European Commission
United Nations Development Programme
International IDEA

Thematic Seminar
Use of ICTs in Electoral Processes

Study on the use of ICT in electoral processes

Focus on Civil & Voter Registration and Data transmission

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Motivation

- The electoral cycle approach requires the review of how we design of electoral assistance projects to include long term issues
- ICT alters the way in which elections are conducted
- Provision of electoral assistance is increasingly involving the review, choice, introduction and use of adequate ICT solutions in different areas of the electoral process
- EC plays a major role in assisting beneficiary countries to introduce ICT in electoral processes
  - EC is concerned by cost effectiveness, transparency and sustainability for EMB
  - EC remains concerned by political and financial implications

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Scope

- **Identify general and specific trends through a comparative study**
  - Comparative assessment of the experiences of selected countries
  - Comprehensive review of the use of ICT in civil/voter registration and transmission of electoral data
  - Suitable process in various electoral assistance scenarios
  - Practical hands-on guide on support to civil/voter registration and transmission of electoral data
- **Auditing of civil and voter registration data**
  - Auditing methodology & practice
  - Tools for auditing
- **Knowledge dissemination**

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Methodology

- **Multistage study**

1. Understanding the design and implementation of these projects
2. Cost effectiveness (cost estimator), monitoring (indicators), and auditing
3. Case studies and comparative analyses
4. Knowledge dissemination

- **Action-research**

– Hypotheses are formulated through literature survey analyses
– They are tested on ongoing projects or projected onto previous projects
– Results are analysed
– Conclusive results are integrated into various models
– Inconclusive results are dropped

Current Status

- Started in September 2008
- Through action-research, it contributed to several projects (Benin, Ivory-Coast, Guinea-Bissau, Zambia, etc.)
- Framework for performing comparative analyses is ready
- Auditing facet is complete
- Study continues under the GPECS

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Use of ICT in electoral processes

- **Well-known best practices remain not applied**
  - **Nature of EMB**
  - **Vendors specialising in ICT for electoral processes**
  - **Donor fatigue in post electoral periods**
- **National stakeholders have faith in ICT!**
  - **No proper feasibility study**
  - **Due diligence not performed**
  - **Rapid evolution of ICT not factored into the decision making process**
- **Togo remains the perfect illustration of these problems**

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Integration of civil & voter registration

- **Extraction of the civil register**
  - Disenfranchise a large portion of the electoral population
  - Requires a reliable civil register
  - Convergence between the registers
- **Revamping a defunct civil register using the voters' register**
  - Three steps approach
  - Synchronisation of civil and voters' registers
  - Implementation of continuous voter Registration
  - Adjunction of vital statistics
  - Phasing out of the voters' register

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Ad hoc/Periodic voter registration

Periodic register

Recording of:

- Existence of an individual
- Dependants of an individual
- Marital status of the individual
- Residency (location)

Electoral cycle 0

- Setup of the electoral register

Permanent voter registration

Permanent register

Capture of:

- Existence of people who have reached electoral majority
- Death or absence from the country in the context of compulsory registration

Electoral cycle 1

- Update procedure
- Permanent structure
- Coverage of the country
- Sustainability of the approach

Civil registration

Civil register

Recording of vital statistics:

- Births, adoption, legitimation, recognition
- Deaths
- Marriage, divorce, annulment, judicial separation

Electoral cycle 2

- Mutation to civil registration
- Simultaneity
- Continuous operation

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Costing of Voter Registration

- Three entry points for cost estimation
- Parametric costing
  - Costs are not comparable from one country to another
  - Driving factors are country specific
- Analogous costing
  - Should not be use at resource mobilisation
- Implementation of sound and valid data collection of project performance statistics during the electoral cycle

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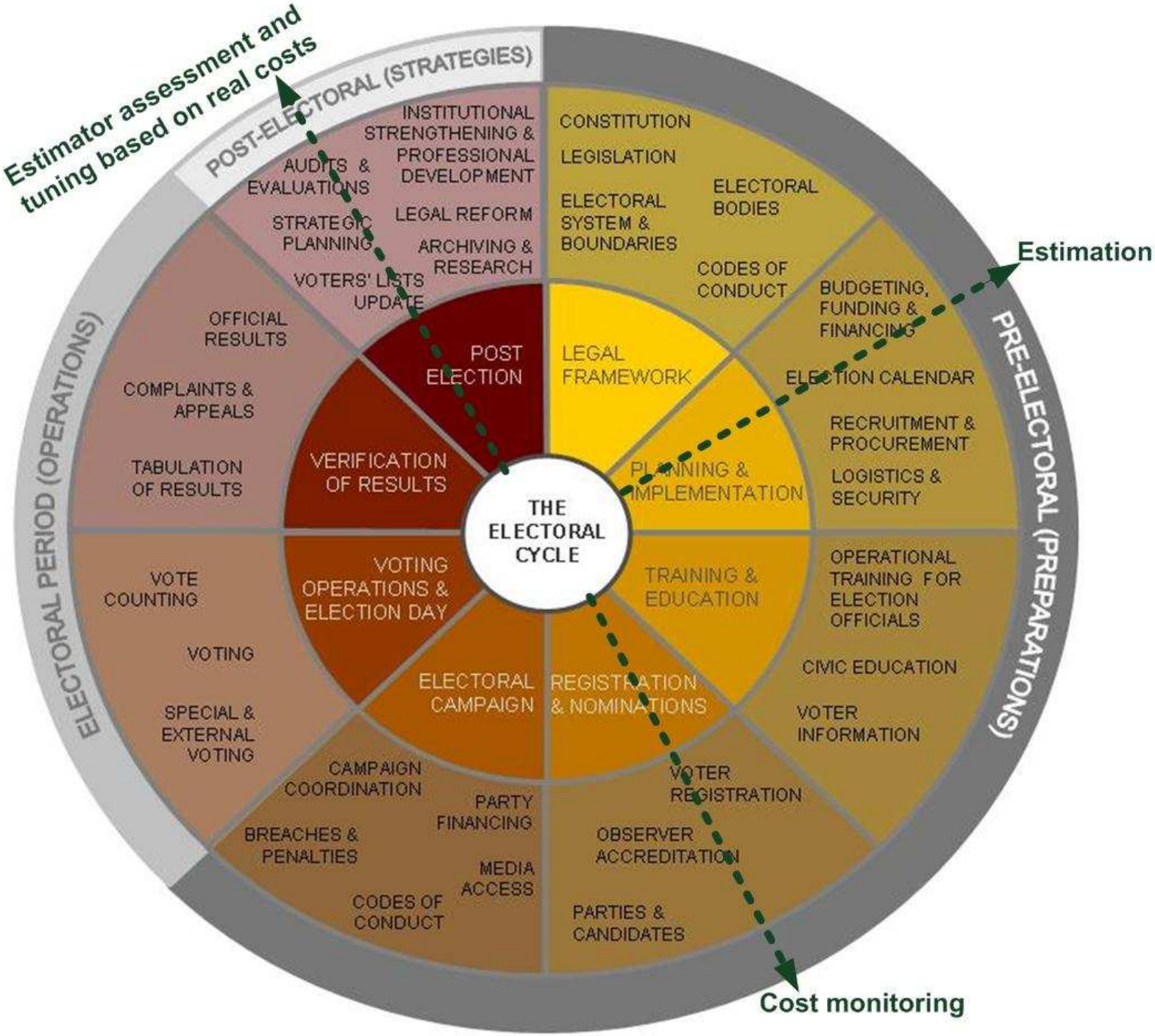
Estimator assessment and tuning based on real costs
POST-ELECTORAL (STRATEGIES)
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
AUDITS & EVALUATIONS
LEGAL REFORM
STRATEGIC PLANNING
ARCHIVING & RESEARCH
VOTERS' LISTS UPDATE
CONSTITUTION
LEGISLATION
ELECTORAL BODIES
ELECTORAL SYSTEM & BOUNDARIES
CODES OF CONDUCT
Estimation
BUDGETING, FUNDING & FINANCING
ELECTION CALENDAR
RECRUITMENT & PROCUREMENT
LOGISTICS & SECURITY
PRE-ELECTORAL (PREPARATIONS)
OPERATIONAL TRAINING FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS
CIVIC EDUCATION
VOTER INFORMATION
VOTER REGISTRATION
OBSERVER ACCREDITATION
PARTIES & CANDIDATES
CAMPAIGN COORDINATION
PARTY FINANCING
BREACHES & PENALTIES
MEDIA ACCESS
CODES OF CONDUCT
VOTE COUNTING
VOTING
SPECIAL & EXTERNAL VOTING
OFFICIAL RESULTS
COMPLAINTS & APPEALS
TABULATION OF RESULTS
ELECTORAL PERIOD (OPERATIONS)
POST ELECTION
LEGAL FRAMEWORK
VERIFICATION OF RESULTS
PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION
THE ELECTORAL CYCLE
VOTING OPERATIONS & ELECTION DAY
TRAINING & EDUCATION
ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN
REGISTRATION & NOMINATIONS
Cost monitoring

Costing of Voter Registration

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Auditing Voter Registration

- **Three entry points for auditing**
- **Auditing practice**
  - **Based on international standards**
  - **Control objectives in relation with electoral cycle approach**
- **Auditing metrics**
- **Sample size calculation for statistical tests based on formulae derived from electoral mathematics**

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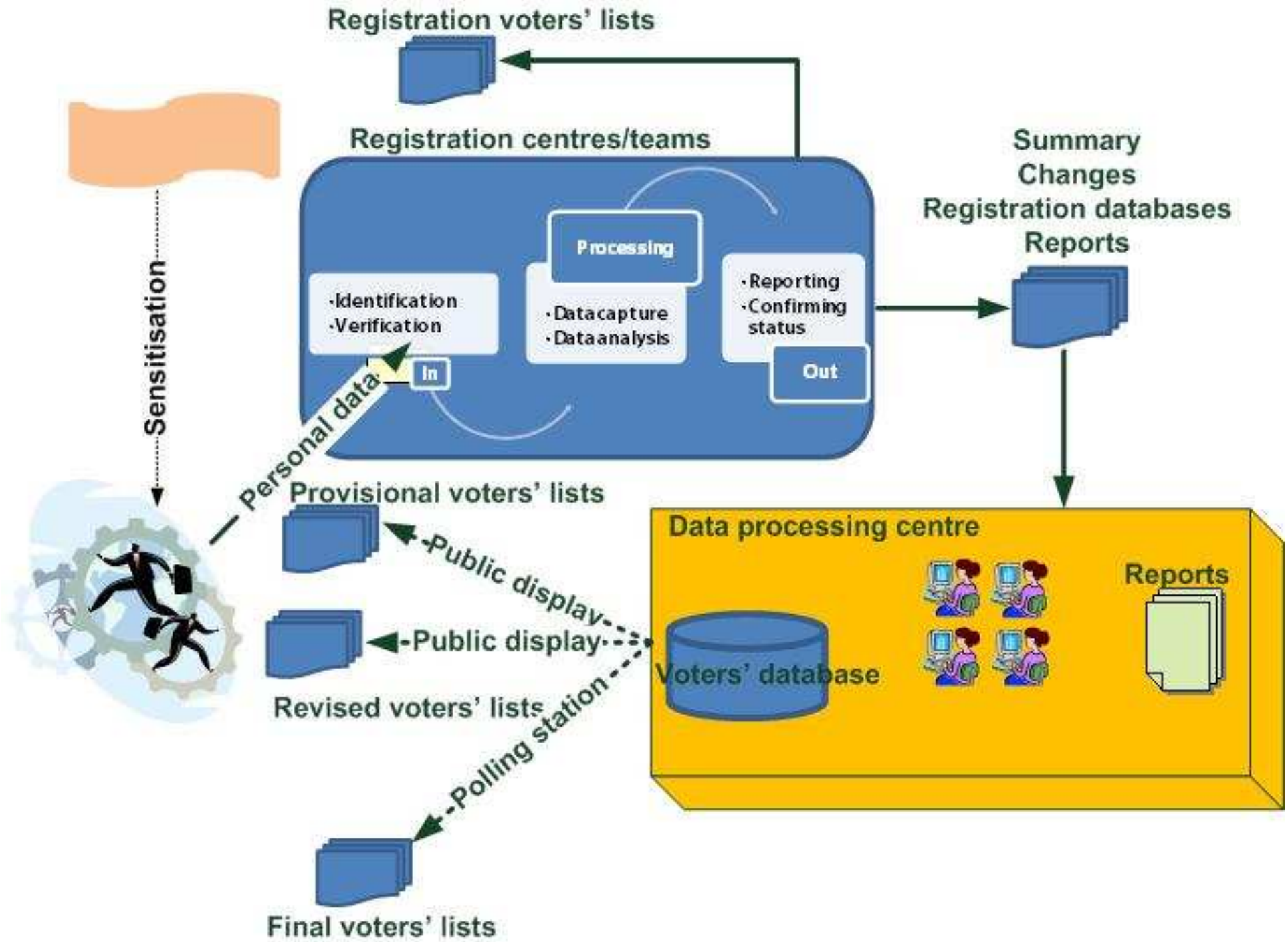
Registration voters' lists
Registration centres/teams
Summary
Changes
Registration databases
Reports
Sensitisation
Processing
·Identification
·Verification
·Datacapture
·Dataanalysis
·Reporting
·Confirming status
In
Out
Personal data
Provisional voters' lists
Public display
Public display
Revised voters' lists
Polling station
Final voters' lists
Data processing centre
Reports
Voters' database

Procurement of ICT

- Procurement experts
- ICT experts
- Procurement should not be left to ICT experts but to a combined team of procurement experts + ICT experts
  - Planning
  - Management of the procurement chain
  - Implementation of measures to prevent integrity problems

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Moving forward

- ❑ **Consolidation of indicators**
- ❑ **Detailed case studies based on the proposed indicators**
- ❑ **Comparative analyses**
- ❑ **Practical hands-on guide**

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