

**Report on Voter  
Registration  
Audit (VRA) in  
Cambodia  
September 2007**



**REPORT ON VOTER REGISTRATION AUDIT  
IN CAMBODIA  
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## I. FORWARD

For most citizens, voter registration is yet one extra chore in the hustle and bustle of daily life. The trek to the Commune Council office to peer at a list on a wall or fill out a form is a mundane and bureaucratic exercise that is repeated annually by millions of Cambodians every September. Yet no component of an election is as important or essential to guaranteeing the rights of voters to cast their ballots and ensuring the fairness of the poll as the voter registration list. If citizenship springs from the theory of civic rights, then the voter registration list is the reality of enacting those rights.

The voters list is akin to a national census: a mammoth collection of data from almost eight million citizens aged eighteen or older. It is a daunting, complex and often tedious task requiring the authority derived from a legal electoral framework, citizen compliance, technical capacity of the election commission, and the assistance of thousands of civil servants. It also requires large amounts of funds. The success in compiling the voters list is a credit to the election commission.

For Cambodian civil society, who have the rights and responsibilities to observe and scrutinize all stages of the election process, verifying the quality of the list is not easy. Civil society does not have the same resources as government. So despite transparency from the National Election Commission, the voters list is almost impenetrable for civil society using tradition observation techniques. Lacking adequate resources creates a reliance on anecdotal information (individual cases) which can misrepresent the overall situation and lacks context.

Enter the science of statistics. Governments, researchers and corporations all around the world use statistical samples to measure every-day things such as unemployment, poverty levels or the popularity of consumer products without having to interview every person in the country. If a sample of respondents is selected randomly, the condition, views or behavior of the sample will be similar to the condition, views or behavior of the entire population. This is a powerful tool that can be applied to election observation.

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) is a worldwide pioneer for a technique known as the voter registration audit (VRA) that employs statistical principles to verify the quality of the voters list. The findings of the VRA provide a highly contextual and accurate evaluation of the quality of the voters list for election stakeholders and the public. For the Institute's partner organizations, NICFEC and COMFREL, the VRA is a valuable new instrument in their observation toolkit.

I salute NICFEC and COMFREL for the excellent work of conducting the VRA in August 2007. I would also like to thank the Center for Advance Study for the excellent technical assistance provided and the National Election Commission for their cooperation. Finally I would like to thank the United States Agency for International Development for the generous financial support.

Jerome Cheung  
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Phnom Penh  
November 2007

# **REPORT ON VOTER REGISTRATION AUDIT IN CAMBODIA September 2007**

## **II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Cambodian elections have made remarkable progress since 1993. Although the 2007 Commune Council elections were one of the best so far, a low voter turnout (67%) raised concerns among the election stakeholders. The low turnout led stakeholders to question the quality of the voters list. The National Election Committee (NEC), political parties and civil society organizations urged NICFEC and COMFREL – Cambodia’s two leading election monitoring organizations (EMOs) to conduct a scientific audit of the current voters list to identify the problems. The EMOs approached National Democratic Institute for International Affairs’ (NDI) Cambodia office for assistance to which NDI agreed. NDI also engaged the Center for Advanced Study (CAS), a reputable research organization to provide technical assistance with the audit.

The Voter Registration Audit (VRA) is a statistical two-way test – list-to-people and people-to-list - to determine the quality of the voter registration list. The first test entails selecting a random sample of names and addresses of persons on the voter registration list and contacting those people. The reliability of the voter registration list is ascertained by confirming the identity and addresses of the people in the sample. The second test entails contacting a random sample of eligible voters on the street and determining what proportion of these people are on the voter registration list. A systematic analysis of data from both these tests provides critical information about the accuracy of the list and can be used to inform efforts to improve the electoral process.

A multistage random sampling was used for this purpose. Three hundred eighty-five communes were statistically selected. The number of clusters selected in each province was proportional to its population. Statistically relevant sampling was conducted. A sample of 3,850 was statistically drawn to conduct the list-to-people and the people-to-list tests. The sample was drawn to give a margin of error of 3.5%±.

NICFEC and COMFREL recruited a total of 385 observers to go to the 385 sample Communes who were trained in the VRA methodology the observers interviewed 10 voters in each Commune for a total of 3,850 respondents.

The Audit findings show that the 2006 Cambodia Voters List (used in the 2007 Commune Council Election) is relatively complete and accurate, but somewhat out-of-date with only slightly more than three quarters (77.3 percent) of the voters on the list having current addresses or being still alive.

The VRA findings show that the list is relatively complete with 88.8% of eligible voters already registered. The remaining 11.2% of unregistered eligible voters supports the National Election Commission's (NEC) own estimation of 683,000 eligible voters who need to be registered with the audit’s margin of error.

From the List-to-People Test, slightly more than three quarters of the voters list (77.3%) is valid. The remaining quarter may be out-of-date. However, up to 10.5% belong to voters who may have temporarily or permanently relocated. But overall from both tests, the voters list is 86.2% accurate for voter names, and 88.1% accurate for addresses.

The results also show that 76.5% of voters used National ID cards to register. Among young voters under 19 years old, only 56.5% used National ID.

Men are more likely to be unregistered than women by a margin of 3:2. In addition, young voters of less than 19 years are 12% less likely to be registered than voters of other ages. The most popular primary source of information about registration was the village chief (43.8%) with broadcast media a close second (34.9%).

### **III. BACKGROUND**

Cambodian elections have made remarkable progress since 1993. The 1993 elections were administered by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). In subsequent elections, although donor assistance continued to be important, Cambodians took greater responsibility. Today as its electoral institutions develop a greater administrative capacity, Cambodia does not require the same amount of support from donors on technical aspects of conducting elections. Successive elections have shown improvements. Although the April 2007 Commune elections was one of the best held so far a low turnout of voters raised concerns among the election stakeholders. Past elections were marked by high turnout of voters – 89.56% in 1993; 93.74% in 1998; 87.55% in 2002; 83.22% in 2003 but only 67.87% in 2007. The low voter turnout led stakeholders to question the quality of the voters list. Political parties held that the voters list was inaccurate which lead to confusion over which polling station voters were assigned to. The NEC, on the other hand, claimed the problem was not accuracy but rather that the list was bloated with “ghost voters” which made the turnout appear lower than it actually was. In the absence of any scientific audit of the voters list neither claim could be definitively confirmed. Instead anecdotal information and even speculation was used by all election stakeholder as evidence of their arguments.

The universal right to take part in government is directly affected by the voter registration process. Election systems require criteria and mechanisms for identifying eligible and ineligible voters, and must guarantee the “one person one vote” principle by preventing multiple voting. The voters list or the “list of electors” is vital as the foundation on which the elections are held. If the list is flawed, an election based on such a list will likely be questioned.

The voter list is the principal means by which the NEC ensures the participation of eligible voters. The voter list, if compiled accurately, identifies eligible voters and helps to prevent individuals from voting more than once. The process of compiling the list is exacting and must include the deletion of those ineligible to vote as well as the addition of those that are newly eligible. Inaccurate voter lists have led to numerous post-election conflicts in elections held around the world and have disenfranchised many eligible voters.

The National Election Committee (NEC), political parties and civil society organizations concerned about the quality of the voters list urged COMFREL and NICFEC – Cambodia’s two leading election monitoring organizations to conduct a scientific audit of the current voters list to identify the problems.

Convinced that the voter list contained a large number of invalid voter names, the NEC launched a program to update and clean the voters list of multiple registrants, people who have re-registered in other communes and dead voters on the list starting from July 2007 by compiling a provisional “deletion list” (officially known as Form 1025). The deletion list was completed in August 2007 before the formal voter registration updating period began (September 15 to October 20, 2007). However, the NEC embarked on their program to clean the list based on assumptions without any valid basis as to the problems in the voters list because no systematic study on the list has been conducted so far. Even worse, NEC chose an unreliable for source for the deletion list, the undelivered second verification notices with additional names add arbitrarily by village chiefs. The deletion list contained 653,669 names

or 8 percent of the voters list. The deletion list was made available to public scrutiny and verification during the registration updating period. Voters were allowed to remove their names and 79,688 voters ended up doing so.

Prior to the registration process, NEC estimated 682,459 eligible voters were unregistered. By the end of the registration period 907,920 new voters had registered or 131% of the estimated target. After all these amendments have been considered a preliminary voters list will be posted for public verification once again in October – November, 2007. Only changes due to inaccuracy will be considered at this time. No new registration will be accepted. After dealing with the complaints and corrections, a final voters list will be published by February 29, 2008. This list will be used in the 2008 election. Voters who do not appear on this list even if eligible will not be allowed to vote.

Challenges to the integrity of elections do not only occur on election day – both the pre-election and post-election environments must be considered when determining if the process was free and fair. The quality of voter registration has become suspect and public confidence in the voters list may have decreased.

To ensure that the voter registration process is viewed as legitimate and to ascertain the quality of the list, an audit of the voter registry is critical. Independent auditing of the voter registration list can also increase voter registration levels, promote the accuracy of the voter lists, enhance civic awareness, deter irregularities and raise public confidence in the results of the elections overall.

#### *History of VRA in Cambodia:*

NDI supported Cambodia's first voter registration monitoring by providing technical and financial assistance to COMFREL ahead of the 2003 national elections to conduct a one-way audit of the voters list using a list-to-people test. In that audit, the sample was small due to budget constraints and resultantly the margin of error was high.

However, given the confusion over the quality of the voters list following the commune elections, COMFREL, NICFEC and with the technical assistance of CAS and NDI agreed to conduct a comprehensive VRA by carrying out two-way tests – list-to-people and people-to-list -- of the 2006 list on the basis of which the Commune elections were held. This was the list that was due to be revised and updated in September and October 2007 in preparation for the 2008 elections.

The first comprehensive VRA was conducted in August – September 2007.

#### *Objective:*

To support credible and participatory elections in Cambodia, NICFEC and COMFREL conducted the Voter Registration Audit with technical assistance from CAS and NDI. This effort promoted the need for accuracy of the voter registration list and helped to safeguard the rights of Cambodian voters. The specific objective of the proposed program was to verify the accuracy of the current voters list and identify the problems in the list.

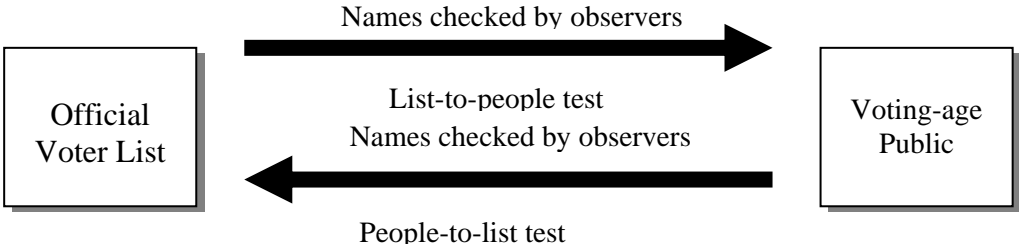
#### *Methodology:*

VRA is a two-way test – list to people and people to list - to determine the quality of the voter registration list. The first test entails selecting a random sample of names and addresses of persons on the voter registration list and contacting those people. The reliability of the voter registration list is ascertained by confirming the identity and addresses of the

people in the sample. The second test entails contacting a random sample of eligible voters on the street and determining what proportion of these people are on the voter registration list. A systematic analysis of data from both these tests provides critical information about the accuracy of the list and can be used to inform efforts to improve the electoral process.

The VRA involves mobilizing observers to cover a certain number of sample points across the country and check the following:

- The accuracy and how up-to-date the names on the official voter list are, *i.e.* a list-to-people test; and
- The accuracy and completeness of the voter list by interviewing randomly-selected voting-eligible citizens, *i.e.* a people-to-list test.



The Audit was conducted on the current voters list to identify problems with the list so that appropriate corrective measures could be taken to address any flaws in order to give concrete feedback to the 2007 voter registration process.

**IV. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:**

In order to implement the program successfully the following program activities were conducted.

*VRA Planning:*

On July 18 – 19, 2007 NDI facilitated a technical orientation and planning workshop. A VRA specialist from NDI Indonesia Ms. Anastasia Soeryadinata facilitated the two-day workshop attended by 12 participants from NICFEC (4), COMFREL (4), CAS (2) and NDI (2). The participants were given a clear understanding how the VRA worked and how it was successfully implemented in other countries around the world with NDI assistance.

The planning meeting produced a detail workplan to implement a comprehensive VRA. In addition to formulating the workplan the meeting also reached consensus in forming a Steering Committee tasked to deal with policy issues; comprising the Executive Directors of the organizations involved in conducting the VRA and a Technical Committee tasked to deal with day-to-day operational issues; comprising the Program Officers of the respective organizations. It was further agreed at the meeting that a Spokesperson would be appointed from among the members of the Steering Committee to deal with media questions and concerns and to handle public relations. That spokesperson was Dr. Hang Puthea, Executive Director of NICFEC.

The planning meeting further covered the issues pertaining to developing training manuals and materials, questionnaires, training programs, observer recruitment, deployment, spot checks, data collection, data cleaning, data processing, data analysis, preparation of presentation and other issues relevant to the successful conduct of the VRA. The planning meeting assigned responsibilities to the respective organizations – CAS was assigned the

responsibility to draw the statistical samples, develop training materials, provide the training and conduct spot checks, data entry, and data analysis. NICFEC and COMFREL were assigned to recruit and deploy volunteers, collect and clean data, plan and implement media and public relations.

#### *Public Awareness of the VRA:*

As the VRA was being conducted on a comprehensive scale for the first time the election stakeholders were unaware of or had limited understanding of the methodology. The VRA partner organization therefore, met H.E. Mr. Im Sousdey, the Chairperson of the National Election Committee (NEC) and Mr. Tep Nytha, Secretary General of the NEC on July 17, 2007 to brief the NEC leaders about the VRA and its usefulness to the NEC in relation to developing an all encompassing, accurate voters list to which the NEC extended its support.

On the same day the organizers of the VRA met with the representative of the main political parties represented in the Commune Councils – the Cambodian People’s Party (CPP), the Sam Rainsy Party (SRP) the National United Front for Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FCP), the Norodom Ranaridh Party (NRP) and the Hang Dara Party (HDP) and provide a briefing on the methodology of VRA and how it would benefit the preparation of quality voters list and at the same time provide a scientific baseline study on the quality of the voters list in Cambodia.

#### *The VRA Sample:*

With the technical expertise of the CAS and NDI specialist Ms. Anastasia Soeryadinata the statistical sample for the VRA was drawn. A national multistage random sample was used for this purpose. Three hundred eighty five (385) communes were selected statistically with the number of clusters selected in each province proportional to its population. In fact, the VRA two-way audit consists of two samples, one for each test. The volunteer observers complete the sampling at the lowest stage of the multi-stage sample. In the list-to-people test, observers obtain the commune voters list with the permission of the commune chief and select 4 names from the list using a interval sampling method (See: Appendix VI: Guidelines for Observers). In the people-to-list test, observers complete the lowest stage of the sample using a random a combination of random selection of household and random selection (using Kirsh grid) for selection of voting age member of said household.

The targeted sample for the list-to-people test was 1,540 randomly drawn voters from the list, four voters in each of the 385 Communes (sample points). Meanwhile, the targeted people-to-list sample was 2,310 randomly drawn voting age citizens, six in each Commune selected which were also randomly drawn. The targeted margin of error of was 3%±.

#### *Recruitment of VRA Volunteer Observers:*

NICFEC and COMFREL recruited a total of 385 volunteer observers, one for each of the 385 Communes in the sample with each observer interviewing 10 voters (four voters from the list for the list-to-people test and six voting age citizens for the people-to-list test) in each Commune for a total of 3,850 respondents.

At the provincial and district levels NICFEC and COMFREL presented the program objectives highlighting the important role of the observer. The two EMOs used their networks to recruit both male and female observers. The provincial coordinators of NICFEC and COMFREL were responsible for recruitment of observers in 325 and 60 communes respectively which they divided and coordinated mutually.



Given the level of sophistication of conducting the VRA the volunteer observers were recruited based on the following criteria: high school level education; non-partisan; resident in the commune where they were assigned to work; strong commitment to the democratic process; physically fit and preferably ownership of motorbike and cell phone and the ability to operate motorbike and cell phone.

#### *Development of VRA Training Materials:*

CAS was assigned to the lead to develop the training materials in consultation with NICFEC, COMFREL and NDI. On July 2007 CAS presented two sets of questionnaires to capture data from the respondents – one for the list-to-people test and the other one for the people-to-list test. Based on the observation forms (Appendices III and IV) two training materials were developed - one for training trainers and the other containing guidelines and instructions for the volunteer observers to enable them perform their tasks satisfactorily (Appendices V and VI).

#### *VRA Trainings:*

A two-stage training strategy or cascade was pursued. The first stage involved training VRA trainers in Phnom Penh and the second stage had the new VRA trainers train volunteer observers in the provinces.

On July 30 – 31, 2007, CAS trained four primary trainers on the VRA methodology, dealing with questionnaires and simulation in Phnom Penh.

The primary trainers then trained 385 volunteer observers in eleven provincial training sessions. Sixty volunteer observers from COMFREL were trained in two training sessions by a CAS primary trainer in Phnom Penh on August 5 – 6, 2007. The 325 NICFEC volunteer observers were trained in 9 provincial trainings in Battambang, Siem Reap, Prey Veng, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Takeo and Phnom Penh between Aug 3 – 7, 2007. The training topics included an introduction to the VRA methodology, the method for a random selection of respondents, for list-to-people and people-to-list tests, statistical sampling, interview simulations and transmission of data.

In addition to these training sessions for volunteer observers CAS trained six NDI program staff to conduct VRA quality control through spot checking of the NICFEC and COMFREL volunteer observers.

#### *VRA Deployment:*

NICFEC and COMFREL deployed their 385 volunteer observers to the designated Communes from August 10 – 14, 2007. CAS deployed 23 spot checkers and NDI deployed another 6 staff to conduct quality control and assist the volunteer observers during the observation period. NICFEC's and COMFREL's logistical arrangements differed slightly. While each of the 325 NICFEC observers conducted both the list-to-people and people-to-list tests in their respective communes the 60 COMFREL observers conducted one test only but covered two nearby communes. In other words, 30 COMFREL observers conducted a list-to-people test in two communes each while the other 30 conducted people-to-list test in two communes each.

Volunteer observers failed to reach 5 communes in northern Ratanakiri province due to heavy rains and flooding at the time of the observation period. This means that data was received from 380 or 98.7% of the targeted sample points (or communes) and from 3,796 respondents or 98.6% of the targeted respondents.

## VRA Data Transmission, Data Entry, Data Cleaning and Analysis:

Immediately upon completion of the data collection the volunteer observers sent their observation forms to their respective provincial coordinators who in turn sent the observation forms to their national offices. At the national offices of NICFEC and COMFREL the observation forms were examined and scrutinize for inconsistencies or difficulties in understanding the data and the observers were contacted for clarification. Once these problems had been cleaned up, the data was passed on to the CAS for data entry. Once all data was entered into a computerized database, the VRA partners met to analyze the findings.

## V. VRA FINDINGS

The VRA findings are based on data from 380 Communes across Cambodia (98.7% of the targeted sample points) to interview 3,796 eligible voters (98.6% of the targeted sample or respondents). Both communes and eligible voters were selected using statistical methods. The final margin of error was  $\pm 3.5\%$  with a level of confidence of 95%. The VRA was a two-way test. In a "List-to-People Test", observers statistically select names from the voters list and make contact with the voter to check the accuracy of the information. In a "People-to-List Test", eligible voters are chosen randomly from the community and their registration information is checked against the voters list.

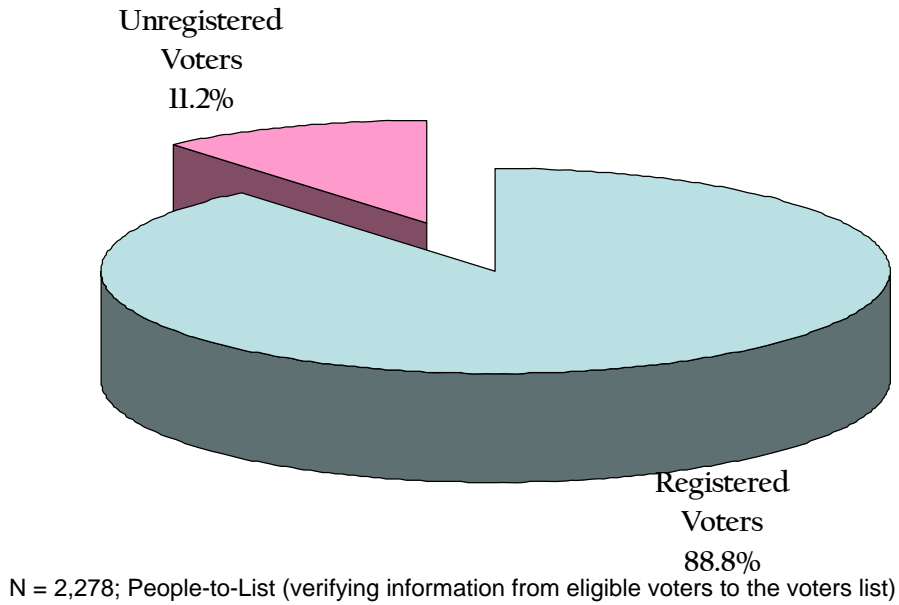
Successfully received reports from observers by province is described in the table below:

No	Provinces	Sample communes	No	Provinces	Sample communes
1	Banteay Meanchey	19 (100%)	13	Preah Vihear	3 (96.1%)
2	Battambang	25 (96.1%)	14	Prey Veng	33 (96.1%)
3	Kampong Cham	53 (100%)	15	Pursat	11 (100%)
4	Kampong Chhnang	12 (96.1%)	16	Ratanak Kiri	3 (100%)
5	Kampong Speu	21 (100%)	17	Siem Reap	20 (96.1%)
6	Kampong Thom	18 (100%)	18	Sihanouk Ville	5 (100%)
7	Kampot	17 (100%)	19	Stung Treng	2 (100%)
8	Kandal	38 (100%)	20	Svay Rieng	17 (100%)
9	Kong Kong	4 (100%)	21	Takeo	27 (100%)
10	Kratie	8 (100%)	22	Oddar Meanchey	4 (100%)
11	Mondul Kiri	1 (100%)	23	Krong Kep	1 (100%)
12	Phnom Penh	36 (100%)	24	Krong Pailin	2 (100%)
				<i>Total</i>	<b>380</b>

The urban-rural proportion of the VRA sample was 12.1% to 87.9% which differs slightly from the national proportion of 17.7% to 82.3%. The gender balance of all respondents (the two tests combined) was 48.2% female and 51.8% male.

The Audit findings show that the 2006 Cambodia Voters List (used in the 2007 Commune Council Election) is relatively complete with 88.8% of eligible voters already registered.

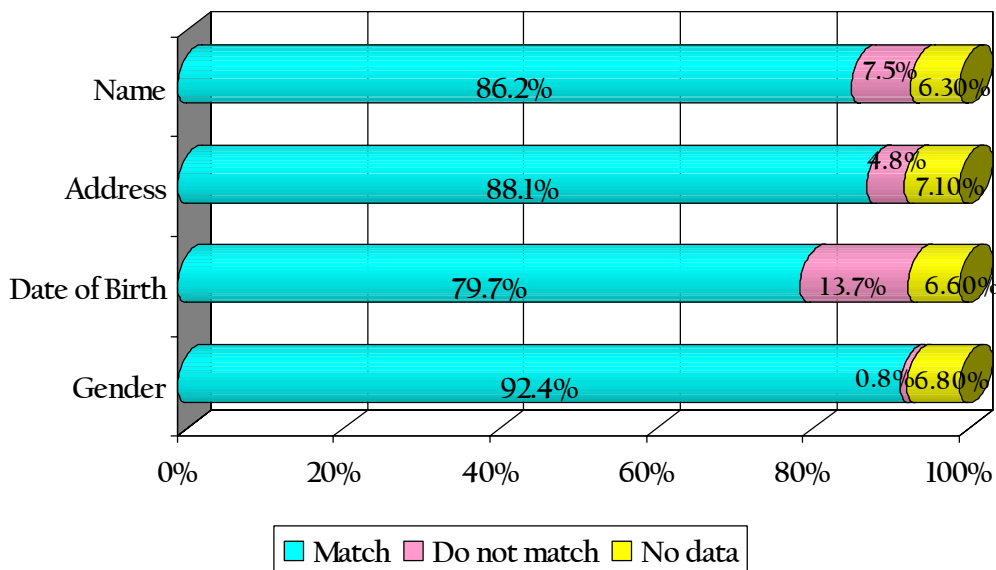
## Voter Registration Rate



The remaining 11.2% of unregistered eligible voters agreed with the National Election Commission's (NEC) own estimation of 683,000 eligible voters who need to be registered with the audit's margin of error. In fact, the audit was to prove more accurate than the NEC estimates as the number of eligible voters who registered in the revision period (September 15 to October 20, 2007) turned out to be 893,131 or 11 percent as predicted by the VRA.

Meanwhile, the list was also relatively accurate with a 86.2% accuracy rate for voter names and 88.1% accuracy rate for addresses.

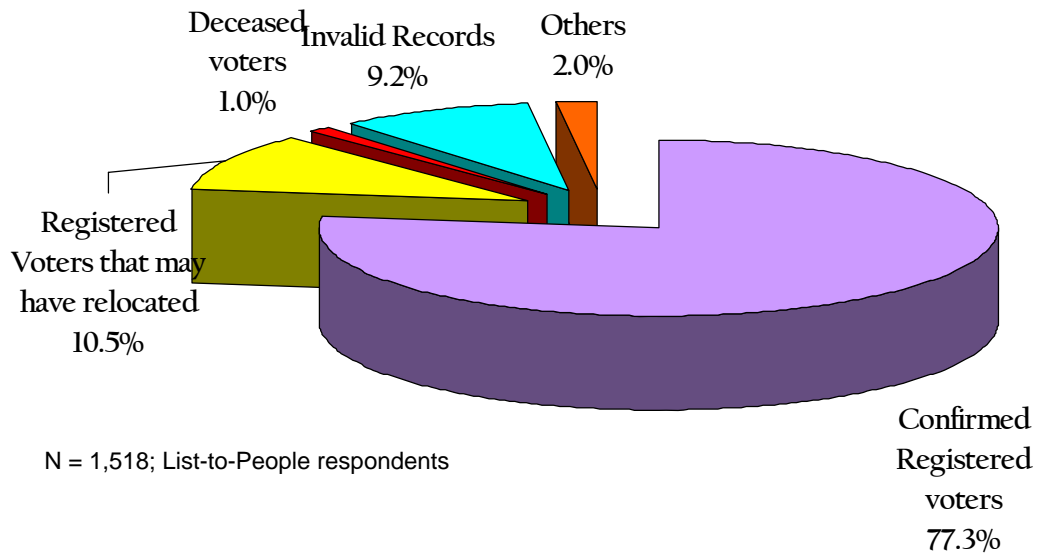
## Accuracy of the Voters List



N = 3,452; All respondents. No data includes unregistered voters, relocated voters, etc.

Where the list was relatively complete and accurate, it was less up-to-date. Only slightly more than three quarters of names on the list (77.3%) were valid. Invalid names were made up of the following types:

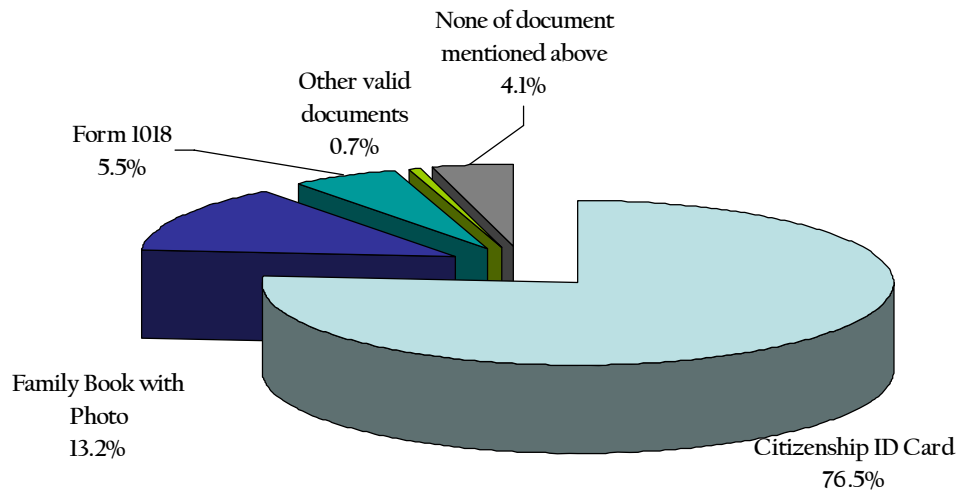
## Results of Verifying Names on the Voter List



Although, the 9.2% of invalid records supports NEC's estimation of 653,986 (8%) names that should be deleted from the list, the VRA findings create concerns that some of the 10.5% temporarily or permanently relocated voters might end up on the NEC deletion list (Form 1025).

The results also showed that 76.5% of voters used National ID cards to register.

## Identification Documents Used for Registration



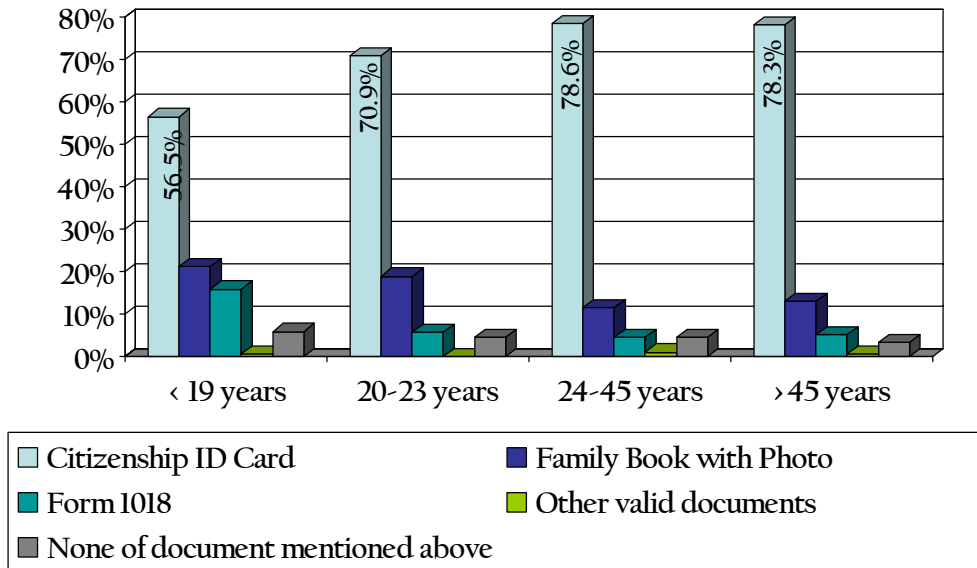
*Which identification document did you use to register for the voters list?*

N = 3,354; All respondents

Other valid documents includes: passport, civil servant ID card, national police ID card, RCAF ID Card, Monk ID, ID issued by ministry

However, among young voters under 19 years old, only 56.5% used National ID.

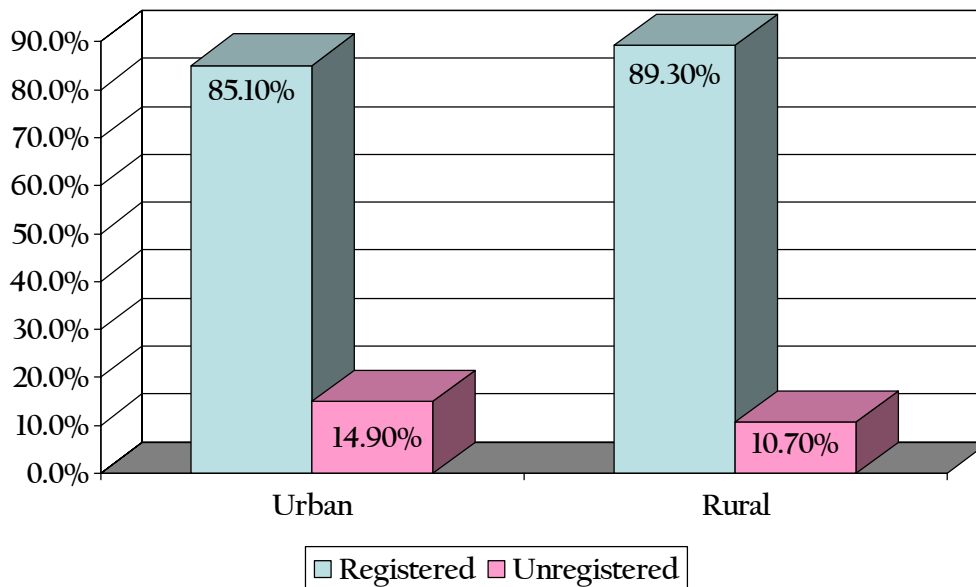
## Identification Document Used Against Respondent Age



Other valid documents includes: passport, civil servant ID card, national police ID card, RCAF ID Card, Monk ID, ID issued by ministry

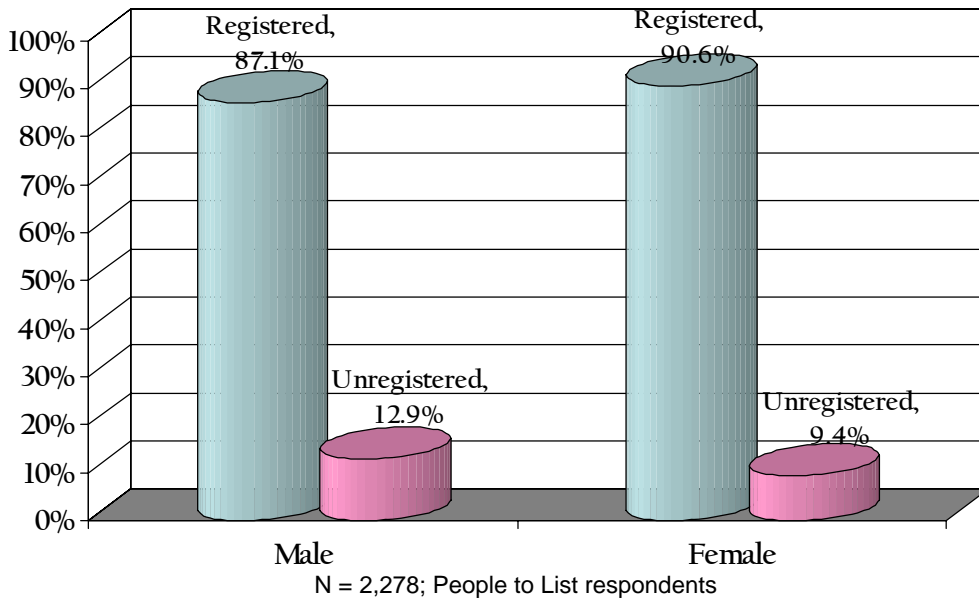
The VRA finds a slight difference between urban and rural registration rates with the former being 4.2% less than the later. This is not unexpected given the anonymity and mobility of urban compared to rural dwellers.

## Comparison of Voter Registration Rate in Urban and Rural Areas



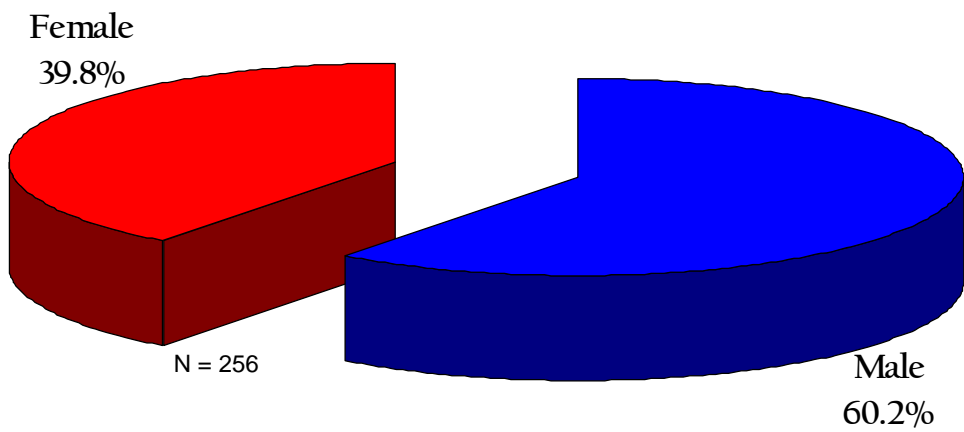
The VRA find a slight difference between the registration rates of male and female voters 87.1% and 90.6% respectively. The difference is exactly the margin of error, 3.5% so it is difficult judge the significance.

## Voter Registration Rate by Gender



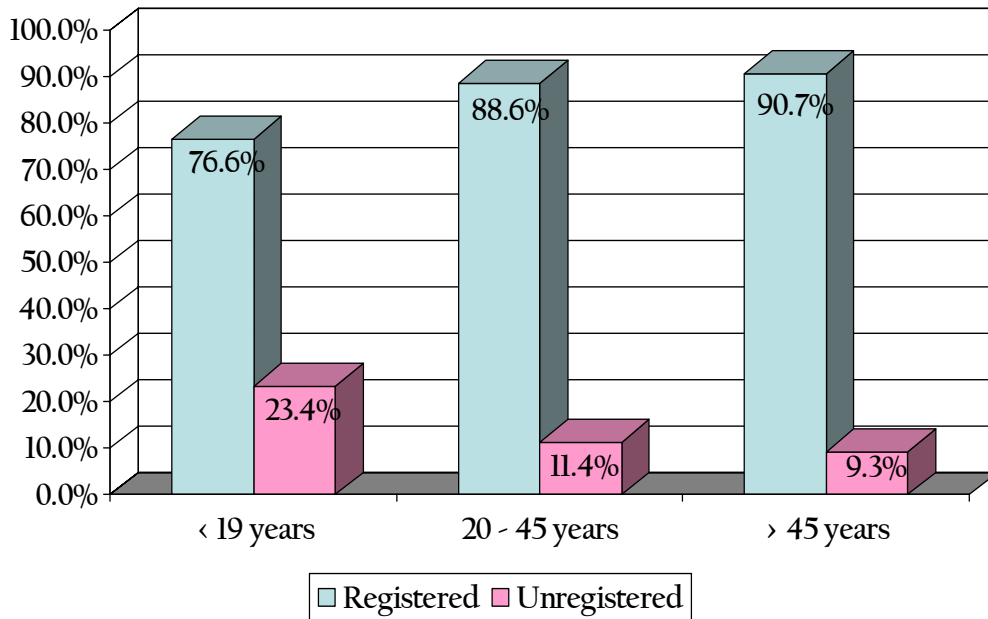
However, among unregistered voters, men are more common than women by a margin of 3:2.

## Unregistered Voters by Gender



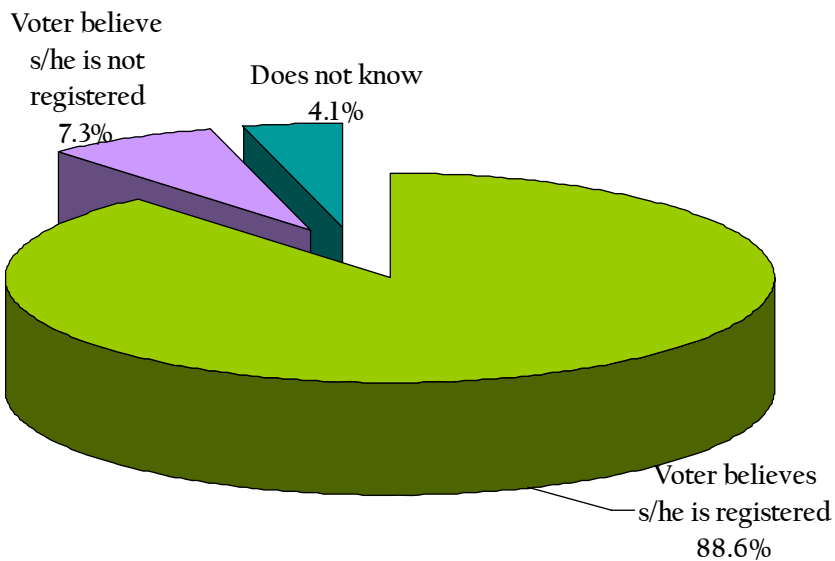
In addition, young voters of less than 19 years are 12% less likely to be registered than voters of other ages.

## Voter Registration Rate by Age



Almost nine out of ten voters were aware that they were registered on the voters list.

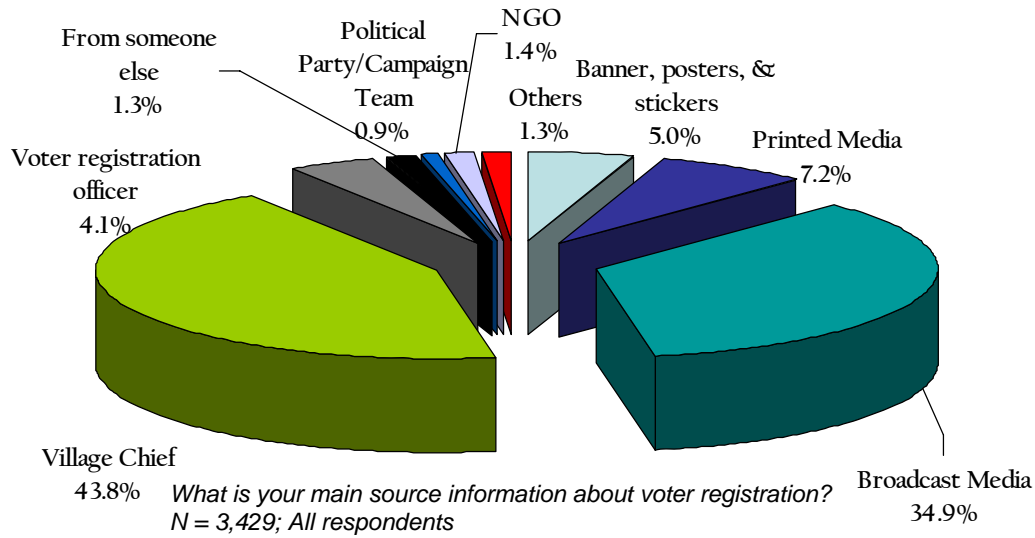
## Awareness among Registered Voters



*"Have you been registered for the upcoming 2008 election" (n = 1,174; List-to-People)*

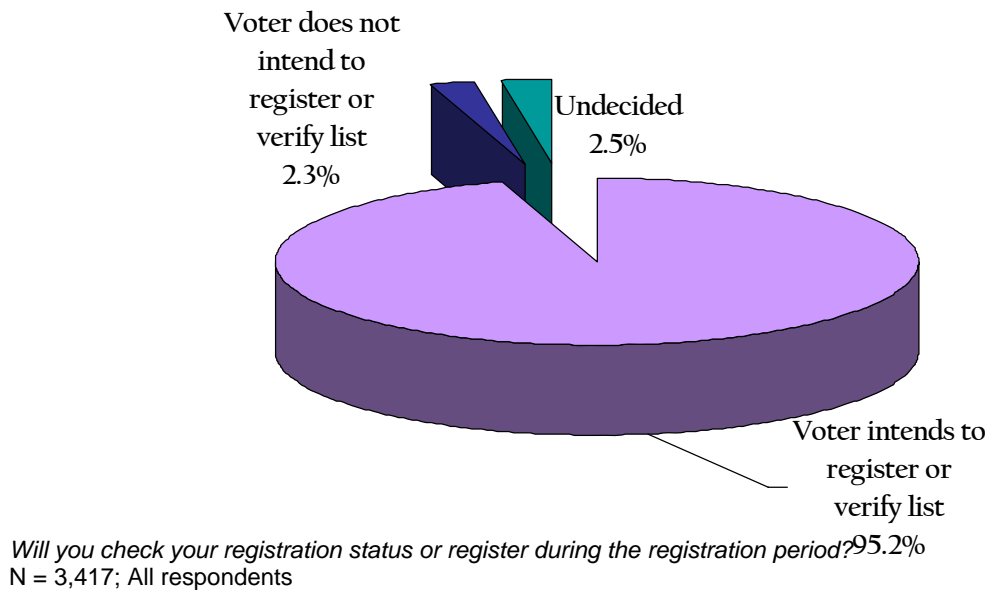
Meanwhile, the most popular main source of information about registration was the village chief (43.8%) with broadcast media a close second (34.9%).

## Source of Information about Registration



Voters overwhelmingly intended to register or verify their names on the voters list during the registration period. This may reflect the fact that the annual September registration period has become familiar and habitual for voters.

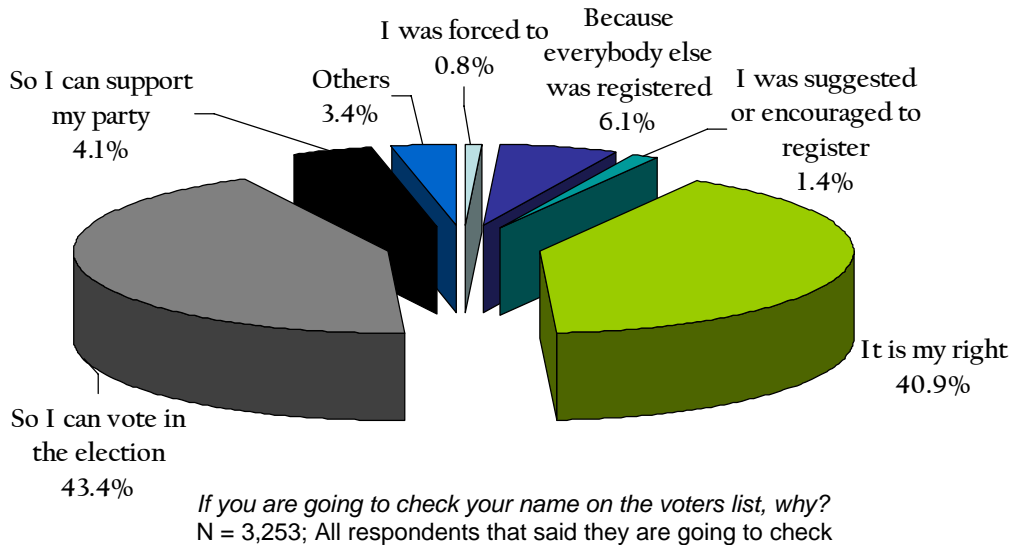
## Intention to Register or Verify Name on Voters List



Civic education also seems to have made an effect with voters since 84.3% of respondents cited reasons of wishing to participate and civic rights as the reasons for registering or verifying their name on the voters list during the registration period.



# Motivation of Voter to Check Name on Voters List



By providing a widely accepted and highly accurate assessment of the voter list, the VRA partners has established clear parameters for any discussion or debate for the revision and updating process. These parameters assist election stakeholders by eliminating wild claims, inaccurate anecdotal information and unsubstantiated speculation. The overall result is to create an environment which is more solution-focused and where stakeholders have greater confidence in the registration process.

## VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on an analysis of the VRA data, the VRA partners developed three sets of recommendations for various stakeholder groups.

For the National Election Commission:

1. Continue with registration update plans and prioritize enumerating unregistered voters. Pay special attention to specific groups such as male voters, young voters, and relocated voters.
2. Better to err on the side of caution and refrain from deleting voters who reside outside their commune and may or may not be registered in a new location
3. Focus on Unregistered Voters:
  - Prioritize unregistered voters. Pay special attention to specific groups such as male voters, young voters, and relocated voters.
4. Caution about Clean-up Process:
  - a) Reverse the burden of proof to rest with NEC and not the voter for the deletion list. In other words, accept only concrete evidence as proof of invalidity prior to deletion rather than delete if voter does not verify. It is better to err on the side of caution instead of deleting voter name due to hasty process.

Deceased voters should only be deleted with proof of death certificate. Relocated voters should only be deleted if proof of registration in other location is available. These voters reside permanently or temporarily outside their commune and may or may not be registered in a new location but may return to vote.

b) Cross-check the deletion against a reliable data set such as the polling stations voter list used the 2007 commune council election. These lists have information on voters who really exist and those who are in question.

5. Increase effectiveness of voter education programs by working with village chiefs and using broadcast media.

For the Government:

1. Complete the distribution of National ID cards preferably before September 15. Release information on the statistics of National ID cards issued and distributed.
2. Prioritize the first time voters to deliver their National ID cards
3. Cooperate and assist NEC to ensure the neutrality of the village chiefs
4. Adequately fund NEC in voter education and voter registration

For the Political Parties, Civil Society, Media and the International Community:

1. Do more to encourage voters to check their registration status or register themselves starting on September 15 – October 20, 2007.
2. Monitor the registration updating process and pay particular attention to relocated voters, deceased voters, and unregistered voters
3. Work with village chiefs and use broadcast media for effective dissemination of information on voter registration.
4. International community is encouraged to support financially and technically.

## **VII. PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS**

*Presentation to NEC and Political Parties:*

Between September 4-6, 2007, the VRA partners presented the results to the National Election Commission, the major political parties, USAID and UNDP, and the media. While the NEC did not agree with all of the recommendations, it accepted the results and thanked the VRA partners for the audit. Political parties publicly praised the VRA. The findings were also discussed at an ambassadorial level among donor countries.

*Press Conference:*

To disseminate the findings of the VRA a press conference was organized by the partner organizations implementing the program. The press conference was held on September 6, 2007 at a local hotel. A total of 40 participants from the print and electronic media including Voice of America, Radio Free Asia, TV3, TVK, TV9 and representatives from the political parties were present at the press conference.

The VRA results received widespread media coverage by the electronic and print media. Local televisions (TV9, TVK, and TV3), Radio Free Asia (RFA), and Voice of America (VoA), local print media such as Khmer Consciousness, Voice of Youth, *Koh Santepheap* (Island of Peace), *Reaksmey Kampuchea* (Light of Cambodia), *Kampuchea Thmey* (New Cambodia News), and English newspapers (Cambodia Daily and Weekly News) covered the VRA findings.

## **VIII. LESSONS LEARNED**

The VRA partners held an evaluation meeting on September 7, 2007 to identify challenges and solution in the planning and implementation of the audit. The following are notes from that meeting.

### *Internal Evaluation:*

- Short time for implementation
- VRA not well planned
- Sub-grant approval: Late and not enough
- Limited resources for data entry and analysis
- Checklists: Many last minute Changes and not well prepared

### Observers:

- Observer Recruitment: Not enough fund allocation for recruitment
- Observers not the best qualified – limited interviewing experience
- Limited understanding of observer form

### Training:

- Too short
- No Pre-Testing before deployment
- Simulation needs more attention
- Deployment days: too short

### Presentation

- Not well-prepared
- Translation problems
- Time constraints for presentation to stakeholders
- Speakers: Often spoke off topic beyond scope of VRA data
- Inconsistent speed: sometimes slow; sometimes fast

### Spot Checking:

- Need better training

### *External Evaluation:*

- Need official NEC endorsement as observers found it difficult to communicate with respondents because fear of the commune chiefs
- Important to have access to Voters List
- Need prior discussion or briefing with political parties

## **IX. LIST OF APPENDICES**

1. APPENDIX I: VRA Press Statement, September 6, 2007
2. APPENDIX II: VRA Press Statement, October 26, 2007
3. APPENDIX III: List-to-People Observation Form
4. APPENDIX IV: People-to-List Observation Form
5. APPENDIX V: Training Manual for Trainers
6. APPENDIX VI: Guideline for Observers
7. APPENDIX VII: Press Advisory
8. APPENDIX VIII: VRA Workplan
9. Appendix IX: Some News Clippings



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

**FOR RELEASE at 2.30 PM September 6, 2007**

**Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

September 6, 2007

### **Audit Recommends Priority on Unregistered Voters**

According to a reliable audit of the Cambodian Voters Registration List, 88.8% of eligible voters are registered. However, 11.2% are still unregistered which confirms the National Election Commission's (NEC) own estimation of 682,000 eligible voters who need to be registered. NEC intends to clean-up and update the voters list starting on September 15 and ending on October 20, 2007. "Based on our findings, registering eligible voters is far more important than the clean-up of the list. It should be NEC's absolute priority over the next month", recommended Dr. Hang Puthea, Executive Director of NICFEC. "If NEC deletes voters' names from the list, it would prudent to provide concrete evidence that the voter record is invalid."

The Voter Registration Audit or VRA is a systematic and scientific evaluation of the quality of the voters list and was conducted on August 10-14, 2007 by NICFEC and COMFREL, Cambodia's leading election observation organizations with the technical assistance of the Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) and US-based National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI). Volunteer observers were deployed to 380 Communes across Cambodia to interview 3,796 eligible voters. Both communes and eligible voters were selected using statistical methods. The margin of error was  $\pm 3.5\%$  with a level of confidence of 95%.

The VRA is a two-way test. In a "List-to-People Test", observers statistically select names from the current voters list and make contact with the voter to check the accuracy of the information. In a "People-to-List Test", eligible voters are chosen randomly from the community and their registration information is checked against the current voters list.

From the List-to-People Test, more than three quarters of the list (77.3%) of voters are valid. Up to 10.5% belong to voters who may have temporarily or permanently relocated. But overall from both tests, the voters list is 86.2% accurate for voter names, and 88.1% accurate for addresses. "I urge caution in the clean-up of the list given the accuracy rate and since it seems a significant proportion of voters permanently or temporarily reside outside their communes and may or may not return to vote." said Jerome Cheung, NDI Country Director. "Even if these voters are double registered, greater stress on the use of indelible ink on voters' fingers and checking of voters photo ID should reduce the possibility of fraud."

The results also show that 76.5% of voters used National ID cards to register. Among young voters under 19 years old, only 56.5% used National ID. "National ID cards have photos that can verify the true identify of a voter. Therefore, the complete distribution of national ID cards would not only facilitate registration, it would also greatly reduce irregularities," added Mar Sophal, the COMFREL Monitoring Program Coordinator.

Men are more likely to be unregistered than women by a margin of 3:2. In addition, young voters of less than 19 years are 12% less likely to be registered than voters of other ages. A voter registration drive can be more effective if it targets young voters and male voters.

The most popular main source of information about registration was the village chief (43.8%) with broadcast media a close second (34.9%). Political parties, civil society and media can play a more

effective role to provide voter information by working closely with village chiefs and using broadcast media.

**Neutral and Impartial Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (NICFEC)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1998 which works to strengthen democracy in Cambodia. NICFEC has monitored two national elections and two commune elections in Cambodia. NICFEC deployed both short-term and long-term observers to observe the 2007 Commune Council Election.

**Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL)** is an independent, non-partisan domestic monitoring organization first established for the May 1993 UNTAC elections. COMFREL has worked in close collaboration with the international organizations throughout Cambodia in order to monitor the electoral process, before, during and after election day. COMFREL monitored the 1998, 2002, 2003 and 2007 elections by deploying short-term and long-term observers.

**Center for Advanced Study (CAS)** was founded in 1996 as an independent, non-political Cambodian institution devoted to research, education and public debate on issues affecting the development of the Cambodian society. CAS has conducted research for different national and international organizations on various subjects including health care (such as HIV/AIDS), civil society, voter awareness, conflict resolution, legal and judicial awareness, gender issues, and trafficking of women and children.

**National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)** is an international non-profit and non-partisan organization working to strengthen and expand democracy worldwide. NDI has successfully pioneered the VRA technique around the world. NDI is supported by generous assistance of the United States Agency for International Development.

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COMFREL, NICFEC AND NDI  
Joint Statement on  
VOTER REGISTRATION MONITORING REPORT

Phnom Penh: October 26, 2007: The Committee For Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL), The Neutral and Independent Committee For Free Elections in Cambodia (NICFEC) and the US-based National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) deployed a total of 360 (276 + 69 + 15 respectively) mobile observers to monitor the voter registration process throughout the country. A total of 709 voter registration stations were monitored during September 15 to October 20, 2007 registration period.

COMFREL, NICFEC and NDI are pleased with the National Election Committee (NEC) for the 36 days extended registration period although registration was suspended during the 3 days Pchumben holidays. The groups continue to monitor the NEC and commune authorities work on the voter registration and updating voters list.

The election monitoring organizations however reiterates its serious concern about the Deletion List (form 1025) which was not prepared according to the procedures set out by the NEC as many names were included in Form 1025 for deletion without the required documentation. Although the registration period offered citizens an opportunity to check if their names were on the deletion list the monitoring groups observed that due to inadequate voter education not many citizens knew about the existence of the list and consequently did not check it. The three organizations recommend that before deleting a single name the NEC check and verify that the required documents existed so as not to disenfranchise even a single voter through this flawed process. Alternatively, the names on the deletion list can be retained as a supplementary voters list and should those voters not turn up to vote in 2008 national elections then, their names may be deleted.

The election watchdog groups observed the following irregularities during the registration period:

In clear violation of the registration procedures a substantial number of new voters were registered by proxy as party agents, commune officials, military police officers and RCAF officers who took their identity documents and photographs and registered them as voters in connivance with registration officials. (Poi Pet commune, Preah Ponlea, Steung Trang (Sangkat), Steung Kach, Sala Krau and O'andoung communes among others).

Several voter registrations stations did not comply with the stipulated working hours and had either opened late or closed early. Not all registration officials were present at all registration stations during working hours. Though a majority of registration stations opened and closed on time and the registration officials were present.

Many registration officials complained of inadequate funds to conduct the registration. Very few complaints were received by our observers of intimidation, threats and influencing the registration process.

The high rate of new registrants is 893,131, newly registered voters which was 30% more than originally estimated by NEC. This compares favorably with the Voter Registration Audit

results conducted by NICFEC, COMFREL and NDI. However, given the flaws observed in the voter registration process concerns remains about multiple registration, underage or non-Cambodian citizens who may have been registered which must be examined by the NEC prior to the posting of the preliminary voters list.

For further information:

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APPENDIX III: List-to-People Observation Form

<b>Form 3: Voter List to People</b>					
<b>A</b>	Volunteer ID		<b>G</b>	Questionnaire Type	1. <i>Voter List to People</i>
<b>B</b>	Volunteer Name				
<b>C</b>	Province		<b>H</b>	Respondent serial number	
<b>D</b>	District		<b>I</b>	Date of Interview	
<b>E</b>	Commune		<b>J</b>	Interview Start Time	
<b>F</b>	Village		<b>K</b>	Interview End Time	

**Notes:**

- Please, make efforts to meet and interview that respondent three times
- If you can meet the respondent and got the information related to the respondent's data, copy the data to P5-P11
- If the answer of P-1 will be 2 to 9, then automatically you will not have to ask P3-P19. But you have to answer P20-P21.
- If you can meet the respondent, please, start the interview by asking the respondent's ID document which was used in a voter registration, fill it in P5-P8. After you finish, you can draw a conclusion by matching both information that you got from the voter list and the respondent's ID document.
- Start the interview by asking the respondent's ID card which was used in a voter registration, fill it in P4-P19. After you finish, you can draw a conclusion by matching both information that you got from the voter list and the respondent's ID Card.

**I. Presence on the Voters List**

<b>P1</b>	Have you been able to find the chosen respondent from the Voter List?	1. Yes (Go to P3) 2. No – because there is no address as mentioned on the list 3. No – there is an address, but no one live in that house (empty house) 4. No – there is an address, but there is no respondent with that name live in that address 5. No – there is an address, the respondent lives there, but he/she is leaving for some period of time 6. No – there is an address, the respondent lives there for a while, but he/she has moved out forever 7. No – there is an address, the respondent lived there before, but he/she has died 8. No – there is an address, the respondent lived there before, but for now he/she doesn't have the right to vote 9. Other reason (specify) _____
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<b>P2</b>	Where did you get the information?	1. N/A (If the answer for P1 is Yes=1) 2. Present house owner 3. Neighbor 4. Village Chief 5. Others (specify) _____
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<b>P3</b>	Respondent number on the list	
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**II. Respondent's data**

<b>P4</b>	Which identity document did you use for voter registration?	1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card 2. Yes, Passport 3. Yes, Family Book with Photo 4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card 5. Yes, National Police ID Card 6. Yes, RCAF ID Card	7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect 8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect 9. Yes, Form 1018 10. ID Card issued by Ministry 11. None of document mentioned above 12. Others _____
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No	Respondent Data	In ID document (Fill by observers)	In Voter List (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL)	Codes: (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL) 1. Match 2. Does not match/ incomplete 3. No data on the voter list		
P5.	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
P6.	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			
		Year:	Year:			
P7.	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	2	3
P8.	Address	Village:	Village:	1	2	3
		Commune:	Commune:			
		Province:	Province:			

P9	What was your last level of education?	1. Did not attend school 2. Primary School or other education of the same level 3. Junior High School or other education of the same level 4. Senior High School or other education of the same level 5. Bachelor Degree and/or above 6. Do not answer
----	--	---

P10	What is your current occupation? (do not read the following options to the respondent)	1. Laborer (farmer/ fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc) 2. Farmer/fisherman (owner) 3. Small trader 4. Businessman/Commerce 5. Retired Police or Military 6. State Official (including retired) 7. Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc) 8. Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, notary, etc.) 9. Housewife 10. Student 11. Unemployed 12. Other 13. Does not answer
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P11	Could you tell me, which ethnic group you belong to?	1. Khmer 2. Cham 3. Chinese 4. Vietnam 5. Thai 6. Lao 7. Others 8. Does not answer
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### III. Voter Registration information

P12.	Are you planning to live in this address permanently until the 2008 election?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Undecided
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P13.	Since when you stayed at this address?	Month:	Year:
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P14.	According to you, have you been registered for the upcoming 2008 election?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Does not know
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P15.	From 2002 to 2006, where did you register?	1. Not registered 2. In the same commune where respondent stays 3. In different commune where respondent stays (if 3, please identify where did you register)					
		Answer		Commune	District	Province	
		a.	Year 2002	1	2	3	
		b.	Year 2003	1	2	3	
		c.	Year 2004	1	2	3	
		d.	Year 2005	1	2	3	
e.	Year 2006	1	2	3			

P16.	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the registration period?	1. Yes (Go to P17) 2. No (Go to P18) 3. Undecided/ no answer
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<b>P17.</b>	If yes, why? ( <i>choose only one answer</i> )	1. I was forced to (Go to P19) 2. Because everybody else was registered (Go to P19) 3. I was suggested or encouraged to register (Go to P19) 4. It is my right (Go to P19)	5. So I can vote in the election (Go to P19) 6. So I can support my party (Go to P19) 7. I can sell my vote (Go to P19) 8. Other _____ (Go to P19)
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<b>P18.</b>	If not, why?	1. I don't care (Go to P19) 2. I don't know about the voter registration process (Go to P19) 3. I don't have an ID document for voter registration (Go to P19)	4. The registration timeline is too short (Go to P19) 5. The distance to the voter registration station is too far (Go to P19) 6. Others _____ (Go to P19)
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<b>P19.</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about the voter registration? ( <i>choose only one answer</i> )	1. Banners 2. Posters 3. Stickers 4. Printed Media 5. Electronic Media (radio or TV) 6. From Village Chief	7. From the voter registration officer 8. From someone else (family, neighbor, friends) 9. Political Party/Campaign Team 10. NGO 11. Other _____
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**III. Observer Evaluation**

<b>P20.</b>	What is the respondent's category?	1. New comers 2. People who recently died 3. Youth Voter (< 19 years old)	4. Ordinary Voter age > 65 years old 5. Disable people 6. The ethnic minority
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<b>P21.</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	1. Yes 2. No
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APPENDIX IV: People-to-List Observation Form

<b>PForm 2: People to Voter List</b>			<b>Voters Registration Audit</b>		
<b>A</b>	Volunteer ID		<b>G</b>	Questionnaire Type	1. <i>Random People to List</i> 2. <i>Quota People to List</i>
<b>B</b>	Volunteer Name				
<b>C</b>	Province		<b>H</b>	Respondent serial number	
<b>D</b>	District		<b>I</b>	Date of Interview	
<b>E</b>	Commune		<b>J</b>	Interview Start Time	
<b>F</b>	Village		<b>K</b>	Interview End Time	

**Notes:**

During the interview, observers are only need to ask P1 – P15.

When answering P3-P6 (In ID document), please ask the voter's ID they used in a voter registration. After the interview end, you have to fill P5-P6 (In voter list) again with the information provided in the voter list.

After conducting interview, please fill P16-P17

NICFEC/ COMFREL have to fill P18-P19 and P3-P6 with the information provided on the voters list. Then, you can draw a conclusion by matching both information you have from the respondent's ID and the voter list.

**I. Respondent's Data**

<b>P1.</b>	From 2002 to 2006, where did you register?	1. Not registered (go to P3) 2. In the same commune where respondent stays 3. In different commune where respondent stays (if 3, please identify where did you register)					
		Answer			Commune	District	Province
	a.	Year 2002	1	2	3		
	b.	Year 2003	1	2	3		
	c.	Year 2004	1	2	3		
	d.	Year 2005	1	2	3		
e.	Year 2006	1	2	3			

<b>P2.</b>	Which identity document did you use for voter registration?	1. Citizenship ID Card 2. Passport 3. Family Book with Photo 4. Civil Servant ID Card 5. National Police ID Card 6. RCAF ID Card	7. Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect 8. Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect 9. Form 1018 10. ID Card issued by Ministry 11. None of document mentioned above 12. Others.....
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No	Respondent Data	In ID document (Fill by observers)	In Voter List (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL)	Codes: (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL) 1. Match 2. Does not match/ incomplete 3. No data on the voter list		
<b>P3.</b>	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
<b>P4.</b>	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			
		Year:	Year:			
<b>P5.</b>	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	2	3
<b>P6.</b>	Address	Village:	Village:	1	2	3
		Commune:	Commune:			
		Province:	Province:			

<b>P7.</b>	What was your last level of education?	1. Did not attend school 2. Primary School or other education of the same level 3. Junior High School or other education of the same level	4. Senior High School or other education of the same level 5. Bachelor Degree and/or above 6. Do not answer
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<b>P8.</b>	What is your current occupation? <i>(do not read the following options to the respondent)</i>	1. Laborer (farmer/ fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc) 2. Farmer/fisherman (owner) 3. Small trader 4. Businessman/Commerce 5. Retired Police or Military	6. State Official (including retired) 7. Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc) 8. Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, notary, etc.)	9. Housewife 10. Student 11. Unemployed 12. Other _____ 13. Does not answer
<b>P9.</b>	Could you tell me, which ethnic group you belong to?	1. Khmer 2. Cham 3. Chinese	4. Vietnam 5. Thai 6. Lao	7. Others 8. Does not answer

## II. Voter Registration information

<b>P10.</b>	Are you planning to live in this address permanently until the 2008 election?	4. Yes 5. No 6. Undecided
<b>P11.</b>	Since when you stayed at this address?	Month: _____ Year: _____
<b>P12.</b>	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the registration period?	4. Yes (Go to P13) 5. No (Go to P14) 6. Undecided/ no answer (Go to P15)
<b>P13.</b>	If yes, why? <i>(choose only one answer)</i>	9. I was forced to (Go to P15) 10. Because everybody else was registered (Go to P15) 11. I was suggested or encouraged to register (Go to P15) 12. It is my right (Go to P15) 13. So I can vote in the election (Go to P15) 14. So I can support my party (Go to P15) 15. I can sell my vote (Go to P15) 16. Other _____ (Go to P15)
<b>P14.</b>	If not, why?	1. I don't care (Go to P15) 2. I don't know about the voter registration process (Go to P15) 3. I don't have an ID document for voter registration (Go to P15) 4. The registration timeline is too short (Go to P15) 5. The distance to the voter registration station is too far (Go to P15) 6. Others _____ (Go to P15)
<b>P15.</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about the voter registration? <i>(choose only one answer)</i>	1. Banners 2. Posters 3. Stickers 4. Printed Media 5. Electronic Media (radio or TV) 6. From Village Chief 7. From the voter registration officer 8. From someone else (family, neighbor, friends) 9. Political Party/Campaign Team 10. NGO 11. Other _____

## III. Observer Evaluation

<b>P16.</b>	What is the respondent's category?	1. New comers 2. People who recently died 3. Youth Voter (< 19 years old) 4. Ordinary Voter age > 65 years old	5. Ordinary Voter age 19- 65 years old 6. Disable people 7. The ethnic minority
<b>P17.</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	1. Yes 2. No	

## IV. Presence on the Voters List (filled by NICFEC/ COMFREL)

<b>P18.</b>	Have the respondent registered as voter in the voter list?	1. Yes (Go to P19) 2. No
<b>P19.</b>	Respondent number on the list	(Go to P3-P6)

## TRAINING MANUAL

VOTER REGISTRATION AUDIT PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

# **Methods, Questionnaires and Instructions for Interview**

*By Hean Sokhom*

This Program Implemented by Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) of  
COMFREL and NICFEC under the Cooperation with NDI

July, 2007

## Introduction

Voter registration list is a very important public document, so the National Election Committee has the duty to maintain and update this list as good as possible under the cooperation with people but so far this is no perfect voter registration list yet. The evaluation of voter registration list is very essential because of the reason that the accurate and updating voter registration list can be trusted by the citizens and stakeholders. Moreover, the other severe problems caused by the inaccuracy of voter registration list can bring doubt to the reliability and legitimacy of the result of the election.

Voter Registration Audit (VRA) is not going to focus on every voter in Cambodia; meanwhile, it is conducted to focus on only randomly selected voters by using appropriate and explainable methods that can reflect the result of voter registration process in the country as a whole.

## Methods

To succeed in this observation, our working group will use two methods of test at the locality as below:

- The test **from list to people**: This test will be done in order to make sure that each name in the list is the real name of eligible voter and also to reconcile the voters' information. Observer groups will check the correctness of the name with real people.
- The test **from people to list**: This test will be done to check whether there is any eligible voter no name on the voter registration list or not. Observer groups will interview randomly selected voters to find out that they have their names in the list or not and also check their information on the list.

Through the target voters to answer the questions by the many-stage and random methods, volunteer observer groups will check the voter registration in 385 communes in 24 provinces/cities in Cambodia.

- Test **from list to people**: Volunteer observer groups will check the names in voter registration list of 1540 names
- Test **from people to list**: Volunteer observer groups will check 2310 voters with their names on voter registration voter list.

### 1. Commune And Village Selection

385 communes have been selected according to the proportion of 1621 communes throughout multi stages of selection. In each commune, there are three villages which are randomly selected for the test **from people to list**. Among 385 selected communes, some polling stations have been chosen for the test **from list to people**.

Code	Provinces	Commune Selection	
		Numbers of Communes	Communes Selected
01	Bantheay Meanchey	64	19
02	Battambang	96	26
03	Kampong Cham	173	53
04	Kampong Chhanang	69	13
05	Kampong Speu	87	21
06	Kampong Thom	81	18

07	Kampot	92	17
08	Kandal	147	38
09	Koh Kong	33	4
10	Kratie	46	8
11	Mondolkiri	21	1
12	Phnom Penh	76	36
13	Preah Vihear	49	4
14	Prey Veng	116	34
15	Pursat	49	11
16	Rattakiri	49	3
17	Siem Reap	100	21
18	Sihanouk Ville	22	5
19	Steung Treng	34	2
20	Svay Reang	80	17
21	Takeo	100	27
22	Odor Meanchay	24	4
23	Kep	5	1
24	Pailin	8	2

## 2. Voter Selection

When arriving at the villages, volunteer groups have the duty to select the voters according to the instruction.

### For the test *From People To List*:

In each selected commune, volunteers have to work in three villages to interview 6 voters:

- Village 1: For the interview with two voters for the *quota from people to list*
- Village 2: For the interview with two voters for *random selection from people to list*
- Village 3: For the interview with two voters for *random selection from people to list*

### For the test *from List To People*:

In each selected commune, volunteers have to work in a polling station of selected communes to interview four voters:

#### **a. Respondent Determination *Quota From People To List***

The selection of quota from people to list is not through random method but it refers to the quota of voters who are the target people. Thus, the volunteers have to:

- Ask the village chiefs about those target people
- Chose two people to answer the questions such as to check a recently dead person and one indigenous person
- Interview those people

**Table of Population As a Total Target of Sample for Voter Registration Audit**

Province	Frame			Sample PSUs			Sample SSUs			Numbers of Respondents		
	District	Commune	Eligible Voters	From People to List	Quota	From List to People	From People to List	Quota	From List to People	From People to List	Quota	From List to People
Bantheay Meanchay	8	64	386,524	19	19	19	38	19	19	76	38	76
Battambang	13	96	523,549	26	26	26	52	26	26	104	52	104
Kampong Cham	16	173	1,072,229	53	53	53	106	53	53	212	106	212
Kampong Chhnang	8	69	269,607	13	13	13	26	13	13	52	26	52
Kampong Speu	8	87	415,790	21	21	21	42	21	21	84	42	84
Kampong Thom	8	81	362,451	18	18	18	36	18	18	72	36	72
Kampot	8	92	344,950	17	17	17	34	17	17	68	34	68
Kandal	11	147	780,299	38	38	38	76	38	38	152	76	152
Koh Kong	2	5	32,547	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	2	4
Kratie	8	33	83,673	4	4	4	8	4	4	16	8	16
Mondolkiri	5	46	160,208	8	8	8	16	8	8	32	16	32
Phnom Penh	5	21	24,571	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	2	4
Preah Vihear	5	24	84,450	4	4	4	8	4	4	16	8	16
Prey Veng	2	8	32,547	2	2	2	4	2	2	8	4	8
Pursat	7	76	723,241	36	36	36	72	36	36	144	72	144
Ratanakiri	7	49	75,613	4	4	4	8	4	4	16	8	16
Siem Reap	12	116	683,991	34	34	34	68	34	34	136	68	134
Sihanouk Ville	6	49	223,732	11	11	11	22	11	11	44	22	44
Steung Treng	9	49	64,924	3	3	3	6	3	3	12	6	12
Svay Reang	12	100	421,255	21	21	21	42	21	21	84	42	84
Takeo	3	22	96,610	5	5	5	10	5	5	20	10	20
Odor Meanchay	5	34	50,057	2	2	2	4	2	2	8	4	8
Kep	7	80	343,623	17	17	17	34	17	17	68	34	68
Pailin	10	100	554,085	27	27	27	54	27	27	108	54	108
Total	185	1,621	7,810,526	385	385	385	770	385	385	1540	770	1540

**b. Respondent Determination Quota From People to List**

- Volunteers go to village selected
- Volunteers have to meet village chiefs to get the permission
- Volunteers ask village chief and deputy village chief about the quota of the respondent as below
- Volunteers select two respondents from different families
- Quota of respondents:
  - New comers
  - Recently dead people
  - New voters (Under 19)
  - The voters over 65 years old
  - Disable voters
  - Indigenous voters
- Volunteers go to meet selected people to interview



## 1. Respondent Selection *Random Select From People to List*

Family selection to find two respondents in each village by random *selection from people to list* must be done through systematic random selection by the stages below:

### a. Household Selection

- Volunteers go to the two selected villages
- Volunteers go to meet village chiefs to ask for the permissions and ask about the total numbers of families in the village
- Have to choose the first household which is the starting point by using a lucky draw method (from number 1 to number 5). The number drawn is the number of the family of the starting point. For example, if the lucky draw is number 4, number 4 is the household's number which counts from the first village as the starting point.
- In order to choose the second household, we have to count from the first household by adding the number of the household from one household to another. There are two adding numbers; number 10 and 20. Number 10 is used for the village whose population is less than 50 while number 20 is for the village whose population is more than 50. If the first household is in number 4, so the second one will be in number 14 for less-than-50-of-population village; or will be 24 for more-than-50-of-population village.
- If the respondent from first household selected is female, so the second respondent will be male.
- Volunteers have to look for this respondent for interview and continue from the following villages.

### b. Respondent Selection

Have to select only one eligible respondent in the selected household by following these methods:

- Meet the selected household for the first step
- Ask the all the names of the eligible voters from this household and write them down in the table of respondent random selection from the oldest to the youngest of age (All males or all females following the previous step selection). If there is only one, this one is automatically our respondent.
- If there are more than two, we have to make a slope corner from the headline number of the first household in the household map selected previously to the name of the last respondent. If the slope corner falls in any number, the respondent whose number is the same is our respondent.

Table for Selecting Respondent

Family Member			Sex		The number of the first household in the map					
No	Name	Age	M	F	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	A		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	B		1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
3	C		1	2	3	1	2	3	2	1
4	D		1	2	4	2	3	3	1	2
5			1	2	5	2	4	5	2	3
6			1	2	6	5	1	2	3	3

Example: Number 3 is C which is the respondent

### c. Respondent Determination *From List to People*

- Volunteers have to meet village chiefs to get the permission
- In the list 4 voters' names have already been selected
- Volunteers have to look for the selected voter for interview

### Understanding the Questions

Unfairness during observation will be caused by two main reasons: Being unfair due to the sample selection and other things else. Being unfair caused by the other reason includes fault planning, wrong interpretation, wrong information received from respondents, or wrong data transmission. Therefore, this part is an important part that volunteers need to comprehend the questions for interview.

#### A. Questionnaires

There are three questionnaires need to use for observation:

- Form 2: Test *From People to List* and *Quota from People to List*
- Form 3: Test *From List to People*

Everyone has to:

- learn and understand each question in the questionnaires
- ask questions in the questionnaires. Please ask only to get the meaning that we want but not try to interpret in the wrong way. If the respondent does not understand, please ask again.
- interview directly but not allow the respondent to fill in form by him/herself
- pay attention and carefully record all the answers from the respondent.

Interview:

The soul task of volunteers is interview. Good interview is based on many factors such as interviewers, respondents, interview topics, and the surrounding situation during the interview.

- A good interviewer is (1) having interview skills (able to ask question correctly—not out of the question meaning—able to listen, able to record answers correctly and having good relationship with respondents and so on) (2) having heart and clear reasons and high decision making (3) brave—dear to ask questions.
- Respondents have different characteristics according to society situation in which they live and this can make them able to understand and to answer questions differently.
- You have to realize that the questions that you ask can be emotional, difficult, and sometimes it is not a subject matter (impression) of respondents. These are the sources of the respondents' concerns.
- Venues and time of interview also affect the interview; for example, the respondent is busy doing his/her important work when the interview takes place, the interview place provides bad context (other people around) that makes the respondent inferior and change his/her attitude.

Hence, the trainers have to make sure that they provide guidelines for interview to volunteers:

- Tell them about the subject matter for observation
- Tell them about their obligations and duties
- Explain every question in the questionnaires and explain reasons why we need to ask all these questions. Clear understanding the questions can lead to get good and clear information.
- Tell them about how to record the answer. If the answer is not clear enough, use technique to clarify it.

- Explain them about how to interview from the introduction to the closing.
- Predict mistakes before hand
- Explain about code of conduct for observers
- Manage to have role play during training

### **What do we need to do if the respondents refuse to be interviewed?**

They refuse because maybe they receive unclear information about the purpose of interviewing. Therefore, we have to tell them about the importance of our observation. We can also have someone in the community to help if necessary. If the respondent feels inconvenient to involve in our interview, we have to know how to convince him/her that the interview will not affect him/her at all. If the respondent still disagrees, please find the other respondent according to the technique.

### **What do we need to do if the respondent does not provide complete information?**

Please try asking question again but no need to give answer. Let them confirm the answer. If you feel that the respondent does not understand or is hesitate, please ask them, “Should I repeat the question for you?”

### **Remember**

- First step of interviewing is to make good communication with respondents in order for them to be well prepared and provide true answers. Good communication can be seen as expressing hospitality, warmth and free talk from the respondent.
- Be enthusiastic and show respect for the respondent because he/she is not a criminal we are questioning.
- Be keen to listen to the answer because not all the answers are as smooth as that in the questionnaires
- You have to be neutral
- Thank the respondent before leaving
- If you do not meet the respondent, please try asking why he/she is absent. Please try coming back twice. You can make an appointment with him/her according to appropriate occasion.

## **Understanding the Two Forms**

In the three forms of questionnaires, there are some general questions that volunteers need to complete in advance.

### **A. Volunteer’s Code**

Please fill in your code in every form. Each volunteer has their own code that cannot be changed. The code consist six numbers, the same as that of each commune that they are assigned to go.

N°	Province	Code	District	Code	Commune	
01	Banteay Meanchey	02	Mongkul Borey	06	Ou Prasat	Volunteers Code: 010206
02	Battambang	01	Bannan	01	Kanteu Muoy	Volunteer Code: 020101

B. Name of Volunteer: Please fill in your name in each form

C. Province: Please fill in province that you are assigned to collect data

- D. District: Please fill in district that you are assigned to collect data
- E. Commune: Please fill in commune that you are assigned to collect data
- F. Village: Please fill in village that you are assigned to collect data
- G. Type of questionnaires: Please fill in the code (2= People to list, 3= Quota from People to list, 1=List to people)
- H. Serial number of questionnaires: Leave it blank
- I. Date of interview: Please fill in day, month and year that you go to collect data
- J. Start time of interview: Please fill in the time that you start interviewing
- K. End time of interview: Please fill in the time that you finish interviewing

## Form 2: People to Voter List

### Note:

Start the interview by asking only P1-P15

When asking P3-P6, please ask the voter's ID they used in a voter registration. Then, you have to fill in P3-P6 (in voter list) again with the information provided in the voter list.

After interviewing, please fill in P15-P17

Then, NICFEC/COMFREL has to fill in P18-P19 and P3-P 6 with the information provided on the voter list. Then you can draw a conclusion by matching both information you have from the respondent's ID and voter list.

### II. Respondent's Data

P1	From 2002-2006, where did you register?	1= Not registered 2= in the same commune where respondent stays 3= in different commune where respondent stays (please specify)					
		Answer			Commune	District	Province
a	Year 2002	1	2	3			
b	Year 2003	1	2	3			
c	Year 2004	1	2	3			
d	Year 2005	1	2	3			
e	Year 2006	1	2	3			

**P1:** Please ask one by one from year 2002 to year 2006. If the answer is the answer N°3, please ask name of the different commune (district, province) the respondent registered.

P2	Which identity document do you use for voter registration?	1. Khmer Citizenship ID Card	7. Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect
		2. Passport	8. Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect
		3. Family book with photo	9. Form 1018
		4. Civil Servant ID Card	10. ID Card issued by Ministry
		5. National Police ID Card	11. Other document.....
		6. RCAF ID Card	

**P2:** If the answer is on number "12. Other document", please specify.

No	Respondent Data	In ID document (complete by volunteer)	In voter list (complete by COMFREL & NICFEC)	Code: (complete NICFEC and COMFREL) 1= Match 2=Does not match/not complete 3=No data on the voter list		
P3	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
P4	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			

		Year:		Year:				
<b>P5</b>	Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	3	
<b>P6</b>	Address	Village:		Village:		1	2	3
		Commune:		Commune:				
		Province:		Province:				

**P3, P4, P5, P6:** When ask P3-P6, ask for any document used for voter registration. Then, please fill in P3-P6 according to the information on the voter list.

<b>P7</b>	Level of Education	1. Did not attend school 2. Primary School or other education of the same level 3. Junior High School or other education of the same level	4. Senior High School or other education of the same level 5. Bachelor degree or above 6. No answer
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**P7:** Please ask level of education of the respondent.

<b>P8.</b>	What is your current occupation? <i>(do not read the following options to the respondent)</i>	1. Laborer (farmer/fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc) 2. Farmer/fisherman (owner) 3. Small trader 4. Businessman/Commerce 5. Retired Police or Military	6. State Official (including retired) 7. Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc) 8. Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, etc.)	9. Housewife 10. Student 11. Unemployed 12. Other _____ 13. Does not answer
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**P8:** Please ask about the main occupation of the respondent.

<b>P9</b>	Could you tell me which ethnic group you belong to?	1. Khmer 2. Cham 3. Chinese	4. Vietnamese 5. Thai 6. Loa	7. Other 8. No answer
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**P9:** Please ask the respondent about his/her nationality (Khmer, Cham, Chinese...) not their citizenship.

## II. Information About Voter Registration

<b>P10</b>	Are you planning to live here until 2008 election?	1. Yes. 2. No. 3. Undecided.
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**P10:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she has plan to move to another commune from 2008 election or not.

<b>P11</b>	Since when you have you stayed at this address?	Month:	Year:
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**P11:** Please ask the respondent about the date that they came to live in the current address (only year is also if he/she forgot).

<b>P12</b>	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the upcoming voter registration period? <i>(Please choose only one answer)</i>	1= Yes, I'm going to. (Go to P15) 2= No, I'm not going to. (Go to P16) 3= I didn't decide yet/no answer.
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**P12:** Please ask the respondent whether they are going to check his/her name and data on voter list/to register or not.

<b>P13</b>	If yes, why? <i>(Please choose only one answer)</i>	1. I was forced to go. 2. Because everyone was registered. 3. I was suggested or encouraged to register. 4. It is my right.	5. So I can vote on the election day 6. To make my party win the election 7. I can sell my votes. 8. Other _____
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**P13:** Please ask why?

<b>P14</b>	If not, why? (Please choose only one answer)	<b>1.</b> I am not interested in the election. <b>2.</b> I don't know about the voter registration process.	<b>3.</b> I don't have any ID document for voter registration. <b>4.</b> The voter registration period is so short. <b>5.</b> The voter registration distance is very far. <b>6.</b> Other reasons _____
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**P14:** Please ask why?

<b>P15</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about voter registration process? (Please choose only one answer.)	<b>1.</b> Banners <b>2.</b> Posters <b>3.</b> Stickers <b>4.</b> Printed Media (Newspaper, magazine) <b>5.</b> Electronic Media (radio, TV , Internet) <b>6.</b> From Village Chief	<b>6.</b> From the voter registration officer <b>7.</b> From someone else (Family, neighbor, friends) <b>8.</b> Political party/Campaign team <b>9.</b> NGOs <b>10.</b> Other _____
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**P15:** Please ask about the most important information source for voter registration process that the respondent obtained. (Please choose only one answer)

III. Observer Evaluation		
<b>P16</b>	Type of respondent	<b>1.</b> New comers <b>2.</b> People who recently died <b>3.</b> Youth Voter (< 19 years old) <b>4.</b> Ordinary Voter age (> 65 years old) <b>5.</b> Disable people <b>6.</b> The ethnic minority

<b>P17</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	<b>1.</b> Yes <b>2.</b> No
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**P17.** Please observe the respondent's feeling towards this interview.

**IV. Presence on the Voter List (Filled by COMFREL/NICFEC)**

<b>P18</b>	Have the respondent been registered as voter in the voter list?	1=Yes (Complete P19)	2 =No
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**P18:** Please ask whether this respondent's name is on the voter list.

<b>P19</b>	If the respondent's name is on the voter list, what is the serial number?	Serial N°..... (Please turn back to evaluate (P3-P6))
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**P19:** Please see the voter list in order to fill in the serial number of the respondent in the list.

### Form 3: List to People

**Note:**

- Please, make efforts to meet and interview that respondent three times
- If you can meet and interview the respondent, please fill in P5-P11
- If the answer of P-1 will be point 2 to 9, then automatically you will not have to ask P3-19 but fill in P20 and P21.
- If you can meet the respondent, please start the interview by asking the respondent's ID document which was used in a voter registration, fill it in P4-P19. After you finish, you can draw a conclusion by matching both information that you got from the voter list and that of the respondent's ID document.

## I. Observer Evaluation

<b>P1</b>	Have you been able to find the selected respondent of the voter list?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes.(Go to P3)</li> <li>2. No, because the address in the list is not the same.</li> <li>3. No, because although the address is in the list, no-one lives in this house in the address.(empty house)</li> <li>4. No, the address is correct but there is no name of this respondent living in the house in the address.</li> <li>5. No, the address is correct but the respondent has left for some period.</li> <li>6. No, there is address and the respondent had lived there but he/she has moved.</li> <li>7. No, there is an address but the respondent had died.</li> <li>8. No, there is an address but the respondent is not entitled to vote.</li> <li>9. Other _____</li> </ol>
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**P1** : Please ask those whose names selected on the list. If you can find, please choose answer (1). The answers from 2-9 are for those that the volunteer didn't meet.

<b>P2</b>	Where did you obtain the above information?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. N/A (If P1 , 1= found)</li> <li>7. Current house's owner</li> <li>8. Neighbor</li> <li>9. Village chief</li> <li>10. Other _____</li> </ol>
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**P2**: Please emphasize who told you about the absence of the selected respondent. If it is in answer 5, please specify.

<b>P3</b>	Respondent number on the list	
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**P3** : Please find it on the voter list and complete it.

## II. Respondent's data

<b>P4</b>	Which identity document did you use for voter registration?	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol> </td> </tr> </table>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol>			

**P4** : If the answer is in N°12. "others.....", "please specify".

No	Respondent Data	In ID document <i>(Fill by observers)</i>	In Voter List <i>(Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL)</i>	<b>Codes:</b> <i>(Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL)</i> 1. Match 2. Does not match/ incomplete 3. No data on the voter list		
<b>P5.</b>	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
<b>P6.</b>	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			
		Year:	Year:			
<b>P7.</b>	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	2	3
<b>P8.</b>	Address	Village:	Village:	1	2	3
		Commune:	Commune:			
		Province:	Province:			

**P5,P6,P7, P8:** When you ask P5-P8, please look for any voter registration document. Then, you have to complete the gab in P5-P8 according to information on the voter list.

<b>P9</b>	What was your last level of education?	1. Did not attend school	4. Senior High School or other education of the same level
		2. Primary School or other education of the same level	5. Bachelor Degree and/or above
		3. Junior High School or other education of the same level	6. Do not answer

**P9:** Please about the respondent's level of education.

<b>P10</b>	What is your current occupation? <i>(do not read the following options to the respondent)</i>	1. Laborer (farmer/fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc)	6. State Official (including retired)	9. Housewife
		2. Farmer/fisherman (owner)	7. Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc)	10. Student
		3. Small trader	8. Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, notary, etc.)	11. Unemployed
		4. Businessman/Commerce		12. Other
		5. Retired Police or Military		13. Does not answer

**P10:** Please ask about his/her main occupation.

<b>P11</b>	Could you tell me, which ethnic group you belong to?	1. Khmer	4. Vietnam	7. Others
		2. Cham	5. Thai	8. Does not answer
		3. Chinese	6. Lao	

**P11:** Please ask the respondent about his/her nationality (Khmer, Cham, Chinese,...) not citizenship.

### III. Voter Registration information

<b>P12.</b>	Are you planning to live in this address permanently until the 2008 election?	7. Yes
		8. No
		9. Undecided

**P12:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is going to check his/her name/ or going to register.

<b>P13.</b>	Since when you stayed at this address?	Month:	Year:

**P13:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is planning to move to another commune from 2008 election or not.

**P13:** Please this respondent about the date that he/she has lived at this current address. (Year can be accepted in the case he/she forgot the date.)

<b>P14.</b>	According to you, have you been registered for the upcoming 2008 election?	1. Yes
		2. No
		3. Does not know

**P14:** Please ask whether the respondent's name will be appeared on 2008 voter list or not.

<b>P15.</b>	From 2002 to 2006, where did you register?	1. Not registered 2. In the same commune where respondent stays				District	Province
		3. In different commune where respondent stays (if 3, please identify where did you register)					
		Answer					
	a. Year 2002	1	2	3			
	b. Year 2003	1	2	3			
	c. Year 2004	1	2	3			
	d. Year 2005	1	2	3			
	e. Year 2006	1	2	3			

**P15:** Please ask one by one from year 2002-2006. If answer 3, please specify the name of that different commune (District, Province) he/she has ever registered.

<b>P16.</b>	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the registration period?	7. Yes (Go to P17)
		8. No (Go to P18)
		9. Undecided/ no answer

**P16:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is going to check his/her name/ or going to register.



<b>P17.</b>	If yes, why? ( <i>choose only one answer</i> )	17. I was forced to 18. Because everybody else was registered 19. I was suggested or encouraged to register 20. It is my right	21. So I can vote in the election 22. So I can support my party 23. I can sell my vote 24. Other _____
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**P17:** Please ask why?

<b>P18.</b>	If not, why? ( <i>Choose only one answer</i> )	1. I don't care 2. I don't know about the voter registration process 3. I don't have an ID document for voter registration	4. The registration timeline is too short 5. The distance to the voter registration station is too far 6. Others _____
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**P18:** Please ask why not?

<b>P19.</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about the voter registration? ( <i>choose only one answer</i> )	1. Banners 2. Posters 3. Stickers 4. Printed Media 5. Electronic Media (radio or TV) 6. From Village Chief	7. From the voter registration officer 8. From someone else (family, neighbor, friends) 9. Political Party/Campaign Team 10. NGO 11. Other _____
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**P19:** Please ask about the most important information source for voter registration process that the respondent obtained. (Please choose only one answer)

### III. Volunteer's Observation

<b>P20.</b>	What is the respondent's category?	1. New comers 2. People who recently died 3. Youth Voter (< 19 years old)	4. Ordinary Voter age > 65 years old 5. Disable people 6. The ethnic minority
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**P20:** Please observe the respondent

<b>P21.</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	1. Yes 2. No
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**P21:** Please observe the respondent's feeling towards this interview.

## GUIDELINES FOR VOLUNTEERS

VOTER REGISTRATION AUDIT PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

# **Methods, Questionnaires and Instructions for Interview**

*By Dr. Hean Sokhom*

This Program Implemented by Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) of  
COMFREL and NICFEC under the Cooperation with NDI  
VOTER REGISTRATION AUDIT PROJECT IN CAMBODIA

July, 2007

## Introduction

Voter Registration Audit (VRA) is not going to focus on every voter in Cambodia; meanwhile, it is conducted to focus on only randomly selected voters by using appropriate methods and it can also reflect the result of voter registration process in the country as a whole.

## Methods

To succeed in this observation, our working group will use two methods of test at the locality as below:

- Test *from list to people*: Volunteer observer groups will check the names in voter registration list of 1540 names
- Test *from people to list*: Volunteer observer groups will check 2310 voters with their names on voter registration voter list.

### 1. Commune And Village Selection

385 communes have been selected according to the proportion of 1621 communes throughout multi stages of selection. In each commune, there are three villages which are randomly selected for the test *from people to list*. Among 385 selected communes, some polling stations have been chosen for the test *from list to people*.

#### 1. Voter Selection

When arriving at the villages, volunteer groups have the duty to select the voters according to the instruction.

##### For the test *From People To List*:

In each selected commune, volunteers have to work in three villages to interview 6 voters:

- Village 1: For the interview with two voters for the *quota from people to list*
- Village 2: For the interview with two voters for *random selection from people to list*
- Village 3: For the interview with two voters for *random selection from people to list*

##### For the test *from List To People*:

In each selected commune, volunteers have to work in a polling station of selected communes to interview four voters:

#### a. Respondent Determination *Quota From People To List*

The selection of quota from people to list is not through random method but it refers to the quota of voters who are the target people. Thus, the volunteers have to:

- Ask the village chiefs about those target people
- Chose two people to answer the questions such as to check a recently dead person and one indigenous person
- Interview those people

#### b. Respondent Determination *Quota From People to List*

- Volunteers go to village selected
- Volunteers have to meet village chiefs to get the permission
- Volunteers ask village chief and deputy village chief about the quota of the respondent as below
- Volunteers select two respondents from different families

- Quota of respondents:
  - New comers
  - Recently dead people
  - New voters (Under 19)
  - The voters over 65 years old
  - Disable voters
  - Indigenous voters
- Volunteers go to meet selected people to interview

## 1. Respondent Selection *Random Select From People to List*

### a. Household Selection

- Volunteers go to the two selected villages
- Volunteers go to meet village chiefs to ask for the permissions and ask about the total numbers of families in the village
- Have to choose the first household which is the starting point by using a lucky draw method (from number 1 to number 5). The number drawn is the number of the family of the starting point. For example, if the lucky draw is number 4, number 4 is the household's number which counts from the first village as the starting point.
- In order to choose the second household, we have to count from the first household by adding the number of the household from one household to another. There are two adding numbers; number 10 and 20. Number 10 is used for the village whose population is less than 50 while number 20 is for the village whose population is more than 50. If the first household is in number 4, so the second one will be in number 14 for less-than-50-of-population village; or will be 24 for more-than-50-of-population village.
- If the respondent from first household selected is female, so the second respondent will be male.
- Volunteers have to look for this respondent for interview and continue from the following villages.

### b. Respondent Selection

Have to select only one eligible respondent in the selected household by following these methods:

- Meet the selected household for the first step
- Ask the all the names of the eligible voters from this household and write them down in the table of respondent random selection from the oldest to the youngest of age (All males or all females following the previous step selection). If there is only one, this one is automatically our respondent.
- If there are more than two, we have to make a slope corner from the headline number of the first household in the household map selected previously to the name of the last respondent. If the slope corner falls in any number, the respondent whose number is the same is our respondent.

Table for Selecting Respondent

Family Member			Sex		The number of the first household in the map					
No	Name	Age	M	F	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	A		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	B		1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
3	C		1	2	3	1	2	3	2	1
4	D		1	2	4	2	3	3	1	2
5			1	2	5	2	4	5	2	3
6			1	2	6	5	1	2	3	3

Example: Number 3 is C which is the respondent

### **c. Respondent Determination *From List to People***

- Volunteers have to meet village chiefs to get the permission
- In the list 4 voters' names have already been selected
- Volunteers have to look for the selected voter for interview

### **Understanding the Questions**

There are three questionnaires need to use for observation:

- Form 2: Test *From People to List* and *Quota from People to List*
- Form 3: Test *From List to People*

Everyone has to:

- learn and understand each question in the questionnaires
- ask questions in the questionnaires. Please ask only to get the meaning that we want but not try to interpret in the wrong way. If the respondent does not understand, please ask again.
- interview directly but not allow the respondent to fill in form by him/herself
- pay attention and carefully record all the answers from the respondent.

### **What do we need to do if the respondents refuse to be interviewed?**

They refuse because maybe they receive unclear information about the purpose of interviewing. Therefore, we have to tell them about the importance of our observation. We can also have someone in the community to help if necessary. If the respondent feels inconvenient to involve in our interview, we have to know how to convince him/her that the interview will not affect him/her at all. If the respondent still disagrees, please find the other respondent according to the technique.

### **What do we need to do if the respondent does not provide complete information?**

Please try asking question again but no need to give answer. Let them confirm the answer. If you feel that the respondent does not understand or is hesitate, please ask them, "Should I repeat the question for you?"

### **Remember**

- First step of interviewing is to make good communication with respondents in order for them to be well prepared and provide true answers. Good communication can be seen as expressing hospitality, warmth and free talk from the respondent.
- Be enthusiastic and show respect for the respondent because he/she is not a criminal we are questioning.
- Be keen to listen to the answer because not all the answers are as smooth as that in the questionnaires
- You have to be neutral
- Thank the respondent before leaving
- If you do not meet the respondent, please try asking why he/she is absent. Please try coming back twice. You can make an appointment with him/her according to appropriate occasion.

### **Understanding the Two Forms**

In the three forms of questionnaires, there are some general questions that volunteers need to complete in advance.

## L. Volunteer's Code

Please fill in your code in every form. Each volunteer has their own code that cannot be changed. The code consist six numbers, the same as that of each commune that they are assigned to go.

N°	Province	Code	District	Code	Commune	
01	Banteay Meanchey	02	Mongkul Borey	06	Ou Prasat	Volunteers Code: 010206
02	Battambang	01	Bannan	01	Kanteu Muoy	Volunteer Code: 020101

- M. Name of Volunteer: Please fill in your name in each form  
 N. Province: Please fill in province that you are assigned to collect data  
 O. District: Please fill in district that you are assigned to collect data  
 P. Commune: Please fill in commune that you are assigned to collect data  
 Q. Village: Please fill in village that you are assigned to collect data  
 R. Type of questionnaires: Please fill in the code (2= People to list, 3= Quota from People to list, 1=List to people)  
 S. Serial number of questionnaires: Leave it blank  
 T. Date of interview: Please fill in day, month and year that you collect data  
 U. Start time of interview: Please fill in the time that you start interviewing  
 V. End time of interview: Please fill in the time that you finish interviewing

## Form 2: People to Voter List

### Note:

Start the interview by asking only P1-P15

When asking P3-P6, please ask the voter's ID they used in a voter registration. Then, you have to fill in P3-P6 (in voter list) again with the information provided in the voter list.

After interviewing, please fill in P15-P17

Then, NICFEC/COMFREL has to fill in P18-P19 and P3-P 6 with the information provided on the voter list. Then you can draw a conclusion by matching both information you have from the respondent's ID and voter list.

## II. Respondent's Data

P1	From 2002-2006, where did you register?	1= Not registered 2= in the same commune where respondent stays 3= in different commune where respondent stays (please specify)					
		Answer			Commune	District	Province
a	Year 2002	1	2	3			
b	Year 2003	1	2	3			
c	Year 2004	1	2	3			
d	Year 2005	1	2	3			
e	Year 2006	1	2	3			

**P1:** Please ask one by one from year 2002 to year 2006. If the answer is the answer N°3, please ask name of the different commune (district, province) the respondent registered.

<b>P2</b>	Which identity document do you use for voter registration?	<b>1.</b> Khmer Citizenship ID Card <b>2.</b> Passport <b>3.</b> Family book with photo <b>4.</b> Civil Servant ID Card <b>5.</b> National Police ID Card <b>6.</b> RCAF ID Card	<b>7.</b> Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect <b>8.</b> Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect <b>9.</b> Form 1018 <b>10.</b> ID Card issued by Ministry <b>11.</b> Other document.....
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**P2:** If the answer is on number “12. Other document”, please specify.

No	Respondent Data	In ID document (complete by volunteer)	In voter list (complete by COMFREL & NICFEC)	Code: (complete NICFEC and COMFREL) 1= Match 2=Does not match/not complete 3=No data on the voter list		
<b>P3</b>	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
<b>P4</b>	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			
		Year:	Year:			
<b>P5</b>	Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	3	
<b>P6</b>	Address	Village:	Village:	1	2	3
		Commune:	Commune:			
		Province:	Province:			

**P3, P4, P5, P6:** When ask P3-P6, ask for any document used for voter registration. Then, please fill in P3-P6 according to the information on the voter list.

<b>P7</b>	Level of Education	<b>1.</b> Did not attend school <b>2.</b> Primary School or other education of the same level <b>3.</b> Junior High School or other education of the same level	<b>4.</b> Senior High School or other education of the same level <b>5.</b> Bachelor degree or above <b>6.</b> No answer
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**P7:** Please ask level of education of the respondent.

<b>P8.</b>	What is your current occupation? <i>(do not read the following options to the respondent)</i>	<b>1.</b> Laborer (farmer/ fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc) <b>2.</b> Farmer/fisherman (owner) <b>3.</b> Small trader <b>4.</b> Businessman/Commerce <b>5.</b> Retired Police or Military	<b>6.</b> State Official (including retired) <b>7.</b> Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc) <b>8.</b> Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, etc.)	<b>9.</b> Housewife <b>10.</b> Student <b>11.</b> Unemployed <b>12.</b> Other _____ <b>13.</b> Does not answer
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**P8:** Please ask about the main occupation of the respondent.

<b>P9</b>	Could you tell me which ethnic group you belong to?	<b>1.</b> Khmer <b>2.</b> Cham <b>3.</b> Chinese	<b>4.</b> Vietnamese <b>5.</b> Thai <b>6.</b> Loa	<b>7.</b> Other <b>8.</b> No answer
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**P9:** Please ask the respondent about his/her nationality (Khmer, Cham, Chinese...) not their citizenship.

## II. Information About Voter Registration

<b>P10</b>	Are you planning to live here until 2008 election?	<b>4.</b> Yes. <b>5.</b> No. <b>6.</b> Undecided.
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**P10:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she has plan to move to another commune from 2008 election or not.

<b>P11</b>	Since when you have you stayed at this address?	Month:	Year:
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**P11:** Please ask the respondent about the date that they came to live in the current address (only year is also if he/she forgot).

<b>P12</b>	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the upcoming voter registration period? (Please choose only one answer)	1= Yes, I'm going to. (Go to P15) 2= No, I'm not going to. (Go to P16) 3= I didn't decide yet/no answer.
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**P12:** Please ask the respondent whether they are going to check his/her name and data on voter list/to register or not.

<b>P13</b>	If yes, why? (Please choose only one answer)	1. I was forced to go. 2. Because everyone was registered. 3. I was suggested or encouraged to register. 4. It is my right.	5. So I can vote on the election day 6. To make my party win the election 7. I can sell my votes. 8. Other _____
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**P13:** Please ask why?

<b>P14</b>	If not, why? (Please choose only one answer)	1. I am not interested in the election. 2. I don't know about the voter registration process.	3. I don't have any ID document for voter registration. 4. The voter registration period is so short. 5. The voter registration distance is very far. 6. Other reasons _____
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**P14:** Please ask why?

<b>P15</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about voter registration process? (Please choose only one answer.)	1. Banners 2. Posters 3. Stickers 4. Printed Media (Newspaper, magazine) 5. Electronic Media (radio, TV, Internet) 6. From Village Chief	6. From the voter registration officer 7. From someone else (Family, neighbor, friends) 8. Political party/Campaign team 9. NGOs 10. Other _____
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**P15:** Please ask about the most important information source for voter registration process that the respondent obtained. (Please choose only one answer)

### III. Observer Evaluation

<b>P16</b>	Type of respondent	1. New comers 2. People who recently died 3. Youth Voter (< 19 years old) 4. Ordinary Voter age (> 65 years old) 5. Disable people 6. The ethnic minority
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<b>P17</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	1. Yes 2. No
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**P17:** Please observe the respondent's feeling towards this interview.

### IV. Presence on the Voter List (Filled by COMFREL/NICFEC)

<b>P18</b>	Have the respondent been registered as voter in the voter list?	1=Yes (Complete P19)	2 =No
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**P18:** Please ask whether this respondent's name is on the voter list.



<b>P19</b>	If the respondent's name is on the voter list, what is the serial number?	Serial N°..... (Please turn back to evaluate (P3-P6))
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**P19:** Please see the voter list in order to fill in the serial number of the respondent in the list.

### Form 3: List to People

**Note:**

- Please, make efforts to meet and interview that respondent three times
- If you can meet and interview the respondent, please fill in P5-P11
- If the answer of P-1 will be point 2 to 9, then automatically you will not have to ask P3-19 but fill in P20 and P21.
- If you can meet the respondent, please start the interview by asking the respondent's ID document which was used in a voter registration, fill it in P4-P19. After you finish, you can draw a conclusion by matching both information that you got from the voter list and that of the respondent's ID document.

#### I. Observer Evaluation

<b>P1</b>	Have you been able to find the selected respondent of the voter list?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes.(Go to P3)</li> <li>2. No, because the address in the list is not the same.</li> <li>3. No, because although the address is in the list, no-one lives in this house in the address.(empty house)</li> <li>4. No, the address is correct but there is no name of this respondent living in the house in the address.</li> <li>5. No, the address is correct but the respondent has left for some period.</li> <li>6. No, there is address and the respondent had lived there but he/she has moved.</li> <li>7. No, there is an address but the respondent had died.</li> <li>8. No, there is an address but the respondent is not entitled to vote.</li> <li>9. Other _____</li> </ol>
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**P1:** Please ask those whose names selected on the list. If you can find, please choose answer (1). The answers from 2-9 are for those that the volunteer didn't meet.

<b>P2</b>	Where did you obtain the above information?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. N/A (If P1 , 1= found)</li> <li>12. Current house's owner</li> <li>13. Neighbor</li> <li>14. Village chief</li> <li>15. Other _____</li> </ol>
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**P2:** Please emphasize who told you about the absence of the selected respondent. If it is in answer 5, please specify.

<b>P3</b>	Respondent number on the list	
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**P3:** Please find it on the voter list and complete it.

#### II. Respondent's data

<b>P4</b>	Which identity document did you use for voter registration?	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol> </td> </tr> </table>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes, Citizenship ID Card</li> <li>2. Yes, Passport</li> <li>3. Yes, Family Book with Photo</li> <li>4. Yes, Civil Servant ID Card</li> <li>5. Yes, National Police ID Card</li> <li>6. Yes, RCAF ID Card</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Yes, Monk ID for Dhama Yutikak Sect</li> <li>8. Yes, Monk ID for Moha Nikaya Sect</li> <li>9. Yes, Form 1018</li> <li>10. ID Card issued by Ministry</li> <li>11. None of document mentioned above</li> <li>12. Others _____</li> </ol>			

**P4:** If the answer is in N°12. "others.....", "please specify".

No	Respondent Data	In ID document (Fill by observers)	In Voter List (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL)	Codes: (Fill by NICFEC/ COMFREL) 1. Match 2. Does not match/ incomplete 3. No data on the voter list		
P5.	Name	Family name:	Family name:	1	2	3
		Given name:	Given name:			
P6.	Date of Birth	Day:	Day:	1	2	3
		Month:	Month:			
		Year:	Year:			
P7.	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	1	2	3
P8.	Address	Village:	Village:	1	2	3
		Commune:	Commune:			
		Province:	Province:			

**P5,P6,P7, P8:** When you ask P5-P8, please look for any voter registration document. Then, you have to complete the gab in P5-P8 according to information on the voter list.

<b>P9</b>	What was your last level of education?	1. Did not attend school 2. Primary School or other education of the same level 3. Junior High School or other education of the same level	4. Senior High School or other education of the same level 5. Bachelor Degree and/or above 6. Do not answer
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**P9:** Please about the respondent's level of education.

<b>P10</b>	What is your current occupation? (do not read the following options to the respondent)	1. Laborer (farmer/ fisherman/ construction/ factory worker, etc) 2. Farmer/fisherman (owner) 3. Small trader 4. Businessman/Commerce 5. Retired Police or Military	6. State Official (including retired) 7. Private officer (bank, companies, hotel, etc) 8. Professional (doctor, lawyer, accountant, notary, etc.)	9. Housewife 10. Student 11. Unemployed 12. Other 13. Does not answer
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**P10:** Please ask about his/her main occupation.

<b>P11</b>	Could you tell me, which ethnic group you belong to?	1. Khmer 2. Cham 3. Chinese	4. Vietnam 5. Thai 6. Lao	7. Others 8. Does not answer
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**P11:** Please ask the respondent about his/her nationality (Khmer, Cham, Chinese,...) not citizenship.

### III. Voter Registration information

<b>P12.</b>	Are you planning to live in this address permanently until the 2008 election?	10. Yes 11. No 12. Undecided
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**P12:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is going to check his/her name/ or going to register.

<b>P13.</b>	Since when you stayed at this address?	Month:	Year:
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**P13:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is planning to move to another commune from 2008 election or not.

**P13:** Please this respondent about the date that he/she has lived at this current address. (Year can be accepted in the case he/she forgot the date.)

<b>P14.</b>	According to you, have you been registered for the upcoming 2008 election?	1. Yes 2. No 3. Does not know
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**P14:** Please ask whether the respondent's name will be appeared on 2008 voter list or not.

<b>P15.</b>	From 2002 to 2006, where did you register?		1. Not registered    2. In the same commune where respondent stays 3. In different commune where respondent stays (if 3, please identify where did you register)					
			Answer			Commune	District	Province
	a.	Year 2002	1	2	3			
	b.	Year 2003	1	2	3			
	c.	Year 2004	1	2	3			
	d.	Year 2005	1	2	3			
e.	Year 2006	1	2	3				

**P15:** Please ask one by one from year 2002-2006. If answer 3, please specify the name of that different commune (District, Province) he/she has ever registered.

<b>P16.</b>	Are you going to check your registration status or register during the registration period?	10. Yes (Go to P17) 11. No (Go to P18) 12. Undecided/ no answer
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**P16:** Please ask the respondent whether he/she is going to check his/her name/ or going to register.

<b>P17.</b>	If yes, why? (choose only one answer)	25. I was forced to 26. Because everybody else was registered 27. I was suggested or encouraged to register 28. It is my right	29. So I can vote in the election 30. So I can support my party 31. I can sell my vote 32. Other _____
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**P17:** Please ask why?

<b>P18.</b>	If not, why? (Choose only one answer)	1. I don't care 2. I don't know about the voter registration process 3. I don't have an ID document for voter registration	4. The registration timeline is too short 5. The distance to the voter registration station is too far 6. Others _____
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**P18:** Please ask why not?

<b>P19.</b>	What is the main source that you obtain the information about the voter registration? (choose only one answer)	1. Banners 2. Posters 3. Stickers 4. Printed Media 5. Electronic Media (radio or TV) 6. From Village Chief	7. From the voter registration officer 8. From someone else (family, neighbor, friends) 9. Political Party/Campaign Team 10. NGO 11. Other _____
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**P19:** Please ask about the most important information source for voter registration process that the respondent obtained. (Please choose only one answer)

### III. Volunteer's Observation

<b>P20.</b>	What is the respondent's category?	1. New comers 2. People who recently died 3. Youth Voter (< 19 years old)	4. Ordinary Voter age > 65 years old 5. Disable people 6. The ethnic minority
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**P20:** Please observe the respondent

<b>P21.</b>	Do you think the respondent were inconvenient about the interview?	1. Yes 2. No
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**P21:** Please observe the respondent's feeling towards this interview.

## APPENDIX VII: Press Advisory



### **PRESS ADVISORY August 29, 2007 Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

#### **Non-Partisan Groups Check Voters List**

A coalition of neutral, independent, and non-partisan organizations has conducted an audit of the voter registration list. NICFEC and COMFREL, Cambodia's leading election observation organizations with the technical assistance of the Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) and US-based National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) has completed a scientific evaluation of the voters list and will release the results at LeRoyal Hotel (92 Rukhak Vithei Daun Penh, off Monivong Blvd, Sangkat Wat Phnom Phnom Penh, Cambodia) at 10:00 am on September 4, 2007. The National Elections Commission will publicly open the voters list for revisions and updating on 15 September until October 20, 2007.

The Voter Registration Audit or VRA is a systematic and scientific evaluation of the quality of the voter list and was conducted on August 10-12, 2007. NICFEC and COMFREL volunteer observers were deployed to 380 Communes across Cambodia to interview 3,796 eligible voters. Both communes and eligible voters were selected using statistical methods.

The VRA is a two-way test. In a "List-to-People Test", observers statistically select names from the voters list and make contact with the voter to check the accuracy of the information. In a "People-to-List Test", eligible voters are chosen randomly from the community and registration information is checked against the voters list. This method allows NICFEC and COMFREL to identify the percentage of ghost voters (deceased voters, duplicate names and voters already registered somewhere else) and the proportion of unregistered voters.

Members of the media are invited to attend a presentation of the VRA results on at LeRoyal Hotel at 10:00 am on September 5, 2007.

**Neutral and Impartial Committee for Free and Fair Election in Cambodia (NICFEC)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1998 which works to strengthen democracy in Cambodia. NICFEC has monitored two national elections and two commune elections in Cambodia. NICFEC deployed both short-term and long-term observers to observe the 2007 Commune Council Election.

**Committee for Free and Fair Elections in Cambodia (COMFREL)** is an independent, non-partisan domestic monitoring organization first established for the May 1993 UNTAC elections. COMFREL has worked in close collaboration with the international organisations throughout Cambodia in order to monitor the electoral process, before, during and after election day. COMFREL monitored the 1998, 2002, 2003 and 2007 elections by deploying short-term and long-term observers.

**Center for Advanced Study (CAS)** was founded in 1996 as an independent, non-political Cambodian institution devoted to research, education and public debate on issues affecting the development of the Cambodian society. CAS has conducted research for different national and international organizations on various subjects including health care (such as HIV/AIDS), civil society, voter awareness, conflict resolution, legal and judicial awareness, gender issues, and trafficking of women and children.

**National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)** is an international non-profit and non-partisan organization working to strengthen and expand democracy worldwide. NDI is supported by generous assistance of the United States Agency for International Development.

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