La liste n°1

V.LE SCORNET

n'a pas fait livrer de bulletins de vote.
The Electoral Cycle and Entry Points by the Youth

Robert Gerenge
Definition and Background

➢ The electoral cycle is a visual planning and training tool that aims to support electoral actors to acknowledge the cyclical nature and the various challenges faced in electoral processes (EU and IDEA)
SHIFT FROM EVENT TO LONG-TERM APPROACH

WHY THE SHIFT?

- Treating polls as an event posed sustainability problems
- Donors’ and electoral assistance quick exit from the electoral arena after polls
- EMBs’ limited long term strategy in election management
- Recurrent cases of electoral-related conflicts (regionalized burden of elections)
The electoral cycle

Sustainable Electoral Processes

Pre-electoral period (preparations)

Electoral Period (operations)

Post-election period (strategy)
Electoral components and stakeholders do not stand alone: they are interdependent.

Therefore the breakdown of one aspect can negatively impact on every other and thus on the credibility of the election itself.
WHAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN IF AN ELECTORAL CYCLE DOES NOT ATTAIN ITS LOGICAL CONCLUSION?
UNDERAGE VOTER
56 PAGE BALLOT PAPER
Some Recent Electoral Hotspots in Africa:
VIOLENCE AS A RESULT OF IMPOSED CANDIDATES
IMPLICATIONS FOR ELECTORAL ACTORS (1)

- **Government**: Avail funding for electoral planning and management throughout the electoral cycle
- **Parliament**: Engage in electoral law reform early in advance (See ECOWAS Protocol on democracy and good governance which states that no changes should be undertaken in electoral law six months before the elections)
- **Election Management Body**: Should engage in long term planning and institutional development
IMPLICATIONS FOR ELECTORAL ACTORS (2)

- **Political Parties**: Enhance their internal capacity, support post-electoral reforms
- **Youth**: Engage in various relevant phases of the electoral cycle through adopting a long term approach.
- **Donor community**: Sustain engagement in electoral support in fragile states
- **Multilateral agencies (EAC, IGAD, AU, UN etc)**: Engage in timely preventive diplomacy activities in elections
Electoral cycle approach is the most comprehensive way to building sustainable electoral processes today. It enables all key actors in democracy to play their active role beyond electoral events. Sustainable electoral processes contribute to social and economic development as well as overall peace and security.
THANK YOU