



Accra, Ghana  
24 May 2021

## News release

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### **Afrobarometer launches SDG Scorecards to provide citizens' perspectives on progress toward Sustainable Development Goals in Africa**

Afrobarometer has launched a series of country scorecards designed to contribute the perspectives of African citizens to the tracking of progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards highlight five-year trends in citizens' experiences and evaluations of their country's performance on selected indicators of democracy and governance, poverty, health, education, energy supply, water and sanitation, inequality, gender equity, and other priorities reflected in 12 of the 17 SDGs. These citizen evaluations, drawn from a series of nationally representative surveys, can be compared to official UN tracking indicators.

Afrobarometer, an independent pan-African survey research network, released the first five country scorecards – for Botswana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and Togo – as part of a webinar featuring Mo Ibrahim, founder and chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation; Oliver Chinganya, director at the African Centre for Statistics of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); the Hon. Margot Wallström, former Swedish deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Solomon Mugeru, regional editor for BBC Africa.

"The SDGs are intended to improve the lives of people, so data on citizens' assessment can provide a valuable perspective that is often overlooked," said Afrobarometer CEO Joe Asunka. "By combining these assessments with data generated by governments and from other sources, we can enrich the debate, help identify gaps, and support action to move forward in each country."

Afrobarometer will release scorecards for 26 more countries during the coming weeks via regional webinars. All scorecards can be accessed on the Afrobarometer website's [SDG Scorecards page](#).

### **Key trends in Botswana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and Togo**

Highlights of five-year trends identified in the first five Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards include:

- **Botswana** has made important progress toward SDG 5 (gender equality): Men and women are essentially equal when it comes to financial control, and are moving toward equality in the use of mobile phones and the Internet. The country is also doing better than it was five years ago on reducing poverty, reducing hunger, increasing access to water supply and toilets, reducing economic and ethnic inequalities, and increasing understanding of the negative impact of climate change. But Botswana is doing worse when it comes to access to medical care and clean water, reducing gender gaps in unemployment, increasing awareness of climate change, and reducing perceived corruption in the police, judiciary, and Parliament.

- **Kenya** is doing worse on reducing poverty and hunger, as well as ensuring access to medical care, clean water, and jobs. But the country is doing better on increasing access to reliable electricity, increasing awareness of climate change and its effects, and reducing ethnic inequalities.
- **Morocco** is one of just a handful of surveyed countries where lived poverty has not gotten worse over the past five years. Morocco is also making progress on most other indicators, including gains in public trust in institutions and reductions in perceived corruption. But challenges remain, especially with regard to gender gaps in education and employment.
- **Nigeria** is doing worse than five years ago on most indicators, including poverty, health, education, gender equality, energy, and clean water and sanitation. But the country records clear progress on reducing the gender gap in unemployment, ethnic inequality, and perceived corruption in the police, judiciary, and Parliament.
- **Togo** is making progress on reducing poverty, hunger, and inequalities. The country is also doing better on ensuring access to medical care and reliable electricity. But progress on climate action has remained stagnant, while unemployment and perceived corruption among the police, judiciary, and Parliament has worsened.

### Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a continent-wide non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Seven rounds of surveys have been completed in up to 38 countries since 1999. Round 8 surveys (2019/2021) will cover 34 countries.

Afrobarometer's national partners in all regions of Africa conduct face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples of 1,200-2,400, which yield country-level results with margins of error of +/-2 to +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.

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