



Post-Election Report

Myanmar
March 2016



Union Election Commission

Post-Election Report

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The 2015 elections were a historic moment for Myanmar, as voters from across the country turned out to vote for their candidate of choice. The elections were widely viewed by domestic and international observer groups, the media and the general public as being credible and transparent elections that resulted in a dramatic change in representation. The achievement of holding a successful election was the result of years of preparation undertaken by the Union Election Commissions (UEC), political parties, and civil society organizations (CSOs). Although the work of these stakeholders produced numerous successes, the elections also demonstrated areas of electoral administration that need to be improved for future electoral events.

The UEC used the period after the elections to conduct a consultative and comprehensive post-election review that would gather recommendations from 1,342 stakeholders, representing members of the UEC, civil society and political parties in Myanmar's 14 states and regions, and additionally in Naypyitaw, Union Territory, to further incorporate regional context and local perceptions. Throughout the post-election period, stakeholders in all of the meetings provided constructive, articulated and passionate recommendations to improve electoral administration. This report represents the consensus agreement that was found across states and regions as well as the national conference. A few of the key recommendations from the post-election reviews are the following:

- The electoral laws, by-laws and working guidelines should be assessed against international standards and articles should be amended, abolished or further refined where it is necessary.
- The UEC needs to establish independence from the General Administrative Department (GAD) through staffing and office spaces. All offices should be independent from GAD and ward/village sub-commission officers should be permanent UEC staff.
- The voter list should be sorted based on the updated household list.
- The UEC should continue to update the voter list based on the existing database.
- The decision-making process for cancelling and postponing elections should be more transparent and participatory.
- Stakeholder meetings with the UEC, CSOs and political parties should be held regularly, with voter education meetings starting approximately one year before an election. The frequency of holding meetings should increase as Election Day nears.
- Generally more voter education is needed and it should be started earlier to reach remote areas.
- More voter education material should be developed in ethnic languages and spread through radio and other media, including newspapers.
- Electoral security planning should be more participatory between the UEC, the Myanmar Police Force, other state departments, political parties, CSOs and armed groups.

Throughout the report you will find that the recommendations are structured under the 12 Pillars of the UEC's Five-Year Strategic Plan. This is because the post-election review process was an important step to take before revising the Strategic Plan with the new UEC leadership. Over the course of the next few months, the UEC will review these recommendations and revise the strategic objectives and activities to reflect the shared experiences of stakeholders during the 2015 elections. The Strategic Plan has been an important guide to the UEC and other stakeholders in preparing for the 2015 elections. Through the recommendations in this report and the strategic planning process, all stakeholders will be able to adapt their plans to support the next electoral cycle leading up to the 2020 elections.

Methodology:

The recommendations that are presented in this Post-Election Report are the product of consultations held with 1,342 stakeholders, representing members from the UEC, civil society, political parties and other government ministries that occurred during the three-month regional and union level post-election review supported by IFES, an electoral risk assessment and management review supported by International IDEA and a two-day national conference supported by IFES and International IDEA.

To gather comprehensive recommendations that reflected context in different states and regions the following post-election reviews were held:

- 17 regional post-election reviews held in Myanmar's 14 states and regions and additionally in Naypyitaw, Union Territory.
- One internal UEC meeting to review the recommendations from the 17 regional post-election reviews.
- One inter-ministerial meeting to discuss recommendations with government ministries that supported the electoral process.
- An electoral risk assessment and management review in Naypyitaw with UEC central as well as UEC state and region sub-commission and the Myanmar Police Force.
- One national post-election conference that was held over the course of two days in Yangon.

Participants at the regional and national post-election reviews included members of the UEC, other government ministries, political parties, and civil society organizations (CSOs). In regional post-election reviews, the first day of the workshop would be with UEC officials from state/region, district and township sub-commissions. On the second day of the regional workshops, members of CSOs and political parties met, and some UEC officers were also be present. The total number of participants in the regional workshop is reflected below:

- 1,342 participants
- 338 representatives from 235 different CSOs
- 260 representatives from Myanmar's 91 political parties
- 690 representatives from the UEC
- 54 representatives from various government ministries
- Participants were inclusive of gender, age, ethnicity and religious affiliation

The regional and national post-election reviews followed a participatory methodology that focused assessments in particular areas of the electoral process and provided recommendations to improve the process based on context and experiences through open discussion and group work. To focus constructive dialogue on specific areas of electoral administration, the regional and national post-election reviews were structured under the 12 Pillars of the UEC's Five-Year Strategic Plan.

After concluding the regional post-election reviews, the UEC collected recommendations from the 17 workshops and cataloged the recommendations under the 12 Pillars of the Strategic Plan. The recommendations included in this report represent a consensus built upon multi-stakeholder consultations throughout the states and regions and culminating in the national conference.

The Post-Election Report also includes data from a survey that was completed by 520 senior UEC officials, representing state and region, district and township sub-commissioners during the post-election workshops. The survey included 126 questions that assessed implementation of the Strategic Plan. The survey was not administered to CSOs and political parties, as many of the questions focused on UEC tasks and implementation. The graphs included in this report are intended to provide additional statistical evidence to support the recommendations in the report.

Achievements in 2015:

The review of election procedures requires familiarity with the efforts undertaken by the UEC to improve procedures before the 2015 elections. A major reason the 2015 elections were a success was because of achievements that the UEC completed before November 8, 2015. The following table provides a summary of the key successes that were achieved and should be taken into context when reading the recommendations of the Post-Election Report:

Strategic Objective	Activity
Strategic Plan Implementation	UEC completed, or began, 74% of indicators in the UEC Strategic Plan
Legal Framework Amendments before 2015 elections	12 Articles in the Laws 18 Articles in the By-Laws UEC issued 96 notifications to support administration
Codes of Conduct	UEC assisted in developing 5 Codes of Conduct for electoral stakeholders that ensured elections were transparent and peaceful.
UEC Policies	UEC developed a Gender Policy, Voter Education Strategy and Training Strategy.
Voter Education	UEC distributed 6,349,065 pamphlets and 1,208,674 posters through UEC coordination with over 253 CSOs. Mass media voter education utilized TV, Radio, and SMS, including 6 videos and 3 PSA scripts for radio. Voter Education material translated in 16 ethnic languages.
Voter List	UEC digitized the voter list with 34.4 million eligible voters and made over 7 million corrections to the voter list.
UEC Materials	UEC prepared 5 manuals to support election administration and over 40 materials to provide voter education to stakeholders.
Polling Stations	40,141 polling stations run by 570,088 poll workers
Polling Materials and Integrity Measures	130,838,370 ballots 82,819 bottles of indelible ink 680,000 ballot box seals
Cascade Training	1,884 cascade trainings held and 570,088 poll workers and UEC staff trained
Candidate Nomination and Political Parties	91 parties registered 6,072 candidates nominated 310 independent candidates

Stakeholder Meetings	Total of 9 national stakeholder meetings implemented with participation from 60+ CSOs and 7 national meetings with 91 political parties 3 regional stakeholder meetings implemented in 17 locations across the 14 state/regions
Observers and Agents Accredited	11,370 domestic observers 1,153 international observers 6,000 candidate agents 87,520 political party agents
Post-Election Objections	Total of 45 objections filed within deadline Established 45 tribunals composed of UEC commissioners Established decentralized tribunals in Shan and Kachin State 333 hearings have been held at the UEC in Naypyitaw from December 21, 2015 - March 22, 2016 Domestic and international observers present

Strategic Objective	Page
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The 2015 elections and the post-election reviews (PER) provided recommendations to further align the existing laws and regulations with international standards and obligations, as well as to establish a consultative process to review the laws and specific forms and articles to amend.

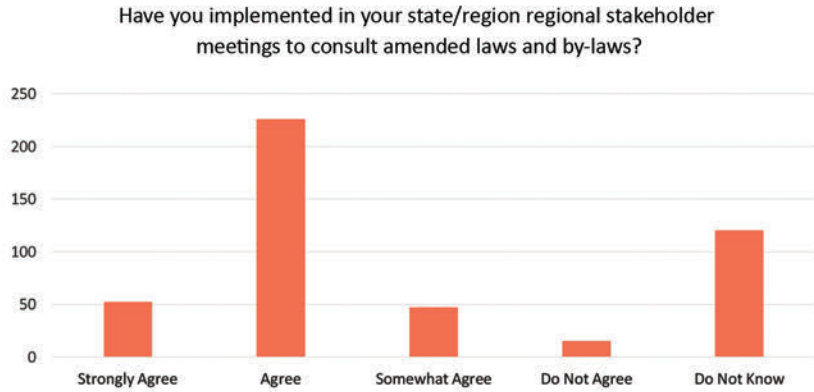
A few of the general recommendations that came from the PER include the following:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The electoral laws, by-laws and working guidelines should be assessed against international standards, and articles should be amended, abolished, or further refined where it is necessary.		✓
The three Hluttaw Elections laws should be combined into one law to allow for greater accessibility and to increase the efficiency of amending the laws.	✓	✓
By-laws should be clarified.		✓
Electoral procedures and instructions should conform with the legal framework.		✓
The UEC should keep its power to issue directives and notifications without prior consultation of parliament or political parties.		✓
The public should be consulted on electoral system reform through open consultations at the state and region level.		✓
Electoral constituencies should be equitable and related to voter density and not established through administrative boundaries.		✓

The PER also recommended that the UEC and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw form legal committees to consult with all relevant stakeholders during the period when laws and regulations are being amended:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw should form a committee to review and amend electoral laws. The committee should include members of parliament, lawyers, CSOs, UEC and political party representatives.		✓
The UEC should form a permanent internal working group to review electoral by-laws. The working group should be inclusive with members representing political parties, CSOs, media, local and international experts.	✓	✓
The UEC should be more consultative with stakeholders before announcing notifications, especially the cancellation of elections.		✓

Developing consultative meetings with stakeholders helps build trust and knowledge in the electoral process. Meetings were held throughout 2014 and 2015 and, in a UEC regional survey, a total of 278 of 460 respondents (60%) reported that they held regional meetings to consult with stakeholders.



The PER also provided specific recommendations to amend forms and procedures.

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Electoral procedures and instructions should be announced in a timely and transparent manner and should be discussed in consultation with respective stakeholders.		✓
The forms used in electoral procedures could be merged and improved to simplify administration.	✓	
Form 15: Clarification for advance voting is required.	✓	
Generally the laws and deadlines as regards to advance voting should be clarified.	✓	✓
Form-3A: The wording of the 180 day application period should be clarified. The UEC should reduce the period required to transfer voter registration from 180 days to 90 days.	✓	
Form 19 should include the total number of voters, including regular voting, advance voting per candidate as well as invalid, spoiled, and lost ballots.		✓
Articles 62 and 63 of the Electoral Law, which outline the 500 yard area around the polling station where campaigning is allowed on Election Day, should be revised.	✓	
The 0.1% threshold that ethnic groups must meet to qualify for an Ethnic Affairs Minister should be reconsidered.		✓
The laws should establish a deadline by which all election results must be announced.		✓



The PER provided the opportunity to further enhance the effectiveness and independence of the UEC. Among the recommendations were the following:

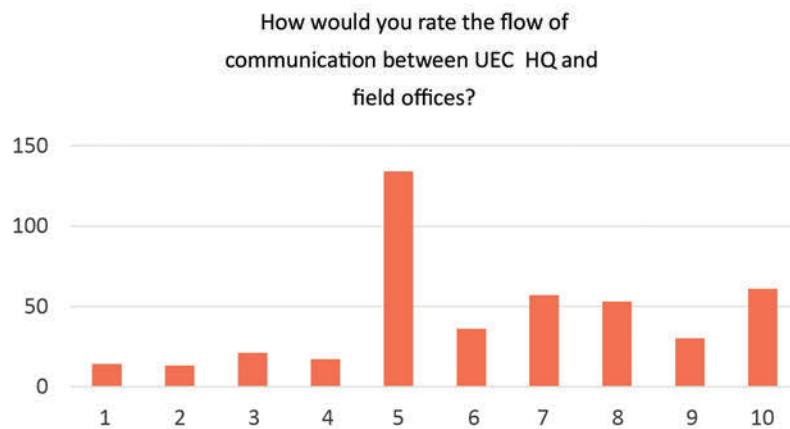
Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The UEC needs to establish independence from the General Administrative Department (GAD) through staffing and office spaces. All offices should be independent from GAD and ward/village sub-commission officers should be permanent UEC staff.	✓	✓
The UEC is generally understaffed (both permanent and temporary) and all vacant positions should be filled. Recruitment of these positions should come from local communities.	✓	✓
Introduce a more transparent recruitment and promotion policy that is based on merit and performance evaluations.	✓	
Polling station staff should also be recruited in a more transparent manner and should include individuals other than teachers.	✓	✓
The UEC needs to recruit staff that have adequate administrative and IT skills.	✓	✓



UEC officials in the regional PER also provided the following recommendations to improve communication within the UEC.

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Internal communication through all levels of UEC sub-commissions needs to be improved through more meetings, issuing more directives, establishing standard operating procedures, updating the UEC website and using local networks among other methods.	✓	
Communication can be conducted via fax, email, phone, post mail, video conferencing and the latest technologies. Sub-commissions should be equipped with cell phones and communication apps.	✓	

In a UEC survey, participants were asked to mark their score on how they assess the communication flow ranking from 1 to 10, with 1 representing not effective and 10 representing most effective. Most respondents recorded that internal communication was 5, and this demonstrates the need to improve internal communication in the UEC.

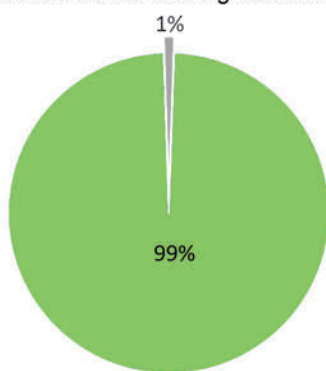


The PER provided many cross-cutting recommendations across Strategic Pillars 3 and 4 that focused on developing programs to improve and sustain the training programs that began in 2013.

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
More training materials, including videos, should be developed and distributed in a timely manner.	✓	✓
The training that UEC officers and Polling Station Officers receive should be more practical and not just focus on methodology.	✓	✓
Polling Station Officers should receive training in interpersonal skills and more training is required.	✓	✓
The UEC should form an Election Training Center and give training regularly.	✓	✓
The UEC should provide higher daily allowances, as well as refreshments and transportation for the polling station staff.		✓

The 2015 elections represented the UEC’s first attempt to conduct a nationwide cascade training and UEC officials stated that it was an extremely helpful program that supported the successful administration of the elections. In the post-election survey, 99% of respondents stated that the training was useful. Because the trainings were viewed to be important, 95% responded that they thought the trainings should also be provided to all sub-commission staff and not just senior staff.

Was the cascade training was useful?



■ Yes ■ No



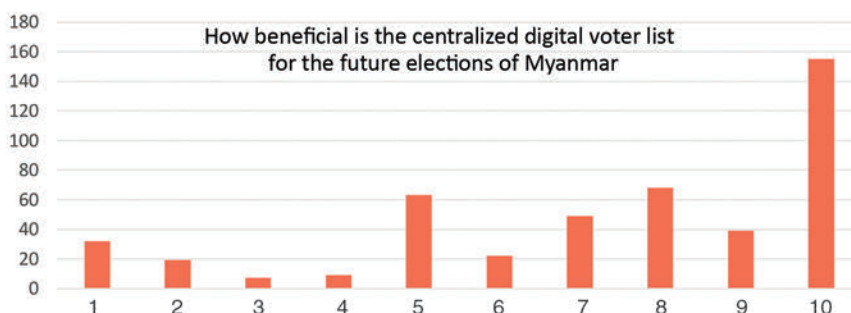
The development of the voter list resulted in a database that contains 34.4 million entries, making it the largest database ever created in Myanmar script. The process of developing the voter list was a great achievement of the UEC that occurred over two years and included holding a pilot of the voter list system, incorporating recommendations from civil society to improve voter list procedures, and holding a two-phased display process. The post-election review provided constructive recommendations to further improve the voter list through maintenance and regulatory reforms for future electoral events.



Included below are the common recommendations to improve the maintenance of the voter list:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The voter list should be sorted based on the updated household list.	✓	✓
The voter list data should come from the GAD and the Ministry of Immigration and Population (MoIP), but the data must be current, and updated with deceased and individuals that have turned 18 years old.	✓	✓
The UEC should have staff at ward/village level to help maintain the voter list.	✓	✓
The UEC should continue to update the voter list based on the existing database.		✓
The voter list should be updated every 6 to 12 months.	✓	✓
Voter list displays should be held in a timely manner that allows enough time for correcting, inserting and amending names. The display should also be implemented at each ward/village tract level.		✓
The UEC needs more skilled IT staff to support voter list maintenance and operations (at least one staff per township).	✓	

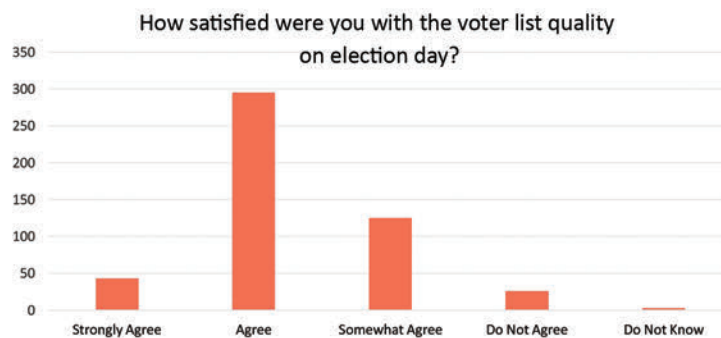
In a UEC survey, participants were asked to mark their score on how beneficial they thought the database is from 1 to 10, with 1 representing not important and 10 representing most important. A total of 155 individuals recorded 10, and 71% of respondents recorded between 6 and 9.



In addition to recommendations to adopt procedures that will support the further development of the voter list, the following represent some specific recommendations from the PER:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The UEC should improve the ethnic voter list and advance voter list. More transparency is needed in the development of the military voter list.	✓	✓
Political parties and CSOs need to increase voter education activities and outreach to motivate the voters to check their names.	✓	✓
Efforts should focus on including migrant workers into the voter list.		✓
Form-3A: Clarify the wording about the 180 days application period.	✓	
The UEC should reduce the period required to transfer voter registration from 180 days to 90 days.		✓
In general, stakeholders need more training on the voter list.		✓

In the UEC survey, 295 officials recorded that they agreed the voter lists were satisfactory on Election Day and 43 recorded they strongly agreed, representing 68% of all respondents.



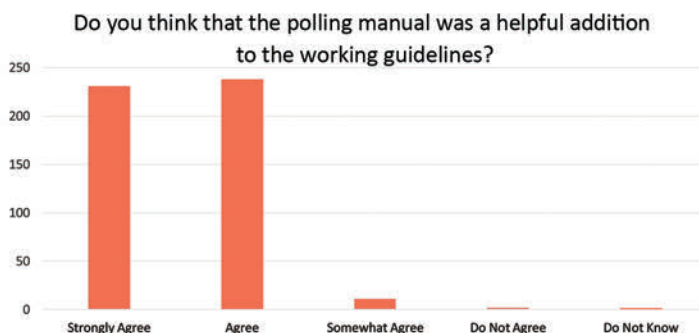
The PER also provided the opportunity to recommend methods to identify voters on Election Day that do not have National Registration Cards (NRC) and the following are some of the recommendations provided:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The UEC should assess continuing to use the voter slip, or any identification system, but mechanisms to avoid misuse of the voter slip should be considered.	✓	
Most ethnic voters do not have NRCs or the NRC often has the wrong ethnicity listed. A voter identification system should be established that includes a reference to the individual's ethnicity.		✓
Voter eligibility requirements in Article 392 of the Constitution should be reviewed.		✓

Strategic Pillar 6 incorporates many operational and procedural aspects that made the 2015 elections a great success including polling, results management and risk assessment. The PER provided recommendations to further improve electoral procedures and included below are some methods to improve the polling process and establishing polling stations:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The maximum voters per polling station should be between 1,000 and 1,500 (in exceptional cases 2,000) to avoid long queues and long distances for voters to travel.	✓	✓
The UEC should decide on the proper method for marking a ballot, either using a stamp or tick. This decision should be consistent for all ballots cast through advanced voting and on Election Day.	✓	✓
Revise the criteria for deciding valid/invalid votes (ballot papers).	✓	
Ensure more privacy for the voter by increasing the distance between voting booths and ballot boxes.		✓
Enforce regulations that restrict polling stations in religious venues.		✓
The UEC should introduce specific regulations if ballot papers are lost, or extra ballot papers are supplied.		✓
The UEC should establish a centralized focal point to coordinate delivery of polling materials to ensure that they are received in a timely manner.	✓	✓
Improve the quality of polling material, such as the voting stamp, to mark the ballot paper and envelopes used for advance voting.	✓	✓
Clarify the regulations for the 10 witnesses appointed at polling station for the counting process.		✓

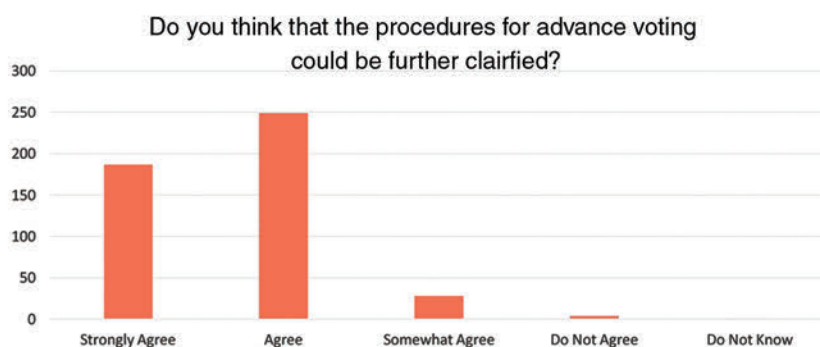
The UEC officials surveyed recognized the importance of the polling manual in facilitating voting and a total of 231 officials strongly agreed that the polling manual was helpful to administering the vote and another 238 officials agreed that it was helpful, which represents 97% of all responses.



The recommendations provided to improve advanced voting include the following:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The dates for conducting advance voting and the deadlines to submit a voter's eligibility for advance voting needs to be reviewed and clarified.	✓	✓
UEC sub-commission staffs at the ward/village level need more training on advance voting procedures.		✓
Personnel from other ministries that implement advance voting should receive training on advance voting procedures.	✓	✓
The current laws for out-of-country voting should be reviewed with the goal of developing a better system of managing logistics.	✓	

UEC officials in the PER survey also recognized the need to improve advance voting procedures. A total of 187 officials strongly agreed that advance voting procedures should be clarified and 249 agreed, representing 92% of all respondents. Only five respondents felt that the procedures were adequately explained in the laws and by-laws.



Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The decision-making process for cancelling and postponing elections should be more transparent and participatory.	✓	✓
Security at polling stations should be guaranteed at all times.		✓
A ceasefire should be in place during the electoral period limiting military advances that could disrupt polling.		✓
Need for more training for "special police force" (auxiliary forces).		✓
UEC, security agencies, political parties and armed groups need to consult on security arrangement in advance.		✓
UEC should manage social media content and ensure that hate speech is minimized.		✓
Measures are needed to guarantee candidates security.		✓
A mechanism is needed to enable the media, CSOs and political parties to contribute to the UEC's Electoral Risk Management tool.		✓

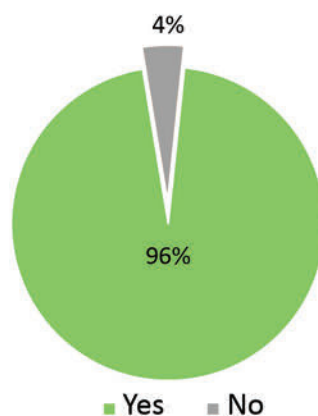


In addition to the PER regions and states workshops and national conference, the UEC held a workshop focusing on electoral risk management mechanism. The recommendations discussed by participants of the UEC Election Risk Management Unit, UEC sub-commissions, and Myanmar Police Forces, included:

Recommendations	Risk Assessment Workshop	National Conference
Encourage greater cooperation with other electoral security stakeholders, including the media, and improve communication channels.	✓	
Assess the development of election risk management committees at the state/region, district, township and ward/village tract levels with representatives from the GAD, MPF and Tatmadaw.	✓	
More training on election security and risk management is needed. Training should include the participation of security agencies such as military and police, in order to raise risk-awareness widely.	✓	
Assess potential to use election risk-management mechanisms in the context of the Security Management Committee.	✓	
Raise public awareness of election risk management with CSOs, political parties and media.	✓	
Train members of Security Management Committees on election risk management.	✓	
Hold more frequent meetings on election risk management and electoral security planning with stakeholders.	✓	

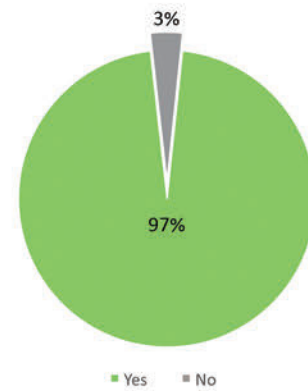
Security committees were established for the 2015 elections that brought together members of the Myanmar Police Force, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defense and UEC to develop operational plans to ensure a peaceful vote on Election Day. This was the first time that security committees were established, and 96% of UEC officials surveyed said that they thought they were effective mechanisms.

Do you think the security committee was an effective mechanism?



The UEC held stakeholder meetings regularly at the national level, including nine meetings with CSOs and seven meetings with political party representatives and three series of regional meetings were held in all 14 states/regions to coordinate activities and discuss important electoral topics. In the UEC survey, 97% of the officials said that they thought cooperation through meetings with political parties and CSOs was effective. Although a successful feature of the 2015 elections, the PER provided thoughtful recommendations to improve stakeholder meetings in the future.

Do you think the cooperation with Political Parties and CSO was effective?



Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Stakeholder meetings with the UEC, CSOs and political parties should be held regularly, with voter education meetings starting approximately one year before the election. The frequency of holding meetings should increase as Election Day nears.	✓	✓
The coordination and cooperation between ward/village tract sub-commissions and CSOs should be improved and CSOs should continue to meet regularly with township and district sub-commissions.	✓	✓
The communication and follow-up after the stakeholder meetings among all participants should be improved.		✓
More CSOs and other community leaders should be invited to stakeholder meetings.	✓	
Invitations to stakeholder meetings should be inclusive and sent to all CSOs and political parties in the state/region.		✓
Mutual respect and trust building among UEC, CSO and political parties should increase.		✓
The schedule and agenda of the stakeholder meetings should be distributed before each meeting.		✓
Each stakeholder needs to take responsibility for their role in the electoral process and stakeholders should become more familiar with laws and regulations.	✓	✓
Future stakeholder meetings should include the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and trainings • Voter education • Voter list update • Election timeline 		✓
The UEC should improve cooperation with the local and national media agencies.	✓	

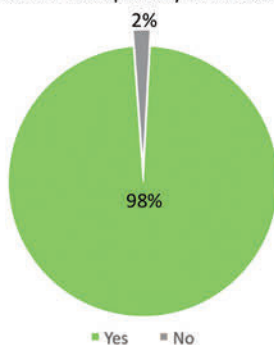


The 2015 elections were also the first time that national and international election observers were accredited by the UEC to observe the elections. The following are recommendations from the PER:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The accreditation of observers should be conducted in a timely manner to ensure badges and materials are distributed to all accordingly.		✓
All election stakeholders, including UEC sub-commissions and polling stations staff, should be aware of the roles of the election observers, be familiar with observer accreditation cards, and receive precise instructions about how to respect their mandate.		✓
In the UEC directive 01/2015, there is the following reference, “Strict political impartiality shall be maintained by observers at all times during election process. They shall not exhibit any bias or preference with regard to national authorities political parties and candidates as well as any issue related to the process of election for example not to used clothes, signs and logos.” This directive should be clarified.		✓
Relevant actors should be involved in managing the security provisions of observers that wish to observe in areas with security concerns.		✓
Observer’s Rights and Duties should be included/part of the electoral laws and related by-laws.		✓
More observers should be deployed.		✓

In the UEC survey, 98% of officials thought that the presence of observers improved transparency of the elections. In the PER, stakeholders provided further recommendations to integrate observers in the electoral process and improve procedures for accreditation.

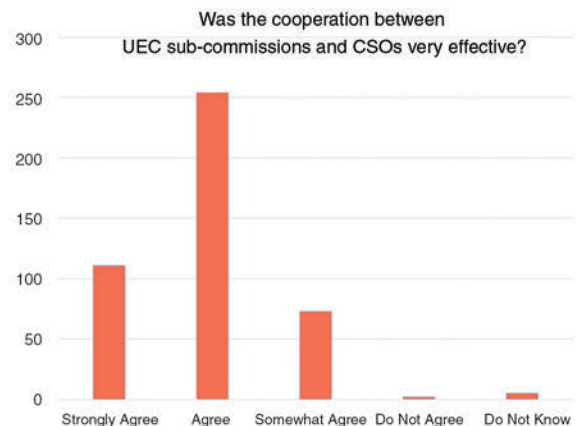
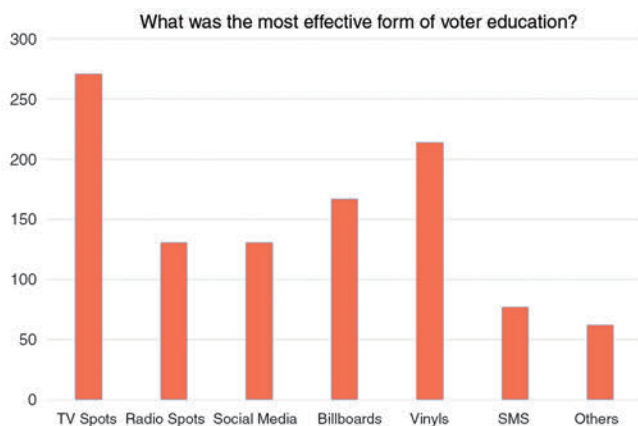
Do you think that domestic and international observers improved the transparency of the 2015 elections?



The impact of the UEC’s effort to provide voter education is evident in the voter turnout that was recorded at 69.82%, and while the turnout of voters marked a significant success the PER provided constructive recommendations to further improve voter education:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Generally more voter education is needed and it should be started earlier to reach remote areas.	✓	✓
Future voter education activities should include more cartoons, loudspeakers, face-to-face programs and billboards.	✓	
Civic education should be incorporated into school curriculum and start early in the education; it should also promote the inclusion of all stakeholders.	✓	
UEC should develop and approve voter education materials in a timely manner so that stakeholders can receive materials for distribution in communities.	✓	
More voter education materials should be developed in ethnic languages and spread through radio and other media including newspapers.	✓	✓
Voter education information should be clear and easy to understand.		✓
The UEC should organize more voter education activities for CSOs to implement.		✓
Political parties, CSOs and UEC should cooperate more in future voter education activities and exchange information through regular meetings and coordinate with UEC.		✓

In the UEC survey, officials were asked to record the method of voter education that they thought was most effective to inform and motivate voters. Many thought that TV advertisements were the best method with 271 votes, and the second most effective method was seen as being vinyls distributed at the local level that contained information. These answers demonstrate that while a mass media campaign is effective, it needs to be complimented by local grass roots initiatives. To support the grassroots distribution of vinyls across Myanmar the UEC coordinated voter education efforts with CSOs. In the UEC survey a total of 254 officials reported that they agreed voter education coordination with CSOs was effective, and 111 reported that they strongly agreed it was effective, totaling 77% of responses.





Nang lu ai ahkaw ahkang hpe hkum tat kau u.
Ra lata Me jaw lu na matu Me jahpan ndau ai shalo sa yu u.

2015 Ning June shata (22) ya kaw nna, July shata Praw (5) du hkra Ra Lata Me jahpan ndau shana na rai nga ai

ရွေးကောက်ပွဲတွင် မဲပေးမည်ဆိုပါက မဲစာရင်းတွင် သင့်အမည်ပါရန်လိုသည်။

မသန်စွမ်းသူတွေဟာလဲ နိုင်ငံသားတစ်ယောက်ဖြစ်တဲ့အတွက် မဲပေးပိုင်ခွင့် ရှိပါတယ်။ မဲပေးခြင်းဟာ ဘာလို့အရေးကြီးလဲဆိုတော့ ကျွန်တော်တို့မှန်ကန်စွာ ရွေးချယ်နိုင်ရန် နိုင်ငံရေးကြမ်းလဲခြင်းနဲ့ ပြီးတိုးတက်ခြင်းဟာ ပိုမိုပြန်ဆန်လာမှာဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ ဒါကြောင့် မသန်စွမ်းသူတွေဟာလဲ ရွေးကောက်ပွဲမှာ မဲပေးသင့်ပါတယ်။

စက်တင်ဘာလ (၁၄) ရက် မှ စက်တင်ဘာလ (၂၇) ရက်နေ့ အထိ တစ်နိုင်ငံလုံးတွင် မဲဆန္ဒရှင်စာရင်းများ ကပ်ထားကြေညာသည့်အခါ သွားရောက်ကြည့်ရှုကြပါ။

မဲစာရင်းတွင်ပါရှိသည့်မဲဆန္ဒရှင်တိုင်းမဲပေးခွင့်ရှိပါသည်

“မဲပေးဖို့ မှတ်ပုံတင်ကတ်ရှိတယ်”
“သမီးကတော့ ကျောင်းသားကတ်ကြီး မဲပေးမှာ”
“ဦးမှာမဲဆန္ဒရှင် သက်ခံလက်မှတ်ရှိတယ်”

နိုင်ငံဘာလ ၈ ရက်နေ့ ရွေးကောက်ပွဲ ကျင်းပတဲ့အခါ မဲသွားပေးပါ

သင်ဆန္ဒရှင်တို့ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်ပေးနိုင်စေရန် ဝန်ထမ်းများက မဲစာရင်းတွင် သင့်အမည်ကို ထည့်သွင်းပေးသွားမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး သင့်အမည်ကို ထည့်သွင်းပေးသည့်အခါ သွားရောက်ကြည့်ရှုနိုင်ပါသည်။

မဲစာရင်းတွင်လက်မှတ်ထိုးပါမိမိ မဲလက်မှတ်ထုတ်ပါမိမိ ဆန္ဒပြုပါမိမိ မဲစာရင်းတွင်ပါမိမိ

မဲစာရင်းတွင်ပါမိမိ

မဲစာရင်းတွင်ပါမိမိ

မဲစာရင်းတွင်ပါမိမိ



The PER provided some general recommendations to improve the inclusion of women, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the electoral process through voter education, UEC activities, and the efforts of CSOs and political parties.

A few of the general recommendations that were provided in the PER are the following:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
A legal review should be conducted of the election laws and by-laws to integrate the inclusion of all stakeholders in the electoral process.		✓
UEC sub-commission staff structures should integrate women, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities.	✓	✓
Voter education materials should continue to emphasize the inclusion of women, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities among other marginalized groups.	✓	✓
Civic education efforts should focus on the inclusion of all stakeholders.	✓	✓

In regards to promoting the inclusion of women participants in the PER provided the following recommendations:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The UEC should continue its focus on gender inclusion through the UEC Gender Working Group and implement activities that enhance women’s participation in the electoral process.		✓
UEC should continue to raise awareness through the UEC Gender Policy.		✓
Gender focused CSOs and women from different states and regions should establish networks to share electoral information and identify methods to share with more women.		✓
The UEC should consider gender equality during the recruitment process.		✓



Participants in the PER provided the following recommendations to promote the inclusion of ethnic minority populations in the electoral process:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Voter education and electoral information materials should be developed in more ethnic languages.	✓	✓
Political parties need to be more aware of ethnic minority cultures.	✓	✓
Increase the number of polling stations where infrastructure and transportation is limited.	✓	✓



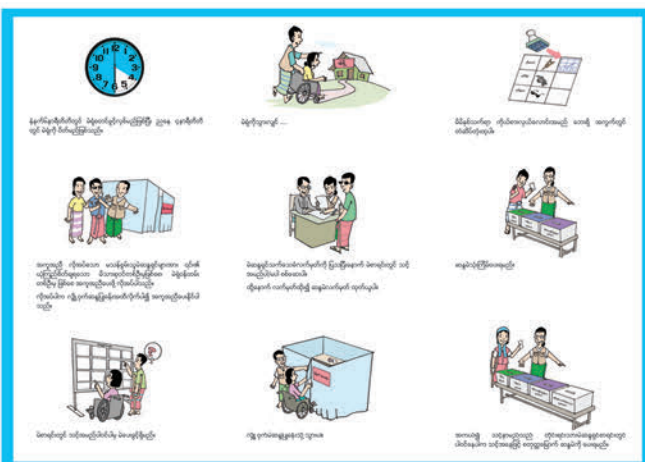
To promote the inclusion of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the electoral process participants in the PER provided the following recommendations:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
UEC should ensure that IDPs who are on the voter list have the right to vote granted and this process should be consultative by working with CSOs, political parties and community organizations.	✓	✓
UEC sub-commissions should provide voter education trainings to the IDP camp leaders.	✓	✓
The UEC should establish polling stations in IDP camps.	✓	✓
The period for IDPs to register using form 3A should be shorter than the required 180-day period to accommodate IDPs.	✓	✓
UEC ward/village sub-commissions should assist migrant workers and IDPs to ensure that their name is properly registered on the voter list.	✓	✓



The UEC worked with organizations representing persons with disabilities to review the legal framework and piloted accessible polling stations for persons with disabilities in the 2015 elections. Through the PER participants provided the following recommendations to improve disability access for future electoral events:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Polling station members should be more sensitive towards persons with disabilities and the polling station layout should be designed to be more inclusive of persons with disabilities.	✓	
Advance voting should be promoted as a method that persons with disabilities can use to vote.	✓	✓
Consider developing separate polling stations in areas with high populations of persons with disabilities and ensure that UEC, CSOs, political parties and voters are aware of locations where accessible polling stations are established.	✓	✓
Increase the budget for voter education efforts specifically targeting persons with disabilities, especially community-based voter education efforts.	✓	✓
Increase efforts to inform and educate stakeholders, including UEC sub commissions, political parties, CSOs and voters, about disabilities, especially with regards to voting rights and polling accessibility.	✓	✓
Request the UEC or government in general to release statements that promote the voting rights for persons with disabilities and demonstrate measures that are developed for accessible polling.	✓	✓
Relatives and caretakers of persons with disabilities should have more information so they can provide better support.	✓	✓
Political parties should adopt policy platforms that aim to enhance inclusion and access for voters with disabilities. Parties should also make a more concerted effort to include persons with disabilities as political party members.	✓	✓



The PER provided participants with the opportunity to review key procedures in political party compliance including the candidate nomination process, the campaign period and campaign finance regulations. The following are recommendations related to candidate nomination:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The age requirement for candidates should be revised and consistent for candidacy in all Hluttaws.	✓	✓
Clear criteria for candidate nominations should be introduced, including the level of education and other requirements.	✓	✓
Candidates should not be required to live continuously in Myanmar for 10 years.		✓
Candidates should not be required to live in the constituency where he/she is contesting.	✓	✓
A legal amendment should be adopted to provide for a procedure to replace a candidate if he/she passed away, or was disqualified before Election Day.	✓	✓
Procedures should be established for the UEC to consult political parties if two different political parties nominate the same candidate, or a single party nominates two candidates in a given constituency.	✓	✓
The period to submit candidate nominations should be extended and the UEC should announce candidate lists in a timely and transparent manner.	✓	✓

The following recommendations were provided to improve the campaign period for future electoral events:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Political parties should train candidates and members on the contents of the Political Party Code of Conduct.	✓	
The campaign silence period should start 48 hours before Election Day.		✓
The electoral laws and regulations should include some of the rules outlined in the campaign directive.		✓
The UEC should make the submission of campaign plans optional to all parties and if plans are submitted they should only include general information.		✓
The ward/village level party members should have the right to campaign.		✓
The campaign period should be longer than 60 days because of transportation difficulties in some areas.		✓

To further improve campaign finance regulations and reporting procedures the following recommendations were developed by PER participants:

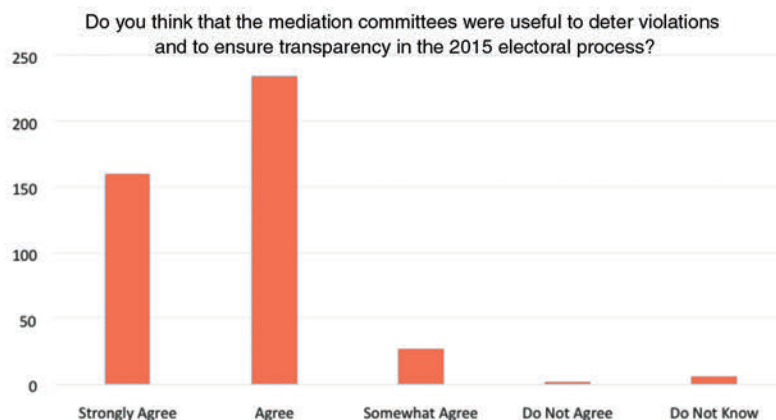
Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Stakeholders should be trained on the procedures for filing and submitting Form 20 (UEC Form used for electoral expenses).		✓
Campaign expense reports should be submitted to the UEC township sub-commission and the township sub-commission will ensure all reports are distributed to district sub-commissions in a timely manner.		✓
The period to submit campaign finance reports should be extended.		✓
The UEC should issue clear instructions on listing expenses under the specific categories in the expense reports.		✓
A group that monitors elections expenditures should be established.		✓



Election dispute resolution (EDR) covers the adjudication of election complaints that occur throughout the entirety of the electoral cycle, from correcting the voter list, through candidate nominations, the campaign period and election results. Following the 2015 elections, the UEC received 45 complaints from voters and candidates challenging the results. The UEC began hearing these 45 cases in December 2015 and continued the process through the end of March 2016. While the post-election adjudication process has been ongoing, the PER participants provided the following recommendations:

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
The UEC should provide more training on electoral disputes and in particular provide more clarification on the difference between electoral violations and electoral crimes.	✓	
Electoral violations cases should be handled by a judge, or member from the high court, or judiciary, and not by the UEC.	✓	
The UEC should reduce the cost of filing an electoral objection.	✓	✓
Mediation Committees should be established in laws and by-laws with clear instructions about procedures, decisions and appeals.	✓	
The UEC should be the primary court for EDR, and the Union Judiciary Court should be the appellate/final decision making authority.		✓
There should be standardized forms for filing election objections and appeals.		✓
Objections should be filed at district sub-commission instead of the UEC in Naypyitaw and the adjudication process should at least be decentralized to the state/region level.		✓
The adjudication process should be speedy and efficient.		✓
Election fraud should be sanctioned according to the laws.		✓

In the regional survey, responses from UEC officials also demonstrated their approval for mediation committees. A total of 160 officials responded that they strongly agreed mediation committees were useful to deter violations and another 235 officials agreed with that statement, which amounts to 91% of respondents. Additionally, 87% of UEC officials thought that the mediation committees should be formalized in a future law or by-law, and only 4% of respondents had no opinion.



The PER was a process of evaluating the UEC’s effort to implement the Five-Year Strategic Plan and through this process recommendations have been developed to improve procedures and activities before future electoral events. A recommendation from the PER was to make the data and post-election review public. The UEC will distribute copies of this report to stakeholders and will continue to monitor Strategic Plan activities over the course of the plan.

Recommendations	State/Region PER	National Conference
Data and post-election reviews should be archived and made public.	✓	

The process of conducting the post-election review through regional consultations that provided a forum for UEC, CSOs, and political parties to provide comments and recommendations to the Five-Year Strategic Plan and the larger electoral process was well received among all stakeholders. Among UEC participants, 99% felt that holding the post-election review workshops was useful. At the national conference 100% of respondents from CSOs and political parties thought that the conference was useful for gathering recommendations to reform electoral procedures.

Do you think that the post election reviews is useful?

