



## **C<sup>3</sup>: Citizens-Constitution-Consolidation**

### **Project Summary**

**Title:** Upholding Citizens' Constitutional Rights for Democratic Consolidation in Fiji

**Duration:** 24 months (1st February 2018 – 31st January 2020)

**Total cost:** EUR 666,667 (European Union 90%; International IDEA 10%)

**Impact:** Enhanced contribution of civil society organisations (CSOs) to democratic consolidation, in partnership with citizens and public bodies

**Outcome:** Enhanced capacity of CSOs to increase citizen's understanding of their constitutional rights and to facilitate engagement with state institutions and elected representatives

#### **Outputs:**

1. Campaigns to increase public awareness on constitutional rights and elections implemented.
2. Media-based advocacy messages on constitutional rights and elections delivered.
3. Dialogues on constitutional rights and elections to enhance CSO relations with state institutions facilitated.
4. Community-based interactions between CSOs, citizens, Members of the Parliament (MPs), and state institutions on accountability implemented.
5. Data gathering, analysis and publications to enhance CSOs and public knowledge on constitutional rights and elections delivered.

#### **Target Groups:**

- The four CSO partner organizations: Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF), Dialogue Fiji (DF), Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding (PCP), and Media Watch Group (MWG) and other Fiji-based CSOs and community based organisations (CBOs) involved in the Project.
- Public and constitutional bodies including Fijian Elections Office, Fiji Electoral Commission, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, iTaukei Affairs Board, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation, Provincial Councils, Academic Institutions, Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission and Parliament of Fiji.



## Final Beneficiaries:

- The voters and citizens of Fiji
- The Fijian CSOs
- The Fijian state institutions involved

## Description:

The Project relates directly to the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) global objective of consolidating democracy in Fiji. Specifically, it responds to the emphasis in EIDHR 2014-2020 on cooperation between CSOs, local authorities, relevant state institutions, and vulnerable groups. It aims to increase voters' and citizens' knowledge of their constitutional rights and of elections in the lead up to the 2018 elections and provide guidance about ways in which those rights can be exercised both before and after the election. The Project provides opportunities for CSOs to strengthen networks and institutional capacity, develop collaborative networks and relations across the sector, and improve collaboration with state entities.

A special role for International IDEA will be to facilitate mutual working relationships amongst these stakeholders and provide knowledge resources on elections and democracy. In the pre-election period, the Project will provide assistance to the FEC and FEO in producing and disseminating information about the electoral process and in engaging the public through meetings in various parts of the country and in universities and disparate communities, including vulnerable groups.

The Project also ensures that gender equality and women's participation is mainstreamed, through engagement with women as candidates and as voters. This is achieved with a deliberate focus/approach on women's' participation in various project activities, MPs and government officials; inclusion of community groups representing women; and gathering gender based disaggregated data.

**Implementer:** International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)

## Co-implementers:

Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF)

Dialogue Fiji (DF)

Media Watch Group (MWG)

Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding (PCP)

