



Ballot Update

Bulletin

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LESSONS FROM KENYA ON THE MASS BIOMETRIC VOTER REGISTRATION

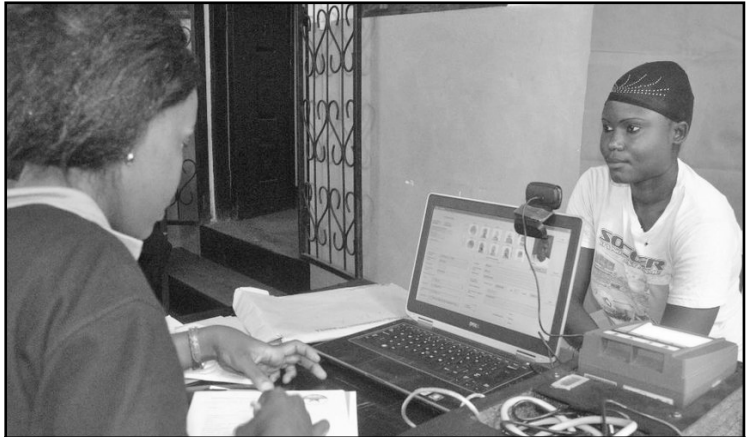
Recently, ZESN observed the Mass Voter Registration (MVR) process in Kenya, where Kenyans were registering using the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) system which Zimbabwe is likely to adopt for the 2018 Elections. This year's MVR is the second time it has been used in Kenya having implemented it prior to their 2013 elections.

Use of technology in elections

In Kenya the IEBC has three electronic systems which they use in the management of elections. These are the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR), Electronic Voter Identification (EVID) and the Result Transmission and Presentation System (RTS). The first two use biometric technology. The BVR system has kits such as a camera, laptop, finger print scanner which capture fingerprints, facial biometrics together with other information such as name, surname, sex, age, ward, county amongst others.

These are then integrated in the second machine which is the Electronic Voter Identification Devices (EVID) which is used on polling day to identify voters. In our interactions with some CSOs in Kenya, they indicated that if the EVIDs work perfectly, all voters will have to physically present their biometric identification, there will not be the allegations of dead voters and underage children which were rampant in Kenya's previous election.

The third machine is the results transmission machine which was not very effective in the 2013 elections. As Zimbabwe embarks on the journey of incorporating technology into elections, the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission needs to have contingency plans in case of technology failures and the backup plan needs to be fully understood by all electoral stakeholders.



A voter registering using BVR kit during the mass voter registration exercise in Kenya.

Right to Vote

In Zimbabwe the Right to vote is an issue under immense debate, Section 67 (1)(a) of the Constitution under political rights states that every Zimbabwean citizen has the right to free, fair and regular elections in which they are to make their political choices freely. However, prisoners, those in hospitals and Zimbabweans living in the Diaspora have been excluded out of electoral processes. In Kenya, however the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) set up registration centres in prisons to allow prisoners who are eligible an opportunity to vote albeit for the Presidential candidate only. The estimated number of persons in Kenyan prisons stands at over 50,000. There are as many as 3 million Kenyan living in the Diaspora and unlike in Zimbabwe these will participate in the elections. IEBC registered people living in Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda,

Burundi and South Africa to be able to participate in the elections though only limited to the presidential election. Zimbabwe these will participate in the elections.

Voters' Roll

As the case in Zimbabwe, the voters' roll has been one of the most contentious issues in Kenyan elections. In 2013, there was an outcry over the multiple voters' rolls that the Commission used for the elections. For the 2017 Mass Voter Registration processes which concluded on 14 February local observer groups in Kenya reported cases of double registration in a number of centers that were visited with the

IEBC confirming that there were 78,752 cases of double registration, of which 21,149 of them were cases where individuals shared the same ID numbers and names.

One of the key lessons for Zimbabwe though was the establishment of online platform where voters could easily check for their names. This innovation enhanced the ease with which voters could inspect the voters' roll. This is one area that the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), should seriously consider implementing given the high levels of mobile technology penetration in Zimbabwe.

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Zvidzidzo Zvatinowana Kubva kuKenya pakushandisa kwayakaita Michina yeKunyoresa Ruzhinji Kuvhota

Munguva shoma yadarika, ZESN yakaongorora nzira yeKunyoreswa kweruzhinji kuvhota pachishandiswa michina kwakaitwa neKenya. Nzira iyi ndiyo irikuda kushandiswa muZimbabwe pasarudzo dza2018. Iri igore rechipiri pachishandiswa michina kunyoresa ruzhinji kuvhota kuKenya mushure mokinge yakamboshandiswa musarudzo dzemuna2013.

Kushandiswa kwemichina musarudzo Kenya ine nzira nhatu dzinoshandisa michina pakufambiswa kwesarudzo. Dzinonganisira kunyoresa kuvhota pachishandiswa michina inocherechedza masikirwo ako, michina inoongorora kuti munhu ari kuvhota ndiye here akanyoresa kuvhota pamwe nemichina inoverenga pamwe nekuzivisa zvabuda musarudzo. Nzira mbiri dzekutanga dzinoshandisa michina inocherechedza masikirwo ako. Muchina wekunyoresa kuvhota unoshandisa camera, laptop nemuchina unonzi scanner inoongorora mafinger prints.

Muchina uyu unotora mafinger prints, mufananidzo wechiso pamwe nezvimwe zvakaitsa sezita rako, zita remubereki wako, kuti uri munhukadzi kana munhurume, makore ekubereka, wadhii yanobva nyenika yako pamwe nezvimwe. Izvi zvinoiswa mune mumwe muchina unocherechedza munhu arikuda kuvhota. Muchina uyu unoshandiswa musarudzo kwekuvhota kuongorora kuti munhu ari kuda kuvhota ndiye here aya kuvhota.

Pahurukuro dzatakaita nemamwe masangano anomirira kodzero dzevanhu ekuKenya, takazivisa kuti kushandiswa kwemichina pakuvhota kunoshanda zvakana chaizvo nekuti munhu wese anoda kuvhota anofanira kutouya ega pazuva rekuvhota. Naizvozvo hapana nyaya dzekuti munhu akafa anonzi avhota uye hapana nyaya dzekuti vana vasati vasvika zera rekuvhota vanohvota vakamirira munhu asipo. Iri raiva dambudziko guru chaizvo kuKenya vasati vatanga kushandisa michina.

Muchina wechitatu ndiwo unobuditsa zvabuda musarudzo. Uyu muchina hauna kushanda zvakana pasarudzo dzakaitwa muna2013. Apo Zimbabwe iri kugadzirira kupinda pachirongwa chekuda kushandisa michina pakufambiswa kwesarudzo, Zimbabwe Electoral Commission inofanira kuye nehumwe hurongwa padivi kuitira kana michina ikatadza kushanda zvakana. Hurongwa uhu hwepadivi hunofanira

kunge huchinzwisiswa nevanhu wese vane chekuita nesarudzo.

Kodzero yekuvhota

MuZimbabwe nyaya yekodzero yekuvhota inyaya inogara ichikurukurwa chaizvo. Chikamu 67 (1) (a) cheBumbiro reMutemo chinotaura nezve kodzero dzevanhu vemuZimbabwe panyaya dzematongerwo enyika chinoti, zvizvarwa zvese zveMuZimbabwe zvakane kodzero yekuvhota zvakasununguka pasina kubiridzira musarudzo uye sarudzo dzinofanira kuitwa panguva dzakatarwa. Zvizvarwa zvese zvinofanira kusununguka kusarudzo vameriri pasina kumbunyikidzwa.

Zvisinei, vasungwa, vari muzvipatara nevana veZimbabwe vari kunze kwenyika havasi kupiwa mikana yekupinda pahurongwa hwekuvhota. KuKenya komishoni inoona nezvesarudzo nezve kutarwa kwenzvimbo dzekuvhota inonzi Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) yakaisa nzvimbo dzekunyoresa kuvhota mumajeri kuti vasungwa vanobvumidzwa nemutemo vakwanise kuvhota kunyungwe zvazvo vachibvumidzwa kuvhota re Mutungamiri wenyika che.

Vasungwa vari mumajeri kuKenya vanodarika 50 000. Kune zvakare zvizvarwa zveMuKenya zviri kugara kunze kweKenya zvinosvika mamiriyoni matatu.

Vanhu wese ava vachapilwa mukana wekunyoresa kuvhota. Komishoni yekuKenya yakazvimirira inoona nezve kufambiswa kwesarudzo nezve kutarwa kwenzvimbo dzekuvhota yakanyoresa zvizvarwa zveKenya zviri kuRwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi nekuSouth Africa kuti zvikwanise kuvhota pasarudzo kunyungwe zvazvo vachibvumidza kusarudzo Mutungamiri wenyika che.

Gwaro remazita evakanyoresa kuvhota

Nyaya yeGwaro remazita evakanyoresa kuvhota inyaya yatemesa vanhu misoro chaizvo musarudzo dze kuKenya. Mugore ra2013, pakaita zhowe zhowe guru pamusoro penyaya yekuti pakaita maGwaro emazita evakanyoresa kuvhota akawanda akashandiswa neKomishoni pasarudzo.

Pakunyoreswa kuvhota kweruzhinji kwakaitwa muna2017 kwakapera muna Kukadzi, mapoka evaongorori vemuKenya vakaita pane kunyoreswa kaviri kwakaitwa munzvimbo dzakawanda dzakashanyirwa neKomishoni yakazvimirira inoona nezvesarudzo nekutarwa kwenzvimbo dzekuvhota. Ongorori iyi yakataridza kuti pane vanhu vanosvika 78,752 vakanyoreswa kaviri. Panhu ava pane 21,149 vane mazita nenhamba dzezvitupa dzakafanana. Chimwe chidzidzo chikuru chakadzidzwa neZimbabwe kushandiswa kweinternet kuti vanhu

vakwanise kuona kuti vakanyoreswa here kuvhota kubudikidza nekutarisa painternet kana kuti online. Izvi zvinobatsira kuti zvine nyore kuti vakanyoresa kuvhota vakwanise kuongorora Gwaro remazita evakanyoresa kuvhota.

Komishoni yeMuZimbabwe inofanira kufungisisa pamusoro penzira itsva iyi takatarisana nekushandiswa zvikuru kweinternet pamafoni nemakombiyuta muZimbabwe.

Kukwanisa kuzivisa zviri kuitika pakufambiswa kwesarudzo

Komishoni yeveSarudzo yekuKenya yakatora matanho anoyemurika ekuzivisa ruzhinji pamusoro pemafambiro esarudzo kubudikidza nekuti munhu wese akwanise kuvhota zviri kuitika pakufamba kwesarudzo. Senzira yekuti munhu wese azive zviri kuitika, Komishoni yekuKenya yakashandisa nzira dzese dzekushambadzira dzakaita semawebbsite, Facebook ne Twitter anokurudzira kutaurirana, dzimwe nzira dzekare dzagara dzichishandiswa pakushambadzira.

Ruzivo rwakakosha rwakaita sehuwandu hwevanyoresa kuvhota, kunyoresa kwevanoda kukwikwidza, nzvimbo dzine michina yekunyoresa kuvhota nemapambiro arikuita sarudzo zvaishambadzira zvakare pawebbsite yeKomishoni yekuKenya pamwe nepaFacebook nepaTwitter.



The Electoral Commission set up voter registration centres in prisons to register eligible prisoners in Kenya



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Okwafundwa eKenya kuhlelo lokubhalisa ukuVota kusetshenziswa izitho zomzimba

iZimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) yathola ithuba lokuhlola uhlelo lokubhalisa ukuVota kusetshenziswa izitho zomzimba (Biometrics) olwenziwa yilizwe lase Kenya emalanganeni aduleyo. Yilo loluhlelo iZimbabwe ejonge ukulwenza phambili kokhetho luka 2018. Uhlelo lolu ngolwesibili iKenya ilwenza emveni kokuphatheka kulo njalo ngemva kokhetho luka 2013.

Ukusetshenziswa kwemitshina ekhethweni

Ezweni laseKenya i-Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) ilendlela ezintathu zokusebenzisa imitshina lolwazi lwesimanje ekuphatheni ukhetho. Kulokubhalisa ukuvota usebenzisa izitho zomzimba (BVR), ukusebenzisa imitshina yesimanje ukubona lowo ozoVota (EVID), lokuhambisa impumela yokhetho (RTSD). Indlela yokuqala leyesibili isebenzisa izitho zomzimba womuntu.

Indlela le yokubhalisa (BVR) isebenzisa imitshina yesimanje ebalisa umtshina wokuthatha izithombe (Camera), owokubhala (Laptop), owokuhlola umunwe lobabuso bomuntu (finger print scanner), kulanganisela leninye imininjingwana ngomuntu enjenge bizo, ubulili lobulilikazi, iminyaka yalowo muntu, ilizwe Kanye lesigaba lapho ahlanga kuso. Liminjingwa isuka lapho ihlanganiswe komunye umtshina osetshenziswa ukubona abantu abazovota ngosuku lokuvota okuthiwa yi (Electronic Voter Identification EVID).

Ingxoxo enziwa yiZESN lenhlanganiso ezizimele zodwa zilwela amalungelo abantu, ifumane ukuthi nxa lumtshina (EVID) ungasebenza kuhle, bonke abavoti kudingeka bafike mathupha lapho okuvelwa khona ukuze lesositho somzimba esasetshenziswa kubhaliswa ukuvota sibhekane ukuze

umtshina wenelise ukubona ukuthi nguye qha umnini waleso sitho esasetshenziswayo mhla kubhaliswa ukuVota. Lokho kuzenza ukuthi kungabi lakusolela ukuthi kulabanye ababhuhayo labangelalungelo lukuVota okwenzakala ezweni leKenya kunkhetho ezadlula.

Umtshina wesithathu ngowokuhambisa impumela yokhetho ongazange usebenze ngoqotho ngokhetho luka 2013 eKenya. Njengoba ilizwe le Zimbabwe lisenzeni yokusebenzisa ulwazi lemitshina yesimanje kukhetho, kuyadingeka ukuthi iZimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), ibelamaqhinga okuthi imelane lenkinga ezingayivelela nxa imitshina ingephuka ngesikhathi uthetho luqhubeka. Lawamaqhinga kumele avunyelwane phakathi kwe ZEC lalabo abaphathekayo kunhlelo zokhetho.

Ilungelo lokuvota

Ilungelo lokuvota liyindaba esegudwini kweleZimbabwe. I-Section 67 (1)(a) yeseskelo Sombuso welizwe ngaphansi kwamalungelo abantu okukhetha, iyachaza igcizelela njalo ukuthi sonke isizalwana seZimbabwe sifanelungelo lokuphatheka kukhetho olukhululekileyo njalo olwenzakala ngesikhathi esifaneleyo ukuze izizalwane zenelise ukukhetha lowo ezimfunayo kungelakudlwangukwa.

Ngeshwa ke, izibotshwa, abagulayo ezibhedlela labaphandle kwelizwe batshiywa phandle zihlelo zokhetho kuleli. Kwele Kenya, inhlanganiso ye-IEBC yenza kwabalula ukuthi izibotshwa zenelise ukubhalisa ukuvota zisentolungweni. Nge sikhathi sokuvota zivunyelwa ukuvotela umongameli welizwe kuphela. Izibotshwa kulelo lizwe zifika kumanani eqa u 50 000 kuthi labo abaphandle kwelizwe le Kenya bebalwela kuzigidi ezintathu (3 Million).



Ngenhlanhla ke, labo bantu bazaphatheka kukhetho ezweni leKenya ikanti kwelakithi eZimbabwe abenelisi ukubayinxenye yokhetho.

I-IEBC yenelisa ukubhalisa izizalwane zayo ezisemazweni athi Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi lase Ningizimu Africa ukuze baphatheke kukhetho noma nje bezophatheka ekukhetheni umongameli welizwe kuphela.

Ugwalo lwabavoti

Njenge simo sakuleli, ugwalo olumumethe amabizo abantu abalelungelo lokuvota beluyinkinga enkulu kuzwe lase Kenya. Ngokhetho luka 2013 lwaseKenya, abantu bakhalazwa kakhulu ngalezizwalo ezasetshenziswa yiKomishini yase Kenya.

Kuhlelo lokubhalisa ukuvota lwalonyaka (2017), olugquqshwe mhlaka 14 kuNhlotjana, izinhlozi zakulelo lizwe ezinengi zabika ukuthi kwabalokubhaliswa kwabantu okuphinda phindiweyo kundawo ezithile lapho okwakubhaliswa khona ukuvota. Izindawo ezavakathelwa yi IEBC yakuvuma lokho ukuthi kwakulamabizo abantu ayefika amandani angu 78 752 ayephindaphindiwe ukubhalisa ukuvota. Kuthi inani eliyi 21 149 lalabo abaphindaphindiweyo kwakungabantu ababelamabizo lezithupha ezifanayo.

Okusemqoka kuzwe leZimbabwe okwamanje yikwethula indlela yasebulenjini (Internet) lapho abantu abangenelisa khona ukhulola amagama ababo ukuthi akhona njalo alwathwe kuhle yini kugwalo lwabantu abalelungelo lokuvota. Lapho yikho sibili inhlanganiso ye ZEC okumele ilungise khona ikakhulu sibhekane lokuthi inengi labantu selilayo indlela yokuhlola amagama abo besebenzisa labomakhala ekhukhweni noma bekuphi kwelizwe.

Ukufinyelela ulwazi ngokhetho

Inhlanganiso ebona ngokugqutshwa koKhetho kwele Kenya (Kenyan Electoral Commission) yenza umsebenzi oncomekayo ngokufinyelelisa ulwazi ngezokhetho kuzulu wakulelo lakulabo abalokwenza ngekhethe. Njengendlela yokufinyelelisa ulwazi ngokhetho kubantu, iIEBC yasebenzisa indlela ezinengi ezikhanga uzulu ezokuthumela imibiko ezibalisa ebulenjini, ezomdaba, Kanye lezakulezi insuku.

Ulwazi oluqakathekileyo olunjengamanani abantu abhalisa ukuvota, indlela zokuthenga lokwabelwa kwemitshina yokusebenzisa kukhetho Kanye lomgwalo wezinlelo zonke zokhetho yayitholalaka kalula ebulenjini bekomishini ebalisa (iFacebook le Twitter)

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Access to Electoral Information

The Kenyan Electoral Commission made commendable efforts to publicize details of electoral processes making key electoral information easily accessible to all stakeholders. As part of the strategy in ensuring access to information, the IEBC used multiple

media platforms such as a highly interactive website, traditional and social media outlets. Crucial information such as voter registration statistics, tender processes, distribution of BVR kits and the election roadmap were easily accessible on the Commission's website, Facebook and Twitter accounts.



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AU and SADC should deploy observers early

Civic Society Organisations (CSOs) under the banner of the Electoral Reforms Working Group (ERWG) called upon African Ambassadors for the early deployment of technical teams and observers to track key electoral processes such as the biometric voter registration and electoral campaigns.

The call was made during a meeting organised by the working group which is coordinated by ZESN. The CSOs indicated that early deployment was key to the election observer missions' ability to have a comprehensive assessment of the whole electoral cycle in Zimbabwe.

As the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission prepares to implement the polling station based Biometric Voter Registration system for the first time in Zimbabwe there are repeated calls for the alignment of electoral laws, the creation of a conducive political environment and inclusivity in the key processes.

The CSOs expressed hope that more African countries will ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance in order to give impetus to the goal of democratic, free and fair elections in Africa.

Women Urged To Fully Participate In Electoral Processes



Women have been urged to participate more in electoral voting processes.

The Global community commemorated the International Women's Day on 8 March 2017 under the theme "Be Bold For Change". In Zimbabwe, there have been major strides towards the emancipation of women and their participation in politics as seen by improvements in their representation in both houses of Parliament, courtesy of the quota system introduced by the Constitution in 2013. However, women participation in politics, and representation in Zimbabwean elected Parliament and Senate remains far below than their male counterparts despite them enjoying the demographic superiority constituting 52 percent of the total population.

Where women are able to participate in electoral processes, the chances of a peaceful environment are high, and even free, fair and credible elections. Nevertheless, women face many barriers to their political participation.

ZESN therefore, urges all eligible women to turn out in their numbers to register as voters. In addition, zero tolerance towards politically motivated violence and for the creation of a conducive political environment that encourages women's participation in electoral processes.

"Efforts towards gender parity do not begin and end on international women's day but should be a continuous endeavour by all members of society. Through purposeful collaboration, we can all help women and girls advance and guarantee that their future is bright, equal, safe and rewarding," added ZESN National Director Mrs Rindai Chipfunde Vava.

Besides providing for women quota systems, the Constitution in 2013 was a major milestone achievement for women rights advancement, and their participation in public sphere. In practice, however, the participation of women is still below the expected as the field remain male dominated.

Like never before this is the time that women should come together and unite to speak out on the issues affecting them on their participation in electoral and political processes. This is also an opportune time for stakeholders advancing women's rights to take a stock of successes, challenges and innovative strategies to ensure for women participation in electoral processes.

Women participation in electoral processes and politics is crucial for consolidation of democratic principles. Thus, ZESN in a statement called upon women of Zimbabwe from all walks of life to fully enjoy their rights to participation in all institutions and agencies of government as stipulated in articles 17 and 18 of the Constitution, particularly the impending voter registration process in preparation for the 2018 harmonized elections.

TENPOINT

Plan towards Democratic Elections in Zimbabwe

Will To Reform

1. Government needs to limit the role of special electoral advisors into Commission of Enquiry. THE IMPROVE ALIGNMENT OF ELECTORAL LAWS WILL ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR IMPLEMENTATION BEFORE ELECTION.
2. "Where the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission independence and control by THE EXECUTIVE SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH ZEC OPERATIONS. REVIEW CLAUSES IN THE ELECTORAL ACT AND STOP ACTIONS THAT COMPROMISE THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZEC
3. Government needs to provide a safe and free political environment to ELIMINATE POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND BUILD A CONDUCTIVE POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT WHICH GUARANTEES THE ENJOYMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS
4. The framework for election observation will be developed by member states and will be implemented progressively. MUST ADHERE TO REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES such as COOPERATION, INTEGRITY, ACCESSIBILITY, TRANSPARENT, ACCURATE AND INTEGRITY.
5. Right to vote and choose should be allowed to all eligible voters to provide for a peaceful and ZEC MUST ENSURE THE RIGHT TO VOTE TO ALL ELIGIBLE ZIMBABWEANS INCLUDING THOSE IN HOSPITALS AND PRISONS. REINSTATE SPECIAL VOTING.
6. ZEC should IMMEDIATELY commence COMPREHENSIVE, INCLUSIVE AND CONTINUOUS VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TO OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.
7. EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ensure that the role of the state to re-constitute THE ELECTORAL COURT TO CONFORM TO SECTION 163 OF THE CONSTITUTION. Government should also ensure that the special investigative committee is set up to investigate the role of the state.
8. ZEC should ensure that the electoral process is CONDUCTED IN A FAIR AND EQUITABLE manner and that the National Election Commission and ZEC SHOULD ENFORCE THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL REPORTING.
9. FRAMEWORK FOR LONG TERM ELECTION OBSERVATION MUST BE ESTABLISHED AND THE SECURITY OF OBSERVERS SHOULD BE GUARANTEED.
10. URGENT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ensure that GOVERNMENT MUST ADEQUATELY RESOURCE THESE INSTITUTIONS AND ENSURE THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

