



Africa in Review: A look across the continent in 2022

Tracking Global Events | African Politics in 2022: Peace, Conflict and Democracy

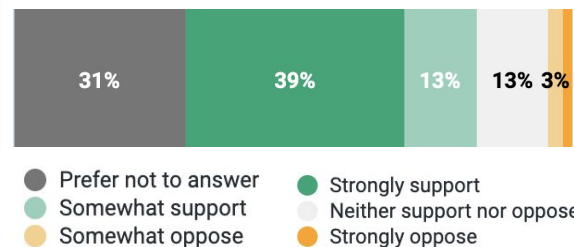
The past year saw an array of important political and social issues arise across sub-Saharan Africa. News of conflict and political instability dominated headlines, but there were also positive developments, like the ceasefire in Ethiopia and peaceful elections in Kenya. In this report, we look back on sentiment collected by Premise around these events.

Massive Support for January Coup in Burkina Faso 🇸🇳

January saw a wave of protests in Burkina Faso, with demonstrators demanding the resignation of then-President Kaboré due to the government's inability to stop armed insurgency and attacks. On January 23, a coup d'état led by military officer Paul-Henri Damiba was launched, Kaboré was overthrown, and Damiba was declared Interim President.

Surveying 1,500 of our Burkinabé contributors, we found that **52%** were in **support of the coup** while a combined **44%** chose to either not answer the question or remain neutral. This left only about **3%** in opposition.

"What is your opinion of this coup?"

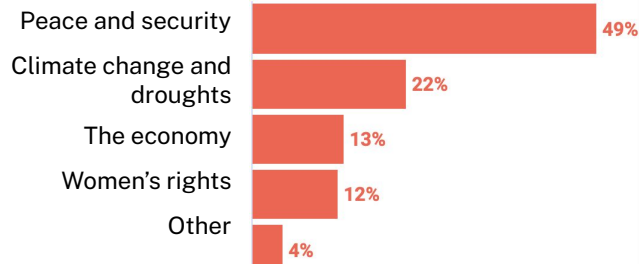


Hassan Sheikh Mohamud Returns to Power in Somalia and Vows to Promote Stability 🇸🇴

Presidential elections were held in Somalia on May 15 that saw a former President re-elected, and a peaceful alternation of power between political parties. After his election, President Mohamud vowed ensure that Somalia was better secured against Al Shabaab.

This was in line with the results of our survey ran before the elections that saw **49%** of our contributors **say they wanted peace and security to be the new government's priority**, with **climate change issues in second place at 22%**.

"What do you want the new President to prioritize?"

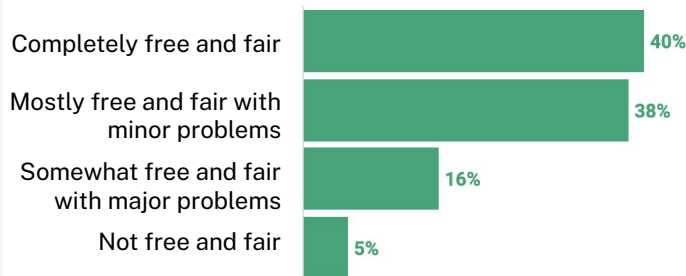


Kenya's "Free and Fair" General Elections 🇰🇪

On August 9, Kenyans headed to the polls to vote for President, Governors, and members of the National Assembly. It was a very tight presidential race with William Ruto in the lead winning 50.5% of votes and defeating Raila Odinga who received 48.85% of votes.

Many of our Kenyan contributors seemed quite happy with the elections as **40%** described it as **completely free and fair**, and **38%** as **mostly free and fair**.

"How would you describe the elections?"

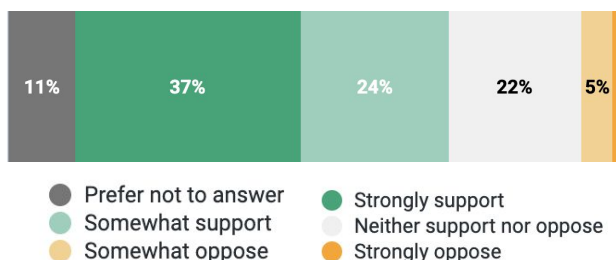


Second Coup in Burkina Faso as Damiba Loses Support over Failure to end Insurgency 🇸🇳

A few months after seizing power in January, public support for Damiba declined as his regime lost more territory to insurgents. On the 30th of September, several of the officers who had supported Damiba in the first coup planned a counter coup and brought an end to Damiba's regime.

We ran another survey in Burkina Faso and once again saw massive support for this coup with many citing dissatisfaction with Damiba's leadership as their reason.

"What is your opinion of this coup?"

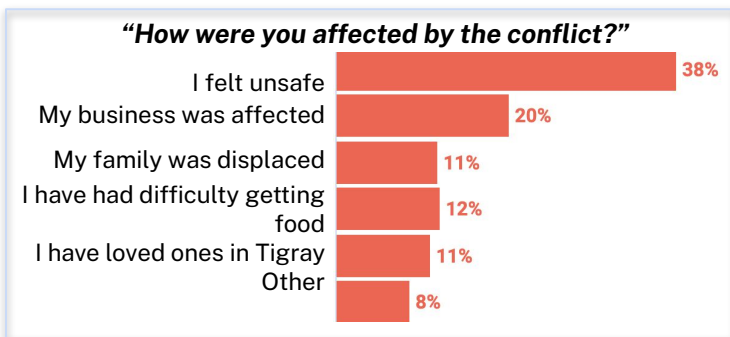




Ceasefire in Ethiopia 🇪🇹

On November 3rd, the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) agreed to a ceasefire, signalling the end of a 2 year long conflict that has left as many as half a million people dead, and at least 2 million people displaced or in need of humanitarian assistance.

We launched a survey to contributors in all regions of Ethiopia *except* the Tigray region where the internet has been shut down for many months and got insight to how people were affected by the conflict.

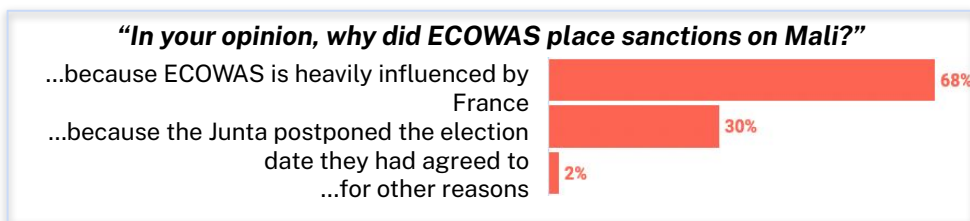


Mali's Foreign Affairs 🇲🇱

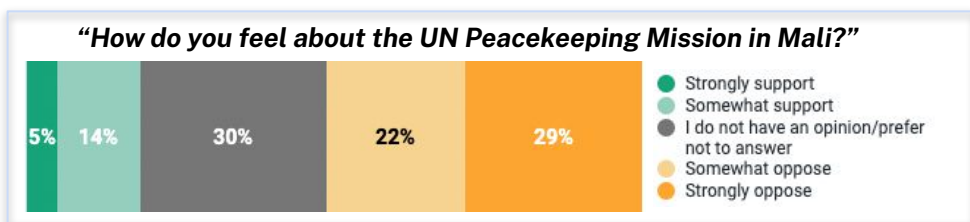
In Mali, 2022 saw the military regime of Colonel Assimi Goïta strain decades of diplomatic ties with its allies:

- **The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) placed strict economic and financial sanctions on Mali in January.** These sanctions were later lifted in July once the junta agreed to hold elections in 2024.
- **In February, France announced that it would be withdrawing its troops from Mali** due to an increasingly tense relationship with the Junta.
- **Forty-nine Ivorian soldiers were arrested in Mali in July.** Ivory Coast said the soldiers were in Mali to support a UN peacekeeping mission, while Mali's Junta accused them of being mercenaries. In December, 46 of the soldiers were sentenced to 20 years in prison, while 3 of them were sentenced to death. This sentenced was later revoked by Goïta a few days later and the soldiers were released.
- In November, Mali banned the activities of all NGOs funded or supported by France.

Premise stayed on top of these events, collecting sentimental data from our Mali network about each incident. In a survey launched about the ECOWAS sanctions, we discovered that **67%** of the 1,000 contributors polled believed **ECOWAS was heavily influenced by France.**



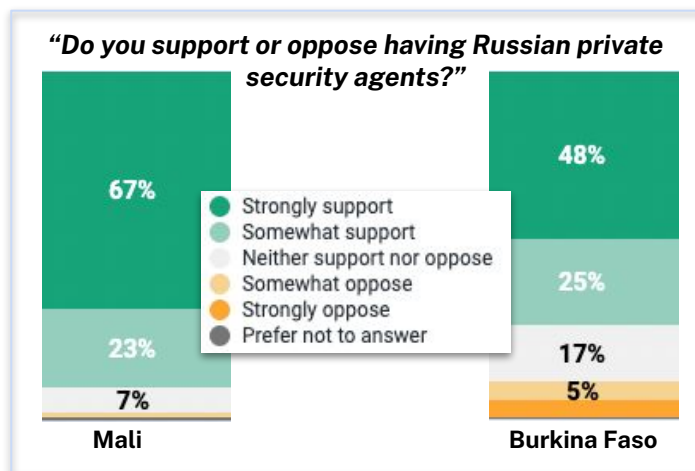
We also found that in addition to strong anti-French sentiments and support for the withdrawal of French troops, there was also increasing opposition towards the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Mali. About **51%** of respondents to a survey **opposed the UN Mission**, while only **19%** supported it.



Support for Wagner Group Presence in Mali and Burkina Faso 🇲🇱 🇸🇳

2022 saw an increasing presence of mercenaries fighting in conflicts across Africa, particularly a Russian private security group known as the Wagner Group. Despite frequent accusations of civilian abuses, Wagner fighters are active in parts of Mali, Mozambique, Central African Republic, and allegedly in Burkina Faso, although the Burkinabé Junta has denied being in talks with them.

We ran surveys in Mali and Burkina Faso, asking our contributor network for their thoughts on having “Russian Private Security Agents” in their country and found massive support for this particularly in Mali where **67%** of our 1,000 respondents say they “**strongly support**”.





Tracking Global Events | Climate Change and the Economy

Rising sea levels, extreme weather, and changing rainfall patterns continues to pose a threat to food security, population stability, and socioeconomic development in Africa. While many factors like conflict and poor governance played a role, the impact of climate change can't be overlooked. A number of African countries also faced major economic challenges in 2022, particularly Ghana, previously one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

Flooding and Other Impacts of Climate Change 🇳🇮 🇰🇪 🇲🇵 🇳🇮 🇵🇰 🇿🇼

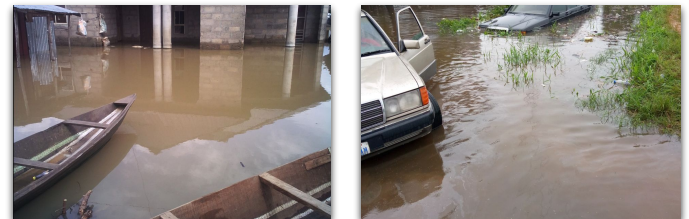
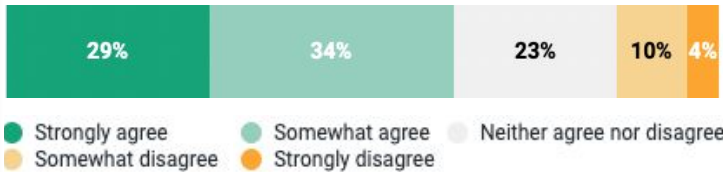
Premise launched a survey in 15 countries to better understand the ways in which climate change has affected these communities, and how Contributors think these issues should be addressed. In sub-Saharan Africa, the survey was launched in the DRC, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe.

We also collected observational data in various countries, receiving images and videos showing the impact of flood disasters on their communities.

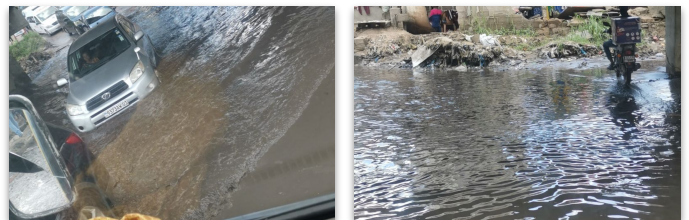
“Changes in the environment have led to food shortages in my local area in the past 6 months.”



“Changes in the environment have led caused people in my local area to move to other places for work.”



Southern Nigeria Floods (September 2022)

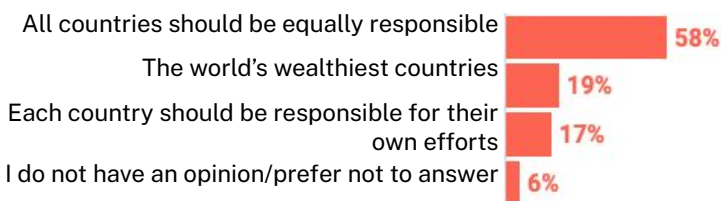


Flooding in Kinshasa, DRC (December 2022)



Aftermath of the KwaZulu-Natal Floods in South Africa (April 2022)

“Who should be responsible for fighting Climate Change?”



Ghanaians Worried Amidst Worst Economic Crisis in Decades 🇬🇦

In 2022, the Ghanaian Cedi was cited as the world's worst performing currency as the country battled with high inflation. When asked how they would best describe their feelings around the economy, **56%** of respondents reported feeling **worried**, and **37%** reported feeling **scared**.

“Which of these words best describes how you feel when you think about the economy?”



Premise in Action

Premise offers a unique ability to quickly source information from real people on the ground in hard-to-reach places. Over five million people in 138 countries are using the Premise app on their smartphones, enabling our customers to monitor a situation over time and employ a data-driven approach to timely decision-making. To learn more about Premise, [watch our tech demo](#) or [get in touch with us](#).