Building Trust in the Electoral Process Through Robust Identity Management
Presentation Outline

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• Voters’ Roll and Delimitation
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• Voters’ Roll Breakdown by gender and province
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Constitution and Voters’ Roll

- The founding provision of the Constitution, Act 108 of 1996, state that RSA is one sovereign, democratic state based, *inter alia*
  - Universal adult suffrage
  - A national common voters roll
  - Regular elections
  - A multiparty system of democratic government to ensure accountability, responsive and openness

- Therefore all elections must be based on a national common voters’ roll

- A person’s name may appear only once on the voters’ roll
Electoral Act and Voters Roll

- Electoral Act, 107 of 1998, provides for a **SA Citizen** over the age of 16 to apply for registration, where they are ordinarily resident.

- Inclusion on voters’ roll at age 18.

- The Act provides for the creation geographic, administrative entities called voting districts,

- Each voting district is serviced by one voting station.

- Voting districts are determined in accordance with specified guidelines.
Voters’ Roll - Delimitation

• The various voting district segments combine to form the national common voters’ roll, with each person appearing on only one segment.

• Guidelines in the Act include:
  • Radius of the voting district;
  • Availability of transport and communication facilities in the area;
  • Ensuring that physical features (e.g. rivers, mountains) do not impede access to the voting station;
  • Number of eligible voters;
  • Easy access to the voting station venue.
Voters’ Roll - Delimitation

- Using the guidelines and business rules, the delimitation process is as follows:
  - Using the GIS, voting district boundaries determined and working maps produced for each ward (A0/A1) with background information, current voting station etc.
  - Maps are sent to municipal offices for confirmation and sign-off by party liaison committees and then returned to national office.
  - At national office requested amendments are evaluated and, once approved, implemented on the spatial database (GIS);
  - GPS locations for identified voting stations are recorded on the Voting Station Operation (VSO) system.
  - Bar-coded voting district maps are produced in A3 for use during the registration process.
Barcoded Voting District map
Voters’ Roll - Registration

• Specialised barcode scanners (called “Zip-Zips”) are used to register voters.

• In 1998, when the first voters’ roll had to be created, the use of these devices enabled the Commission to register 18.1 million voters accurately in the 6 days of the first general registration drive.

• The devices also ensure that prospective voters, irrespective of place of residence (urban/rural), level of education or socio economic status, receive the same level of service from the Commission with respect to registration.
Voters’ Roll – Zip-Zip
**Voters’ Roll - Registration**

**Registration Process:**
- Using the Zip-Zip, the barcode on voting district map is scanned first to create a spatial reference for registrations in the voting district.
- The barcode in the identity document (ID) of an applicant is then scanned. The ID number is a 13-digit number, containing info regarding birth date, gender, citizenship and a check digit to verify that the number is authentic.
- Two receipts are printed on labels; one affixed to the ID of the applicant and the second on the form (REC1) which they completed with the personal and address details.
- The Zip-Zips are then docked at the municipal office and the files containing the scanned ID numbers transferred to national office via the wide area network (WAN).
- Files are processed using the Voter Registration System.
Voters’ Roll - Registration

• Registration process (continued):
  • Using the ID number, the name and surname and status of the person is then extracted from the National Population Register (NPR)
  • Persons can check whether their registration has been successful via SMS or the Commission’s web-site (“Am I registered?”) or via the mobile application.
  • In the case of two registration weekends, an inspection voters’ roll is produced after the first weekend, so that persons can verify their inclusion on the roll during the second weekend.
  • An application will be unsuccessful if, for example, the person is not a South African citizen, or the ID number not found on the population register.
  • A voters’ roll can be produced within a week of a registration weekend
Voters’ Roll – National Population Register

• A National Population Register is maintained by the Department of Home Affairs

• Changes to the NPR are received on a monthly basis and used to keep the Voters’ Roll up to date and check applications from registration against

• Any citizen with a verified status, who applies for registration, will be included on the Voters’ Roll

• Similarly, a person who is not on the NPR or have a deceased or non South African status will be included on the rejected section of the Voters’ Roll
Voters’ Roll and National Population Register

Applicants not on NPR

Voters’ Roll - verified

Applicants on NPR with a non-verified status

NPR
Benefits of Using the National Population Register

• Constitutional and Legal Requirements for the Voters’ Roll
• Confirmation of citizenship of voter registration applicants
• The law does not enfranchise permanent residents
• Confirmation of age eligibility
• Uniqueness of the ID Number: each citizen ID number is unique
• NPR facilitates one person one vote
Benefits of Using the National Population Register

• Speed in producing the voters roll which can be produced in a matter weeks

• Avoidance of duplication between the civil registry department and the election management body

• **Political manipulation?** Electoral Commission should have final decisions regarding their data requirements and establish standards to be adhered to, including data verification procedures
Voters’ Roll – Challenges and Improvements

• The process of capturing details from the REC1 form (particularly the address) became the subject of a court case in December 2015.

• The issue largely is due to the fragmented process where the registration record is received immediately, with the capturing and scanning of the form following only at another stage.

• In order to improve this, stricter controls have been adopted with respect to addresses and in cases where no addresses have been supplied, external addresses are sourced and verified against the voting district of registration.

• An online verification of addresses has been implemented.
Voters’ Roll – Challenges and Improvements

- Create secure profile
- Add or edit address using search, typing or a map
- Confirm address – at this point a link is established to the correct voting district
- If voting district of registration is different from address voting district – advise voter of a move and if accepted, apply the move
Voters’ Roll – Challenges and Improvements

- The Electoral Commission is also investigating a new registration device which will capture the address at the same time as the registration is taking place.

- The new devices will enable:
  - Recording the registration (similar to current device) with a printed receipt
  - Capture the applicant’s address and relate to the correct voting district
  - Immediate transmission of data (where connectivity available) or docking at the various offices
Contemporary Considerations

- Voters already update addresses online, next phase is to create an online registration portal with sufficient safeguards. This will be facilitated by the capability in the smart card identity document.

- Recent elections have necessitated a need to have an online mechanism to confirm if the voter has not previously voted in the same election.

- The use of the NPR facilitates biometric validation in instances of identity disputes or theft. However, the present electoral framework does not provide for voter authentication at the voting station.
Voters’ Roll – Summary

- The elements which enable a comprehensive, maintained voters’ roll are:
  - Properly defined geographical units (voting districts and stations)
  - Access to National Population Register which is regularly maintained.
  - Device for recording the registration details.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>% of Prov Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>% of Prov Total</th>
<th>Prov Total</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>1,917,868</td>
<td>57.03%</td>
<td>1,445,293</td>
<td>42.97%</td>
<td>3,363,161</td>
<td>12.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>806,532</td>
<td>55.15%</td>
<td>655,976</td>
<td>44.85%</td>
<td>1,462,508</td>
<td>5.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>3,307,353</td>
<td>51.83%</td>
<td>3,073,867</td>
<td>48.17%</td>
<td>6,381,220</td>
<td>23.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu-Natal</td>
<td>3,115,942</td>
<td>56.40%</td>
<td>2,408,724</td>
<td>43.60%</td>
<td>5,524,666</td>
<td>20.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>1,548,805</td>
<td>59.38%</td>
<td>1,059,655</td>
<td>40.62%</td>
<td>2,608,460</td>
<td>9.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>1,066,410</td>
<td>54.64%</td>
<td>885,366</td>
<td>45.36%</td>
<td>1,951,776</td>
<td>7.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>896,851</td>
<td>52.67%</td>
<td>805,877</td>
<td>47.33%</td>
<td>1,702,728</td>
<td>6.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>336,075</td>
<td>53.65%</td>
<td>290,396</td>
<td>46.35%</td>
<td>626,471</td>
<td>2.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>1,717,237</td>
<td>54.89%</td>
<td>1,411,330</td>
<td>45.11%</td>
<td>3,128,567</td>
<td>11.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of Country</td>
<td>3,666</td>
<td>51.69%</td>
<td>3,426</td>
<td>48.31%</td>
<td>7,092</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>14,716,739</td>
<td><strong>55.00%</strong></td>
<td>12,039,910</td>
<td><strong>45.00%</strong></td>
<td>26,756,649</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voters’ Roll Breakdown by gender and province

- Eastern Cape
- Free State
- Gauteng
- KwaZulu-Natal
- Limpopo
- Mpumalanga
- North West
- Northern Cape
- Western Cape
- Out of Country

Female
Male
Transparency in the Results Collation Process

1. Voting
2. Counting
3. Results Slips to MEO
4. Verification
5. Results Slip Scanning
6. Capturing
7. Save and Print
8. Audit System vs. Original
9. File
10. Exception Check
11. Results Available

RESULTS PROCESS

- A: 16%
- B: 31.9%
- C: 50%
- D: 24%
- E: 18%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Voters' Roll (A)</th>
<th>VP - Total Received</th>
<th>VP - Adjusted (B)</th>
<th>% Turnout by Age (A/B)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=18 &lt;=19</td>
<td>341,186</td>
<td>196,495</td>
<td>272,955</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=20 &lt;=29</td>
<td>5,299,144</td>
<td>2,124,986</td>
<td>2,951,862</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=30 &lt;=39</td>
<td>6,685,439</td>
<td>2,803,313</td>
<td>3,894,141</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=40 &lt;=49</td>
<td>5,480,336</td>
<td>2,621,102</td>
<td>3,641,028</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=50 &lt;=59</td>
<td>4,228,558</td>
<td>2,389,316</td>
<td>3,319,049</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=60 &lt;=69</td>
<td>2,737,553</td>
<td>1,633,630</td>
<td>2,269,310</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=70 &lt;=79</td>
<td>1,336,946</td>
<td>718,051</td>
<td>997,460</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;=80</td>
<td>647,487</td>
<td>232,866</td>
<td>323,479</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,756,649</td>
<td>12,719,759</td>
<td>17,669,283</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Percentage age segmented voter turnout

- >=18 <=19: 80%
- >=20 <=29: 56%
- >=30 <=39: 58%
- >=40 <=49: 66%
- >=50 <=59: 78%
- >=60 <=69: 83%
- >=70 <=79: 75%
- >=80: 50%
## Voter Participation - Gender breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Voters' Roll (A)</th>
<th>% Registered by Gender</th>
<th>VP - Total Received</th>
<th>VP - Adjusted (B)</th>
<th>% Vote by Gender (B)</th>
<th>% Turnout by Gender (B/A)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>14,716,739</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>7,288,761</td>
<td>10,124,970</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>12,039,910</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>5,430,998</td>
<td>7,544,313</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,756,649</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,719,759</td>
<td>17,669,283</td>
<td></td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voter Participation by time

07:00-09:00: 7,260,693
09:00-11:00: 1,698,670
11:00-13:00: 1,350,172
13:00-15:00: 1,135,619
15:00-17:00: 783,832
17:00-19:00: 365,456
19:00-21:00: 122,758
21:00-23:00: 2,265
23:00+: 294