VOTER INFORMATION NETWORK & EDUCATION- AFRICA (VINE – AFRICA)

ANNUAL VOTER EDUCATION

WEEK 2019 REPORT

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VINE-AFRICA is a long term accredited voter education provider and partner of IEBC. Vine Africa participated during the annual voter education week held between 10th -16th June of 2019.

On Friday 14th June 2019 VINE- AFRICA conducted a voter education campaign in line with Annual Voter Education Week and its mandate at Yala open air market in Yala Township County Assembly ward in Gem constituency.

Our head office based in Nairobi liaised with Siaya County Election Manager; Mrs. Ruth Kulundu who eventually connected us with Constituency Election Coordinator Mr. Martin Odhiambo.

Mr. Martin Odhiambo, the CEC delegated the constituency voter educator Mr. Joseph Aduda and two other voter educators in addition to two registration clerks who conducted a voter education campaign and voter registration at Yala market focusing on AVEW specific objective number five which is: Discussing with members of the public their civic duties, responsibilities and the importance of participating in all the electoral processes.

Activities:

- 1. This was done by a way of door to door canvassing with traders at the market as well as face to face conversations with members of the public on an individual basis at our tent.
- 2. Registration of new voters.
- 3. Transfer of voters registered in other constituencies to Gem constituency.

Observations:

1. Members of the public expressed their displeasure at IEBC and elected leaders that IEBC has not been fair enough to guarantee that their votes count in terms of electing the leaders they want. The public said that IEBC has been complicit in rigging elections and cited an incident where the county elections manager accessed election materials at a go down within Yala town without a court order when gubernatorial election petition was underway.

- 2. Members of the public also lamented that elected leaders have neglected their duties and responsibilities and embarked on looting resources meant to benefit the public.
- 3. During the exercise, five new voters were registered to be voters in Gem constituency.
- 4. Additional five voters transferred from their various constituencies to Gem constituency.
- 5. Many more people would have preferred to either register as new voters or transfer to Gem constituency but were hindered because of lack of ID's as some people had left them at home and were not aware of the exercise, some had lost theirs while others complained that they had applied for ID's and it has taken long time to get them.
- 6. This was a great improvement to a previous campaign conducted by CEC which registered only one voter in the whole ward.

Recommendations:

- 1. There is need to carry out massive voter /civic education to build confidence of voters in the electoral process.
- 2. Mobilization for such an exercise needs at least two weeks in various forums such as schools, churches and assistant chiefs barazas in order to reach out to many people.
- 3. There is need for multi state agency team in such forum as some people frequently asked questions that are outside IEBC mandate and voter educators.

PICTORIALS



PHOTO 1: IEBC registration clerks seconded by the Gem Constituency Coordinator's Office, assist a voter transfer his voting center to Gem Constituency during our exercise.

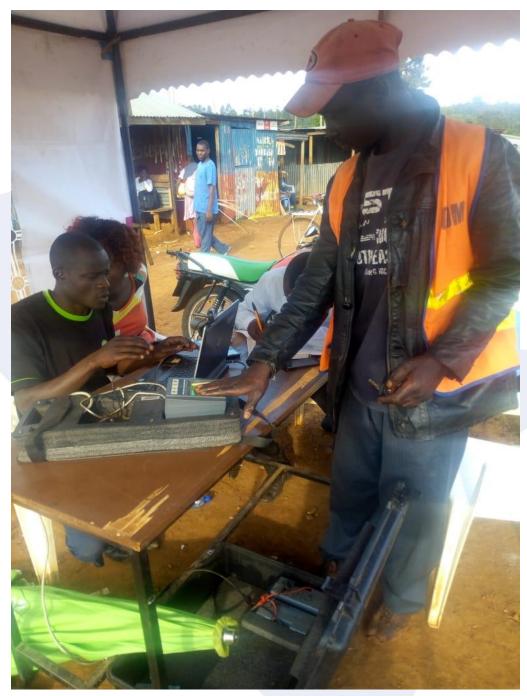


PHOTO 2: A new voter's details and biometrics are captured in real time during the education exercise. This particular session enlisted five new voters into the register.



PHOTO 3: A participant during our exercise has his photograph taken, the location of this activity to fall on a market day ensured a large section of the population was reached.