



Striving for Good Governance in Africa

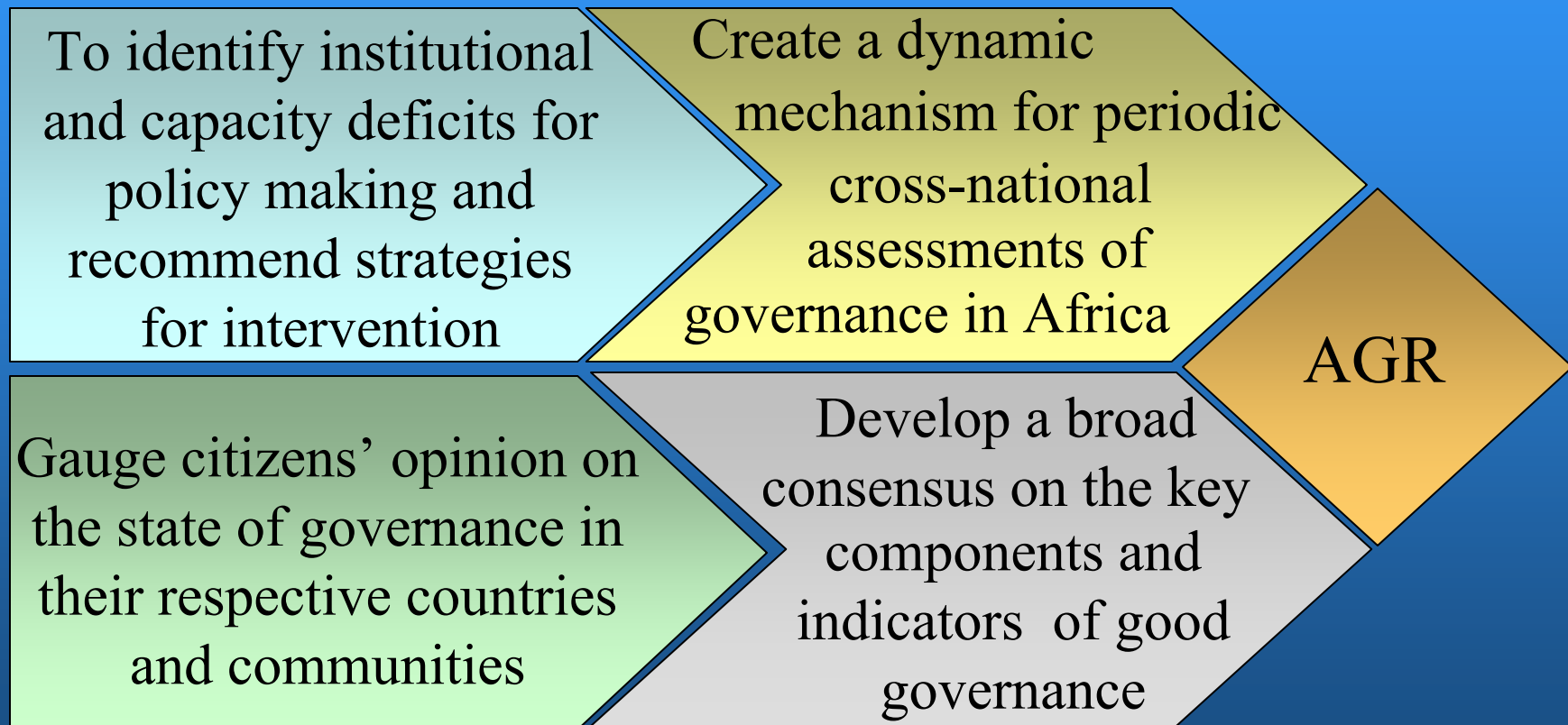


This presentation will:

- Introduce the ECA project “Measuring and Monitoring Progress towards good governance in Africa”
- Present a synopsis of the Africa Governance Report which is a synthesis of the main findings and major challenges to good governance in Africa, based on the governance survey in 28 countries
- Present ECA’s Action Plan for improving good governance in Africa
- Discuss the way forward and how ADF deliberations can enrich the AGR



Main objectives of the Governance Project



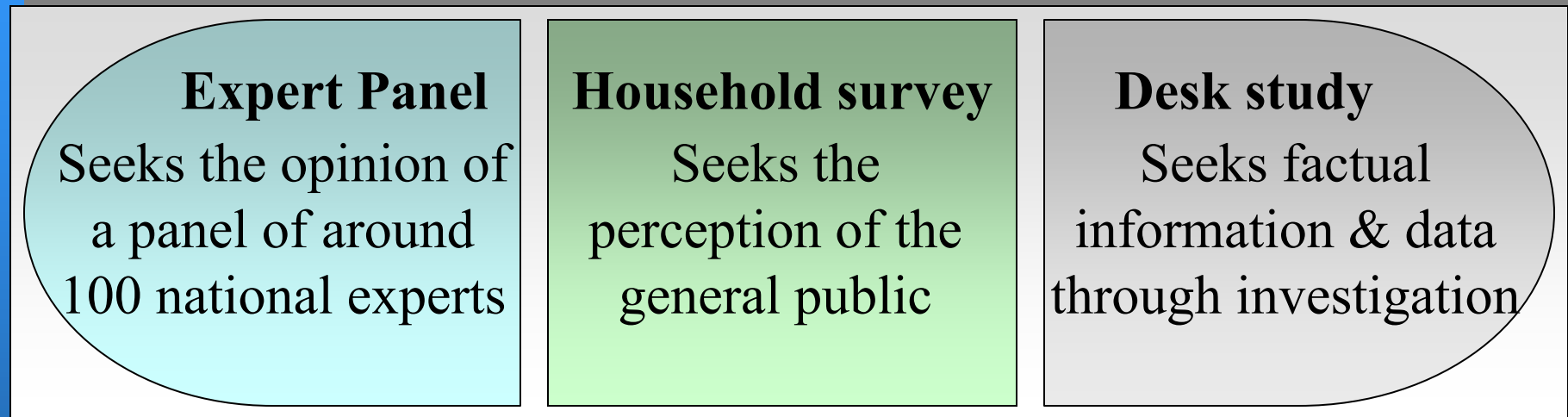


Scope of the Governance Project

- Political Governance
- Economic Management and Corporate Governance
- Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability
- Human Rights
- Capacity Building






ECA Governance Project Methodology

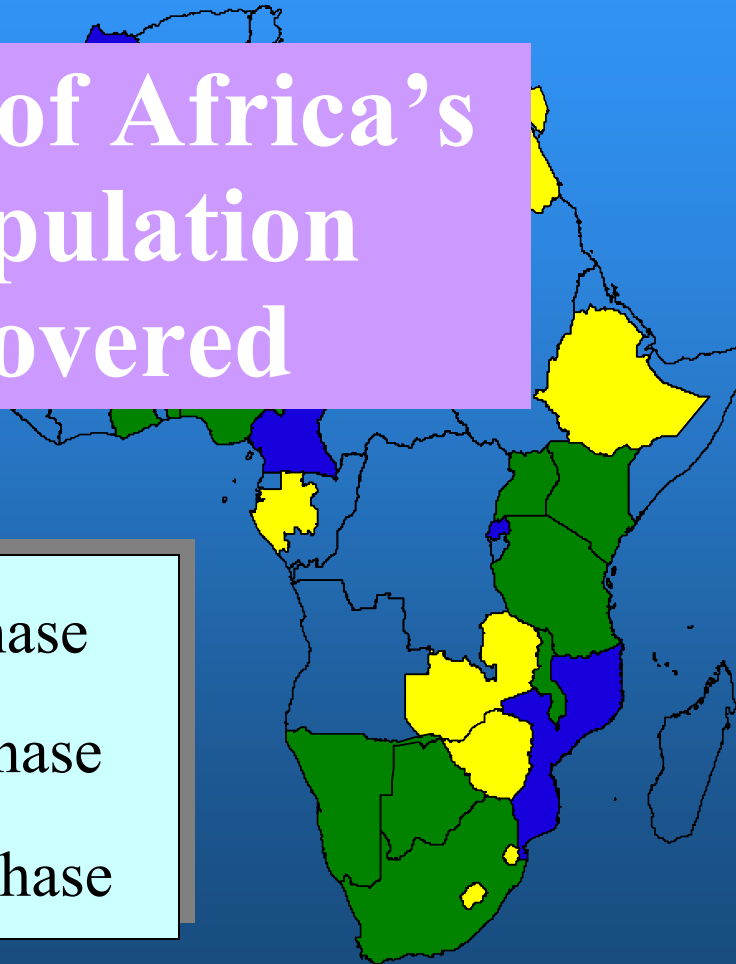




Project countries and phases

72% of Africa's
population
covered

	1 st Phase
	2 nd Phase
	3 rd Phase



Benin	Mauritius
Botswana	Morocco
Burkina Faso	Mozambique
Cameroon	Namibia
Chad	Niger
Egypt	Nigeria
Ethiopia	Rwanda
Gabon	Senegal
Gambia	South Africa
Ghana	Swaziland
Kenya	Tanzania
Lesotho	Uganda
Malawi	Zambia
Mali	Zimbabwe



Overall message of the AGR

- **Overall, Governance is getting better in Africa, but key challenges remain**
- **Political Performance indicators rank highest on average (e.g. voter turnout, competitiveness of the political system, legitimacy of the political framework)**
- **Decentralization, tax evasion and corruption indicators rank lowest**



Political Governance

Key Findings

- Adherence to constitutionalism is getting stronger
- Democratic and multiparty elections are becoming the only acceptable means of alternation of power
- Political space is becoming more liberalized
- The political system is becoming more inclusive and diverse
- CSOs participation is stronger and they are more active in the decision making process



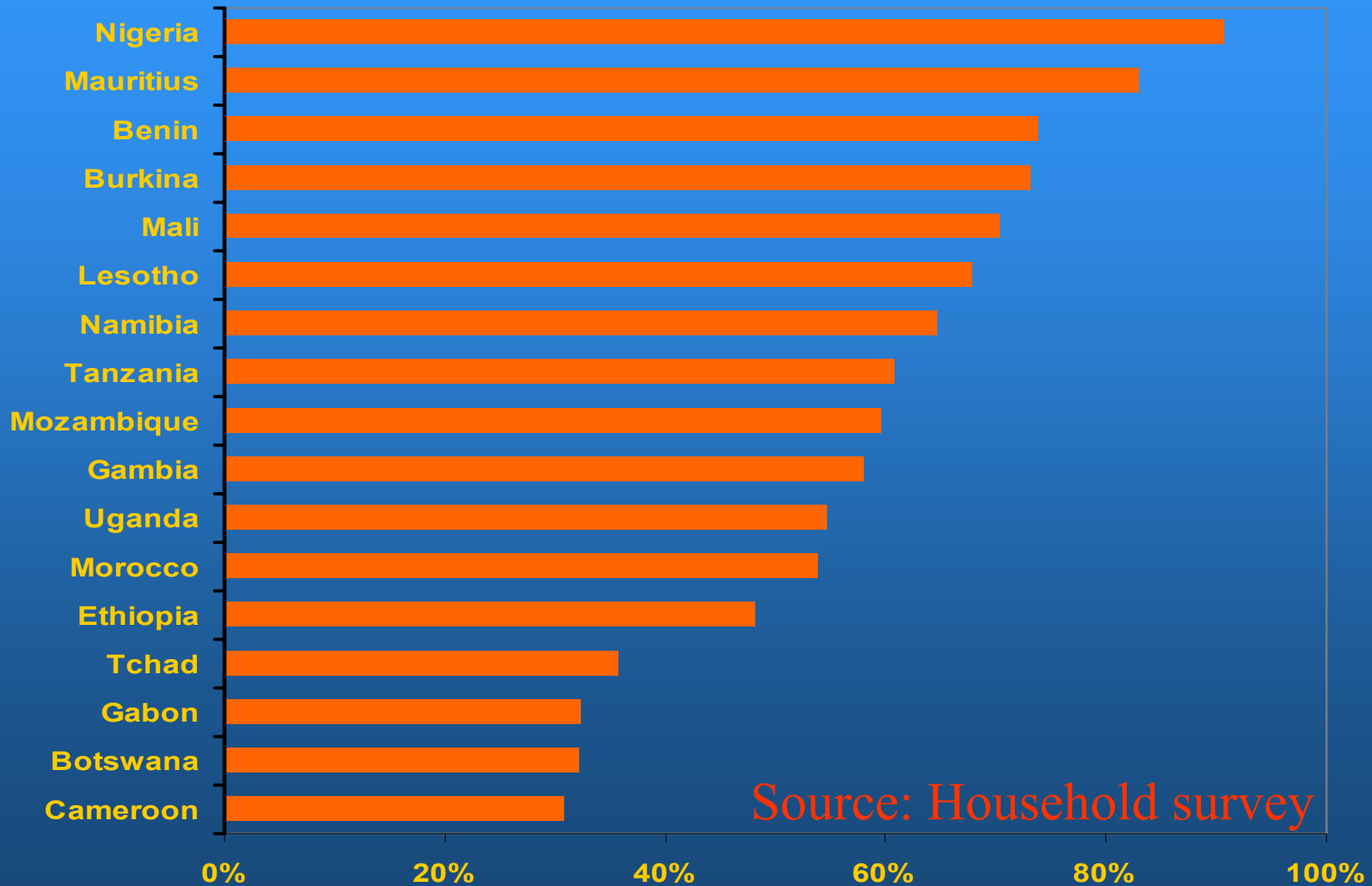
Political Governance

Key Findings (continued)

- Voter participation is very high in most countries
- Political parties are becoming more legitimate and flourishing but remain weak and largely ineffective in many countries
- The electoral process and institutions are becoming more transparent and credible
- There are improvements in human rights in Africa but progress remains tenuous



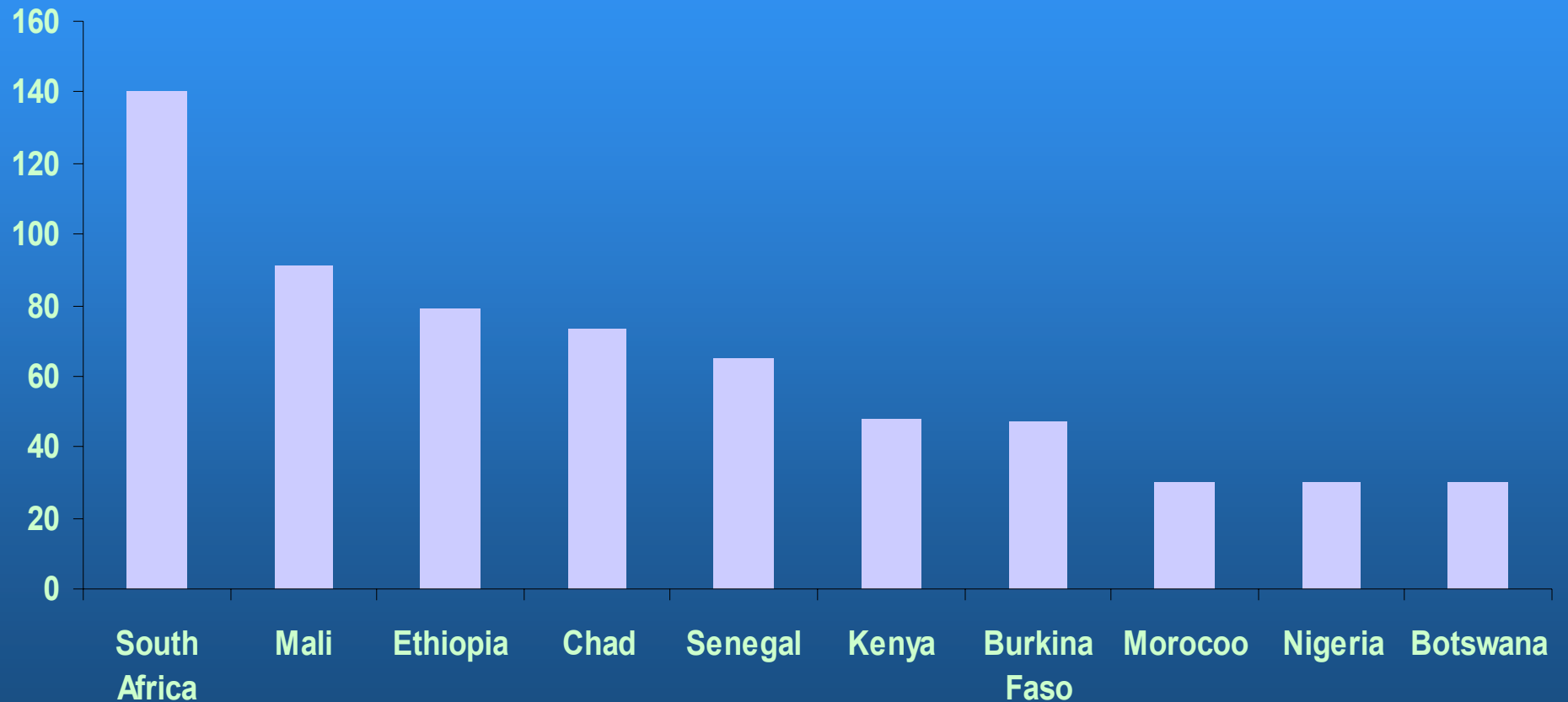
Competitiveness of the political system



Source: Household survey



Number of registered political parties





Political Governance

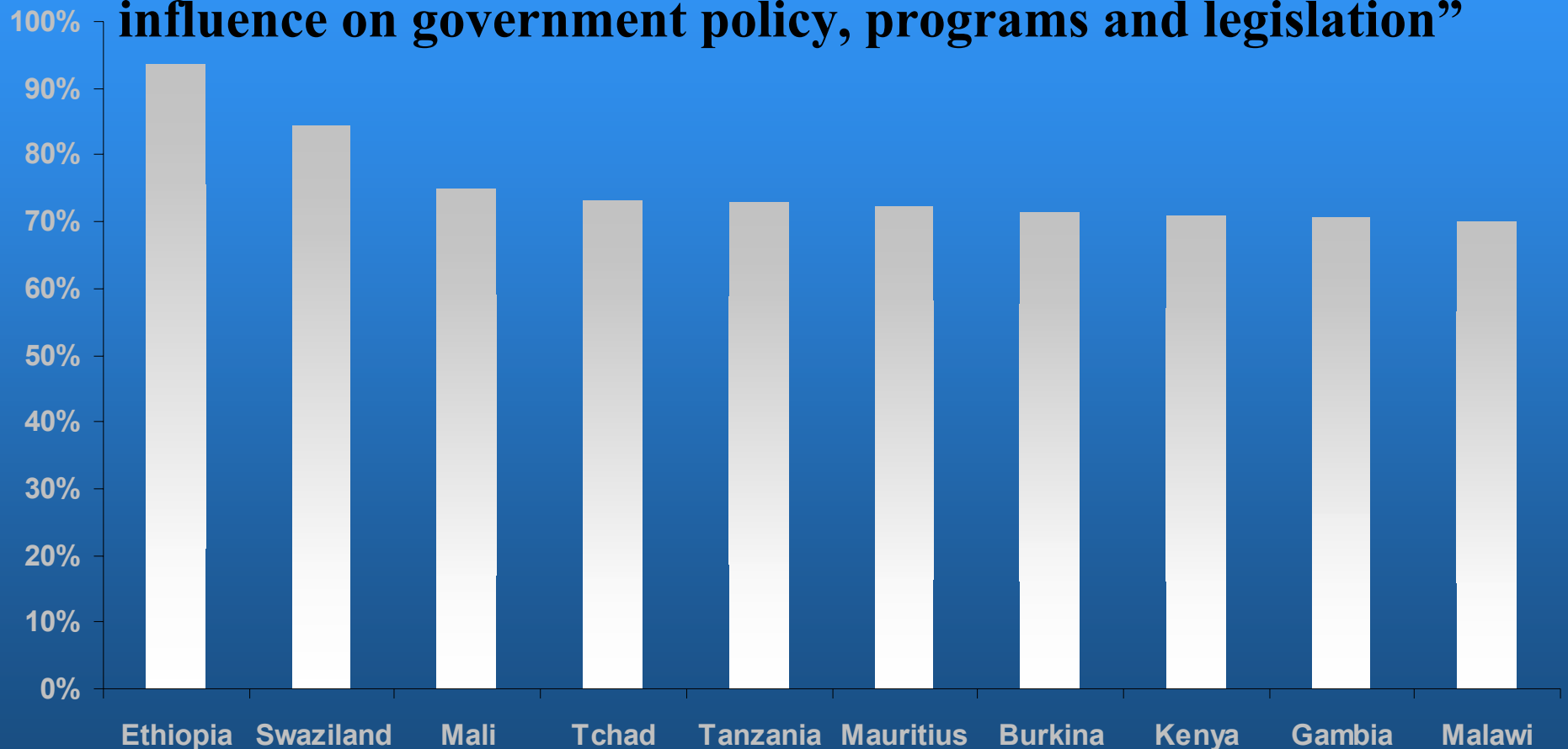
Key Challenges

- Protecting the rights of women and children remains a key governance challenge in Africa
- The electoral commissions need to be more independent and better resourced
- Law enforcement agencies continue to violate the rights of the people in many countries
- Opposition parties lack access to resources and security which undermine the effectiveness of the electoral process
- CSOs need to improve their internal governance



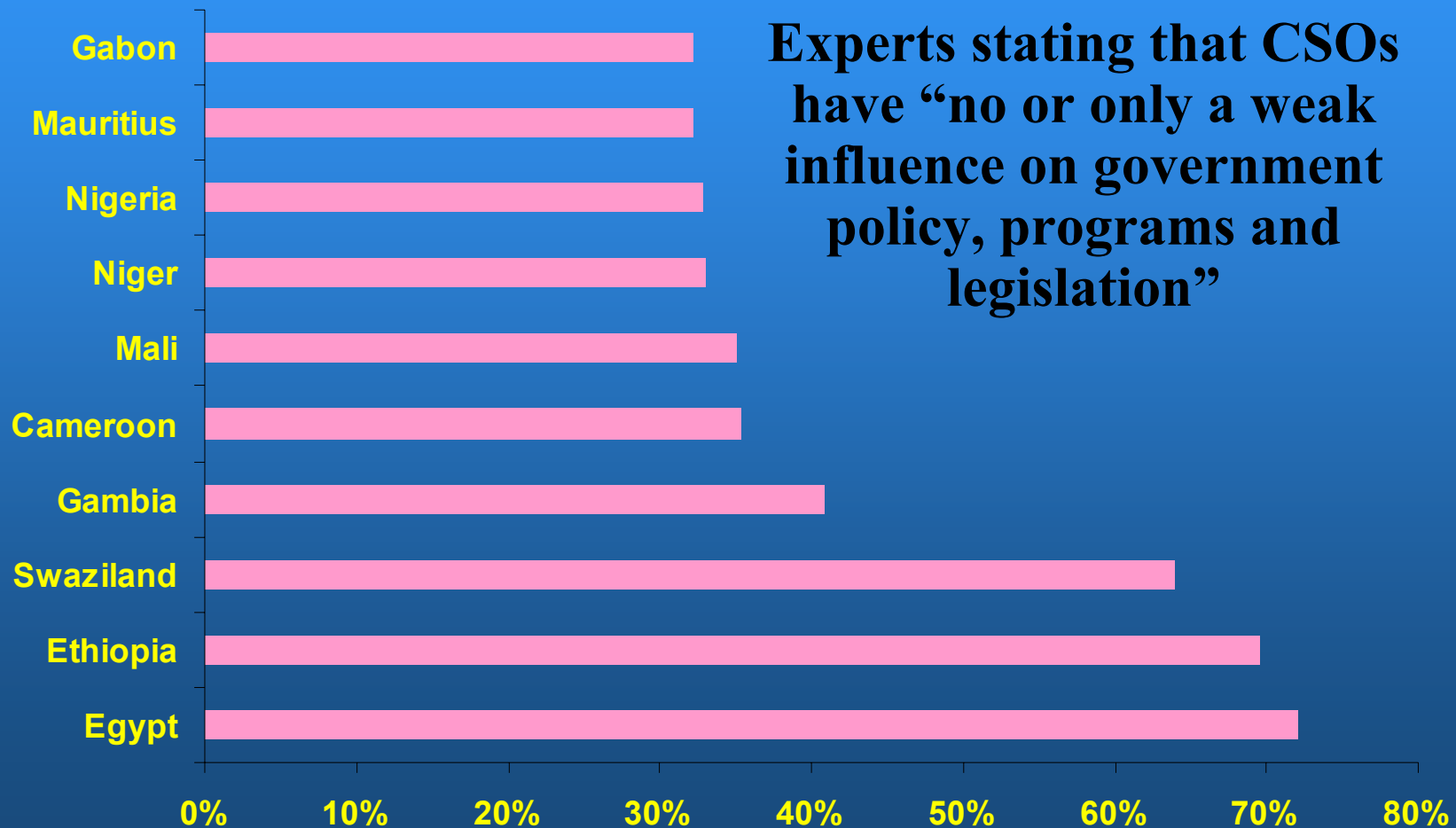
Opposition parties are still weak

Experts stating that the opposition has “no or only a weak influence on government policy, programs and legislation”





CSO influence on government policies and programs is still weak





Economic Management & Corporate Governance

Key Findings

- Commitment to macroeconomic stability and sound economic management on the increase
- Better public financial management with a more equitable tax system, smaller budget deficits, and better resource mobilization
- The Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) increasingly adopted to enhance budgetary discipline and efficiency, but confronted by several challenges
- Poverty reduction is gaining more focus with PRSPs, but outcomes are limited



Economic Management & Corporate Governance

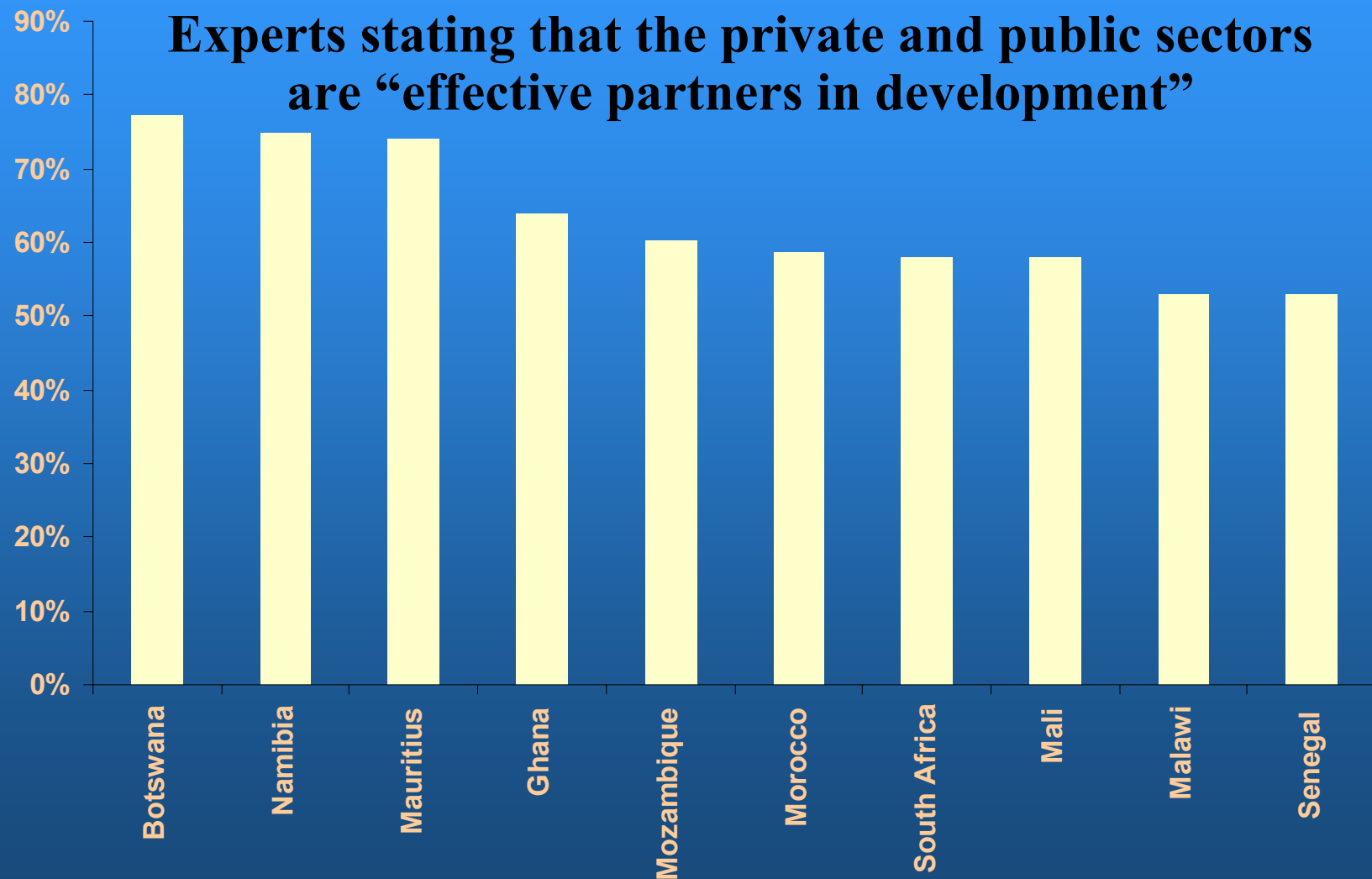
Key Findings (continued)

- A more conducive environment for private sector development exists, but several hurdles remain and investment inflows are still limited
- Monetary and financial institutions (e.g. Central Bank) are being accorded greater independence and striving for better integrity and accountability
- Corruption continues to undermine socio-economic growth and development



Partnership of public and private sectors

Experts stating that the private and public sectors are “effective partners in development”





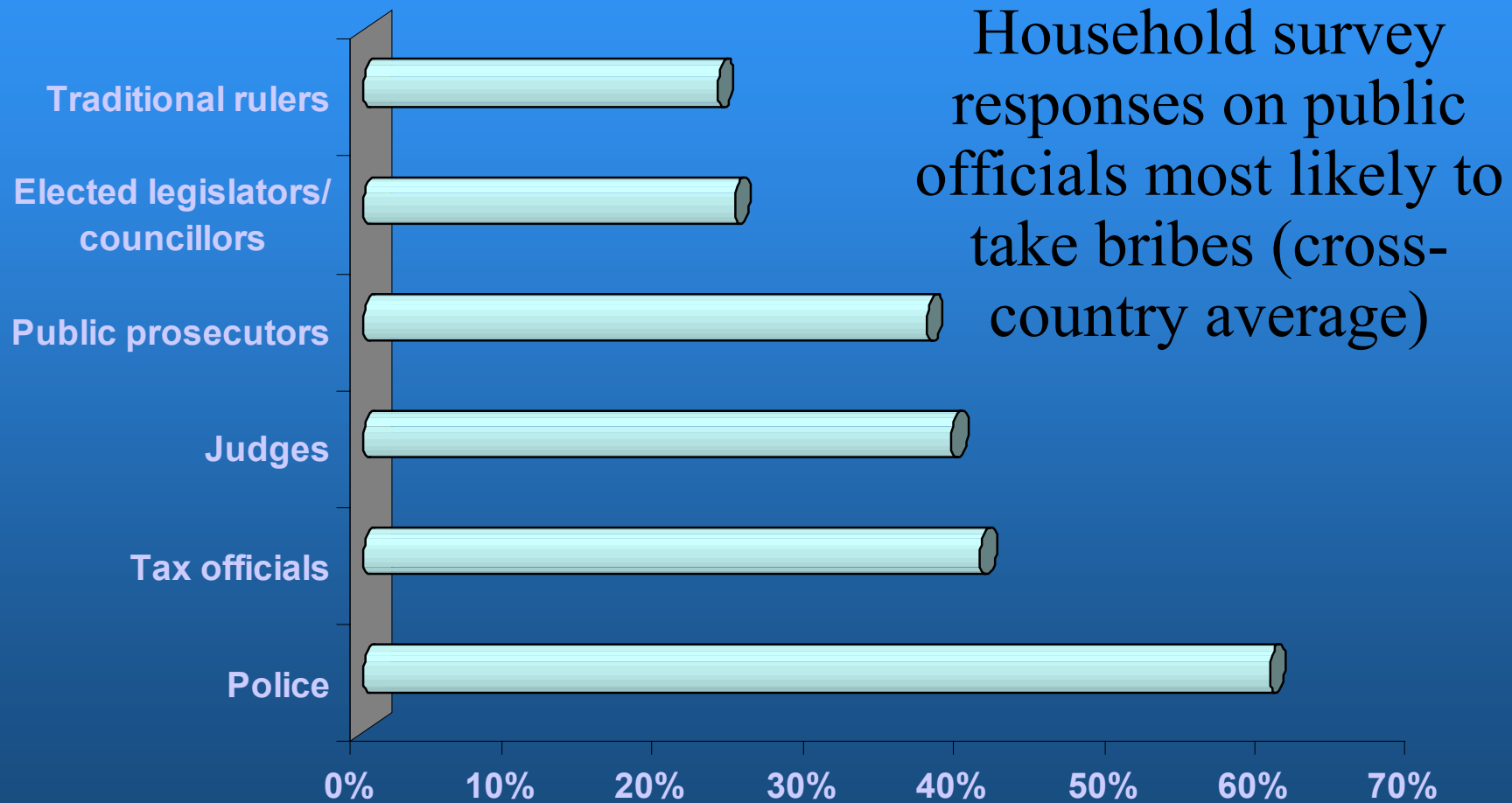
Economic Management & Corporate Governance

Key Challenges

- Lack of peace, order and stability in many countries are formidable obstacles to good economic planning, capital inflow and economic growth
- Need to reduce the cost and procedure of doing business in many African countries and enforcing commercial/contract laws
- Greater need for transparency and availability of information on the design and implementation of economic policies
- Poor infrastructural development and poor service delivery
- Fight against corruption must be concerted and requires both domestic and international cooperation



Corruption is still a major challenge





Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability

Key Findings

- Institutional checks and balances are increasingly recognized and improving in Africa
- The excessive powers of the Executive, hitherto the norm, are increasingly being checked
- The Legislature and Judiciary are becoming more independent but there are capacity deficiencies
- Traditional or customary courts remain resilient and popular in many African countries



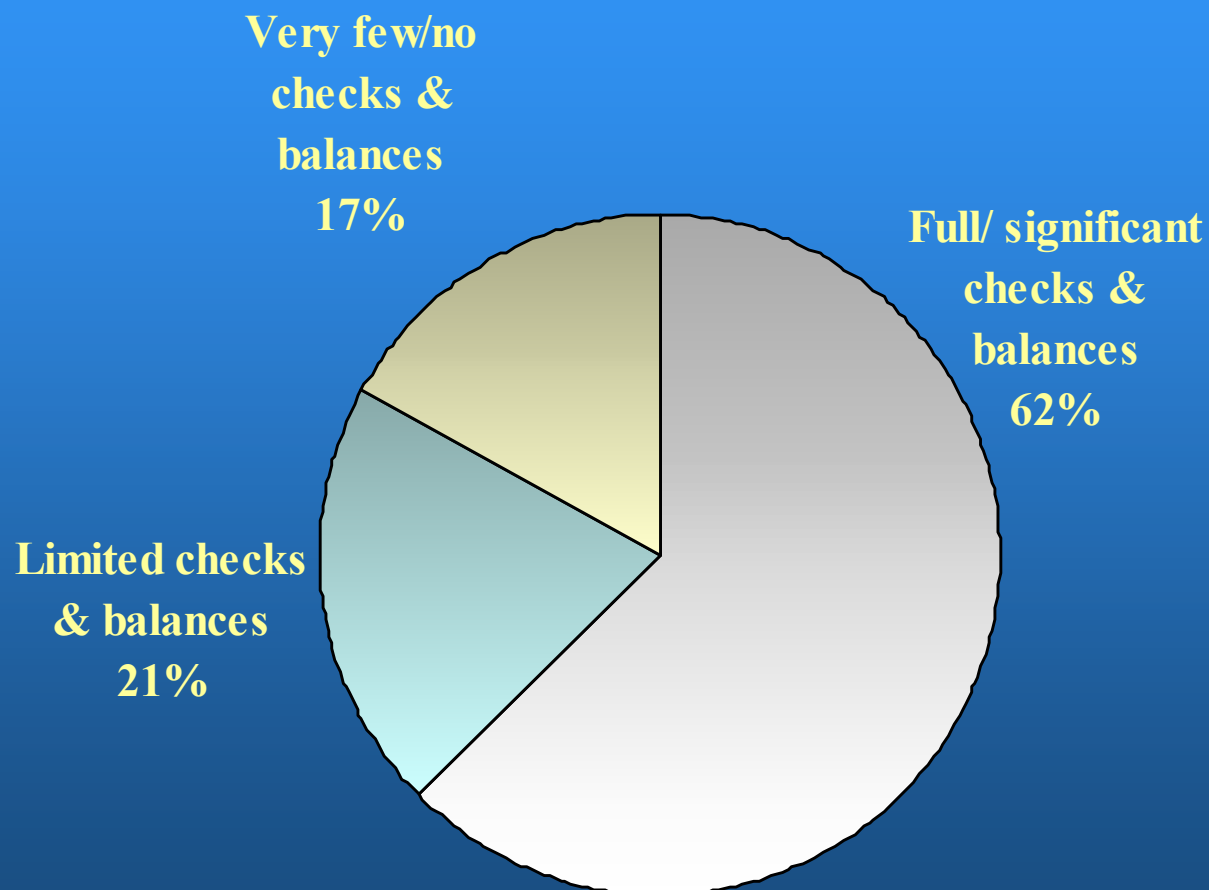
Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability

Key Findings (continued)

- Service delivery in many countries remains poor, but is moderately improving in some
- Public-private sector partnerships are emerging to increase choice and access to services
- The number of private owned media is growing in most countries providing alternative voices and institutional checks in governance
- The civil service remains weak with poor performance in many countries



Constitutional checks & balances





Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability

Key challenges

- **Strengthening the human and resource capacities of the Legislature, the Judiciary and non-state actors**
- **Providing better access to justice and improving the independence of the Judiciary**
- **Improving the quality, access and affordability of public services, especially for the poor**



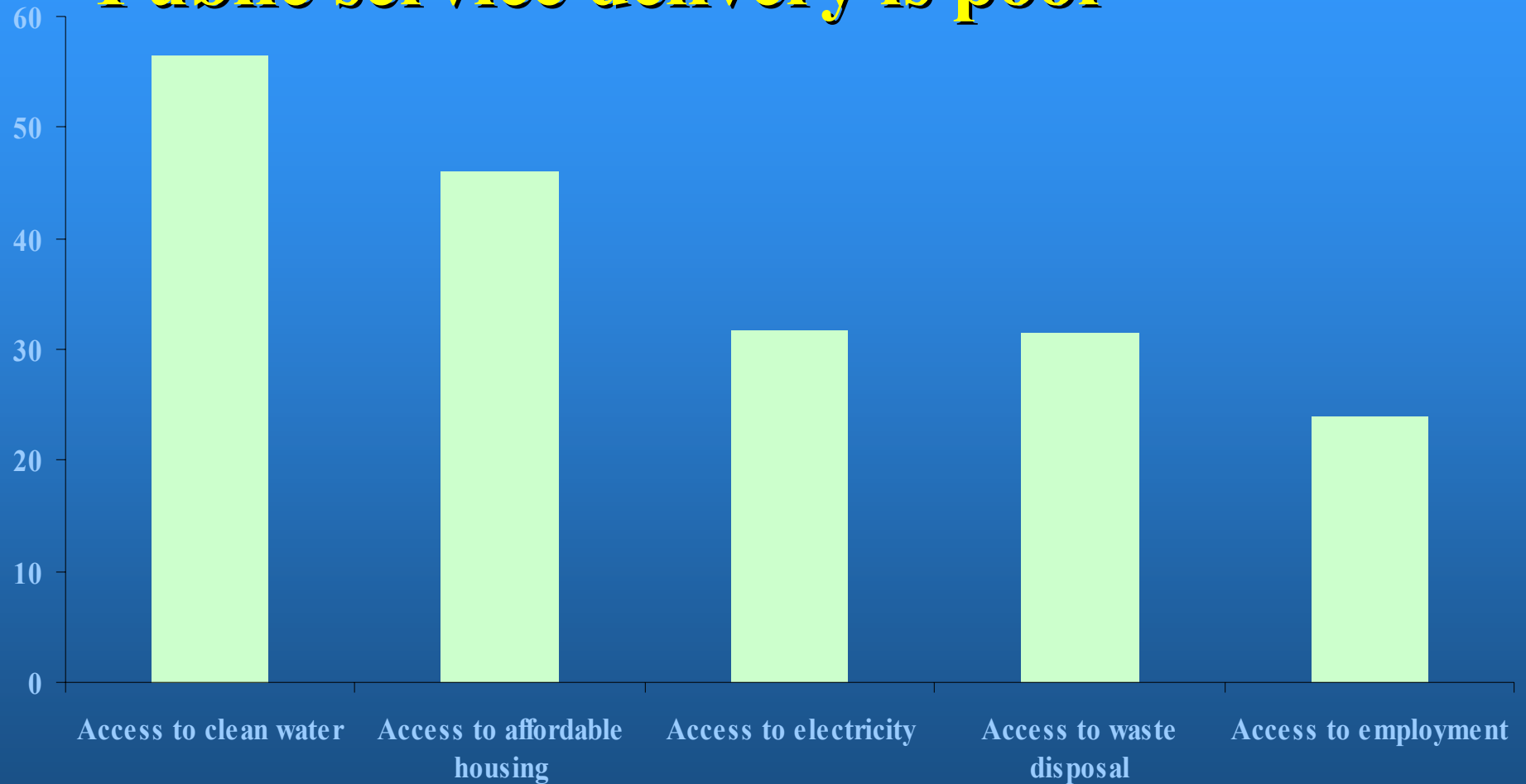
Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability

Key challenges (continued)

- Improving the independence and effectiveness of oversight and regulatory bodies (ombudsman, public complaints commission, human rights and anticorruption commissions, auditors- general)
- Better integration of traditional institutions into the governance system and enhancing their capacity, accountability and performance
- Reform and strengthening of the civil service for efficiency and effectiveness



Public service delivery is poor



Source: Household survey



Capacity Deficit and Governance in Africa

A major finding from the Africa Governance Report is the prevalence of capacity deficits in governance institutions in Africa, which are of human, material and institutional dimensions. These capacity gaps create a disconnect between legal formal provisions/stipulations and implementation and execution.



Key objectives of capacity development

1. Meeting the Millennium Development Goal of reducing poverty in Africa by the year 2015
 - Economic growth of about 3% lags behind the 7% growth rate needed to achieve the goal
 - Debilitating conflicts and wars exacerbate human deprivation, social crises and poverty
 - Governance systems remain feeble
 - HIV/AIDS crisis is threatening the existence of state and society
 - Overall progress of development remains sluggish



Key objectives (cont'd)

2. Promoting self-sustaining development, which requires:
 - A good industrial base
 - Knowledge capital that is modern and technology-driven
 - A good social infrastructure and investment climate



Basic principles for promoting meaningful capacity development in Africa

1. Capacity development must be comprehensive, locally owned, and must drive technical cooperation needs:
 - It must be demand driven and comprehensive
 - It must feed into the country's wider development strategy
 - It must be intersectoral and embrace all stakeholders (public sector, academia, private sector, civil society)
 - It must have a clear vision of human resources, labour market developments, educational and technology needs

Buy-in from donors and Africa's development partners



Basic principles for promoting meaningful capacity development in Africa (cont'd)

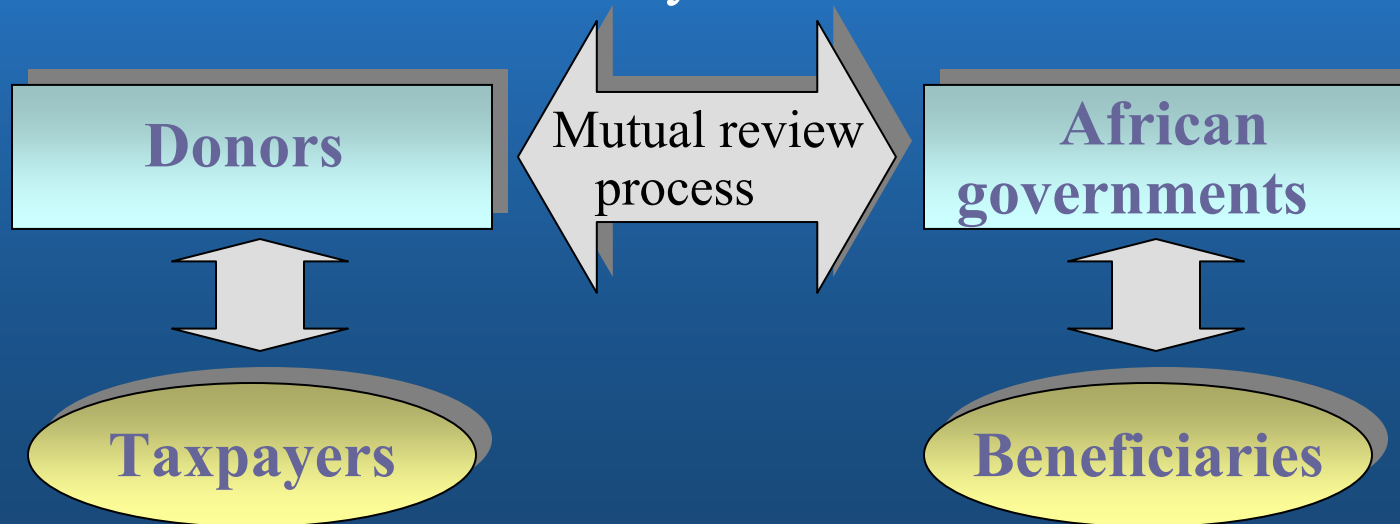
2. Capacity development must promote the indigenous/national knowledge base:
 - Tap local knowledge and enhance it
 - External knowledge has to fit the institutional context

3. Capacity development has to be guided by clear strategies based on country-specific realities:
 - Capacity gaps may be similar across countries, strategies to overcome them are not and should be country-specific
 - Example: Corruption



Basic principles for promoting meaningful capacity development in Africa

4. Mutual review and accountability on the part of external partners and recipient countries for capacity development assistance results:
- New accountability frameworks for monitoring capacity development support programmes
 - Two levels of accountability:





The way forward: An Action Plan

Improve on the independence and capacity of electoral institutions to efficiently manage the electoral process

Strengthening the capacity of parliaments to perform their core functions

Deepening legal and judicial reforms



The way forward: An Action Plan

Improving public sector management

Improving the delivery of public services

Removing bottlenecks to private enterprise



The way forward: An Action Plan

Maximizing the contribution of
traditional modes of governance

Tapping the potential Information
and communication technologies

Fostering credible and responsible
media



Summary Slide

- The way forward: An Action Plan



The way forward: An Action Plan

**Confronting the governance
dimension of HIV/AIDS**

**Getting donors to live up to their
commitments**