AB update

October 2020 highlights

In the field and around the network

✓ After a seven-month hiatus due to COVID-19, Round 8 training and data collection resumed in Liberia and Niger. Mauritius will go to the field in November, to be followed by other countries as they meet safety and data-quality criteria. A battery of questions focusing on the pandemic has been added to the questionnaire.

✓ Amal Medani has joined the AB board. A senior policy adviser for UNDP, she has served as director of the Africa Centre (London) and associate director of the UN Institute for Training and Research.

✓ AB launched a bi-weekly series of cross-country analyses on the Washington Post Monkey Cage blog.

✓ Innovation Recherche en Economie et Gouvernance (IREG) has been selected as AB’s new National Partner in Benin.

✓ National Partner Hatchile Consult Ltd in Uganda conducted the first in a series of data-use workshops for media and civil society.

✓ The Institute for Development Studies at the University of Nairobi, AB’s core partner, celebrated its 50th anniversary with a series of seminars featuring African scholars.

✓ AB interim CEO E. Gyimah-Boadi has joined a new senior-level bipartisan Task Force on U.S. Strategy to Support Democracy and Counter Authoritarianism convened by Freedom House, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the McCain Institute.

In the news

A total of 103 media hits were recorded in October across various media outlets, including Lawfare, Bizcommunity.com, Conversation, Gabonews, Christianity Today, EU Reporter, Bloomberg, Automotive Business Review (South Africa), Modern Diplomacy, ...

On digital/social media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website</th>
<th>15,901 users; 4,121 downloads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online data analysis</td>
<td>4,920 distinct users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>20,318 followers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>13,941 total followers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Publications

✓ Working Paper 186: Party footprints in Africa: Measuring local party presence across the continent

✓ Policy Paper 69: Election présidentielle 2020 en Côte d’Ivoire: Quels ingrédients pour la participation inclusive?

✓ Dispatch 401: In Angola’s COVID-19 fight, trusted religious and traditional leaders, military can be allies

✓ Dispatch 400: Most Ghanaians support gender fairness in political leadership, but women trail men in participation, digital access, asset ownership

✓ Dispatch 399: Fear and trust: Explaining professed popular trust in Zimbabwe’s presidents

✓ Dispatch 398: Les Burkinabé préoccupés par la situation économique et la direction du pays
Dispatch 397: Despite perceptions of gender equality, Africa’s rural women bear brunt of economic exclusion
Dispatch 396: Despite gains, Angolans dissatisfied with government anti-corruption efforts
Dispatch 395: With lived poverty on the rise, Nigerians rate government performance as poor

Chart of the month

Paid bribes to access public services | Nigeria | 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Once or twice</th>
<th>A few times</th>
<th>Often</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To receive police assistance</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To avoid problem with police</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For identity document</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For school service</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For medical care</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visability

✓ The Brookings blog published an AB analysis on “U.S. foreign policy toward Africa: An African citizen perspective.”
✓ AB data were featured in analyses by the Center for Strategic & International Studies, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, and the Council on Foreign Relations.
✓ The consulting firm Kantar based its updated Pan-Africa Socio-Economic Solution on AB Round 7 data.
✓ The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is using AB data as part of its 2021 control of corruption, government effectiveness, and rule of law indicators.

Presentations:

✓ On AB Round 8 highlights, at a webinar hosted by the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and to State Department staff.
✓ On “Challenges of democracy in Africa,” to Brigham Young University.

Support for Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer surveys are continuing in 2020 thanks to financial support from Sweden via the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) via the U.S. Institute of Peace, Freedom House, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda, and Humanity United. But voices of support will continue to be essential to ensure Afrobarometer’s long-term sustainability.