ID4AFRICA 2016

10 years' experience in Africa: retrospective, lessons learned, and opportunities for ambitious governments
ZETES FACTS & FIGURES

Countries Served

+1200 FTE

Countries Served
Direct Presence

+1200 FTE
ZETES PEOPLE ID - VALUE CHAIN

- Biometric/biographic registration
- Data-centralisation & control
- Secure document production

Enabling authentication for border control, elections, ...

Zetes
In this workshop led by the UNDP, experts from election commission, development partners, and industry discuss the experiences and trends in using digital identity in support of democracy and elections (including enrolment as well as voter verification). This includes both the experiences of using foundational identity (i.e. national ID) as well as independent functional voter registers. In addition the workshop elaborates on the harmonization efforts between national identity and electoral registers in countries where both have been developed and addresses some of the challenges related to the additional sensitive information (e.g. Ethnicity, nationality, etc.) normally captured in the electoral registers.

Workshop objectives:
• Understanding the advantages and disadvantages of linking or delinking voter registers from foundational registers.
• Gaining practical knowledge how to perform identity enrolment & verification
• Lessons learned that can be used for other functional identity registers, such as social registers.
QUICK COMPARISON

Voter Register
- single purpose
- owner is also the user
- individuals
- small data set
- no history / archive per individual
- snapshot

Population Register
- multi purpose
- owner + multitude of users
- individuals and relations
- extended data set
- records the life history of individuals
- continuous update process
- vital events and vital statistics
- data mining
identity

biometric data

list of documents

identity

photo

other information
(residence, nationality, etc)

civil state
(marital status, voter rights, etc)

Mandates roles

document cards, travel documents, etc

list of ID documents

individual

mandates

Civil state

education

identity

other information
(residence, nationality, etc)

civil state
(marital status, voter rights, etc)

Mandates roles

list of documents

identity

photo

biometric data
POPULATION REGISTER AS BASE FOR THE VOTER REGISTER

• Ideal Scenario
  • the voter register is independent but draws from the population register
  • eligible voters who register but aren’t on the list yet are also/first registered as a citizen/resident
  • eligibility to vote is ruled by the Electoral Commission (i.e. independently of the population register)
VOTER REGISTER AS BASE FOR THE POPULATION REGISTER

- Depends on the quality of the electoral database
  - reliability of the recorded identity?
  - reliable means to verify a person’s identity?
- Requires new registration campaign for the rest of the population
  or
  an extended registration campaign of the entire population prior to the elections (i.e. complete census)
THE REALITY IN MANY COUNTRIES

- Struggling with continuous investment in population register (or no investment at all)
- Demographic explosion make a population register even more urgent but also makes the creation of one more difficult
- Outreach to the general population can be a hurdle
  - Difficult geographical situation
  - Lack of infrastructure
  - Motivation of the people (effort versus perceived benefit)

- But … usually there is a repetitive effort for voter registration
INVESTMENTS IN VOTER REGISTRATION

- CAPITAL EXPENSES
  - equipment
  - development and integration

- OPERATIONAL EXPENSE
  - logistics
  - training
  - operators and support staff

!! ASSETS !!
- equipment
- trained people
What happens with the equipment after the elections?

- Verifying voters at the polling stations?
- Collecting election results?
What happens with the equipment after the elections?

- Re-purposed for
  - education,
  - administration,
  - etc.?
ASSETS - EQUIPMENT

What happens with the equipment after the elections?

- Refurbished?
- Stored?
- Care & Maintenance?
ASSETS - PEOPLE

What happens with the staff after the elections?

- Thousands of trained computer operators
- Hundreds of trained technicians and support staff
RECOMMENDATIONS

Consider
- re-purposing or re-using equipment
- long term storage and maintenance

Consider
- Maintaining the voter register on a permanent basis
- Using the voter register as a stepping stone to a civil register
- Starting early enough to register the entire population instead of only the eligible voters
THANK YOU!

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