

The AFRICA REPORT



A Report by **CS Global**
partners

A Continent in Transition

Opportunity, access, and the role
of Citizenship by Investment



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ABOUT CS GLOBAL PARTNERS

Founded in 2012, CS Global Partners is a distinguished consultancy headquartered in the heart of Mayfair, London. Renowned globally, we specialise in crafting bespoke citizenship and residency solutions that empower private clients and governments alike. Our strategic guidance fosters economic growth, stability, and enhanced personal freedoms, creating lasting impact across borders.

At CS Global Partners, we partner with governments to design and implement successful Citizenship by Investment (CBI) and Residency by Investment (RBI) programmes. These initiatives attract responsible foreign investment, drive sustainable economic development, and elevate global competitiveness, delivering tangible benefits for both nations and individuals.



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THE HUMAN CONDITION

A CATALYST OF CHANGE

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE WORLD CITIZENSHIP INDEX

Each year, CS Global Partners publishes the World Citizenship Report (WCR), a definitive resource for high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) navigating the complexities of global citizenship. At its core lies the World Citizenship Index (WCI), a robust framework that evaluates citizenship across 188 countries through a multidimensional lens. Far beyond a simple ranking of visa-free access, the WCI assesses the enduring value of citizenship based on five key motivators:

- **Safety and Security (25%):** Stability and governance as cornerstones of decision-making.
- **Quality of Life (25%):** Access to healthcare, education, and overall well-being.
- **Economic Opportunity (20%):** Prospects for wealth creation and business growth.
- **Global Mobility (15%):** Freedom to travel and connect globally.
- **Financial Freedom (15%):** Tax efficiency and financial flexibility.

The WCI employs a sophisticated blend of qualitative and quantitative research, harmonising diverse datasets through a process called minimum-maximum normalisation. This method standardises statistical values to a 0–100 scale, ensuring a clear and comparable evaluation of each motivator. The formula simplifies complex data, enabling precise insights into what truly matters to global citizens.

The Africa Report: A Continent on the Rise

This report unveils Africa as a dynamic frontier for global mobility and opportunity. Drawing from the World Citizenship Report, it reveals a continent in transformation—where some nations surge forward with bold reforms, while others navigate challenges of progress and stagnation. These insights illuminate how key factors shape the choices of high-net-worth individuals, guiding their decisions on where to live, invest, or relocate.

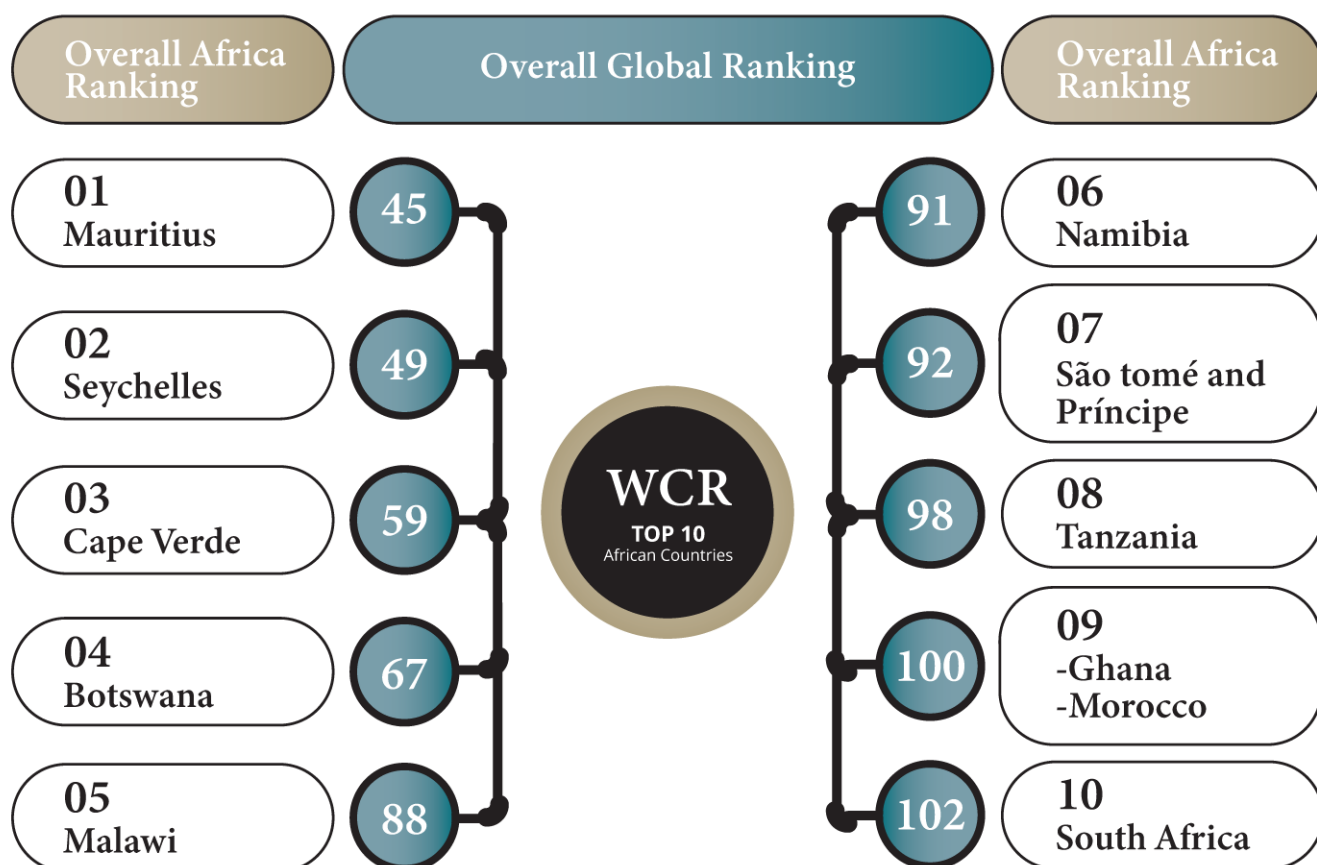




2025 WORLD CITIZENSHIP RANKINGS *AFRICAN COUNTRIES*

Top 10 African Countries

A total of 188 countries were ranked in the 2025 WCR

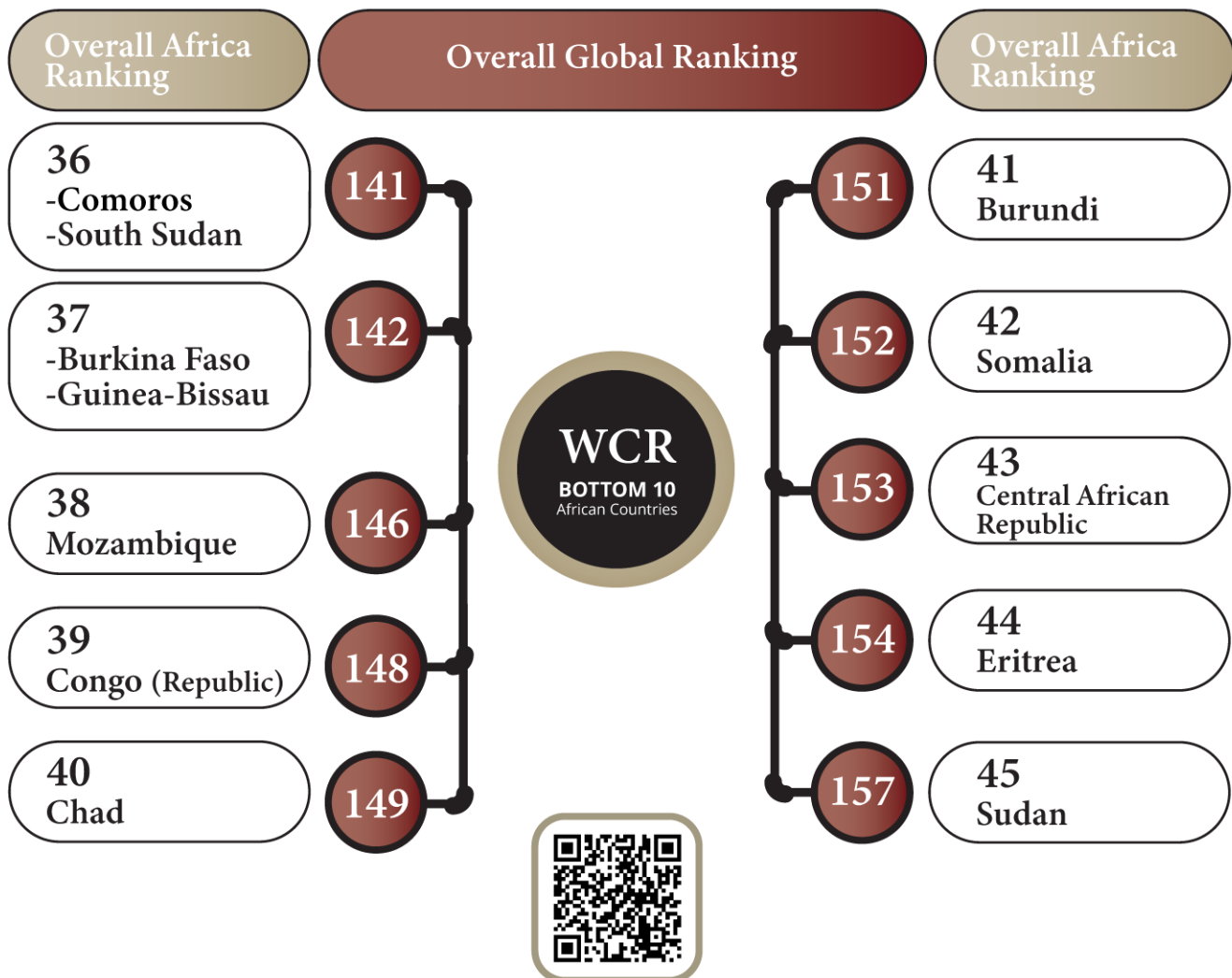




2025 WORLD CITIZENSHIP RANKINGS *AFRICAN COUNTRIES*

Bottom 10 African Countries

A total of 188 countries were ranked in the 2025 WCR



Click **HERE** or **Scan the QR code** to download
the **2025 World Citizenship Report**

A close-up photograph of a person's face, likely from an African tribe, adorned with multiple strands of colorful beads in red, yellow, and green. The person's eye is visible, looking slightly to the side. The background is dark, making the beads and the person's features stand out.

A CONTINENT IN TRANSITION

Africa is emerging as the next frontier in global mobility and opportunity

While historically overlooked in global mobility indices, the 2025 World Citizenship Report (WCR) reveals a continent undergoing quiet but significant change. Notably, some countries climbing the ranks through reforms, while others face stagnation. The story is nuanced and regionally diverse, with South Africa, Egypt, and Nigeria offering three distinct case studies.

SOUTH AFRICA: reform-driven resurgence amid lingering uncertainty

South Africa, is the nation that has had one of the most significant declines over the course of the the last few editions of the World Citizenship Report. In 2022, South Africa scored 75 and in 2024 ranked 119, falling a massive 44 places. It is not all doom and gloom though as the past year saw

South Africa, clawing its way back to 102 in 2025, reclaiming its position as 10th in Africa. After years of decline in perception and ranking, this reversal signals improved global confidence in South Africa's direction. Government efforts to improve visa processing times, digitise key services, and stimulate foreign investment have helped lift its international standing, especially via special economic zones and renewable energy.

This global optimism contrasts sharply with domestic sentiment, which remains conflicted. This divergence between international perception and domestic reality is underpinned by policy uncertainty and entrenched governance challenges. The 2025 National Budget initially proposed a VAT hike, later retracted due to coalition pushback, highlighting the Government's fragile consensus and legislative unpredictability.

Although corruption prosecutions have progressed since the Zondo Commission, ongoing scandals and the recent exit of Bain & Company from the South African consulting landscape continue to damage reform credibility.

Adding to this complex picture is South Africa's increasingly strained geopolitical posture: in July 2025, U.S. lawmakers advanced legislation¹ that could impose sanctions over South Africa's perceived alignment with Russia and stance on the Israel–Palestine conflict.

In another huge blow, South African products exported to the US have seen a 30% tariff since 7 August 2025.

However, the country still trails regional peers like Botswana and Mauritius, largely due to ongoing political instability, high crime rates, and economic volatility. Botswana, for instance, now ranks 4th in Africa (67 globally), consistently outperforming South Africa despite its smaller economy, thanks to strong governance, fiscal stability, and a secure environment for investors.

Implication: While South Africa's rise in the WCR suggests growing international confidence, the domestic outlook remains clouded by political volatility, institutional weakness, and public doubt, leaving the country's long-term direction uncertain despite short-term gains. South Africa's WCR status may encourage interest in second citizenship and residency options, particularly among its middle and upper classes seeking mobility insurance and access to more stable jurisdictions.



NIGERIA: stagnation reflecting structural challenges

Nigeria remains stuck near the bottom of the WCR, ranked 135 globally and 30th in Africa in 2025, down from 134 in 2024. Despite being Africa's largest economy by GDP and population, Nigeria continues to underperform in measures of global perception, quality of life, and ease of doing business.

Chronic issues, such as currency volatility, security risks, and weak passport strength, keep the country locked out of the mobility gains seen by smaller or more stable African peers. Investors and upwardly mobile citizens increasingly explore alternative citizenships, especially in the Caribbean, to secure travel flexibility and business access abroad.

***Implication:** Nigeria's ranking underscores the rising demand among high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) and professionals for second citizenship or residency solutions as hedges against domestic limitations.*



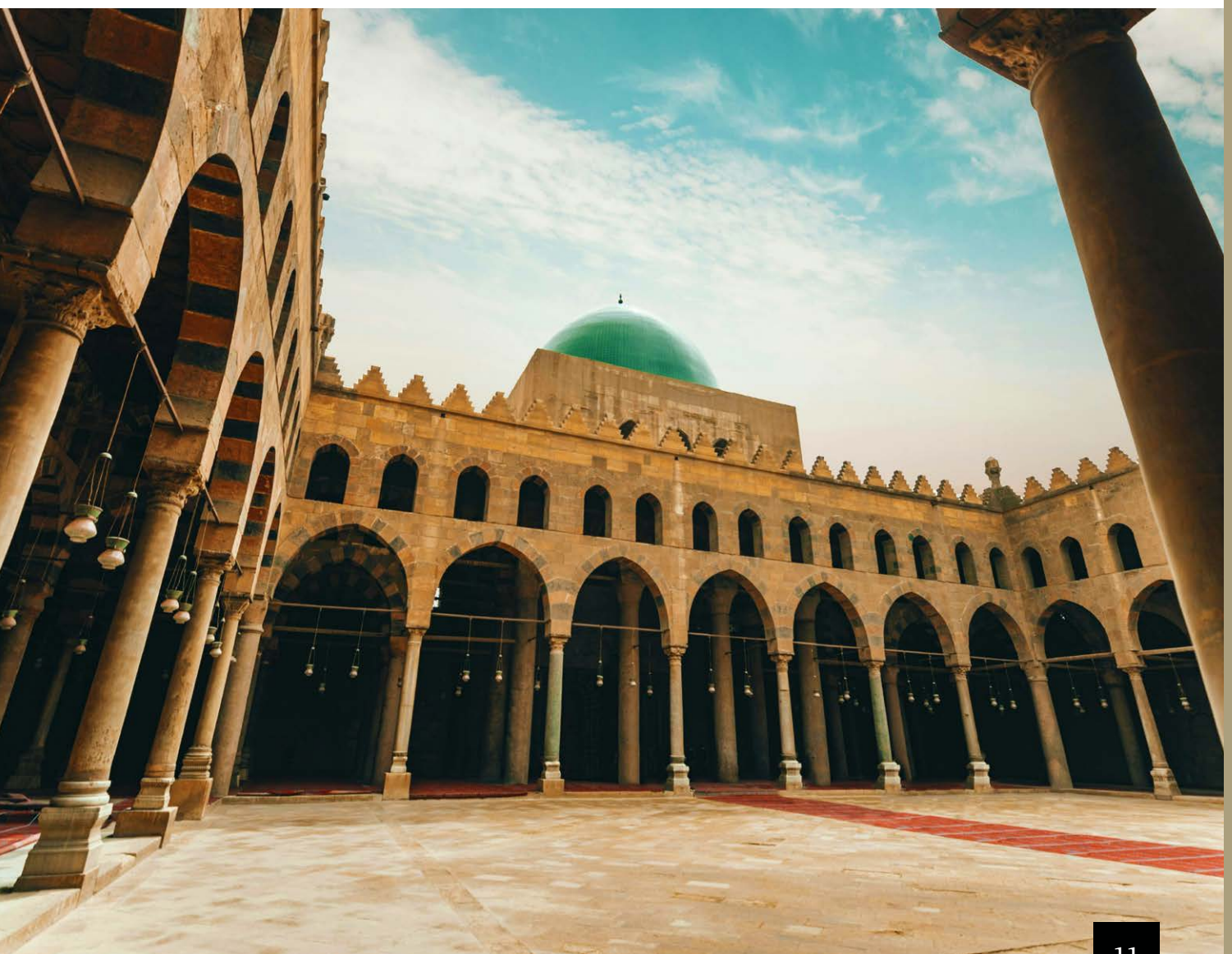
Egypt: incremental gains but still room for optimism

Egypt climbed modestly from 110 in 2024 to 106 in 2025, placing it 14th in Africa. While not a dramatic leap, this upward trend reflects cautious optimism. Egypt continues to pursue structural economic reforms under IMF guidance, and significant investments in infrastructure, such as the

New Administrative Capital and Suez Canal expansions, aim to position the country as a North African hub.

However, the benefits of these reforms remain uneven, and foreign investors still face bureaucratic hurdles. Moreover, regional geopolitical tensions continue to influence Egypt's perception on the global stage.

Implication: *Egypt may not yet be a prime destination for outbound mobility, but it holds potential as a regional connector. Cairo has launched² an ambitious reform agenda: between May 2022 and December 2024, nearly 500 structural reforms were implemented to modernise the business environment, privatise state assets, streamline investment processes, and boost private-sector-driven growth under its State Ownership Policy. Ongoing reforms could eventually lead to improvements in passport strength and economic opportunity metrics.*



Africa's adaptability and the push for economic inclusion

A key theme from the WCR 2025 data is how quickly and unevenly African countries can adapt to legal, economic, and policy reforms. While some nations like Africa's leader Mauritius (ranked 45 globally) and second place holder Seychelles (ranked 49 globally) have built reputations for efficiency, governance, and mobility access, others are held back by instability or underinvestment.

Botswana, notably, dropped from 59 in 2024 to 67 in 2025, a surprising shift given its reputation for political stability, fiscal discipline, and low corruption. While the fundamentals of Botswana's

governance remain strong, the decline may reflect regional economic pressures, limited diversification, or global mobility constraints.

This shift contrasts with South Africa's upward movement and underscores that even well-managed countries must continually adapt to remain competitive. Subsequently, Nigeria's ongoing stagnation raises important questions about political will, policy execution, and regulatory resilience.

Initiatives like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) are laying the foundation for increased regional cooperation and intra-African mobility - potentially elevating

Opportunity, access, and the role of Citizenship by Investment

As Africa continues to open up to global investment and digital transformation, alternative citizenships and residencies are becoming more than luxuries but rather tools of economic access. For African investors and professionals, acquiring a second citizenship opens doors to global markets, business, and education opportunities. For governments, it presents a new revenue stream and a chance to build credibility. Programmes across the Caribbean, Middle East, and even Africa are increasingly tailoring their offerings to this growing African demand, recognising the continent's wealth, ambition, and global aspirations.

Africa's diaspora, one of the most globally dispersed and economically active, continues to drive interest in global mobility tools. From Caribbean citizenship to EU Golden Visas; seeking both return pathways and external opportunity.



Bridging the gap between potential and performance

Africa's future in the global mobility landscape is neither fixed nor predetermined. The 2025 WCR shows that the continent is full of contrasts; high-performing smaller nations alongside underperforming powerhouses, with progressive reformers contrasted by those lagging behind. Yet across the board, there is a shared hunger for progress, inclusion, and opportunity.

The countries that succeed will be those that not only attract foreign investment but also empower their citizens, at home and abroad, to fully participate in the global economy.

Despite divergent trajectories, the continent's potential remains undeniable.

Sources:

1. <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/us-lawmakers-advance-bill-that-could-sanction-south-africa-over-its-foreign-2025-07-23/>
2. <https://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2025/05/06/egypt-implements-500-reforms-to-empower-private-sector-boost-2.economy-idsc/>

Africa boasts the world's youngest population, vast untapped resources, and a growing tech-savvy middle class - factors that could dramatically shift mobility and opportunity rankings in the coming decade.

However, unlocking this potential depends heavily on governance, infrastructure, and cross-border collaboration.

Programmes like the AfCFTA and digital identity systems offer hope but will require sustained political will and private sector support.

For forward-looking African nations, global citizenship frameworks, investment migration, and visa liberalisation aren't luxuries but strategic tools for economic inclusion, global integration, and future-proofing national resilience.



Africa overall Rankings

Country	Africa Rank	WCR Headline Rank	Safety and Security Global Rank	Quality of Life Global Rank	Economic Opportunity Global Rank	Global Mobility Global Rank	Financial Freedom Global Rank
Mauritius	1	45	67	56	62	34	45
Seychelles	2	49	50	54	119	36	31
Cape Verde	3	59	23	102	90	92	42
Botswana	4	67	37	83	109	70	42
Malawi	5	88	60	134	136	87	105
Namibia	6	91	57	107	102	82	66
São tomé and Príncipe	7	92	83	111	149	96	68
Tanzania	8	98	88	124	43	90	78
Ghana	9	100	68	113	88	97	81
Morocco	9	100	102	95	59	90	89
South Africa	10	102	129	89	88	63	83
Tunisia	11	103	94	79	122	86	99
Zambia	12	104	82	113	79	91	100
Algeria	13	105	121	78	49	113	125
Egypt	14	106	124	82	45	117	122
Senegal	14	106	79	129	76	110	77
Benin	15	107	108	129	48	92	72
Cote d'Ivoire	15	107	113	124	33	109	71
Kenya	16	108	118	114	46	88	107
Rwanda	17	109	87	130	92	100	63
Sierra Leone	17	109	76	140	105	100	126
Mauritania	18	113	89	131	81	101	108
Gabon	19	116	127	84	106	99	112
Uganda	20	121	128	127	54	91	129
Eswatini	21	124	123	108	121	85	116
Gambia	22	125	86	136	133	95	84
Libya	22	125	155	76	27	130	147

Africa overall Rankings

Country	Africa Rank	WCR Headline Rank	Safety and Security Global Rank	Quality of Life Global Rank	Economic Opportunity Global Rank	Global Mobility Global Rank	Financial Freedom Global Rank
Togo	22	125	119	128	78	106	115
Cameroon	23	126	130	116	68	120	123
Angola	24	127	116	113	115	118	104
Mali	25	129	120	148	64	114	123
Lesotho	26	130	107	133	142	76	97
Congo (Democratic Republic)	27	132	142	113	40	122	139
Equatorial Guinea	28	133	133	101	127	103	146
Liberia	28	133	95	138	124	117	128
Zimbabwe	29	134	139	115	97	94	148
Nigeria	30	135	111	125	50	126	124
Djibouti	31	135	136	135	93	112	103
Guinea	32	136	137	139	77	100	117
Ethiopia	33	137	149	137	51	122	109
Niger	34	138	145	147	103	103	104
Madagascar	35	139	115	142	112	99	114
The Comoros	36	141	131	117	138	105	133
South Sudan	36	141	135	151	112	123	155
Burkina Faso	37	142	152	143	90	99	91
Guinea-Bissau	37	142	116	135	122	114	144
Mozambique	38	146	148	140	79	94	131
Congo (Republic)	39	148	150	136	126	120	137
Chad	40	149	156	150	111	107	134
Burundi	41	151	146	146	139	120	151
Somalia	42	152	158	152	119	131	154
Central African Republic	43	153	161	149	140	116	142
Eritrea	44	154	159	141	145	125	152
Sudan	45	157	163	132	147	129	153

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