

ELECTORAL RISK DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES – KENYAN EXPERIENCE.

Catherine M. Kamindo

The Electoral Risk Management Conference On 1st – 3rd
December, 2015 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Working Meaning of Electoral Risk Data



- Any information that would help in predicting or identifying factors that can negatively affect the management or the outcome of an election.
- **Types of Electoral Risk Data:**
 - Early warning signs of electoral violence
 - Incidences
(In all stages of the electoral cycle).

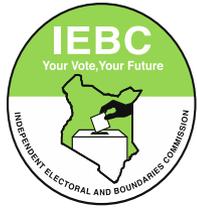


Why Collect Risk Data

Specifically data was collected to:

1. Identify and evaluate any possible threats that would negatively affect the main objective (Delivery of peaceful, free, fair and credible elections).
2. Develop response strategies. (Managing what is known).
3. Communicate electoral the country's electoral risk assessment situation.

Sources of Electoral Risk Data



- Media
 - Newspapers
 - Radio
 - TV
 - Social Media
- Crowd Sourcing
 - Toll Free telephone lines
 - SMS platform
 - Emails
- Intelligence reports.
- Election field officials & monitors
- District Peace Committees
- Political Parties
- Government agencies
- CSOs, Religious organizations.

What Constitutes Quality Electoral Risk Data



- Timeliness /real time.
- Being factual.
- Clarity on form of risk.
- Identity of the Location/area.
- Identity of perpetrators and victims/potential victims.
- Actionable

To meet the above, a data collection form was designed as a guide.



Data Analysis

Key considerations.

- Kind of data: (Has an implication on **how it is communicated**, the **speed of delivery** and to **who**.)
- The information that need to be communicated.
- The audience.

Steps in Electoral Risk Data analysis.

1. Data verification.
2. Establishing the underlying issues.
3. Aligning the data in the context of the prevailing political climate
4. Classifying the risk and assigning a risk level (High, Low, Medium).
5. Data mapping (visualizing the data on maps, charts or graphics depending on the audience and the information that need to be communicated.
6. Dissemination.

Challenges



1. Amount of data can be overwhelming.
2. Verification can sometimes be difficult.
3. Data reporting and analysis can be subjective.
4. Some information can be sensitive making it difficult to report.
5. Slow decision making due to the number of players involved.
6. Inability to enforce action
7. EMB's changing priorities .

What Worked



1. Training all stakeholders on identification of risk, data collection and reporting.
2. Having a wide network of willing and committed stakeholders.
3. Use of multiple data sources for credible & verifiable data.
4. Having a well trained data analysis team.
5. Ability to communicate sensitive information.
6. Ability to provide leadership in prevention and mitigation.

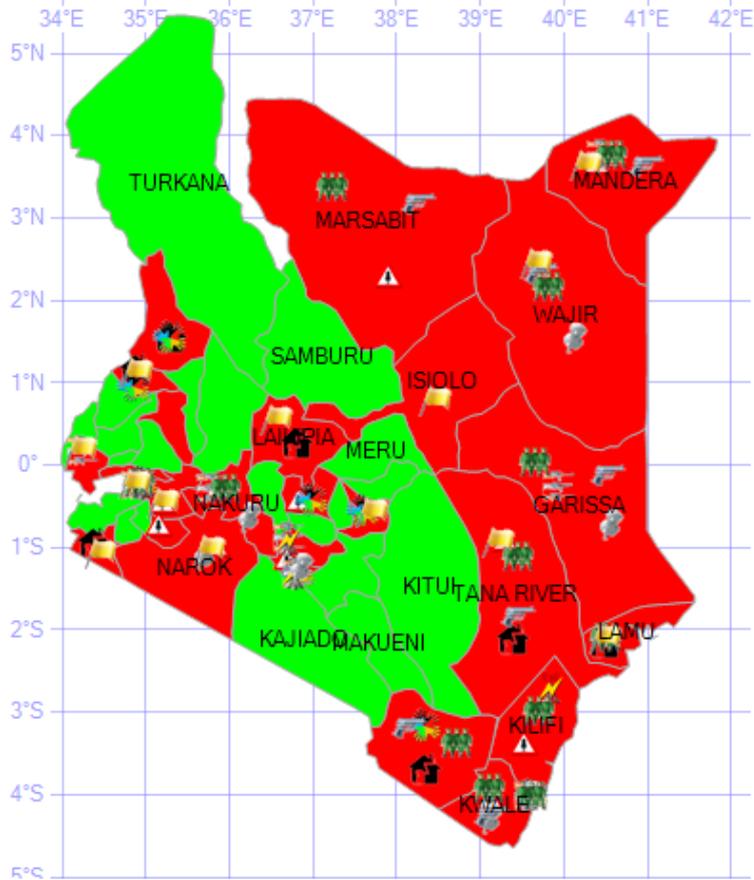
Key Considerations



- i. Authenticity & Credibility of the data.
(Source)
- ii. Purpose : for prevention or mitigation.
(Sound Analysis)
- iii. Message : what needs to be communicated.
- iv. Target audience (Dissemination).



All Electoral Risk Factors



Source and methodology

Source:

County Forums

Data collected:

August 2012

Legend:

High risk

Low risk

Environmental Hazards

Grievances Related to Previous Outbreaks of

Violence

Hate Speech

Non-state armed actors

Presence of organized criminal Gangs

Problematic Voter Registration

Social Political Exclusion

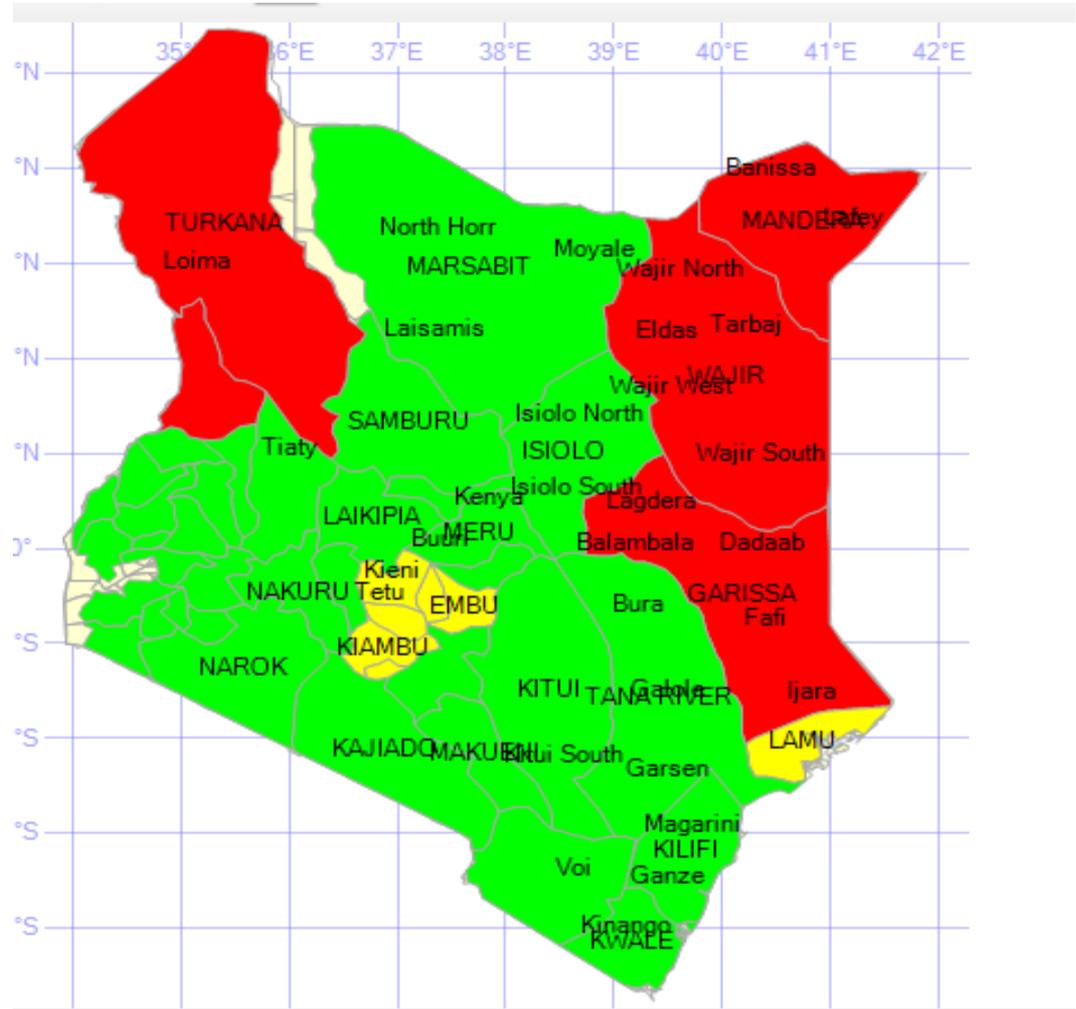
Socio-Economic Conditions

Unequal Media Access



Voter Registration Trends

- Counties that registered between 0% - 25% of expected enrollment.
- Counties that registered between 61% - 90% of expected enrollment
- Counties that registered over 100% of expected enrollment.



Source: IEBC, ICT Directorate
 Data collected: 19th – 25th December 2012
 Map created by IEBC.



Risks ahead of Election Day

based on distribution of leaflets warning non-locals not to vote for opposing candidates

- Areas that witnessed distribution of leaflets
- Areas where there are no leaflets
- Number of times leaflets have been distributed.

Source: Political Parties Liason Committees
Data collected: 13th February 2013
Map created by IEBC through the use
of the Int. IDEA Electoral Risk Management Tool

Suggested action points:

IEBC:

Investigate the parties involved and ensure there is compliance with the political parties code of conduct. The Commission should apply sanctions on the parties involved.

National Police Service:

Should beef up security in the affected regions to ensure that the non-locals are protected and their right to participate in political process is guaranteed.

