Dispatch No. 300 | 21 May 2019

Dispatch should focus on one key theme and fit on 8-14 pages (including charts). You may use this model as a template by replacing the text/charts and deleting these blue guidance boxes. For helpful Do’s and Don’ts that apply to all analysis and reporting, please see the R8 Survey Manual.

Core partner logo (P. 1 only)

NP logo (P. 1 only)

# **Ugandans support gender equality, but women political participation**

## **Afrobarometer Dispatch No. | Liberty Christopher**

**Summary (Acts as an introduction (with a few references), summary of findings (topline, no specific %s, and interpretation (what does it mean?)**

Women have a right to engage in their country’s political processes, vote in elections, be elected to government office, serve on boards, and participate in civic activities that will affect their lives, families, and their communities. Ensuring that girls and women participate in political activities in their country is a necessary step to achieving the United Nations’ (2019) Sustainable Development Goal No. 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.”

In Uganda, government efforts to promote gender equality include a National Gender Policy (2007), a Gender and Equity Strategy for Social Protection (2018), and a variety of program interventions emphasizing women’s empowerment, such as the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme, Labour Works Program, and Youth Livelihood Program (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2019).

But despite notable efforts, women still lag behind men in access to political and socio-economic opportunities. Women remain vulnerable to gender-based violence, own fewer assets than men, have less representation in parliament, and are less likely than men to have paid employment (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2017a, 2017b, 2019; Gabola et al., 2018; Wyrod, 2008).

According to the latest Afrobarometer survey, most Ugandans support gender equality and majority of Ugandans say equal opportunities and treatment for women have improved in recent years. A majority think that omen should have the same chance of being elected to political office as men. (Afrobarometer R7). But what

However, women are still marginalized in politics and their participation has not been brought to the fore. Women are not only underrepresented in the political sphere but are sometimes prohibited from participating in active elective politics.

**Afrobarometer surveys**

Afrobarometer directs a pan-African, nonpartisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues in African countries. Seven rounds of surveys were completed in up to 38 countries between 1999 and 2018. Round 8 surveys in 2019/2020 are planned in at least 35 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent’s choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in [country], led by [NP], interviewed [1,200/2,400] adult [citizens of this country] in [month year]. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 [or +/-2] percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in [country] in [years].

Avoid footnotes in dispatches.

**Key findings**

* A considerably high percentage of women (39%) responded that they would never discuss political matters when they are either with their friends or family members

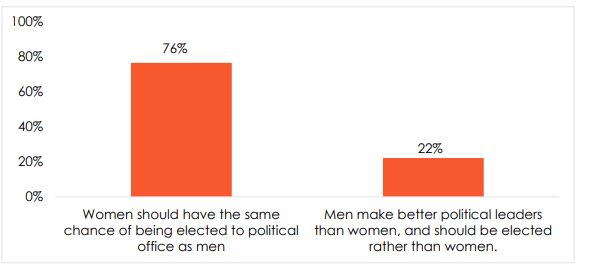
3-5 key findings. Your most important, newsiest findings. Concise. Should progress logically, like a story.

* The majority of Ugandans believe that women should have an equivalent chance of being elected to political office as men
* 76% of respondents say women should have an equal chance as men of being elected to political office
* More Males would occasionally discuss political matters once they get together with their friends or family compared to Females
* 63% of Ugandans say that equal opportunities and treatment of women is better than it was a few years ago
* A sizeable portion of women of say they have never got news from the radio (20%)

**Political leadership for women in Uganda**

A majority of Ugandans gender equality, but some respondents think that men make better leaders than women. A high percentage (76%) of respondents say women should have the same chance as men of being elected to political office. Less than a quarter of Ugandans (22%) think men make better political leaders than women and should be elected in their place

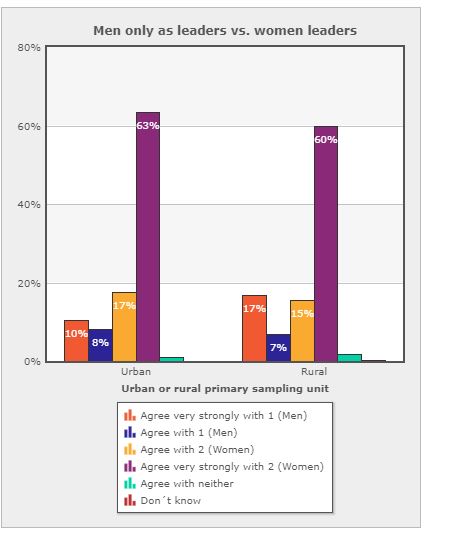
Short sections highlight major themes, with headlines that clearly summarize the point that your audience should focus on. Each section contains specific findings (%) and refers to charts/figures.

Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view? (% who “agree” or “agree very strongly” with each statement)

**Figure 1: Support for gender equality in politics** | Uganda | 2016-2018

**Men as leaders v women as leaders**

Many of the respondents think that women should have the same chance of being elected to political office as men even though more respondents in the urban areas agree very strongly (63%) compared to 60% in rural areas that women have the same chance as men.

****

Provide exact text of the question.

Make sure it is clear which responses or categories are being reported, either in a legend in the chart or in a note below the chart.

Use a variety of types of graphs (see various examples).

Make your charts in AB Excel chart template and paste it into your dispatch. Always submit Excel document along with your Word document.

***Respondents were asked:*** *Men only as leaders vs. women leaders*

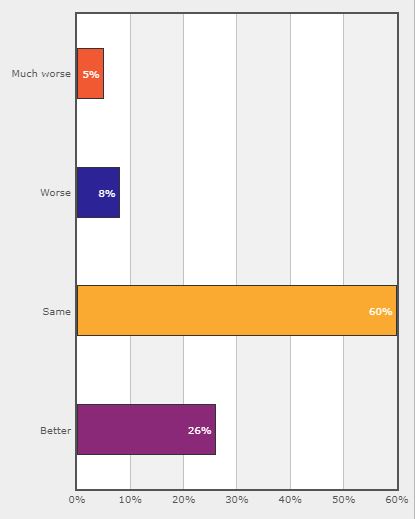
*Statement 1: Men make better political leaders than women, and should be elected rather than women. Statement 2: Women should have the same chance of being elected to political office as men.*

**Figure 2: Men only as leaders vs. women leaders** | Uganda | 2016-2018

**Handling promoting equal rights/opportunities for women**

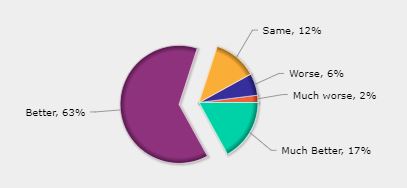
**About 8% have noted a fall off in Ugandan government’s promotion of opportunities and equality for women. In contrast, 26% of Uganda believe that Uganda has recorded an improvement in availing equal tights and opportunities for women. Better still, six out of ten respondents say Uganda’s efforts to promote gender equality have stayed the same Overall, Ugandan citizens perceive that Uganda’s support for equal rights, gender equality and promoting opportunities for women has stayed the same between 2016 - 2018.**

**How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven’t you heard enough to say? Promoting opportunities and equality for women**



**Equal opportunities and treatment for women**

Afrobarometer also sought to know whether things are worse or better now than they were a few years ago, or whether they about the same concerning equal opportunities and treatment for women. About one in 20 or fewer say things are worse concerning equal opportunities and treatment of women (6%), whereas slightly more than a quarter of the respondent (17%) think provision of equal opportuities and treatment for women have become so much better than they were before. The highest percentage of the respndents say equal opportunities adn treatment of women is better than it was a few years ago (63%)

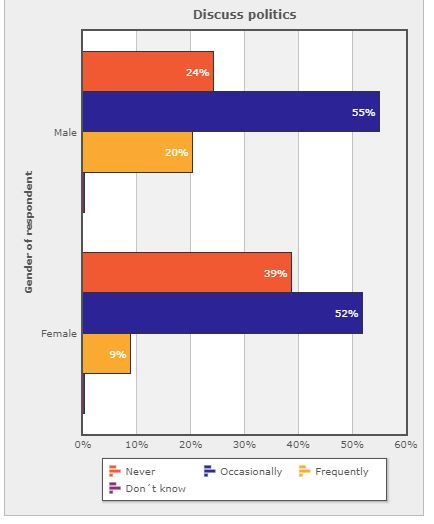


**Figure 3: Better or worse: equal opportunities and treatment for women**

*Respondents were asked: Please tell me if the following things are worse or better now than they were a few years ago, or are they about the same? Equal opportunities and treatment for women*

**Discussing politics**

When it comes to discussing issues that pertain to politics, Men are more engaged compared to women because 55% of male respondents say they when they get together with their friends or family, they would you that they occasionally discuss political matters. A high percentage of women (39%) responded that they would never discuss political matters when they are either with their friends or family members. More than a quarter, 20% of male respondents tend to discuss political matters frequently way more than women.



***Respondents were asked:*** *Discuss politics*

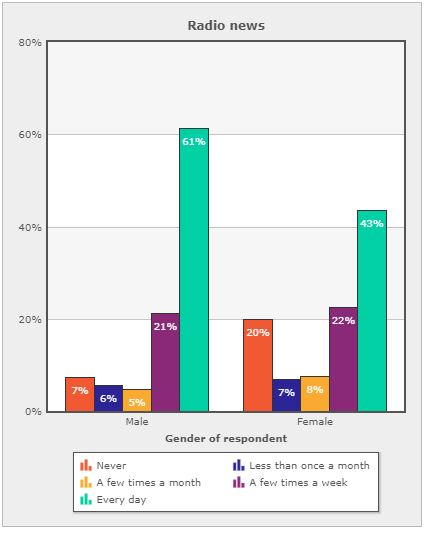
*When you get together with your friends or family, would you say you discuss political matters.*

**Figure 4: Discuss Politics** | Uganda | 2016-2018

**Information access**

According to Uganda Communication Commissions, listenership figures show that radio is the most popular medium in Uganda. With regard to information access, more than three-fifths of Ugandan men (61%) say they get news from the radio everyday. On the other hand, only four in ten (43%) of women say they get news from radio daily with about 20% of women stating they have never got news from the radio. (Figure 3).

**Figure 5: How often do you get news from the following sources? Radio** | Uganda | 2016-2018

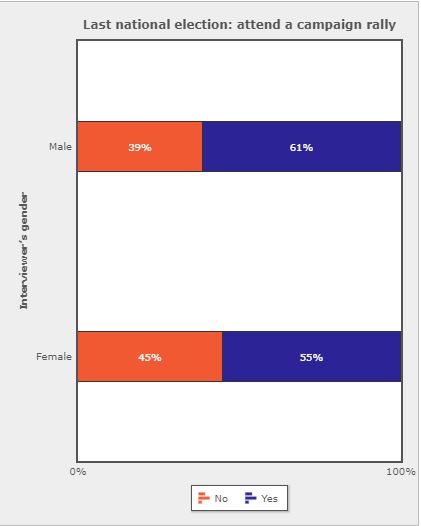


Use substantive legends that make it clear what the chart is about. Do NOT use “Agree with Statement 1,” etc.

***Respondents were asked****: How often do you get news from the following sources? Radio*

**Last national election: attend a campaign rally**

When it comes to participation in national elections, specifically on whether Ugandans attend campaign rallies, more citizens in rural areas attend campaign rallies (62%) compared to 57% in urban areas. Women are slightly less likely to attend a campaign rally than men; 61% vs. 55% (R7). In Afrobarometer’s Round 5 survey, 69% of Males said they attended a political campaign compared to 48% of Females. This denotes a slight improvement in women’s participation in governance processes.



*Last national election: attend a campaign rally*

***Respondents were asked:*** *Thinking about the last national election in 2013, did you: Attend a campaign rally?*

**Figure 7: Thinking about the last national election in 2013, did you: Attend a campaign rally?** | Uganda | 2016-2018

**Conclusion**

Uganda widely supports equal opportunities and rights for women. The majority of citizens (76%) say women should have an equivalent chance as men of being elected to political office. Although most respondents are in favor of women’s equal rights when it comes to attending political campaigns and access to information, women fall far behind their male counterparts. More so, about 39% of women say that they would never discuss political matters when they are either with their friends or family members. For policymakers and civil society, these findings point to a need for strategies to improve women's involvement in governance policies for gender-responsive and sustainable socio-economic and political development.

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Afrobarometer, a nonprofit corporation with headquarters in Ghana, directs a pan-African, non-partisan research network. Regional coordination of national partners in about 35 countries is provided by the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana), the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) in South Africa, and the Institute for Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. Michigan State University (MSU) and the University of Cape Town (UCT) provide technical support to the network.

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