AB update

May 2024 highlights

In the field and around the network
✓ Under its new AB Calling banner, Afrobabarometer for the first time released findings from a phone survey – a pre-election survey in South Africa. AB is refining methods that might complement its standard face-to-face surveys.
✓ Round 10 data collection is in full gear as Kenya, Gabon, the Gambia, and Mauritius completed fieldwork and Zimbabwe and Guinea headed into the field. Coming up: Nigeria, Tanzania, Niger, Botswana, Zambia, ...
✓ Results dissemination continued with the release of a Pan-Africa Profile on economic conditions and first country-level Round 10 findings.
✓ A USAID Digital Transformation with Africa initiative grant will support an AB phone survey module on digital access, disinformation, and other topics in seven African countries.

In the news
A total of 1,432 media hits were recorded in May across various media outlets, including the New York Times, Daily Mail, Substack, Nature, South China Morning Post, RFI, Leadership, Expresso, Hespresse, Vanguard, Daily Maverick, GhanaWeb, Star, Nouvelle Tribune, Graphic Online, allAfrica, Modern Ghana, Zawya, Financial Afrik, Mali Jet, ...

On digital/social media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website</th>
<th>28,594 users; 8,127 downloads</th>
<th>X (formely Twitter)</th>
<th>33,808 followers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online data analysis</td>
<td>4,773 user sessions</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>16,965 fans</td>
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</table>

Chart of the month

Negative assessments of economic and living conditions | 31 countries | 2014-2023

Respondents were asked: In general, how would you describe: The present economic condition of this country? Your own present living conditions?
Visibility
✓ Democracy in Africa published an AB blog post on South Africans’ priorities for government action after the May elections.
✓ AB co-facilitated a university outreach workshop with national partner SISTA Conseil in Mauritania, introducing students to AB and data analysis.
✓ AB took part in a side event on “Engaging civil society in shaping Africa’s transformation and the reforms of the global financial architecture” at the African Development Bank’s 2024 annual meeting.

Presentations
✓ On Africans’ views on democracy and related issues, at the Summit on the State of Democracy in Africa, at a Ghana Decides 2024 webinar, and as part of a conversation hosted by Good Governance Africa and the Finnish embassy in South Africa
✓ On “Africa and the return of the military coups,” at the Global Democracy Conference hosted by Kellogg Institute, University of Notre Dame
✓ On youth and elections, at webinars hosted by the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria and by Good Governance Africa with the Mail & Guardian
✓ On South Africa’s elections, at an elections eve dialogue hosted by the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria
✓ On the use of AB data in research and policy analysis, at an outreach seminar with Ndejje University, Uganda
✓ On “Tracking progress toward the SDGs and AU Agenda 2063,” at the African Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions 20th Governing Board Meeting
✓ On drug abuse in Seychelles, to Seychelles University staff
✓ On AB work and resources, at the third biennial Political Science Association conference in Mangochi, Malawi

Publications
✓ Dispatch 809: Limited access, connection, and service still leave half of Batswana without reliable electricity
✓ Dispatch 808: Ghanaians oppose state support for political parties during election campaigns
✓ Dispatch 807: Africans’ bleak views of economic conditions match their escalating experience of poverty
✓ Dispatch 806: Les Togolais remettent en question le traitement égalitaire devant la loi et par le gouvernement
✓ Dispatch 805: South Africans support media’s independence and watchdog role
✓ Dispatch 804: Le soutien à la démocratie au Mali faiblit-il en faveur des alternatives autocratiques?
✓ Dispatch 803: Le Mali peine à créer des emplois surtout pour les jeunes, les femmes et les personnes plus instruites
✓ Dispatch 802: Les Guinéens se sentent libres de s’exprimer mais se méfient de ce qu’ils disent en politique
✓ Dispatch 801: Ethiopians support free media holding government accountable

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