



ANNUAL REVIEW

2022

AFROBAROMETER
Let the people have a say

Vision

A world in which Africa's development is anchored in the realities and aspirations of its people



Mission

To make citizen voice a key pillar of Africa policy and decision making

2 From the Chair	4 2022 at a Glance	6 From the CEO
8 Strategic Plan 2022-2032	10 The Organisation	12 Board of Directors
14 International Advisory Council	16 The Network	18 National Partner
20 Surveys	22 Analysis	24 Communications
26 Capacity Building	28 Partnerships and Collaboration	30 Visibility and Impact
32 Fundraising and Financials	33 Funders	

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contents

From the Chair



The year in review has been marked by significant progress, punctuated by unforeseen challenges that threatened our work.

With the pandemic appearing to subside, momentum around Afrobarometer's (AB's) work increased significantly. Our National Partners and in-house teams set ambitious goals for the Round 9 surveys, and I am happy to note that we exceeded some of our expectations. We started the R9 surveys in the last quarter of 2021 and completed four country surveys by year's end. The team picked up the pace in the new year and successfully completed 33 more surveys by December 2022. This is a record in the history of AB, a truly commendable achievement and an impressive rebound from the pandemic. The team accomplished this feat despite the fact that they had to skip a couple of countries because of conflict and other unfavourable political conditions.

We have committed to expanding our country coverage to ensure that our data are truly representative of the perspectives of the continent's citizens. In the ongoing R9 surveys, we will cover four new countries: Seychelles, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Congo-Brazzaville. This will bring the number of countries

surveyed in this round to 39, a significant and bold jump. As we look ahead, I am reminded of our mission to continually highlight the experiences and aspirations of African citizens and ensure that they have a say in decisions and actions that affect their lives.

While the easing of COVID-related restrictions has allowed us to amplify the voices of ordinary citizens in decision making, the unfortunate rise in conflicts, violent extremism, and military coups is taking a toll on lives and livelihoods. These incidents, coupled with other exogenous forces such as the war in Ukraine and climate change, have exacerbated insecurity and poverty on the continent. Our country climate cards, released ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), show just that. Majorities in eight of the 20 countries for which we have complete R9 data sets report that droughts have gotten more severe over the past decade, and a majority of those who indicate awareness of climate change also report that it is making their lives more difficult. The effects of climate change are palpable across the continent, but

it is reassuring to note that African citizens demand urgent climate action, even if it comes at a cost. Moreover, they see the fight against climate change as a responsibility shared among citizens, governments, the private sector, and international actors.

As we look back at 2022, we've seen a significant increase in demand for our data and analysis from policy and development actors within and outside the continent. In addition to COP27, we contributed data and analysis to several high-level convenings, including a stakeholder seminar on the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance; the 77th United Nations General Assembly meeting; a conference on strengthening democracy in the G7 and Africa; the Obama Foundation Democracy Forum; and the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit. Global and continental leaders continue to reference our data in public and policy addresses throughout the year. A notable highlight was U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken citing AB data on democracy in his speech to launch the U.S. strategy toward sub-Saharan Africa at the University of Pretoria.

Turning to AB governance, we were fortunate to welcome two new members to our Board. Ambassador Nozipho January-Bardill, a retired diplomat and chairperson of the Council of the Nelson Mandela University and the United Nations Global Compact Local Network in South Africa, joined us in May. Amb. Bardill brings a wealth of experience in government, the private sector, and gender and inclusion perspectives to AB. Another excellent addition to our Board was Prof. Peter M. Lewis, the Warren Weinstein Chair of African Studies and director of the Africa studies programme at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Prof. Lewis' distinguished record of research, analysis, and publication in the areas of economic change, democratisation, and civil society in Africa will benefit AB immensely.

Our achievements in 2022 were made possible by the generous support of our funding partners; my sincere thanks and profound appreciation go out to you for sticking with us through thick and thin. Let me take this opportunity to call on like-minded organisations and those who see value in our data to join us in our journey to deepen evidence-based policy making on the continent. On behalf of the Board, I also want to express my gratitude to the hardworking staff and network partners for the tremendous accomplishments in 2022. May the new year bring peace, joy, good health, and success to all of us.

E. Gyimah-Boadi



As we look back at 2022, we've seen a significant increase in demand for our data and analysis from policy and development actors within and outside the continent.



2022 at a Glance

SURVEYS

33

countries surveyed in 2022

37

countries so far in Round 9

43,700

interviews in 2022

49,700

interviews so far in Round 9

80 minutes

average interview duration

22 days

average fieldwork per country survey

CAPACITY BUILDING

1,000

survey fieldworkers trained in 2022

RESULTS DISSEMINATION

98 dispatches, policy papers, working papers –

94%

authored/
co-authored
by Africans

134

news releases

78

presentations

5,866

media stories in 112 countries

WEBSITE

237,851

visitors

336,531

sessions

980,816

page views

49,617

online data analysis tool sessions

TWITTER



27,941

followers

37,500

engagements

1.15 million

impressions

FACEBOOK



16,090

fans

SOCIAL MEDIA

FUNDRAISING

\$10.63 million

in fundraising income for 2022

From the CEO



In my inaugural (2021) Annual Review message, I highlighted my anxieties about the effects of COVID-19 and the implications for our efforts to make citizen voice a key pillar of Africa policy and development decisions.

Thanks to the rapid development and deployment of effective vaccines, advances in technology that facilitate remote working, and a committed and high-performing team, we have stayed the course and delivered on our ambitious agenda for 2022.

Following the successful completion of Round 8 surveys in 34 countries and related dissemination activities, we set for ourselves an ambitious target of 40 countries for Round 9 surveys, which kicked off successfully in the last quarter of 2021. We have since made significant progress on these surveys and expect to complete fieldwork in early 2023. In addition to the regular surveys, we successfully fielded four pilot phone surveys in Botswana, Burkina Faso, and Zambia. These pilots were conducted in parallel with our regular face-to-face interviews to enable us to do a comparative analysis of the data from the two modes of interviewing (phone vs. face-to-face) as part of our efforts to develop a phone survey methodology that works for the contexts in which we operate.

By way of brief highlights, based on data from 20 countries completed to date, we are encouraged by the fact that popular subscription to democracy and democratic norms remains strong across the continent: most Africans continue to prefer democracy to non-democratic alternatives and are firmly supportive of accountable governance, limits on presidential tenure, rule of law, and media freedoms, among others. However, willingness to accept military intervention if democratically elected leaders abuse power appears to be gaining ground, especially among the youth, which is concerning. The new data also reveal significant increases in poverty levels in many countries, another worrying trend but perhaps not entirely surprising given the devastating effects of global forces such as COVID-19, climate change, and more recently the war in Ukraine.

Another milestone this year was the successful completion of our 10-year organisational strategy, which will guide the next five survey rounds and related

dissemination and engagement activities. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Afrobarometer Board, International Advisory Council, management, and staff for the time and intellectual investments they put into shaping the agenda for our next decade. As part of the strategy development process, we revised our vision and mission statements to reflect our new organisational purpose and direction.

Our core business remains the production and dissemination of high-quality data on the experiences and evaluations of African citizens. Areas of emphasis in the new strategy include expanded efforts to promote data uptake and use on the continent by governments, policy makers, researchers, as well as faculty and students at African universities. We are also shifting our approach to capacity development to emphasise depth over breadth. We will invest our capacity development resources in targeted training, fellowships, and ongoing mentorships to ensure that staff and other participants in our training programmes are better supported to grow into independent researchers.

Implementation of this strategy got off to a good start in 2022. To position ourselves to deliver on our new direction, we are making some adjustments to our organisational structure. Given the centrality of strategic communications to our efforts to create greater awareness of the data and promote data use across different audiences on the continent, we have set up a separate Communications Unit and engaged a director with extensive experience in communications to lead these efforts. We have also started to reorganise the capacity-building programme to align with the overall objective of prioritising depth over breadth.

Our ability to keep the momentum of implementation going is a function of the resources we are able to raise. Fundraising is thus a key component of the new strategy, and we have moved this activity under the office of the CEO to give it the needed attention. I am grateful to

our funding partners who share our vision of a world in which Africa's development is anchored in the realities and preferences of its people. Your generous support has allowed us to sustain a public good that is valued and used extensively on the continent and globally. I am also indebted to the members of our International Advisory Council, whose strategic intelligence and guidance have enabled us to secure funding support from new partners. I invite those who would like to see us continue to elevate the voices of ordinary Africans in policy and related decisions that affect their lives to consider supporting us.

I conclude with much gratitude to our valued network partners and my colleagues who make all this possible. Your commitment to our vision and mission has helped to make AB a formidable and admired continental institution. I know that you all commit to doing this hard work because of the positive change you want for the continent; that is what keeps me going. I look forward to another year of great success for AB and positive change in your respective professional and personal endeavours.

Joseph Asunka

As part of the strategy development process, we revised our vision and mission statements to reflect our new organisational purpose and direction.

Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Following a successful organisational review and restructuring in 2018/2019 and subsequent registration as an independent nonprofit in Ghana, Afrobarometer embarked on a year-long process to develop a medium-term strategy as the final step in this organisational development process. The entire network got the opportunity to contribute to setting our agenda for the next 10 years.

The Board approved AB's [Strategic Plan 2022-2032](#) at its second-quarter meeting on 20 July 2022. As part of the strategy process, we updated our vision and mission statements to align with the new organisational setup and priorities. We envision **a world in which Africa's development is anchored in the realities and aspirations of its people.**



1 Gather	African public opinion data are high-quality, relevant, timely, and accessible
a	High quality of survey maintained and methodology continuously improved
b	Demand-driven public opinion surveys developed
c	Efficiency in conducting surveys and timeliness enhanced
2 Analyze	State-of-the-art research and analysis inform public policy formation
a	Knowledge generation and management improved
b	Accessibility of public opinion data sustained and improved
3 Inform	Afrobarometer's profile raised, its audiences understood, and their needs met
a	Effective dissemination, communication, strong brand, and visibility advanced
b	Demand for and impact of Afrobarometer data and analysis increased
4 Build	Capacity built in survey research and data analysis across Africa
a	Skills developed and strengthened, especially among the youth
b	Expertise and capacity across Africa extended
5 Thrive	Strong and sustainable network organization led by, for, and with Africans
a	Resources mobilized effectively and sustainably
b	Partnerships extend Afrobarometer's capacity, reach, and impact
c	Institutional capacity strengthened

Armed with this vision, we have identified five priority areas to extend our presence and intellectual leadership on the continent and deliver on our mission **to make citizen voice a key pillar of African policy and decision making.** The five priority areas are:

1 Gather: AB's core business remains the production of high-quality survey data on African citizens' experiences and evaluations of political,

economic, and social conditions. We will continue to improve this part of our work by expanding country coverage to ensure that our data are truly representative of the views of the entire continent; maintaining rigorous controls over data quality; and updating our survey methodology and protocols to stay up to date with cutting-edge social science research methods. We will also leverage technology to enhance the efficiency of our data capture and processing.

2 Analyze: As a public good, AB data continue to be used widely on the continent and globally. This has been made possible in large part by the numerous analytic products that we generate and publish. With a renewed focus under this strategy to increase the uptake and use of our data by a broader range of policy makers, practitioners, researchers, and advocates, we will intensify efforts to generate relevant and timely analysis and widely disseminate the findings, including targeted dissemination to new audiences. We will enhance the speed of evidence generation to ensure that our outputs are relevant for current and emerging policy debates. We will draw on our wealth of existing data to quickly analyze and inject findings into ongoing debates. We are also developing a phone-survey methodology, which will be deployed to quickly gather data where new insights are needed to inform policy and decision making.

3 Inform: The third priority area is to deepen AB visibility and impact by promoting uptake and use of our data at national, regional, continental, and global levels for policy and development decision making. To do this effectively, we have established a Communications Unit headed by a communications expert with extensive experience in journalism and African development. We will bring AB data and analytic insights to a variety of government and inter-governmental institutions, researchers, policy actors, advocates, and activists on the continent and around the globe. We will work to tailor our publications and other analytic products to different audiences in order to increase uptake and use.

4 Build: As an Africa-based and African-led enterprise, AB has helped to domesticate the study of African societies, cultures, economies, and politics. Under our new strategy, we have committed to sustaining this momentum and expanding our impact by investing more in research and analytic capacity development for young African researchers and advocates. Our capacity development programme will include:

- **Mentorships:** We will promote research mentorship by pairing young researchers who participate in AB basic and intermediate training with established scholars who have similar research interests to ensure continuous learning and growth.

- **Thematic seminars and workshops:** These will allow young scholars working on related topics to interact with experts in their field to gain a deeper understanding of their field and advance their own research.
- **Outreach to universities:** We will extend our outreach to universities on the continent to introduce AB data and analysis to students and faculty.
- **Training for faculty in African universities:** To promote the use of AB in teaching, we will develop and share an AB teaching toolkit and convene periodic workshops with social science faculty at African universities.
- **Outreach to CSO/activists:** As part of our regular in-country survey dissemination events, we will convene training workshops for civil society organisations, policy advocates, and journalists to introduce them to AB survey methods, data, and our online data analysis tool.
- **Fellowships:** We will offer fellowships to outstanding staff and other trainees to pursue short courses in their fields of study. Some of these fellowships may include assistance for training at master's and PhD levels.

5 Thrive: AB's continued relevance and impact are functions of the level of financial resources we are able to raise. Under this strategy, we will intensify our efforts in fundraising, including strengthening staff and network partners' capacity in resource mobilisation. Given the importance of grant funding to the work we do, we recently moved fundraising to the office of the CEO to ensure that it receives the highest level of attention. While many of our funding partners are committed to supporting our core business, we need to ensure that we can continue to operate if some of them pull out or disbursements are delayed. We will work to build a healthy level of reserves to minimise disruptions. We will also work to expand donations from individuals who share our vision and mission and/or benefit from the data.

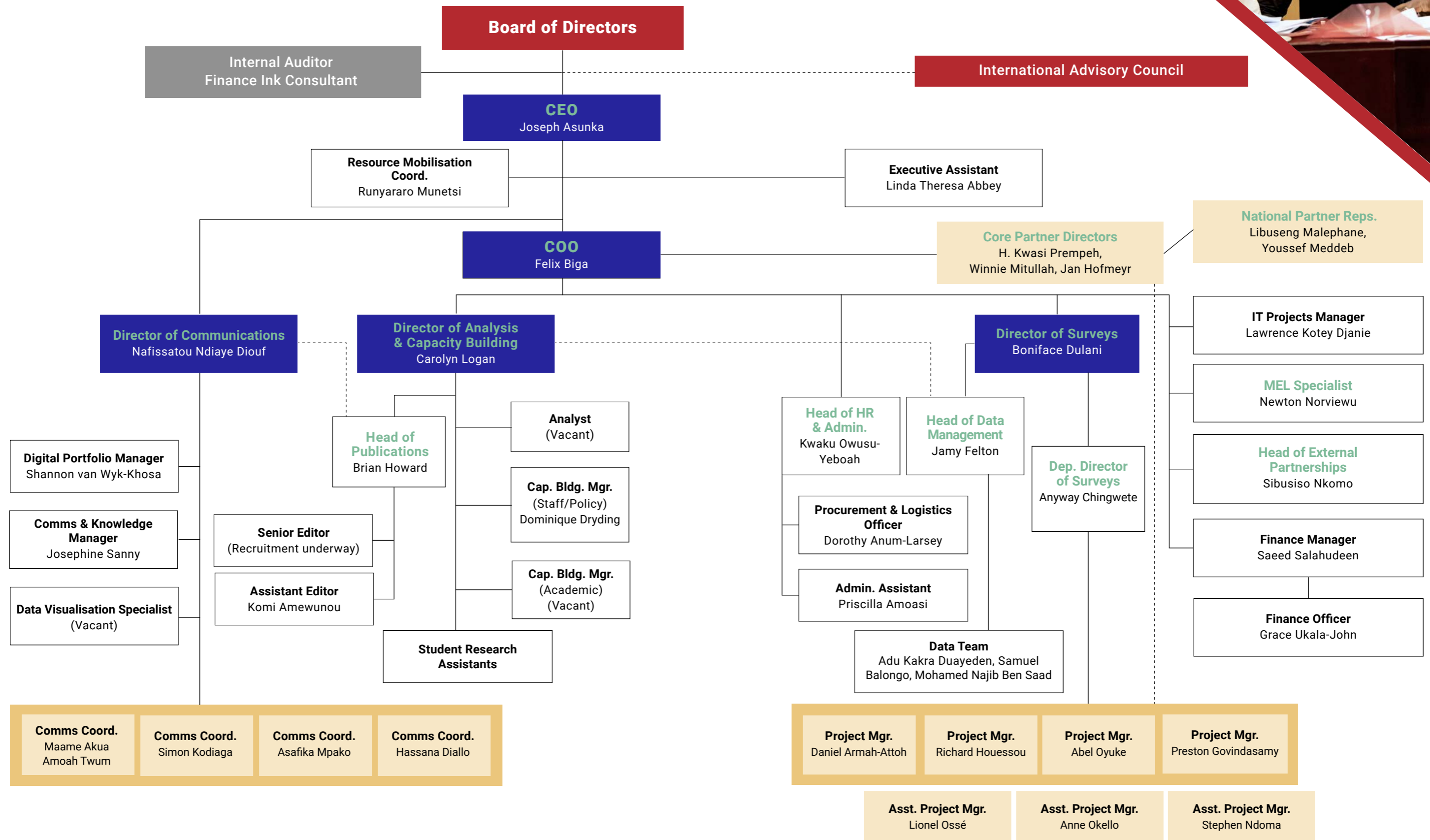
As we build on our two-decade track record of providing reliable data on what Africans are thinking, we are confident that our [Strategic Plan 2022-2032](#) provides a roadmap for extending our reach and strengthening our ability to illuminate the way forward for Africa's development.

The Organisation

KEY

CMT (Central Management Team)

GREEN SAT (Senior Advisory Team)



Board of Directors

Afrobarometer's Board of Directors links the network's co-founders with dynamic and diverse leadership from across the continent to oversee AB's mission, review performance, and ensure accountability and integrity. Additional Board members are being recruited with an eye to valuable skill sets and geographic representation.

E. Gyimah-Boadi (chair)

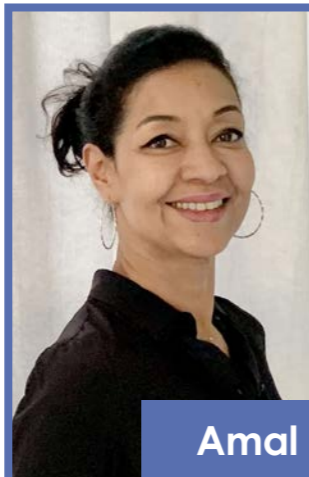
Professor Gyimah-Boadi is a co-founder of Afrobarometer and served as its chief executive from 2008 to 2021. He is also founder and former executive director of the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana). A former professor at the University of Ghana, Legon, he has held faculty positions and fellowships at the School of International Service of the American University; the Center for Democracy, Rule of Law and Development at Stanford University; the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; the U.S. Institute of Peace; and the International Forum for Democratic Development. His myriad awards include the 2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Peace and Social Justice. In 2021, *New African* named him one of its "100 Most Influential Africans."



Michael Bratton

Michael Bratton, who retired as University Distinguished Professor of Political Science and African Studies at Michigan State University in 2018, has worked with Afrobarometer since 1999 as a co-founder, former executive director, and senior adviser. He previously served on the programme staffs of the Rockefeller and Ford foundations and as a visiting scholar at Oxford University, Uppsala University, and the U.S. Institute of Peace. He is co-author of the widely cited *Democratic Experiments in Africa* and the author of five other books, including *Voting and Democratic Citizenship in Africa* and *Power Politics in Zimbabwe*.

As a development practitioner with more than 25 years' experience, Amal Mustafa Medani has led technical and socio-economic development programmes spanning Southern and Eastern Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and Eastern Europe, as well as global-level initiatives for UNDP and the United Nations. Her previous positions have included oversight of a US\$4 billion programme as director for the Southern Africa Division of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM); associate director of the global Governance Department at the United Nations Institute of Training and Research (UNITAR); and senior strategic policy adviser to the CEO of the Global RBM Partnership to End Malaria. She also has extensive experience with partnership-building collaborations and resource mobilisation with UN agencies, bilateral and multilateral donor organisations, and international financial institutions.



Amal Mustafa Medani



Amina Oyagbola

Amina Oyagbola is an independent director, a business leader, and a former human resources and corporate services executive at MTN Nigeria Communications Ltd. With more than 30 years' experience, her career spans legal consulting, banking and finance, energy, and telecommunications. She is the managing consultant of AKMS Consulting Ltd. (business advisory and management consultants), senior partner of Oyagbola Chambers, and a Chevening Scholar. She is a fellow and chair of the Africa Leadership Initiative – West Africa, a fellow of the Aspen Global Leadership Network, and founder and chairperson of WISCAR (Women in Successful Careers), a not-for-profit gender empowerment and strategic mentoring and leadership initiative for professional career women.

Lara Taylor-Pearce is auditor general of Sierra Leone and a fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants of the UK with more than 30 years of experience in public- and private-sector financial and administrative management and oversight. As the government's chief external auditor since 2011, she has won praise for helping change Sierra Leone's public-sector accountability landscape, including her work in developing its 2016 Public Financial Management Act and other public-sector oversight acts.



Lara Taylor-Pearce

Peter M. Lewis is the Warren Weinstein Associate Professor of African Studies at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Lewis, who served as SAIS associate dean for academic and faculty affairs from 2015 to 2018, has directed the school's Africa Studies programme since joining Johns Hopkins SAIS in 2006, and currently oversees the school's Middle East programme.

Lewis' research and teaching focus on economic reform and political transition in developing countries, with particular emphasis on governance and development in sub-Saharan Africa. He has written extensively on economic adjustment, democratisation, and civil society in Africa. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the editorial board of the *Journal of Democracy*.



Peter M. Lewis



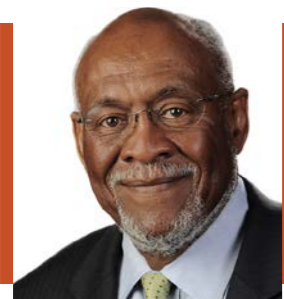
Nozipho January-Bardill

Ambassador Nozipho January-Bardill is chairperson of the Council of the Nelson Mandela University and the UN Global Compact Local Network in South Africa, and a trustee of the UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Assistance and the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Report in the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. She is an independent non-executive director of Mercedes-Benz South Africa, the MTN Foundation, and two NGOs, Tshwaranang Legal Services and Phenduka Literacy. Her company, Bardill and Associates, advises businesses on integrating race, gender, and sustainable development into their strategies.

She served as South Africa's ambassador to Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and the Holy See as well as deputy director general in the South African Department of Foreign Affairs and chief of staff and special adviser to UN Women in New York and South Africa.

International Advisory Council

The International Advisory Council consists of global high-level political and thought leaders committed to providing strategic intelligence, foresight, and advocacy to support and promote Afrobarometer internationally. The council's role is to inspire and energise policy makers, funders, other key audiences, as well as network staff, by advocating for our shared mission to make citizen voice a key pillar of Africa policy and decision making.



Johnnie Carson (chair)

Former U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs and former ambassador to Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Uganda

“The calibre of experience, leadership, and engagement represented on this council, from all across Africa and beyond, speaks volumes about the seriousness with which the global community takes Afrobarometer's contribution to data-driven development. We're excited to help build the future of this pan-African institution.”



Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Former president of Liberia (2006-2018) and 2011 Nobel Peace Prize laureate

“Afrobarometer empowers those who want to see more transparency, more accountability, and more free, open, and inclusive societies. ... In this age of fake news, Afrobarometer is a credible, reliable, and authentic purveyor of the ordinary African voice. This is where Afrobarometer plays a very important role in enriching democracy.”



Larry Diamond

Senior fellow, Hoover Institution and Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University

“Afrobarometer is one of the greatest success stories of social science research and analytical capacity building on the African continent.”



Zeinab Badawi

International broadcaster and education leader

“Afrobarometer provides a unique service on behalf of the African people: It takes the pulse of African opinion on key issues and delivers it to leaders, policy makers, and opinion formers. It is the voice of the African citizen.”



Margot Wallström

Former minister of foreign affairs of Sweden, EU commissioner

“Afrobarometer checks the pulse of Africans on issues that determine their future. Afrobarometer lets the world know how Africa is doing on sustainable development – economically, socially, and environmentally.”



Lord Browne of Ladyton

Member of the UK House of Lords



Peter Kellner

Political analyst, scholar, and former president of the YouGov polling organisation in the UK



Willy Mutunga

Former chief justice and president of the Supreme Court of Kenya



K. Riva Levinson

President and CEO of KRL International, author and columnist



Frank Mwiti

Eastern Africa Markets Leader at Ernst & Young and managing partner for EY-Parthenon in Eastern Africa



Bhekinkosi Moyo

Adjunct professor and director of the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment, Wits Business School, University of the Witwatersrand



Nic Cheeseman

Professor of democracy at the University of Birmingham, author and newspaper columnist



Gerard Salole

Social anthropologist and independent consultant



Larabi Jaïdi

Senior fellow at the Policy Center for the New South



Thomas P. Sheehy

Distinguished fellow, Africa Center of the United States Institute of Peace



Abdoulie Janneh

Former UN under-secretary general



Vera Songwe

Executive secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa (Special guest)



Attahiru Muhammadu Jega

Former chairman of Nigeria's Independent National Electoral Commission

The Network

37 National Partners

These organisations are responsible for conducting all in-country survey activities.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>ANGOLA
Ovilongwa Consulting</p> <p>BENIN
Innovante Recherche en Economie et Gouvernance (IREG)</p> <p>BOTSWANA
Star Awards</p> <p>BURKINA FASO
Institut pour la Gouvernance et le Développement (IGD)</p> <p>CABO VERDE
Afrosondagem</p> <p>CAMEROON
Cible Etudes & Conseil</p> <p>CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Centre de Recherche et de Formation sur le Développement Intégré (CREFDI)</p> <p>ESWATINI
QA Strategic Information</p> <p>ETHIOPIA
ABCON – Research & Consulting</p> <p>GABON
Centre d'Etudes et de Recherche en Géosciences Politiques et Prospective (CERGEP)</p> <p>GAMBIA
Center for Policy, Research and Strategic Studies (CepRass)</p> <p>GHANA
Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana)</p> <p>GUINEA
Stat View International</p> | <p>GUINEA-BISSAU
DEMOS-BELAB</p> <p>KENYA
Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi</p> <p>LESOTHO
Advison Lesotho</p> <p>LIBERIA
Center for Democratic Governance (CDG)</p> <p>MADAGASCAR
COEF-Ressources</p> <p>MALAWI
Centre for Social Research (CSR), University of Malawi</p> <p>MALI
Groupe de Recherche en Économie Appliquée et Théorique (GREAT)</p> <p>MAURITANIA
SISTA Consult Mauritanie</p> <p>MAURITIUS
StraConsult</p> <p>MOROCCO
Global for Survey and Consulting (GSC)</p> <p>MOZAMBIQUE
Ipsos, Mozambique</p> <p>NAMIBIA
Survey Warehouse</p> <p>NIGER
Laboratoire d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Dynamiques Sociales et le Développement Local (LASDEL)</p> | <p>NIGERIA
NOIPolls</p> <p>SENEGAL
Consortium pour la Recherche en Économie Sociale (GRES)</p> <p>SIERRA LEONE
Institute for Governance Reform (IGR)</p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA
Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR)</p> <p>SUDAN
Sudan Polling Survey Center</p> <p>TANZANIA
REPOA</p> <p>TOGO
Center for Research and Opinion Polls (CROP)</p> <p>TUNISIA
One-to-One Research and Polling (121)</p> <p>UGANDA
Hatchile Consult Ltd.</p> <p>ZAMBIA
Institute of Economic and Social Research (INESOR), University of Zambia</p> <p>ZIMBABWE
Mass Public Opinion Institute (MPOI)</p> |
|---|--|---|



3 Core Partners

In addition to serving as National Partners, these institutions manage and provide support to the other National Partners in their region.

- Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) – West, Central, and North Africa
- Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi – East Africa
- Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) – Southern Africa

2 Support Units

These university-based teams provide technical support to our Core Partners.

- University of Cape Town – Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa (IDCPPA)
- Michigan State University – Department of Political Science

National Partner

Gabon

Mutual benefit: CERGEP's Afrobarometer work is a win-win



The CERGEP team presents Round 9 survey findings on climate change, gender-based violence, and corruption to the Director of the Cabinet of Gabon's Ministry of Good Governance, representatives of UN agencies and the French Embassy, and journalists.

As a university research institute, Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches en Géosciences Politiques et Prospective (CERGEP) had much to offer when it joined Afrobarometer as National Partner for Gabon, including decades of experience in scientific research, a team of teachers and researchers from a variety of disciplines, and its institutional anchoring within the Geography Department of Omar Bongo University.

As it turns out, it also had much to gain, according to Professor Serge Loungou, CERGEP's executive director. The first benefit was the rigorous process of competing for the National Partner slot, a learning process even for experienced geographers, sociologists, historians, and political scientists.

Over four AB survey rounds in 2015, 2017, 2020, and 2021, CERGEP has raised its expertise to international standards, modernised its data-collection tools by moving from paper to digital tablets, and provided its students

more opportunities for field research. It has also gained a new energy from AB's emphasis on ensuring that people's voices are heard in policy debates.

Loungou says, *"The integration of CERGEP into the Afrobarometer network has breathed new life into our research centre. This new dynamic has reinforced the prestige of CERGEP. ..."*

"The scientific challenge posed by Afrobarometer has made it possible to remobilise the teams. Afrobarometer has led us to move away from the exclusively fundamental research in which our members were immersed to embrace more development research by making a substantial contribution to public debate. This led CERGEP to develop its communication tools and media. Today we have a team dedicated to popularising CERGEP activities."

"The visibility provided by our integration into the Afrobarometer network has, for example, enabled us to participate in other research projects of international and national dimensions."

In addition to benefits to the institution, individual staff members have welcomed the learning experience of working with AB. Pamela Sandrine Tsogo Mouendinguy, who participated in rounds 6 and 7 before becoming cartographer at Mwagna National Park in Ogooué-Ivindo in northeastern Gabon, says, *"This experience was special because the collection of data in the field allowed me to discover Libreville and the whole of Gabon from another angle as a survey agent. I also participated as a data entry clerk. In Round 7, I was team leader. So I learned not only to do surveys but also to use several data-processing softwares (CSPRO, SPSS, Survey to Go, Epi Info) and mapping. This background was decisive in my CV during the interview I had to compete for the position I currently occupy."*

"The other experience that I have had from CERGEP and Afrobarometer is the ability to exchange and listen to people. It helps me on a daily basis in my professional activity."

CERGEP has proven itself highly capable as an AB partner. In Round 9, Gabon was chosen to pilot the survey module

on security issues funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Its Round 9 dissemination activities have far exceeded contractual requirements, with seven dissemination events, four dispatches, and eight news releases in the first half of 2022.

Whereas CERGEP's work in its first AB rounds was sometimes greeted with scepticism and mistrust, Loungou says the reliability of the protocol and the quality of the data have established CERGEP and Afrobarometer as credible players in the field of national research. The media, political actors, NGOs, and researchers are using the data, and in Round 9 CERGEP was invited to share its findings in presentations to the diplomatic and development community (Japanese Embassy, International Monetary Fund, French Development Agency) and even to the local town hall of the municipality of Lébamba in southern Gabon.

In addition to the 10 staff members dedicated primarily to Afrobarometer work, the CERGEP team includes 18 other teacher-researchers and associate researchers as well as doctoral and master's students. Research at CERGEP is organised around three axes: political geosciences, human sciences of the sea, and socio-demography. CERGEP also includes a documentation centre and publishes *Les Annales Gabonaises des Géosciences Politiques*.



CERGEP and other National Partners go to every corner of their country for face-to-face interviews.

Surveys

The Survey Unit led a record-setting year for Afrobarometer, overseeing 33 national face-to-face surveys, four pilot telephone surveys, and a set of special projects.

Round 9 surveys

After launching Round 9 data collection with four country surveys in late 2021, the Survey Unit and AB's National Partners hit their stride in 2022, completing fieldwork in **33 countries** – almost twice AB's previous one-year high of 20 countries. That adds up to more than 43,700 interviews across the continent in 2022, not to mention training more than 1,000 data collectors and providing technical assistance to all the fieldwork teams.

This brings our R9 total so far to 37 countries – already the broadest coverage in AB's 23-year history. In addition, two more countries – Guinea-Bissau and Congo-Brazzaville – will field R9 surveys in early 2023. That will give us 39 countries for R9 – five more than in R8 and one short of our ambitious initial target of 40 countries, as we were unable to field a R9 survey in Ethiopia due to insecurity during most of 2022.

Our R9 set includes four first-time AB countries: Mauritania and Seychelles (completed in 2022), Guinea-Bissau, and Congo-Brazzaville.

As we move into R10, Afrobarometer will continue to explore expanding into new countries to maximise AB's continental coverage.

Telephone surveys

Supported by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Survey Unit continued to develop AB's phone-survey capacities and protocols. Building on experience gained in a 2021 phone survey in Namibia, AB conducted four pilot telephone surveys in Botswana, Zambia (two surveys), and Burkina Faso.

To allow us to test mode effects and refine our protocols, we conducted these phone surveys in parallel to our face-to-face surveys and used two sampling methods: random digit dialing and AB list samples (using phone numbers collected from willing participants during our R8 surveys). From these pilot surveys, a draft set of phone-survey

protocols has been developed for review. Additional pilot telephone surveys will be fielded in 2023.

Data management

The Survey Unit's mad fieldwork pace kept the Data Management Team hopping as well. The team finalised 24 R9 data sets during 2022, with others close to completion. A R9 merged data set, now up to 24 countries, is being updated periodically.

National Partner recruitment and country assessment

Working with AB project managers, the Survey Unit advertised calls for bids in Mauritania, Guinea-Bissau, Algeria, and Seychelles and conducted country assessments in Burundi and Congo-Brazzaville.

After a rigorous review of bids and in-country assessments, AB appointed SISTA Consult as the National Partner for Mauritania and the DEMOS-BELAB consortium as the National Partner for Guinea-Bissau.

After the top candidate in Seychelles withdrew, AB decided to pursue a local consultant to assist the Institute for Development Studies (Kenya) team in fielding the survey there.

In Burundi, AB's assessment team found that despite some improvements, researchers continue to operate in a constrained environment that would make it hard to field a survey and disseminate the findings in an open manner, leading AB to postpone its hoped-for resumption of surveys in Burundi.

The team assessing Congo-Brazzaville found more favourable conditions, enabling AB to plan for its first survey in the country.

Rebidding for National Partners

Following the recommendation of our funding partner Sida to reopen the bidding process for National Partners after

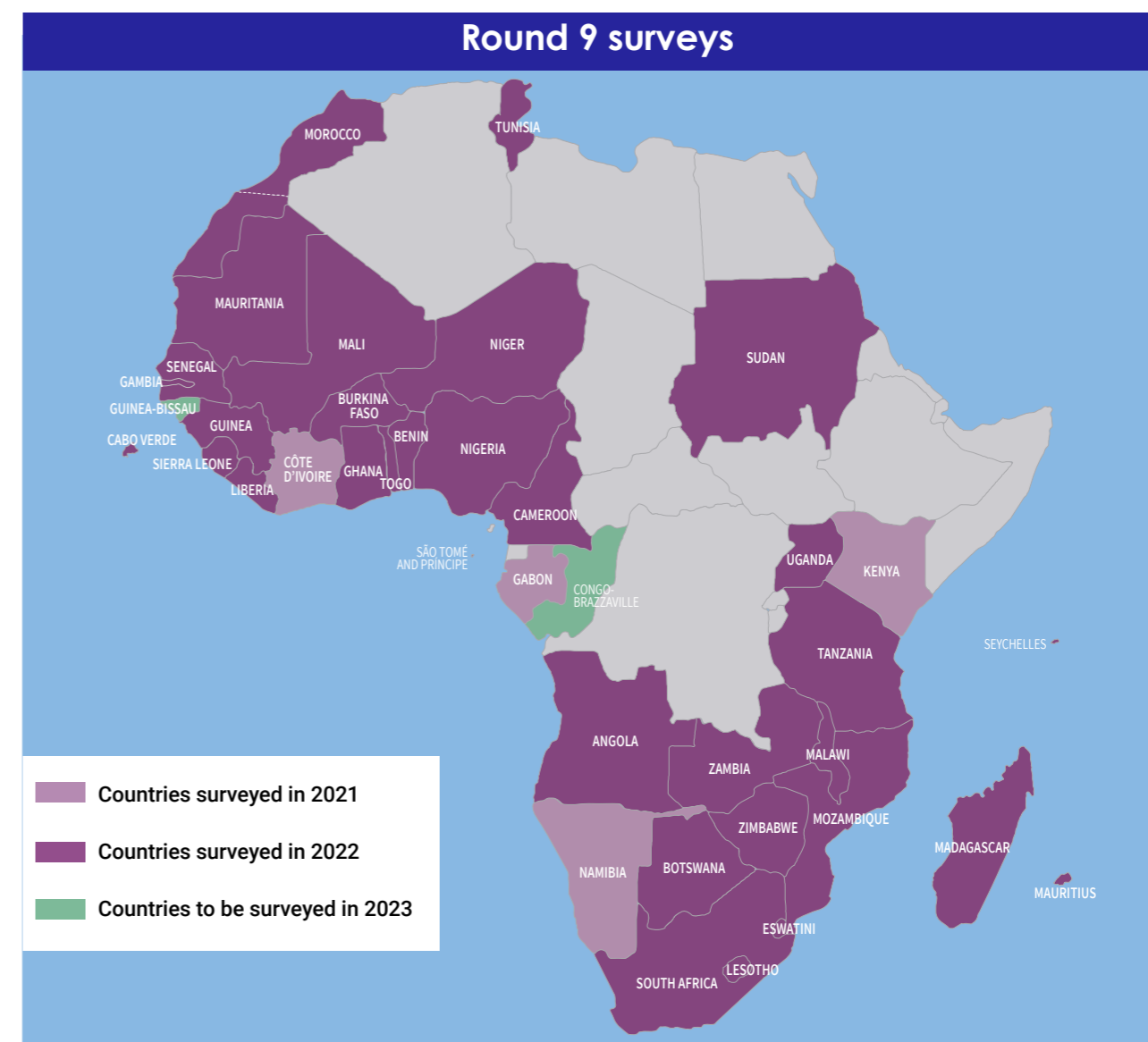
every three-survey cycle, the Survey Unit sent out calls for proposals for Gabon, Togo, and Côte d'Ivoire. In Gabon and Togo, AB's current National Partners emerged as the top candidates. In Côte d'Ivoire, the scores for the current partner and competitors were close, so a decision will depend on the results of an in-country assessment.

AB plans to ensure that all countries due for rebidding are subjected to this exercise as soon as they complete R9 surveys.

Special projects

The Survey Unit continued to manage and monitor several AB special projects, including the Data for Governance Alliance (D4GA) project to strengthen implementation of the African Governance Architecture agenda; Uganda surveys supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda; a Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (2020-2021) project focusing on human

security; a GIZ-funded project on police professionalism and security; and a Global Centre for Pluralism project focusing on social cohesion. (See "Partnerships and Collaboration" on Page 28 for more details.)



Analysis

The Afrobarometer Analysis Unit continues to prioritise two core objectives. The first is to increase the network's analytical outputs to reach new audiences. The Analysis Unit does this both by maintaining existing production lines, such as Pan-Africa Profiles (PAPs), as well as by developing new signature analytic products to meet demand from stakeholders, funders, and others. The second is to expand the pool of published authors through training, editing, mentoring, and facilitating the production of AB dispatches and other outputs from a wide range of staff, partners, and practitioners.

Some of the major successes for the year include:

- 1 Round 8 PAP series:** Launched with four initial releases in late 2021, this series of cross-country analyses on high-impact topics continued throughout 2022 with 15 additional entries on topics ranging from media freedom and social media to electrification, social cohesion, and the digital divide on the continent.
- 2 Production of new climate change country cards** based on incoming Round 9 data that reported awareness of climate change, popular understandings of "who is responsible" for addressing climate change, and the (often high) level of public demand for government action. We released 20 country cards ahead of the COP27 climate meetings in early November. Cards for additional countries will be produced as their data are finalised.
- 3 Preliminary analysis of early Round 9 data from 20 countries** started in October in anticipation of several major presentations in Washington, DC, culminating in the production of a document on **"Key messages from Afrobarometer Round 9 surveys"** released via several high-visibility outlets in advance of the U.S. – Africa Leaders Summit in December.
- 4 We continued our series of analytic pieces** in the Washington Post's **The Monkey Cage** blog, a widely circulated outlet for policy-relevant research. AB published seven posts in TMC this year, on topics ranging from support for the East African Federation to South Africa's COVID-19 relief grants. Four junior

and mid-level analysts in the network benefited from a byline in this prestigious outlet.

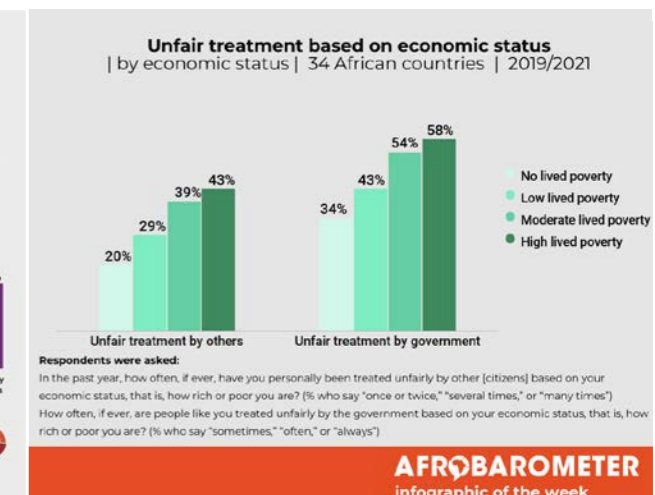
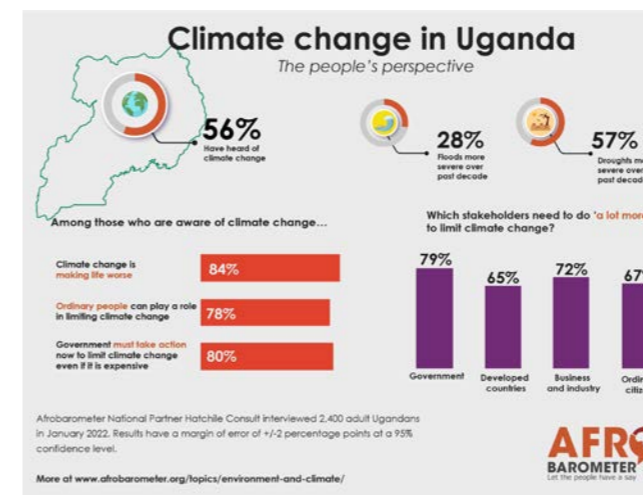
- 5 Afrobarometer's series of weekly "Data" pages in The Continent**, an award-winning online publication, continued throughout the year, with 37 entries on topics ranging from hate speech and diversity to police demands for bribes, Kenya's elections, and open trade.
- 6 The Infographic of the Week (IOTW) series** launched in late 2021 continued with more than 50 posts in 2022. The series covered a wide range of topics and became an important "rapid response" outlet allowing AB data to speak to current events. For example, one recent IOTW showcased attitudes toward gender equality in Sierra Leone when that country passed its Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act. IOTWs are also frequently linked to calendar milestones, such as a recent one reporting new Round 9 data on attitudes toward gender-based violence in conjunction with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The analysis team also continues to produce "rapid response" news releases in addition to the IOTW.
- 7 To facilitate publication of country-level AB dispatches on priority Round 9 topics**, the Analysis Unit produced dispatch templates for seven topics: gender equality, gender-based violence, climate change, environmental governance, child welfare, police professionalism, and COVID-19. Our National Partners have used these templates to produce more than 50 dispatches on these priority topics.

Other key outputs and achievements of the Analysis Unit in 2022 include:

- Producing a major baseline analysis of police professionalism for GIZ, which will be followed by a second study at the end of Round 9.
- Conducting a study of closing civic spaces in Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and Uganda and preparing a report for the National Endowment for Democracy, which was released mid-year.
- Collaborating with the surveys team and an outside consultant to produce a major report on human security for the Japan International Cooperation Agency.
- Supporting the development and publication of several policy papers on leadership in Uganda (members of Parliament, local councillors) and related issues, under the auspices of our grant from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda.
- Submitting a book chapter, co-authored with the network sampling specialist, on standardisation of survey methods in Afrobarometer, to be included in a book on multi-country survey projects and methods.
- Leading or assisting with the preparation of many presentations of AB findings and achievements throughout the course of the year.
- Working with the surveys team to develop a Round 9 phone survey questionnaire that was used in parallel to several face-to-face surveys conducted during the year. These parallel surveys will facilitate in-depth analysis of phone survey methodology and development of AB protocols.

Our challenge

After building the team's size and strength in 2021, we've now seen some of our student research assistants graduate, and our post-doc has moved on. So the Analysis Unit will again be looking to rebuild our ranks in 2023, both by bringing new students on board and by expanding our editing and production staff.



Communications

The future of content is digital

The pandemic has fundamentally changed how we communicate with audiences shifting their attention to digital platforms. While some of the developments of the last two years have begun to reverse, with in-person meetings going back to pre-pandemic times, digital communication will continue to gain momentum and popularity.

The Afrobarometer communications team has moved with speed and scale to align its strategic focus on digital storytelling to conform with today's fast-paced environment and shrinking attention spans. Our digital-first approach has led to a significant increase in our audiences, both online and offline, which in turn has generated an increase in conversations around the Afrobarometer brand and work.

In 2022 AB restructured its Communications Unit, now led by Director of Communications Nafissatou Ndiaye Diouf.

Highlights of the year

Communications Unit members supported National Partners in two dozen countries as well as AB leaders to disseminate new Round 9 survey findings through briefings and presentations, news releases, analytic dispatches, and other publications.

The team rolled out impactful, engaging, and accessible feature stories and interviews on issues attuned to the new zeitgeist. We leveraged the voices of third parties and the faces behind the data to share our two-decades-robust track record of collecting and analysing the views of African citizens.

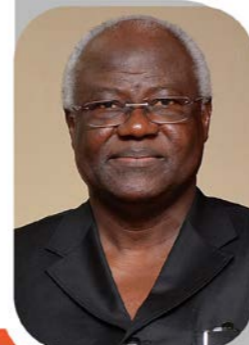
In addition to text-based content, we expanded multimedia and quickly shareable social media assets in line with the digital-first communication approach.

Key communications moments included Afrobarometer's launch of its new [website](#), a more responsive and flexible tool readily usable from a tablet or phone and better enabled for multimedia content. The website's new [Impact](#) section highlights Afrobarometer's capacity-building activities and its impact on public discourse and policy making. The website recorded 237,851 visits in 2022.

“ Changing a constitution to run for a third term is unacceptable and should be treated as such across the continent. ”

A survey conducted by Afrobarometer shows that majority of Africans prefer democracy as a political system over and above autocratic ones.

H.E. Bai Koroma
Former President of Sierra Leone



Reputable and persuasive national, pan-African, and global voices continued to cite our work and use our data as evidence.

The communications team led media relations, social media activities, and content creation for D4GA regional convenings in Ghana, South Africa, and Kenya in September and October. In addition, the team created [videos](#) (including testimonials from African Union organs and other participants) showcasing Afrobarometer's leadership of the D4GA project and the relevance of AB data in policy making.

The team also supported the rollout of a global series of roundtables to engage with funder and policy audiences, including meetings in the Nordics (Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway), Germany, Washington, New York, and Pretoria. A high-level roundtable brought together senior officials from the U.S. State Department, USAID, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, and civil society groups. CEO Joseph Asunka delivered a keynote address to Obama Africa Leaders as part of the [Obama Foundation Democracy Forum](#).

The communications team supported AB's French- and English-language summer schools by capturing and sharing highlights of the three-week courses and the experiences of participants and lecturers.

The team also worked closely with the Analysis Unit to feed AB data into trending public discussions. Examples include the release of [climate change country cards](#) ahead of the 2022 UN Climate Change Conference (COP27), of animated infographics on gender-based violence on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and of a video on survey findings on [social cohesion](#) on Africa Day 2022.



The Comms team (left to right): Simon Templer Kodiaga (coordinator, East Africa), Director Nafissatou Ndiaye Diouf, Asafika Mpako (coordinator, Southern Africa), Josephine Appiah-Nyamekye Sanny (communications and knowledge manager), Maame Akua Amoah Twum (coordinator, North and anglophone West Africa), Sibusiso Nkomo (head of external partnerships, seconded from the Secretariat). Not shown: Shannon van Wyk-Khosa (digital portfolio manager) and Hassana Diallo (coordinator, francophone Africa).

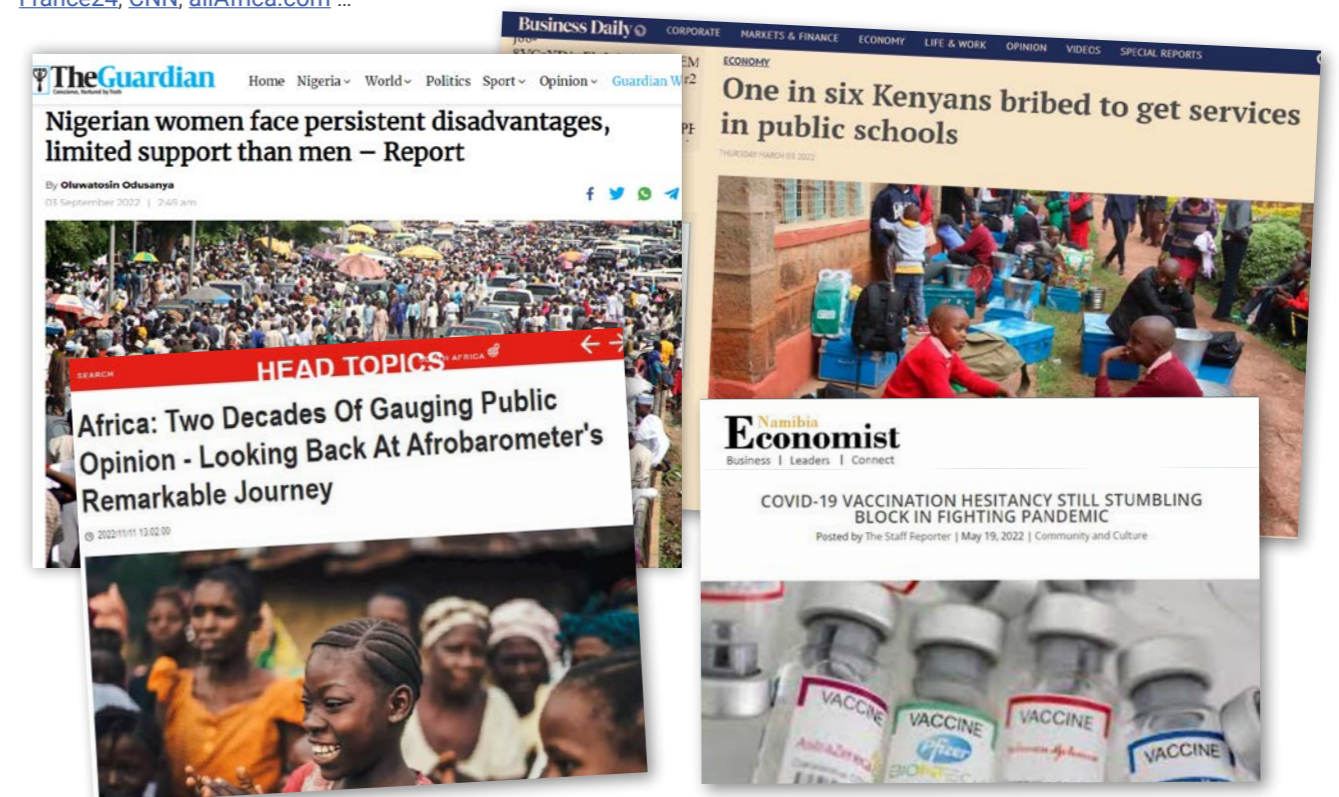
Afrobarometer in the news

Media outlets cited Afrobarometer 5,866 times in 2022 – an increase of 83% compared to the previous year. A sampling: [New York Times](#), [Economist](#), [VoA](#), [Christian Science Monitor](#), [Jeune Afrique](#), [Mail & Guardian](#), [GhanaWeb](#), [Daily Maverick](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Xinhua.net](#), [DW](#), [Forbes](#), [Africa RDV](#), [Carnegie Endowment for International Peace](#), [Africa Report](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Opera News](#), [Premium Times](#), [Council on Foreign Relations](#), [Agence Ecofin](#), [Washington Post](#), [France24](#), [CNN](#), [allAfrica.com](#) ...

Afrobarometer was also featured in a variety of podcasts, including the [Brenthurst Foundation](#) and [China in Africa](#) podcasts.

On social media, AB was most visible on Twitter, with 27,941 followers, 37,500 engagements, and 1.15 million impressions.

For other examples of Afrobarometer communications-related work, see “Analysis” on Page 22 and “Visibility and Impact” on Page 30.



Capacity Building

Capacity building has always been a key pillar of Afrobarometer's strategy for helping to build Africa's future. In 2022, the Capacity Building Unit implemented programmes to strengthen skills in data collection (including via new methods such as phone surveys), data analysis, and data use and to nurture the next generation of African social science and public opinion researchers. Special support for AB capacity building in 2022 was provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Mastercard Foundation.

Afrobarometer was excited to host its first in-person summer schools in nearly three years after a hiatus due to COVID-19 and the limits on in-person gatherings.

✓ Thirty participants from 14 countries across Africa attended the first summer school of the year, which was conducted in French and co-hosted with Faculté des Sciences Economiques et de Gestion (FASEG) at Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal.

✓ The first English-language summer school since 2019 was co-hosted with the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Pretoria and conducted at the university's world-class Future Africa Campus. The programme brought together 30 participants from 15 countries.



AB's summer school at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar trained researchers from 14 African countries.



My experience at the summer school ... was inspiring. Inspiring because I got to develop new skills in data analysis and interpretation. For someone who does a lot of advocacy like myself, acquiring skills on how to use statistical tools such as SPSS is a big deal. I get to write my stories, make solid arguments, and present factual information backed by data. I am definitely using these new skills in data analysis to write papers that will influence policies for Ghana and, hopefully, for Africa in general. I really feel equipped to write on key developmental issues in Ghana and beyond.

– Summer school participant
Adizatu Maiga (programme officer,
Media Foundation for West Africa)



Other key AB capacity-building activities and achievements for the year include:

- A pilot Afrobarometer Week at the United States International University in Nairobi, Kenya, introduced AB as a research resource to the university community. The three-day programme included a public lecture and meetings with faculty, students, and university administrators and research directors.
- The Capacity Building Unit conducted a baseline and capacity needs assessment of AB National Partners and AB staff.
- The network funded two fellowships to enhance the skills of National Partner staff via a communications course at the University of Cape Town and a public policy analysis course by the Maastricht University Graduate School of Governance.
- In collaboration with its National Partners, AB trained more than 1,000 fieldworkers from 33 countries during 2022.
- Three AB national investigators participated in National Partner learning exchanges during AB pilot phone surveys conducted in 2022, allowing them to observe and gain experience that may help them expand this methodology to their own countries.
- AB conducted training in research methods and data use for 14 researchers for the South African Parliament, hosted by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, and for Eswatini journalists, civil society actors, and government representatives.
- Throughout the year, AB staff continued to provide remote technical assistance and mentorship to National Partners in survey design and implementation, data management and analysis, and communications.

Participants in Afrobarometer's French- and English-language summer schools work hard – and have fun.



Partnerships and Collaboration

Building strategic partnerships and collaborating with stakeholders and like-minded organisations are essential elements of Afrobarometer’s quest to make African voices heard on a multitude of platforms. In 2022, AB launched new partnerships, strengthened existing collaborations, and dedicated a new position (head of external partnerships, held by Sibusiso Nkomo) to this pillar of AB’s effectiveness and sustainability.



Participants get to work at the Southern Africa edition of the D4GA stakeholder engagement on democracy, governance, and human rights in Africa.

Partnership with our core/institutional support funders, including **Sida**, the **William and Flora Hewlett Foundation**, and the **Open Society Foundations - Africa**, enabled AB to complete its new long-term strategy, strengthen its governance structures, and enhance its financial and administrative systems.

A flagship collaboration under the **Data for Governance Alliance (D4GA)** brought together regional civil society organisations (CSOs) and six **African Union (AU)** entities in three five-day workshops in Accra, Nairobi, and Cape Town. Four CSO and AU representatives also received training in data collection, analysis, and use through AB’s summer school programme. The four-year D4GA project, which AB leads in partnership with the Ghana Center for Democratic Development, the Institute for Development Studies at the University of Nairobi, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, and Laws.Africa, is funded by the European Union Delegation to the AU and aims to strengthen implementation of the **African Governance Architecture (AGA)** agenda for democracy, good governance, and human

rights. D4GA also collaborated with its sister EU-funded **Charter Project Africa**, which focuses on the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

AB’s new partnership with the **Mastercard Foundation** focuses on capacity building for youth, including collecting data on youth concerns in AB’s Round 10 surveys, supporting the foundation’s Young Africa Works strategy, and conducting summer schools and workshops in countries targeted by the foundation.

In partnership with the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**, AB completed a project focusing on human security in five countries (Angola, Gabon, Kenya, Nigeria, and Tunisia). In addition to collecting data, AB produced summaries of results, a policy brief on human security, and a report presented at JICA’s TICAD 8 side event.

The network partnered with the **Obama Foundation** to introduce Obama Africa Fellows to AB data and analysis, and with the **U.S. Agency for International Development**

and **U.S. Institute of Peace** to convene a side event at the 2022 UN General Assembly on the U.S. strategy toward sub-Saharan Africa.

Afrobarometer partnered with the **University of California San Diego Center on Gender Equity and Health**, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for Round 9 data collection on gender equality and gender-based violence as well as widespread dissemination of the findings at the country and continental levels.

AB collaborated with academic institutions in Senegal and South Africa to conduct its French- and English-language summer schools – the **Faculté des Sciences Economiques et de Gestion (FASEG) at Université Cheikh Anta Diop** in Dakar and the **Faculty of Humanities and Future Africa at**

the **University of Pretoria**. Together the summer schools trained 60 researchers from across the continent.

Collaboration with the **Mo Ibrahim Foundation** produced expert analysis for “[Making Africa’s case in the global climate debate](#),” published in the foundation’s 2022 Forum Report.

Afrobarometer received support from the **World Bank** through the Think Africa Partnership (TAP) to provide data and analysis for TAP’s **Chief Economists of Government (CEoG) Initiative**.

The network continued its partnerships with the Washington Post **The Monkey Cage** and **The Continent** to disseminate AB data and analysis to global audiences through regular publications in these high-profile outlets.



At the West Africa D4GA workshop, African Union and civil society representatives receive training on effective advocacy for policy action from Nansata Yakubu, left, and brainstorm on areas for possible collaboration. (Photos by Data for Governance Alliance)

AB also pursued its ongoing collaborations with a wide range of other partners, including:

- The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**, to build the network’s capacity to conduct telephone surveys
- The **European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)**, for collaboration on policy research on Africa and Europe
- The **Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED)**, to provide scientific evidence to inform policy and development interventions in Africa
- **Columbia University Press**, to allow AB work to be featured by Columbia International Affairs Online (CIAO)
- The **Institute for Security Studies (ISS)**, for data sharing on security issues
- **Code for Africa**, for use of AB data by the continent’s largest civic technology, open data, and data journalism initiative
- The **London School of Economics and Political Science**, for student capstone projects analysing AB meta-data
- The **African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)**, to provide technical input on the Africa Governance Report and other issues
- **GIZ**, for a project on police professionalism and security
- The **Global Centre for Pluralism**, for research on social cohesion in Africa
- The **Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda**, for national surveys in Uganda

Visibility and Impact

Afrobarometer data and analysis are used and showcased in the work of scores of government agencies, civil society organisations, development partners, think tanks, media outlets, and academics across Africa and around the world. Examples from 2022 include:

Global reach

- AB data contribute to global indicators in the Economist Intelligence Unit's [Democracy Index](#), the World Bank [Worldwide Governance Indicators](#), and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) 2022 [country scorecards](#), among others.
- AB indicators measure progress toward 12 of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and are featured in our country-level SDG scorecards.
- The Mo Ibrahim Foundation uses AB data in its [Ibrahim Index of African Governance \(IIAG\)](#) and highlighted AB's work in its reports on "[COVID-19 in Africa: A challenging road to recovery](#)" and "[The road to COP27: Making Africa's case in the global climate debate](#)."

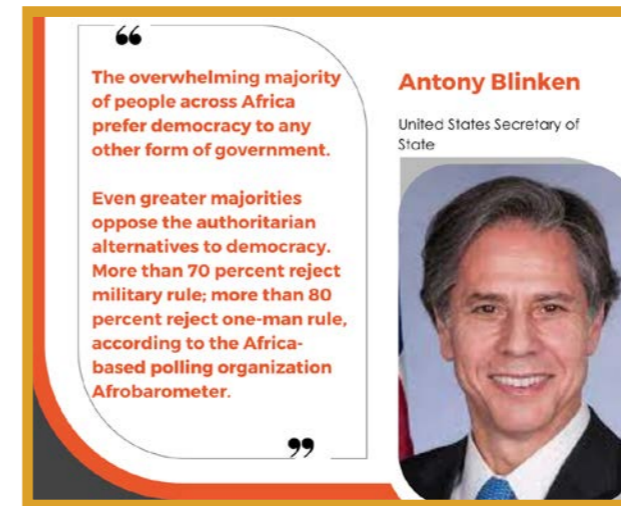
Government and policy actors' response

- Gabon:** Following the release of AB findings on insecurity in Gabon, the national police announced the deployment of [1,500 additional police officers](#).
- Malawi:** Minister of Information and Digitisation Gospel Kazako described AB findings on declining public trust in the Tonse Alliance administration as [a blessing in disguise and an opportunity for the government to improve](#).
- Sub-Saharan Africa:** At the launch of the United States' strategy for sub-Saharan Africa in Pretoria in August, [U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken](#) cited AB data to make the point that "African citizens want democracy – that is clear. The question is whether African governments can make democracy deliver by improving the lives of their citizens in tangible ways."

The following day, [China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin](#) cited AB data in arguing that a majority of Africans "perceive China's economic and political influence in Africa as positive."

We suggest that the U.S. heed and respect the will of African countries and people."

- Tanzania:** In his keynote address to the Drive for Democracy Conference in Arusha, [former president of Sierra Leone Ernest Bai Koroma](#) cited AB data to highlight the importance of civil society organisations in the entrenchment of democracy on the African continent.
- South Africa:** Northern Cape Premier Zamani Saul cited AB findings on low levels of public trust in government in highlighting the [need to build confidence](#) in the country's public service.
- Ghana:** Citing an AB report on eroding public trust in the Ghanaian media, [communications professor Audrey Gadzepe](#) called on the country's journalists to examine their performance and commitment to democratic ideals.
- South Africa:** Justice Mandisa Maya, then president of the Supreme Court of Appeal (now deputy chief justice of South Africa), noted AB findings about declining public trust in the judiciary, saying this ["is something that needs the attention of the judiciary itself to do an introspection and check if we are to blame for this change of attitude towards the institution."](#)



High-impact outlets and forums frequently feature AB's work

- Wilson Center Africa Program: [Africa: Year in Review](#)
- Brookings: [Foresight Africa 2022](#)
- Chatham House: "[Will Africans' call for better democracy be met?](#)"
- Foreign Affairs: "[West Africa's authoritarian turn](#)"
- Journal of Democracy's* "[Democracy's arc: From resurgent to imperiled](#)"
- The "Afrobarometer Corner" in the World Bank's Chief Economists of Government Initiative newsletter
- U.S. State Department Foreign Service Institute's Africa Regional Overview course
- Briefings and talks including:
 - U.S. Institute of Peace side event at the 77th session of the UN General Assembly
 - Obama Africa Leaders and the Obama Foundation Democracy Forum
 - G7 conference on "Strengthening democracy"
 - "AB hackathons" for faculty and students at United States International University in Kenya and Howard University
 - Africa Drive for Democracy (AD4D) conference
 - African Governance Architecture Secretariat's African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) conference
 - African Union Economic, Social & Cultural Council's Citizens' Forum on Democracy and Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa
 - West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network
- Broad media (5,866 articles) and social media exposure

Corruption clean-up

Making African voices count

Among Afrobarometer findings that generate intense debate and contribute to policy reforms are those focusing on corruption. Two examples in 2022 span the continent.

MALAWI

In AB Round 9 (2022), 42% of Malawians said "most" or "all" police officials are corrupt – the worst rating given a public institution despite a 12-percentage-point improvement since 2017. The Presidency (37% most/all corrupt) and members of Parliament (36%) fared only slightly better. Two-thirds (66%) of citizens said the government was doing a poor job of fighting corruption.

Amid intense media coverage of the survey findings, the Malawi Police Service (MPS) issued a [news release](#) calling on the public to report corrupt officers and pledging to continue its fight to end graft in its ranks. The MPS praised the "important survey" providing "a window ... on areas to be improved" and credited surveys with helping it to reduce corruption.

The [Public Accounts Committee](#) of Parliament requested an "audience" with Afrobarometer to explore its findings on corruption.

President Lazarus [Chakwera](#), who in January dissolved his cabinet in response to corruption charges, issued public anti-corruption warnings to government employees. The president barred his deputy from all delegated duties, fired the inspector general of police, and suspended the State House chief of staff and the chairperson of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets Authority after they were linked to alleged corruption.

GHANA

For several years, high-ranking officials in Ghana have issued statements and announced reforms in response to Afrobarometer's findings on corruption. Among them are then-[Chief Justice Georgina Theodora-Wood](#) (2015), [Supreme Court Justice Gertrude Torkornoo](#) (2021), and [Inspector General of Police George Akuffo Dampare](#) (2022).

In 2022, the Office of the Special Prosecutor in Ghana launched the [Ghana Corruption League Table](#). Modelled on the Afrobarometer and Transparency International modules on corruption, the Ghana Corruption League Table will assess real and perceived corruption in the public sector. AB partner CDD-Ghana will provide technical support.



Fundraising and Financials

Afrobarometer's fundraising activities picked up significantly in 2022 following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The fundraising team facilitated several trips around the continent and globally to meet with prospective funders, share relevant data and analysis with them, and discuss possible areas of collaboration. The team also convened several virtual meetings with current funders to discuss survey progress and impact and to consolidate partnerships. These meetings resulted in three new partnerships – two with confirmed funding and one highly prospective.

Fundraising

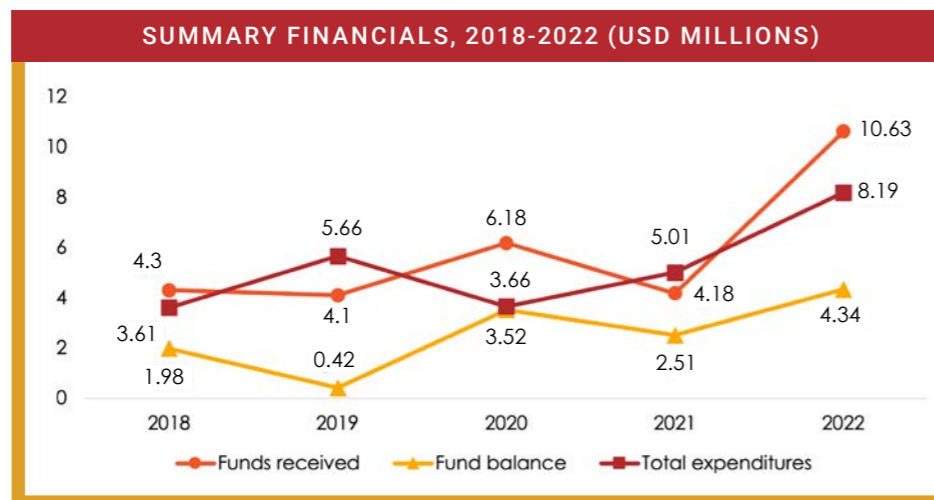
Following the approval of our [Strategic Plan 2022-2032](#) in July, which marked the culmination of AB's organisational restructuring process, the fundraising function was relocated to the office of the CEO, a move that aligns with the high priority given to fundraising in the new strategy. This move ensures that fundraising gets the highest level of attention within AB. A core focus of the fundraising team is to seek and increase the proportion of core or institutional funding to enable AB to expand country coverage and consolidate its role on the continent as the leading provider of high-quality data and analysis on citizen experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, the economy, and social issues.

Funder coordination, especially on reporting, audits, and evaluations, is also a high priority for the fundraising team. As part of efforts to foster funder coordination, AB convened a group of funders on the sidelines of its 2022 summer school at the University of Pretoria to kick-start the conversation. The meeting was very productive as all funding partner representatives expressed support for the direction that AB is taking. We hope to build on this momentum and establish a funder coordination group in 2023 to discuss parameters for coordination. We know that effective funder coordination on administrative processes will significantly reduce the burden of preparing multiple reports and undergoing multiple audits and evaluations in any given year, allowing the team to focus on AB's core business.

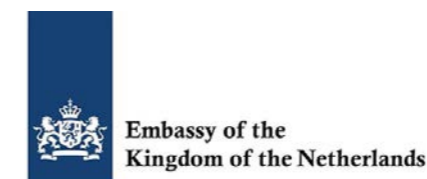
Financials

At the start of 2022, AB had a deficit of more than U.S. \$4 million to fund in order to meet its ambitious target of surveying up to 40 countries and expanding its capacity-building programmes. By Quarter 2, the management team started to curtail spending in order to funnel funds to the data-collection exercise. Our prospects changed with positive responses from funding partners in the third and fourth quarters of the year, along with disbursements from Sida and Open Society Foundations - Africa. These inflows improved AB's funding

position and strengthened our outlook going into Quarter 1 of 2023. The graph below summarises the network's key financial statistics.



Funders





With thanks

Afrobarometer expresses its sincere gratitude to all of its friends, partners, benefactors, and funders for their support.

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