This study was undertaken in the context of CIPESA's iParticipate Uganda project. The project is focused on understanding how ICT-based tools can enhance democracy in Uganda.

- Signing an online petition
- Volunteering with a political cause
- Donating funds
- Sending an email to a politician or a political organisation
- Joining an email discussion about politics
- Discussing politics in a chat group
- Looking for political information on the web

Most frequently engaged in online participative activities were social media including Blogs, Facebook and Twitter. Television was the second most frequently used platform followed by SMS chat and email list.

Social media including Blogs, Facebook and Twitter are the most widely used eParticipation platforms. Television was the second most frequently used platform followed by SMS chat and email list.

The importance of participating in civic matters was widely acknowledged and there is a strong belief that ICT based tools can enhance democracy in the country. ICT based participation tools are easy to use and are mostly used for communicating with other citizens and demand accountability and transparency in the conduct of public affairs.

Comparison of participation via ICT based tools to the same activities physically (non ICT based) showed that ICT based tools are generally seen as more effective, and security of ICTs in citizen participation and monitoring of democracy is widely acknowledged.

Factors that facilitate use of ICTs for participation include:
- Security Concerns
- Awareness
- Costs
- Gender
- Literacy

The utilization of ICTs for participation is influenced by socio-cultural, socio-economic, and political factors. The impact of ICTs on participation is variable and depends on the socioeconomic status, age, and gender of the respondents.

In debates and discussions on civic matters obtained from eParticipation, 58% of respondents prefer social media tools like Facebook while 24% prefer email lists. Television is used by 18% and EForum by 8%.

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