

SUCCESS STORY



INSTANT ISSUANCE OF 24 MILLION VOTER CARDS IN TANZANIA

On 25 October 2015, 24 million Tanzanian citizens went to the polls to elect their president, equipped with a very special voter card. The card had been issued some months ago through a new system consisting of several thousands of Biometric registration and card issuance stations, deployed throughout the country. This innovative system has enabled the organizing authorities of the election to ensure the creation of a reliable voter base in a record time.

BIOMETRIC REGISTRATION OF CITIZENS IN RECORD TIME

Registration for voter cards is a crucial step in the election process. It should guarantee the reliability of the voter register system, ensuring that only eligible persons can receive a card. To strengthen the electoral process, the National Electoral Commission (NEC) decided to set up a decentralized biometric registration system, coupled with the instant issuance of a voter card in a plastic format. This innovative solution has allowed for the population to have equal access to registration centers throughout the country. The instant issuance of their voter card has helped enhance the public's confidence in the democratic process of the election. Another major advantage greatly appreciated by voters: there is no return visit to collect his or her voter card.

This system was based on a decentralized and mobile organization, to take into account the vast territory of the country (945 000 km²) and a population estimated at 51 million inhabitants, which is very scattered, living mostly in rural areas. Voter registration was carried out from a deployment case called BVR (Biometric Voter Registration), enabling to verify the eligibility of citizens in minutes, to record his or her information (photo, fingerprints, signature) and to issue immediately a secure voter card.

The companies Laxton, Bytes and Lithotech worked closely together to successfully integrate, deliver and deploy this solution at over 8000 mobile registration points. Of all the devices integrated in the deployment case, choosing the card issuing solution was critical to ensure the most effective registration service. The Zenius solution was chosen as it met the technical requirements of the NEC. Compact, with photo print quality, Zenius provides a color card in just 30 seconds for optimized production costs through the use of a consumable specifically adapted for customization of cards with ID photo. With the Zenius personalization system, the citizen's data, a color photo, a QR code and a bar code containing biometric information, as well as the reference of the registration center, can be instantly customized.

- **CHALLENGE**
Register the population and issue voter cards
- **MARKET**
Governmental
- **APPLICATIONS**
National voter cards
- **EVOLIS SOLUTIONS**
Zenius



“ Evolis ensured that a very short timeframe could be met. ”

Mr. Nick Perkins
divisional director
Bytes System Integration





THE BENEFITS OF THE SOLUTION

The easy implementation of the Zenius printer was a determining factor in the selection of this product. Indeed, its compactness (base 20,5cm x 31,5cm), its low power consumption, but also the accessibility of loading areas for the consumables at the top, and of the cards at the front have reduced the size of the BVR suitcase and maximized its transportability.

The instant card issuance system from Evolis has contributed to reducing the registration time of citizens. The reliability and ease of use of the Zenius printer with its cassette loading system for consumables, enabled the NEC to fulfill its mission without worrying about technical aspects.

Given the unprecedented scale of the project - more than 8,400 systems built for 23 million cards issued in a few months - it was crucial to choose a company with a suitable industrial capacity. Evolis was able to deliver in record time all systems and consumables for the entire project. "Evolis ensured that a very short timeframe could be met. During the roll-out, Evolis was always ready to provide assistance when needed. They proactively investigated and retrained where it was required", explains Nick Perkins, divisional director at Bytes Systems Integration.

TEMCO

The Tanzania Election Monitoring Committee (TEMCO), an independent and impartial electoral observation body, made up of 162 member organizations, said in its report on the elections that «96.85% of voters have been registered (...). The team congratulates NEC for using the BVR technology. The use of BVR technology has enabled NEC to eliminate about 231,955 cases of multiple registrations.»



BVR kit including Zenius printer



NEC agent carrying the BVR kit to a rural registration center