



European Commission United Nations Development Programme International IDEA

In collaboration with

**International Organization for Migration
Canadian International Development Agency
Organization of American States**

Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance

***VOTER REGISTRATION CASE STUDIES
DRC, Togo, Guinea-Conakry, Zambia & Benin***

Accra, 2 July 2009

Organized within



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Presentation

Introduction

DRC

Togo

Guinea-Conakry

Zambia

Benin

Common issues



Introduction

- ☐ **Past versus present situations**
- ☐ **Practical issues on the ground forcing situational analysis leading to short term solutions because of political pressures**
- ☐ **Government versus EMB responsibility for voter registration**



❑ 2005-2006:

- ❑ First large scale use of digital registration kits in a Sub Saharan context
- ❑ Voter cards are also interim National ID cards
- ❑ Dos and Don'ts of biometric registration (lessons learned)
- ❑ South to South cooperation giving a second life to kits & military and police registrations

❑ 2009-2010:

- ❑ Reusability of digital registration kits in a subsequent electoral cycle
- ❑ Review of energy solution (solar panels)



- ❑ **Voter registration operation implemented in cascade (5 operational areas), from 20 June 05 to 20 February 06**
- ❑ **10,000 digital registration kits; 9,105 registration centers; 47,000 registration staff + more than 18,000 policemen involved**
- ❑ **A total of 25,712,552 voters registered at the end of the operation. 292,353 were excluded from the voter roll for multiple registration based on fingerprint duplicate search.**





☐ 2007:

- ☐ Total solution versus technology transfer to EMB
- ☐ Lessons learned in DRC helped reducing technical issues related to digital registration
- ☐ Costly refurbishment: 1/3 of the total cost of acquiring new digital registration kits

☐ 2009:

- ☐ Government has acquired the new digital registration kits without consultations with the EMB
- ☐ Voters' register update delayed by the political context
- ☐ Set the baseline for updating biometric database of voters













Guinea-Conakry

❑ 2007-2009:

- ❑ Pilot testing well appreciated by the population**
- ❑ Financial issues (out of country registration)**
- ❑ 4.2 million registered voters on mid June 2009**
- ❑ No sufficient coverage of the capital city and islands**
- ❑ Possible end date around December 2009**
- ❑ Interesting lessons to be learned from this process**





Guinea-Conakry



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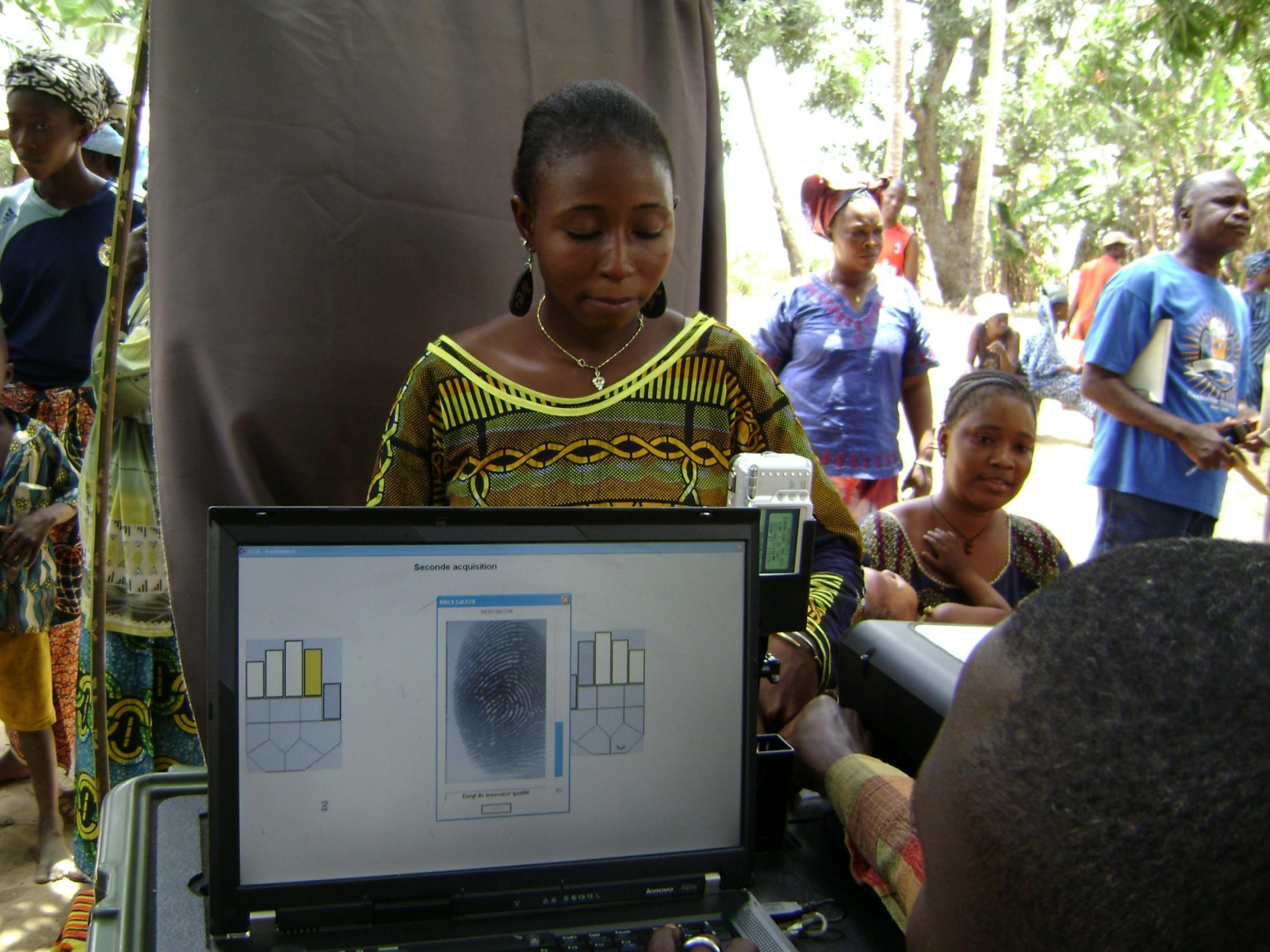
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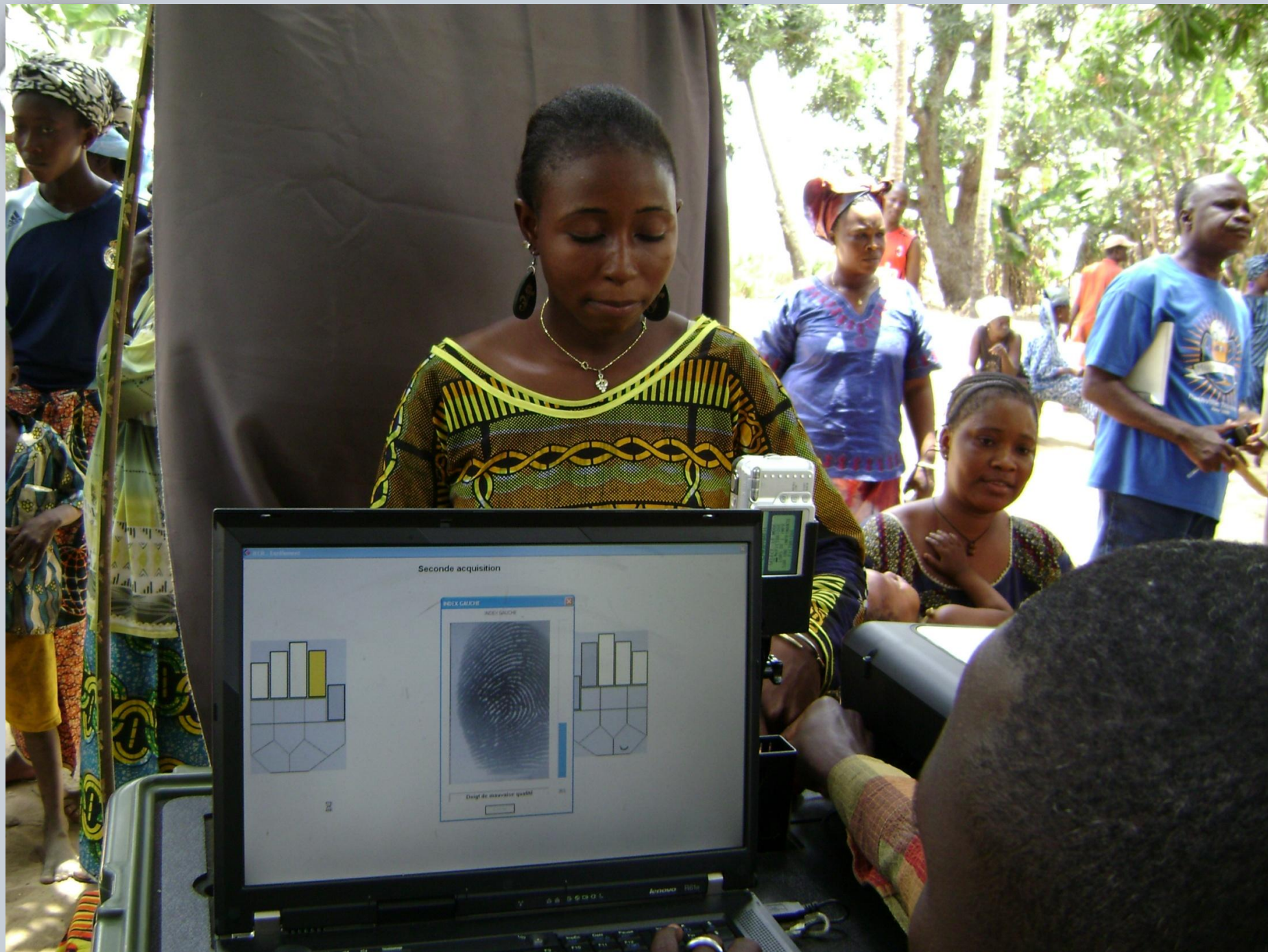














- ☐ 2005 system
- ☐ Replacement for the Polaroid
- ☐ Integration civil the civil register
- ☐ Capacity building of public administration to create a national identification system conversant with the voters' register



Benin

- ☐ **Complexity of harmonising long term and short term requirements**
- ☐ **Pseudo administrative population census prior to registration**
- ☐ **Updates required for upcoming consecutive elections**



Common issues

- ☐ **Project management**
- ☐ **Mistrust of political parties and civil society organisations**
- ☐ **Sustainability**
- ☐ **Administrative feasibility**