



Maputo, Mozambique
19 December 2023

News release

Awareness of climate change remains low in Mozambique, new Afrobarometer study shows

Despite multiple weather disasters highlighting its perils, a majority of Mozambicans remain unfamiliar with climate change and its effects, the latest Afrobarometer survey indicates.

Fewer than four in 10 citizens say they have heard of climate change, and among those who are aware of climate change, fewer than half say it is making life in the country worse.

Majorities of climate-change-aware respondents say ordinary citizens can help curb climate change and want the government to take immediate action even if it is expensive.

In Mozambicans' eyes, the government and ordinary citizens share primary responsibility for fighting climate change and reducing its impact. Large majorities say greater efforts are needed from business and industry, the government, developed countries, and citizens.

Climate change is a pressing issue with significant impacts in Mozambique. Rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns have led to increased droughts and floods, threatening agriculture and food security. The country is also vulnerable to cyclones and sea-level rises, exacerbating the risks faced by coastal communities.

Key findings

- Fewer than four in 10 Mozambicans (37%) say they have heard of climate change (Figure 1).
 - Awareness of climate change is particularly low among women (32%), rural residents (31%), and citizens who live in the North (25%).
 - In other countries in the region, awareness ranges from about three in 10 citizens in Botswana (29%) and Tanzania (32%) to three-fourths (74%) in Malawi.
- Among citizens who are aware of climate change:
 - Nearly half (47%) say it is making life in Mozambique worse, while 40% say it is making life in the country better (Figure 2).
 - More than six in 10 believe that ordinary citizens can help curb climate change (63%) and say that the government must take immediate action to limit climate change, even if it is expensive, causes job losses, or takes a toll on the economy (68%) (Figure 3).
 - Most assign primary responsibility for fighting climate change to the government (36%) or to ordinary citizens (30%) (Figure 4).
 - Large majorities say more action to limit climate change is needed from business and industry (87%), the government (85%), developed countries (80%), and ordinary citizens (72%) (Figure 5).

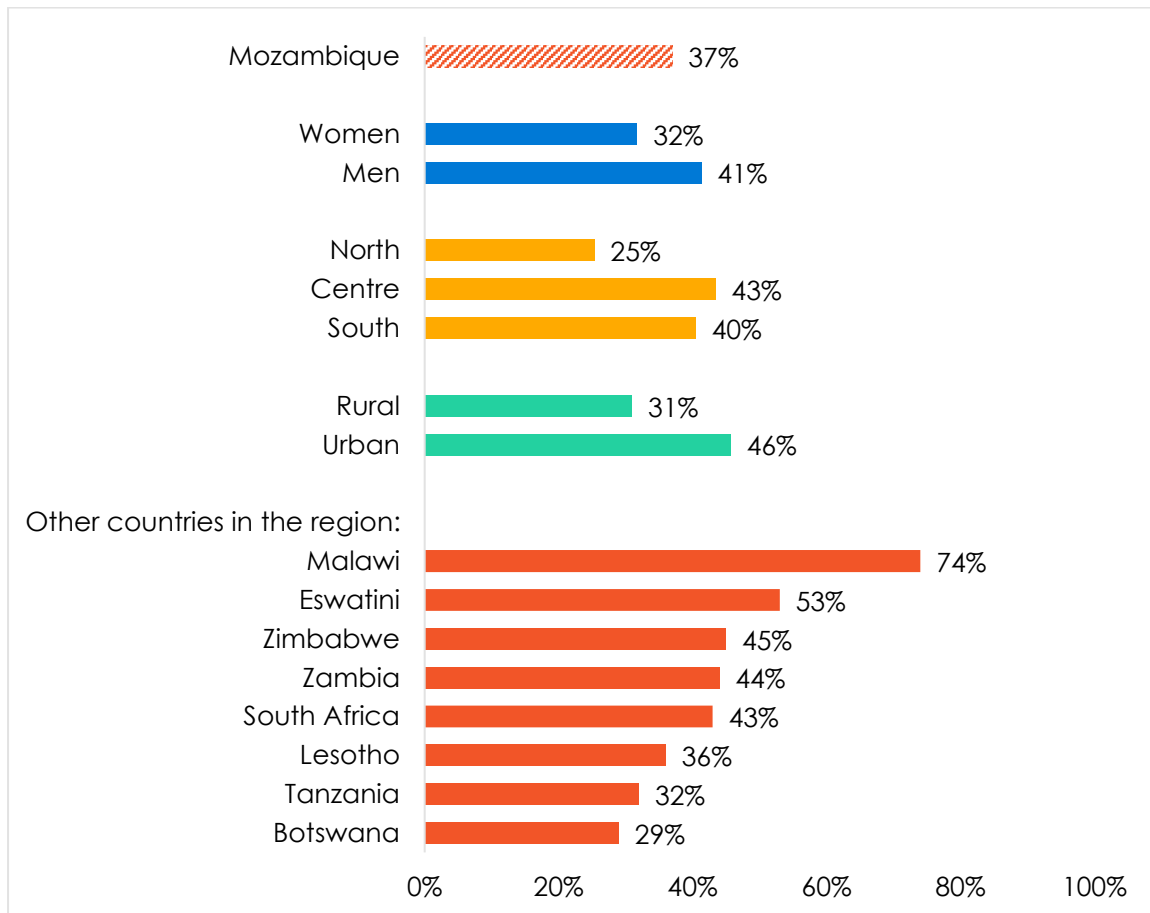
Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Nine rounds of surveys have been conducted in up to 42 countries since 1999. Round 9 surveys (2021/2023) cover 39 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Mozambique, led by Ipsos, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 1,120 adult Mozambicans in October, November, and December 2022. 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 Mozambique in 2002, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021.

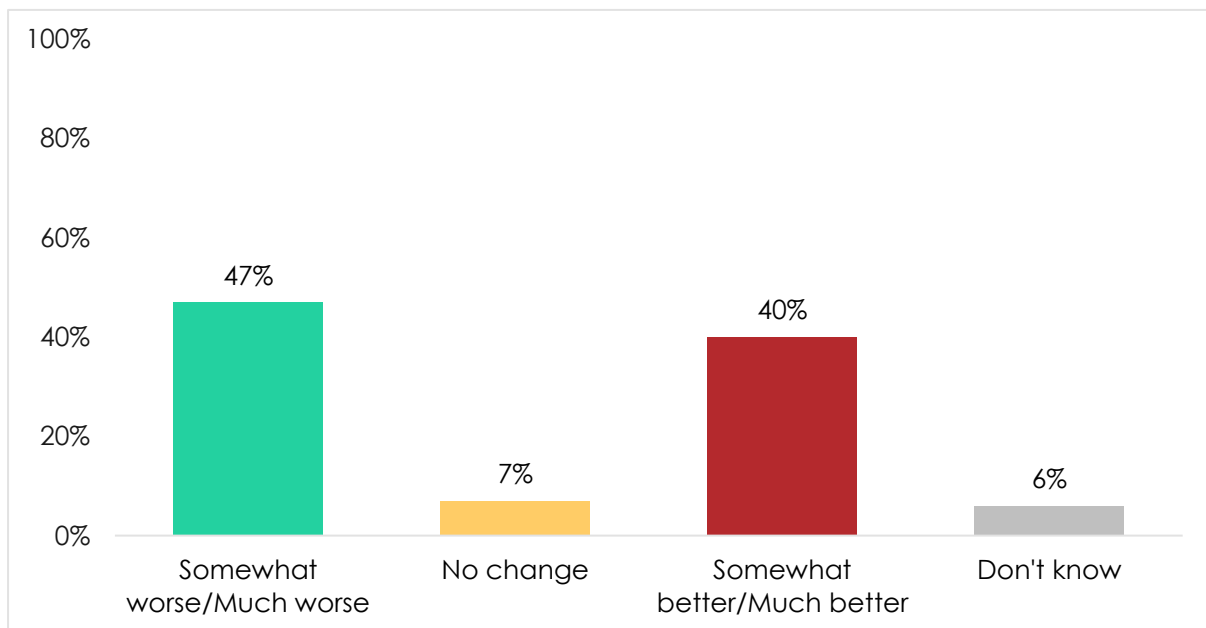
Charts

Figure 1: Climate change awareness | Mozambique | 2022



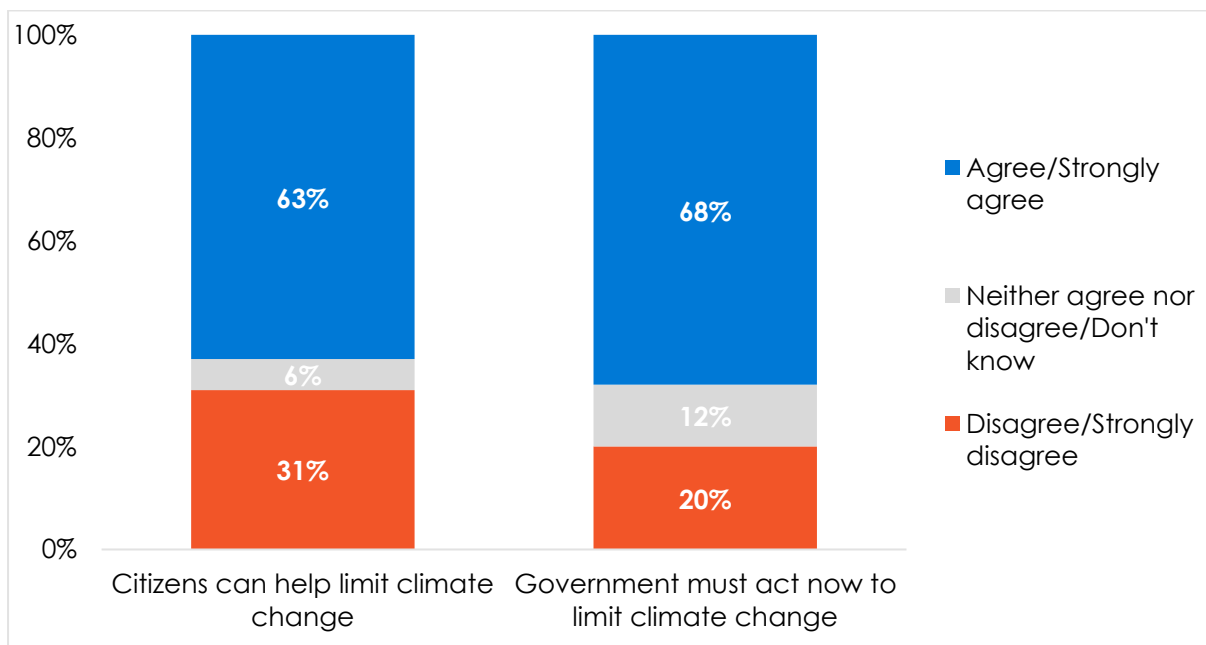
Respondents were asked: Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?

Figure 2: Is climate change making life better or worse? | Mozambique | 2022



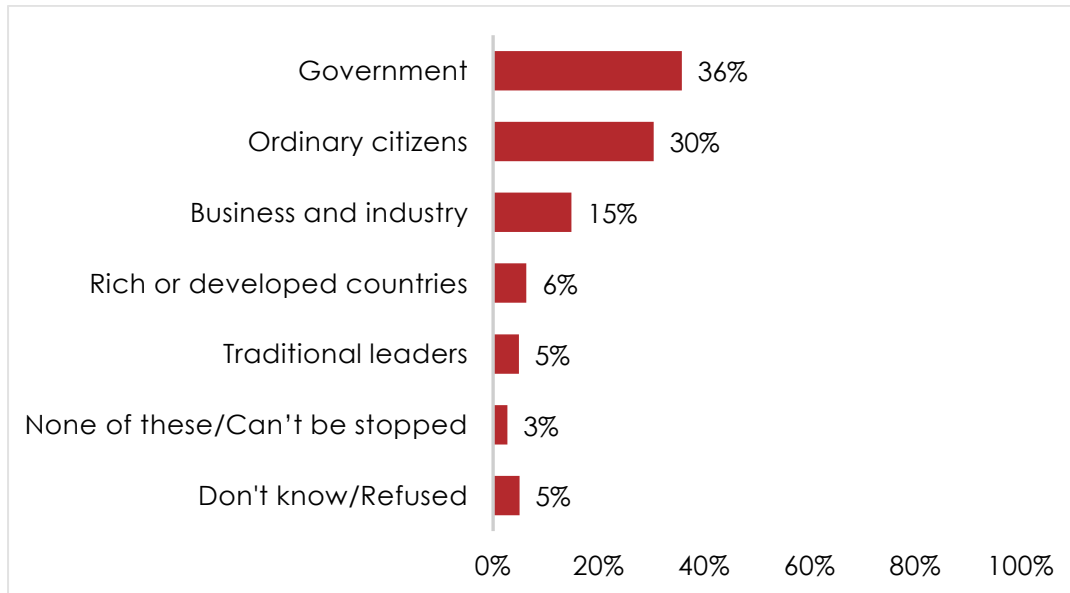
Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked: Do you think climate change is making life in Mozambique better or worse, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Respondents who had not heard of climate change are excluded.)

Figure 3: Limiting climate change | Mozambique | 2022



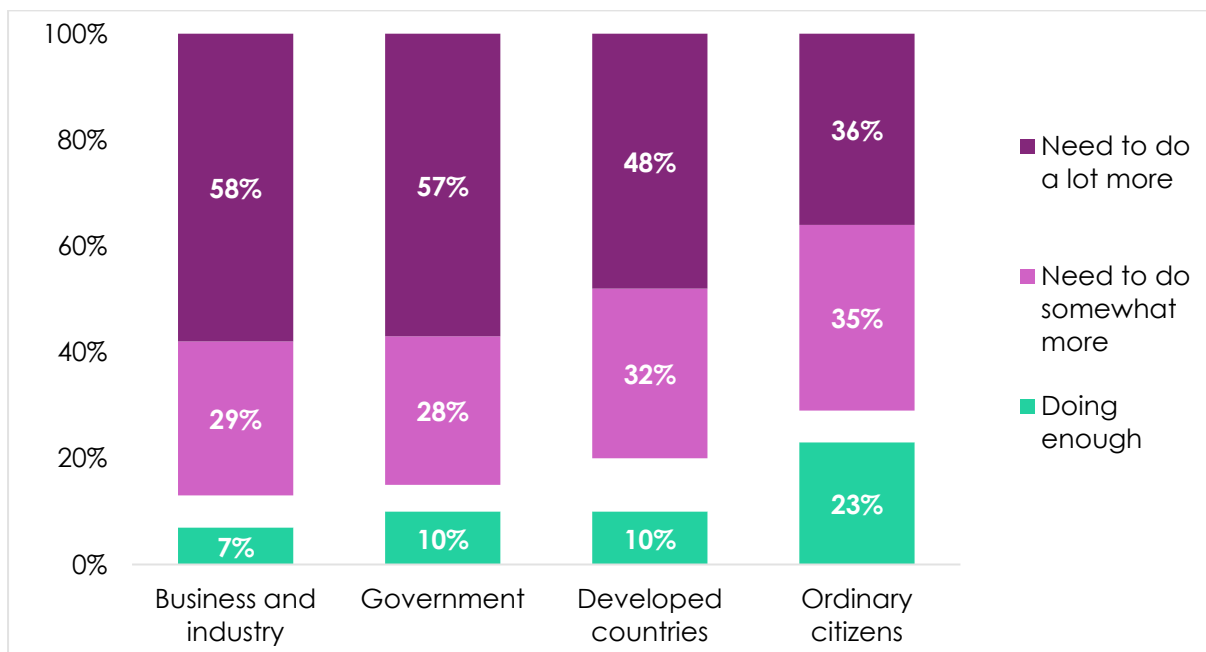
Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked: For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree:
 Ordinary Mozambicans can play a role in limiting climate change.
 It is important for our government to take steps now to limit climate change in the future, even if it is expensive or causes some job losses or other harm to our economy.
 (Respondents who had not heard of climate change are excluded.)

Figure 4: Who has primary responsibility for limiting climate change? | Mozambique | 2022



Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked: Who do you think should have primary responsibility for trying to limit climate change and reduce its impact? (Respondents who had not heard of climate change are excluded.)

Figure 5: Are stakeholders doing enough to limit climate change? | Mozambique | 2022



Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked: Do you think each of the following are doing enough to limit climate change, or do they need to do more, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Respondents who had not heard of climate change are excluded.)

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