News release

University of Malawi appointed as a survey support unit for Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer is pleased to announce the appointment of the University of Malawi as a survey support unit.

Through this collaboration, the University of Malawi will support Afrobarometer in data collection, analysis, and dissemination while fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration among Afrobarometer’s partners.

Established in 1965, the University of Malawi (UNIMA) is the leading public university in Malawi. The Department of Politics and Government, which is part of the School of Law, Politics and Government at UNIMA, will house the new support unit. UNIMA’s Centre for Social Research (CSR) also serves as a national partner to Afrobarometer, responsible for survey activities in Malawi.

As a survey support unit, UNIMA will play a pivotal role in the development and review of survey standards and manuals, ensuring the highest quality in Afrobarometer survey research methodologies. The university will contribute intellectual leadership and management services that will enhance Afrobarometer’s data management and related activities.

UNIMA Vice Chancellor Samson Sajidu said the establishment of the Afrobarometer survey support unit marks an important milestone in recognizing UNIMA’s contribution to survey research in Malawi and across Africa.

“Through this support unit, UNIMA will not only be at the forefront of pioneering innovations in survey research, but it will further serve as an important hub for building research capacity across the African continent,” he said.

Boniface Dulani, Afrobarometer director of surveys, said the partnership holds particular significance as Afrobarometer gears up for its Round 10 surveys.

“The University of Malawi brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table,” he said. “Their involvement will significantly enhance the quality and impact of our surveys, ultimately giving voice to African citizens and informing better policies across the continent.”

This collaboration aligns with Afrobarometer’s commitment to deepen understanding of African perspectives, empower citizens, and foster meaningful progress across the continent.

Other Afrobarometer support units are Michigan State University (United States) and the University of Cape Town (South Africa).

About Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer (AB) is a trusted source of high-quality data and analysis on what Africans are thinking. With an unmatched track record of more than 385,000+ interviews in 42 countries, representing the views of more than three-fourths of the African population, AB is leading the charge to bridge the continent’s data gap. AB data inform many global indices, such as the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, Transparency International’s
Global Corruption Barometer, and the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators. The data are also used for country risk analyses and by credit rating and forecasting agencies such as the Economist Intelligence Unit. All AB data sets are publicly available on the website and may be analysed free of charge using AB's online data analysis tool.

For more information, please contact:

Daniel Iberi
Communications coordinator for East Africa
Email: diberi@afrobarometer.org
Telephone: +254725674457

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