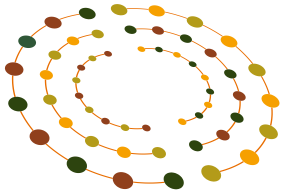




Funded by the European Union



Implemented by International IDEA



INTER PARES | Parliaments in Partnership

EU Global Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Parliaments

Parliaments are pivotal democratic institutions. They represent social diversity, the legitimisation of the rule of law and the accountability of the executive to the people. Democracies are more durable where parliaments are most effective.

For the European Union, support for democratic development is a key foreign policy objective and a high priority in its international and development cooperation policy. An important thrust of these efforts is to strengthen the capacity of parliaments.

INTER PARES Parliaments in Partnership

–EU Global Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Parliaments aims to strengthen representative and inclusive democracy through support to the effective functioning of parliaments in partner countries, by enhancing their legislative, oversight, representative, budgetary and administrative functions.

This Action, the first of global nature, is a further step towards contributing towards making parliaments in partner countries more effective, transparent, accountable, representative and approachable.

KEY PROJECT INFORMATION

Funded by the European Union, under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

Managed by the European Commission in coordination with the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Parliament

Implemented by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), with the expertise of EU Member State parliaments

Budget: EUR 5 million

Implementation period: 3 years, 2019-2021

THEMATIC FOCUS

The Action will put a special focus on the following themes:

- **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment**
- **Human Rights**
- **Environmental Protection and Climate Change**
- **Youth**
- **Digital Technology for Development**
- **Citizens’ Engagement and Civil Society**

ACTIVITIES

INTER PARES | Parliaments in Partnership will implement the following activities in the framework of three project components:



CRITERIA FOR THE PRIORITISATION OF PARTNER COUNTRIES

Countries in which EU Delegations were asked to implement the **first and second generations of the pilot exercise** of the EU Agenda for Action on Democracy Support.

Countries where follow up is required on **EU and OSCE Electoral Observation Missions**, aiming at supporting the implementation of recommendations.

“Graduated” countries: any of the Lower Middle-Income and Upper Middle-Income Countries, where the EU has reduced its bilateral development assistance.

Countries in (sudden) democratic transition or undergoing political reform processes: where an intervention is relevant and urgent before the EU Delegation can put in place a country-specific parliamentary strengthening project.

Exclusion criteria: where the EU is already financing a country-specific parliamentary strengthening project.

INTERVENTION LOGIC

The project will follow a methodology based on eight principles:

Peer-to-peer engagement, between Members of Parliament and parliamentary secretariat staff of EU Member State and partner parliaments

Demand-driven: The Action will remain responsive to the needs expressed by partner parliaments

Process-supportive: The Action will work with parliaments from countries that are engaged in processes to review their democratic institutions and where the EU is engaged in such processes, so the knowledge and peer-to-peer assistance contribute to impact and a multiplier effect

Action-oriented: Parliaments participating in peer-to-peer exchanges, both EU Member State and partner parliaments, will agree on Follow-up Action Plans, whereby they commit to specific, mutual actions

Gender-sensitive: The Action will mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment to leverage the Action's influence on the institutionalisation of gender equality commitments

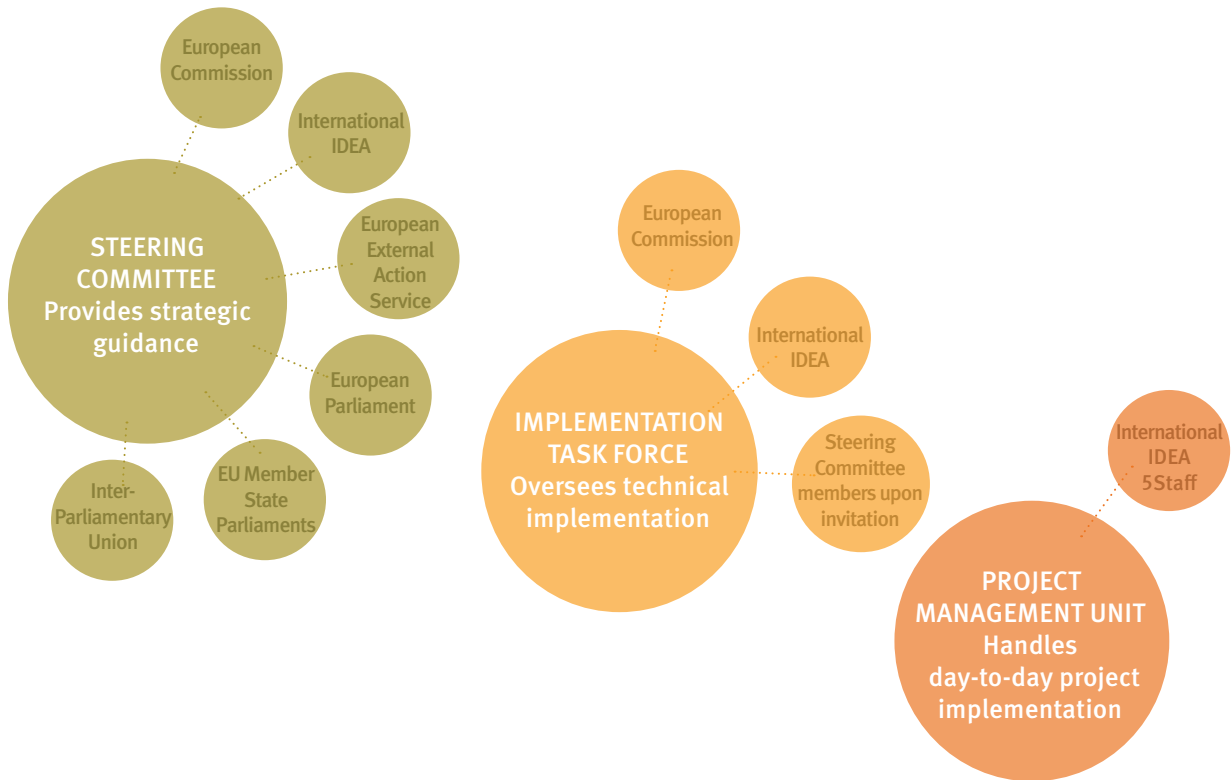
Rights-based Approach (RBA): All activities will be carried out in full application of the RBA's five working principles: (1) Applying all human rights (legality, universality, indivisibility), (2) Participation and access to decision-making process, (3) Non-discrimination and equal access (4) Accountability and access to the rule of law, and (5) Transparency and access to information

Multi-party: The Action will conduct peer-to-peer exchanges and organise networking opportunities giving equal opportunity to participate to Members of Parliament from both the opposition and ruling party

Tailored modalities of implementation: The Action will adapt the specific modalities of peer-to-peer exchanges to specified criteria and contextual appropriateness. The following types of activities will be considered:

- Training workshops
- Exchange visits
- Shadowing
- International mentoring
- Remote assistance
- Induction and orientation programmes
- Seminars
- Dialogue facilitation
- E-learning
- Briefings

GOVERNANCE



“RULES OF PROCEDURE” FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE PEER-TO-PEER PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING ACTIVITIES

