## Sponsorship Opportunities:

# The International Foundation for Electoral Systems' (IFES) 2016 U.S. Election Program (USEP)

November 6, 2016 — November 9, 2016 Washington, D.C.

Hundreds of Global Leaders. 60 Countries. One Celebration of Democracy. #IFESUSEP2016

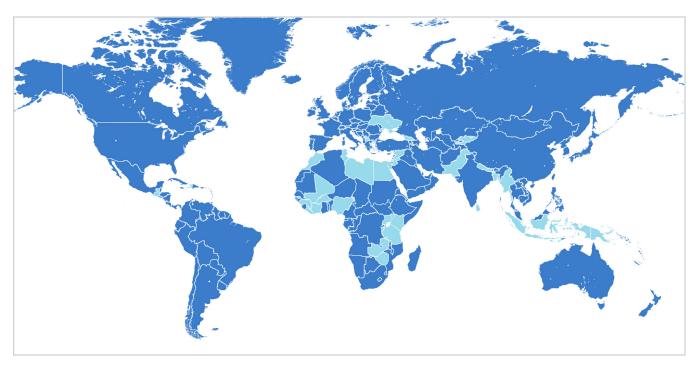




The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) is one of the only NGOs that promotes the individual's right to have a voice through credible, transparent elections. Credible elections are the cornerstone of a healthy democracy and enable all persons – including such traditionally marginalized populations as women, ethnic and religious minorities, and persons with disabilities – to exercise their basic human right to have a say in how they are governed.

We Believe in A Vote for Every Voice. IFES, a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is committed to a world in which every nation has the capacity to achieve transparent, secure, and credible elections. For nearly three decades, we have worked in over 145 countries to cultivate locally-tailored, sustainable and inclusive democracy across the globe.

**How We Achieve Our Vision.** IFES strengthens local organizations by providing technical advice and legal assistance. We partner one-on-one with the individuals who make democracy work day-to-day, year-to-year, and election-to-election: public servants, civil society leaders, and individual citizens that demand accountable, democratic governance.



IFES currently operates in over 30 countries, including Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Macedonia, Maldives, Mali, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

#### The USEP: Singular. Proven. Innovative.

IFES is proud to invite you to support its 2016 United States Election Program (USEP). Each national election, the USEP unites hundreds of senior electoral officials, government and judicial leaders, parliamentarians and diplomats from over 60 countries – from Afghanistan to Zambia – in Washington, D.C. to:

Collaborate. USEP participants enjoy a singular opportunity to exchange best practices with their colleagues from around the world and discuss elections and voting from comparative perspectives. Via plenary sessions and offsite Election Day activities, the USEP exposes attendees to American democracy; electoral best practices; and face-to-face interactions with poll workers, citizens, and even Congressional candidates.

• Network. USEP brings together hundreds of parliamentarians, Members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, diplomats, representatives of the international development community, and senior management of national and regional electoral authorities, global businesses and professional associations to strengthen existing partnerships and cultivate new relationships. For example, over 400 participants from 70 countries attended our 2012 USEP, including 46 Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe parliamentarians and 45 international electoral commission chairmen, chief election officers, and election adjudication magistrates, among other commission leadership.



Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA) and then-Congressional candidate Don Beyer (D-VA) meet with USEP participants and media.



A participant in the 2014 USEP simulation on accessibility for voters with disabilities.

- Learn. The USEP bolsters participants' technical expertise via interactive sessions on election technology, voter identification, public opinion, social media, campaign finance, the role of media in elections, accessibility for persons with disabilities and strategies for boosting women's participation in politics.
- Celebrate! Holding credible elections in emerging or mature democracies – is not only a remarkable technical and logistical feat, but requires the united will and commitment of voters, candidates and those who hold power. The USEP celebrates participants' progress, innovations and accomplishments in the capital of the United States, which remains a symbol of hope, prosperity and democracy for so many.

#### The need for the USEP is great...

USEP participants, some of who represent the world's youngest democracies, crave not only IFES' technical expertise, but the encouragement that only fellowship with like-minded professionals can inspire. USEP partici-

pants share common triumphs and challenges, and exchange innovate solutions.

#### Highlights of the USEP include:

- An interactive election simulation in which participants play the role of voters with disabilities at an inaccessible polling station;
- A discussion of regulations governing elections, including campaign finance;
- An exclusive Election Day breakfast briefing, featuring political analysis from leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties;

IFES retweeted

MurielBowser @MurielBowser · Nov 4

Argentinian delegation @IFES1987 observing DC's proud Democratic process! #USEPIFES #WeDoVote



D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser greets a USEP delegation from Argentina.

- An Election Night watch party, featuring the presentation of the prestigious Joe C. Baxter Award; and
- The focal point of the USEP, the polling tour, which takes participants to polling stations throughout the
  District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia to witness the American voting process. At these polling
  stations, participants ask questions of voting precinct personnel, voters, and members of Congress and
  congressional candidates.

#### ...and the support of global citizens like you is critical.

USEP participants are asked to cover their own travel and accommodation, in addition to a participant registration fee for program materials, meals and attendance at special events. However, many of our participants with

limited economic resources are unable to cover the full cost of attendance.

**IFES believes every individual deserves a voice** and a vote – which is why we subsidize USEP costs for many participants from developing countries. For this reason, your sponsorship will not only come with tangible benefits, but will allow IFES to ensure the attendance of electoral and government officials from the countries who need the USEP the most.



Sponsorship opportunities are flexible – ranging from intimate networking receptions to impactful leadership sponsorships –and can be tailored to your budget and target audience.

#### Why Sponsor the 2016 USEP?

- Democracy is good business. Stable democracies make for better trading partners, provide new market
  opportunities and promote economic freedom and regional security. By sponsoring the USEP, you are
  making a global investment in your company's future.
- Access to today's leaders and tomorrow's. USEP exposes your brand to not only today's international
  decision-makers, but future leaders from our global economy's next emerging markets.
- **Global reach**. The USEP will bring nearly 500 decision-makers from over 60 countries to you, with ample opportunity for both formal and informal networking.
- Location, location, location! The USEP is hosted in downtown Washington D.C., and provides sponsors and participants with easy, facilitated access to Maryland, Virginia, and Capitol Hill.
- Top-tier media exposure. The USEP has been profiled favorably by such prestigious media outlets as The Washington Post and Foreign Policy, and its panels are often aired live on C-SPAN.
- Our biggest USEP yet. International interest in the U.S.' 2016 presidential and congressional elections is extremely high; we expect more participants and sponsors than ever.
- **Be a hero**. Our sophisticated audience and your customers will appreciate your commitment to helping individuals and developing nations reach their full democratic potential.

#### New in 2016: The Seventh Global Elections Organization (GEO-7) Conference!

In 2016, IFES will bring a new benefit to corporate supporters of the USEP — complimentary extension of their sponsorship benefits to the Seventh Global Elections Organization (GEO-7) conference, to run consecutively with the USEP from November 9 to 10, 2016.

Like the USEP, the invitation-only GEO conference is a leading international forum for election professionals to network and share democratic best practices. GEO-7, however, will be more technical in nature, allowing practitioners and academics an unprecedented "deep dive" into the nuances of sustainable electoral practices.

The 2016 USEP is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop relationships with hundreds of key decision-makers from across the globe, while supporting the incredible efforts of the unsung heroes of democracy. **Don't miss this singular chance to make a global impact.** 

For additional information, please visit www.IFES.org/USEP or contact Lauren Terrell at LTerrell@ifes.org.



## 2016 U.S. Election Program Signature Sponsorship Opportunities

## New in 2016: all sponsorship benefits at all levels will be extended, at no additional cost, to the Seventh Global Elections Organization (GEO-7) Conference!

Presenting Sponsor: \$100,000

#### Unique Benefits:

- Opportunity to address the VIP audience at the USEP's premier reception, the Election Watch party and Joe C. Baxter Award Ceremony
- Sponsor listing on all at-event signage
- Complimentary full-page acknowledgement in USEP program booklet
- Four complimentary VIP full conference passes

#### Benefits:

- Complimentary sponsorship of one USEP meal/coffee break
- Sponsor recognition and link from the USEP event page on IFES' website
- Sponsor recognition in USEP program
- Opportunity for those holding VIP passes to join Election Day polling tour
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials and giveaways for attendee gift bags
- Brand's logo rotating on the large projectors throughout the program, during meals and breaks
- Recognition in USEP's opening and closing remarks
- Prominent sponsor recognition on all event-related marketing and promotion collateral: save-the-date, invitations, flyers, and e-mails
- Complimentary table in the USEP exhibition hall and the opportunity to display products, services or company marketing materials
- Public thanks on all social media

#### <u>Election Day Breakfast Sponsor: \$75,000 — Only One Sponsorship Available!</u>

#### Unique Benefits:

- Opportunity to address the audience at the USEP's Election Day breakfast
- Sponsor listing on all Election Day breakfast signage
- Three complimentary VIP full conference passes
- Up to 10 complimentary Election Day breakfast passes

#### Benefits:

- Sponsor recognition and link from the USEP event page on IFES' website
- Sponsor recognition in USEP program
- Opportunity for those holding VIP passes to join Election Day polling tour
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials and giveaways for attendee gift bags
- · Brand's logo rotating on the large projectors throughout the program, during meals and breaks
- Recognition in USEP's opening and closing remarks
- Prominent sponsor recognition on all event-related marketing and promotion collateral: save-the-date, invitations, flyers, and e-mails
- Complimentary table in the USEP exhibition hall and the opportunity to display products, services or company marketing materials
- · Public thanks on all social media

#### Supporting Sponsor: \$50,000

#### Unique Benefits:

- Opportunity to address the audience at the USEP's welcome reception
- Sponsor listing on select at-event signage
- Complimentary half-page acknowledgement in USEP program booklet
- Two complimentary VIP full conference passes

#### Benefits:

- Complimentary sponsorship of one USEP meal/coffee break
- Sponsor recognition and link from the USEP event page on IFES' website
- Sponsor recognition in USEP program
- Opportunity for those holding VIP passes to join Election Day polling tour
- Opportunity to provide marketing materials and giveaways for attendee gift bags
- Brand's logo rotating on the large projectors throughout the program, during meals and breaks
- · Recognition in USEP's opening and closing remarks
- Sponsor recognition on all event-related marketing and promotion collateral: save the date, invitations, flyers, and e-mails
- Complimentary table in the USEP exhibition hall and the opportunity to display products, services, or company marketing materials
- Public thanks on all social media

#### Scholarship Fund Patron: \$20,000

Some of USEP's invited participants are unable to cover the full cost of their attendance – a leadership gift to the scholarship fund will enable the attendance of up to 10 USEP attendees.

#### Benefits:

- Complimentary sponsorship of one USEP meal/coffee break
- Sponsor recognition and link from the USEP event page on IFES' website
- Sponsor recognition in USEP program
- Brand's logo rotating on the large projectors throughout the program, during meals and breaks
- Complimentary half-page acknowledgement in USEP program booklet
- Complimentary table in the USEP exhibition hall and the opportunity to display products, services, or company marketing materials
- Public thanks on all social media

#### Exhibitor: \$10,000

#### Benefits:

- Table in the USEP exhibition hall and the opportunity to display products, services, or company marketing materials
- Complimentary full conference pass
- Sponsor recognition on the USEP event page on IFES' website
- Sponsor recognition in USEP program
- Complimentary quarter-page acknowledgement in USEP program

#### **More Opportunities**

- Sponsor a meal or coffee break, with your logo on display (\$15,000).
- Congratulate USEP participants with a full-page acknowledgement in the USEP program (\$5,000).
- Please contact us for more information on a variety of opportunities related to interpretation, conference bags, A/V equipment, transportation, and printing.





## **Sponsorship Form**

Please fill out the following form to confirm your chosen sponsorship package. Completed forms can be returned to Lauren Terrell, Governance and Outreach Manager, at <a href="mailto:LTerrell@ifes.org">LTerrell@ifes.org</a> or by mail at 2011 Crystal Drive, Floor 10, Arlington, VA 22202. You can also register online at <a href="http://www.ifes.org/USEP">http://www.ifes.org/USEP</a>. Once we receive your completed sponsorship form, IFES staff will contact you to discuss event arrangements, sponsorship benefits and recognition.

Contact Information:				
Company Name:	Contact	Contact Person:		
Contact E-mail Address:	Contact	Contact Phone Number:		
Address:	City/Stat	City/State/Country/Zip Code:		
Sponsorship Packages:				
Presenting Sponsor (\$100,000)	-	Election Day Breakfast Sponsor (\$75,000)		
Supporting Sponsor (\$50,000)		Scholarship Fund Patron (\$20,000)		
Meal/Coffee Break Sponsor (\$15,000	0) .	Exhibitor (\$10,000)		
Full-page Program Acknowledgemer	nt (\$5,000)	Other (Please contact me!)		
Payment Information:				
Please send me an invoice	-	I have enclosed a check made payable to IFES		
Please charge my credit card				
Card Type: Visa / MC / AmEx /Discover				
Card Number: Expiration Date:		Security Code:		



### 2014 U.S. Election Program Conference Agenda

From November 2 to 5, IFES gathered nearly 150 participants from 55 countries for the 2014 U.S. Election Program (USEP) – IFES' 12th USEP since 1992. The program featured such high-caliber participants as Professor Attahiru Muhammadu Jega, former Chairman of the Nigerian electoral commission that oversaw the wildly successful 2015 elections, as well as current Members of Congress and congressional candidates.

Sunday, November 2 **Washington Marriott Georgetown** 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

Early Arrivals, Program Registration and Exhibitor Set-up 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Memorandum of Understanding Signing between the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Kenya and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems Room 3015, Third Floor

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Ahmed Issack Hassan, Chairman, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer

**Opening Remarks** West End Ballroom, Second Floor 2:00 p.m. - 2:25 p.m.

William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer Judy A. Black, Vice Chairman, IFES Board of Directors

Plenary Session: America Votes: An Introduction to the U.S. Election System(s) West End Ballroom, Second Floor

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees American citizens the right to vote for their government representatives every two years, on the first Tuesday (after the first Monday) in November. Yet, it is the laws of the states and territories that govern the administration of these elections and together constitute the electoral system. The decentralized nature of elections in the United States is a product of federalism, history and political traditions.

Moderated by Michael Svetlik, IFES Vice President of Programs

#### Speakers:

Thad Hall, Director of the Master of Public Policy Program, University of Utah Doug Chapin, Director, Program for Excellence in Election Administration, University of Minnesota

#### **Afternoon Break**

3:35 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

Breakout I: Party Politics Unplugged: Primaries and the Practice of Democracy in America's Two-Party System **Dupont Ballroom, Second Floor** 

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For over a century, primary elections have been a common feature of the two-party system of the United States. Primaries, in all their variations, are designed to take the power of candidate nomination from party leaders to the people. Recent reform of the primary election system in California provides lessons for the future of party politics and intra-party democracy at the state level.

Moderated by Judy A. Black, Vice Chairman, IFES Board of Directors

#### Speaker:

James Thurber, Director of the Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies, American University

#### Breakout II: The Fifth Estate: How Public Interest Media Organizations are Keeping Elections Honest Rooms 3016 and 3017, Third Floor

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

No federal protections exist to ensure that citizens are not misled by the campaigns of candidates and political parties. In recent years, a burgeoning practice of fact checking by public interest media organizations has evolved to supplement traditional media's efforts to investigate and verify campaign claims.

Moderated by Juliette Schmidt, IFES Senior Program Manager

#### Speaker:

Jeremy Holden, Director of Research, Media Matters for America

**President's Welcome Reception** West End Ballroom, Second Floor 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Monday, November 3 **Washington Marriott Georgetown** 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

#### **Arrivals and Program Registration**

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### Plenary: From Selma to Montgomery and Beyond: The 1965 Voting Rights Act and the Future Role of the Federal Government in Elections

West End Ballroom, Second Floor

9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

The passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act was a watershed in American history that sought to prohibit discrimination in the election process. A central feature of the Act was the requirement that some states with a history of discriminatory practices seek federal approval prior to enacting any changes to their election laws. A 2013 decision by the Supreme Court called into question, however, the role of the federal government in enforcing voting rights. In the Shelby County v. Holder decision, the Supreme Court struck down Section 4 of the Act, which contained the formulas used to determine the list of districts that must receive this pre-clearance approval. Over the past year, many states – including those listed in Section 4 – have legislated changes to their election processes. These changes range from administrative changes to improve access to the vote – such as online voting tools – to those that may serve to limit access at the polls, including shortened hours and more stringent voter identification requirements.

Moderated by Chad Vickery, IFES Director of the Center for Applied Research and Learning

#### Speakers:

Daniel P. Tokaji, Charles W. Ebersold and Florence Whitcomb Ebersold Professor of Constitutional Law, The Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law Brendan J. Morrissey, Counsel, Wiley Rein LLP

#### **Morning Break**

10:35 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.

#### **Breakout I: Got ID? Recent Trends in Voter Identification Requirements** Rooms 3016 and 3017, Third Floor

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Extending the franchise to eligible voters is fundamental to any democratic system across the globe. This fundamental right is often enshrined in a country's constitution or electoral acts. However, in order to ensure a sufficient level of legitimacy the sanctity of the ballot cannot be undermined by fraud, such as impersonation in the polling stations. In order to ensure that only eligible voters are able to cast their ballot most countries require individuals to prove their identity before voting. In recent years, a heated debate has emerged in the U.S. where some argue that new voter-ID laws lead to voter suppression of marginalized groups rather than fraud prevention. Others argue that voter fraud is a reality and a more stringent ID-requirement is a must to combat this integrity risk to U.S. elections.

Moderated by Staffan Darnolf, IFES Director of Program Development and Innovation

#### Speakers:

Hans A. Von Spakovsky, Manager of the Election Law Reform Initiative, Heritage Foundation Justin Levitt, Professor of Law, Loyola Law School

#### Breakout II: Measuring Public Opinion: Old and New Challenges to Accuracy and Reliability **Dupont Ballroom, Second Floor**

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Opinion research polling has been a mainstay of American political campaigns, allowing candidates, the media, and the public to stay continually informed of the horserace aspects of important political campaigns. But continually declining response rates, the rapid proliferation of cell phone-only households, and higher costs of administering surveys have made obtaining reliable survey data an increasingly difficult challenge for pollsters in the United States. This panel will explore some of the more critical challenges facing politically-focused opinion researchers and the steps being taken by them to address these challenges.

Moderated by Rakesh Sharma, IFES Director of Public Opinion Research

#### Speakers:

Clifford Young, Managing Director, Polling and Public Sector, Ipsos Insight Thomas A. Devine, IFES Board of Directors

#### Lunch

West End Ballroom, Second Floor

12:05 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.

#### Breakout I: What is trending? Assessing the Future of Social Media and Elections **Dupont Ballroom, Second Floor**

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Social media is playing an increasingly important role in informing and mobilizing voters in both established democracies, such as the U.S. and India, and emerging democracies such as Afghanistan and Ukraine. This panel aims to capture trends in Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media usage by election management bodies, political parties, candidates, civil society and voters themselves.

Moderated by Vasu Mohan, IFES Regional Director for Europe and Asia

#### Speakers:

Catlin O'Neill, Manager of Public Policy, Facebook Kate Sokolov, Global Program Manager for Politics & Elections, Google

#### Breakout II: Point, Counter Point: The Role of Candidate Debates in Political Discourse Rooms 3016 and 3017, Third Floor

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

One of the most exciting parts of the campaign season are candidate debates, when nominees of political parties get to publicly express and defend their views on key issues of the day. Debates are often televised, giving the public a first hand, unedited view of the candidates. While debates primarily target undecided voters, all voters get excited to see their candidate go head-to-head with an opponent.

Moderated by Peter Erben, IFES Senior Global Electoral Adviser and Chief of Party in Indonesia

#### Speakers:

Diana Carlin, Vice President of Graduate Education & International Initiatives, Saint Louis University Matt Dippell, Director, Deputy Director for Latin America and Caribbean, National Democratic Institute

#### Plenary: Money Talks: Free Speech, Political Action Committees and the Future of Campaign Finance Regulation West End Ballroom, Second Floor

2:35 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Recent rulings by the United States Supreme Court have removed long-standing limits on election contributions and spending by individuals and organizations. In 2010, the Citizens United ruling held that the government may not place limits on independent spending for political purposes by corporations and labor unions in candidate elections. Earlier this year, the Court removed aggregate limits on campaign contributions finding that such restrictions violated constitutional free speech quarantees. These decisions have dramatically changed the landscape of campaign finance in the United States.

Moderated by Magnus Ohman, IFES Senior Political Finance Adviser

#### Speakers:

Ellen Weintraub, Commissioner, Federal Election Commission Trevor Potter, President, Campaign Legal Center

#### **Afternoon Break**

3:35 p.m. - 3:55 p.m.

#### Plenary: More Power to More People: How the ADA and the CRPD are Expanding Political Rights West End Ballroom, Second Floor

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Twenty-four years ago, the United States became the first country in the world to adopt national civil rights legislation banning discrimination against people with disabilities. Since that time, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) have provided the legal context for accessible and inclusive elections. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which came into force in 2008, incorporated many standards identified in U.S. legislation.

Moderated by Virginia Atkinson, IFES Access and Inclusion Specialist

#### Speakers:

Judith Heumann, Special Advisor for International Disability Rights, U.S. Department of State Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Coordinator for Disability and Inclusive Development, USAID Lewis Bossing, Senior Staff Attorney, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

#### **Election Access Simulation Dupont Ballroom, Second Floor**

5:05 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Immediately following the plenary session on electoral access, conference participants will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive election simulation meant to reflect the experiences of voters with disabilities. Participants will attempt to vote at one of two polling stations: one that is accessible and one that is not.

#### Joe C. Baxter Award Reception West End Ballroom, Second Floor

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems has named Dr. Christiana Thorpe, Chief Electoral Commissioner and Chairman of the National Electoral Commission (NEC) of Sierra Leone, as the 2014 Joe C. Baxter Award recipient. The annual Baxter Award recognizes the contributions of election professionals whose skills, dedication and sacrifices to the field of election administration epitomize the mission of IFES and embody the spirit of former IFES Senior Adviser for Election Administration Joe C. Baxter. Dr. Thorpe is the first woman to serve as Chief Electoral Commissioner in Sierra Leone. A former nun, she has spent her life fighting for the rights of the most vulnerable in society and served as an electoral administrator for many years. During her tenure as the head of the NEC, the Commission has implemented meaningful reforms and conducted elections that have been agreed upon by all electoral stakeholders and the international community as being free, fair, transparent and in conformity with international best practices.

#### Speakers:

William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer Ambassador Bockari Kortu Stevens, Embassy of Sierra Leone in Washington, D.C. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State

#### Tuesday, November 4

Washington Marriott Georgetown (breakfast, lunch and reception) and visits to various polling sites (District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia) 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

#### **Election Day Breakfast Briefing** West End Ballroom, Second Floor

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

In his 2013 State of the Union Address before Congress, President Barack Obama pledged to identify nonpartisan ways to improve future elections. The Presidential Commission on Election Administration was officially established in March of that year and its report addressed ways to promote the efficient conduct of elections and provide better access to the polls for all voters. The 10-member Commission made up of experts in election administration, policy and procedures, and leaders from business and industry was headed by Co-Chairs Robert Bauer and Benjamin Ginsberg.

Moderated by William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer

#### Speakers:

The Honorable J. Kenneth Blackwell, Secretary, IFES Board of Directors Tammy Patrick, Member, Presidential Commission on Election Administration

## Election Day - Tour of Polling Stations in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia Please wait for your bus number to be called in the West End Ballroom, Second Floor

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

IFES will take visitors on an exclusive half-day tour of polling sites in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. After visiting polling stations, buses will return to the Washington Marriott Georgetown for lunch.

#### Lunch

#### West End Ballroom, Second Floor

1:05 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Following a tour of polling sites throughout the Washington metropolitan area, IFES election specialists will lead lunchtime discussions with participants about what they observed and learned from the experience.

Participants interested in visiting Voice of America will board buses departing no later than 2:30 p.m.

## Tour of Additional Polling Site or Voice of America - please bring passport Please wait for your bus number to be called in the West End Ballroom, Second Floor

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

IFES will provide an additional afternoon visit to a polling site in Maryland or Virginia, or a tour of international broadcasting network Voice of America followed by a conversation with reporters and possible media interviews.

Buses will return to the Washington Marriott Georgetown following all tours.

#### **Election Night Reception**

#### West End Ballroom and Dupont Ballroom, Second Floor

7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

IFES will host an evening of televised election coverage by major international media networks for participants, representatives of the global democracy and governance community, foreign dignitaries and other key stakeholders.

#### Wednesday, November 5

**United States Institute of Peace (USIP)** 2301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

#### Transportation to USIP

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Buses will depart from the Washington Marriott Georgetown at 7:30 a.m. to transport participants to USIP. The last bus departs at 8:00 a.m.

Breakfast Session: Reflections and Reactions: A Facilitated Discussion with Participants George P. Shultz Great Hall

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Welcome remarks by Dr. Kathleen Kuehnast, Director of the Center for Gender & Peacebuilding, United States Institute of Peace

Opening remarks by William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer

Moderated by Michael Svetlik, IFES Vice President of Programs

Speaker:

Thomas A. Devine, IFES Board of Directors

#### **Morning Break**

10:35 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.

#### Plenary: Erasing the Gender Gap: Successful Strategies to Boost Women's Participation in U.S. Politics George P. Shultz Great Hall

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

In the United States and countries around the world, women and men have the right to vote and run for office. There has been good gender news in recent elections. In the 2012 U. S. presidential elections, women outnumbered men as voters 53 percent to 47 percent respectively. Women made "big gains" in office, with a record 20 female Senators and 97 Congresswomen now in Congress. Despite these upward trends, numbers fall short of gender parity, especially for women as elected officials. Why is this? Do women have the time and resources to run? Do they have the right connections in a traditionally male dominated arena? Do they have the information to become engaged? Why does gender parity matter?

Moderated by Jessica Huber, IFES Senior Gender Adviser

#### Speakers:

Semhar Araia, Executive Director, Diaspora African Women's Network (DAWN) Susannah Wellford, President and Founder, Running Start Ann Lewis, President, No Limits Foundation

## **Closing Remarks** George P. Shultz Great Hall

12:20 p.m.

William R. Sweeney Jr., IFES President and Chief Executive Officer

#### **Boxed Lunch** George P. Shultz Great Hall 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

#### **Return to Washington Marriott Georgetown**

2:00 p.m.

