Author(s): Ayo C. K
Date: 2009
Abstract: Although efforts have been made by several governments to increase voters’ participation during elections, their turnout is still a major concern in many democracies. One of the factors considered to encourage improved participation in elections is to increase the medium of voters’ accessibility to the election process. Many studies have demonstrated the value of mobile voting (m-Voting) applications in casting of votes from home, work or on the move but with some inherent limitations. In this study, we propose a framework that integrates voice and m-Voting applications to reduce access barriers and increase participation of voters during elections. A prototype system was developed for experimentation and we examined and reported the prospects and challenges of voice-Voting in Nigeria. The implementation of voice-enabled m-Voting framework will help government eliminate some of the irregularities of manual paper voting; provide alternative platform for the non-physically challenged voters; and also enable people with visual and certain forms of disabilities to participate in electronic voting (e-Voting) during elections. The results of this study would provide insights into ways of improving participation of voters in general elections in Nigeria and other democracies.