AB update

October 2021 highlights

In the field and around the network

✓ Round 9 data collection started in Namibia (photo at right) and will proceed in Angola, Gabon, Kenya, and Nigeria in November. Preparations are also underway in Ghana, Uganda, and Côte d’Ivoire.

✓ In the run-up to December’s global Summit for Democracy, AB launched a weekly series in the Washington Post Monkey Cage, focusing first on Africans’ resilient demand for democratic governance and the impact of China’s investments on democratic attitudes.

In the news

A total of 318 media hits were recorded in October across various media outlets, including the New York Times, Conversation, Brookings, Daily Maverick, New Zimbabwe, Center for American Progress, Phys.org, Mail & Guardian, Daily Mail, IOL, Angola 24 Horas, ...

On digital/social media

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<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Website (users)</th>
<th>Online data analysis (users)</th>
<th>Twitter (followers)</th>
<th>Facebook (fans)</th>
<th>LinkedIn (followers)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>19,958</td>
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<td>14,841</td>
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Chart of the month

Cause of economic meltdown: Sanctions or mismanagement?

Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

Statement 1: Sanctions imposed by the West on Zimbabwe are the main cause for the country’s economic meltdown.

Statement 2: Government’s mismanagement of the economy is the main cause for Zimbabwe’s economic meltdown.

(%) who “agree” or “strongly agree” with each statement:
Publications

✓ Policy Paper 77: Bilan de la politique ivoirienne en éducation: insuffisante
✓ Dispatch 485: Zimbabweans blame government, not sanctions, for country’s economic meltdown
✓ Dispatch 484: Amid insurgency, Mozambicans express fear, growing disapproval of government response
✓ Dispatch 483: Liberians want a free media – within limits – and unrestricted access to social media
✓ Dispatch 482: In Eswatini, economic conditions worsen; citizens cite poor government performance

Visibility

✓ CEO Joseph Asunka introduced AB’s work to a variety of audiences, including:
  o As featured speaker on “Responding to African priorities in U.S.-Africa relations: Insights from Afrobarometer,” at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
  o In a sit-down with TV3 Ghana on African research and Ghanaian political issues.
  o As a guest in the Democracy & Media podcast series.
✓ AB Board Chair E. Gyimah-Boadi provided “A view from the top” at the Financial Times’ “Africa Summit” FT Live event.
✓ The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) draws on AB data on corruption, government effectiveness, and the rule of law for its 2022 country scorecards.
✓ Ambassador Johnnie Carson, chair of AB’s International Advisory Council, highlighted the importance of Afrobarometer’s work at a luncheon hosted at the House of Lords, London, by Baroness D’Souza, a firm AB supporter.
✓ AB’s work was featured in the webinar “Sino-Africa cooperation: Lessons and evidence for reform,” hosted by CDD-Ghana and the Hoover Institution (Stanford University) in partnership with the Institute for Development Studies (University of Nairobi).
✓ The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics draws on AB data in its “Political culture in Africa” entry, by Robert Nyenhuis and Robert Mattes.
✓ AB continued its series in the Continent with a page on term limits.

Presentations:

✓ On AB Round 8 highlights, to the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office
✓ On Africans’ views on parliamentarians, in a World Bank briefing in Washington, D.C.
✓ On democracy, the rule of law, and poverty, to the Chatham House Forum on Angola
✓ On political parties and electoral behaviour in Benin, at a workshop at Omar Bongo University in Libreville, Gabon
✓ On tracking progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals, at an APRM and UNDESA Workshop on “Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and AU Agenda 2063 in Africa: Building resilient institutions for the SDGs in the time of COVID-19”

Support for Afrobarometer

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