AB update

June 2021 highlights

In the field and around the network
✓ South Africa completed fieldwork, and Mozambique – the last of 34 Round 8 countries – was trying to wrap up data collection in a complex security situation.
✓ AB released Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards for 17 more countries with regional webinars for anglophone West Africa and francophone Africa. Release events for countries in East and Southern Africa are slated for July and August.

In the news
A total of 272 media hits were recorded in June across various media outlets, including Bloomberg, Kaiser Health News, NTV Uganda, Front Page Africa, Conversation, Guardian (Nigeria), Investing.com, African Press Agency, Health Europa, Modern Ghana, London Evening Standard, Vice, New Zimbabwe, ...

On digital/social media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Users/Downloads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>16,190 users; 5,821 downloads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online data analysis</td>
<td>3,237 distinct users; 24,087 pages served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>22,085 followers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>14,987 followers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart of the month

**Received government assistance during pandemic** | Zimbabwe | 2021

**Respondents were asked:** Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, have you or your household received any assistance from government, like food, cash payments, relief from bill payments, or other assistance that you were not normally receiving before the pandemic?

Publications
✓ Policy Paper 73: Tax disobedience in Côte d’Ivoire: What role do poverty, national identity, and access to tax information play?
✓ Dispatch 460: Les Maliens, favorables à l’intégration régionale et aux investissements étrangers, soutiennent l’influence positive de la Chine
✓ Dispatch 459: Les Camerounais approuvent la performance du gouvernement face à la COVID-19 mais s’interrogent sur l’assistance et les vaccins
✓ Dispatch 458: Zimbabweans endorse government’s COVID-19 response but voice concerns about corruption and lack of assistance
✓ Dispatch 457: Mauritians’ demand for democracy remains high despite waning quality
✓ Dispatch 456: Malgré qu’il soit difficile de s’informer sur les impôts, les Togolais sont favorables à en payer plus pour plus de services

Visibility
✓ The United States Institute of Peace published an extensive interview with AB CEO Joseph Asunka on “Countering China on the continent: A look at African views.”
✓ AB continued its Washington Post Monkey Cage series with an analysis of democracy in trouble in Mauritius.
✓ Public officials in Ghana cited AB findings on several occasions:
  o Speaker of Parliament Alban Bagbin, in urging public education on the role of members of Parliament, during a consultative meeting for West Africa-based parliamentary monitoring organizations
  o Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources Cecelia Dapaah, on improving access to water and toilets, in a minister’s press briefing
  o Environmental and Sanitation Service Deputy Director Kweku Quansah, at a “Keep Ghana Clean” sanitation-awareness campaign event
✓ AB findings were also featured in:
  o The first “Debating Africa” exchange sponsored by the Africa Europe Foundation, on “How would you improve health care in your country?”
  o A European Parliament briefing paper on “State of democracy in sub-Saharan Africa: Democratic progress at risk”
  o “African political culture,” by Robert Nyenhuis and Robert Mattes, in Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of Politics
  o Presentations to “African voices: Sub-Saharan Africa regional overview,” hosted by the United States Foreign Service Institute, and to the African Leadership Centre (Nairobi)

Support for Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer surveys are continuing in 2021 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, Humanity United, the European Union Delegation to the African Union, and GIZ. Consistent funding will continue to be essential, however, to ensure Afrobarometer’s long-term sustainability.