



PHOTO CREDIT: USAID Mali

EMERGE

Empowering Malians through Elections, Reform and Governance Efforts

CONTEXT

EMERGE advances peace, reconciliation, and more accountable governance through credible and inclusive national elections. Co-funded by USAID, the Danish Embassy, and the Swiss International Development Cooperation, EMERGE strengthens the capacity of citizens to participate in Mali's electoral processes as voters, activists, observers, and candidates. It also enables stakeholders to more effectively advocate for key electoral and political process reforms and improved governance. EMERGE leverages two decades of institutional partnerships formed with Malian civil society, including women's organizations, media, and political parties, to enhance citizen engagement and transparency in Malian electoral processes.

ABOUT THE ACTIVITY

INCLUSIVE AND PEACEFUL ELECTIONS

Building on lessons learned from national elections, EMERGE strengthens linkages between government and citizens to improve civic engagement, electoral transparency, and government accountability. Drawing on women and youth as drivers of change, EMERGE empowers local partners to lead key activities. The program has four components:

- Promoting informed citizen participation throughout electoral processes, with a particular focus on traditionally marginalized voters including women, youth, persons with disabilities, pastoralists, and internally displaced persons (IDP)
- Promoting citizen oversight over elections and political
- Processes, and increasing transparency and integrity in electoral administration.
- Supporting civil society and political parties to increase women's leadership and participation
- Supporting political parties to contribute to peaceful electoral processes.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 25,520,000 (9,820,322 women) received accurate information on the voting process via radio, in-person, and on social media.
- 28,067,803 citizens (approx. half women) received civic education messaging.
- 5,413 domestic election observers and/or party agents (2,144 women) trained and deployed to observe electoral and political processes.
- 2,911 women trained on leadership and political skills to support implementation of the gender law.
- Convened diverse women's leaders to identify issues and produce a public Policy Agenda increasing their ability to shape public policy.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

National Democratic Institute (NDI) with Internews and 15 Malian civil society organizations