

# PEOPLE-CENTERED MONITORING

## AN ASSESSMENT OF CITIZEN ELECTORAL MONITORING INITIATIVES IN THE 2010 AUTOMATED ELECTIONS

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# WALKTHROUGH

- RECAP: WAYS FORWARD FROM THE CITIZEN ELECTORAL MONITORING (CEM) CONFERENCE
- ELECTION MONITORING EFFORTS
- #JUANVOTE: CITIZEN REPORTING
- CEM ASSESSMENT



# CONFERENCE RECAP

- The **National Citizen Electoral Monitoring Conference** was held on April 24, 2010 to share experiences, campaigns and technologies related to monitoring the first ever Automated Election System (AES) implemented in the Philippines.
- Attendees united to actively **participate** in monitoring and reporting on the elections, **share** technologies and efforts, and **engage** in concerted action in the event of massive poll fraud and failure.



# CONFERENCE RECAP

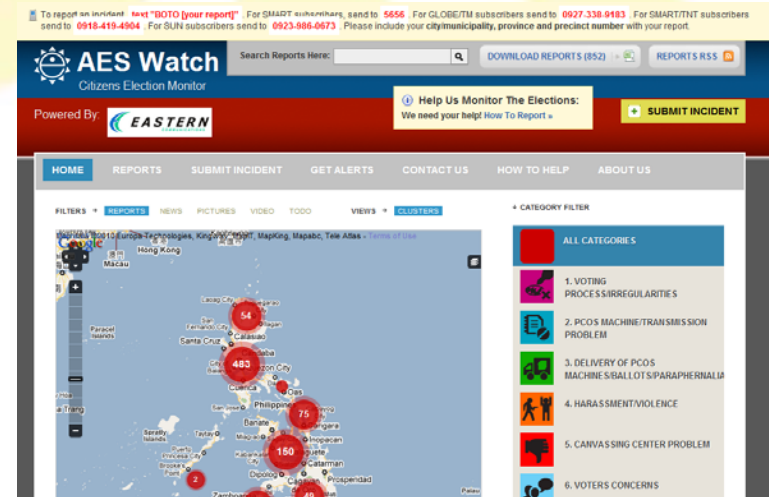
- The netizen report network **#Juanvote** was established to coordinate efforts of all citizen journalists, so as to have the broadest coverage possible.
- Monitoring groups also pledged to share data and reports documented by their respective efforts. **Vote Report PH** coordinated with the extensive poll monitoring network of **Kontra Daya**.



# ELECTION MONITORING

All monitoring efforts were **crowdsourced** in one report web portal: **www.aeswatch.org** where reports were plotted in an Ushahidi GIS implementation.

Mainstream news and relevant tweets were fed to the portal. Reports from its networks were also aggregated via RSS feeds.



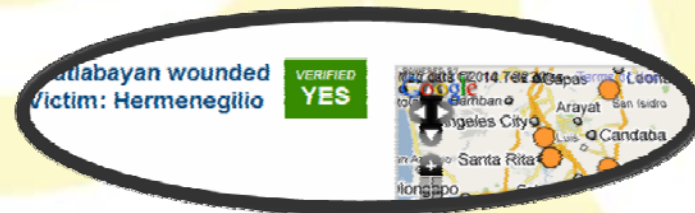
# ELECTION MONITORING

**WE-Watch** is an election monitoring effort by the labor sector. It has 3 components:

- Voters' education and production of information materials
- An SMS-based Monitoring electoral fraud and pollwatching
- Building policy recommendations on the use of AES from the worker's perspective



# ELECTION MONITORING



The **VoteReportPH** monitoring system integrates SMS, e-mail and web posts to an Ushahidi-based website which then maps the events as they are reported.

**VoteReportPH**, like its counterpart in Sudan, differed from other “crowdsourcing” incarnations of Ushahidi in its stress for verified and credible reports.



# ELECTION MONITORING



**VoteReportPH** worked with Kontra Daya, #juanvote network, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Workers Electoral Watch and other people's organizations to extensively gather and verify reports.

Fraud Reports (Mar 17-May 21)		Percent of reports
Unverified	315	9.47
Invalid	2174	65.34
Get More Info	157	4.72
Unprocessed by KD	363	10.91
Processed by KD	318	9.56
Grand Total	3327	



# ELECTION MONITORING



The **Technology for Transparency Network** identified the following as Vote Report PH's strengths:

- A **6-month pre-election preparation** which includes extensive voter education for citizens to promote and teach the proper use of the monitoring system.
- A **sustained blogging effort** to highlight the more urgent reports of poll fraud.



# CITIZEN REPORTING

**#juanvote**

Pinoy Netizens for Free & Honest Elections

The **#JuanVote** network is the first extensive social media coverage by tech-empowered Filipino citizens.

## Member Organizations:

100Araw, BlogWatch, Global Destiny Cable, GameOPS, VoteReportPH, RockEd, POC, Cebu Bloggers Society, Code Radio, We Watch, Kodao Productions, TXTPower, Tech Tanod, Reklamotion.



# CITIZEN REPORTING



#JuanVote members from **100araw** and **Blogwatch** are probably the first online citizen journalists to have been given media accreditation by the COMELEC.



COMELEC's acknowledgement of online citizen journalism as a credible media institution is a clear example of technology empowering the grassroots.



# ASSESSMENT

- Citizen Electoral Monitoring efforts have been **significantly successful** in empowering citizens to guard electoral exercises.
- **Citizen Reporting and Election Monitoring** helped provide both a qualitative and quantitative perspective in analyzing the elections – both concepts are key to a successful watchdog campaign.



# ASSESSMENT

- An extensive and highly-motivated network of **volunteers on the grassroots** level is necessary for a monitoring campaign to be successful.
- The concept of **Appropriate Technology** was well-applied in monitoring efforts. Existing available and popular tools were utilized to give access to a significant section of the population means for counteracting fraud incidences.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Further develop **crowdsourcing** technology (be it the organization of users or the tools itself) to have easier means of verifying reports and checking for duplicates.
- Explore and exploit other **mobile features** as this is the most accessible digital technology for Filipino citizens.
- More extensive reach and allotted time for **education and training** efforts.



# MARAMING SALAMAT PO!

