

# AB update

May 2020 highlights



## In the field and around the network

- ✓ To help protect our staff, our partners, and our communities from **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.
- ✓ Results dissemination included the release of a Pan-Africa Profile on social tolerance.
- ✓ Following Afrobarometer's successful transition from a pioneering network to a pan-African institution with formalized governance and management structures, donors continue to endorse the new legal entity as it passes the strict assessment criteria for grant making. The **latest grant** migrated to the new entity is from Sweden via the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. Sweden thus continues its unwavering support through 2022, an anchor and a boost for AB's work and long-term sustainability.

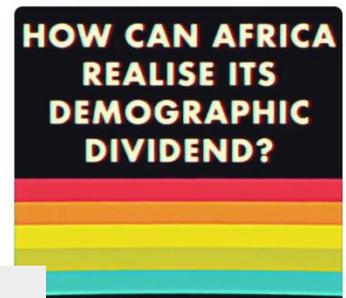
## In the news

A total of 423 media hits were recorded in May across various media outlets, including the Washington Post, National Public Radio, Associated Press, Angola 24 Horas, Punch (Nigeria), Daily Maverick, War on the Rocks, Leaders (Tunisia), Fin24, Patriot (Botswana), Africa Portal, Lawfare, Polity. ...

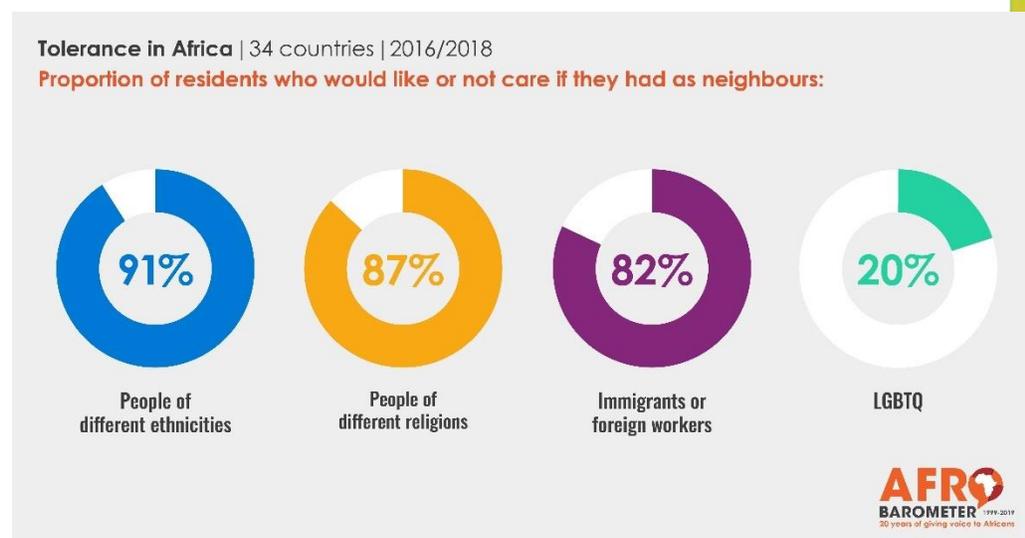


## On digital/social media

Website	13,605 users; 6,003 downloads
Online data analysis	2,576 distinct users
Twitter	231 new followers
Facebook	12,824 total followers



## Chart of the month



**Respondents were asked:** For each of the following types of people, please tell me whether you would like having people from this group as neighbours, dislike it, or not care.

## New publications

- ✓ Policy Paper 65: [Violent extremism in Africa: Popular assessments from the 'Eastern Corridor'](#)
- ✓ Policy Paper 64: [Démocratie en Côte d'Ivoire: Mythe ou réalité?](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 364: [South Africans support social grants, but say work at any wage beats unemployment](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 363: [Malawians' voting intentions point to a closely contested presidential election](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 362: ['All in this together': Africans tolerant on ethnic, religious, national, but not sexual differences](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 361: [Poursuite des cours par télévision, radio, et Internet pendant la pandémie du COVID-19: Atouts et contraintes au Togo](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 360: [Half of South Africans would refuse asylum, bar foreign workers, place refugees in camps](#)
- ✓ Dispatch 359: [Les Ivoiriens demandent des efforts intensifiés pour améliorer les services de santé](#)

## Visibility

- ✓ AB joined the Brenthurst Foundation and the Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library in hosting a [webinar and virtual book launch](#) for *The Asian Aspiration: Why and How Africa Should Emulate Asia*. Discussants included Olusegun Obasanjo, former president of Nigeria; Hailemariam Desalegn, former prime minister of Ethiopia; Abhisit Vejjajiva, former prime minister of Thailand; and Greg Mills, director of the Brenthurst Foundation.
- ✓ An AB analysis of lessons from the COVID-19 crisis in Africa was featured in the [Governance Link Newsletter](#) of the African Peer Review Mechanism.
- ✓ Democracy in Action published an AB blog post on "[Protecting lives & enhancing legitimacy in COVID-19 Africa.](#)"
- ✓ [Smart Water Magazine](#) featured a report on AB's Pan-Africa profile on water and sanitation and an interview with AB board chairman E. Gyimah-Boadi on the role of public opinion in African democracy.
- ✓ AB findings on migration were featured in openDemocracy's series "[After the 'migration crisis': The many faces of African migration.](#)"
- ✓ AB participated in:
  - The University of Cape Town's Africa Month Virtual Symposium in collaboration with the African Peer Review Mechanism and the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance.
  - The APRM's Africa Governance Report 2021 Launch, Continental Reference Group and Scenario Building Online Workshops.
  - A webinar on reimagining Africa's health system, hosted by Yiaga Africa and Civic Futures Initiative.
  - A Twitter chat with Youth Lab on coronavirus management.
- ✓ In conjunction with World Press Freedom Day, AB hosted a live [Twitter chat](#) on media and social media freedom.



Compassion vs. coercion: Protecting lives & enhancing legitimacy in COVID-19 Africa

By @Gyimah-Boadi and @Gandragan 6 May 2020

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## 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.