

AB update

August 2020 highlights



In the field and around the network

- ✓ Country teams released **Round 8 findings** in Ethiopia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Angola, Lesotho, Ghana, Gabon, and Malawi.
- ✓ AB conducted a four-part online **training workshop** for 38 network members on how to develop good country-specific survey questions.
- ✓ Because of COVID-19, **all data collection remains suspended**. Analysis and electronic dissemination of survey findings, preparations for future fieldwork, and other network activities continue from our homes. A seven-point list of criteria is in place for assessing when individual countries might be able to resume Round 8 surveys.

In the news

A total of 130 media hits were recorded in August across various media outlets, including the [Council on Foreign Relations](#), [Washington Post Monkey Cage](#), [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#), [Daily Monitor](#), [Guardian Nigeria](#), [Mali-Web](#), [MSN.com](#), [Investing.com](#), [Business Day](#), [Lesotho Times](#), [Citi Newsroom](#), [GhanaWeb](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [IOL](#). ...



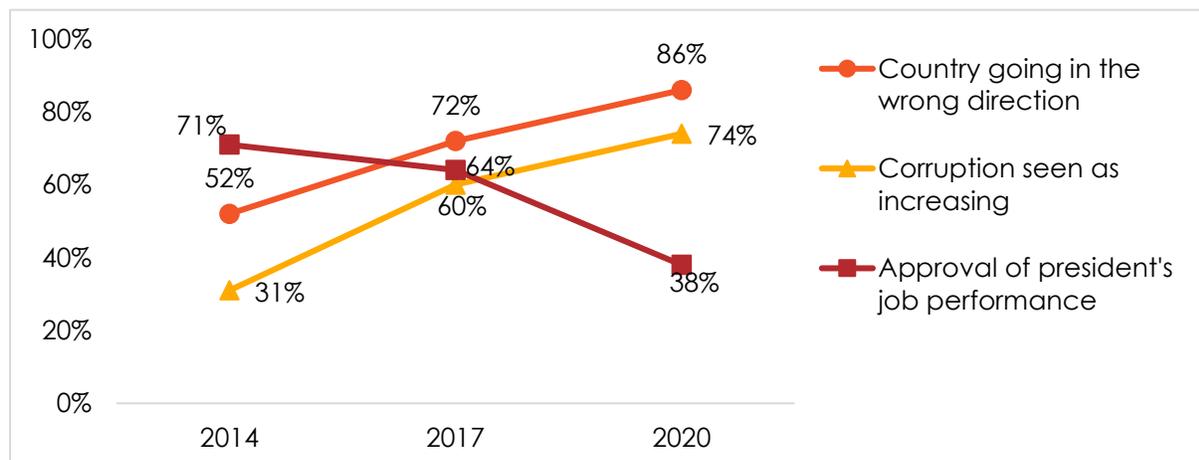
On digital/social media

Website	12,999 users; 3,426 downloads Most popular download: News release on Ethiopians' support for constitutional amendments
Online data analysis	3,034 distinct users
Twitter	883 new followers, for a total of 19,749
Facebook	13,559 total followers



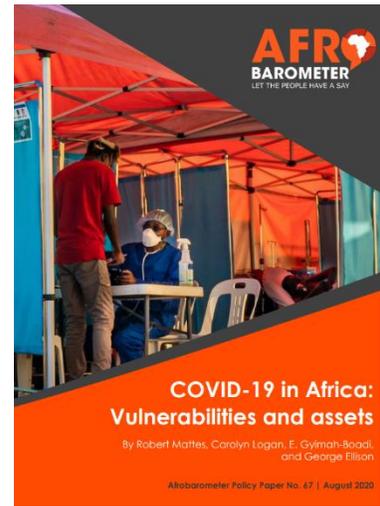
Chart of the month

Maliens' views on country's direction, corruption, and president's performance | 2014-2020



Publications

- ✓ Policy Paper 68: Corruption crossroads? Rising perceptions of graft weaken citizen trust, threaten Botswana's democratic standing
- ✓ Policy Paper 67: COVID-19 in Africa - Vulnerabilities and assets
- ✓ Dispatch 387: Citizens offer bleak outlook on Malawi's economy
- ✓ Dispatch 386: Maliens, though eager for change from failing state and economy, still demand democracy
- ✓ Dispatch 385: COVID-19 lockdown a crisis for informal traders disadvantaged by government inaction
- ✓ Dispatch 384: 'Di gron still dry' - Sierra Leoneans increasingly concerned about the economy
- ✓ Dispatch 383: Les Gabonais revendiquent leur attachement à l'identité nationale mais sont méfiants vis-à-vis des autres
- ✓ Dispatch 382: International Youth Day - Unemployment and education are Ghanaian youth's most important problems
- ✓ Dispatch 381: Disenchanted with democracy, Basotho want reforms limiting PM powers, expanding King's
- ✓ Dispatch 380: Corruption in Nigeria: Approval rating for government anti-graft efforts drops after strong gains in 2017



Visibility

- ✓ AB publications continued to draw attention to the impact of COVID-19 on Africa. See a list [here](#).
- ✓ Presentation on media freedom and fake news, as part of Penplusbytes' webinar on balanced media reporting on elections.

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, and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda. But voices of support will continue to be essential to ensure Afrobarometer's long-term sustainability.

