

**Country:** Lesotho

**Theme:** Electoral Literacy in Formal Education.

**Title of The Best Practice / Case Study:** At the moment there is no formal voter education curriculum, but schools are visited by educators to teach students on the electoral process, particularly high school students. There are also tertiary institutions for electoral education programme by the youth organisation sub-contracted by IEC. The organisation organises entertainment activities in which young people delights to attract them to electoral education platform in order for them to be taught informally.

**Area of Coverage:** National University of Lesotho, Limkokwing University of Technology, Lesotho College of Education, Lesotho Agricultural College, Technical School of Leribe, Thaba-Tseka Skills Training Centre, Institute of Extra-Mural Studies-National University of Lesotho, Ntlafatso Skills training centre, Leloaleng technical school, Lerotholi Polytechnic School.

**Period of implementation:** August to September 2011, February to May 2012, December to February 2015.

**Background:** The Independent Electoral Commission has the prime mandate to deliver free, fair and acceptable elections are credible and transparent. The elections involve National Assembly Elections, Local Government elections, and Referenda. To fulfil its mandate IEC performs the functions such as the following: voter and political parties registration, reviewing legislations, researching of electoral matter, and setting up an educational programme for creation of environment where the electorate understand and act upon democracy and electoral processes.

**Brief Description of Best Practice:** trained young people of voting age at all tertiary institutions in Lesotho on the electoral process. Organised entertainment activities (football competitions, music festivals, concert for these people in collaboration with their schools. Gave the best winning teams prizes and awards such as jersey, bonanzans and pocket money

**Challenges :** The kind of education is provided in short message form because of limited time and fear to bore the listeners and failure to use their language. Timing of activities, as in most cases they are conducted during examination times or the school recess times due to the time at which the commission allowed the youth organization to conduct such activities depending on the availability of funds.

**Outcome:** most of young people seemed to have developed interest in elections and participated in registration in great numbers.