



REPORT OF THE OSUN STATE GOVERNORSHIP 2022 ELECTION

Acknowledgments:

The International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA Nigeria) is grateful to all individuals and organizations that supported our various interventions towards monitoring the peaceful conduct of the gubernatorial election in Osun State. We acknowledge Goree Institute for the financial support to implement the project activities.

We extend our profound appreciation to our field-workers/observers quality control personnel, election observers for their unwavering commitment and professionalism on the project. Their professionalism, resilience, dedication to work and innovation that led to the peaceful conduct of the election.

The resilience, passion and character demonstrated by the people of Osun State before, during and after the election are appreciated and highly commendable. We look forwards to further engagement and collective learning in deepening democracy in Nigeria.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Introduction | 3 |
| Profile and political environment of Osun state | 5 |
| Legal framework for administration of the Osun State Governorship Election | 7 |
| Methodology/Approach | 8 |
| Activities towards the election | 8 |
| Project inception meeting | 8 |
| Engagement of citizen observer's & data analysts for election | 8 |
| Development of scripting & deployment of election monitoring tool | 9 |
| Training of citizen observers | 9 |
| Establishment of election observation situation room | 9 |
| Election day observations | 10 |
| Polls commencement | 10 |
| Turnout of female voters & persons with disabilities | 10 |
| Priority voting for vulnerable and marginalized persons | 11 |
| Functionality of the Bi-modal Voters Accreditation System | 11 |
| Security related observations | 12 |
| Vote trading | 12 |
| Moderate turnout of voters | 13 |
| Presence of political party agents at polling units | 13 |
| Close of polls | 13 |
| Osun Governorship Election Incident Record Table | 14 |
| Post-election observations | 14 |
| Electoral statistics for 2022 Osun Governorship Election | 19 |
| Conclusion/Recommendations | 28 |
| INEC | 28 |
| Security agencies | 29 |
| Politicians and political parties | 29 |
| Media | 29 |

1.0. Introduction

FIDA Nigeria with support from Goree Institute under the Charter Africa Project within the period carried out a range of activities related to the 2022 Osun state governorship elections for purposes of promoting and observing the participation of women and persons with disabilities in the democratic process. FIDA Nigeria amongst other activities deployed a monitoring tool via trained citizen observers working with trained Data Analysts situated in Situation Rooms at Osun state and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Using the monitoring tool developed and deployed to in the field, trained citizen observers were able to document election incidences affecting the participation of women and women with disabilities during the elections. In addition, FIDA Nigeria collaborated with other civil Society Actors and Credible Media Sources to collate other information related to election incidents.

FIDA commenced her observation of the elections by reporting on situational happenings and pre-election incidents ahead of the elections which was clearly qualitative in nature. We observed an upsurge in the total number of registered voters with an increase from 1.6 million at the last gubernatorial elections in 2018 to about 1.95 million presently which demonstrated that more citizens are engaging in the political process and have taken advantage of the continuous voter's registration towards ensuring that their votes count at the polls. The Pre-election observation also indicated that a total of 48 Political Parties fielded candidates for the Governorship elections none of these fielded candidates were neither females nor persons with disabilities which imposed some limits on the aspirations of women and persons with disabilities for the highest executive position in the state. However, six of the political parties contesting at the polls fielded women aged between the ages of 36-60 years as Deputy Governorship Candidates

The outcomes of this elections observed by FIDA Nigeria indicated that the elections were generally peaceful, with adequate security and logistical arrangements provided by the security agencies and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) protecting women and persons with disabilities from violence at the polls. Citizens of the state were commended for participating actively in the process which was demonstrated through their commitment and dedication. The Electoral Management Body (Independent National Electoral Commission) was commended for the professionalism and dedication exhibited by most of its ad hoc staff which contributed to early arrival of voting materials & personnel. Furthermore, the Electoral Body was commended for providing a platform that enabled prioritisation of persons with disabilities, the elderly/aged, pregnant women and nursing mothers in the voting process by INEC Adhoc Officials. We observed that Persons living with disabilities were prioritized in at least 56% of the polling units with 32% of the polling units providing special kits for persons living with disabilities while 68% of the polling units didn't. However, 80% of the polling units prioritized pregnant women, the elderly and nursing mothers.

Conclusively, FIDA Nigeria observed increased women participation in the electoral process as a large turnout of female voters exercised their franchise in about 88% of the polling units observed with only 12% of the polling units visited having a low voters turnout, comparatively the participation of persons with disabilities indicated that 88% of the polling units witnessed low turnout of persons living with disabilities across polling units observed in the state. The Official results from the Electoral Management Body indicated that only 804,450 persons exercised their franchise at the polls from a total of 1.95 million registered voters in the state which means that 42.37% of registered voters actually participated in the polls with about 58.8% abstaining from the voting process which demonstrates the need for an improved voter's awareness strategy by all

stakeholders towards ensuring an increase in the voting population even as confidence is gradually restored due to the impeccable performance of INEC and the existence of the Electoral Act 2022 as amended

1.1 Profile and Political Environment of Osun State

Osun State, with its capital at Osogbo, was created on 27 August 1991 from the old Oyo State. Covering an area of approximately 14,875 sq. km and lying between latitude 7° 30' 0" N and longitude 4° 30' 0" E, the state is situated in the tropical rain forest zone. It is bounded in the north by Kwara State, in the east partly by Ondo State, in the south by Ogun State and in the west by Oyo State. The state is ethnically diverse, with notable sub-ethnic groups such as Ife, Ijesha and Ibolo, among others.

The state has a fairly large population, which according to the 2006 National Population Census stood at 3,423,535. As an agrarian state, agriculture has been the mainstay of the economy in which the majority of the populace is engaged. Major crops include yams, cassava (manioc), corn (maize), beans, millet, plantains, cacao, palm oil and kernels, and fruits. There are also a few cottage industries in the state, including textiles, steel-rolling mill and food processing industries. The state is also endowed with a lot of resources, most notably gold and kaolin. The state also has many hills in towns like Ikirun, Iragbiji, Ilesha, Ikire and Ile-Ife.

Osun State is reputed for its cultural wealth. The state is particularly famous for festivals such as Osun Osogbo International Festival, Olojo Festival in Ife, Iwude Festival in Ilesa. The state also has many tourist attractions such as the Kiriji War Museum, Erin Ijesa Waterfalls, Oranmiyan staff at Ile-Ife Museum, Obafemi Awolowo University Zoological Gardens, Ayinkunigba Waterfalls, Mbari-Mbayo Cultural Heritage, Idi Baba Cultural Centre, Igbo Sango at Ede. It is, therefore, hardly surprising that the state was designated a UNESCO World Heritage

site in 2005.

Administratively, the state has 30 LGAs. These are Aiyedaade, Aiyedire, Atakunmosa East, Atakunmosa West, Boluwaduro, Boripe, Ede North, Ede South, Egbedore, Ejigbo, Ife Central, Ife East, Ife North, Ife South, Ifedayo, Ifelodun, Ila, Ilesa East, Ilesa West, Irepodun, Irewole, Isokan, Iwo, Obokun, Odo Otin, Ola Oluwa, Olorunda, Oriade, Orolu and Osogbo.

Figure 1: Map of Osun state showing the Three Senatorial Districts and 30 LGAs



Politically, the state has always been a beehive of activity, the height of which included the alternation of power twice between two rival political parties. The first occurred in 2003, when Governor Olagunsoye Oyinlola of the PDP defeated incumbent Governor Bisi Akande of the Alliance for Democracy (AD). The second occurred in the 2007 election, when the then opposition candidate, Rauf Aregbesola of the Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) reclaimed his mandate after protracted litigations at the Election Tribunal and Court of Appeal. Interestingly, all these dramatis personae

and many others who have been deeply involved since 1999 still parade the political landscape of the state in different capacities and spheres of influence in the 2022 governorship election. Their roles/conducts will go a long way in shaping the direction of the election, be it peaceful or otherwise.

1.3. Legal Framework for Administration of the Osun State Governorship Election

A legal framework can be a set of constitutional, legislative, regulatory rules that establish the citizens' voting rights to elect their leaders. This election marks the second election conducted following the enactment of the Electoral Act 2022 with attention hinged on the Independent National Electoral Commission (Electoral Management Body) performance in administering the polls.

The requirement for free, fair credible, and peaceful elections is provided in the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Electoral Act 2022, the INEC Regulations and Guidelines for the Conduct of Elections, 2019, and other laws regulating the conduct of institutions and agencies involved in elections.

The Electoral Act is enacted by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Act established and provides for the functions of the Independent National Electoral Commission. Section 2 of the Electoral Act provides for the functions of the Commission as conferred on it by the constitution. The Electoral Act confers INEC with the power to conduct voter and civic education, the power to promote knowledge of sound democratic election processes, the power to conduct any referendum that is required to be conducted under the provisions of the constitution or any other law or Act of the National Assembly. The Act further provides under its Section 9 that INEC shall compile, maintain and update continuously a National Register of Voters for each State and the Federal Capital Territory

and Local Government, which will include the names of all persons entitled to vote in any Federal, State, Local Government or Area Council elections in Nigeria.

1.4.Methodology/Approach

FIDA Nigeria observation of the participation of women and persons with disabilities at the polls was made feasible through trained citizen observers deployed across the 30 Local Government Areas of Osun State. An election monitoring tool has been developed maintaining both a qualitative and quantitative approach. We leveraged on partnerships with other civil society actors in documenting election incidences which promoted violence against women and persons with disabilities at the polls. Our citizen's engagement was made possible through the establishment of a situation room in Oshogbo, the Osun State Capital and our National Secretariat where our Data Analysts documented and analyzed findings from our citizen observers through the help of civic technology. We also obtained other information relating to election incidents are obtained from credible media sources and civil society actors respectively.

2.0.Activities Towards the Election

2.1. Project inception meeting

We held a project inception meeting on the 20th of June 2022 to intimate project team members on the objectives, scope, methodology and outcomes to be deployed and harvested within the project timelines in line with the Donor approved workplan & contractual obligations

2.2. Engagement of Citizen Observer's & Data Analysts for Election.

This activity was held with the objective of engaging adhoc Personnel in providing evidence-based & credible data on incidences of violence that militate against participation of women & persons with disabilities in the

Osun Governorship Elections. Calls for applications were put out locally by the FIDA Osun State Branch through their network. Following the submission of resume's indicating interest in the positions and subsequent shortlist of qualified candidates, informal interviews were conducted between 11th and 12th July 2022. At the end of the interviews, the successful candidates who fit the recruitment criteria were on boarded and informed of the subsequent training which was both online/offline on 15th July, 2022.

2.3. Development, Scripting & Deployment of election monitoring tool

Through this activity, we provided a tool for collating evidence-based data from Citizen Observers which will undergo data analysis & credibility by Data Analysts providing evidence-based & credible data on incidences of violence that militate against participation of women & persons with disabilities in the Osun Governorship Elections. An election monitoring tool was developed, scripted into a google form sheet deployed to the field for observers to report real time election incidents.

2.4. Training of Citizen Observers

On 15th July 2022, citizen observers deployed across the thirty (30) local government areas of Osun state were trained at Heritage Hotel in Osogbo Osun state between 10am – 2pm (WAT). The training centred on key principles governing global best practices in election observation including such principles as neutrality, impartiality and diligent and efficient reporting of credible and accurate information amongst other key issues had in attendance 22 citizen observers out of the 30 deployed to the field.

2.5. Establishment of an Election Observation Situation Room

Election monitoring situation rooms were established in both Osogbo the Osun state capital and Abuja, FCT respectively on 16th of July, 2022 which had data analysts in attendance analysing reported election incidences from

citizen observers deployed to the various polling units across the State

3.0. Election Day Observations

3.1. Polls Commencement

We observed that there was early and high voter turnout for the polls across the state as security personnel, electoral officers and election materials arrived at most polling units between the hours of 8:00 - 9:00am. 24% of the polling units had the election materials before 8AM, 48% by 8AM and 28% by 8:30AM. Furthermore we observed that 64% polling units visited had more than one electoral official, 24% had 3 electoral officials, and 12 % had two (2) electoral officials. With regards participation of female electoral officials, we observed that a larger percentage of the polling units visited , that is about 76% had more than 2 female electoral officials, 12% had less than 2 officials , while 12% were above 2 officials.

For instance, at polling unit 007, Ward 3, Boluwaduro LGA, polling unit 012, ward 2, Ife North LGA, accreditation commenced between 8.20-8.30am, Similarly at polling unit 7, ward 6, Iwo LGA, accreditation commenced as early as 8am, however at polling unit 23, ward 5, Oshogbo LGA, voters were accredited at 9.45am.

3.2. Turnout of Female Voters & Persons with Disabilities:

We observed a large turnout of female voters in about 88% of the polling units observed. Our Observers reported that only 12% of the polling units visited had low voters. For instance at Polling unit 1, Ward 1 , Ife South LGA, about 175 women were observed exercising their franchise, similarly at polling 1, ikija ward 2, Ife South LGA, about 204 women were observed undergoing the accreditation process. Similarly at polling unit 003, ward 1, Olorunda LGA, we observed a large turnout of female voters. At polling 005, ward 7, Ifedayo LGA a good number of female voters were observed

exercising their franchise , Similarly at Unit 004, Ward 10, Ife Central LGA, more female voters were observed exercising their franchise. Furthermore at Polling unit 7, ward 10, Odo-Otin LGA, more than a hundred women were observed exercising their franchise. Our observers reported that 88% of the covering polling units observed low turnout of persons living with disabilities across polling units visited.

3.3. Priority Voting for Vulnerable & Marginalized Persons

We observed that persons with disabilities, the elderly/Aged, pregnant women and Nursing mothers were prioritized in the voting process by INEC Adhoc Officials. Our Observers reported that Persons living with disabilities were prioritized in at least 56% of the polling units. While only 32% of the polling units provided special kits for persons living with disabilities however 68% of the polling units didn't. However 80% of the polling units prioritized pregnant women, the elderly and nursing mothers. For instance at polling unit 004, ward 10, Ife Central LGA, nursing mothers, pregnant women and persons with disabilities were prioritized thus exercising their franchise speedily. At polling unit 003, ward 1, Olorunda LGA, pregnant women and Elderly were prioritized by Electoral Officials. Furthermore at Polling unit 23, Ward 5, Oshogbo LGA, pregnant women & the Elderly were prioritized accordingly. However at polling unit 12, Ward 2, Ife North LGA, only persons with disabilities were prioritized while at Polling unit 02, Ward 4 , Oshogbo LGA, we observed that there was no preference for women, the aged and persons with disabilities .

3.4. Functionality of the Bimodal Voters Accreditation System:

We observed that across most polling units within our purview, the bimodal voter's accreditation system was largely functional which aided accreditation and the voting process. However we observed some few discrepancies of where the BVAS were not functional. At polling unit 7, ward 10, Odo-Otin LGA, the BVAS was observed to have developed fault

and was not rectified as at 12pm. About 64% of the covering polling units were able to resolve the BVAS issue experienced, while 28% are yet to report resolve as at the time of this reports.

3.5. Security Related Observations

We observed that security officials/personnel in at least 52% of polling units visited were perceived to be impartial, with 28% perceived to be very impartial and 20% perceived to have partial electoral/security officials. We further observed that Security personnel were present in 84% of the covering polling units are unarmed with fire arms while 16% are with reported armed with fire arms with at least one police officer is present at all of our covering polling units. Seemingly our observers in 68% of the polling units reported the presence of more than 4 security personnel. While 12% of the polling units had three security personnel, while 16% had two security personnel and 4% has 1 security personnel each. Conclusively 80% of the covering polling units were observed and reported to be very secure as at the close of polls as no incidences of ballot box snatching was observed.

3.6. Vote Trading

We observed disturbing incidents of vote trading across the state especially as our observers reported that about 16% of the polling units were to have witnessed voting inducements. For instance at polling unit 2, ward 3 , Isokan LGA, Incidence of vote buying were observed by leading political parties between N3000 to N5000 respectively. At PU005, Ward 08 St Peter's School Sekona, Ede South LGA, Our observers reported incidence of vote buying. Similarly at PU 02, ward 002, Ayedade LGA and Polling unit 12, Ward 12, Ife North LGA, voters were induced with the sum of N2, 000–N5, 000.

3.7. Moderate Turnout of Voters:

We observed from INEC official results that 804,450 persons exercised their franchise at the polls from a total of 1.95 million registered voters in the state. This indicates that about 42.37% of registered voters actually participated in the polls with about 58.8% abstaining from the voting process. Comparatively the turnout is lower than 2018, 2014, and 2003 Governorship Elections where about 45.74%, 53.14%, and 58.63% of the total voting population respectively exercised their franchise accordingly. The implication of this outcome means that there needs to be an improved voter's awareness strategy by all stakeholders towards ensuring an increase in the voting population even as confidence is gradually restored due to the impeccable performance of INEC and the existence of the Electoral Act 2022 as amended.

3.8. Presence of Political Party Agents in Polling Units

We observed that 48% of the polling units observed had more than three (3) party agents, while 44% of polling units visited were observed with three (3) party agents and 8% of polling units were observed with only two (2) party agents present at the polling units. Furthermore, political party agents were observed not engaging in open campaign in at least 96% of our covering polling units covered and agreed with the sanctity of the process by signing the election results across all polling units covered by our observers. Similarly, our observers reported that election results were displayed across all polling units visited.

3.9. Close of Polls

We observed that as at 4pm, 87% of polling units observed had concluded voting and counting of votes had either commenced or ended accordingly. However about 13% of polling units visited still had the voting process ongoing as at 4pm due to late arrival of the electoral materials or malfunctioning of the BVAS. For instance, at polling unit 5, ward 4, Ede

North LGA, voting was observed ongoing after the hours of 4pm, similarly in some polling units across Irepodun LGA and polling unit 1, St Peter Primary School, Odo-Otin LGA, voting was observed ongoing even as polls ended across most polling units

4.0. 2022 Osun Governorship Election Incident Record Table

| Local Government Area | Location includes: | Incidents Reported | ESSC Actions on the Incident | Status of Incident |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PU name/number • Ward • LGA • State • Time | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballot box snatching • Late arrival of INEC/Security personnel • Absence of INEC/Security personnel • Card Reader Malfunction • Killing • Misconduct of security/INEC personnel • Fighting in the polling unit • Sporadic shooting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escalated to the Security agencies • Escalated to INEC call centre • Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolved • Not Resolved • Pending • No action from security/INEC |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 001, Catholic Technical College • Ward – Ilode | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidences of vote buying by the APC reported. Votes were bought at the polling centre for N5000. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action from security/INEC |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Ife East LGA | 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGA – Ife east State - Osun | | | |
| Odo-Otin LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polling Unit 001 and 007 Ward 10 – Oyedele compound LGA – Odo-otin State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BVAS machine developed a fault by 9:30am. It stopped working only the face capture part was working. Fault was not rectified until the close of polls at PU 007. At PU 001 the BVAS became faulty at 10am but was later rectified. Incidences of vote buying by both APC and PDP agents. Votes were bought for N5000 by the APC whilst PDP paid N2000 for votes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others | No action from security/INEC |

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Orolu LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 003 • Ward 10 – Olufon Aaje • LGA – Orolu • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Isokan LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 002 • Ward 3 – Asalu Ikoyi • LGA – Isokan • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Ifelodun LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 006 • Ward 4 – Alamisi • LGA – Ifelodun • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Ede North LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 005 • Ward 4 – Owode Primary School • LGA – Ede North • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. • Others – Shortage of polling booths | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Ede South LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 001 • Ward 9 – Shopping complex • LGA – Ede South • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Elewe Iwo LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 007 • Ward 6 • LGA – Elewe Iwo • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BVAS machine developed network failure for about 10 minutes during voter accreditation at about 9am. | Others | Not applicable |
| Boluwaduro LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 002 • Ward 3 • LGA – Boluwaduro • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Ife South LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 001 and 001a • Ward Ikija 1 and II • LGA – Ife South • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----------------|
| Ifedayo LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 005 • Ward 7 Agbugburu • LGA – Ifedayo • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others • | Not applicable |
| Ilesa East LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 001 • Ward II Adenle Junction • LGA – Ifedayo • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote buying by APC agents. Votes were bought for N5000. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Ife North | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 002 • Ward 12 Ipetumodu • LGA – Ife North • State – Osun | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote buying by majority party agents. Votes sold to the highest bidder by locals. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |
| Obokun LGA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling Unit 001 • Ward 8 • Polling center: Imuo Methodist Primary School • LGA – Ifedayo • State – Osun • | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No incidences reported. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Others | Not applicable |

4.1. Post-election Observations

The Osun Governorship Elections has been concluded as the Electoral Umpire (Independent National Electoral Commission) declared Senator Adeleke of the People's Democratic Party having secured the total number of votes cast at the polls as the winner of the elections. From INEC records already in public domain, Senator Ademola Adeleke with 403,371 votes defeated the other fourteen contestants to emerge as the winner with the incumbent Governor Mr. Gboyega Oyetola coming up second with 375,027 votes. The outcomes of the election aligns with our preliminary statements / findings which indicated that the elections were generally peaceful with adequate security and logistical arrangements provided by the security agencies and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). We commended eligible voters and all citizens of the state that participated actively in the process for their commitment and dedication. We further commended INEC for the professionalism and dedication exhibited by most of her adhoc staff which contributed to early arrival of voting materials and personnel thus bringing credibility to the process. In addition, the security agencies especially officers and men of the Nigeria Police Force for their dedication and commitment to free and fair elections.

4.2. Electoral Statistics for Osun 2022 Governorship Election

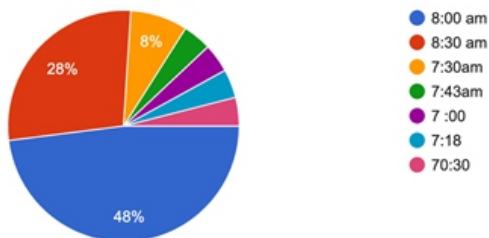
On Saturday 16th July 2022, Citizens of Osun State exercised their franchise at 3,763 polling units within 332 registration area centers across the state elected Senator Ademola Adeleke of the People's Democratic Party at the off-cycle gubernatorial elections. This election marks the second election conducted following the enactment of the Electoral Act 2022 with attention hinged on the Independent National Electoral Commission (Electoral Management Body) performance in administering the polls. From INEC records already in public domain, Senator Ademola Adeleke with 403,371 votes defeated the other fourteen contestants to emerge as the winner with the incumbent Governor Mr. Gboyega Oyetola

coming up second with 375,027 votes.

There was an upsurge in the total number of registered voters with an increase from 1.6 million at the last gubernatorial elections in 2018 to about 1.95 million. This indicated that more citizens were engaged in the political process and have taken advantage of the continuous voter's registration towards ensuring that their votes count at the polls.

During the 2018 Osun Governorship Elections, a total of 48 Political Parties fielded candidates for the Governorship elections, none of these fielded candidates were neither females nor persons with disabilities which imposed some limits on the aspirations of women and persons with disabilities for the highest executive position in the state. However six of the political parties contesting at the 2022 polls fielded women aged between 36-60 years as Deputy Governorship Candidates.

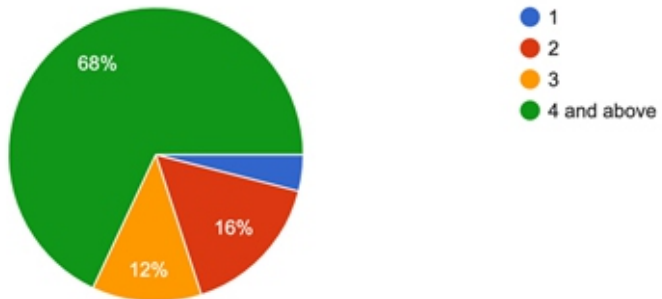
What time did election materials arrive at your polling unit? (later than 8:30am this please use other)
25 responses



Remarks: In all the 25 entries collated, 24% of the units have had the election materials before 8AM, 48% by 8AM and 28% by 8:30AM.

How many security personnel did you find at your polling unit?

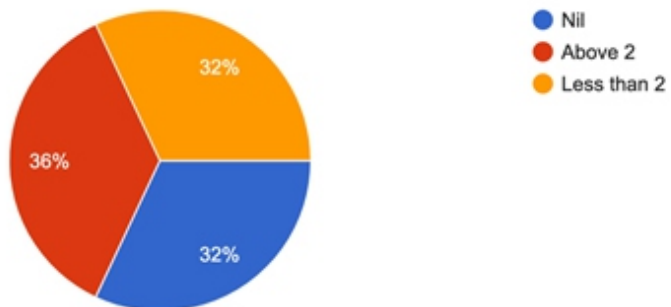
25 responses



Remark: 17 out 25, that is, 68% of the collated entries reported the presence of more than 4 security personnel. 12% of the polling units has 3 security personnel, 16% has 2 security personnel and 4% has 1 security personnel.

How many of these security personnel observed were female?

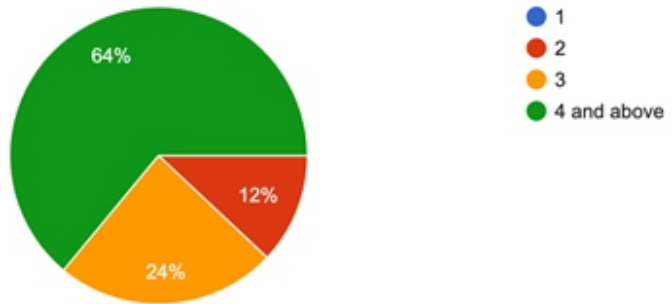
25 responses



Remark: 36% of the polling units has more than 2 female security personnel, 32% has less than 2 and the remaining 32% has no female security personnel.

How many electoral officials did you observe at the polling unit?

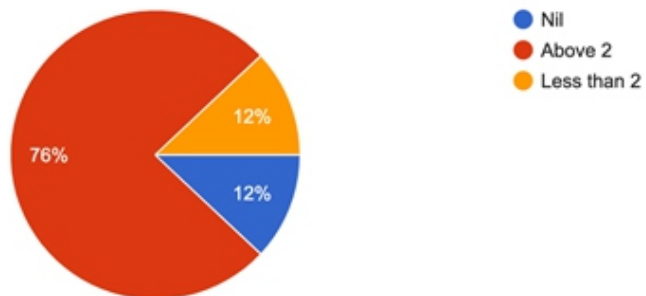
25 responses



Remark: There are 64% polling units with more than electoral officials. 24% has 3 electoral officials, 12% has 2 electoral officials.

How many of these electoral officials did you observe were female?

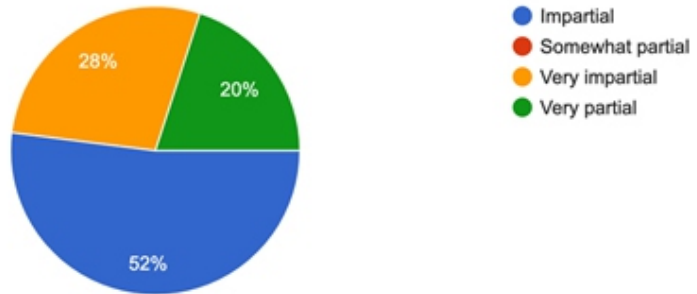
25 responses



Remark: Larger percentage of the polling units, that is, 76% has more than 2 female electoral officials. 12% are less than 2 and 12% are above 2.

How impartial were the electoral/security officials at your polling unit?

25 responses



Remark: Electoral/Security officials present in at least 52% of polling units covered by FIDA Nigeria are perceived impartial by our observers, 28% of the polling units are perceived to be with very impartial and only 20% polling units are perceived to be with very partial electoral/security officials.

In your opinion, how safe and secure did the electorate feel at the polling unit?

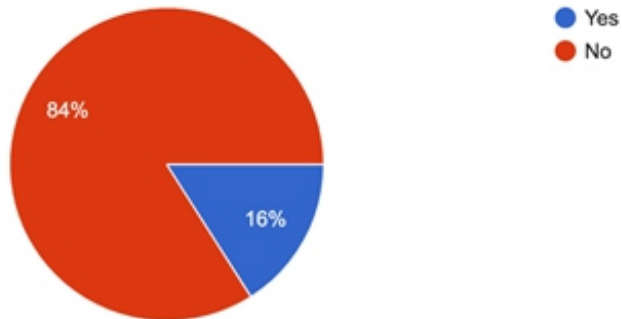
25 responses



Remarks: 80% of the covering polling units are reported very secure.

Were security personnel's armed with fire arms at the polling unit?

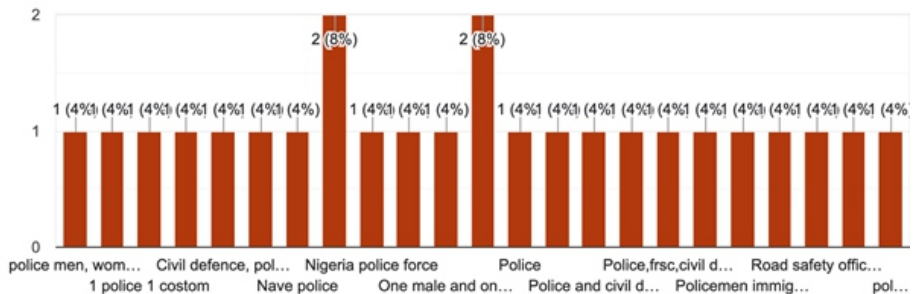
25 responses



Remark: Security personnel present in 84% of the covering polling units are unarmed with fire arms while 16% are with reported armed with fire arms.

Identify which security outfits were at your polling unit?

25 responses

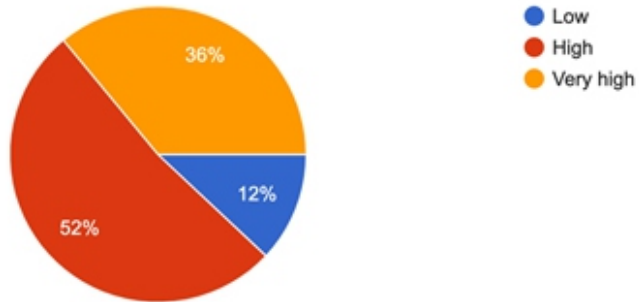


At least one police officer is present at all of our covering polling units.

Section C

What was the turnout of female voters at your polling unit?

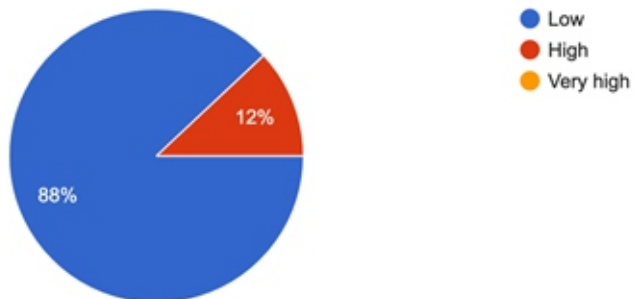
25 responses



88% of the polling units were reported to have high intending female voters. While 12% of the polling units have low voters.

What was the turnout of person's with disabilities at your polling unit?

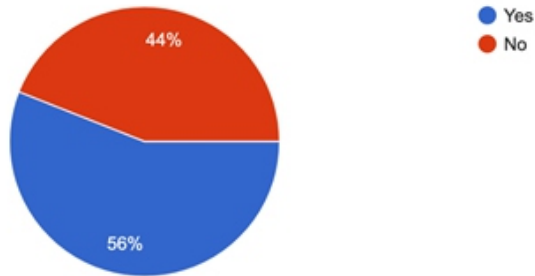
25 responses



88% of the covering polling units reported low turnout of persons living with disabilities.

Were persons with disabilities prioritized for voting purposes in your polling unit?

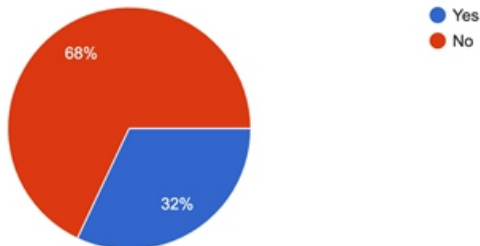
25 responses



Persons living with disabilities were prioritized in at least 56% of the polling units.

Were special kits (e.g Braille provided for person's with disabilities to exercise their franchise?

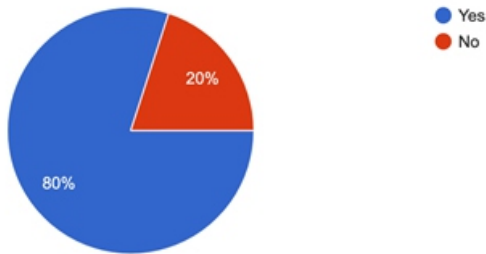
25 responses



Only 32% of the polling units provided special kits for persons living with disabilities. 68% didn't.

Was priority given to pregnant women, the elderly and nursing mothers at your polling unit?

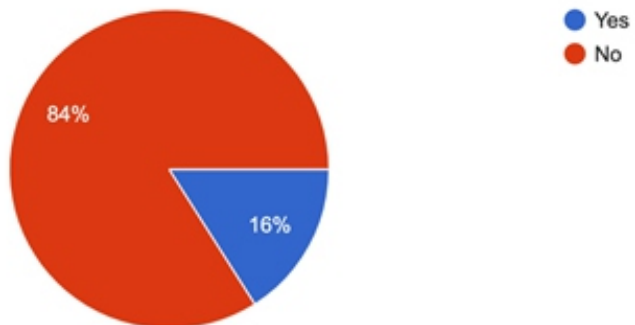
25 responses



80% of the polling units prioritized pregnant women, the elderly and nursing mothers.

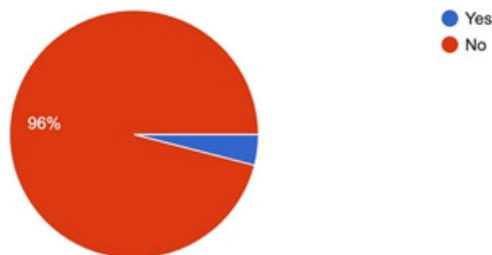
Were there incidences of vote inducement in your polling unit?

25 responses



16% of the covering polling units were to have witnessed voting inducements. 84% didn't.

Were there open campaign displays by political parties/party agents in your polling unit?
25 responses



There were no open campaign in at least 96% of our covering polling units.

5.0. Conclusions/Recommendations

In view of our pre-election, preliminary and post-election observations/findings during the election, FIDA Nigeria recommends the following to deepen the democratic process in Nigeria ahead of the general elections in 2023:

5.1 INEC

1. Prosecution of electoral offenders observed to have committed all forms of electoral offences in contravention to the Electoral Act 2022 (as amended) which will serve as deterrent to others.
2. We observed that only 32% of the polling units as reported by our observers were provided with special kits for persons living with disabilities however 68% of the polling units didn't based on this findings, INEC should consider special needs of persons with disabilities for their full participation in future elections in Nigeria through the provision of enough sensitive materials such as braille for voters with visual impairment.
3. Train and retrain electoral officers and ad-hoc staff to enable them

meet with the changing needs of the electorates in Nigeria.

4. For future elections in Osun state and given the persistent below average voter turnout in the last two Governorship Elections (2018, & 2022). We urge INEC to embark on high-level dialogues with key stakeholders including traditional and religious leaders to encourage the participation of more female electorates and Citizens in general to exercise their franchise at subsequent elections.

5.2. Security Agencies

- i) We call on the security agencies deployed for election duty to arrest and investigate all those involved in vote buying in different parts of the state for prosecution;
- ii) Should continually adhere to the principles of impartiality and neutrality toward securing the polls which will help in mitigating violence perpetuated especially against women in elections.

5.3. Politicians and Political Parties

- i) Should maintain peace and be magnanimous in victory.
- ii) They should work with all Osun citizens including those in the opposition parties to improve the governance of the state.

5.4 Media

- i) They should desist from production of sensational headlines and hate speeches that contribute to increased tension before, during and after elections;
- ii) They should verify and fact-check all information received before releasing to the public
- iii) They should remain professional, neutral and non-partisan in the discharge of duties

APPENDIX

The Election Monitoring Tool.

| FIDA NIGERIA ELECTION MONITORING TOOL FOR THE JULY 2022, OSUN STATE GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS | |
|---|--|
| <p>PART A</p> <p>Name of polling unit:</p> <p>Name of polling centre:</p> <p>Name of Ward:</p> <p>Name of Local Government Area:</p> <p>Name of Observer:</p> <p>Time of reporting: (Please should be below 11 noon)</p> | |
| <p>PART B</p> <p>1. What time did election materials arrive at your polling unit?</p> <p>a. 8:00 am b. 8:30 am c. Later than 8:30 am</p> <p>If Option C is applicable, kindly state the time of arrival:</p> <p>2. How many security personnel did you find at your polling unit?</p> <p>a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4 and above</p> <p>3. How many of these security personnel did you observe were female?</p> <p>a. Nil b. Above 2 c. Less than 2</p> <p>4. How many electoral officials did you observe at the polling unit?</p> <p>a. 1 b. 5</p> | |
| <p>5. How many of these electoral officials did you observe were female?</p> <p>a. Nil b. Above 2 c. Less than 2</p> <p>6. How impartial were the electoral security officials at your polling unit?</p> <p>a. Impartial b. Somewhat impartial c. Very impartial d. Very partial</p> <p>If partial, kindly provide evidence of such incidence:</p> <p>7. In your opinion, how safe and secure did the electorates feel at the polling unit?</p> <p>a. Very secure b. Somewhat secure c. Not very secure d. Insecure</p> <p>If insecure, kindly mention any incidence witnessed:</p> <p>8. Were security personnel armed with fire arms at the polling unit? Yes or No</p> <p>9. Identify which security outfits were at your polling unit?</p> <p>10. Identify which security outfits at your polling unit were armed?</p> | |
| <p>PART C</p> | |
| <p>a. Low b. High c. Very high</p> <p>12. What was the turnout of <u>persons</u>, with disabilities at your polling unit?</p> <p>a. Low b. High c. Very high</p> <p>13. Were persons with disabilities prioritised for voting purposes in your polling unit? Yes or No</p> <p>14. Were special kits (e.g. Braille) provided for <u>persons</u>, with disabilities to exercise their franchise?</p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p>15. Was priority given to pregnant women, the elderly and nursing mothers at your polling unit?</p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p>16. Were there incidences of vote inducement in your polling unit?</p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p>17. Were there open campaign displays by political parties party agents in your polling unit?</p> <p>Yes or No</p> <p>18. How many party agents did you observe in your polling unit?</p> <p>a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 3 and above</p> <p>19. Were there reported incidences of electoral violence in your polling unit? Yes or No</p> <p>If Yes, who it targeted against women, <u>persons</u>, with disabilities, the elderly, pregnant women, nursing mother's etc.</p> | |
| <p>22. Was the Bi-Modal Voter Accreditation System deployed to your polling unit operational and captured all accredited voters? Yes or No</p> <p>23. Did the Bi-Modal Voter Accreditation System malfunction? If yes, state examples mention an incidence?</p> <p>24. Was the situation in 23 above rectified? Yes or No</p> <p>If yes, did voting continue?</p> <p>25. Were all voters able to see their name on the voter's register?</p> | |
| <p>PART D</p> <p>26. What was the total number of accredited voters in your polling unit?</p> <p>27. Did voters vote in secrecy? Yes or No</p> <p>28. Was the ballot process transparent and fair? Yes or No</p> <p>29. What time did voting close in your polling unit?</p> <p>30. Was the election result collated and displayed at the polling centre? Yes or No</p> <p>31. Were the election results accepted by all party agents at the polling unit?</p> <p>32. Are there any other incidences or questions not covered above that you will like to report? Yes or No</p> <p>If yes, please report below:</p> | |

