News release

New Afrobarometer SDG Scorecard shows Uganda is doing worse on poverty, hunger, and health care but making progress on access to electricity and gender equality in financial control

A new Afrobarometer Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Scorecard for Uganda shows the country is doing worse on several indicators, including poverty, unemployment, access to medical care, education, and clean water.

The Afrobarometer SDG Scorecard, which provides citizens’ assessments of Uganda’s progress over a recent five-year period on important aspects of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, reveals that the country is also doing worse on climate action, trust in state institutions, and payment of bribes. Unemployment and gender gaps in unemployment and technology use have remained stagnant.

But the country has made progress on ensuring gender equality in financial control, increasing access to electricity, and reducing ethnic inequalities.

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 Uganda 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 Oyuk e, 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 Uganda, Hatchile Consult interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 2,398 adult Ugandans in September-October 2019. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.

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