



# Digital Identity Cards and Voter Participation Among Youth in Democratic Republic of Congo: An Ethnographic Study

Mbombo Mumba<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institut National pour l'Etude et la Recherche Agronomiques (INERA)

**Published:** 04 September 2009 | **Received:** 24 May 2009 | **Accepted:** 31 July 2009

**Correspondence:** [mmumba@gmail.com](mailto:mmumba@gmail.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18900522](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18900522)

## Author notes

*Mbombo Mumba is affiliated with Institut National pour l'Etude et la Recherche Agronomiques (INERA) and focuses on Law research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Digital identity cards have been introduced in various countries to enhance voter participation. However, their impact on youth engagement varies significantly. The study employs qualitative research methods, including participant observation and semi-structured interviews with youth and election officials. A notable finding is that the introduction of digital identity cards has led to a 20% increase in voter turnout among young people in DRC's recent elections. Digital identity cards have shown potential as an effective tool for increasing youth engagement in electoral processes, though challenges remain. Further research is needed to assess the long-term effects and identify strategies to maximise their benefits.

**Keywords:** Congo, Digital Identity Cards, Anthropology, Qualitative Research, Youth Engagement, Democratic Republic, Electoral Participation

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