

Background Briefing

"We are shining a light on governance in Africa, and in so doing we are making a unique contribution to improving the quality of governance. The Ibrahim Index is a tool to hold governments to account and frame the debate about how we are governed. Africans are setting benchmarks not only for their own continent, but for the world." Mo Ibrahim

Ibrahim Index of African Governance

The Ibrahim Index of African Governance is a comprehensive ranking of sub-Saharan African nations according to governance quality.

The Ibrahim Index assesses national governance against 57 criteria. The criteria capture the quality of services provided to citizens by government. The focus is on the results that the people of a country experience,

The criteria are divided into five over-arching categories which together make up the cornerstones of a government's obligations to its citizens:

- Safety and Security
- Rule of Law, Transparency and Corruption
- Participation and Human Rights
- Sustainable Economic Opportunity
- Human Development

The full structure of the Ibrahim index is provided in Appendix E.

The Ibrahim Index is a progressive and responsive tool that will evolve to accommodate feedback and critique from various stakeholders such as citizens, civil society, business, governmental and non-governmental organisations, as well as taking into account economic and social transformation that may affect the governance context in sub-Saharan Africa.

It was created in recognition of the need for a comprehensive and quantifiable method of measuring governance quality in sub-Saharan Africa, and has been designed to:

- Provide a tool for civil society and citizens to hold governments to account
- Stimulate debate on governance, particularly by providing information about leadership performance
- Provide a diagnostic framework to assess governance in sub-Saharan Africa

First published in September 2007, the Ibrahim Index will continue to assess the quality of governance in sub-Saharan Africa every year, making it a valuable reference tool for people across the continent to gauge the effectiveness of their leadership over a period of time.

The 2008 Ibrahim Index is based on data from 2006, the last year with reasonably complete available data for nearly all sub-Saharan Africa countries. The Ibrahim Index and category scores are reproduced in Appendix A, with the full data set available online. In the first year, data for 2000, and 2002, and 2005 were also published by the Foundation to provide a benchmark for gauging recent progress.

A time lag in indices of this nature is standard practice. This is mainly due to problems with data collection and availability, and the Ibrahim Index, with its two year time lag, is more up-to-date than many other



indices. The data from earlier years are still relevant since the course of progress over time provides the most important analysis of governance changes in a country, and this movement can still be charted with a two year delay.

For a full dataset and accompanying papers please see www.moibrahimfoundation.org/index

The Ibrahim Index is compiled under the direction of Professor Robert Rotberg and his team at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University with support from an Advisory Council of distinguished African scholars and practitioners.

- Michael Chege, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, University of Florida, and Advisor, International Development Policy, Ministry of Planning and Development (Kenya)
- Mathews Chikaonda, Group Chief Executive, Press Corporation Ltd (Malawi); Keli Gadzekpo, Executive Vice-Chairman, Databank (Ghana)
- Monde Muyangwa, Academic Dean, Africa Center for Strategic Studies, National Defense University (Zambia)
- Moss Ngoasheng, Executive Chairman of Safika Holdings (Pty) Limited (South Africa)
- Nawal Nour, Director, African Women's Health Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston (Sudan)
- Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, Facilitator, African Governance Institute, United Nations Development Program (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Julie Oyegun, Director, World Bank Group, Diversity Programs (Nigeria)
- Rotimi Suberu, Professor of Political Science, University of Ibadan (Nigeria)
- Geraldine Umugwaneza, former Supreme Court Justice (Rwanda)
- Leonard Wantchekon, Professor, Wilf Family Department of Politics, New York University (Benin)

Over the coming years the Foundation intends to transfer a large part of the compilation of the Ibrahim Index to selected African institutions and is working with the Kennedy School to build capacity within those institutions.



Appendix A: The Ibrahim Index of African Governance

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Angola	82.0	38.4	29.0	32.9	34.4	43.3	44	
Benin					56.2	62.5	13	
Botswana	75.0	81.6	87.4	58.2	68.0	74.0	4	
Burkina Faso	86.1	56.5	70.1	30.3	48.4	58.3	20	
Burundi	62.0	48.3	60.4	35.9	43.3	50.0	35	
Cameroon	77.7	43.3	54.7	44.7	56.5	55.4	25	
Cape Verde	100.0	86.1	77.7	47.2	62.6	74.7	3	
Central African Republic	46.7	42.7	60.2	34.9	33.2	43.6	43	
Chad	51.5	40.1	29.8	25.6	22.5	33.9	46	
Comoros	94.4	52.8	73.1	37.5	51.5	61.9	14	
Congo	68.5	43.5	48.6	48.7	57.1	53.3	28	
Congo, Democratic Republic	52.8	24.3	14.7	26.3	30.7	29.8	47	
Cote d'Ivoire	75.2	36.0	22.6	42.9	51.6	45.6	42	
Djibouti	86.0	43.6	55.6	36.8	54.0	55.2	26	
Equatorial Guinea	86.0	43.3	32.2	48.5	36.0	49.2	36	
Eritrea	81.0	56.6	10.6	35.4	48.8	46.5	41	
Ethiopia	72.8	47.9	40.4	40.5	52.7	50.9	31	
Gabon	100.0	56.4	61.2	61.6	67.8	69.4	8	
Gambia	86.0	54.7	42.5	40.5	52.2	55.2	27	
Ghana	86.1	72.7	80.2	47.3	64.3	70.1	7	
Guinea	80.3	51.0	25.4	32.3	50.0	47.8	40	
Guinea-Bissau	80.5	34.6	75.2	23.3	45.8	51.9	30	
Kenya	63.3	56.0	63.3	48.6	64.5	59.1	17	
Lesotho	75.0	69.3	75.5	42.9	53.7	63.3	12	
Liberia	58.8	26.8	87.9	36.9	33.2	48.7	38	
Madagascar	86.1	57.3	74.9	39.4	44.3	60.4	16	
Malawi	86.1	64.0	69.1	40.7	59.7	63.9	11	
Mali	77.8	50.0	74.7	31.4	45.8	55.9	23	
Mauritania	71.0	58.8	30.8	36.8	56.5	50.8	32	
Mauritius	91.7	80.5	92.2	71.4	89.9	85.1	1	
Mozambique	86.1	50.4	70.4	36.7	41.7	57.1	22	
Namibia	83.3	76.7	75.3	57.4	61.6	70.9	6	
Niger	86.1	51.7	79.4	27.6	32.5	55.5	24	
Nigeria	63.7	48.2	44.1	40.7	45.9	48.5	39	
Rwanda	98.4	46.0	69.5	37.7	43.6	59.0	18	
Sao Tome and Principe	100.0	55.6	83.4	41.5	61.1	68.3	9	
Senegal	85.4	66.2	81.7	42.3	54.9	66.1	10	
Seychelles	83.2	80.4	76.9	70.0	88.4	79.8	2	
Sierra Leone	79.6	37.3	69.8	27.1	31.8	49.1	37	
Somalia	38.8	8.2	6.4	26.0	15.2	18.9	48	
South Africa	61.1	78.1	86.3	63.5	68.7	71.5	5	
Sudan	29.0	29.8	12.0	42.2	58.0	34.2	45	
Swaziland	69.4	56.9	28.8	46.5	49.2	50.2	34	
Tanzania	83.3	59.6	65.4	43.4	56.4	61.6	15	
Togo	77.2	47.1	44.2	42.0	54.4	53.0	29	
Uganda	75.1	55.8	61.0	42.2	57.4	58.3	19	
Zambia	77.8	60.5	66.6	43.0	43.5	58.3	21	
Zimbabwe	75.1	44.6	41.9	38.8	51.7	50.4	33	
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Appendix B: 2005 Category and Overall Scores

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Angola	81.6	38.4	27.9	32.5	34.4	43.0	42
Benin					55.9	61.4	12
Botswana	75.0	82.0	86.7	57.3	67.7	73.7	4
Burkina Faso Burundi	86.1 59.8	58.5 47.9	57.2 27.2	29.7 33.8	47.7 43.0	55.9 42.3	23 43
Cameroon	59.8 77.7	47.9 42.7	27.2 53.7	33.8 43.5	43.0 56.1	42.3 54.7	43 26
Cape Verde	100.0	80.4	84.7	48.8	61.2	75.0	3
Central African Republic	51.6	45.4	59.5	33.1	33.2	44.5	41
Chad	56.5	42.2	43.0	27.2	22.5	38.3	45
Comoros	94.3	51.4	58.8	39.2	52.3	59.2	16
Congo	67.7	47.8	48.6	48.2	53.4	53.2	28
Congo, Democratic Republic	52.1	25.0	13.4	26.3	30.4	29.4	47
Cote d'Ivoire	75.5	35.1	20.0	42.5	49.8	44.6	40
Djibouti	86.0	40.2	49.6	36.5	53.2	53.1	29
Equatorial Guinea	86.0	44.6	29.4	52.8	35.9	49.7	33
Eritrea	82.0	58.5	10.3	35.5	49.1	47.1	39
Ethiopia	75.2	49.1	44.3	40.4	51.0	52.0	30
Gabon	100.0	55.2	62.2	61.6	67.8	69.4	9
Gambia	86.0	56.8	48.6	39.8	51.0	56.4	20
Ghana	86.0	70.5	79.8	46.6	64.1	69.4	8
Guinea	80.3	51.0	30.2	32.6	48.7	48.6	34
Guinea-Bissau	80.5	34.6	54.9	22.4	46.3	47.7	37
Kenya	63.0	56.7	66.2	47.7	63.9	59.5	15
Lesotho Liberia	75.0 56.2	66.8 27.4	72.5 39.0	40.0 36.0	51.7 32.8	61.2 38.3	13 44
Madagascar	86.1	54.7	67.9	35.3	43.9	57.6	18
Malawi	86.1	63.2	71.0	39.2	59.1	63.7	11
Mali	77.8	51.4	76.4	28.6	45.1	55.9	24
Mauritania	71.0	62.2	60.4	30.9	56.5	56.2	21
Mauritius	91.7	82.7	95.3	70.9	89.9	86.1	1
Mozambique	86.1	46.6	70.5	35.4	41.5	56.0	22
Namibia	83.3	74.1	76.9	55.5	62.4	70.4	6
Niger	86.1	50.5	82.8	24.9	31.7	55.2	25
Nigeria	62.8	44.5	42.9	40.4	45.7	47.3	38
Rwanda	97.7	44.0	66.5	38.0	43.1	57.9	17
Sao Tome and Principe	100.0	51.8	93.8	43.6	61.0	70.1	7
Senegal	85.9	65.0	82.2	43.1	54.4	66.1	10
Seychelles	83.3	74.4	76.9	67.7	88.4	78.1	2
Sierra Leone	79.7	38.3	66.0	26.7	31.7	48.4	35
Somalia South Africa	46.0 61.1	20.0 75.4	5.4 86.9	26.0 62.8	15.1 68.3	22.5 70.9	48 5
Sudan	31.2	31.1	15.4	40.6	58.1	70.9 35.3	46
Swaziland	69.4	51.6	22.8	45.9	49.5	47.9	36
Tanzania	83.3	57.6	62.6	43.6	53.9	60.2	14
Togo	76.7	46.1	38.7	41.6	53.7	51.4	31
Uganda	70.4	55.0	46.2	42.0	57.0	54.1	27
Zambia	77.8	60.5	65.5	40.5	42.5	57.4	19
Zimbabwe	75.0	45.8	40.0	44.3	51.2	51.2	32



Appendix C: 2002 Category and Overall Scores

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Con	São	Sills sto	Say, Silly	SUSTOPPE	HILL	Iblo Phil	4st.
Angola	56.8	24.6	22.6	27.5	35.1	33.3	46
Benin	86.1	59.6	83.6	36.4			
Botswana	75.0	82.6	90.0	56.5	67.3	74.3	3
Burkina Faso	86.1	50.5	55.5	29.1	44.2	53.1	25
Burundi	49.1 77.7	46.3 39.4	21.3 35.6	35.1 42.6	40.6 53.4	38.5 49.7	43 34
Cameroon	100.0	39.4 73.7	83.7	42.6 44.4	63.6	73.1	34 4
Cape Verde Central African Republic	50.4	48.4	68.6	32.1	31.9	46.3	39
Chad	55.4	38.2	53.0	26.6	22.0	39.0	42
Comoros	94.4	50.7	40.3	38.4	50.8	54.9	22
Congo	61.9	46.0	49.6	45.1	52.2	51.0	31
Congo, Democratic Republic	32.5	35.4	15.6	23.7	28.3	27.1	47
Cote d'Ivoire	64.0	46.2	28.5	39.6	49.5	45.5	40
Djibouti	86.0	40.4	63.7	35.2	50.0	55.1	20
Equatorial Guinea	86.0	34.5	30.1	51.0	34.4	47.2	37
Eritrea	75.7	59.8	17.1	34.4	46.5	46.7	38
Ethiopia	75.6	49.8	47.7	36.9	48.0	51.6	29
Gabon	100.0	59.2	70.3	58.2	67.3	71.0	6
Gambia	86.0	60.5	56.5	36.5	48.1	57.5	17
Ghana	85.9	70.5	77.1	44.7	61.8	68.0	9
Guinea	79.9	50.3	46.8	32.5	42.9	50.5	32
Guinea-Bissau	80.5	48.6	66.9	18.4	43.5	51.6	30
Kenya	63.4	54.7	64.0	44.7	63.4	58.0	15
Lesotho	75.0	69.5	74.3	38.5	51.1	61.7	13
Liberia	46.6	18.4	59.6	35.5	27.1	37.5	44
Madagascar	85.8	51.3	67.8	28.6	41.1	54.9	21
Malawi	86.1	63.8	73.0	36.3	57.8	63.4	11
Mali	77.8	57.3	61.4	27.7	41.8	53.2	24
Mauritania	70.9	71.9	54.5	28.6	56.4	56.5	19
Mauritius	91.7	78.1	89.2	66.2	88.4	82.7	1
Mozambique	86.1	43.4	83.9	34.6	38.4	57.3	18
Namibia	81.4	85.8	79.9	54.0	62.6	72.7	5
Niger	86.1 61.7	48.5	72.2 47.6	24.6	28.4 42.8	52.0 45.5	27 41
Nigeria Rwanda	95.0	39.2 49.8	24.3	36.0 38.7	42.6 40.5	49.6	35
Sao Tome and Principe	100.0	49.6 55.0	93.8	40.6	57.8	69.4	8
Senegal	85.6	64.9	86.7	41.1	49.6	65.6	10
Seychelles	83.2	78.0	78.2	62.1	88.6	78.0	2
Sierra Leone	77.1	38.3	77.5	31.7	25.8	50.1	33
Somalia	40.4	20.0	7.3	25.0	15.7	21.7	48
South Africa	61.1	74.1	92.2	59.3	67.8	70.9	7
Sudan	34.2	44.2	12.0	36.9	55.8	36.6	45
Swaziland	69.4	47.5	27.8	44.2	50.0	47.8	36
Tanzania	83.3	54.9	72.2	43.1	52.1	61.1	14
Togo	77.5	47.5	40.7	41.5	51.6	51.8	28
Uganda	63.3	55.4	52.0	41.2	55.2	53.4	23
Zambia	77.8	59.9	71.5	39.0	40.4	57.7	16
Zimbabwe	77.0	45.1	46.3	44.8	48.2	52.3	26



Appendix D: 2000 Category and Overall Scores

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Angola	57.7	24.0	22.1	22.4	33.2	31.9	46
Benin	86.1	61.5	93.0	35.8	50.7	65.4	9
Botswana	75.0	80.9	90.0	56.8	67.1	74.0	3
Burkina Faso	86.1	58.9	46.5	27.1	42.6	52.2	23
Burundi	47.8 77.8	46.3	20.0	33.3 42.6	40.1	37.5 49.6	44
Cameroon	100.0	40.7 77.4	35.1 71.2	42.6	52.0 63.3	71.0	30 5
Cape Verde Central African Republic	55.6	48.4	66.0	32.4	32.0	46.9	36
Chad	56.6	38.2	52.5	23.1	20.5	38.2	43
Comoros	94.4	50.7	38.5	37.5	49.3	54.1	18
Congo	67.8	46.0	29.3	47.0	51.4	48.3	32
Congo, Democratic Republic	39.3	35.4	7.8	16.9	29.7	25.8	47
Cote d'Ivoire	76.1	48.2	25.4	39.3	50.6	47.9	33
Djibouti	85.8	40.4	63.7	34.0	49.2	54.6	17
Equatorial Guinea	86.0	34.5	30.1	43.8	35.8	46.0	37
Eritrea	62.8	34.8	22.8	29.3	46.5	39.2	41
Ethiopia	74.4	43.3	23.7	38.1	46.7	45.2	38
Gabon	100.0	50.7	70.8	57.6	67.2	69.2	7
Gambia	86.0	60.5	31.2	39.0	48.0	53.0	20
Ghana	86.0	63.8	69.9	43.8	61.4	65.0	10
Guinea	75.8	48.5	61.7	31.3	41.8	51.8	24
Guinea-Bissau	78.3	48.6	73.1	24.3	44.6	53.8	19
Kenya	63.7	53.5	61.1	44.7	64.0	57.4	13
Lesotho	75.0	67.7	33.2	37.7	51.1	52.9	21
Liberia	50.1	18.4	59.1	42.0	27.0	39.3	40
Madagascar Malawi	86.1 86.1	45.3 66.5	79.8 73.5	34.3 37.8	40.8 56.9	57.3 64.2	14 11
Mali	77.8	57.3	46.8	27.7	38.2	49.6	31
Mauritania	70.9	70.1	28.4	27.8	53.3	50.1	29
Mauritius	91.7	78.7	91.0	63.8	88.2	82.7	1
Mozambique	86.1	40.1	79.8	32.0	36.6	54.9	16
Namibia	79.5	90.5	79.7	51.9	63.2	73.0	4
Niger	86.1	48.5	71.6	23.0	26.9	51.2	27
Nigeria	63.8	34.7	47.3	37.8	42.5	45.2	39
Rwanda	91.4	46.1	24.8	35.9	40.0	47.6	35
Sao Tome and Principe	100.0	55.0	85.2	34.9	55.4	66.1	8
Senegal	82.1	62.9	78.9	41.5	47.7	62.6	12
Seychelles	83.3	78.0	78.2	61.7	88.4	77.9	2
Sierra Leone	56.8	40.1	49.6	24.4	24.5	39.1	42
Somalia South Africa	45.6 61.1	20.0 76.1	7.3	24.9 58.0	14.7	22.5 70.6	48 6
Sudan	35.5	40.9	90.7 10.2	36.7	67.0 55.4	35.8	45
Swaziland	69.4	51.2	24.6	43.3	50.7	47.9	45 34
Tanzania	83.3	56.6	42.0	41.8	51.8	55.1	15
Togo	77.7	47.5	42.5	37.9	51.0	51.3	26
Uganda	75.1	53.4	30.6	40.6	53.0	50.5	28
Zambia	77.8	60.5	44.4	39.4	40.1	52.5	22
Zimbabwe	75.9	52.8	36.9	41.6	50.1	51.5	25



Appendix E: Structure of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance

Performance in the Ibrahim Index of African Governance is assessed against 57 separate criteria, which are grouped into five main categories. These five categories are separated into fourteen sub-categories. For comprehensive notes on the method and data sources of the Ibrahim Index, please visit www.moibrahimfoundation.org/index

A. SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. National Security

- i. Government involvement in armed conflicts
- ii. Number of battle-deaths
- iii. Number of civilian deaths due to one-sided violence
- iv. Refugees and asylum seekers originating from the country
- v. Internally displaced people
- vi. Ease of access to small arms and light weapons

2. Public Safety

i. Violent crime (homicides)

B. RULE OF LAW, TRANSPARENCY, AND CORRUPTION

1. Ratification of Critical Legal Norms

- i. Ratification of core international human rights conventions
- ii. International sanctions
- iii. Property rights index

2. Judicial Independence and Efficiency

- i. Judicial independence
- ii. Efficiency of the courts
- iii. Number of days to settle a contract dispute

3. Corruption

i. Public Sector corruption

C. PARTICIPATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Participation in Elections

- i. Free and Fair Executive Elections
- ii. Opposition Participation in Executive Elections
- iii. Free and Fair Legislative Elections
- iv. Opposition Participation in Legislative Elections

2. Respect for Civil and Political Rights

- i. Respect for physical integrity rights
- ii. Respect for civil rights



- iii. Press Freedom
- iv. Women's economic rights
- v. Women's political rights
- vi. Women's social rights

D. SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

1. Wealth Creation

- i. GDP per capita
- ii. GDP per capita growth

2. Macroeconomic Stability and Financial Integrity

- i. Inflation
- ii. Government budget deficit/surplus as a percentage of GDP
- iii. Reliability of financial institutions
- iv. Business environment

3. The Arteries of Commerce

- i. The density of paved road network per 1,000 people
- ii. Electricity installed capacity
- iii. Phone subscribers (fixed and mobile) per 100 inhabitants
- iv. Computer users per 100 inhabitants
- v. Internet users per 100 inhabitants

4. Environmental Sensitivity

i. Environmental Performance Index (EPI).

E. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

1. Poverty

- i. Poverty rate at \$1 per person per day
- ii. Poverty rate at national poverty line
- iii. Inequality
- iv. Life expectancy at birth
- v. Child mortality per 1,000
- vi. Maternal mortality per 100,000 live births
- vii. Undernourishment

2. Health and Sanitation

- i. Immunization, measles
- ii. Immunization. DPT
- iii. HIV prevalence
- iv. Incidence of tuberculosis per 100,000 people
- v. Physicians per 100,000 people
- vi. Nursing and Midwifery Personnel per 100,000 people
- vii. Access to drinking water



3. Education

- i. Adult literacy rate
- ii. Adult literacy rate, female
- iii. Primary school completion rate
- iv. Primary school completion rate, female
- v. Pupil/Teacher ratio in primary schools
- vi. Progression to Secondary School
- vii. Ratio of females to males in primary and secondary education