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News release

New Afrobarometer SDG Scorecard shows worsening poverty, hunger, and access to health care

A new Afrobarometer Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Scorecard for Sudan shows worsening poverty, hunger, and access to health care compared to five years ago.

The Afrobarometer SDG Scorecard, which provides citizens' assessments of Sudan's progress on important aspects of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, also reveals that the country is doing worse on most other indicators, including economic inequalities, trust in institutions, and payment of bribe for public services.

While the country is doing better in ensuring gender equality in financial control, results are mixed for gender equality and unemployment; the gender gap in unemployment has been reduced, but overall unemployment has worsened. The country has made no progress on increasing access to education or awareness of climate change.

The newly developed Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards highlight citizens' experiences and evaluations of their country's performance on 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 assessments can be compared to official UN tracking indicators. They present both summary assessments for each SDG – via blue, green, yellow, and red “stoplights” – as well as the data behind these assessments.

Afrobarometer, an independent pan-African survey research network, released scorecards for Sudan and five other countries as part of a series of regional webinars focusing on progress toward the SDGs in Africa.

Speaking at the webinar, Abel Oyuke, Afrobarometer project manager for East Africa, said the Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards provide an additional perspective – one that is usually missing from other sources – that can be compared and contrasted with other indicators and thus enrich the discussion, help identify gaps, and support action to move forward in each country.

“Afrobarometer data relevant to the SDGs are especially valuable because of the frequency of collection (in survey rounds every two to three years) and the independence, quality, and reliability of the data. They can offer an independent check, from a grassroots perspective, on the data points reported by government statistics offices and other sources,” he said.

Afrobarometer SDG Scorecards for 31 countries are being released in May-August 2021. All scorecards can be accessed on the Afrobarometer website's [SDG Scorecards page](#).

Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a non-partisan African survey research network that provides reliable data on citizens' 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) 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. In the most recent survey in Sudan, the Sudan Polling Statistics Center interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 1,800 adult Sudanese in February-March 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2.3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.

For more information, please contact:

Sudan Polling Statistics Center
Telephone: 00249915402222
Email: info@sudanpolling.org, elmogiera@yahoo.com

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