

African Governance Landscape

Ibrahim Index Analysis 2014-2023

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Presentation Agenda

- Overview: What is the Ibrahim Index?
- Continental Snapshot: Current State of Governance
- Top Performers: Success Stories
- Improvement Champions: Countries Making Progress
- Challenges: Areas Needing Attention
- Regional Analysis: Geographic Patterns
- Category Deep Dive: What Drives Good Governance?
- Recommendations & Next Steps

What is the Ibrahim Index of African Governance?

- Most comprehensive assessment of **African governance**
- Covers **54 countries** across the continent (2014-2023)
- Measures **4 key categories** with 16 subcategories
- Scores range from **0-100** (100 = best governance)
- Data from 100+ indicators (**World Bank, UN, AfDB, etc.**)
- Published annually by **Mo Ibrahim Foundation (MIF)**

Four Pillars of African Governance

- 1. Security & Rule of Law** - Safety, justice, accountability, anti-corruption
- 2. Participation, Rights & Inclusion** - Democracy, rights, equality
- 3. Foundations for Economic Opportunity** - Infrastructure, business environment
- 4. Human Development** - Health, education, social protection, environment

2023 Continental Averages:

Security & Rule of Law: 47.9 | Participation & Rights: 48.7
Economic Opportunity: 48.9 | Human Development: 51.6

Continental Snapshot (2023)

54

African
Countries

49.3

Continental
Average

75.3

Highest Score
(Seychelles)

19.0

Lowest Score
(South Sudan)

56.3-point spread demonstrates vast governance diversity across Africa

Top & Bottom Performers (2023)

Top and Bottom 15 Countries - Overall Governance (2023)



Excellence in Governance: Top 10 Countries

Rank	Country	Score
1	Seychelles	75.3
2	Mauritius	72.8
3	Cabo Verde	69.6
4	South Africa	65.9
5	Botswana	65.8
6	Namibia	63.9
7	Ghana	62.2
8	Morocco	62.0
9	Tunisia	61.2
10	Kenya	60.3

What Makes Top Performers Succeed?

Island Nation Advantage: Top 3 are all islands (Seychelles, Mauritius, Cabo Verde)

- Manageable scale of governance
- Economic specialization (tourism, services)
- Strong institutions and political stability

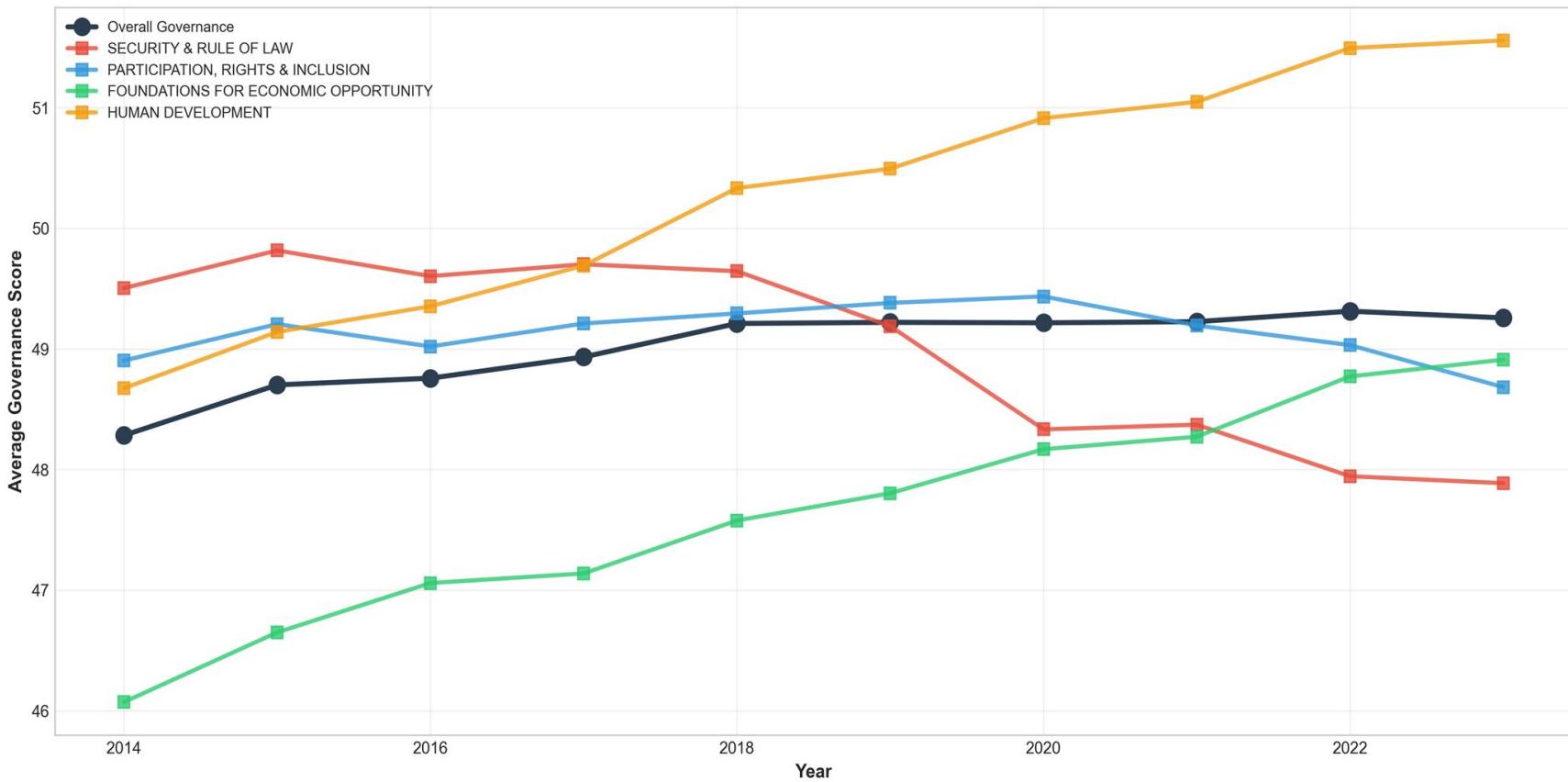
Mainland Leaders: South Africa (4th), Botswana (5th) demonstrate continental success

Common Success Factors:

- Strong rule of law and judicial independence
- Low corruption levels
- High human development investments
- Democratic governance and civic participation

10-Year Governance Trends (2014-2023)

Continental Governance Trends (2014-2023)



Remarkable Improvements: Top Gainers (2014-2023)

Rank	Country	Improvement
1	Seychelles	+10.0
2	Gambia	+7.2
3	Somalia	+6.8
4	Sierra Leone	+6.4
5	Angola	+5.8
6	Morocco	+5.3
7	Togo	+4.2
8	Côte d'Ivoire	+4.1

Success Stories: What Drove Improvement?

Seychelles (+10.0 points): Sustained economic diversification and institutional strengthening

Gambia (+7.2 points): Democratic transition after 22-year autocracy

- 2016 election marked peaceful transfer of power
- Restoration of civil liberties and press freedom

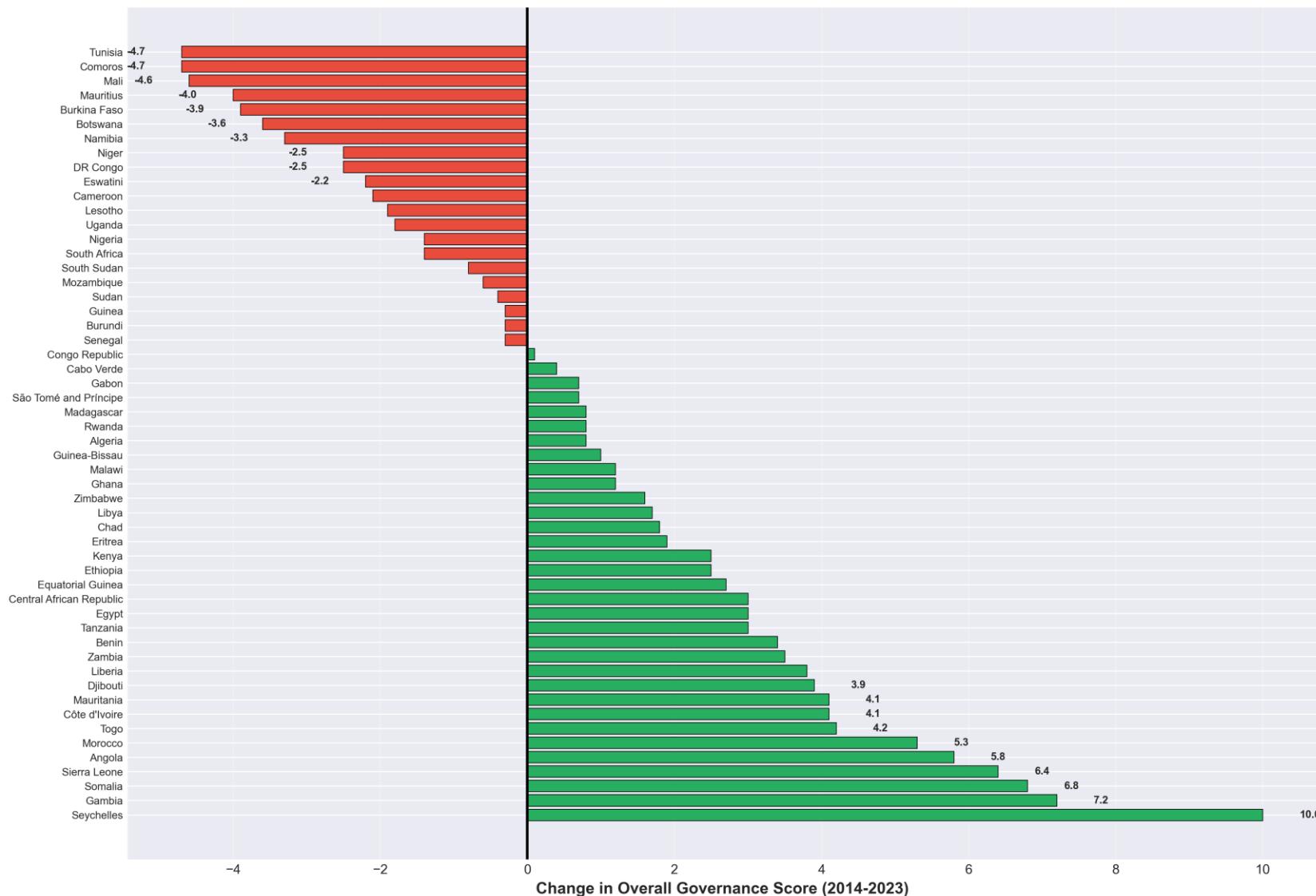
Somalia (+6.8 points): Post-conflict recovery and state-building

- Federal government formation
- Security sector improvements

Key Lesson: Transformation is possible with political will and sustained reform

Improvers vs. Decliners: Complete Picture

Governance Change: All Countries (2014-2023)



Governance Challenges: Countries in Decline

Concerning trends in previously strong performers:

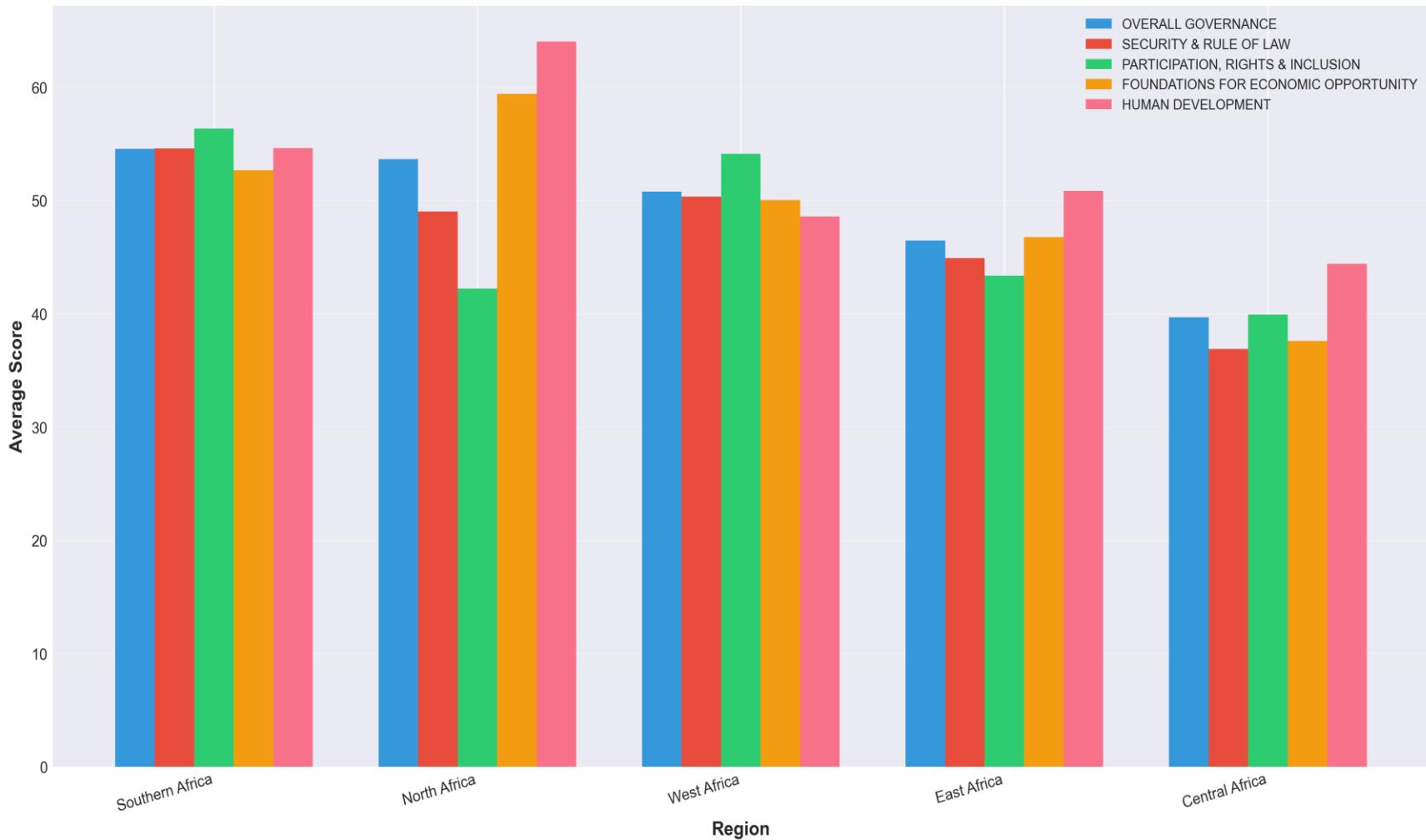
- **Botswana:** -3.6 points
- **Burkina Faso:** -3.9 points
- **Mauritius:** -4.0 points
- **Mali:** -4.6 points
- **Comoros:** -4.7 points
- **Tunisia:** -4.7 points

Common factors driving decline:

- Democratic backsliding and erosion of civil liberties
- Economic pressures reducing governance capacity
- Security deterioration (especially Sahel region)
- Institutional complacency after years of strong performance

Regional Patterns: Geographic Governance Divide

Regional Performance Across Categories (2023)



Regional Performance Analysis

Southern Africa leads at 54.6 average

- Benefits from **SADC integration** and relatively stable democracies
- Strong performers: **Botswana, Namibia, South Africa**

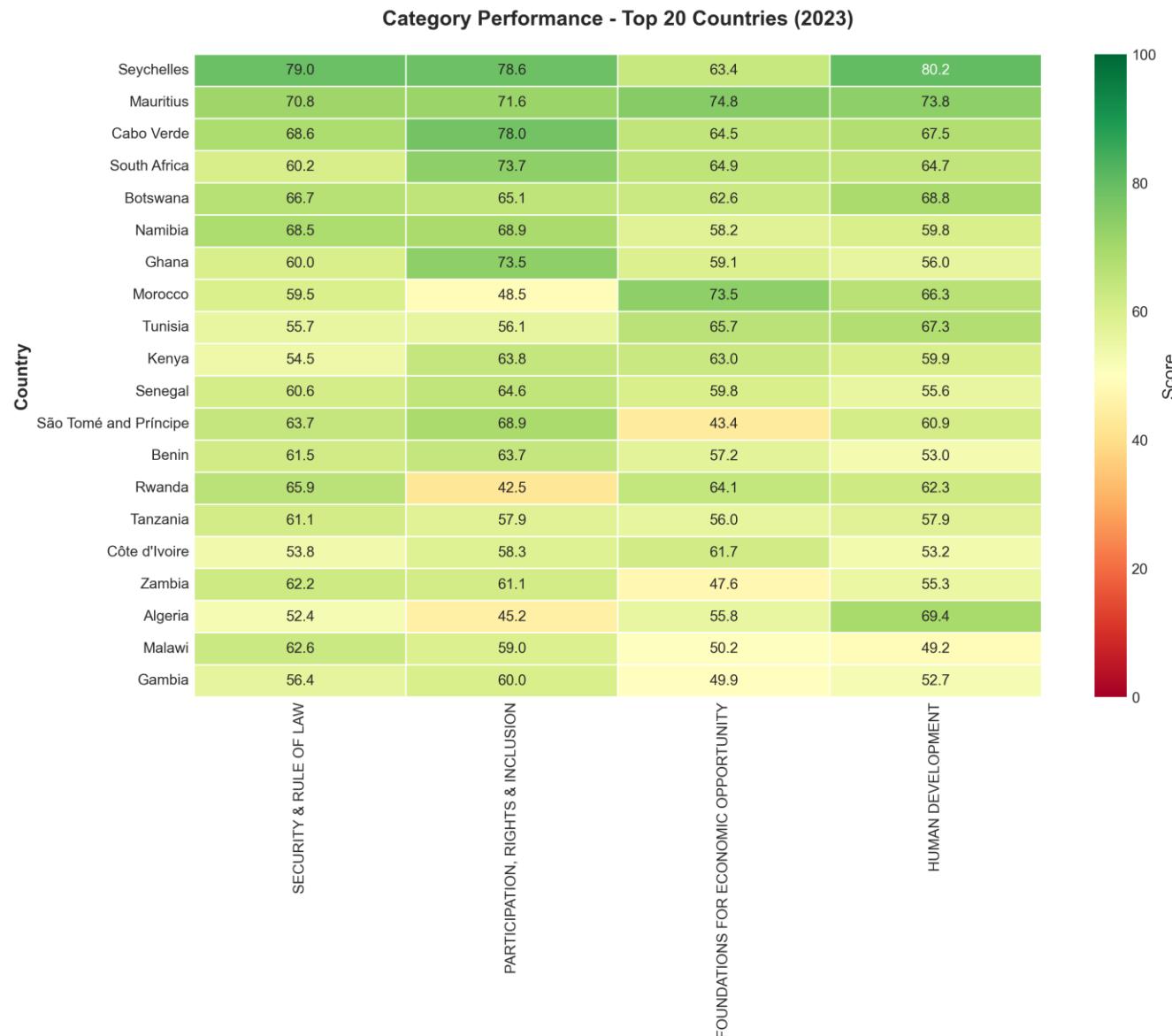
Central Africa faces challenges at 39.7 average

- Lowest regional score - 15 points below leaders
- Persistent conflicts and weak institutions

East Africa shows highest variation (includes both Seychelles at 75.3 and South Sudan at 19.0)

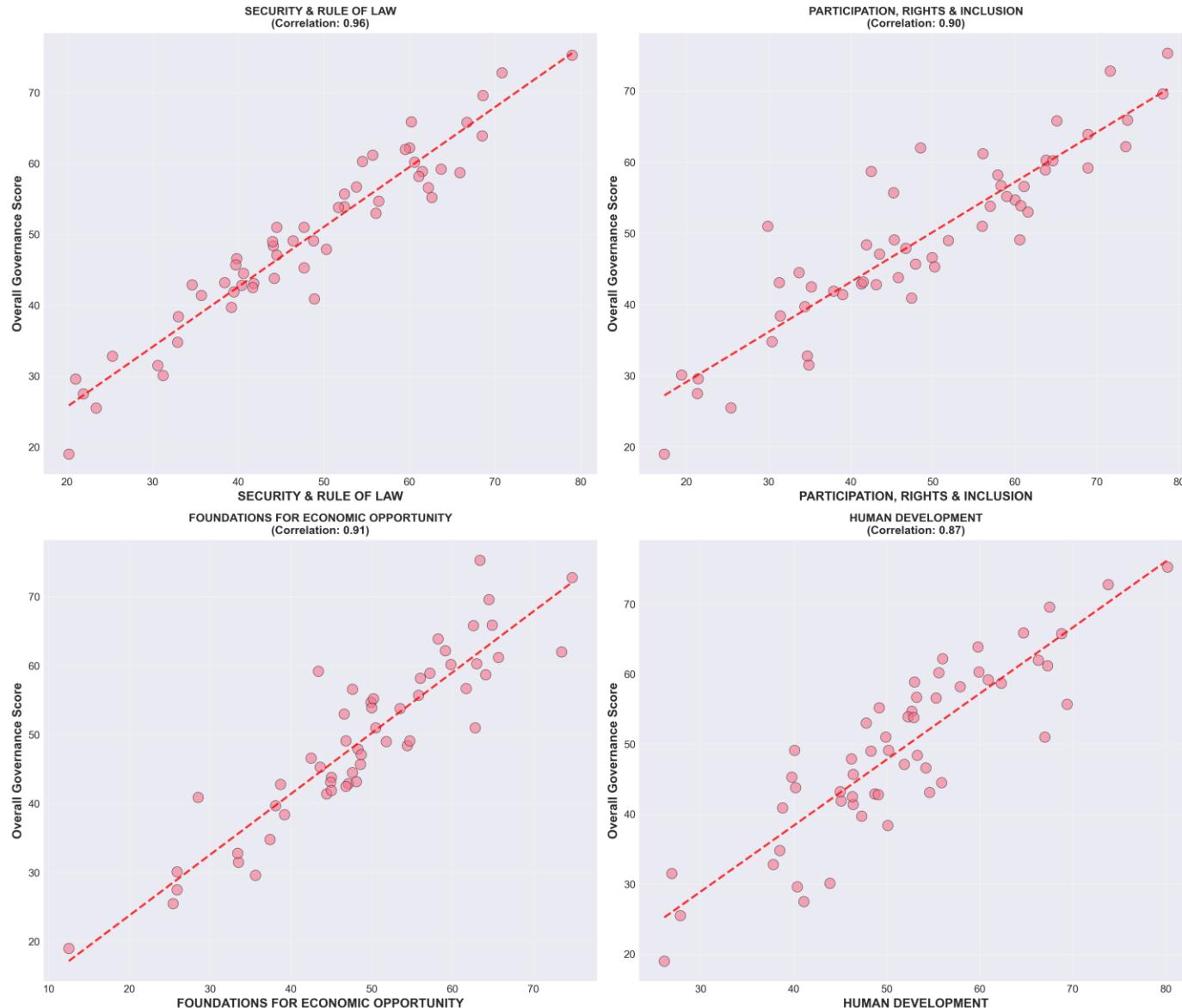
Key Insight: Regional cooperation matters - integrated regions perform better

Multi-Dimensional View: Category Performance



What Drives Overall Governance?

Category vs Overall Governance Correlation (2023)



Key Insights & Takeaways

1. **Island nations excel** - but mainland success is possible (**South Africa, Botswana**)
2. **Reform momentum works** - **Gambia, Somalia** show dramatic improvements possible
3. **Vigilance required** - even strong performers can decline (**Tunisia, Mauritius**)
4. **Regional disparities persist** - 15-point gap between best and worst regions
5. **All categories matter** - strong correlations show interconnected reform needed
6. **Human Development** leads - highest average score (**51.6**)
7. **Security & Rule of Law** most variable - critical foundation for progress

Recommendations for Action (I)

For Policymakers:

- Prioritize Security & Rule of Law - foundation for other improvements
- Learn from improvers - study Gambia, Somalia, Seychelles reforms
- Monitor backsliding - early intervention in declining countries

For Development Partners:

- Target **Central Africa** - greatest need, significant impact potential
- Support post-conflict recovery - **Somalia** proves ROI
- Strengthen regional institutions - **integration** correlates with performance

Recommendations for Action (II)

For All Stakeholders:

- Take **integrated approach** - categories are **interconnected**
- Sustain **long-term commitment** - governance gains require persistence
- Share best practices - facilitate **South-South learning**

Thank You

Questions & Discussion

Data Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation
Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) 2024
<https://iiag.online>