

Know your

Electoral stakeholders

Meic

Meic is a coalition of civil society organisations (CSOs) led by Malawi Electoral Support Network (Mesn) with common interests to collaborate on activities related to the 2014 Malawi Tripartite Elections, namely:

i. To support the Malawi Electoral Commission to manage the elections process to ensure its credibility and that the process is free, fair, and reflects the will of Malawians.

ii. Provide the voter population with credible evidence-based information gathered by observers on a real-time basis and send via a dedicated SMS service as events unfold on Election Day that will be used by experts to analyse existing situations at polling streams to keep the people informed and prevent rumour mongering that may result in violent behaviours -pre and post-election day.

iii. To provide rapid response in elections emergency situations (i.e. informing MEC and the police) that might affect the credibility of the electoral process.

Meic was set up to

ensure that citizens play a critical role in monitoring the conduct of the 2014 tripartite elections, report on and alert relevant authorities of incidences and electoral malpractices so that they are swiftly addressed in real-time.

Meic has put in place a platform that allows for the collection and dissemination of information relating to the pre-election, election, and post-election phases. Citizens are, through that platform, able to share experiences of various aspects of the electoral process, such as the launching of party manifestos, political campaigns, security issues and level of election preparedness through free a SMS service across leading network operators. The SMS shortcode for this is 5VOTE (58683).

This facility is linked to a voter registration platform that enables citizens to remotely verify their registration status by merely sending an SMS to a designated short code (58683). In addition, Meic will deploy—at each polling station—observers who will share election-related information in real time with the Election Situation

Room team. ✓