



European Commission United Nations Development Programme International IDEA

***Joint Training on
Effective Electoral Assistance***

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Overview of Voter Registration Methodologies

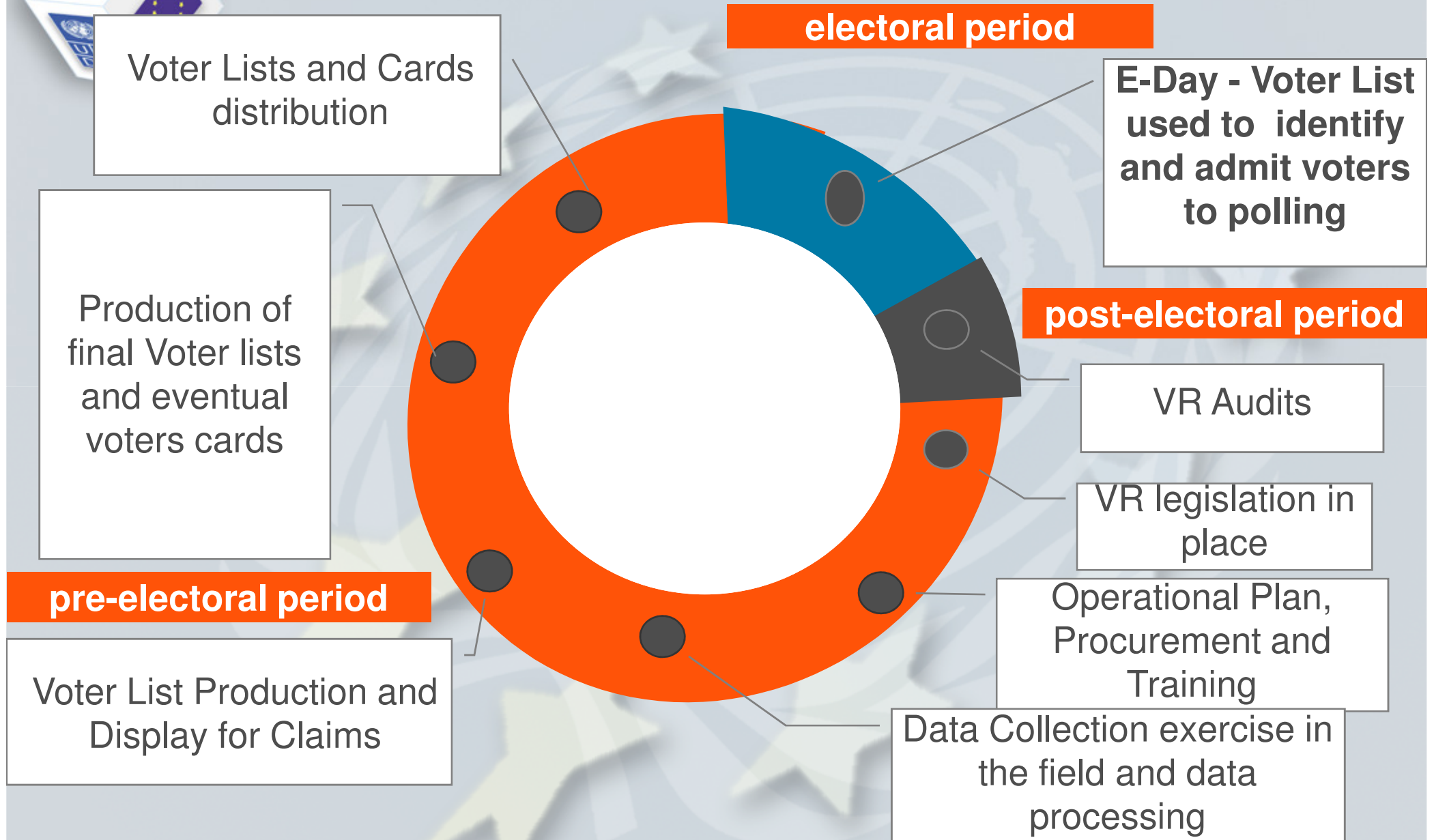
Maputo, 23-27 June 2008



VR: a cornerstone of credible elections

- Always the most controversial aspect of an electoral process
- An accurate and accepted voter registry is pivotal to a credible electoral process
- For most countries it is the largest, most complex, costly and time consuming component of the electoral process
- Crucial display and test of the EMBs operational capacity and credibility

VR Process





VR Systems

Three conceptual systems:

1. Stand-alone “ad hoc” / periodic voter registration (active)
2. Stand-alone continuous / permanent voter registration (active)
3. Civil registration-based voter register (passive)



VR Methodologies

Three levels of technological methodologies:


- **Low-Tech**
 - Data on paper - locally based - Timor 1996, OCV Afghanistan 2004
 - **Medium-Tech**
 - Paper into database - centrally based - West-Bank/Gaza 2004
 - **High-Tech**
 - Direct to computer - centrally based - DRC 2006
- > Endless variations of VR methodology**



Low - Tech Approaches




[illegible]


[illegible]

Forme No.1

Date: _____



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
TUME YA TAIFA YA UCHAGUZI
Umuhimbao wa Uchaguzi wa Kuu, Waingono wa Maalumu
OHEI LA KIHANIKISHA KUWA MFIKA KUWA




Dabahu: _____

Jimu la kionono, la Pili na la Tatu. Andaa mifupa. Kazi ya Jimu na Jimu

Jimu la Kionono		Jimu la Pili		Jimu la Tatu	
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82	82	82	82	82	82

[illegible]

A stack of clear plastic bags and a 'K-9' evidence tag. The tag is white with black text and a red circular logo with 'K-9' inside. It has fields for 'Officer's Name', 'Date', 'Time', and 'Signature'.



The image shows a form titled "KADI YA MPIGA KURA" (Vote Slip) from the KwaZulu-Natal Electoral Commission. It includes the national emblem of South Africa and a large empty box for a photograph. The form contains fields for the voter's name, gender, and date of birth, and a section for the voter's signature and the name of the polling station.



The diagram illustrates the seating arrangement for a 1000-seat stadium. It is divided into 100 rows and 10 columns. The seating is categorized into different types, such as 'Kilimo' (Kilimo), 'Kilimo', and 'Kilimo'. The diagram also includes a list of officials, including the President (Mwenyekiti), Vice President (Mwenyekiti), and various members of the National Assembly (Mwenyekiti, Mwenyekiti, Mwenyekiti). The diagram is labeled 'Picha N° 1' and 'Picha N° 2'.

[illegible]

Envelopes

Hi-Tech Approach





The Future ?

Digital Camera

The digital camera is embedded onto the unit's Official Panel and may be used to capture a voter's digital photograph during registration.

Local Capture of Information

The application contained can capture data manually inserted in the Vanguard. This data can be, voters information, as well as Voting results.

Transmission of Data

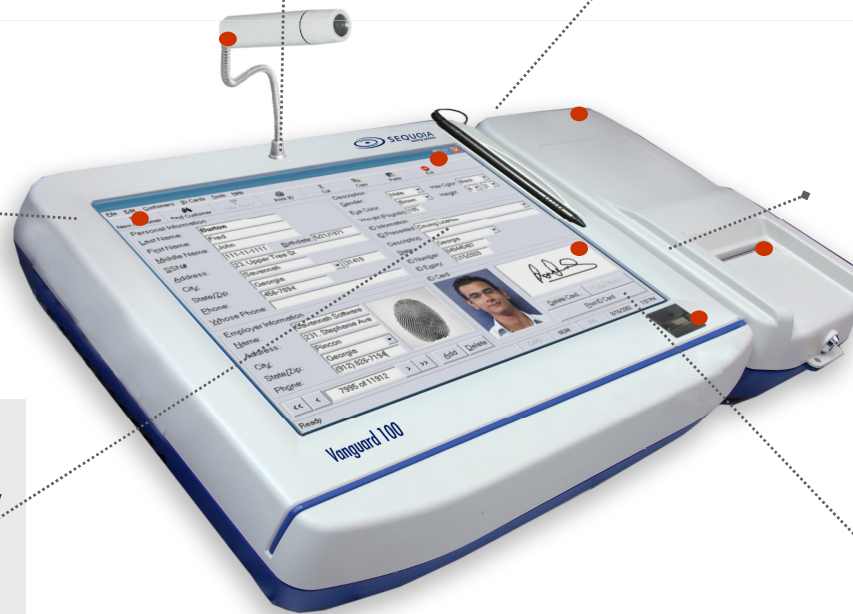
The kit is capable of transmitting all data and results from distributed locations to a central site.

Color Touch-screen

A touch-sensitive, full-color LCD screen displays easy-to-use controls for PenCom officials to use to incorporate or edit data

Signature Pad

The signature capture device may be used to capture a user's signature in electronic format during registration or authentication



Printer

The attached printer can be used to print a voter registration card

Fingerprint Reader

The main fingerprint capture device may be used to capture a fingerprint in digital form during registration or authentication.



TA to Voter Registration

- Increasing demand for high-tech VR systems
- Feasibility studies and design, global as well as local
- Pilot projects
- Procurement of new technology
- Operational planning & procedures
- Training and voter education
- Implementation



Type and Timing of TA

- ☐ **Support to EMB to design and introduce a new model or system of voter registration**
- ☐ **To begin at the end of the previous electoral cycle**
- ☐ **In any event not later than 18 months before elections.**



Type and Timing of TA

- ☐ **Support to EMB to conduct a specific voter registration process which requires the introduction of a new technology or system upgrades**
- ☐ **Assistance to provided between two years and one year before the elections**
- ☐ **In any case, not later than one year**



Type and Timing of TA

- ☐ **Simple procurement of voter registration material**
- ☐ **Between one year and six months before the elections**
- ☐ **technical support to groups observing voter registration (between 1 year and six months before elections).**



Sustainability Issues

- ☐ **Technology might reduce costs and improve sustainability**
- ☐ **It opens up risks for donors and assistance providers to become hostages of the vendors**
- ☐ **Cost-effectiveness depends on the re-usability of the hardware for other elections administrative purposes**
- ☐ **Technological changes are not accompanied by adequate training and voter education efforts**



The Future of Voter Registration

- ☐ Western countries have moved to computerized and permanent voter registration systems
- ☐ Increasing demand from EU partner countries to use EC Development Funds for digital voter registration
- ☐ Lack of adequate feasibility studies. Possible synergies with civil registration are not explored before planning
- ☐ Open debate between models: independent voter registration versus the civil registration based voters register