

Guiding note for pre-publication feedback on Africa Integrity Indicators (All) data April 1st, 2016

Since 2012, Global Integrity has collected and published three rounds of data as part of its annual Africa Integrity Indicators (All) research. A new round of data (R4) has just been completed, and in the coming months we'll be preparing updated findings.

The AII assess national-level performance on key open governance indicators throughout 54 countries in Africa. Our research provides a strong foundation for cross-country comparative analysis on the basis of qualitative benchmarks measuring social, economic, political and anti-corruption mechanisms across the continent. The indicators assess *de jure* and *de facto* questions about the rule of law, accountability, elections, public management, civil service integrity, and access to information. Under its "Social Development" section, it also takes a snapshot of a mix of social issues, from minority rights to gender, health and education.

The data is produced by a network of more than 200 in-country researchers on the African continent, and is reviewed by a network of expert country and sectoral experts. By measuring both the existing legal framework and the "in practice" implementation, its key aim is to produce actionable governance data that help governments, citizens and civil society understand and evaluate the status quo and identify intervention points for subsequent reform efforts.

Beginning 2016, Global Integrity put in place a new policy (here) that offers potential data users and interested parties a two month window to review freshly completed research and to provide corrective information. The resultant data points have been rigorously reviewed by the Global Integrity team and a panel of peer reviewers, consisting of a mix of in-country and outside experts, and we are confident of its high quality. At the same time, the two month window will afford the opportunity to identify any substantive, remaining inaccuracies. The data as currently published on our All website is considered to be provisional for a two month period.

If in your review of the indicators, you uncover a particular fact or source that is inaccurate, or have other evidence that was overlooked and would affect the scoring, please access our data feedback form here and provide us with your detailed corrective information by May 31, 2016. Please be aware that provided information needs to meet our research standards in order to be considered for adjustments and here are a few points to keep in mind:

- Provided explanation as to why you agree or disagree to a scoring or comment needs to be based on concrete examples or evidence that either support or challenge current indicator assessments. We won't be able to factor in any general statements or personal opinions.
- Each indicator comes with a set of scoring criteria and it is important that your feedback corresponds to at least one of the criteria points.



- For in practice indicators, provided evidence or examples need to be from within the study period of Round 4 research (September 2014 September 2015). Such information also need to be backed up by least one source, which can be media reports, websites or expert interviews. For in practice indicators, we do not accept any laws. When providing sources, please also make sure to specify the title, author, date of publication and relevant link.
- For *in law* indicators, only laws are accepted as sources. Make sure to indicate the title of the law, the year it was passed, the link to the law and most importantly the relevant article/section.

More information about our methodology is also available <u>here</u>, and a video about how to navigate our AII website can be found <u>here</u>.

At the end of the two month comment period, Global Integrity will take a third month to assess the provided material in relation to research standards and scoring criteria, and work to corroborate any adjustments deemed to be necessary with the researcher and reviewer. At the end of this three month period, we will adjust all necessary data in the recently published research, updating it accordingly. This will then be considered the final data and scoring for the research round, and it will again be shared throughout our network of users.

Global Integrity is a D.C.-based non-profit that supports progress toward open and accountable governance in countries and communities around the world through a combination of research, engagement and advocacy (See here for a summary of our strategy). Since its establishment in 2005, we have worked with a global network of researchers to gather data and conduct research on the transparency and accountability mechanisms in place in a number of countries, including fragile contexts. The Africa Integrity Indicators are produced in partnership with the Molbrahim Foundation and are included in the Ibrahim Index of African Governance. Global Integrity further partners with reformers in selected countries to facilitate learning and adaptation around opening governance.

Should you wish to discuss the AII data more in depth with our team and on how it can support open governance efforts in your country, please contact our team at aii@globalintegrity.org.