



Survey Warehouse
Windhoek, Namibia
31 October 2019

News release

Namibians divided on land reform, including expropriation, Afrobarometer survey shows

Only about half of Namibians rate the government's land resettlement programme as effective, and more than four in 10 say land should be expropriated without compensation and given to the landless, a new Afrobarometer survey indicates.

By a narrow margin, expropriation beats out the current willing-buyer, willing-seller policy among citizens' preferences.

Land reform remains among the top 10 problems that Namibians want the government to address, but the country's crippling drought, water supply, and other issues have superseded land on their list of priorities.

Key findings

- Slightly more than half (52%) of Namibians say the government's land resettlement programme is "somewhat" or "very" effective in redistributing land to those who need it most, while 37% rate the programme as "not at all effective" or "not very effective" (Figure 1).
- A stronger majority (58%) see the government's provision of serviced land and housing in urban areas as effective (Figure 2).
- Asked about their preferences for land reform, a plurality (41%) of Namibians say the government should expropriate land without any compensation and give it to those without land. Slightly fewer (36%) believe the current policy of willing-buyer, willing-seller is adequate and should be continued. Only 16% say that no further land reform is necessary and the current policy should be discontinued (Figure 3).
- Drought, water supply, and other issues have superseded land among Namibians' "most important problems" for the government to address. About one in eight respondents (13%) cite land among their three priorities, dropping land from No. 3 in 2017 to No. 9 (Figure 4).

Afrobarometer surveys

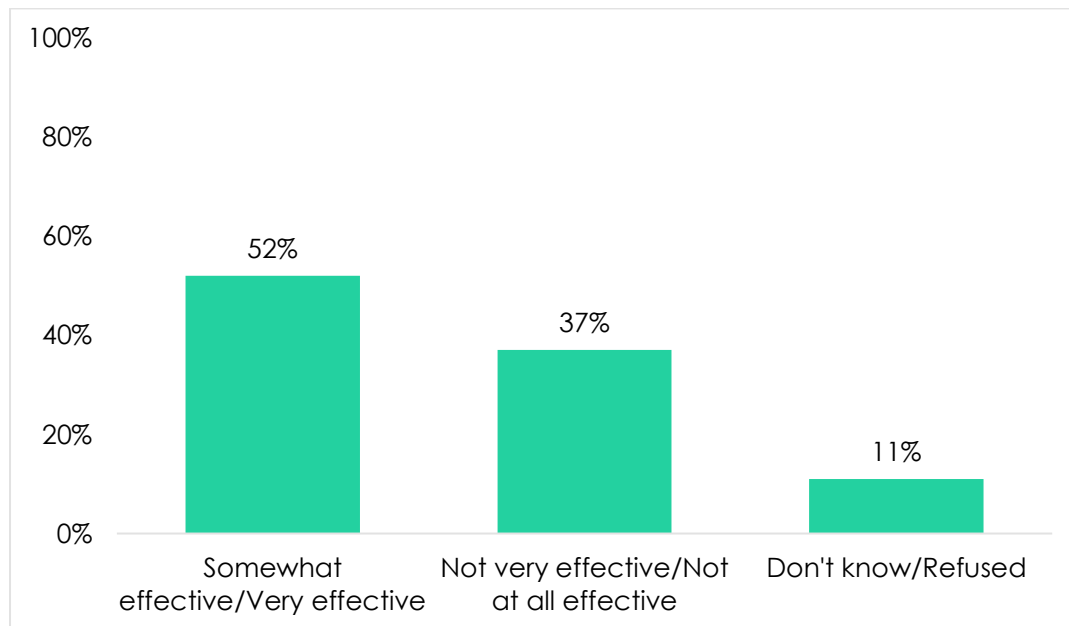
Afrobarometer heads a pan-African, nonpartisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues across Africa. Seven rounds of surveys were completed in up to 38 countries between 1999 and 2018. Round 8 surveys are planned in at least 35 countries in 2019/2020. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in Namibia, led by Survey Warehouse, interviewed 1,200 adult Namibians in August 2019. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of

error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Namibia in 1999, 2003, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2017

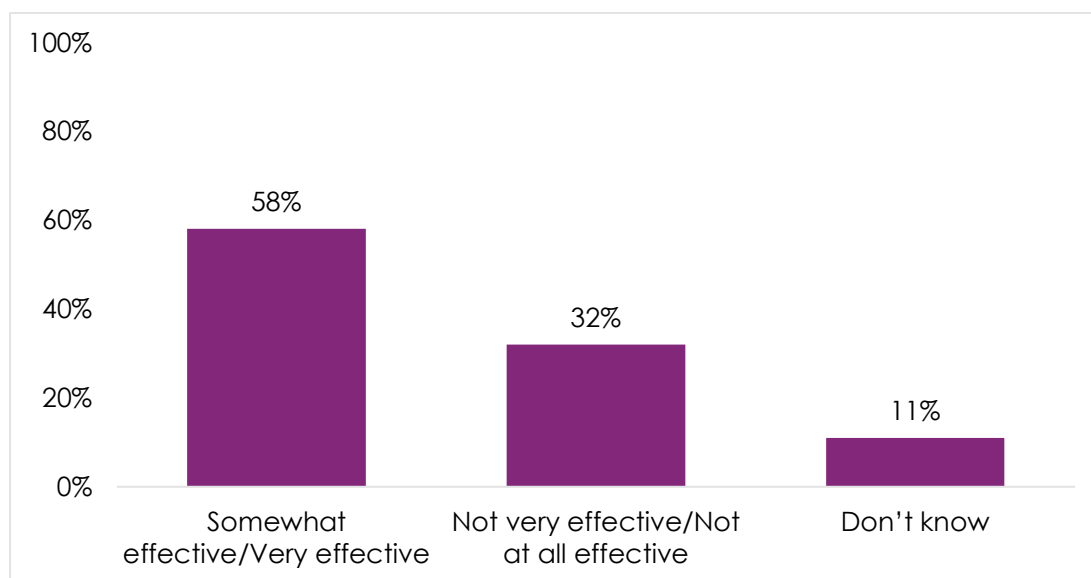
Charts

Figure 1: Effectiveness of government's land resettlement programme | Namibia | 2019



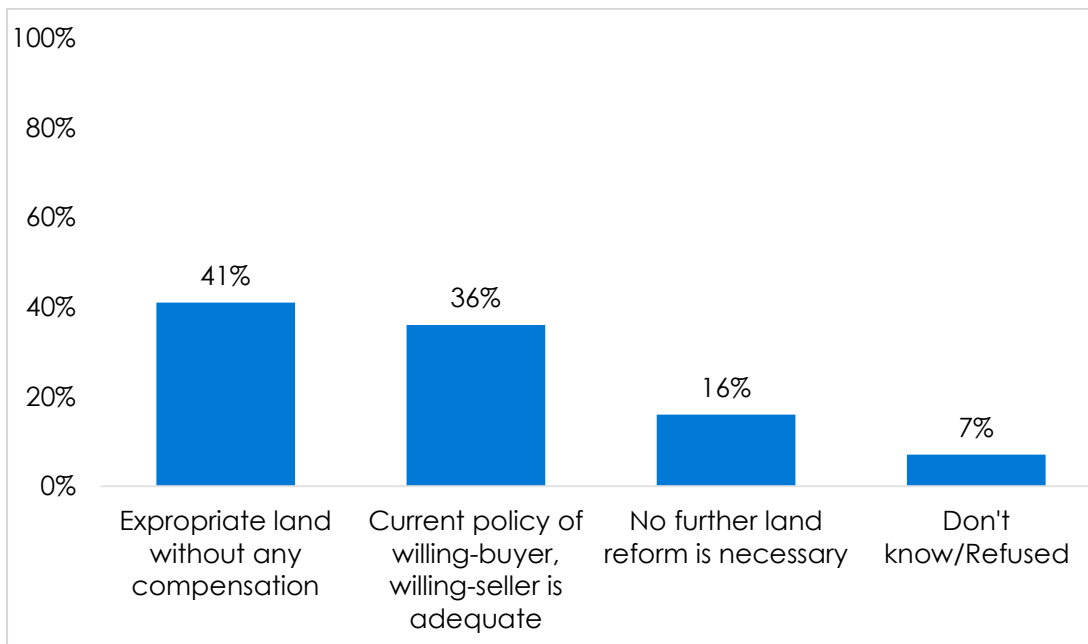
Respondents were asked: How would you rate the effectiveness of each of the following, or haven't you heard enough to say: Government's land resettlement programme in redistributing land to those who need it the most?

Figure 2: Effectiveness of government's provision of land and housing in urban areas | Namibia | 2019



Respondents were asked: How would you rate the effectiveness of each of the following, or haven't you heard enough to say: Government's provision of serviced land and housing in urban areas?

Figure 4: Future of land reform | Namibia | 2019



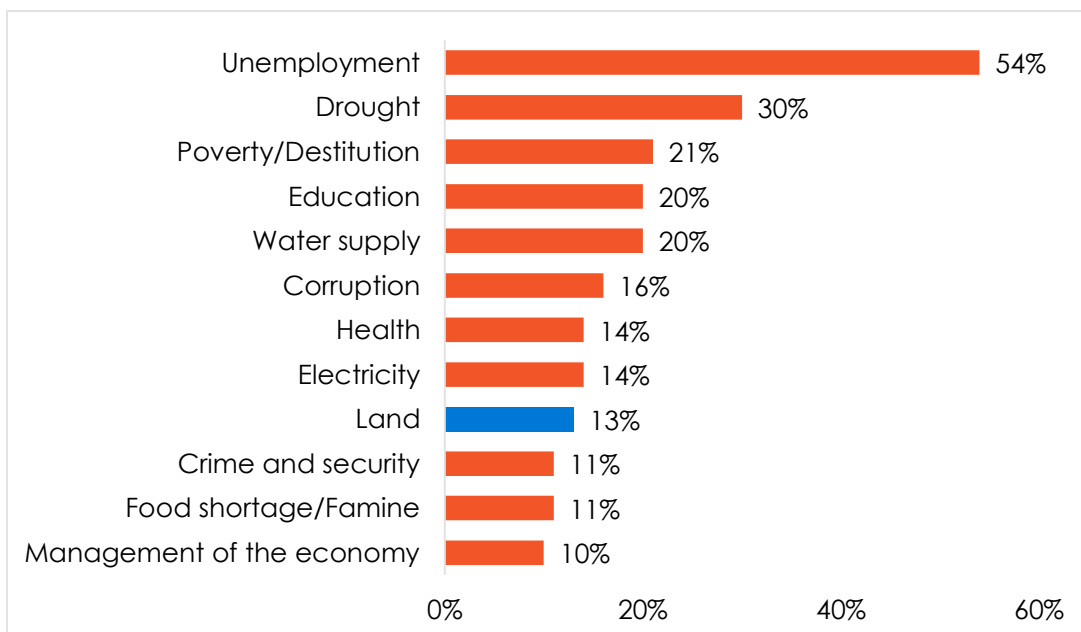
Respondents were asked: Which of the following three statements on land reform is closest to your view?

Statement 1: Government's current policy of willing-buyer, willing-seller on land is adequate and should be continued.

Statement 2: No further land reform is necessary, and the current policy should be discontinued.

Statement 3: Government should expropriate land without any compensation, and it should be given to those without land.

Figure 4: Most important problems | Namibia | 2019



Respondents were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Up to three responses per person were recorded.)

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