

HEADING TOWARDS THE 2003 ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

The object and location of the action

The main object of the project *Heading towards the 2003 Elections* was to strengthen the electoral mechanism and enhance the level and quality of participation of Nigerians in the democratic process. This project sought to assist Nigeria in the consolidation of its democratic system. It supported the democratic process in general and more specifically the electoral process. It aimed at enhancing understanding of Nigerians of the electoral process and increases their participation in the democratic process and at achieving fairer, more transparent and more credible results in the 2003 elections. The project had 2 components – voter / civic education and election observation.

The location of the project: Nigeria

Results of the action

Voter education

- Training of 70 civil society organizations to design content of voter education projects for various target groups and effective project management according to UNDP guidelines.
- Implementation of 70 voter education projects across Nigeria prior to 2003 general elections.
- The publication of three thousand copies of *Democracy Watch* newsletter from December 2002- May 2003, each edition provided updates on political developments and TMG's position on developments in the electoral process.
- Production of assessment on the 70 voter education projects

Election monitoring

- Development/ publication of 500 Manuals for Master Trainers and 10,500 copies of election monitors training manual.

- Organization Of 6 Master Trainers Workshops in six geopolitical zones and trained 150 master trainers
- Trained 6,632 election monitors
- deployment of 10,009 observers during 3 strands of general elections
- Production of preliminary report after each strand of election and production of a final report on the elections titled “Do the votes count?”
- Production and airing Of Jingles in English, Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo with messages to sensitize Nigerians to participate in the elections and need for peace during and after elections in 3 regional radio stations.

Organizations role: lead managers of the project:

The Secretariat worked together with state and zonal coordinators and member organizations in each state implement the project.

Donors to the action:

The Delegation of the European Commission in Nigeria
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