People’s Attitudes Towards Democracy, Political Parties and Political Participation

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Workshop

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Afrobarometer
Afrobarometer
Promoting the voice of public opinion ultimately, advancing democracy in Africa by national and global policy discussion.

Policy relevant project that insures results into publics measurement of nationally representative samples of society surveys in Africa on democracy, markets and civil society.

A comparative series of national public attitude

**Purpose**
Round 3 (18 countries, 2005)
- Madagascar and Benin
- Round 2 (16 countries, mid 2002-late 2003)
  - Zambia and Zimbabwe
  - In Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa
  - In East Africa: Uganda and Tanzania
  - In West Africa: Ghana, Mali, Nigers
Round 1 (12 countries, mid 1999 to mid 2001)
- Democratizing election
- Regimes that have had a founding democratic election, or a re-
  reforming Africa countries (generally, multi-party

When and Where
The document contains the following text:

- To build network skills in scientific analysis, including social statistics, reporting and relevant literature.
- Summer School / Capacity Building Methods
- Concentrated pieces of work like draft questionnaires or revisions of survey.
- To discuss policies and protocols and appoint committees to produce regular workshops.
- Other individual and institutional research associates.

16 National Partners (NGO, public, private):
- Michigan State University
- Centre for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana)
- Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa)

3 Core Partners

Who Does It?
Who Does It?

East Africa

- Wilshire Agencies (Uganda)
- Michigan State University

West Africa

- Ghana
- Centre for Democratic Development (CDD)

Southern Africa

- Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa)
Support Units

- Michigan State University
- University of Cape Town
- \[ \text{Wijkstra Agencies} \]

East Africa
- Centre for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana)

West Africa
- Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa)

Southern Africa

By Round 4
Who Supports It?

- Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- U.S. National Science Foundation
- African Development Bank
- Michigan State University
- Iroxeric Regional Office for Eastern Africa
- Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation
- Royal Dutch Embassy in Namibia
- Danish Government Trust Fund at the World Bank
- UK Department for International Development (DfID)
- World Bank
- Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Error of +/- 3 percentage points (2.8 points)
Minimum Sample Size of 1200 gives a margin of sampling
Nationally representative
Multi Stage
Proportional (some exceptions: e.g. Tanzania, South Africa)
Area Probability
Stratified
Clustered
Random

Sampling
Interviewers fluent in local languages

Questionnaires translated into local languages

Personal, face-to-face interviews

Interviewing
The Supply of and Demand for Democracy
Democratic Regime

- Preference for Democracy
- Rejection of Authoritarianism
- Demand
- Satisfaction with Democracy
- Extent of Democracy
- Freedom and Fairness of Elections
- Supply

Democratic Regime
How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in your country today?

Satisfaction with Democracy

- Not a democracy
- A democracy, but with major problems
- A democracy, but with minor problems
- A full democracy

In your opinion, how much of a democracy is (insert country name) today?

Extent of Democracy

- Not free and fair
- Free and fair, but with major problems
- Free and fair, but with minor problems
- Completely free and fair

On the whole, how would you rate the fairness and fairness of the last national elections?

Freedom and Fairness of Elections

Measuring the Perceived Supply of Democracy
Supply of Democracy Over Time, South Africa
Satisfaction With Democracy
Free and Fair Elections
Supply of Democracy
(Country is Democratic + Satisfied With Democracy) Constant Supply, 2000-2005
(Country is Democratic + Satisfied With Democracy)
Country is Democratic + Satisfied With Democracy
Increasing Supply, 2000-2005
Unwillingness to Live Under An "Effective" Authoritarian Regime

A. Military rule
B. One-party rule
C. One-man rule
D. Return to the system of rule we had under apartheid

Would you approve or disapprove of...? Some people say that we would be better off if we had a different system of government.

Rejection of Authoritarian Rule

Measuring Demand for Democracy
Rejection of Strong Man Rule, 2005-2006
Rejection of Authoritarian Rule Over Time in South Africa

- Reflect Military Rule
- Reflect Party Rule
- Reflect Return to Apartheid
- Reflect Under Lameck Covu


B. Democracy always best
A. Need strong leader

statement do you agree with most:

Things don't work, democracy is always best. What do you think? Which which
strong leader who does not have to bother with elections. Others say that even when
sometimes democracy does not work. When this happens, some people say that we need a

C. To people like me, it doesn't matter what form of government we have.

B. In certain situations, a non-democratic government can be preferable
A. Democracy is preferable to any other form of government

Which of these three statements is closest to your own opinion?

Support for Democracy

Measuring Demand for Democracy
Demand for Democracy Over Time in South Africa
Support for Democracy
Increasing Support for Democracy, 2000-2005
(Reject 3 Forms of Authoritarianism)

Constant Demand Over Three Rounds
(Reflect 3 Forms of Authoritarianism)
Declining Demand Over Three Rounds
Reject 3 Forms of Authoritarianism
Increasing Demand Over Three Rounds
Demand for Democracy
Figure 13.2: The Consolidation of Political Regimes, Selected African Countries (1999-2001)

A Demand-Supply Model of Regime Consolidation
Demand ("Committee Democrats")
Supply ("Satisfied Democrats") and Demand ("Committed Democrats")
The Consolidation of African Regimes, Circa 2005
In your opinion, how likely is it that

will remain a democratic country?

Via Popular Perceptions of Stability
New Round 3 Measure of Consolidation
2005-2006
Perceived Durability of Democracy,
Voter Identification and Popular Trust in Political Parties
But harder to get out to vote

- potential source of voter fluidity

Independents are

- Vote for that party

- Vote

But those with partisan attachments are much more likely to

But those with partisan attachments, such as the image of the candidate on short term forces, such as the image of the candidate can feel close to a party but vote for someone else depending.

Not the same as a voting decision -- voters can conceptually

Some may be "independent," or feel close to no party.

Identification with a political party ("standing choice")

Many people come to an election campaign with a pre-formed

Partition Identification

Evidence
Which Party?

Party Identification
(All Potential Voters)

ANC Identification v. ANC Voting Preference

% Would Vote ANC in Election v. % Identifies With ANC
Party Identification by Province, 2006
ANC Identification by Province, 2006
Party Identification, 2005-2006

- Opposition
- Independent
- Ruling Party
2000-2005
Stable Voter Identification With Ruling Political Parties
(I2 Afrobarometer Countries, 1999-2001)

Partisan Identification and Voter Turnout,
South Africa
Partisan Identification and Voter Turnout
Trust in Ruling and Opposition Parties, by Partisan Identification, 2005-2006
Don't Know Enough About Them

One Group Only

All


Images of Opposition Parties
Don't Know Enough About Them

One Group Only

All

VCT South Africa Post Election Study

Images of Opposition Parties
Independent Voters
- Contacting Officials
- Community Participation
- Cognitive Engagement
- Voter Turnout

Demand

Supply

Measuring Citizenship
ANC Vote Proportion

(South Africa)

Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support
(South Africa)

Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support
- Level of Development -- 64% turnout
- Age of Democracy -- 69% turnout
- Representation (Proportional) -- 70% turnout
- Type of electoral system (Proportional)

South Africa:

- Holding all other things equal, a country with

Turnout in South Africa

Understanding Declining Voter
Support in two consecutive elections -- 56%
Predominant Party System (>60% government
Level of Development -- 64% turnout
Age of Democracy -- 69% turnout
Representation -- 70% turnout
Type of electoral system (Proportional

South Africa:

Holding all other things equal, a country with

Turnout in South Africa
Understanding Declining Voter

Turnout
Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support in Namibia
Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support

Mozambique
Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support (Zimbabwe)
(Botswana)
Voter Turnout and Governing Party Support
For More Information:

See

www.afrobrometer.org

Questionnaires, data sets, results and publications

including

downloadable versions of

For More Information: