

AB update

December 2021 highlights



In the field and around the network

- ✓ Côte d'Ivoire completed Round 9 data collection, our fourth country so far. Up next: Uganda, Benin, Tunisia, Nigeria. ...
- ✓ AB has been awarded grants by the **World Bank**, to provide data and analysis to the Chief Economists of Government network, and by the East African regional office of the **Konrad Adenauer Stiftung**, to support analysis outputs.
- ✓ AB is also part of the **Pan African Statistics II** consortium. Led by Expertise France, PASII aims to enhance the skills of statistics professionals across Africa in data collection, analysis, and dissemination.
- ✓ New African named AB co-founder and board chair E. Gyimah-Boadi one of its "**100 Most Influential Africans**," noting that his "most lasting contribution will be his work to empower coming generations of African researchers and policymakers to make decisions based on data, not hunches, and to give African citizens a voice in public discourse."

In the spotlight

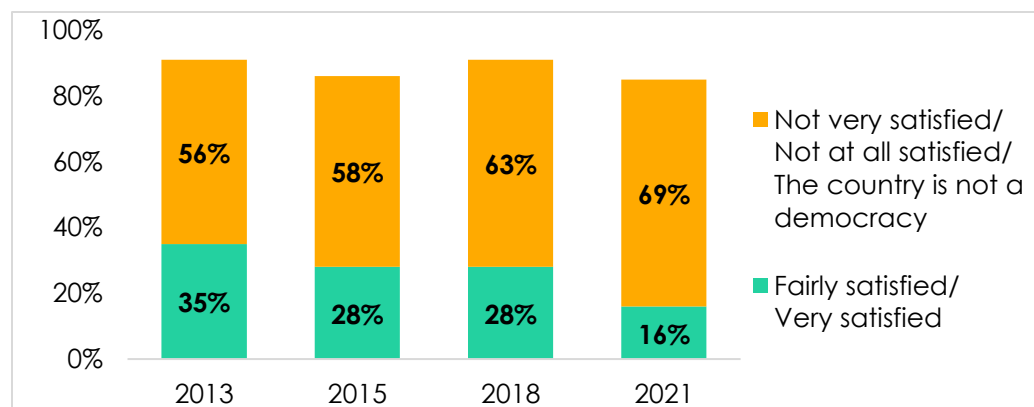
- ✓ **AB in the media:** 181 media hits were recorded in December across various local and international outlets, including the [Africa Report](#), [Hill](#), [Mail & Guardian](#), [allAfrica.com](#), [VoA](#), [Council on Foreign Relations](#), [Agence EcoFin](#), [News Ghana](#). ...

On digital/social media

Website	18,337 users; 6,101 downloads
Twitter	23,904 followers
Facebook	14,847 followers
Online data analysis	4,497 distinct users, for a 2021 total of 53,521 (a 44% increase compared to 2020)

Chart of the month

Satisfaction with democracy | Eswatini | 2013-2021



Respondents were asked:
Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Eswatini?

Happy new year!

We wish our supporters and friends a **new year filled with joy, good health, and success**. Our heartfelt **thanks** for making 2021, despite its many challenges, a fruitful year for AB as we:

- Welcomed and introduced our new CEO, Joseph Asunka.
- Wrapped up Round 8, completing surveys in 34 countries despite delays due to COVID-19.
- Launched Round 9 surveys.
- Released 92 papers, 158 news releases, and AB SDG scorecards for 31 countries, as well as series in the Washington Post Monkey Cage and the Continent.
- Trained researchers in data collection, analysis, and communication.
- Secured high visibility and strong partnerships that will keep our work going!

Publications

- ✓ Dispatch 499: Malgré une baisse du chômage, les Sénégalais réclament plus d'efforts du gouvernement en matière de création d'emplois
- ✓ Dispatch 498: Image dégradante de la France la situe loin derrière d'autres puissances mondiales comme modèle de développement au Togo
- ✓ Dispatch 497: Ugandans voice concerns about COVID-19 response, but most are willing to be vaccinated
- ✓ Dispatch 496: Despite doubts about government response to COVID-19, majority of Mozambicans want vaccination
- ✓ Dispatch 495: Dissatisfaction with Eswatini's democracy rises
- ✓ Dispatch 494: South Africans say gender-based violence worsening, blame substance abuse
- ✓ Dispatch 493: New president's 'zero tolerance' confronts Zambians' perception of government failure to control rising corruption

Visibility

- ✓ In his Christmas Eve message, Anglican Archbishop Thabo Makgoba cited AB findings in warning of South Africans' growing distrust of the government because of its governance failures and corruption.
- ✓ AB CEO Joseph Asunka shared survey findings:
 - As a featured speaker at the Open Society Foundations' "After the summit for democracy: Shoring up the fundamentals of democracy."
 - As part of a V-Dem Institute roundtable aimed at encouraging funders to support a new initiative on democracy.
 - On the first episode of the Natural Resource Governance Institute's podcast *The Resource Remix*.
- ✓ AB board chair E. Gyimah-Boadi presented AB West Africa data on democracy, economic conditions, government performance, policy priorities, and corruption at the Kofi Annan Peace and Security Forum.
- ✓ Robert Mattes was a discussant for "Two decades of governance in Malawi: Examining citizen trust in Malawi from 1999-2019," part of the Scotland-Malawi Project webinar series "New directions for governance in Malawi."
- ✓ AB continued its series in the Washington Post Monkey Cage and the Continent with posts on democracy and economic optimism.



Support for Afrobarometer



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