delegated to the IEC under letters of agreement.

4. LESSONS LEARNED

- **Stakeholder acceptance**

ELECT II has encouraged the IEC to gain as much as possible stakeholder buy-in and acceptance from the start for new proposals. Whether it was in regards to the draft revision of the electoral law reform or the strategic plan, the IEC held a wide range of international stakeholder meetings and national consultation rounds at national and regional level. These consultation sessions did not only share information and generate interest from diverse groups in the electoral discussions, they also opened the debate contributing to wider support to and understanding of the role of the IEC.

In addition, during the VR feasibility study, ELECT II ensured the meeting schedule included a full program for three weeks of individual consultations with a wide range of national and international stakeholders, from international partners to government officials, politicians and representatives of political parties to discuss the options of a comprehensive and sustainable VR approach.

5. FUTURE PLAN

The pace of ELECT II activities will further accelerate in the third quarter of 2012. ELECT II aims to finalize all pending recruitment in order to be fully staffed, including the Capacity Development

advisor, the Gender advisor and the Security advisor. Key activities of Output 1 will include further tailored capacity development support to IEC departments, the continued implementation of the training and capacity building program, the construction of a training center for the IEC as well as provincial offices and warehouses, and the logistical operation of retrieving and disposing electoral materials from 2009 and 2010. In addition, ELECT II advisors will assist the IEC to prepare a detailed budget estimate for the next elections. The table below gives a timeline for all these activities.

Table 2: Future activities and timeline Output 1

ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE
Trainings and Workshops	On-going 2012-2013
Construction IEC Training Centre	Q3-4 2012
Provincial Office and Warehouse Construction	On-going 2012-2013
2009/10 Cycle Electoral Material Retrieval and Disposal	Q3 2012
Elections Budgeting – Projections	Q3 2012
Recruitment of additional advisors (capacity development, gender, security)	Q3 2012

B. OUTPUT 2: The quality of the voter registry is improved to support future electoral processes

1. PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES

Output 2 has a particular focus on technological and political sustainability in terms of improvements to the quality of the voter registry and to support future electoral operations.

a) Voter registration feasibility study

The right to vote is the most basic element of a democratic election system. From the individual's right to vote follows a duty of the election administration to facilitate effective exercise of that right through the registration of voters. ELECT II is supporting the IEC in this endeavour, which will be an on-going process for some years, to enhance the development of an improved and more accurate VR.

At the start of the second quarter, the IEC, in conjunction with ELECT II, has deemed necessary a comprehensive and detailed assessment to determine the best way forward for a VR exercise. The detailed feasibility study enables the IEC to examine options, strategies and potential future approaches. The different options also allow the IEC to look at both short and long-term approaches, given possible time constraints and security challenges that may affect future voter registration exercises.

The project team for this voter registration feasibility study was led by a Senior Electoral Expert, and included a Senior Voter Registry/IT expert and the Desk Officer for Afghanistan at the UN Department of Political Affairs / Electoral Assistance Division. They held consultations with a wide range of stakeholders and partners in June and are expected to submit their final report to the IEC in July.

The study did not only look at the technical feasibility of a given VR modality in isolation, but also takes into account the political, security, financial, legal and institutional factors that affect the implementation of a voter registration system. The study in particular looked at issues of the cost-effectiveness, the IEC's IT capacity, stakeholder acceptance, in addition to comparative international best practices. The study gave attention to the special needs and challenges of women, the disabled and minorities in the VR implementation.

The objectives of the feasibility study included:

- a review of the implementation of the previous VR exercises;
- an analysis of existing VR studies and related demographic initiatives;
- an assessment of the viability of the current VR databases;
- an assessment of various options for the VR methodology;
- a recommendation for an appropriate VR methodology for the IEC to implement (both short and long term if applicable);
- the development of a strategic implementation roadmap which promotes national ownership, cost-effectiveness, sustainability, integrity and inclusiveness;
- and the consideration of possibilities for VR methodology to capture eligible residents of insecure areas.

Preliminary conclusions already discussed with the IEC point in the direction of a VR ID card linked to a specific polling centre and a VR exercise in 2013, phased per region, using Optical Mark Recognition techniques, while foreseeing alternative arrangements for locations that cannot be addressed due to security or logistical problems. The final report with formal recommendations to the IEC is expected in mid-July.

b) Polling Centre Allocation

ELECT II hired a GIS specialist, an Electoral Information Management specialist and an IT network specialist at the end of the second quarter. Together with the Field Operations advisor, this will enable the IEC to properly allocate villages to the different polling centres.

The table below provides a snapshot of Output 2 of ELECT II in relation to its annual targets after Q2.

Table 3: Output 2: baseline and targets

2012 Baseline	2012 Annual Targets	Q2 planned	Q2 Actual	Q3	Q4	Comments
1. No VR offices operational and functional	50 VR offices functional	VR feasibility team arrived in Kabul and held consultations with wide range of national and international stakeholders and partners		The final report of VR feasibility study is expected in July. Based on this report the IEC and ELECT II will design a concept and operations plan that addresses the next phases of any VR. A VR specialist will be recruited (Q4 2012).		The target is likely to be changed due to the VR study recommendations and the VR conceptual plan.
2. No villages allocated to polling centres	50% of the villages allocated to polling centres	The ELECT II GIS specialist and the ELECT II Electoral Information Management specialist joined the team in Q2		GIS advisor, Field Operations advisor, Electoral Information Management specialist work on the polling centres including allocated villages		The implementation of the polling centre allocation exercise will start as planned in Q3. The target is likely to be rephrased.

2. FINANCIALS

In Q2, no expenses were recorded with regards to this output. For more details, please see Annex 1 and Annex 2.

3. RISKS AND ISSUES

RISKS

- **Elections moved earlier to 2013**

The next presidential election is scheduled in 2014. However, at the end of the first quarter of 2012, speculation was raised that these elections could be moved forward to 2013. The IEC has made a firm stance that any early elections can only take place in line with the constitution. Current expectations are that the presidential elections will be conducted according to the

constitutional framework in 2014. However, it is worth noting that any prospect of earlier elections can impose a risk on the current timetable for VR. Any change in the electoral calendar should take into account the twelve-month window prior to the event, necessary for the IEC to have everything operationally in place. The current plan for VR is presently under further consideration and it is recognised that there is a compressed timeframe for undertaking this activity.

- **Deteriorating Security**

Severe security disruptions in the country impose a risk on the success of Output 2. Conducting proper VR implies a wide range of activities in the field. If too many areas become restricted because of security reasons, the VR improvement might result in partial lists or inconsistent registration throughout the country and therefore inconsistency in securing the right of citizens to vote. At this time, there is no mitigating strategy, but this is expected to be considered during the IEC’s operational planning.

ISSUES

- **Adopted VR System affected by security situation**

Work currently underway is attempting to build a roadmap addressing the next steps for VR in the short and long-term. Whatever system is eventually implemented, it will differ from previous standards and will require a large degree of public information and stakeholder buy-in. Managing expectations will be crucial to the success of this operation. As mentioned above, the security environment will not support a comprehensive and consistent registration process easily and different approaches will probably have to be found. As a mitigating strategy, a VR feasibility study in Q2 looked more deeply into different approaches.

- **Incomplete Population and Geodesy Data**

While more data has become available in terms of unofficial household surveys, a country-wide census still has not been completed. The IEC has completed in 2011 fieldwork on a Polling Centre Verification process. The next step is to develop the cartography linked to constituency limits, and then relate voters and polling centers to that cartography. The operational timelines for completing this are extremely short. Unless this work is completed, a voter registration exercise cannot begin.

4. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Following the recommendations of the VR feasibility study team, the IEC and ELECT II will design a concept plan and subsequently an operational plan to conduct a comprehensive VR exercise in 2013. In the meantime, the ELECT II GIS specialist, Electoral Network IT Specialist and Field Operations Advisor will start with the mapping of polling centres and villages allocated to them from Q3.

Table 4: Future activities and timeline Output 2

ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE
Final report VR Feasibility Study	Q2 2012
Polling Centres and village allocation exercise	Q3-4 2012
VR concept plan and VR operational plan designed, VR related procurement initiated	Q3-4 2012

C. OUTPUT 3: Capacity of the IEC to encourage democratic participation is strengthened

1. PROGRESS AND ACTIVITIES

In order to develop a structured dialogue with stakeholders and initiate a comprehensive public outreach effort, the IEC is developing a public outreach plan and a communications policy. An inclusive electoral process must engage the broader stakeholder community to promote awareness, participation, transparency and ownership of the process, which in turn enhances credibility. The IEC Strategic Plan serves as a foundation for the IEC to reach its objectives in this regard. During the second quarter, ELECT II recruited a Public Outreach advisor. The recruitment of an international External Relations advisor is now pending.

a) Stakeholder Consultations

As mentioned under Output 1, the IEC conducted several rounds of national and regional stakeholder consultations to solicit input from the provinces on its electoral reform process. The IEC organized on 21 April 2012 a stakeholder consultation meeting at the Kabul University. This meeting was attended by representatives from political parties, civil society, academics, students and the international community. In addition to offering a concept paper for IEC planning purposes, ELECT II also provided translation and interpretation services for the sessions. From May 20 to May 28, regional consultation sessions were held in Herat, Bamyan, Mazar, Kunduz, Gardez and Jalalabad. Reaching out to the regional centres was an explicit request from the ELECT II donors. The consultation in Kandahar could not be held due to security concerns. On average, 100 to 150 participants participated in those regional meetings, including representatives from political groups, civil society, professors and university students, and provincial government officials. After the discussions, the IEC distributed a questionnaire to collect a diversity of views and recommendations in more detail for consideration and possible incorporation into the draft Electoral Law. ELECT II senior management attended the consultation process in Jalalabad. UNAMA was present in all consultations in an observer status.



Figure 7: Discussion at stakeholder meeting in Jalalabad. Credit: UNDP

In the presence of the media, the IEC also organized a stakeholder meeting for national and international partners on 28 April to discuss the five-year Strategic Plan. This consultation meeting informed participants on the strategic priorities of the IEC and the importance of strategic planning in general. ELECT II gave a presentation on the electoral cycle approach and the importance of strategic planning. Input from the participants had been considered for incorporation in the final version of the Strategic Plan, published in June. As the meeting was covered by the media, it allowed to the IEC to reach out to the wider public to make them familiar with the IEC as an institution and the electoral process.

b) Press Conferences



Figure 8: IEC Press Conference. Credit: UNDP

As part of its strategic objective to enhance public confidence and broader democratic engagement, the IEC is maintaining a proactive approach to the media by inviting them for consultations and for several press conferences. On June 10, the IEC held a press conference prior to the submission of the draft revision of the electoral law to the MoJ, to inform the general public about the content of the proposed revisions. On June 24, the press was invited to attend the signing ceremony between

the Embassy of Japan and UNDP at the IEC media centre, where

IEC Chairman Manawi shared his views on the next elections in a media question and answer session. In addition to ELECT II input on the overall electoral reform process, ELECT II provided translation and interpretation services for these press events.

c) Public Outreach campaign

ELECT II recruited during the second quarter a Public Outreach advisor.

The IEC has adopted a two-pronged approach, which includes on the one hand information about specific aspects of upcoming elections (voter education) as well as information about democratic government, underscoring the importance of civic participation (civic education). The Operational Plan for the IEC's Public Outreach Department was first developed with a focus on a voter education/VR initiative. As VR implementation was delayed due to the need for further consideration, ELECT II had discussions with the Public Outreach Department to conceptualize a modified public outreach approach and a new overall strategy for 2012. To inform this new strategy, an intensive round of public outreach consultation meetings were launched in late June with relevant partners (i.e., governmental, civil society, international/national NGOs, and media). So far, ELECT II has supported the Public Outreach Department by facilitating meetings with the Free and Fair Elections Foundation of Afghanistan, Internews, Salaam Watandar, Afghan Youths National and Social Organization, the National Democratic Institute, the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems. The public outreach department also intends to meet with the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Ministry of Information and Culture, International Republican Institute, Afghan Civil Society Forum, Counterpart International, Pajhwok News, and Civil Society and Human Rights Network.

The table below provides a snapshot of ELECT II in relation to its annual targets after Q2

Table 5: Output 3: baseline and targets

2012 Baseline	2012 Annual Targets	Q2 planned	Q2 Actual	Q3	Q4	Comments
1. Confidence of the public in the IEC and electoral process in the Asian Foundation survey of 2010 (54%) and 2011 (59%)	Maintain the same confidence level of 2011	To discuss the issues of legal reform, the IEC strategic plan and electoral issues, the IEC held several rounds of consultation meetings at national and regional level.		The IEC plans to conduct several more stakeholder meetings and consultations (e.g. political parties)		On track / Indicator and target likely to be refined
2. No CSOs trained and engaged to deliver VE messages	50% of the targeted CSOs are trained and engaged to deliver VE messages	Recruitment of ELECT II Public Outreach advisor – Conceptualizing Public Outreach plan		Public Outreach plan for Civic and Voter education being developed		With the finalization of the conceptualisation of the Public Outreach plan, the target is likely to be changed

2. FINANCIALS

In Q2, no expenses were recorded with regards to this output. For more details, please see Annex 1 and Annex 2.

3. RISKS AND ISSUES

RISKS

- **Lack of interest and engagement of political actors and the electorate**

The lack of interest and engagement of political actors towards the electoral process could lead to a decreased interest and participation of the general public despite the public outreach efforts by the IEC. It is therefore important that ELECT II engages with national and international stakeholders to reinforce the message of the importance of the upcoming electoral process for Afghanistan's political future, as well as to underscore that it must be administered in an independent manner. These key precepts for a meaningful election process can be further emphasized and should be recognised by all political actors in the country, thereby promoting the engagement of the electorate. This will help to address the potential for voter apathy or cynicism, based on adverse experiences from past elections.

- **Uncertainty around the electoral framework**

If the political uncertainty regarding the required electoral framework is not clarified well ahead of upcoming elections, this would negatively affect public outreach efforts, particularly the voter education campaign which is intended to familiarize the electorate with voting practices and procedures. It is clear that IEC's voter education efforts will depend upon the ability of the Afghan political actors to establish a clear electoral framework in a timely manner, on which a corresponding voter education campaign can be developed. IEC and ELECT II will benefit from the support of its international partners in highlighting this issue.

ISSUES:

- **Coordination of Voter Education Campaign in Line with Electoral Planning**

The Operational Plan for the Public Outreach Department was first developed as a Project Management Plan for VR. However, if VR planning is still ongoing in 2012, the content and messaging of the field and media campaigns will have to be adjusted to other outreach messaging options such as a broader civic education initiative and IEC messaging campaign.

4. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Table 6: Future activities and timeline Output 3

ACTIVITIES	TIMELINE
Establishment of a Public Outreach plan for Voter and Civic education	Q3 - Q4 2013
Recruitment: International External Relations Specialists	Q3 2012

IV. CONCLUSIONS

As reflected in this report, at the conclusion of the second quarter, ELECT II has provided considerable advice and assistance to the IEC through the initial stages of project implementation. At the same time ELECT II has been preparing the ground for the implementation and delivery of all upcoming major project activities. The project emphasis on capacity building throughout the election cycle (2012-1013), in preparation for the next stage of IEC's focus which will be on direct electoral preparations, is proving to be an effective approach in support of the IEC. While there has been some delay in recruitment, ELECT II is now operating at nearly full human resource capacity, and is poised to deliver project activities and outputs through the upcoming intensive project delivery phases. The counterpart structure, with ELECT II advisers embedded in the IEC and providing specialist and targeted advice to the respective departments, will further fulfil an important capacity development dimension of ELECT II. It will also facilitate more effective communications with IEC colleagues through regular meetings across departments, and accelerate progress for all three project outputs.

Highlights of ELECT II activities during the second quarter have included:

Output 1: Institutional Capacity Development IEC - Finalisation of the IEC 5-year Strategic Plan; on-going support to electoral reform discussions; continued support to training programs including logistics, assets management, IT, finance and procurement; and security upgrades of IEC provincial offices.

Output 2: Improved Voter Registration - The VR Feasibility Study represented a major step in assisting the IEC to consider the issue of voter registration in-depth and from a multi-faceted perspective, and the final report will offer well informed recommendations to the IEC.

Output 3: Broadening Democratic Participation - Support to the IEC in public consultations on electoral reform and the IEC strategic plan; launching a round of intensive meetings with relevant stakeholders regarding conceptualization of the IEC's public outreach approach.

Effective communication, with donor partners, within the UN family and with the IEC, remains a fundamental priority for ELECT II. Regular contact has been maintained with donor partners on a range of issues—including two Donor Meetings and one Project Board meeting undertaken during the second quarter - and close and on-going coordination with UNAMA on all issues relevant to the project. ELECT II also continues to benefit from its close and cordial working relationship with the IEC. For the upcoming period, the IEC has requested UNDP and donor partners to retain the Direct Implementation Modality approach, so ELECT II will continue to be implemented according to DIM in the third quarter and thereafter.

ELECT II looks forward to an active third quarter. In this context, ELECT II would like to welcome Germany and Sweden as donor partners, as well as Japan according to a separate project agreement that complements the objectives of ELECT II.

V. ANNEXES

A. ANNEX 1: FINANCIAL TABLE

Donor	REVENUE					EXPENSES AND COMMITMENTS				BALANCE
	Commitment (a)	Total Received (b)	Total Receivable c=(a-b)	Carry Over from ELECT I (d)	Total Resources e=(b+d)	Cumulative Expenses as of Mar. 2012 (f)	Total Expenses (Apr - Jun 2012) (g)	Commitments (h)	Total Cum. Expenses and Commitments i = (f + g + h)	Balance j=(e-i)
Canada (CIDA)	-	-	-	3,246,108	3,246,108	712,897	773,617	610	1,487,125	1,758,983
Republic of Korea	-	-	-	804,141	804,141	128,678	163,370	-	292,049	512,092
Italy	-	-	-	18,455	18,455	(849,725)	(3,181,180)	826,581	(3,204,325)	3,222,779
USAID	-	-	-	7,387,352	7,387,352	1,365,068	4,502,510	-	5,867,578	1,519,774
Turkey	-	-	-	2,026,890	2,026,890	199,804	57,528	-	257,332	1,769,558
Japan	8,615,813	-	8,615,813	-	-	(664,961)	(82,435)	698,501	(48,895)	48,895
Sweden (SIDA)	4,155,125	-	4,155,125	-	-	(398,826)	-	373,495	(25,331)	25,331
European Union	13,280,212	8,442,421	4,837,791	-	8,442,421	(265)	240,463	3,278	243,477	8,198,944
Denmark	1,611,170	1,611,170	-	-	1,611,170	-	14,927	-	14,927	1,596,243
AusAid	10,390,650	5,370,569	5,020,081	-	5,370,569	-	115,256	-	115,256	5,255,313
UK (DFID)	-	-	-	-	-	(353,157)	-	330,053	(23,104)	23,104
Germany	4,975,124	-	4,975,124	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	43,028,094	15,424,160	27,603,934	13,482,946	28,907,106	139,514	2,604,057	2,232,519	4,976,090	23,931,016

Note:

- i) The commitment figure includes 2011 outstanding obligations of US\$ 2,232,519 reversed in January 2012 (reduced Q1 expenses) to comply with IPSAS requirement. Payment to the vendors against this commitment was processed during the last week of July 2012.
- ii) Revenue received in currency other than USD is approximated based on UN exchange rate.
- iii) Cumulative expenses as of March 2012 are actual.
- iv) Expenses reported for Q2 of 2012 is provisional.

B. ANNEX 2: EXPENSES BY OUTPUT

Project Output	2012 Budget (AWP)	Expenses (April-June 2012)	Cumulative Expenses (Jan-June 2012)	Commitments (Note 1)	Total Expenses & Commitments	Delivery Rate
Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	5,262,086	18,569	18,569		18,569	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	368,346	1,300	1,300	-	1,300	
Sub-total Output 1 (00080393)	5,630,432	19,868	19,868	-	19,868	0%
The quality of voter registry is improved to support future electoral processes	1,379,664		-	330,053	330,053	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	96,576	-	-			
Sub-total Output 2 (00080394)	1,476,240	-	-	330,053	330,053	22%
Capacity of the IEC to encourage democratic participation is strengthened	484,985		-		-	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	33,949	-	-		-	
Sub-total Output 3 (00080395)	518,934	-	-	-	-	0%
Project Management Costs	3,733,444	294,200	294,200	610	294,810	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	261,341	20,594	20,594		20,594	
Sub-total Output 4 (00080396)	3,994,785	314,794	314,794	610	315,404	8%
IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	4,608,487	1,178,723	369,791	1,901,856	2,271,647	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	322,594	82,511	25,885		25,885	
Sub-total Output 5 (00050324)	4,931,081	1,261,234	395,676	1,901,856	2,297,532	47%
Support IEC on capacity building and electoral reforms	6,393,288	942,207	1,881,522		1,881,522	
General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	447,530	65,954	131,707		131,707	
Sub-total Output 6 (00071801)	6,840,818	1,008,161	2,013,229		2,013,229	29%
Grand Total	23,392,289	2,604,057	2,743,567	2,232,519	4,976,086	21%

C. ANNEX 3: EXPENDITURES BY DONOR

Donor	Project Output	2012 Budget (AWP)	Expenses (April-June 2012)	Cumulative Expenses (Jan - June 2012)	Commitments (Note 1)	Total Expenses & Commitments	Delivery Rates
Canada (CIDA)	Output 4 - Project management cost	942,327				-	
	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	1,930,217	723,007	1,389,266	610	1,389,876	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	201,078	50,610	97,249		97,249	
Sub-Total CIDA		3,073,622	773,617	1,486,515	610	1,487,125	48%
Republic of Korea	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	751,535	152,683	272,943		272,943	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	52,607	10,688	19,106		19,106	
Sub-Total Korea		804,142	163,370	292,049		292,049	36%
Italy	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	28,738		-		-	
	Output 4 - Project management cost	873,396				-	
	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	32,445	(2,973,065)	(3,767,202)	826,581	(2,940,621)	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	65,421	(208,115)	(263,704)		(263,704)	
Sub-Total Italy		1,000,000	(3,181,180)	(4,030,906)	826,581	(3,204,325)	
USA (USAID)	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	5,577,963	3,624,696	4,811,338		4,811,338	
	Output 3 - Support the IEC in developing its capacity to plan and implement its voter education campaigns	278,757		-		-	
	Output 4 - Project management cost	518,880	583,258	672,380		672,380	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	446,292	294,557	383,860		383,860	
Sub-Total USAID		6,821,892	4,502,510	5,867,578		5,867,578	86%

Turkey	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	1,894,290	53,764	240,497		240,497	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	132,600	3,764	16,835		16,835	
Sub-Total Turkey		2,026,890	57,528	257,332		257,332	13%
Japan	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	-	(77,042)	(698,501)	698,501	0.37	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)		(5,393)	(48,895)		(48,895)	
Sub-Total Japan		-	(82,435)	(747,396)	698,501	(48,895)	0%
Sweden (SIDA)	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	472,592				-	
	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	-	-	(372,735)	373,495	760	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	33,081	-	(26,091)		(26,091)	
Sub-Total SIDA		505,673	-	(398,827)	373,495	(25,331)	-5%
European Union	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations	-	33,630	33,383	3,278	36,661	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)		2,354	2,337		2,337	
Sub-Total EU 00280		-	35,984	35,720	3,278	38,998	0%
European Union	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	1,964,138	4,618	4,618		4,618	
	Output 2 - Support the IEC in the improvement of the voter registry database and system	1,017,170		-		-	
	Output 4 - Project management cost	392,985	186,484	186,484		186,484	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	236,201	13,377	13,377		13,377	
Sub-Total EU - 10159		3,610,494	204,479	204,479		204,479	6%
Denmark	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	21,170	13,951	13,951		13,951	
	Output 2 - Support the IEC in the improvement of the voter registry database and system	18,852		-		-	
	Output 4 - Project management cost	1,468,169		-		-	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	105,573	977	977	-	977	
Sub-Total Denmark		1,613,764	14,927	14,928		14,928	1%

Australia (AusAID)	Output 1 - Institutional, operational and technical capacity of IEC is developed to ensure well organized, future Afghan-led electoral processes	2,775,447		-		-	
	Output 2 - Support the IEC in the improvement of the voter registry database and system	343,642		-		-	
	Output 3 - Support the IEC in developing its capacity to plan and implement its voter education campaigns	92,000				-	
	Output 4 - Project management cost	467,240	107,716	107,716		107,716	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)	257,483	7,540	7,540	-	7,540	
Sub-Total Australia		3,935,812	115,256	115,256		115,256	3%
UK (DFID)	Output 5 - IEC Election Materials, Assets & Operations			(330,053)	330,053	-	
	General Management Service (GMS) Fee (7%)			(23,104)		(23,104)	
Sub-Total DFID			-	(353,157)	330,053	(23,104)	0%
Grand Total		23,392,289	2,604,057	2,743,571	2,232,519	4,976,090	21%

Note:

i) The commitment figure includes 2011 outstanding obligations of US\$ 2,232,519 reversed in January 2012 (reduced 1st qtr expenditure) to comply with IPSAS requirement. Payment to the vendors against this commitment was processed during the last week of July 2012.

D. ANNEX 4: ACTIVITY

Activity	Description of Result	Progress
1.1 Support the IEC in strengthening its institutional capacity	AWPs, Departmental Plans of Logistics, Procurement, Assets and Finance, and Training Plan all in place. Training and Capacity Building program implemented according to schedule.	On track – recruitment of CD advisor behind schedule
1.2 Review and refining electoral regulations and policies	Advice to the IEC to draft proposal for amendment to the electoral law + stakeholder consultations; draft revision electoral law submitted to MoJ - legal advisor recruited	On track
1.3 Review and improvement of electoral procedures and guidelines	Policies and Procedures advisor recruited – IEC is establishing a Planning and Policies Unit.	On track
1.4 Support the development and implementation of strategies to promote gender mainstreaming in electoral administration	IEC: training on Gender and Elections held in the provincial office of Panshjir	Behind schedule – awaiting recruitment of Gender advisor
1.5 Strengthen Field Operations, Communication and Coordination	AWPs, Departmental Plans of Logistics, Procurement, Assets and Finance, and Training Plan for all field offices in place – Consideration to form an informal parallel system of regional clusters per ELECT advisors for improved coordination and communication	On track
1.6 Construction of permanent infrastructure facilities to accommodate IEC provincial offices and warehouses	<p>a) 13 out of 34 land parcels have been secured for construction of provincial premises. 8 in process of being secured.</p> <p>b) Security upgrades for twelve provincial offices are on-going; QA inspection by ELECT and IEC recruited national quality oversight engineers ongoing. Work at 4 sites did not meet the required standards.</p> <p>c) Construction of provincial offices and warehouses, preparation in nine provinces.</p> <p>d) Recruitment of ELECT II international Design engineer and Quality Oversight specialist to supervise the construction companies and monitor work in progress.</p>	On track
1.7 Develop the capacity of the IEC to systematically manage information and build institutional memory	ELECT Electoral Information Management specialist and IT network specialist recruited	On track

1.8 Strengthen IEC administrative, procurement and financial systems	Procurement and Finance Departmental training	On track
1.9 Support the IEC in logistical planning and maintenance of fixed assets, equipment, supplies and services for recurrent IEC functions	Logistics and Assets Management Training	On track
1.10 Support operational costs of the IEC and provide salaries and other emoluments to the IEC to retain essential staff	On track	On track
2.1 Assess the relevance and potential use of the current voter registry database for future elections	VR feasibility study conducted – recommendations to be expected in July.	On track
2.2 Support and advise the IEC in their evaluation of the sustainability of various systems for the improvement of the VR	No activities planned in Q2	N/A
2.3 Support the IEC in the improvement of the VR database and system	Recruitment of ELECT Electoral Information Management specialist	On track
2.4 Support district boundary delimitation processes, as needed	Recruitment of ELECT GIS specialist – Installation of the GIS hard- and software	On track
3.1 Support the IEC in promoting public discussion on electoral governance and broader democratic participation	ELECT Public Outreach advisor recruited – first discussions to establish a concept and strategy paper	On track
3.2 Support the IEC in developing its capacity to plan and implement voter education campaigns	No activities planned in Q2	N/A
3.3 Support the IEC in its relationship with external stakeholders	Preparation to create an External Relations Communication Plan	Delayed

E. ANNEX 5: RISK LOG

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted by	Status
1	1. Security UNDP				UNDP			
	The security situation becomes so grave that it seriously affects the UNDP advisory role of the IEC	<i>Start of Project</i>		Medium - Likely	Recruitment of an ELECT II Security Advisor. Establishment of a UNDP ELECT office at the adjacent UNOCA compound, from where ELECT staff can still operate in case of security issues.			ELECT has established an office in UNOCA; recruitment of Security Advisor is still ongoing.
2	2. Security IEC				IEC			
	The security situation becomes so grave that it hampers nationwide operations by the IEC	<i>Start of Project</i>		Major - Likely	It is important that the IEC liaises with the ANSF and jointly develop a security plan with regards to electoral operations			Not yet started
3	3. Senior Leadership IEC				ELECT			
	The existing senior leadership of the IEC is replaced	<i>Start of Project</i>		Low to Moderate	Work in collaboration with new Commissioners; enhanced coordination and communication with all management staff and key stakeholders, in order to have buy-in from a wide range of key players.			ELECT works closely with all IEC department heads and aims to establish relations with all Commissioners
4	4. Staff turnover				IEC			

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted by	Status
	Turnover in personnel results in loss of skills acquired through IEC staff training and institutional memory.	<i>Start of Project</i>		Moderate to Major - Likely	Maintain appropriate wage- and non-wage incentives to motivate and retain IEC staff			Retention of key IEC staff members and management is at acceptable level
5	5. International Advisors				UNDP			
	UNDP is having difficulties to recruit and unable to retain key international advisors to the IEC	<i>Start of Project</i>		Major - Likely	Continue active recruitment process and make use of networking and EAD rosters and vacancy announcements.			ELECT II was able in Q2 2012 to recruit a large number of essential advisors as foreseen in the project document.
6	6. Transition from DIM to NIM				UNDP			
	UNDP aims to eventually move all projects from DIM to NIM as part of the strategic direction of Afghanisation. ELECT (I) was a DIM project, ELECT II has been defined as a potential NIM project. on.			Major - Unlikely	Although NIM will eventually be the objective of any UNDP support to Afghanistan, the IEC has asked UNDP to currently keep the ELECT II project under DIM.			As of the end of Q2, all budget and finance modalities of ELECT were processed under DIM by use of remaining funds from ELECT (I).

F. ANNEX 6: ISSUE LOG

ID	Type	Date Identified	Description	Status/Priority	Status Change Date	Author
1.	VR	June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue: VR System adopted does not manage expectations. Work currently underway is attempting to build a roadmap addressing the next steps for VR in the short and long term. Whatever system is eventually implemented, it will differ from previous standards and will require a large degree of public information and stakeholder buy-in. Managing expectations will be crucial to the success of this operation. As mentioned above, the security environment will not support a comprehensive and consistent registration process easily and different approaches will probably have to be found. The recommendations of the VR feasibility study team will provide a better idea for the best approach. 	Medium to high		
2.	VR	June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue: Incomplete Population and Geodesy Data <p>While more data has become available in terms of unofficial household surveys, a country wide census still has not been completed. The IEC has just completed fieldwork on a Polling Centre Verification process. The next step is to develop the cartography linked to constituency limits, and then relate voters and polling centres to that cartography. The operational timelines for completing this are extremely short. Unless this work is completed a voter registration exercise cannot begin.</p>	Medium to high		
3.	Democratic Participation	March 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue: Coordination of Voter Education Campaign in line with Electoral Planning <p>The Operational Plan for the Public Outreach Department was first developed as a Project Management Plan for Voter Registration. However, if Voter Registration planning is still on-going in 2012, the content and messaging of the field and media campaigns will have to be adjusted to other outreach messaging options such as a broader civic education initiative.</p>	Medium		

G. ANNEX 7: IEC TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS Q2 2012

IEC 2012 Capacity Building Training and Workshops (Q2)						
No	Workshops and Training Programs	Date	Organizer / Facilitator	# Participants		Total
				Male	Female	
1	Training of generator usage and maintenance for provincial mechanics.	22-23 April	IEC / ELECT II (Logistics)	34	0	34
2	(BRIDGE) Electoral Dispute Resolution for provincial election officers	5 - 8 May	IEC /T&CB Department	32	1	33
3	Code of Conduct for electoral staff	9 May 2012	IEC (input and presentation of ELECT II sr. advisor)	40	3	43
4	HQ drivers training : safety/defensive/armored vehicles	6 - 7 May	IEC / Logistic Department	37	0	37
5	Basic Logistics (Ware house management , Assets Management and governmental logistic rules and procedures) training for provincial logistic officers	26-30 May	IEC / ELECT II (Logistics and Assets Management)	33		33
6	Using Radio for IEC HQ staff	9 May	IEC / IT Department	15	0	15
7	Civil Service Law and Procedures	27 May - 2 June	ACSI	11	3	14
8	BRIDGE training: Introduction to Electoral Administration for IEC HQ staff	9 - 13 June	IEC	19	5	24
9	Procurement Procedures for Users	18 - 19 June	IEC / ELECT II (Procurement)	12	7	19

10	Budget formulation Specific. of procurement materials for provincial admin/finance officers	23 - 27 June	IEC / ELECT II (Finance)	30	2	32
11	General IT issues for provincial IT officers	23 - 28 June	IEC / ELECT II (IT)	29	0	29
12	Gender and Elections (Panshjr)	25-27 June	IEC - Gender Unit			
	Total			292	21	313