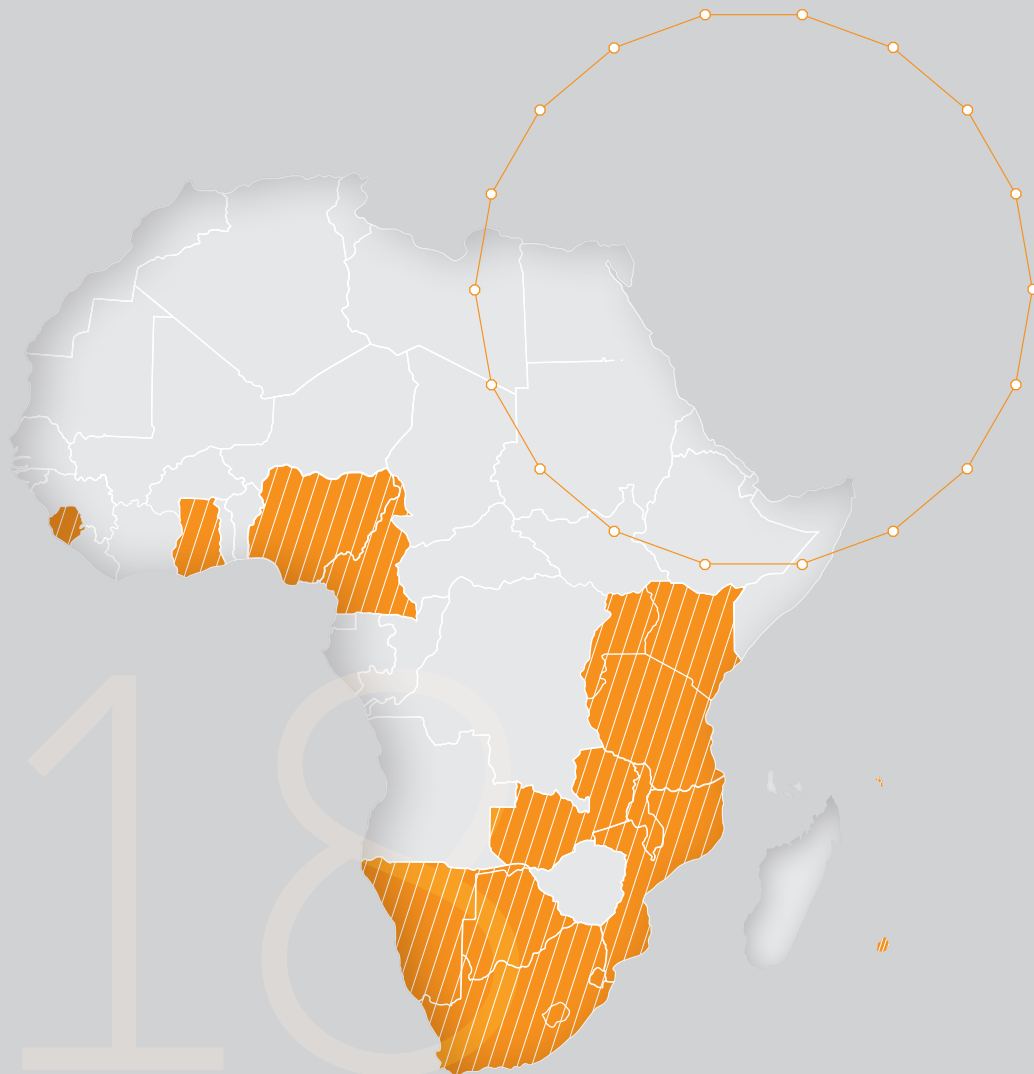




2015

Ibrahim Index of
African Governance

Commonwealth Countries



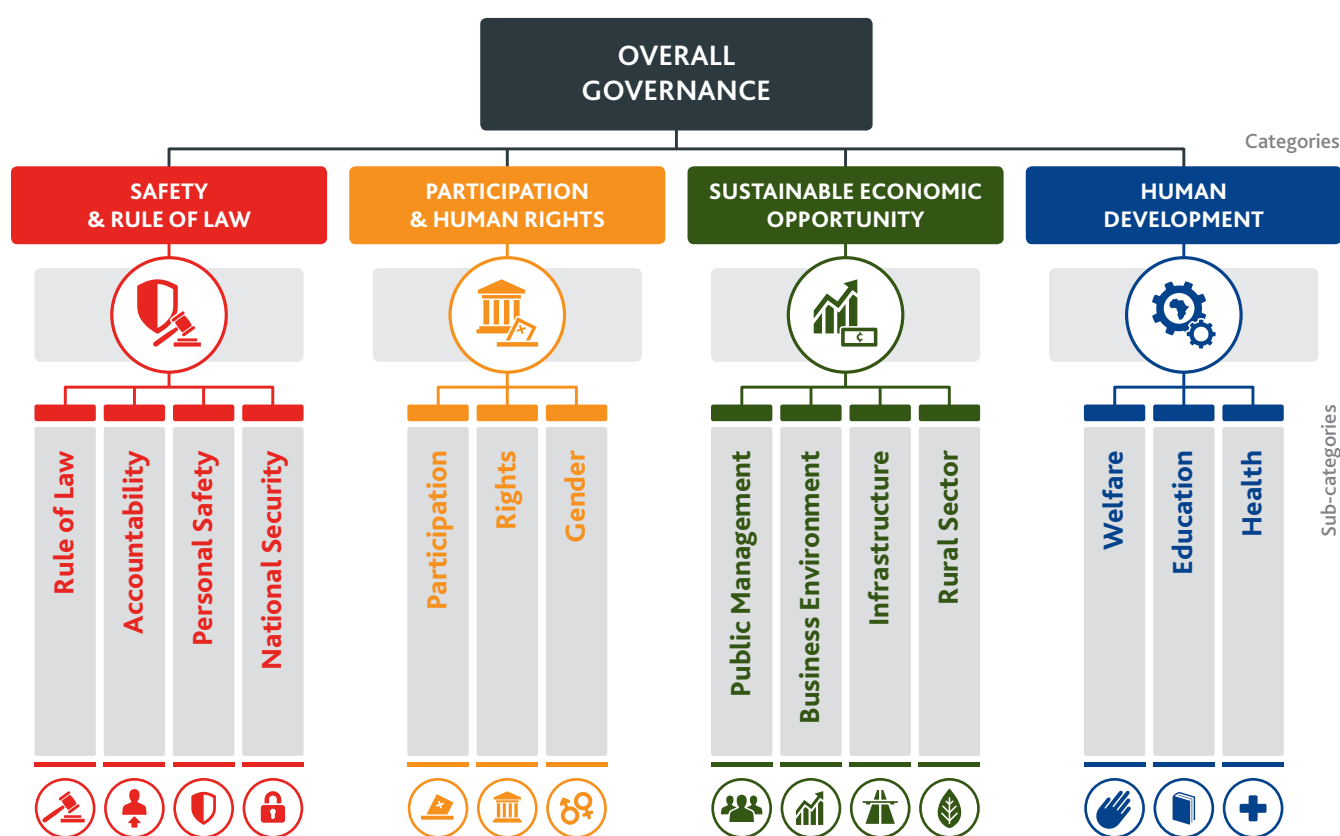
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OVERVIEW: IBRAHIM INDEX OF AFRICAN GOVERNANCE

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation defines governance as:

The provision of the political, social and economic goods that a citizen has the right to expect from his or her state, and that a state has the responsibility to deliver to its citizens.



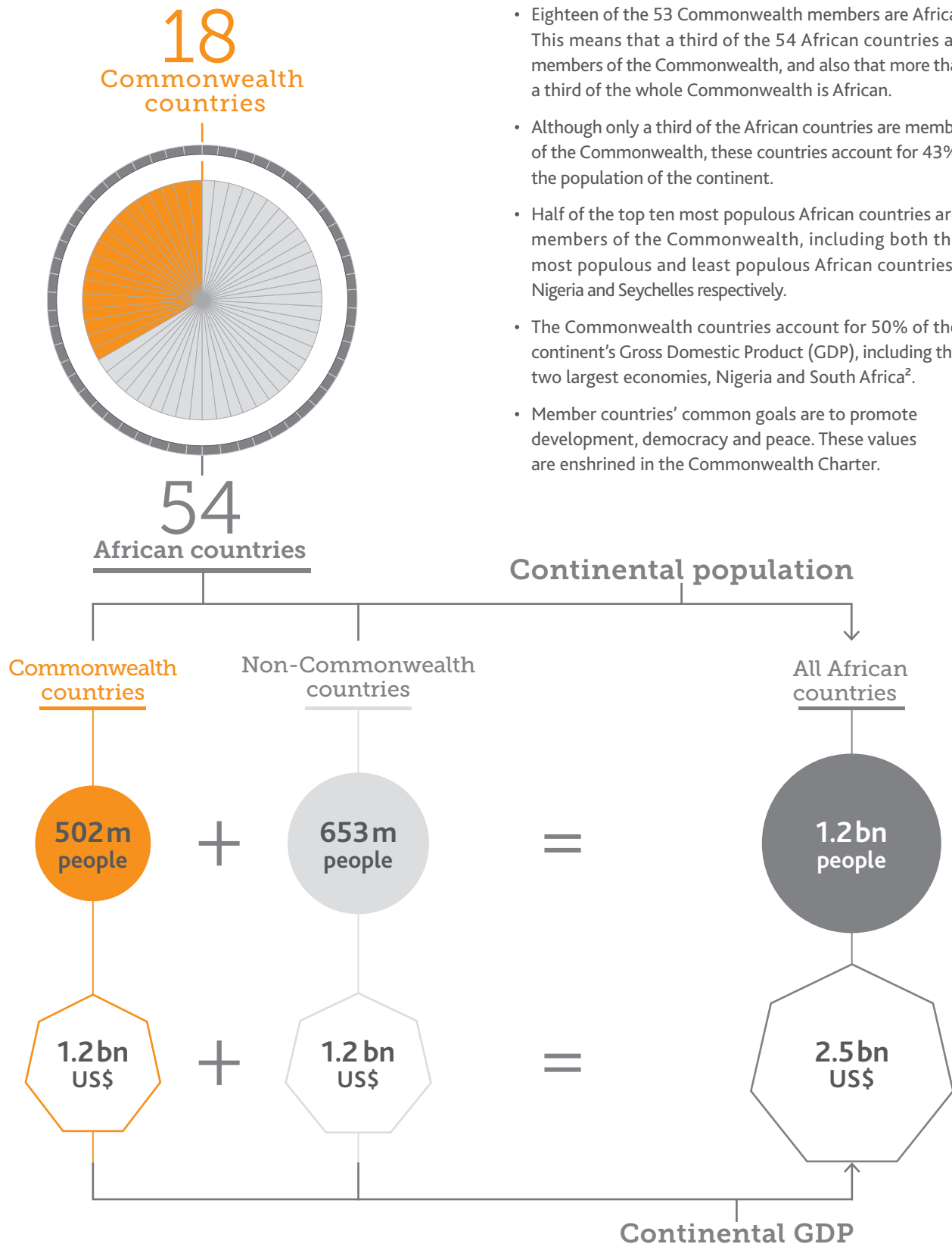
The Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) measures the quality of governance in each of the 54 African countries on an annual basis.

The data go back to 2000, so the 2015 IIAG contains 15 years of data on African governance.

The Index is a compilation of data from diverse global sources. The 2015 IIAG gathered data from 33 data institutions.

The 2015 IIAG is composed of 93 indicators organised into the four categories and 14 sub-categories as outlined in the structure diagram above.

OVERVIEW: AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH



¹ Rwanda joined the Commonwealth in November 2009. Alongside Mozambique, which became a member in 1995, Rwanda is the second country to join the Commonwealth with no colonial links to Britain. Throughout this report we will refer to Commonwealth countries meaning the African members of the Commonwealth.

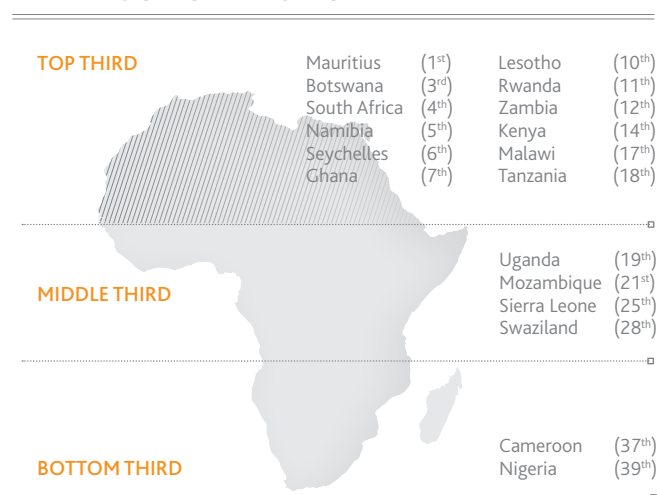
² All population and GDP data are taken from the 2016 World Development Indicators report from the World Bank, for the 2014 data year.

COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES: 2015 IIAG RESULTS

At the overall governance level: most Commonwealth countries perform above the non-Commonwealth countries average, with the exception of Nigeria and Cameroon

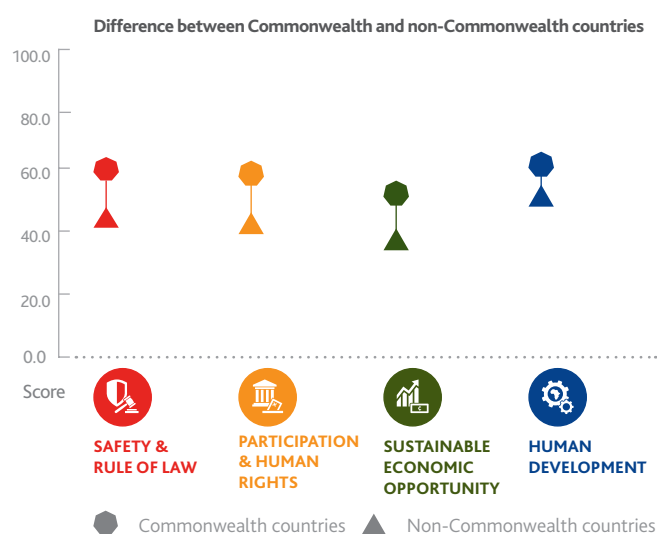
- The average overall governance score for the Commonwealth countries as a group is 60.4 (out of 100.0) at the overall governance level, considerably higher (15.5 points) than the non-Commonwealth countries (44.9).
- Thirteen out of the 18 member countries rank among the top 20 scoring countries on the continent, and over a third of the member countries sit in the top ten rankings.
- Cameroon (37th out of 54) and Nigeria (39th out of 54) sit in the bottom third of the IIAG with Cameroon and Nigeria collectively accounting for 40% of the population and 49% of the GDP of Commonwealth countries.

RANK IN 2015 IIAG IN BRACKETS



At the category level: Commonwealth countries score higher than non-Commonwealth countries across all categories

- On average, Commonwealth countries score more than 10.0 points higher than the non-Commonwealth countries in all four categories of the Index: *Safety & Rule of Law*, *Participation & Human Rights*, *Sustainable Economic Opportunity* and *Human Development*.
- The highest category score achieved by the Commonwealth countries is in *Human Development* (64.0), 11.4 points higher than the non-Commonwealth countries average (52.6).



At the sub-category level: Commonwealth countries perform best in *National Security*

- In all the 14 sub-categories, at least 11 Commonwealth countries sit in the top half of the rankings. Fifteen member countries sit the top half of the rankings for *Rule of Law* and *Participation*.
- As a group, Commonwealth countries perform best in *National Security* (84.6), scoring 14.6 points higher than the non-Commonwealth countries' average (70.0).
- *Infrastructure* (46.2) is the lowest scoring sub-category of the Commonwealth countries as a group, yet performs higher than the non-Commonwealth countries' average (31.7) for this sub-category.

As a group, Commonwealth countries:

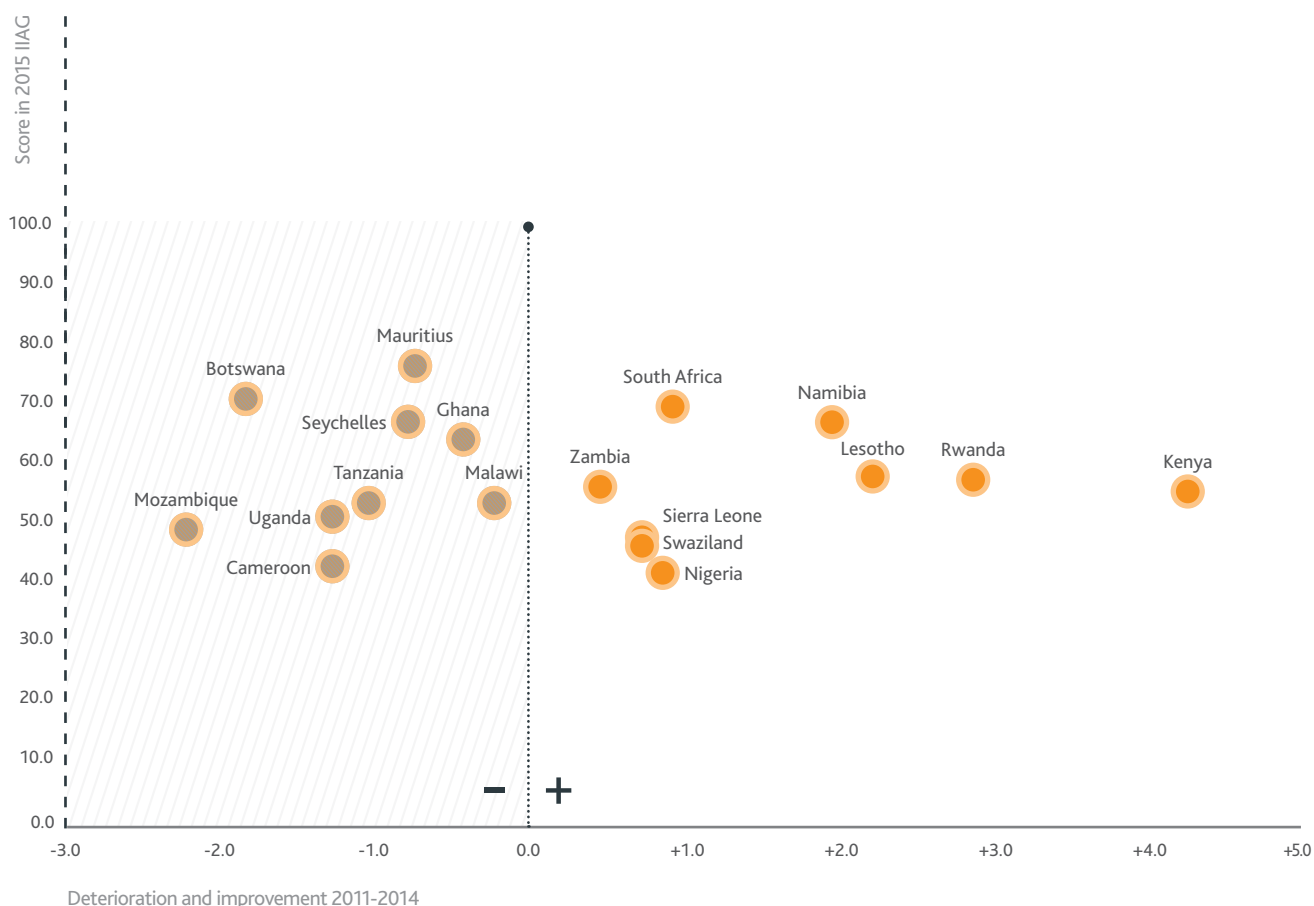


COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES: DIVERGING TRENDS OVER TIME

- Although the data in the Index extend back to 2000, every year the Foundation selects a specific time period on which to focus and draw out interesting developments on a highly diverse continent. In the 2015 IIAG this was a four-year period 2011-2014.
- This period was chosen because the Foundation felt that, with both the spread of the Arab Spring and the creation of a new Sudan and South Sudan from a previously single nation, 2011 marked an important point in moving towards a new Africa.
- Obviously the time period selected for analysis can affect which country is the most improved or deteriorated country over the period, so the Index will always publish full data going back to the year 2000, and offer users the opportunity to choose their own time period.
- The trends identified in the section below are at the three highest levels of the Index (overall governance, category and sub-category levels) over the period of analysis used in the 2015 IIAG (2011-2014).
- Following that we put a spotlight on some other time periods and types of analysis which are of interest to the Commonwealth countries:
 - Performance since last election based on the election year for each country
 - Peak performance since 2000
 - Balance for the latest data year, 2014
 - Range since 2000
 - *Statistical Capacity* indicator since 2011



OVERALL GOVERNANCE



Diverging trends at the overall governance level: half of the Commonwealth countries achieve progress, whilst half decline

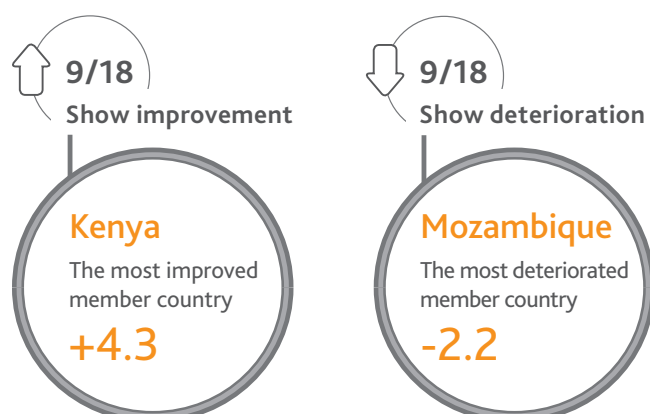
- As a group, Commonwealth countries register a marginal gain at the overall governance level (+0.3) since 2011, slightly higher than the non-Commonwealth countries average (+0.2).
- Within the Commonwealth, nine out of 18 member countries show improvement while the other nine decline in the past four years. The most improved member country is Kenya (+4.3), while the most deteriorated since 2011 is Mozambique (-2.2).



OVERALL
GOVERNANCE

2011-2014

COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES



Safety & Rule of Law and *Sustainable Economic Opportunity* decline since 2011. However the latter only declines marginally, due to a strong economic performance from Kenya (+5.9) which buoys the category.

Out of four categories: half the categories register improvement while half show a decline since 2011

- In the highest scoring category, *Human Development*, Commonwealth countries as a group show year-on-year improvement and register their largest category gains (+1.8) over the last four years, greater than the non-Commonwealth countries' average (+0.9).
- Sixteen out of the 18 member countries have registered improvement in *Human Development* in the past four years making it the category with the most countries registering gains.

At the sub-category level: five of 14 sub-categories show year-on-year improvement

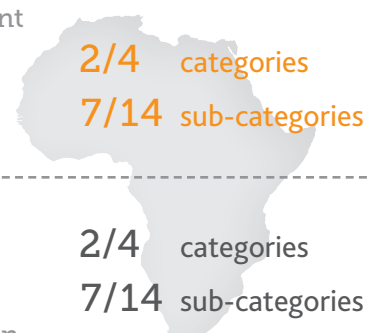
- Commonwealth countries show improvement in half of the sub-categories (seven), and deterioration in the other half since 2011.
- Thirteen out of 18 member countries register improvement in the *Health and Education* sub-categories in the past four years.
- Although *Infrastructure* remains the lowest scoring sub-category of the Commonwealth countries as a group (46.2), it is one of only five sub-categories to show year-on-year improvement since 2011.

Commonwealth countries since 2011

Improvement



Deterioration



SPOTLIGHT: PERFORMANCE SINCE LAST ELECTIONS

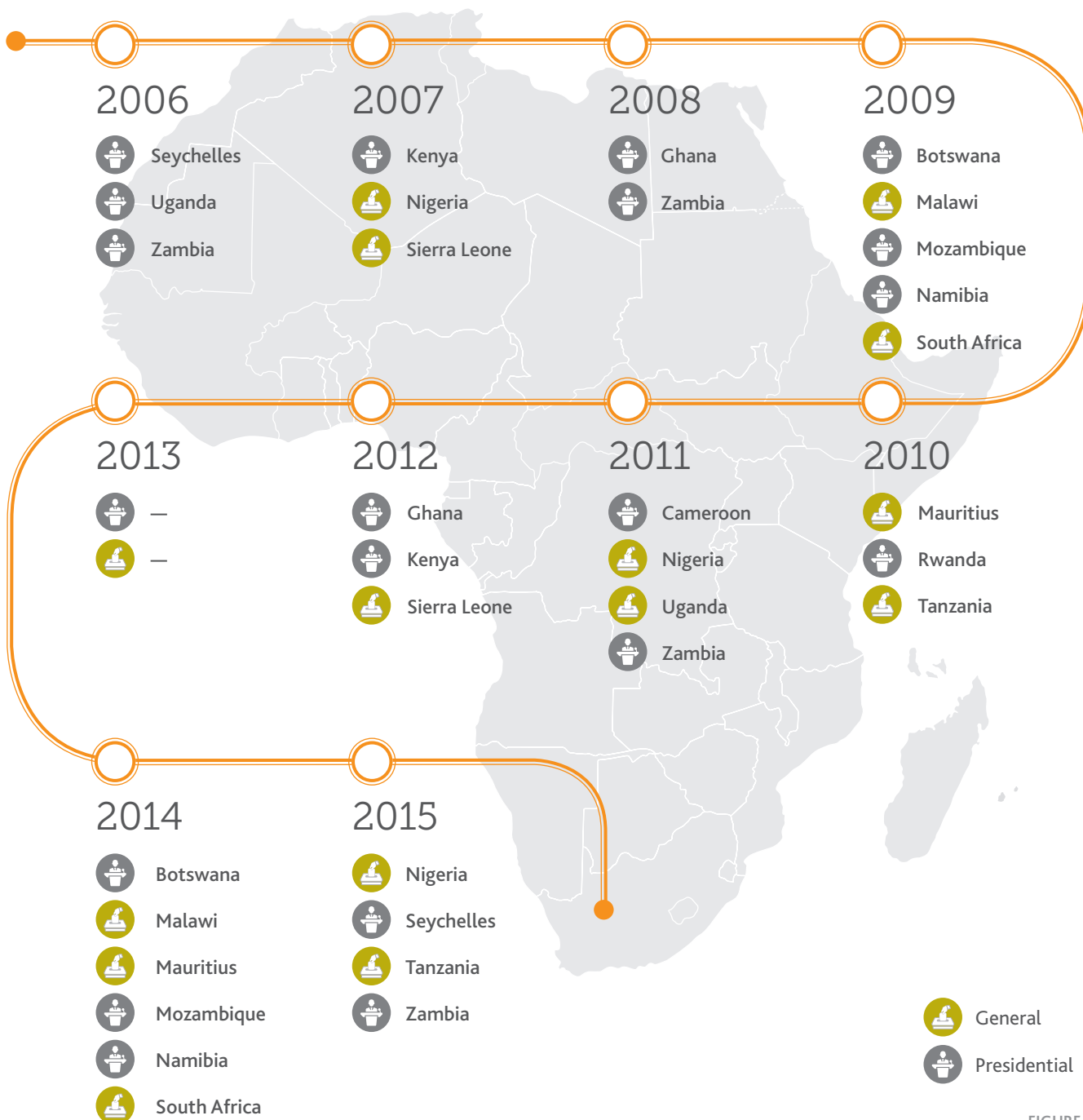


FIGURE 1

Why are we looking at this?

- The previous section looked at trends identified in the 2015 IIAG, released in October 2015. However, there are other periods of analysis that may yield interesting results. As figure 1 illustrates, over the past ten years, all but two³ of the African

Commonwealth countries held elections for Heads of State. This section will examine some facets of the performance of the Commonwealth countries since their last election prior to 2014.

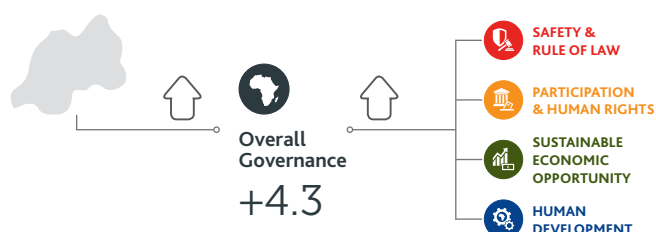
³ Lesotho and Swaziland do not hold elections for Heads of State. The Lesotho Prime Minister is appointed by the King acting on the advice of the Council of State, from the political party, or coalition of political parties, which commands the majority in the National Assembly.

What does the Index show?

- Of the 17 Commonwealth countries with an elected leader⁴, nine have shown improvement at the overall governance level since the most recent election, while eight have registered decline.
- The only country to have shown improvement across the overall governance level and all four categories since its last election is Rwanda.

Rwanda

Performance since its last election (2010)



Rwanda's improvement since its 2010 election (+4.3) is the largest magnitude of improvement at the overall governance level among any member country.

FIGURE 2

- Over three quarters of the Commonwealth countries register improvement in *Human Development* since the most recent elections, making this the category with the highest number of countries (13) to register improvement. Some of these improvements are considerable, the highest being +8.0 score points in Rwanda since 2010.
- In *Participation & Human Rights* over half of member countries have registered a decline since the most recent elections. Seychelles registers the largest decline (-5.2) since it held elections in 2011, the second largest decline on the continent.
- The sub-category with the greatest number of improving countries is *Education*, with over three quarters of Commonwealth countries (13) showing progress in since their most recent elections. However, the same number of countries (13) register a decline in *Rural Sector*, although these are a different 13 countries.

While half of Commonwealth countries register deterioration in *Gender*, seven countries show an improvement, with Nigeria registering no change. Of these seven, four register considerable improvement of over +5.0 points. Namibia shows the largest country improvement across all sub-categories (+15.6 in *Gender*) since its most recent election in 2009.

- Namibia exhibits progress across all of the sub-categories, except the four sub-categories in the *Sustainable Economic Opportunity* category. Rwanda registers improvement in all but two sub-categories (*Rule of Law* and *Rights*) since its most recent elections in 2010. Mozambique (last election 2009) and Uganda (last election 2011) register declines in 11 of the 14 sub-categories.

Top improvements/declines since last election:

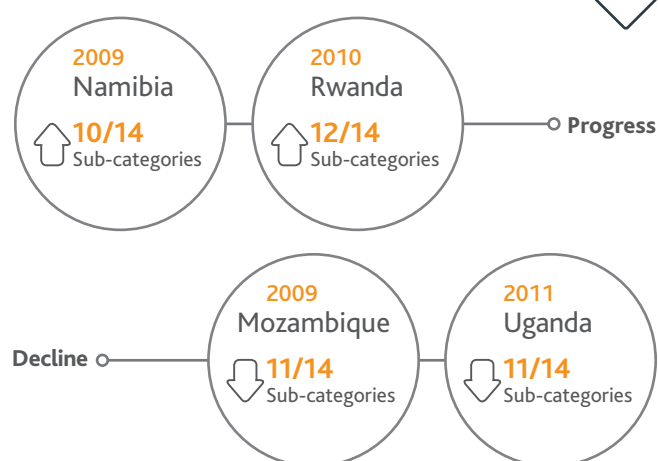


FIGURE 3

⁴ Elected leader here includes Lesotho. For Swaziland, although elected as a member of the House of Assembly, the Prime Minister is appointed by the King.

SPOTLIGHT: PEAK PERFORMANCE SINCE 2000

What do we mean by peak performance?

- In assessing a country's performance it is interesting to examine when a country's best year of performance was over the entire time series that the Index covers. As mentioned previously the data in the IIAG extend back to 2000, which mean that in the 2015 IIAG there were 15 years of data. This allows a perspective on whether countries are improving or deteriorating year-on-year. As standard in all data projects, there is a data lag involved in the Index which means that the last year of data in the 2015 IIAG was 2014.

How does peak performance register in the 2015 IIAG?



PEAK PERFORMANCE IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN 2014

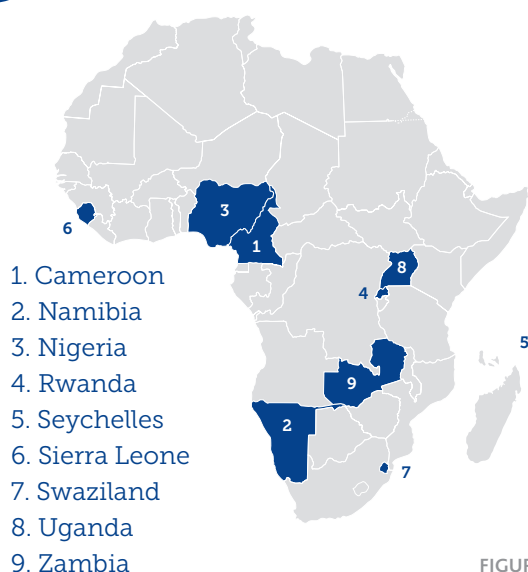


FIGURE 4

All the Commonwealth countries achieve their best possible score at the overall governance level in the more recent years (2007 onwards). Only Kenya, Namibia and Rwanda reach peak performance in 2014.

- At the overall governance level, 17 out of the 18 Commonwealth countries' worst performance across the time series was seen in 2000, with the exception of Nigeria which was in 2004.
- As figure 4 shows, *Human Development* has the highest number of Commonwealth countries that reached their peak performance in 2014 and registered their lowest possible score in 2000, making up nearly half of the total number of countries to reach their best possible score in Africa (23) for this category.
- Nine countries in Africa registered their worst possible score in 2014 in *Safety & Rule of Law* and six in *Participation & Human Rights* for the entire time series. Of these, half are Commonwealth members.
 - *Safety & Rule of Law*: Botswana, Cameroon, Seychelles and Tanzania.
 - *Participation & Human Rights*: Botswana, Mauritius and Seychelles.
- A third of member countries register their worst possible score in *Accountability* in 2014 since 2000: Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles and Tanzania.
- As figure 5 shows, in 2014 Lesotho and Rwanda reach their peak performance in six sub-categories out of 14, the highest number of sub-categories for any of the Commonwealth countries.

Peak performance in 2014



FIGURE 5

SPOTLIGHT: BALANCE

What do we mean by balance?

- The four categories that structure the Index represent concepts that the Foundation believes are the four cornerstones of a well-governed country. That it should protect the safety of its people; enable them to meaningfully engage in society; support sustainable ways for them to prosper; and ensure the provision of basic societal human goods.
- The Index does not prioritise any of these concepts over another. Governance involves delivering across all these areas whilst recognising that governing requires choices between competing priorities.
- These priorities are reflected in the measures that comprise the Index. Using a robust aggregation methodology these carefully selected measures are grouped into the categories of the Index. In order to determine how balanced a country's governance performance is, we use statistical techniques to measure the variation in category scores, with high variation demonstrating imbalance⁵.

How does balance register in the 2015 IIAG?

- Commonwealth countries are, on average, more balanced than non-Commonwealth countries.
- However despite this greater than continental average balance, there is considerable variance.
 - Within the Commonwealth countries are the third most balanced country, South Africa, and fourth most imbalanced country, Swaziland, on the continent.
- Among the Commonwealth countries, Swaziland, Ghana, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Cameroon show the most imbalance between categories in 2014.

South Africa

**3rd Most balanced
on the continent**



OVERALL
GOVERNANCE



Swaziland

**4th Most imbalanced
on the continent**



OVERALL
GOVERNANCE



FIGURE 6

⁵ This uses the standard deviation, which is a statistic that quantifies how much variation there is from the average. A large standard deviation essentially represents imbalance in the category scores.

SPOTLIGHT: RANGE

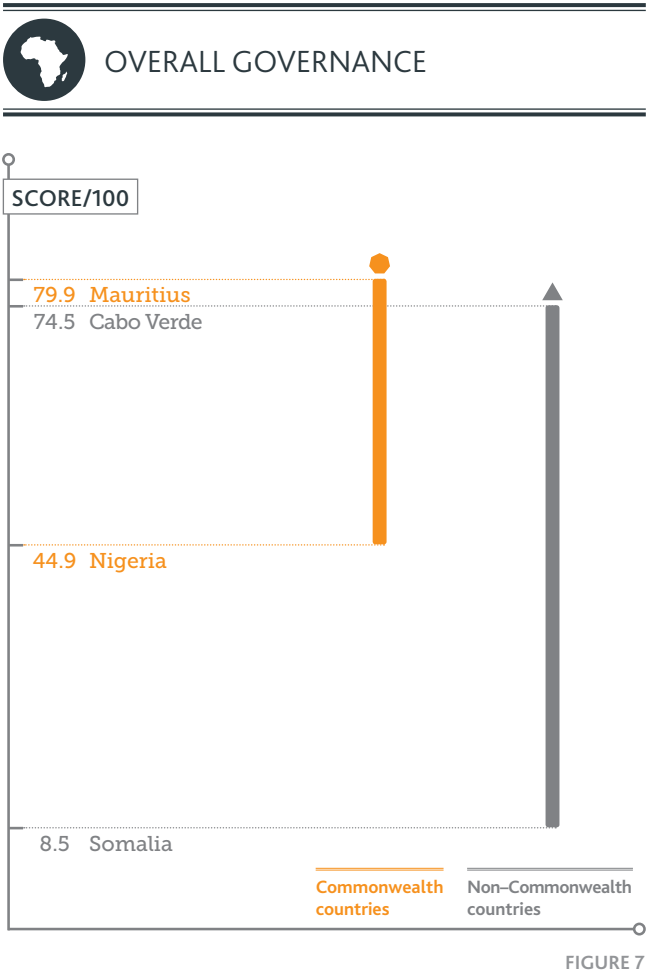
What do we mean by range?

- The range is the difference between the highest and lowest performers within a group. This differs from balance and lets us look at the consistency of performance within a group of countries.

How does range register in the 2015 IIAG?

- The range in score between the best and worst performing Commonwealth countries is smaller than non-Commonwealth countries. The range between Commonwealth countries (35.0) is close to half that of the range seen between non-Commonwealth countries (66.0) at the overall governance level as shown in figure 7.

- Two out of the 14 sub-categories show a difference in range between Commonwealth countries that is more than two times smaller than the non-Commonwealth countries:
 - *National Security*: Commonwealth countries' range (36.3) is 48.7 points lower than that of the non-Commonwealth countries (85.0).
 - *Public Management*: Commonwealth countries' range (26.5) is 35.4 points lower than that of the non-Commonwealth countries (61.9).
- *Infrastructure* is the only sub-category where Commonwealth countries have a larger range than non-Commonwealth African countries, albeit a marginal one (1.6 points).



- The range in score between Commonwealth countries is considerably smaller in 12 of the 14 sub-categories, being more than 10.0 points lower than the non-Commonwealth countries.

SPOTLIGHT: STATISTICAL CAPACITY

Why are we looking at statistical capacity?

- Without measurement it is impossible to develop an accurate sense of performance, so one of the Foundation's core beliefs is around building the statistical capacity on the continent.
- The 2015 IIAG includes an indicator, *Statistical Capacity*, from the World Bank, that assesses the capacity of statistical systems over three areas: statistical methodology; source data; and periodicity and timeliness.

How does *Statistical Capacity* register in the 2015 IIAG

- As a group, the Commonwealth countries' average score in this indicator is 66.0 in 2014, higher than the non-Commonwealth countries' average (51.5).
- In 2014 the highest scoring Commonwealth country is Mauritius (92.5), the second highest on the continent.
 - Seven out of the 18 Commonwealth countries sit in the top ten scoring countries.
- Namibia (43.3) is the lowest scoring Commonwealth country in *Statistical Capacity*, although much higher than the lowest scoring country on the continent, Somalia (4.5) and ranks 40th (out of 54).
- The range between the highest and lowest scoring Commonwealth countries (49.3) is almost two times smaller than the non-Commonwealth countries (94.0) in 2014 in this indicator.
- The Commonwealth countries' average for *Statistical Capacity* has shown marginal deterioration (-0.6) since 2011, slightly greater than that of the non-Commonwealth countries as a group (-0.4).



A quarter of the countries that register improvement in the *Statistical Capacity* indicator since 2011 are Commonwealth members (six)

Four member countries

Sit among the top 10 most improved in this indicator

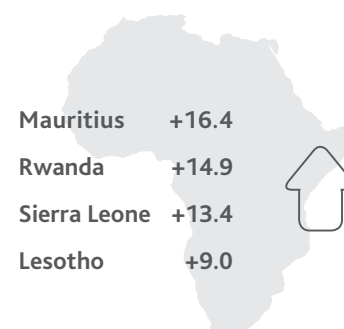


FIGURE 8

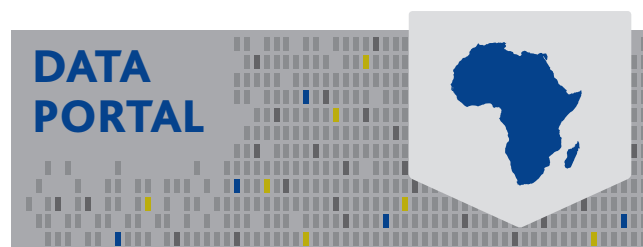
Grouping composition

Commonwealth Countries Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

Non-Commonwealth Countries Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, CAR, Chad, Comoros, Congo Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Djibouti, Egypt Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, São Tomé & Príncipe, Senegal, Somalia South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe

IIAG resources

To explore the 2015 IIAG further, including information on the IIAG methodology and data sources, download the IIAG Data Portal, Executive Summary, Country Insights or Sub-category Insights from www.moibrahimfoundation.org/iiag/downloads/.



The IIAG Data Portal is an interactive Excel-based application, available for in-depth analysis of the results of the IIAG, in English or French.

- > EXPLORE KEY FINDINGS
- > EXPLORE BY COUNTRY
- > EXPLORE BY REGION, REC OR GEOGRAPHICAL GROUP
- > EXPLORE BY INDICATOR
- > COMPARE COUNTRIES OR GROUPS



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