

Khartoum, Sudan  
21 December 2023

## News release

### Climate change a priority for action in Sudan – among those who have heard of it

Most Sudanese who are familiar with climate change say greater efforts to counter the threat are needed from the government, developed countries, business and industry, and ordinary citizens, the most recent Afrobarometer survey shows.

But while support for urgent climate action is overwhelming among those who have heard of climate change, almost half of Sudanese adults say they are unfamiliar with the phenomenon. Climate-change awareness is particularly low among less educated citizens, rural residents, the poor, and women.

Most Sudanese familiar with climate change believe that citizens can help fight it and that the government must take action now, even if it is expensive.

#### Key findings

- A slim majority (54%) of Sudanese say they have heard of climate change, a 5-percentage-point drop from 59% in 2021 (Figure 1).
  - Climate-change awareness is lower among the less educated in society (36%), rural residents (50%), citizens experiencing high lived poverty (46%), and women (46%) than among their demographic counterparts (Figure 2).
- Among Sudanese who are aware of climate change:
  - Only four in 10 (41%) say it is making life in Sudan worse (Figure 3).
  - Two-thirds say that citizens can help limit climate change (68%) and that their government should take steps now to limit climate change, even if it is expensive, causes job losses, or takes a toll on the economy (68%) (Figure 4).
  - More respondents assign the primary responsibility for fighting climate change to the government (47%) and to ordinary citizens (18%) than to business and industry (13%) and developed countries (13%) (Figure 5).
  - Large majorities say greater efforts to fight climate change are needed from the government (81%), developed countries (79%), business and industry (75%), and citizens (60%) (Figure 6).
- Only about one in 10 citizens (11%) approve of the government's performance to date in addressing climate change (Figure 7).

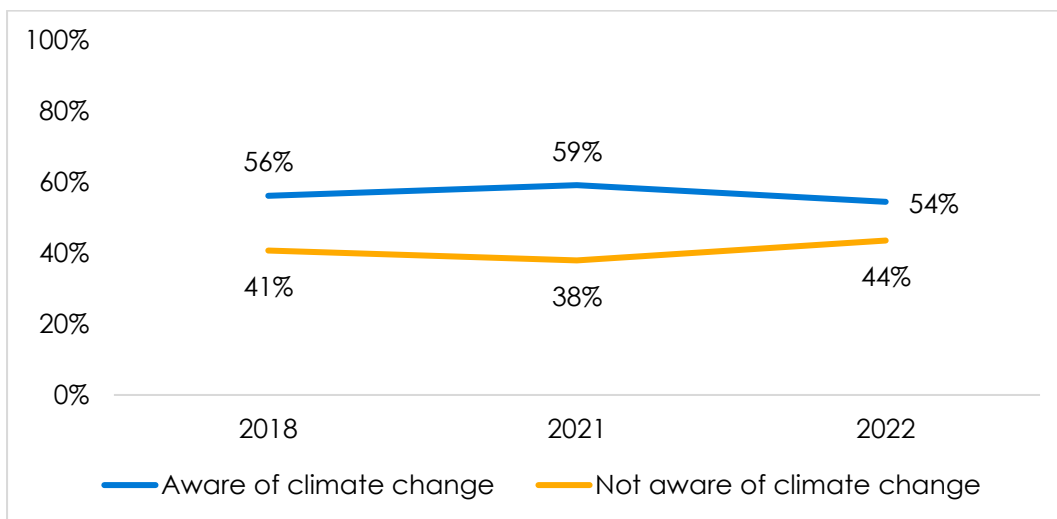
#### Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, nonpartisan 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 completed 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.

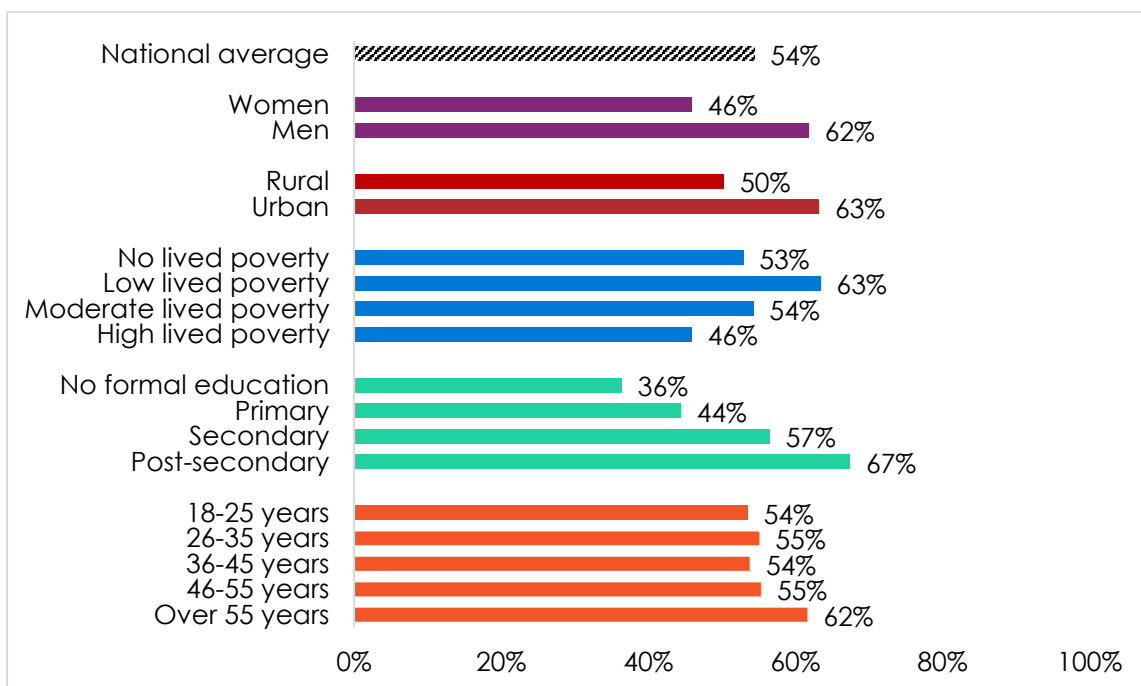
The Afrobarometer team in Sudan, led by the Sudan Polling Statistics Center (SPSC), interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 1,200 adults in November-December 2022. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Sudan in 2013, 2015, 2018, and 2021.

**Figure 1: Awareness of climate change | Sudan | 2018-2022**



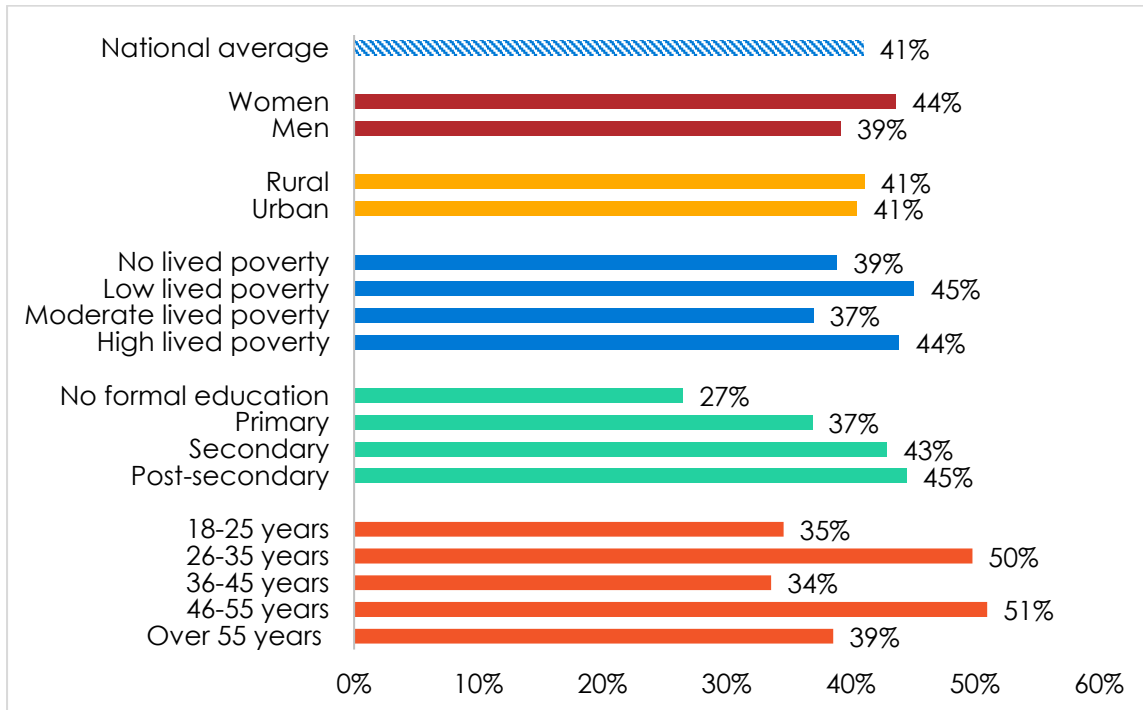
**Respondents were asked:** Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?

**Figure 2: Awareness of climate change | by demographic group | Sudan | 2022**



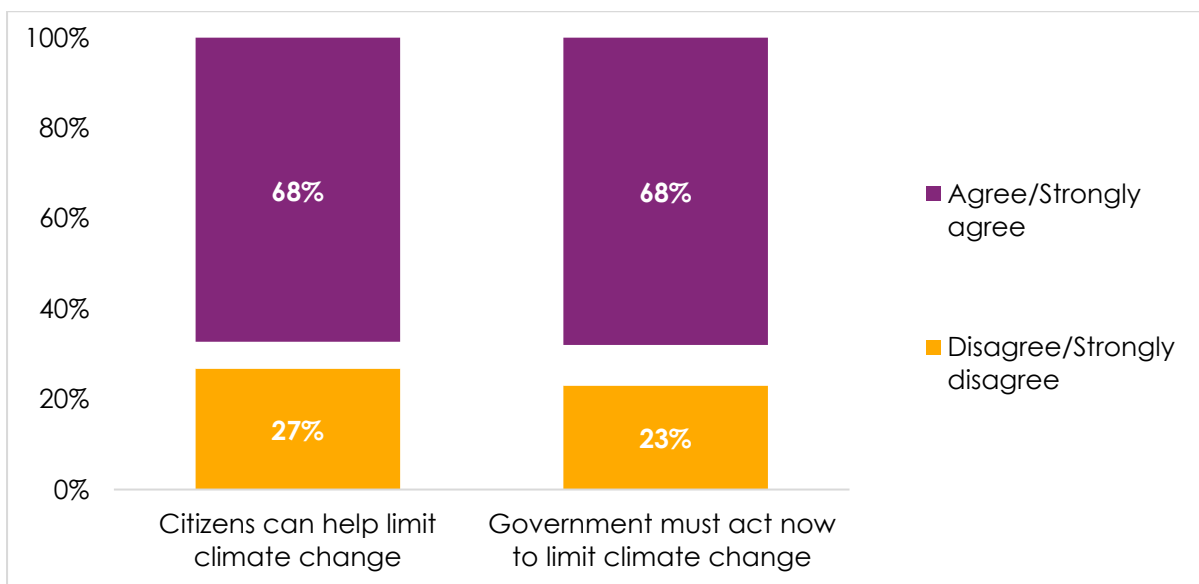
**Respondents were asked:** Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet? (% who say "yes")

**Figure 3: Climate change is making life worse** | by demographic | Sudan | 2022



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

**Figure 4: Limiting climate change** | Sudan | 2022



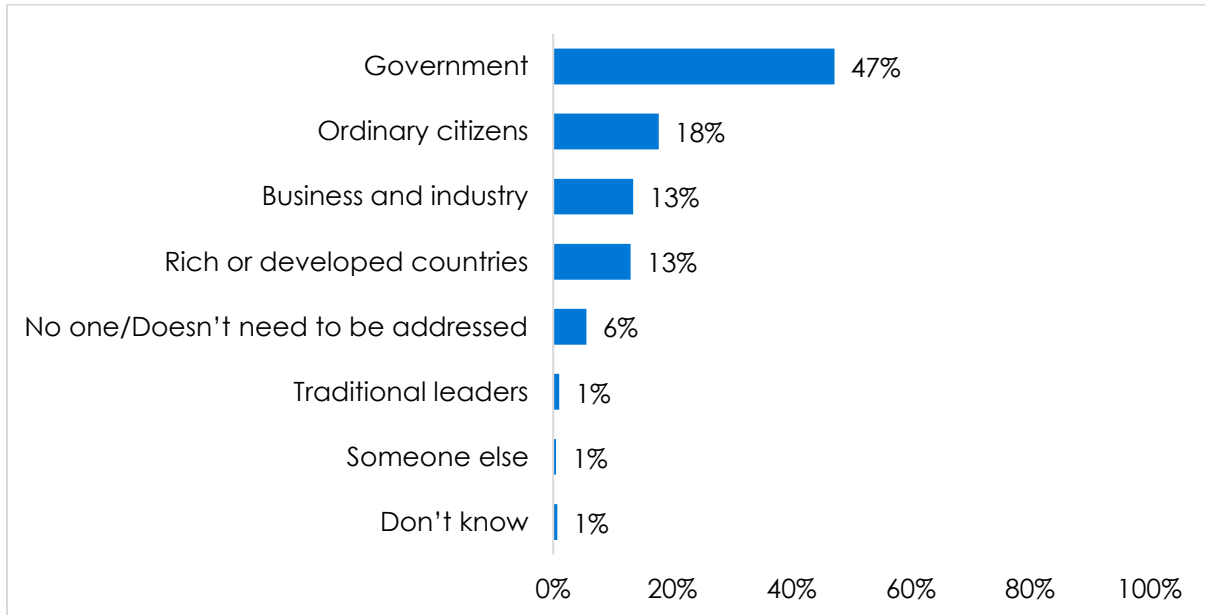
**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree:

Ordinary Sudanese 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.

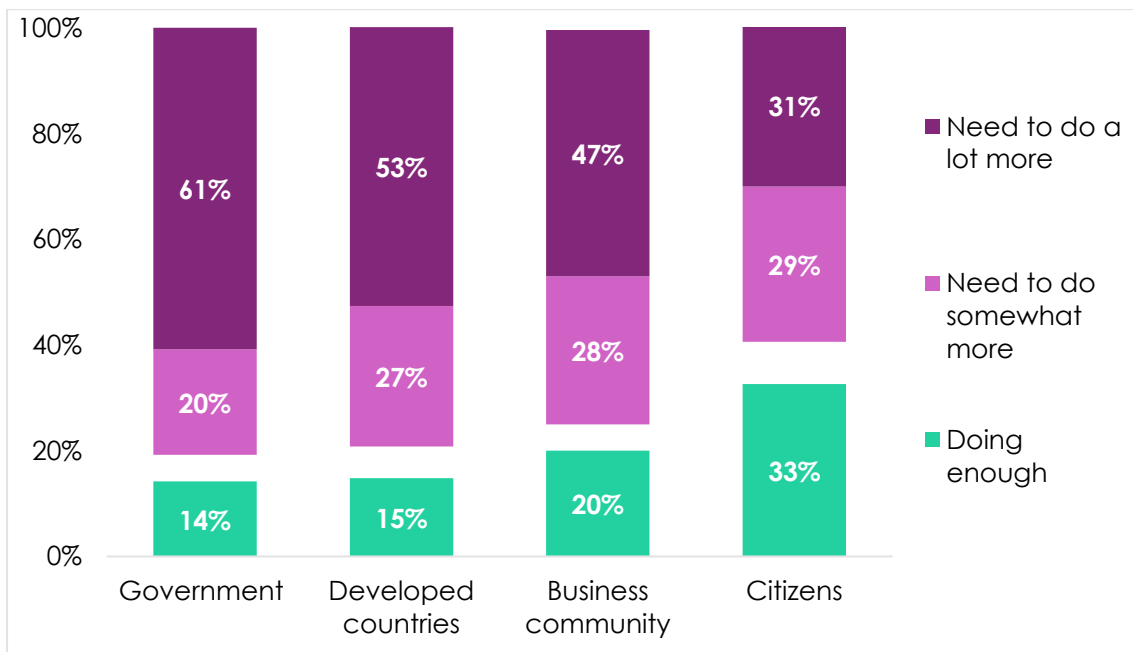
(Respondents who are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 5: Who has primary responsibility for limiting climate change? | Sudan | 2022**



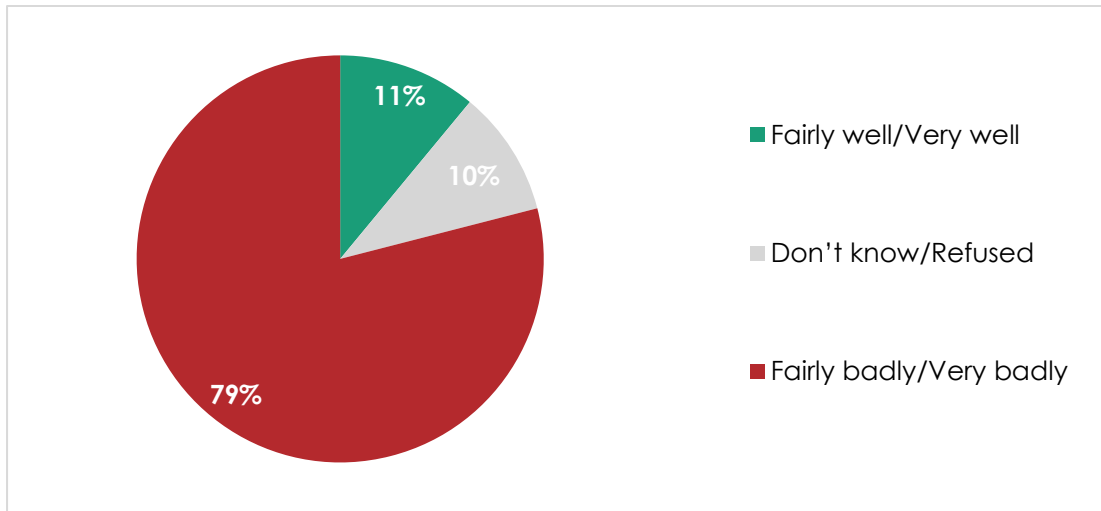
**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Who do you think should have primary responsibility for trying to limit climate change and reduce its impact? (Respondents who say they have not heard of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 6: Are stakeholders doing enough to limit climate change? | Sudan | 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 are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 7: Government performance in handling climate change | Sudan | 2022**



**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say: Addressing the problem of climate change?

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