The launch of the ICT4Democracy in East Africa project in June 2008 was prompted on the recognition that Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) enhances communication and the right to freedom of expression, in work as the right to seek, receive and impart information. This impact has the potential to increase citizens’ participation in decision-making processes, thus strengthening democratisation.

In Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, where this initiative is active, some organisations are leveraging on ICT to build habits accountable to citizens, as well as to fight corruption, monitor service delivery, and contribute to building a democratic culture. To secure other parts of the work in East Africa, ICTs are being used for monitoring, reminding of elections, ensuring institutions of human rights and good governance are in place, and to increase the awareness of the public of the available laws and policies. The potential benefits of ICT in these areas are increasing, creating an enabling environment for further exploitation.

The ICT4Democracy in East Africa project, which has received funding from the Swedish Program for ICT in Developing Regions (SPIDER), is encouraging networking, monitoring of elections, reporting violations of human rights, and the potential to increase citizens’ participation in decision-making processes, thus strengthening democratisation.

The project focuses on three countries where the ICT4Democracy in East Africa project is active: Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The project aims to help citizens use ICTs to improve participation transparency, and accountability.

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