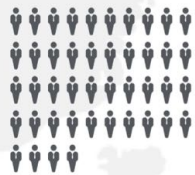


# An Innovative Self-assessment Tool for Governance in Africa

## What is APRM

APRM is a Specialized Agency of the African Union established in 2003 by the AU Member States as a Self-assessment Tool for Governance to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration through sharing of experiences and best practices. APRM has 4 types of Reviews: Base reviews; Periodic reviews; Early warning reviews; and Targeted reviews. As of July 2024, APRM has **44** participating Member States, having completed **26** base reviews, **5** second generation reviews, and **5** targeted reviews.



44 MEMBER STATES

The APRM consists of the following **5 Thematic Focus Areas:**

1. Democratic and Political
2. Economic Governance and Management
3. Corporate Governance
4. Socio-Economic Governance
5. State Resilience to Shock and Disasters



AU REGIONS	COUNTRIES
<b>North Africa (4)</b>	Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, and Tunisia
<b>West Africa (12)</b>	Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, <u>Sierra Leone</u> , Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Niger, Togo, and Gambia
<b>Southern Africa (9)</b>	Mozambique, South Africa, Lesotho, Zambia, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zimbabwe
<b>East Africa (11)</b>	Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Tanzania, Sudan, Seychelles, Burundi, and Comoros
<b>Central Africa (8)</b>	Chad, Cameroon, Congo Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Central African Republic (CAR)

## The Impact Study in the APRM Member States Aims to achieve the following objectives

- Assess APRM's contribution to governance improvement in the member states through its reviews and programmes
- Assess citizens' perceptions on the effectiveness of the APRM in shaping their country's governance and development.

## Methodology

**Study commissioned in TEN (10) countries:** Nigeria, Ghana, Chad, Djibouti, Uganda, Kenya, Egypt, Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia with National consultant from each of these countries + one international consultant. Sampling of countries influenced by: Regional balance, and language. Sampling of experts for the survey influenced by: Population of the country, age group, and level of literacy.

**Three main instruments deployed:**

1. Focus Group Discussion
2. Key Informant Interview
3. Expert and Public Opinion Survey.

**Eight(8) Key indicators and Four(4) Cross-cutting issues selected for close examination.**

**Key indicators:**

- (i) Rule of Law
- (ii) Transparency and Accountability
- (iii) Participation
- (iv) Human Rights, & International Conventions
- (v) Democracy, Elections and Freedoms
- (vi) Peace and Security; (vii) Socio-economic Governance
- (viii) Corporate Governance & Business Regulatory Environment.

**Cross-cutting issues:** (a) Corruption; (b) Diversity Management; (c) Gender inequality and (d) Youth Unemployment

**A composite index created** for each of the indicators.

**Electronically Opinion survey circulated** across the case-study countries.

**Data analysed using SPSS** and charts generated through Excel.



**10 countries**

**3 main instruments deployed**

**8 key indicators**

**4 cross-cutting issues**

## Findings

- The APRM processes has enhanced political accountability
- The APRM has also opened up a democratic space for citizens' engagement with the government.
- APRM has accelerated progress in the adoption and ratification of major international and African Union standards and codes.
- Through APRM recommendations, many countries have registered institutional and legislative improvements.
- APRM has influenced the reformation of the Electoral System, making It fairer in most member states.
- APRM has fostered cascading of good governance principles to the grassroots.
- APRM has enhanced public service delivery in most participating member states.

## Citizen perception

The results of the citizen's perception revealed that APRM has positively shaped policy reforms in the various jurisdictions. Thus, citizens are expecting more from APRM. The scenario cut across all the KEY indicators but for transparency and accountability.

## Conclusion of the study

The APRM has become an influential extra oversight institution for the participating member states. The APRM has influenced many policies and reforms in the various jurisdictions. Moreover, APRM processes and activities have enhanced stakeholder and citizens participation in the democratic processes of the member states.



**Citizens' Perception Index (N=1061, Variables = 36)**

