



# Only 11 percent of Election Officials' Meetings held with Security Officials

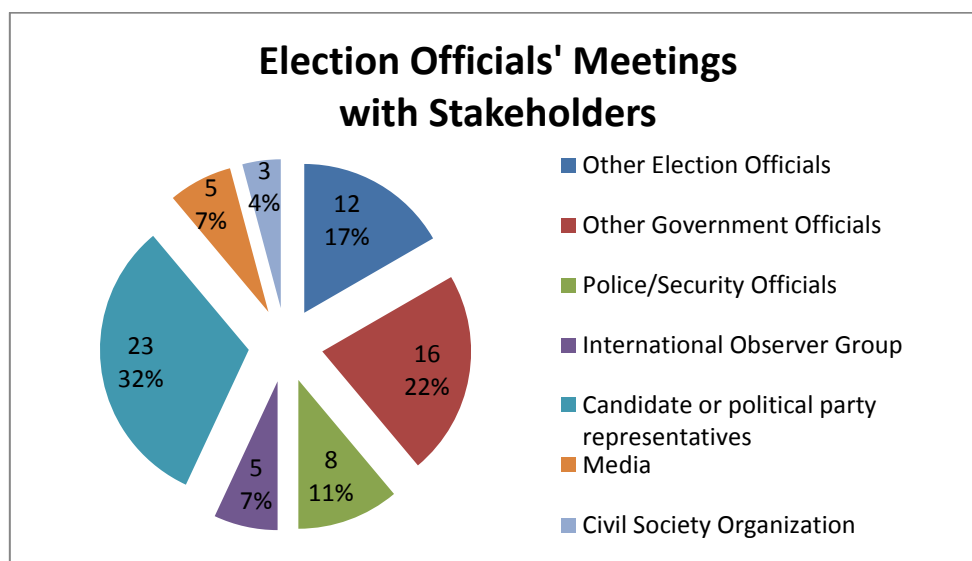
## Introduction

This update is based on interviews with Returning Officers (ROs), District Returning Officers (DROs) and District Election Commissioners (DECs) between April 23 and 30, 2013, regarding their meetings with election stakeholders at district and constituency levels. These meetings are essential for security and logistical planning and to ensure transparency, efficiency and accountability in administration of the elections. The election officials who were interviewed reportedly held a total of 72 meetings with election stakeholders.

Free and Fair Election Network's (FAFEN) District and Constituency Long-Term Observers (DLTOs and CLTOs) deployed across the country conducted these interviews in 48 constituencies and 35 districts. These include 23 constituencies in 15 districts in Punjab, 12 constituencies of eight districts in Sindh, nine constituencies in eight districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and two constituencies each in two districts of Balochistan and two Agencies of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

## Meetings of Election Officials, by Types of Stakeholders

According to FAFEN observers, election officials in 48 constituencies and 35 districts reported holding 12 meetings (17%) with other election officials and 16 meetings (22%) with other government officials. Eight meetings (11%) were held with security officials. Another one-third of meetings (23, or 32%) were held with candidates or political party representatives. Five meetings each (7%) were with international observer groups and media representatives. Three meetings (4%) were held with Pakistani civil society organizations.

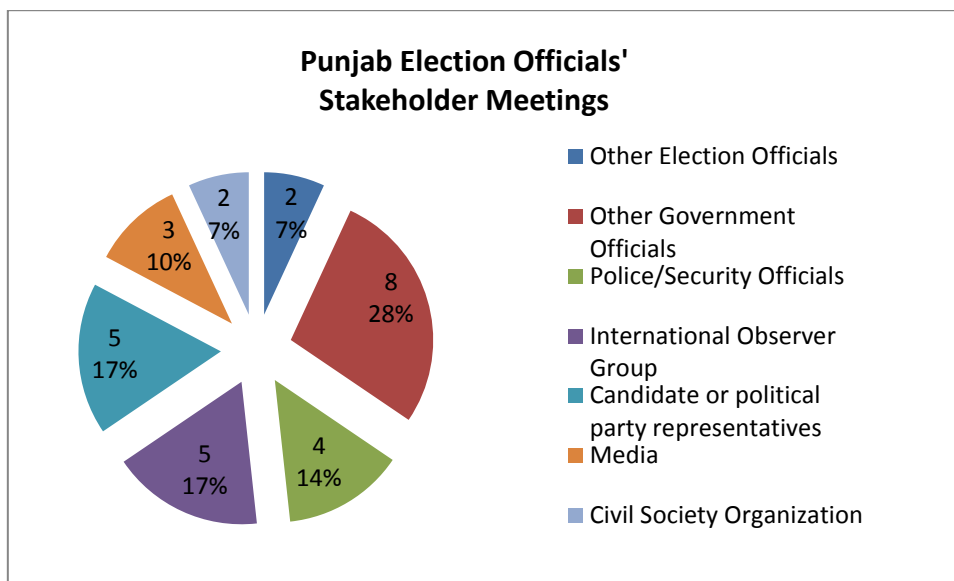


## Stakeholder Meetings of Election Officials, by Province

### Punjab

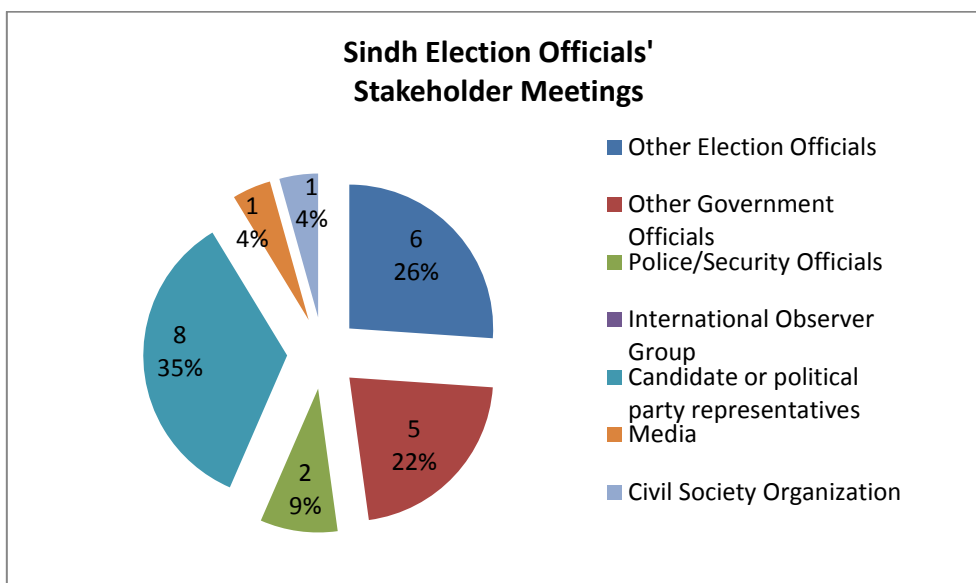
In 23 Punjab constituencies of 15 districts, election officials reported holding 29 meetings with stakeholders between April 23 and 30, 2013.

Two meetings (7%) were with other election officials and eight meetings (28%) were with other government officials. Only four reported meetings (14%) were held with security officials, and only five meetings (17%) were with candidates or political party representatives. Another five meetings were with international observer groups, three (10%) were with media, and two (7%) with civil society organizations.



### Sindh

FAFEN observers interviewed election officials in 12 constituencies of eight districts of Sindh, where 23 meetings were held with various election stakeholders.

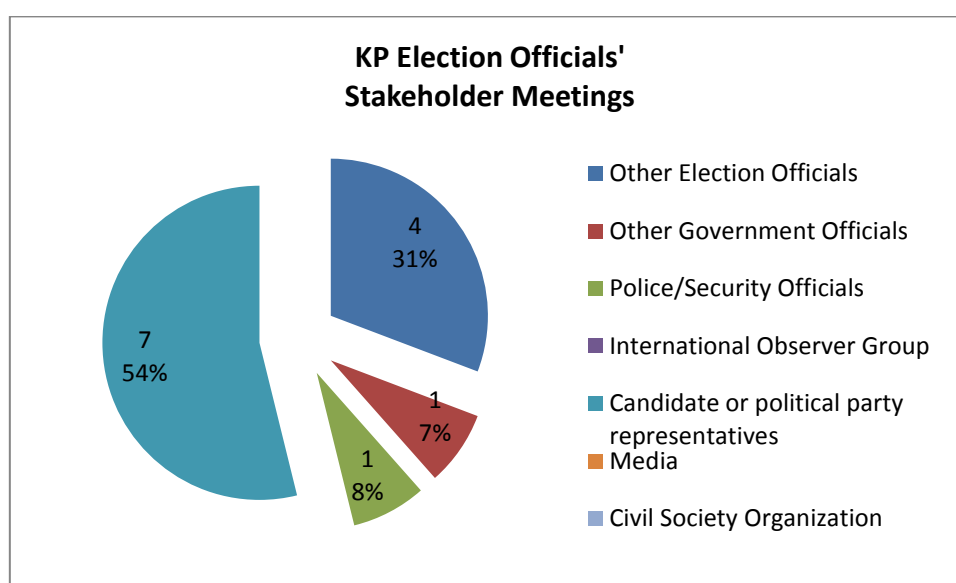


Half of election officials' meetings in Sindh (11, or 48%) were held with other election officials (6 meetings, or 26%) and other government officials (5 meetings, or 22%). Only two meetings (9%) were with security officials. One-third of meetings (8, or 35%) were with candidates or political party representatives. One meeting (4%) each was held with media and civil society organizations. No election officials in Sindh reported meeting international observer groups.

## Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)

In nine constituencies of eight districts of KP, election officials reported holding 13 meetings with various election stakeholders.

The election officials in KP reported holding five meetings (38%) with government officials, including four (31%) with other election officials. Only one meeting (8%) was reported with security officials. More than half of reported meetings (7, or 54%) were with candidates or political party representatives. No meetings were reported with media, international observers or Pakistani civil society.



## Balochistan and FATA

Election officials in two constituencies of Balochistan held one meeting with other government officials and one with candidates or political party representatives. Election officials in two constituencies of two FATA Agencies reported holding five meetings with stakeholders. Two meetings were held with candidates or political party representatives, and one each was held with other government officials, security officials, and media.

Election Officials' Meetings with Stakeholders	Balochistan	FATA
Other Election Officials	0	0
Other Government Officials	1	1
Police/Security Officials	0	1
Candidate or political party representatives	1	2
Media	0	1
International Observer Group	0	0
Civil Society Organization	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

## Reporting Districts and Constituencies

Province /Region	No. of Reporting Districts	Names of Reporting Districts	Number of Reporting Constituencies	Reporting Constituency Numbers
Punjab	15	Rawalpindi, Bhakkar, Faisalabad, Jhang, Gujrat, Narowal, Lahore, Nankana Sahib, Kasur, Multan, Lodhran, Khanewal, D.G.Khan, Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar, Rahim Yar Khan	23	NA-53, NA-73, NA-81, NA-90, NA-105, NA-107, NA-116, NA-128, NA-135, NA-136, NA-137, NA-142, NA-152, NA-155, NA-159, NA-172, NA-173, NA-184, NA-185, NA-187, NA-188, NA-191, NA-197
Sindh	8	Ghotki, Karachi (3 districts), Naushero Feroze, Tando Muhammad Khan, Sanghar, Hyderabad	12	NA-201, NA-211, NA-212, NA-219, NA-220, NA-221, NA-222, NA-236, NA-242, NA-253, NA-257, NA-258,
KP	8	Charsadda, Dera Ismail Khan, Mansehra, Upper Dir, Shangla, Buner, Bannu, Mardan	9	NA-7, NA-10, NA-11, NA-21, NA-25, NA-26, NA-28, NA-31, NA-33
Balochistan	2	Quetta, Killa Abdullah	2	NA-259, NA-262
FATA	2	Bajaur Agency, Kurram Agency	2	NA-44, NA-38
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>		<b>48</b>	

### About FAFEN

The Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN), established in 2006, is a coalition of 42 leading civil society organizations working to strengthen all forms of democratic accountabilities in Pakistan. Governed by the Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), FAFEN also implements robust programs in-between elections related to monitoring parliamentary affairs, connecting constituents to their elected representatives, monitoring the performance of public and elected institutions and advocating electoral and democratic reforms.

### FAFEN Election Program

FAFEN is implementing a long-term election observation program nationwide, including both pre- and post-electoral processes. FAFEN is deploying 130 District Long-Term Observers (DLTOs) across the country to monitor all phases of elections. FAFEN's Constituency Long-Term Observers (CLTOs) will observe the political campaigns in all National Assembly constituencies during the two months prior to Election Day. In addition, FAFEN will deploy more than 40,000 trained, non-partisan citizens to monitor polling stations across the country on Election Day.

All FAFEN observers adhere to the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) Code of Conduct for National Observers as well as the Global Principles for Non-Partisan Election Observation and Monitoring by Citizen Organizations (April 2012). FAFEN's 10-month observation process, that began February 1, 2013, will help keep all election stakeholders informed on issues relevant to fairness and transparency at every stage of the election process.

## ***FAFEN Election Observation Methodology***

FAFEN's election observation activities are based on the Constitution and laws of Pakistan, global best practice standards for elections, as well as the legal obligations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), ratified by Pakistan in 2010. FAFEN LTOs monitor and report on the activities of District Election Commissioner (DEC) offices, preparations of elections such as appointment and training of election officials, the process of candidate nominations, and (after the announcement of election schedule) compliance with the ECP's Code of Conduct for political parties and candidates.

In addition, LTOs observe and report on compliance of the executive branch with legal responsibilities and ECP regulations, including restrictions on transfers of civil service personnel and initiation of new development schemes. LTOs also monitor political and electoral intimidation and violence, the actions of the police and other security forces, and the overall political environment during the pre-election period. FAFEN LTOs use standardized checklists to report electronically to the FAFEN Election Observation Secretariat in Islamabad regularly. FAFEN compiles data and information from around the country to issue regular thematic updates for the consideration of voters and election stakeholders.