

**Democracy
Recession: EMBs
Mitigation
Measures (Africa)**

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Technical Challenges

1. Lack of Requisite ICT Skills for EMB Leadership (Commissioners)
2. Limited ICT Infrastructure & Unreliable Power Supply
3. Unprecedented Public Health Emergencies
4. Information Overload

Operational Challenges

1. Unrealistic Timelines for Concluding Key Processes
2. High Volume of Temporary Staff
3. Physical Security Risks

Financial Challenges

1. Underfunded Budgets
2. Delayed Disbursements of Resources
3. Restrictive Procurement Regimes
4. Poorly Coordinated Investment by Cooperating Partners

Mitigation Measures

1. Enhanced Training of Key Leaders to understand ICT and their Roles
2. Create more Financial Autonomy for EMBs (through Legal Reforms)
3. AAEA Solidarity Mission (to offer Peer to Peer Support at Critical Stage of Delivering Mandate)
4. Resource Sharing to Mitigate Impact of withheld Funding

Mitigation Measures

5. Modify Programs to Avoid Cancellation of Polls during Public Health Emergencies
6. Targeted Training for Judiciary to ensure Better Appreciation of Electoral Processes (in anticipation of Litigation)
7. Adoption of Appropriate Civic, Voter & Media Engagement Strategies and Technologies to counter dis/misinformation
8. Train Citizens to be Critical of Political Campaign Promises (Frustration comes from unrealistic expectations...)

Conclusion

1. Democracy is a work in progress
2. Civic Vigilance is necessary to enhance its effectiveness
3. Socio-economic phenomena affect quality of democratic practice
4. Democratic Relevance is Vital to ensure sustainability of Democracy in our region