Protecting Electoral Integrity in Emerging Democracies





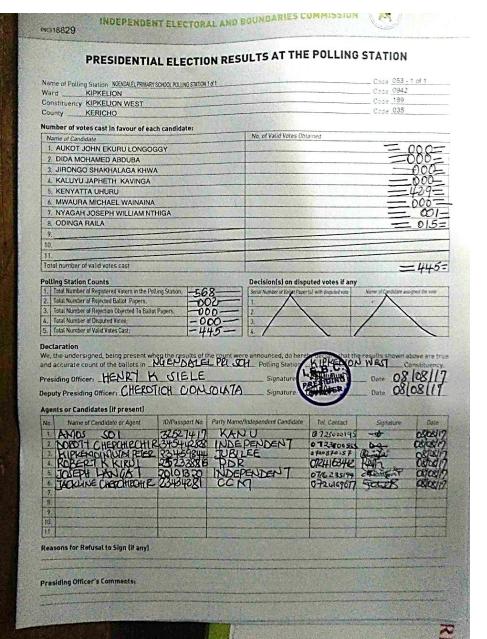
James D. Long
Department of Political Science

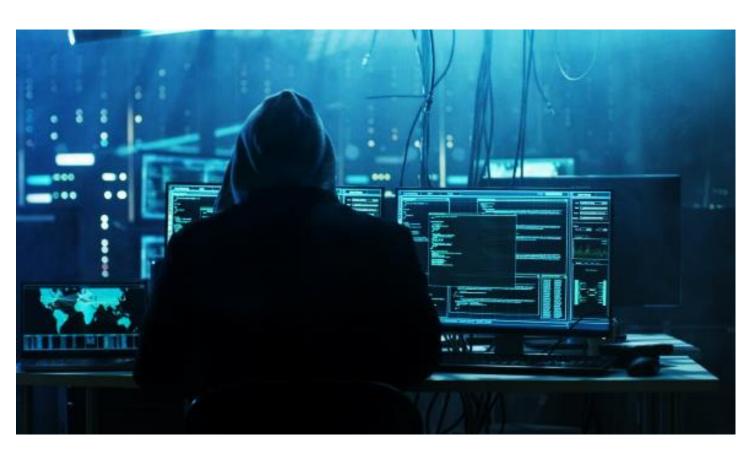




I. The Problem

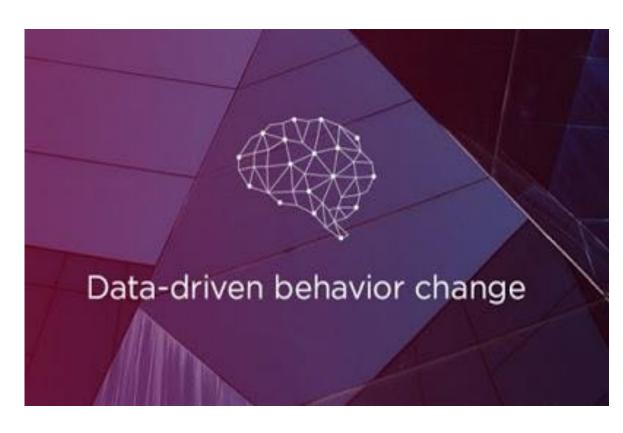
Elections are Easily Hacked in Developing Countries





Elections are Easily Hacked in Developing Countries

The New York Times



Cambridge Analytica Had a Role in Kenya Election, Too



II. Research Questions

- I. why does election hacking persist in emerging democracies? (because it works)
 - II. what can be done to stop it? (today's talk)

How to stop it? "Photo Quick Count"

Afghanistan:

-Callen & Long, "Institutional Corruption and Election Fraud: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan" American Economic Review, 2015

Kenya:

-Gibson, Jung & Long, "Competitive Election Rigging," Working Paper

Uganda:

Callen, Gibson, Jung & Long, "Improving Electoral Integrity with Information and Communications Technology," Journal of Experimental Political Science, 2016





How to stop it even more: a role for citizens? But not easy....





"Photo Quick Count" & "VIP:Voice"

III. Project Design

Photo Quick Count + VIP:Voice

Design VIP:Voice



VIP:VOICE is South Africa's largest citizen-based election platform. It allows us, the youth, to engage with election-related info through the day we put our all-important X on the ballot paper. VIP:VOICE is a multi-channel engagement portal. This means VIP: VOICE has created a number of applications on social networks for us to engage in, voice our opinions, monitor election activity and view all kinds of info regarding our 2014 elections.

VIP:VOICE enables citizens like us to play a vital role in the electoral process and helps make politicians accountable to us, their voters.

You can join the VIP:VOICE community as a follower, or on a more active level as a citizen reporter so that you can report on anything election-based, at any time, in a variety of ways. **VIP:VOICE IS A SNAPSHOT** OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ELECTION FROM THE **GROUND UP.** YOU DECIDE HOW YOU WANT TO ENGAGE AND ON WHICH PLATFORM!

DIAL 120*7692*1#

ADD VIPVOICE2014 AS A

TWITTER: FOLLOW @VIP:VOICE2014 AND

#VIP:VOICE2014

G CHAT: SEND A CHAT TO

VIPVOICE2014@GMAIL.COM TO

HTTP://YAL.MOBI/VIP/

HTTP://LIVE.VODAFONE.COM/YAL









Design VIP:Voice

Election Day
Phase 3:

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Phase 1:
Registration

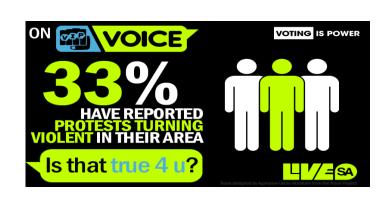
April 7, 2014

May 7

May 8

Observation

May 15



Phase 2: Pre-Election Engagement

Phase 4: Post-Election Surveys

Day After Elections



Design VIP:Voice





IV. Results

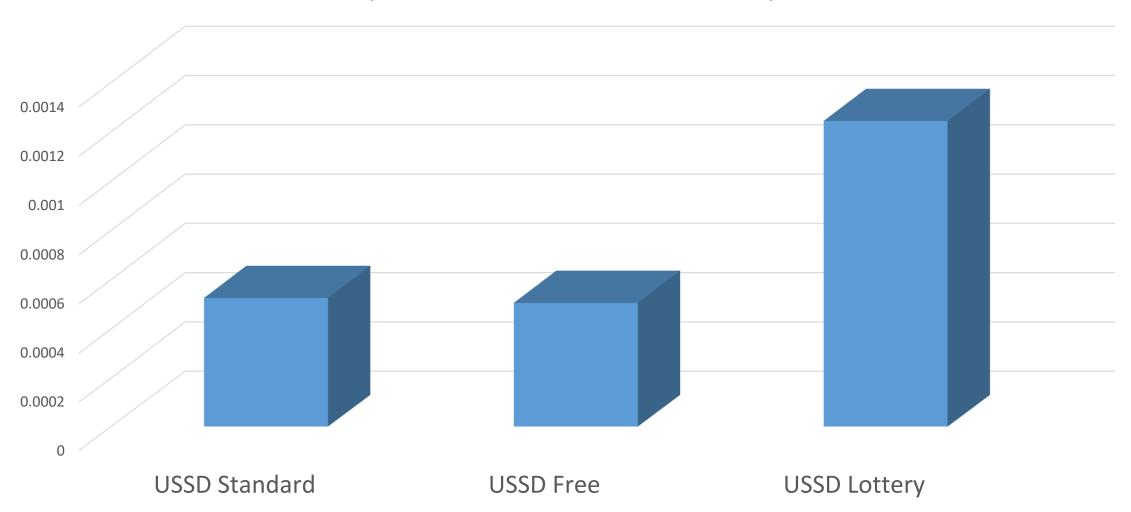
Phase 1 Recruitment.	USSD Experiment	USSD Other	MXIT	Mobi	Twitter/ Gtalk	Advertising/ Other	Total
Total # Solicited via PCM	49.8m			•			•
Total # Registered	40,165	4,277	40,416	4847	101	840	90,646
Registered as % of PCMs	0.08%						
Phase 2 Participation Waterfall.							
Any Initiation	126,647	12,999	114,358	4,923	317	3,735	262,979
Any answer to Engagement Question	65,381	6,816	55,352	4,882	131	1,485	134,047
Registration (T&C) Initiated	52,048	5,426	50,862	4,867	119	1,136	114,458
Registration Completed	40,165	4,277	40,416	4,847	101	840	90,646
Registration & Demographics Completed	11,338	1,143	20,078	2,019	66	74	34,718

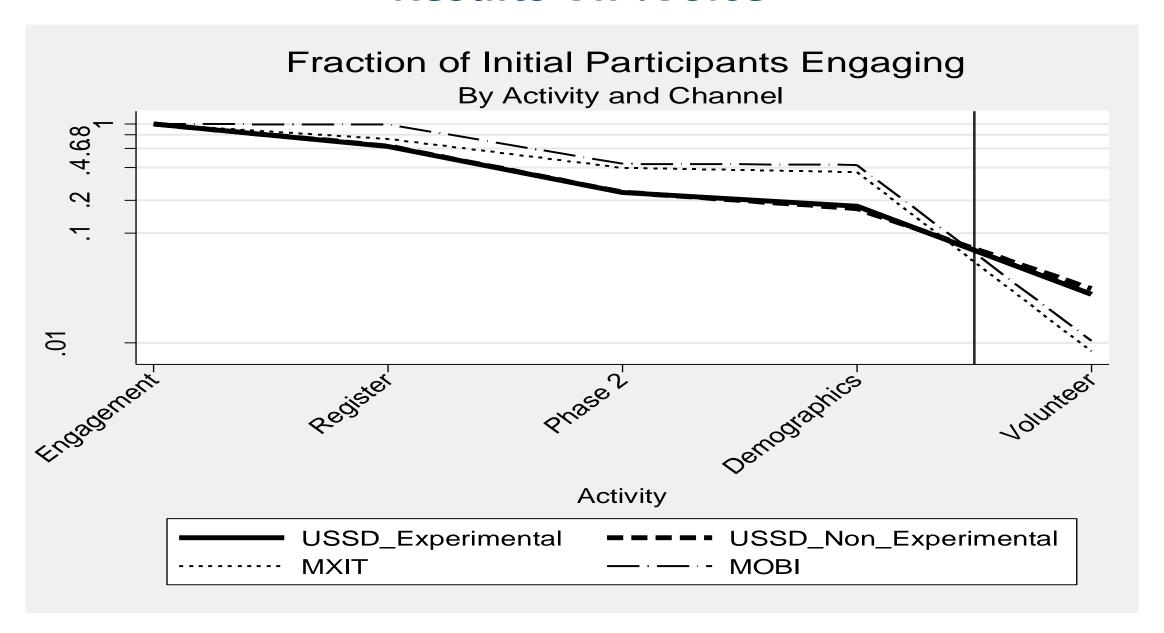
Registration & Demographics Completed	11,338	1,143	20,078	2,019	66	74	34,718
Reg, Demo, and Any Other Phase 2	3,859	367	10,215	995	23	2	15,461
Registered + Demography as % of Initiated:	8.952%	8.793%	17.56%	41.01%	20.820%	1.98%	13.20%
Registered + Demography as % of PCMs:	0.02%						

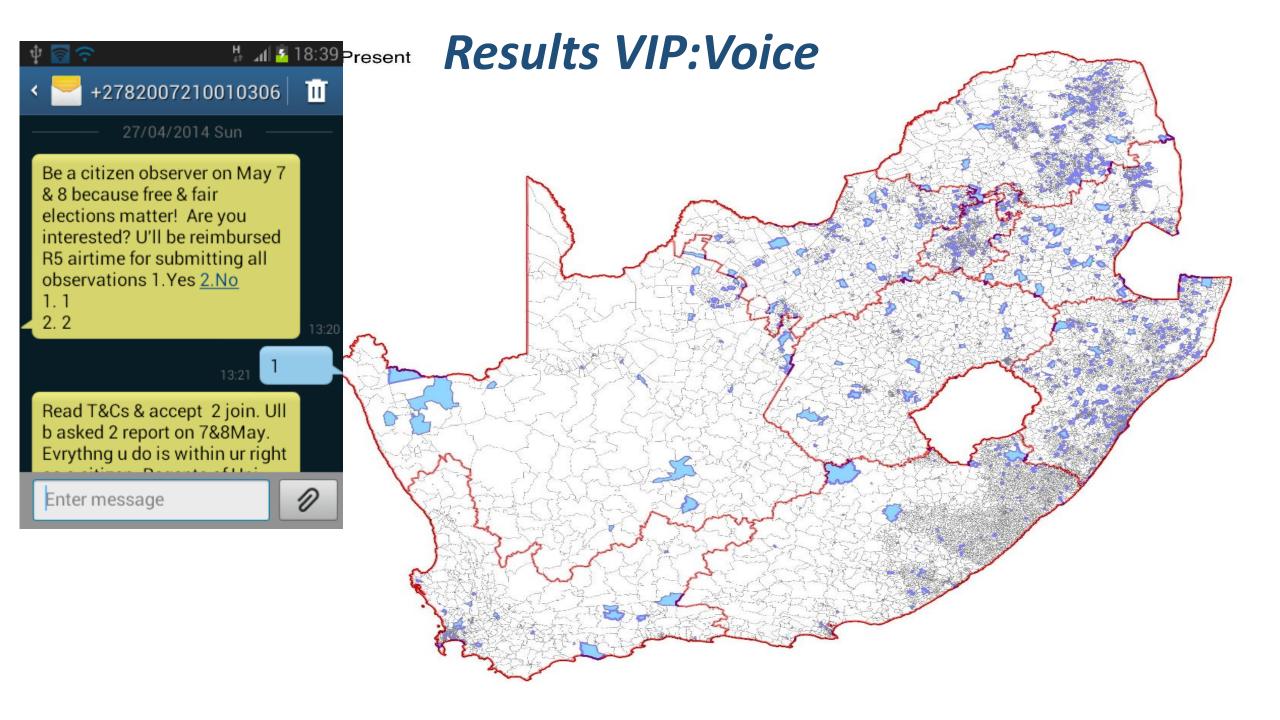
Phase 2 Participation Waterfall.

Any Initiation	262,979
Any answer to Engagement Question	134,047
Registration (T&C) Initiated	114,458
Registration Completed	90,646
Registration & Demographics Completed	34,718
Reg, Demo, and Any Other Phase 2	15,461

Uptake rates by USSD Treatment Arm (as a fraction of PCMs sent)





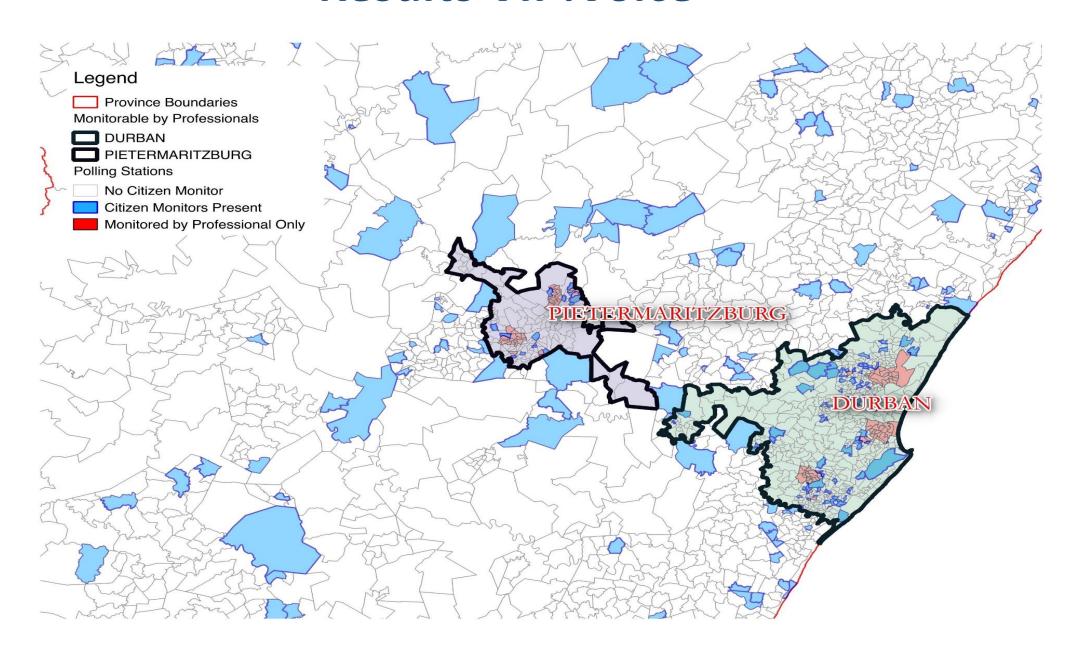


Phase 3 Monitoring Invitations.

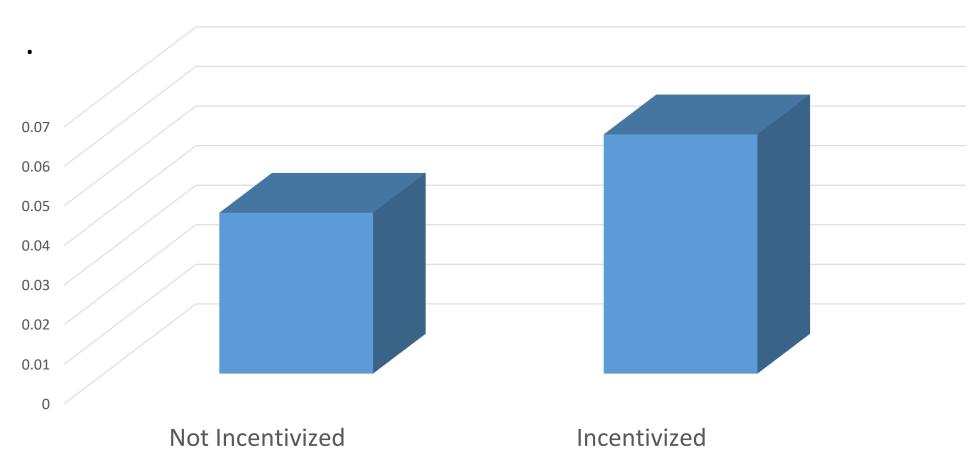
Invited to Volunteer as Monitor	41,863
Agreed & Provided All Relevant Information	2,498
Potential Monitors as % of Invited:	5.97%

Phase 3 Actual Monitoring.

Asked to Monitor	1,863
Conducted Any Monitoring	332
Monitors as % of Actually Asked:	17.82%



Voluntering to Serve as Citizen Observer (by incentivization status)



Results VIP: Voice & Photo Quick Count





V. Conclusion

Conclusions

- We show multiple ways in which ICT shapes the crowd and how it can improve electoral integrity:
- by lowering costs, new information and communications technology (ICT) draws new participants into politics but many participate regardless,
- yet lower costs helps encourage more participation but also shift the composition of participants in politically important ways,
- the crowd has attrition over actions from digital to real-world participation,
- but ICT-enabled citizen monitoring also worked effectively to provide low-cost cost-effective independent checks on the integrity of the electoral process that also guard against electronic hacking via photo quick count

Thank You!



















