PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

BACKGROUND

“Promoting Civic Education and Participation in South Africa” is a four-year, $4.8 million, program with Freedom House (FH) as the main implementer that seeks to ensure that South African citizens know their constitutional rights, tools, and platforms to engage meaningfully in the political processes. The program’s goal is to strengthen the ability of CSOs and CBOs to conduct civic education activities more effectively in their communities. The program will mentor and provide technical assistance to civic-focused CSOs and CBOs in civic education and campaign development; support those CSOs and CBOs to engage citizens in the political process and facilitate touch-points with their local and national representatives and increase the usage and quality of tools that citizens can use to hold the government accountable. The program is implemented in the following areas: Three Metropolitan Councils (eThekwini, Gauteng, and Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan municipality); Two local councils within the district (Makhado local Municipality under Vhembe District) and (Mbombela municipality under Enhlazeni District); One fully urban environment (Rustenburg under Bojanala Platinum District); and 1 mostly rural environment (Mbizana municipality under Alfred Nzo District).

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The project aims to achieve the following objectives:

- **Objective 1**: Civil society’s abilities to conduct collaborative and effective civic education activities are strengthened
- **Objective 2**: Increase understanding of citizen rights and government functions, as established under the Constitution, and effective ways to hold elected leaders accountable in targeted communities

- **Objective 3**: Strengthen citizen participation with local and national levels of government in the context of the electoral cycle

- **Objective 4**: Increase usage of tools that improve citizens’ ability to hold government officials, elected and non-elected, accountable more effectively

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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