

## ADVISION LESOTHO (PTY) LTD

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### Basotho Trust in Opposition Parties Rises

Trust in Lesotho's opposition political parties has risen significantly since 2008, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

In 2012, 31% of Basotho surveyed said they trusted the opposition, compared with just 25% in 2008. The increase in respect for opposition parties could in part be attributed to a major split that occurred within the ruling party just before the May 2012 general election. The election resulted in the present ruling coalition government.

The increase in the level of trust for the opposition, , comes as respondents indicated a marginal increase in trust in several institutions and officials, including parliament, for which 52% of respondents expressed trust in 2012, compared with just 47% in 2008, and the prime minister, for whom 51% of respondents expressed trust, compared with 48% in 2008.

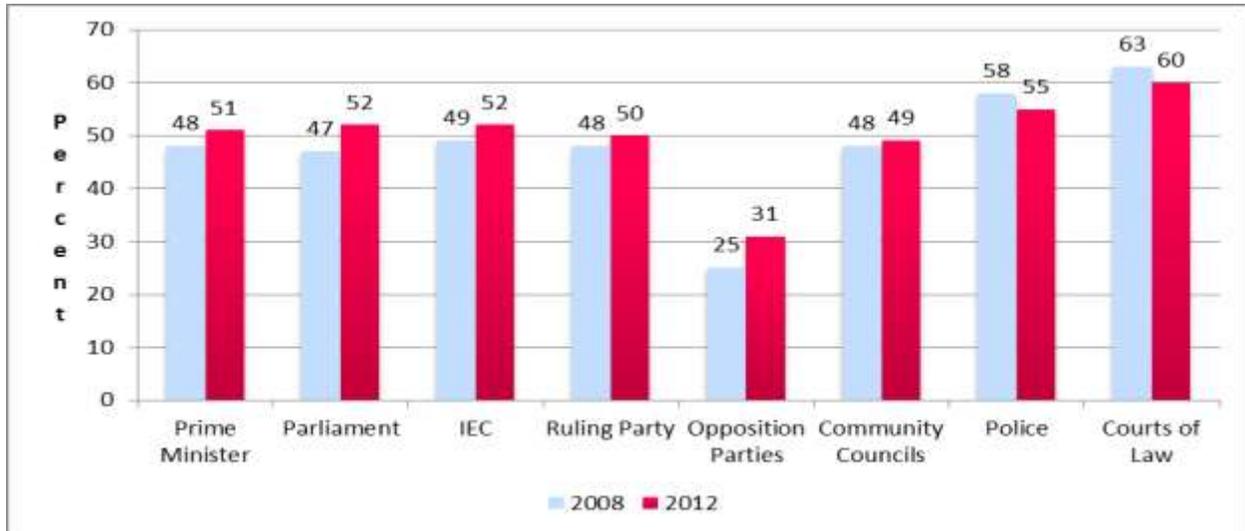
Trust in the Independent Election Commission increased to 52% of respondents from 49% in 2008.

The Coalition government proved slightly more trustworthy to respondents than the ruling party government of 2008; 50% said they trusted it compared with 48% who trusted the government of the ruling party.

The margin of increase was slightly narrower for community councilors whose trust levels increased to 49% from 48%.

People's faith for police and courts has slipped slightly: just 55% of respondents said they trusted the police in 2012, compared with 58% in 2008. Trust for Courts of law slipped to 60% of respondents, compared with 63% in 2008.

**Figure1: Basotho Trust in Governance Institutions**



*Question: How much do you trust the following, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who said they trusted them somewhat and a lot.)*

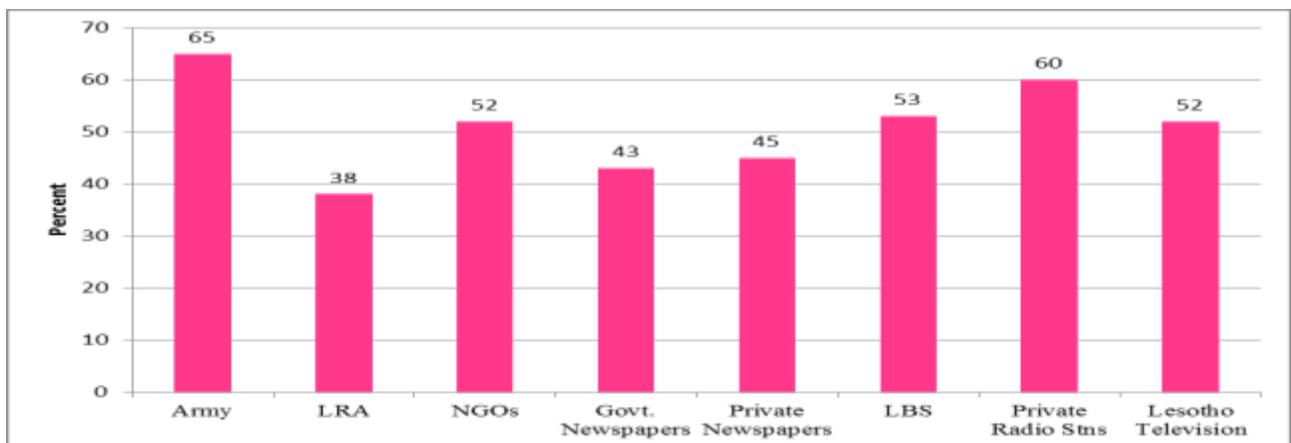
### Trust in Other Institutions

All the other institutions of the Army, NGOs, Lesotho Revenue Authority, and the Media were measured for the first time in Round 5.

The Army received the highest percentage of trust votes with 65%; trust in non-governmental organizations was at 52% of respondents. The Lesotho Revenue Authority is trusted by the fewest respondents with 38%.

Trust in private newspapers was marginally higher at 45% as compared to government newspapers at 43%. For radio, trust in private radio stations was 60% while that of the national broadcasting services was 53%.

**Figure2: Basotho Trust in Other Institutions-2012**

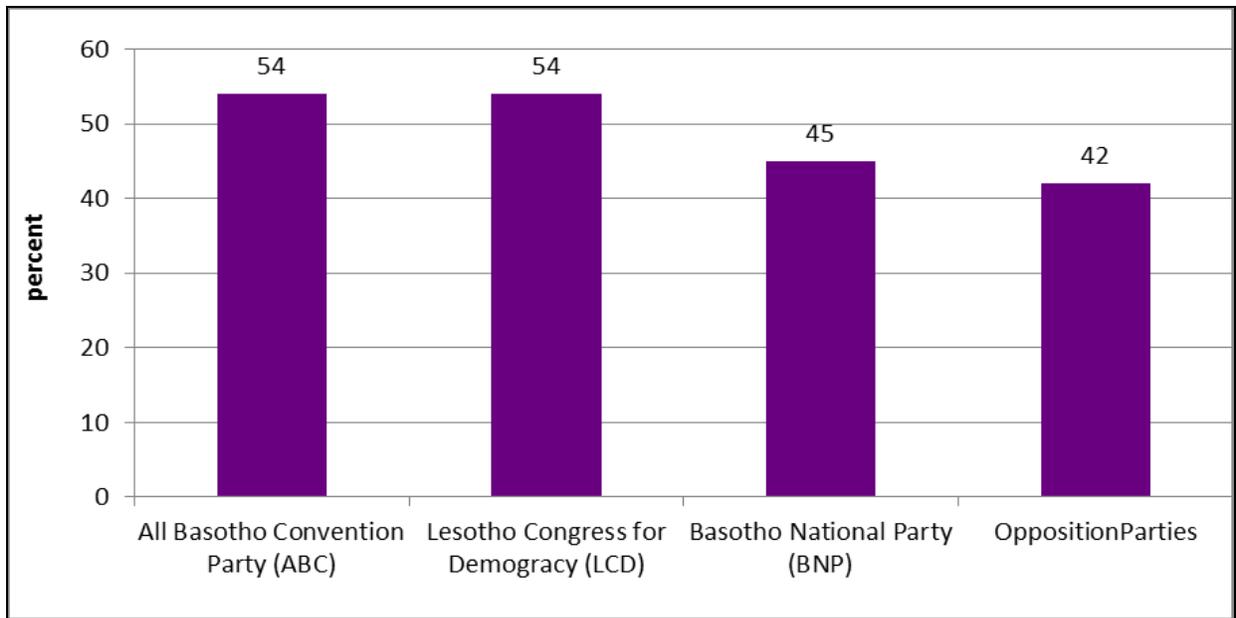


*Question: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who said they trusted them somewhat and a lot.)*

## Trust in Political Parties

Among political parties making up the ruling coalition government, both the All Basotho Convention Party and the Lesotho Congress for Democracy Party are equally trusted with 54% of respondents indicating they have some faith in them. The Basotho National Party is the least trusted with just 45% of the respondents' endorsement.

**Figure 3: Trust in Political Parties**



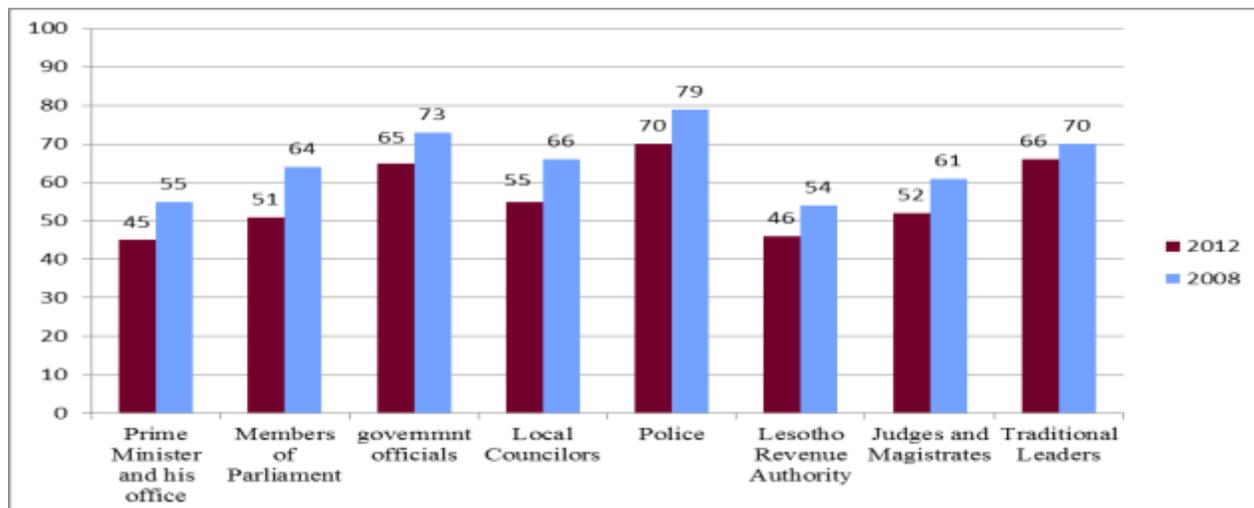
*Question: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who said they trusted them somewhat and a lot.)*

## Perceived Corruption

Perception of involvement in corruption declined in 2012 as compared to 2008. Forty-five percent of respondents said they believed the Prime minister and his officials were involved in corruption, compared with 55% in 2008.

Perceptions of corruption in Parliament fell to 51% from 64% in 2012. Even in other government departments, less Basotho in 2012 believe that some or all officials from different portfolios were involved in corruption. -For government officials the survey records a reduction in perception of corruption from (73%) to (65%), for community councilors from (66%) to (55%), for the police from (79%) to (70%), for Lesotho Revenue Authority from (54%) to (46%), for Judges and Magistrates from (61%) to (52) and traditional leaders from (70 %) to (66%), see Figure 4 below.

**Figure 4: Who is perceived to be Corrupt?**



*Question: How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who said they think some and all of them are involved in corruption)*

#### Afrobarometer

The Afrobarometer is a comparative series of public attitude surveys, covering up to 35 African countries in Round 5 (2011-2013). It measures public attitudes on democracy and its alternatives, evaluations of the quality of governance and economic performance. In addition, the survey assesses the views of the electorate on critical political issues in the surveyed countries. The Afrobarometer also provides comparisons over time, as four rounds of surveys have been held from 1999 to 2008 and Round 5 is currently underway.

Afrobarometer's work in Lesotho is coordinated by Advision Lesotho. Fieldwork for Round 5 was conducted in Lesotho from November 26, 2012 to December 16, 2012. The survey interviewed 1200 adult Basotho, and a sample of this size yields results with a margin of error of +/- 3% at a 95% confidence level.

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