Presentation

- Learning Outcomes
- Methodology
- Key Points
- Definitions
- Should and Should NOT
- Areas of Implementation
- EC-UNDP Focus and Activities
- Best Practises and the Future

Learning Outcomes

- Appreciate the appropriate use of technological innovation in electoral operations
- Become familiar with voter registration exercises and related challenges
- Understand possible synergies with other exercises
- Become familiar with biometric voter registration and electronic voting machines

Methodology

- Overview and Introduction on technology, voter registration and electronic voting
- Presentation and practical demonstrations from the EMBs of Mozambique, Zambia, Brazil
- Discussions Time
- Evaluations
- Working Groups on Technological Innovation and Election tomorrow

Key Point

While the principles of elections largely remain the same

Information

Communication

Technology

has the past 25 years dramatically changed the operational methodology for elections, driven by rising demands on EMBs.

Appropriate Technology

- Continuous and increasingly fast developments in ICTs applications available for electoral purposes
- EC/UNDP are receiving many request for support to census, civil and voter registration.
- Factor to be reckoned with by all EMBs, donors, practioners and electoral assistance providers
- ICTs has already dramatically changed the way elections are conducted
- Unrealistic not to accept that this process will go on and affect more and more emerging democracies, like Mozambique and even countries just exiting long-drawn conflicts, like DRC

Effective Electoral Assistance Focus

- **Quality and appropriateness of the methodological, operational and technological choices to be adopted for implementation on an electoral cycle**
- **Perceived not any longer as isolated event but as a process.**
- **Past imperfections and limited results should be seen as an additional motive to support electoral processes investing more in the institutions that administer the elections in a good governance perspective**
- **Importance of international/domestic observation missions, evaluations, post election seminar and peer review mechanisms.**
- **Importance of the synergies between election observation and electoral assistance**

Definitions

Any effort to make electoral assistance more effective must tackle the issue of the increasing use of technology in the electoral process.

Challenge

What kind of technology is suitable for a particular electoral process?

- **Challenge: how to ensure a sustainable, appropriate, cost effective and transparent use of technology in post-conflict elections and in fragile or emerging democracies?**
- **No fixed solution that can be applicable everywhere, but different ones for every context. General rule:**
- **The level of technological upgrades suitable for a given country should always be directly related to the trust and independence enjoyed by the EMB, as this is the element that will in the end determine their acceptance by the public opinion.**

"Should"

Technology should be:

- implemented in time before an electoral event
- legally supported
- operationally appropriate
- cost effective
- transparent and add to integrity
- sustainable

"Not"

Technology should NOT be:

- driven by vendor or donor interests
- considered a proof of "development"
- suppress more important needs

EC - UNDP Partnership

- Challenges of the 2004 project in support of the DRC electoral processes
- South-South Cooperation DRC-Togo
- Bangladesh, Conakry, Nigeria
- Joint EC UNDP Task Force
- Joint Study EC-UNDP-IDEA on the synergies between civil and voter registration and use of ICTs
- SAT-ELECTIONS
- Coordination with other similar studies EISA and ACEEEO are carrying out within the broader partnership of ACE – The Electoral Knowledge Network


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

Areas of Implementation

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Boundary delimitation
- Operational planning
- Public information
- Results analysis by public & contestants
- Integration with other institutions

Areas of Implementation
Regulation of Parties and Candidates

- Registration of parties
- Campaign finance controls and information
- Candidate nomination and verification
  - Better and more precise ballots
- Voter education about contestants

Areas of Implementation
Public Outreach

Areas of Implementation
Public Outreach

- Web sites
- Mass emailing
- Mass SMS
- Call Centers of EMBs
- Better TV spots through animation

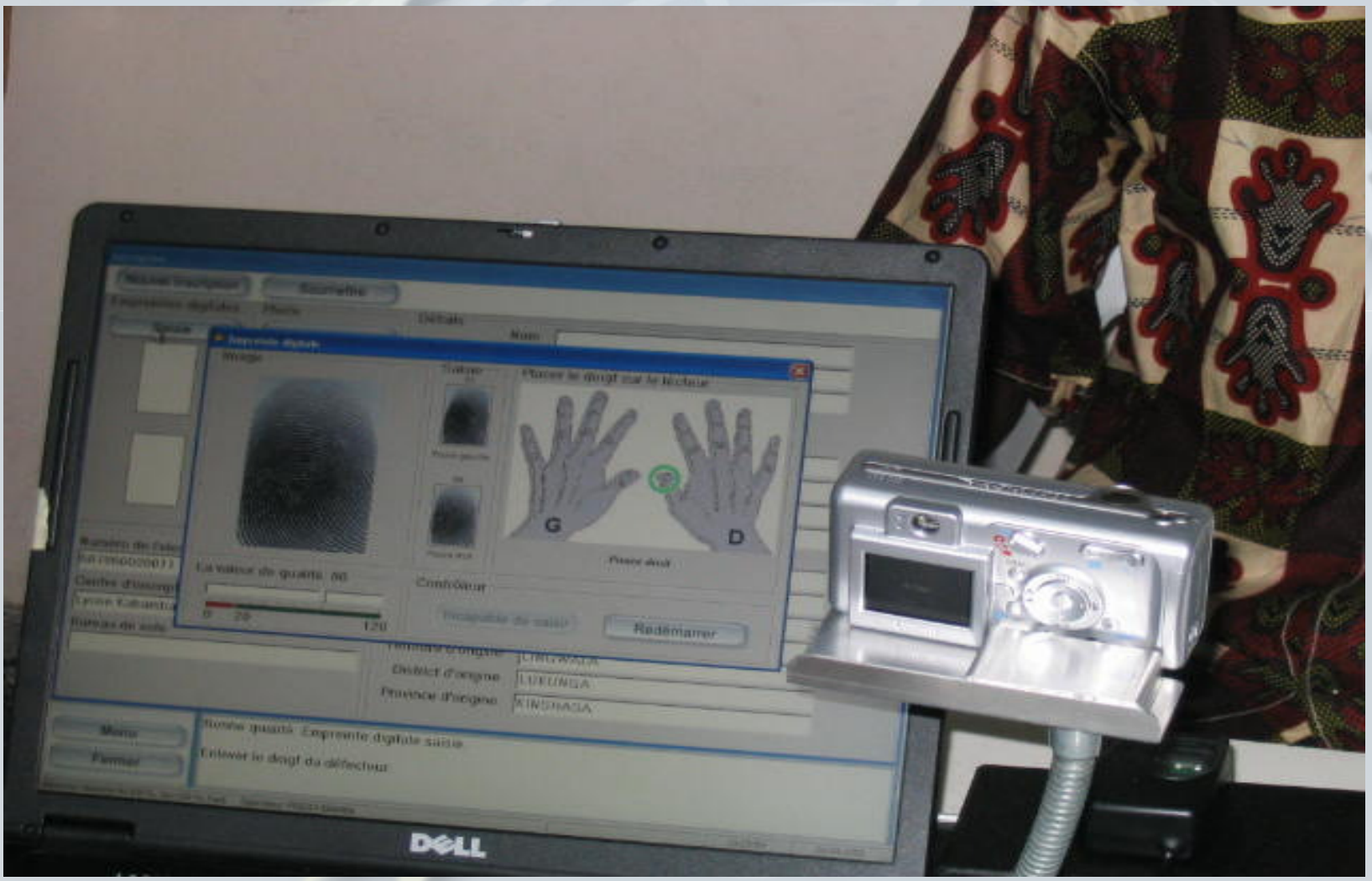
Areas of Implementation Results Aggregation

- Results are data entered manually, or through OMR, locally and then electronically transferred and tabulated centrally
- Faster, more precise & more auditable results
- Cost effective modernisation

Areas of Implementation
Internal Administration

- Organisational modernisation
- Budget/finance, human resource systems
- Procurement, inventory, transport
- Internal communication
  - Distributed email
  - Secure intranets
- Customisation & training, training, training

Areas of Implementation
Voter Registration



Areas of Implementation
Voter Registration

- An accurate and accepted voter registry is pivotal to a credible electoral process
- Capture more data, faster and more precise
- Capture biometric data: picture & fingerprint
  - Avoid double registration
- Centralisation: detect fraud
- Planning: more effective allocation to polling locations
- Synergy with civil registry
- Risks: sustainability, manipulation, trust

Areas of Implementation Electronic Voting

Areas of Implementation Electronic Voting

Opportunities:

- Longer term cost reduction
- Results faster and more reliable
- Better access for disabled
- Mobility of voters
- Facilitate out-of-country voting
- Higher turn-out through ease of voting

Areas of Implementation Electronic Voting

- Risks:
- Sustainability
  - Training
- "Vendor dictatorship"
- Lack of trust, ease of central manipulation
  - Transparency is key

Biometric Voter Registrations Kits:
DRC, Togo, Nigeria, Conakry, Haiti, Senegal, Angola, Kosovo






- The "Automated Fingerprint Identification System" automatically checks one or many unknown fingerprints against a national database of known prints.
- The intended purpose is to prevent multiple enrolment in an election
- Long Time required for aggregation of data and double entry control in DRC, Togo, Nigeria, Haiti and Angola via AFIS
- Postponement of elections in Haiti, DRC, Angola and Togo

Best Practises

- Feasiblity Studies
- Study Tours
- Technical Specifications drafted considering comparative experiences adapted to the country's needs
- Software and Hardware to be adapted to the country's electoral laws and practices
- Gradual Introduction at least 16-12 months prior to Election Day
- Divide the country on different operational areas in view of rationalizing the ressources
- Accent on human ressources, training, on site assistance from services providers
- Cost Effectiveness and Sustainability
- Pilot Tests, Validation Tests, Mock Registration
- Civic Voter Education aimed at increasing all stakeholders' trust in the technology
- Plan synergies with census, civil registry and voter registration, ID for police etc..
- Consider to extend the length of the operations

The Future of Electoral Technology?

- Synergies between civil and voter registration
- Digital identities with biometric identification, digital certificates
- Polling stations disappear replaced by internet voting and/or voting via mobile phone
- Individualised voter education via internet
- Direct/digital democracy