

Cybersecurity in Elections
The HEAT Process



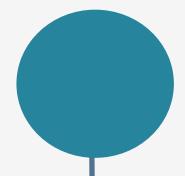






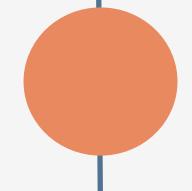
Types of exposure



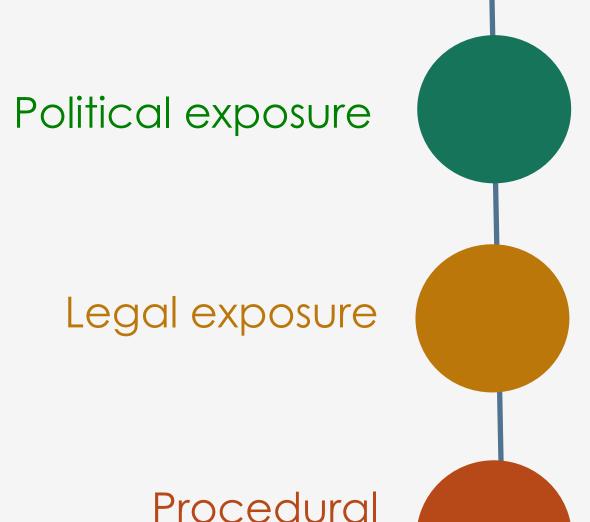


For example, through hacking or system failure.

Human exposure



For example, through poorly trained or malevolent officials using data systems



For example, through improper influence over the procurement process for election technology.

For example, through poorly drafted or manipulated laws that restrict EMB independence or leave the process vulnerable to litigation.

Procedural exposure

For example, through poorly designed procedures that create vulnerabilities in how data is managed in practice.

Holistic Exposure and Adaptation Testing Process (HEAT Process)

Identify

The responsible EMB personnel identifies the election data management technology (or technologies) that should be HEAT tested.

Collect

The responsible EMB personnel collects and collates all relevant information for the HEAT Team and conducts a systems mapping exercise to visualize linkages and information flow between institutions and individuals.

Expose

Using the 5 types of exposure, the IFES HEAT Team tests the technology and the human, legal and procedural framework in which it is deployed, identifying and documenting specific vulnerabilities.

Exploit

Drawing on the specific vulnerabilities identified, the IFES HEAT team guides responsible EMB officials through a tailored election simulation to test EMB responses to specific forms of exploitation.

Adapt

The EMB and IFES
HEAT team will jointly
identify and prioritize
actions to address
vulnerabilities that
were not satisfactorily
mitigated in the
exploitation phase,
with the ultimate goal
of minimizing levels of
exposure across the 5
dimensions.

