

If any of you know of anyone that would benefit from receiving
The ASEA Daily News & Resources
 please have them email a request to: aseapublicaffairs@ldschurch.org

The ASEA Daily News & Resources

Africa Southeast Area



Friday 3 July 2015

The Daily News is now archived at U:Public

Africa Southeast Area Websites

The Church has: [37 General Authority Facebook Pages & 27 Church Organizations Pages](#)

Africa Southeast Area (ASEA)

Countries	Mormon Newsroom Site. Link from these sites to Facebook!	 LIKE US ON facebook	Mormon Newsroom Facebook sites.
Church HQ	Mormon Newsroom	Mormon Newsroom Facebook page	
Angola	Angola Mormon Newsroom	Angola Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Botswana	none	Botswana Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
DR Congo	DR Congo Mormon Newsroom	DR Congo Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Indian Ocean	Indian Ocean Newsroom	Indian Ocean Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Kenya	Kenya Mormon Newsroom	Kenya Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Madagascar	Indian Ocean Newsroom	Madagascar Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Malawi	None	Malawi Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Mozambique	None	Mozambique Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
Namibia	None	Namibia Mormon Newsroom Facebook	
South Africa	South Africa Mormon Newsroom	South Africa Facebook page	
Uganda	Uganda Mormon Newsroom	Uganda Facebook page	
Zambia	none	Zambia Mormon Newsroom	
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Mormon Newsroom	Zimbabwe Facebook page	
Totals for ASEA	7 Country Mormon Newsrooms!	13 Country Newsroom Facebook pages!	
ASEA YouTube	 ASEA (Africa Southeast Area) Public Affairs YouTube Channel		
AFRICASE	Africa Southeast Area Facebook page We are in great need of "Faith Promoting" stories. Submit at this link :		
Helping Hands	Mormon Helping Hands - Africa Southeast Facebook page		
Public Affairs	All Public Affairs individuals are able to access the Public Affairs Network (Secure Site) at this link: Public Affairs Network		
Online Resources	Use of Online Resources in Church Callings When carefully used, the Internet can help coordinate the work of the Church, strengthen faith, and minister to the needs of others. The Internet can also help with missionary work as people connect with friends and family and share Church content. However, electronic communication should not replace face-to-face contact.		
Emergency Preparedness:	Emergency Preparedness and Response		

Africa Southeast Area (ASEA)



Calendar

	July 2015	Central African Republic Presidential and Parliamentary elections
Thursday	9 July 2015	South Sudanese General Election
Thursday	16 July 2015	Burundi Presidential Election
Saturday	18 July 2015	South Africa, Nelson Mandela Day
Sunday	9 August 2015	South African, National Women's Day
Saturday	15 August 2015	ASEA Mormon Helping Hands handover/culmination of projects
	18 October 2015	Presidential and Parliamentary elections
	25 October 2015	DR Congo Provincial elections
	25 October 2015	Tanzania Parliamentary and Presidential elections
Tuesday	16 December 2015	South Africa, Day of Reconciliation
	October 2015	Tanzanian General Elections
	27 November 2015	DR Congo Presidential Election
	2016 (first half)	Niger Parliamentary and Presidential elections.

Keyword News Topics below in Tan

Country Specific News Topics in Light Blue

Church Miscellaneous

(Articles of Interest to Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)

[Elder Ballard, other LDS Church leaders explain need for better Sabbath day observance in new video](#)

In local and regional leadership training meetings around the world, leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are counseling church members to improve their observance of the Sabbath day.

A question-and-answer video released Thursday on MormonNewsroom.org provides more insight on this counsel, with statements from Elder M. Russell Ballard, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles; Sister Rosemary M. Wixom, general president of the Primary; and Elder L. Whitney Clayton of the Presidency of the Seventy.

"Our whole desire is that throughout the church, we focus our Sabbath day worship on the Lord," Elder Ballard said in the video.

[BYU conference to examine religious-freedom issues](#)

In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's legalization of gay marriage and Utah's recent passage of anti-discrimination protections for people of faith, religious freedom may be a hotter topic than ever.

And it will be the subject of a conference next week at LDS Church-owned Brigham Young University.

The 2105 Religious Freedom Annual Review, sponsored by the Provo school's International Center for Law and Religion Studies, is scheduled for July 6 through 8 with the theme "Fairness for All."

[5 reasons why Mormons are happier, says researcher](#)

(Very interesting-rb)

[LDS Church donates to Utah Pride Center's efforts to feed homeless youths](#)

SALT LAKE CITY — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has donated to the Utah Pride Center's efforts to provide breakfasts for homeless youths, the center announced Wednesday.

Church officials notified the Utah Pride Center of the donation in a recent grant letter, said Kent Frogley, chairman of the center's board of directors. The Salt Lake-based nonprofit agency serves breakfast every Saturday when the weather gets cold, Frogley said.

[Some Mormon missionaries may now cast aside suit coats](#)

Interesting Stuff about Africa & ASEA area

Found in the news stream.

[In the jungle, the mighty jungle... lions sleep 20ft up as a tree offers the only shade in scorching wilderness](#)



- Pride of the big cats spotted taking shelter in the branches of a tree as they escaped the blistering sun in Tanzania

- Around ten lions were seen slumbering 20ft up while sprawled lazily over branches under the shade of the leaves

- The staggering pictures were taken by amateur photographer Alexandr Kirichko, 50, from Ukraine

It may have felt unbearably

hot in the UK this week - but the temperatures have been nothing compared to what these sleeping lions must endure.

A pride of the big cats were spotted taking shelter in the branches of a tree as they escaped the

blistering sun in the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

Around ten lions were seen slumbering 20ft up while sprawled lazily over branches under the shade of the leaves.

Medical News Found in the news stream.

[Congo and WHO investigate possible Ebola outbreak](#)

KINSHASA (Reuters) - Health officials in Democratic Republic of Congo are investigating a possible outbreak of Ebola in a village about 270 km (170 miles) northeast of the capital Kinshasa, the government and the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Thursday.

[Ebola crisis: Liberia's new outbreak spreads](#)

Two more cases of Ebola have been confirmed in Liberia following the death of a teenager from the virus on Sunday, officials say.

The country had been declared Ebola-free more than seven weeks ago.

Both of the new cases were in Nedowein, the same village where the boy died, the ministry of information says.

Liberia's authorities quarantined the area after the teenager's death and said his funeral was carried out safely.

Social Media Found in the news stream.

[Beware the Facebook illusion that tricks you into thinking videos, pictures and trends are more popular than they are](#)

- Computer scientists at the University of Southern California have discovered a 'majority illusion' that skews the popularity of content online
- It works because individuals can't see the global picture so estimate the popularity of content based on what their friends are sharing
- Illusion may explain why some videos go viral and how trolling spreads

Religious Freedom Found in the news stream.

[Religious freedom battle heats up amid SCOTUS same-sex marriage ruling](#)

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – The Supreme Court may have handed down a decision on same-sex marriage in the United States, but a new battle is now heating up, religious freedom.

“The fundamental principle here is the government shall make no law infringing upon one’s right to worship or to one’s right to freedom of religion,” said Huntsville attorney George Flowers.

County clerks and probate judges around the country and some here in Alabama are choosing to defy the Supreme Court’s ruling on same-sex marriage and not issue marriage licenses.

“Saying they are not going to follow federal law because they believe federal law is in violation of their personal held religious beliefs,” said Flowers.

Misc. Found in the news stream.

Animal Conservation and related articles

Multiple African Countries in articles

[African leaders must respect constitutions or face turmoil - Hollande](#)

COTONOU, July 2 (Reuters) - French President Francois Hollande urged African leaders on Thursday to respect their constitutional term limits amid concerns that some are prepared to risk political instability in order to cling to power.

Hollande was speaking a day after at least six people were killed in violent clashes in Burundi, where opposition parties are furious over the decision of President Pierre Nkurunziza to seek a third term, which they say is unconstitutional.

Burkina Faso's longtime ruler Blaise Compaore was toppled in a popular uprising last October after making a similar attempt to remain in power.

"We witnessed it again in Burkina Faso. Today in Burundi we are seeing the consequences. When these (constitutional) rules are not respected, are not shared, then there are risks and there are consequences," Hollande told reporters in Benin at the start of a two-day African visit.

Benin's President Thomas Boni Yayi has said he will not seek a third term next year.

Congo Republic's President Denis Sassou Nguesso, 71, has not yet said if he plans to seek another seven-year term. He called for a national dialogue this week, one subject of which would be potential constitutional changes lifting term limits and age restrictions.

France was the principal colonial power in West and Central Africa and still wields significant economic and political influence in the region, including playing a key role in the fight against Islamist insurgents there.

[Britain sends £300million to Africa and the Middle East to stop the 'ever growing flow' of migrants wanting to travel to Europe](#)

Britain will send more than £300million to countries in Africa and the Middle East in an effort to reduce the number of migrants fleeing to Europe, the Government announced today.

International Development Secretary Justine Greening said the growing migrant crisis in Calais was proof that 'the world's problems touch our lives here in Britain'.

She said the alternative to spending international aid was 'ever-growing migrant flows' into Europe and Britain.

[Africa's Angry Young Men-No school, no job, no future. Why so many of Africa's young men choose militias.](#)

The Central African Republic (CAR) is a poor, arid, landlocked country the size of Texas. According to the United Nations, the former French colony is now experiencing the world's largest forgotten humanitarian crisis. In March 2013, a mainly Muslim rebel group overthrew the corrupt regime of President François Bozizé. In response, a Christian militia took revenge on the country's Muslim minority with a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing. Ninety-nine percent of Muslims in the capital, Bangui, are dead or have left, and one quarter of the country's entire population have fled their homes.

Despite the religious make-up of the warring parties, refugees who have sought shelter in neighboring Chad do not describe a conflict driven by religion.

[2 French soldiers arrested over Africa sex abuse allegations](#)

PARIS (AP) — Two French soldiers were arrested Thursday over allegations of child sex abuse in Burkina Faso.

It is the second case of alleged sexual abuse of minors by French soldiers in Africa to surface in recent months. French officials have said the Burkina Faso case is unrelated to the earlier one, in Central African Republic, involving different soldiers.


[Africa's games makers dream of exporting to the world](#)

Allan Mukhwana has been instrumental in ensuring that more than 1,400 households in high-risk malaria zones in rural Kenya receive insecticide-treated mosquito nets.

But he's not an aid worker, nor a medic - he's the boss of a gaming studio, Momentum Core, in Kenya's capital Nairobi.

His firm specialises in developing games with an educational twist.

Players of the game Mosquito Hood are tasked with killing increasingly pesky mosquitoes. When a player completes all levels of the game, the Kenyan government has agreed to donate one mosquito net to a family living in a malarial zone.

Angola		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	64% / 26%	Population: 22,116,360
		Penetration of population w/ internet	19.4%	Labor Force: 9,298,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	8,100	Life Expectancy: 52
		Unemployment / year est.	26% / 2014	Church Members: 1,436
		Population below poverty line:	40.5%	Congregations: 8

[Angola: Putin-Style Presidential Decree Ends NGO Independence in Angola](#)

(Interesting and good to know information-rb)

If Angola is consolidating its democracy under the 2010 Constitution, Presidential Decree 74/15 of 23 March 2015, which regulates non-governmental organisations (NGOs), raises a matter of grave concern.

This decree echoes the legal technique used by the Russian autocrat Vladimir Putin, who in 2012 introduced legislation obliging foreign NGOs to register with the Foreign Ministry as "foreign agents". This effectively turned all NGO staff into hypothetical "spies".

The Angolan presidential decree includes a series of provisions that make it practically impossible for NGOs to work in an independent and impartial manner as the representatives of civil society.

[Human rights off the agenda as Hollande visits Angola](#)


On Saturday, June 20, a group of Angolan activists had gathered for a weekly book club meeting in the upscale Vila Alice neighbourhood of the Angolan capital of Luanda when the police suddenly swooped down on them.

Thirteen activists were dragged out of the private home at gunpoint, put into cars with blackened windows and driven off, according to local activists. The book club meeting participants had gathered to discuss the ideas of prominent Angolan academic and journalist, Domingos da Cruz, who was not present at the book club meeting.

The next day though, da Cruz was arrested in a rural province near the Angolan-Namibian border. Another Angolan activist was also arrested in the sweep.

Almost three weeks later, the 15 Angolan pro-democracy activists are still in detention. In a statement released shortly after the arrests, Angola's Director General of the Criminal Investigative Service accused the detainees of "preparing acts aimed at disrupting public order and security in the country". Angolan media later reported they were being charged with "rebellion", "attempted coup d'Etat" and "crimes against national security".

The allegations are denied by Angolan and international human rights groups.

Botswana		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	164% / 26%	Population: 2,115,710
		Penetration of population w/ internet	13.2%	Labor Force: 1,017,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	16,000/2014	Life Expectancy: 47
		Unemployment / year est.	17.8% / 2009	Church Members: 3,104
		Population below poverty line:	30.3%	Congregations: 12

[Botswana raises issue with proposed AU membership fees](#)

Botswana has expressed reservations on the proposed new subscription fees for membership of the African Union (AU), the Dailynews reports here on Thursday.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi said in an interview with the newspaper that Botswana's reasons for not agreeing to the proposed formula were that finances have not been well accounted for, and that there was poor record keeping at the AU.

"We will continue paying the old fees until the money is well accounted for" the minister was quoted as saying.

Venson-Moitoi said Botswana alongside Egypt, Algeria and Libya were the only countries that openly disagreed on the proposed formula to be used for annual subscription fees.

Burundi

Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	25% / 2%	Population: 11,010,900
Penetration of population w/ internet	1.4%	Labor Force: 4,806,000
GDP per capita USD\$	900	Life Expectancy: 54
Unemployment / year est.	35% / 2009	Church Members: 526
Population below poverty line:	68%	Congregations: 3

[Burundi's President Campaigns for Controversial Third Term](#)

Burundi's President Pierre Nkurunziza has intensified his re-election bid ahead of the July 15 presidential poll, according to presidential spokesperson Gervais Abayeho.



"The president is on a campaign trail in the last few days and people are turning out in large numbers from his CNDD-FDD party, and the operation is going quite well in the countryside and even the capital, Bujumbura," said Abayeho.

But opposition groups say they will not participate in the election, after accusing Nkurunziza of undermining the constitution by seeking a third term.

They say the political environment is not suitable for credible elections, citing the violence and security concerns that prompted more than 100,000 Burundians to flee to Rwanda and other nearby countries.

[Burundi polls not free or credible, UN says](#)

(Articles of this nature are trending across multiple news organizations-rb)

The United Nations (UN) observers have ruled that the recently held parliamentary elections in Burundi were not free or credible.

Farhan Haq, a UN spokesman, said on Thursday that the elections were not conducted in a credible political atmosphere and were marred by violence.

"The overall environment was not conducive for free, credible and inclusive elections," the UN official said.

The elections on June 29 went ahead in the African country despite an international outcry and are slated to be followed by a presidential vote on July 17. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon had earlier called on Burundi to postpone the vote after the opposition announced a boycott, but the government rejected his appeal.

The opposition parties had said that they would boycott the elections until conditions for "peaceful, transparent and inclusive" polls are met.

Burundi's national election commission has claimed a huge turnout in the general elections, despite many polling stations seeming to be quiet.

[Grenade blasts, gunshots heard in Burundi capital ahead of poll results](#)

At least two policemen were injured during a grenade attack in Burundi's capital on Wednesday, witnesses said, as the country awaited results from Monday's parliamentary election which was boycotted by the opposition.

Sporadic gunfire could also be heard in several other flashpoint districts in Bujumbura, marring celebrations marking the independence day holiday in the former Belgian colony in east Africa.

Burundi has been locked in its worst political crisis since its civil war ended a decade ago, with protests erupting in late April against President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid to seek a third term in office. The presidential vote is due on July 15.

The United States and other Western powers have criticised Monday's poll, saying the conditions were not right to stage a fair election.

['If I go, someone else will claim my land': the stark reality of real estate in Burundi](#)

Tens of thousands of Burundians face an agonising choice between fleeing from violence at home or running the gauntlet of unrest in order to protect their land

Cameroon

Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	71% / -%	Population: 23,248,261
Penetration of population w/ internet		Labor Force: 9,105,000
GDP per capita USD\$	3,000	Life Expectancy: 55
Unemployment / year est.	30% / 2001	Church Members: 1,498
Population below poverty line:	48% / 2000	Congregations: 7

[Cameroon: Citizens Plagued By Urban Flooding](#)

Days of heavy rain during the week of 20 June 2015 left roads, buildings and homes in Cameroon's Douala city flooded.

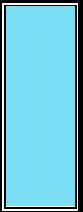
More than a week after floods caused by heavy rain in Cameroon's economic capital, Douala, killed at least four people and destroyed the homes and businesses of thousands of others, displacing at least 2,000 people and directly affecting more than 30,000, the city remains devastated.

Fallen electric poles are a grim reminder that much of the city is still without power, upturned wrecked cars and motorcycles lie abandoned in gutters, trash and other debris litter the muddy streets.

The Ministry of Homes and Urban Development and the Urban Community Delegation of Douala says "millions of dollars" of damage have been caused.

Central African Republic (CAR)

Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	33% / 1%	Population: 4,851,884
Penetration of population w/ internet	3.4%	Labor Force: 2,217,000
GDP per capita USD\$	600	Life Expectancy: 50
Unemployment / year est.	8% / 2001	Church Members: 216
Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations: 1

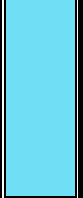
<h1>Chad</h1> <p>(This country borders ASEA)</p>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	47% / -%	Population: 13,288,797
		Penetration of population w/ internet	2.4%	Labor Force: 4,919,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,600	Life Expectancy: 51
		Unemployment / year est.	22% / 2009	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	80% / 2001	Congregations:

[Chad forces arrest Boko Haram leader, hold 74 others](#)

N'DJAMENA, Chad (AP) -- Chad's chief prosecutor says that security forces have arrested one of the leaders of the Nigerian extremist group Boko Haram.

Prosecutor Alhassim Khamis said in a statement Monday that Bahna Fanaye, whose alias is Mahamat Moustapha, was apprehended Sunday, along with two others. He said Fanaye coordinated the trafficking of weapons between Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad for the radical Islamic network.

Khamis said forces seized various weapons, communication materials, documents and more than 50 SIM cards from Fanaye's home. He said a man described as the financier of the group was also arrested in another operation.

<h1>Congo Rep.</h1> <p>(Brazzaville)</p>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	100% / 7%	Population: 4,753,445
		Penetration of population w/ internet	2.0%	Labor Force: 2,890,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	6,600	Life Expectancy: 59
		Unemployment / year est.	53% / 2012	Church Members: 6,053
		Population below poverty line:	46.5% / 2011	Congregations: 17

[Congo Republic leader calls for national dialogue, with term limits one subject](#)

BRAZZAVILLE (Reuters) - The president of the Congo Republic has called for a national dialogue, one subject of which would be potential constitutional changes that would allow him to stand next year for a third term.

President Denis Sassou Nguesso, 71, has not yet said if he plans to seek another seven-year term. Congo's 2002 constitution limits the president to two terms in office and excludes candidates over 70 years of age.

However, Sassou Nguesso has already said he expects a referendum to decide on whether the nation's charter should be revised. Opposition figures have criticised what they say is a bid to extend his rule.

"Dialogue in our country, in our traditions, I allow myself to remind you, brings progress, mutual understanding and calm," the president said in a televised address late on Tuesday.


Around 400 representatives from the political class, trade unions, civil society, ex-combatants, and traditional and religious authorities will be convoked for the July 11 to 14 conference.

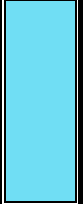
[Amnesty Blasts Congo-Brazzaville Over Mass Expulsions](#)

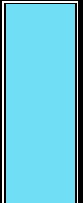
GOMA, DRC—Amnesty International says abuses committed in the Republic of Congo during last year's deportation of tens of thousands to the Democratic Republic of Congo could amount to crimes against humanity.

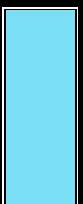
In a report published Thursday, Amnesty describes a range of human rights violations allegedly committed by Congo Brazzaville's security forces between April and September of last year during mass expulsions of DRC nationals.


The organization says at least 179,000 DRC citizens were expelled at that time from the neighboring country, and that the deportations have continued this year. Congo Brazzaville has said previously the DRC nationals are illegal foreign workers.

<h1>DR Congo</h1> <p>(Kinshasa)</p>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	59% / 8%	Population: 71,509,992
		Penetration of population w/ internet	2.0%	Labor Force: 27,590,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	700 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 50
		Unemployment / year est.	46% / 2009	Church Members: 42,689
		Population below poverty line:	63%	Congregations: 145

<h1>Equatorial Guinea</h1>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	87% / -%	Population: 802,008
		Penetration of population w/ internet	16.0%	Labor Force: 195,200
		GDP per capita USD\$	32,600	Life Expectancy: 53
		Unemployment / year est.	22.3% / 2009	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations:

<h1>Ethiopia</h1>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	26% / 49%	Population: 101,683,016
		Penetration of population w/ internet	1.7%	Labor Force: 47,320,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,500	Life Expectancy: 64
		Unemployment / year est.	17.5% / 2012	Church Members: 1,854
		Population below poverty line:	39% / 2012	Congregations: 64

<h1>Gabon</h1>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	175% / -%	Population: 1,742,265
		Penetration of population w/ internet	9.9%	Labor Force: 636,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	21,600	Life Expectancy: 63
		Unemployment / year est.	21% / 2006	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations:

<h1>Kenya</h1>		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	83% / 67%	Population: 46,764,772
		Penetration of population w/ internet	36.7%	Labor Force: 17,700,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	3,100	Life Expectancy: 62
		Unemployment / year est.	40% / 2008	Church Members: 12,471
		Population below poverty line:	43.4 / 2012	Congregations: 62

[Kenya detains alleged Islamic State recruiters from Uganda](#)

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenyan authorities are holding two Ugandan men who are accused of recruiting for the Islamic State group in East Africa.

The Kenya Anti-Terrorism Police Unit on Thursday sought a magistrate's permission to continue holding the Ugandans it believes are working with a syndicate recruiting for Islamic militants. The magistrate agreed and gave the police 30 days to investigate the men.

[Why free schools have not solved Kenya's problems](#)

Kenya has been praised for introducing free primary school education, in line with one of the Millennium Development Goals, but the country is now battling to raise education standards, as the

BBC's Anne Soy has been finding out in Nairobi.

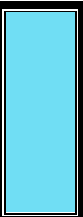
[Anti-terror tactics targeting Muslim leaders provoking tensions in Kenya](#)

[Kenya is making it easier for UK citizens to visit through e-visas, why not SA?](#)

Cape Town - The Kenyan Government has just introduced a new e-visa service for UK and Irish travellers, effective July 2.

Travellers headed to the East African country can now apply for an e-visas prior to their arrival in Kenya via its e-visa portal.


Tourism Update reports there will be a two-month transition position, until the e-visas become compulsory from 1 September, when visitors will be required to register for their e-visa in advance. Approval for the e-visa can take up to seven days.

Lesotho		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	95% / 24%	Population: 2,074,095
		Penetration of population w/ internet	5.3%	Labor Force: 894,400
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 49
		Unemployment / year est.	25% / 2008	Church Members: 867
		Population below poverty line:	49 / 1999	Congregations: 2

[Lesotho Faces New Round of Violence, Political Crisis](#)

JOHANNESBURG—The tiny nation of Lesotho is threatening to erupt into violence again, less than a year after one of its former leaders fled into exile in South Africa. Now, the brutal killing of a top military officer has sent former leaders back into South Africa - where they are watching anxiously as regional officials head into Lesotho to try to restore peace.

Lesotho has had a disproportionate share of troubles in the last year - from a reported coup attempt in August to a recent spate of violence and reports of a growing political crisis.

Madagascar		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	40% / ?	Population: 24,540,641
		Penetration of population w/ internet	73.5%	Labor Force: 12,150,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,400 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 65
		Unemployment / year est.	3.6% / 2013	Church Members: 10,322
		Population below poverty line:	50%	Congregations: 38

[Madagascar lawmakers to vote on whether to sack PM and government](#)


ANTANANARIVO, July 2 (Reuters) - Madagascar lawmakers will vote on Friday on whether to sack the prime minister and his government just six months after public frustration with power cuts, rampant unemployment and a stagnant economy forced out the previous administration.

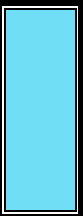
The Indian Ocean island nation's economy has been in tatters since a 2009 coup drove away donors and investors.


"The government does not meet the expectations and aspirations of the population," Jean Brunelle Razafitsiandraofa, the leader of the biggest party in parliament, Mapar, said.


"Insecurity, inflation, the depreciation of the (local currency), social difficulties show that the government has failed," he said.

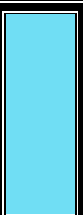
The motion was formally filed on Wednesday.


Malawi		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	37% / 10%	Population: 17,393,962
		Penetration of population w/ internet	72.2%	Labor Force: 5,747,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 55
		Unemployment / year est.	6.6% / 2013	Church Members: 1,931
		Population below poverty line:	53% / 2004	Congregations: 8

Mauritius		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	128% / 40%	Population: 1,322,860
		Penetration of population w/ internet	6.2%	Labor Force: 600,200
		GDP per capita USD\$	17,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 74
		Unemployment / year est.	8.3% / 2013	Church Members: 458
		Population below poverty line:	8% / 2006	Congregations: 2

Mozambique		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	58% / 22%	Population: 27,282,161
		Penetration of population w/ internet	5.6%	Labor Force: 12,250,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,100	Life Expectancy: 50
		Unemployment / year est.	17% / 2007	Church Members: 7,943
		Population below poverty line:	52% / 2009	Congregations: 26

Namibia		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	137% / 32%	Population: 2,325,019
		Penetration of population w/ internet	14.8%	Labor Force: 1,168,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	10,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 6
		Unemployment / year est.	27.4% / 2012	Church Members: 793
		Population below poverty line:	28.7% / 2010	Congregations: 2

Niger		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	25% / 2%	Population: 19,289,323
		Penetration of population w/ internet	1.6%	Labor Force: 5,800,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,000 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 58
		Unemployment / year est.	2.25% / 2009	Church Members: 793
		Population below poverty line:	63%	Congregations: 2

Nigeria (This country borders ASEAN)		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	97% / 15%	Population: 179,825,664
		Penetration of population w/ internet	37.6%	Labor Force: 54,970,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	6,100 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 52
		Unemployment / year est.	23.9% / 2011	Church Members: 129,989
		Population below poverty line:	70%	Congregations: 416

[Nigeria Boko Haram crisis: Militants 'kill 150'](#)

Nearly 150 people are reported to have been killed by suspected Boko Haram Islamist militants in attacks in Nigeria's north-eastern Borno state.

Eyewitnesses say the gunmen stormed the village of Kukawa near Lake Chad on Wednesday evening,

killing 97 people, including women and children.

On Tuesday, the militants shot dead 48 men after they had finished prayers in two villages near the town of Monguno, a resident told the BBC.

[Boko Haram guns down 97 people praying in mosques in Nigeria](#)

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP) — Boko Haram extremists gunned down nearly 100 Muslims praying in mosques in a northeast Nigerian town during the holy month of Ramadan, a government official and a self-defense fighter said Thursday.

The attack Wednesday night on the town of Kukawa came the day after the Islamic extremist group attacked a village 22 miles away and killed another 48 men and boys, according to witnesses who counted the dead.

The people of Kukawa were in several mosques, praying ahead of breaking their daylong fast, when the extremists attacked. They killed 97 people, mainly men, said self-defense spokesman Abbas Gava and a senior government official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to give information to reporters.

[In Nigeria, Boko Haram Prisoner Relocation Plan Stirs Protest Movement](#)

Residents in southeast Nigerian are protesting the planned relocation of around 47 captured members of the Boko Haram militant group to their state’s fourth largest city. Anambra state government officials have come out in opposition to the plan, saying that it would chase away investment and bring instability to their relatively stable region.

Reunion Island	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	105% / 48%	Population: 874,345
	Penetration of population w/ internet		Labor Force:
	GDP per capita USD\$		Life Expectancy:
	Unemployment / year est.	40% / ?	Church Members:
	Population below poverty line:		Congregations:

Rwanda	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	61% / 28%	Population: 12,540,798
	Penetration of population w/ internet	9.2%	Labor Force: 6,061,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	1,700 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 64
	Unemployment / year est.	3.4% / 2012	Church Members: 281
	Population below poverty line:	44.9 / 2011	Congregations: 3



Somalia	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	50% / 2%	Population: 10,742,489
	Penetration of population w/ internet	1.5%	Labor Force: 3,011,000
	GDP per capita USD\$	600 / 2010	Life Expectancy: 55
	Unemployment / year est.	25.4% / 2012	Church Members:
	Population below poverty line:	na	Congregations:

[Somalia reached 'tipping point,' can secure peace, U.N. official says](#)

NAIROBI (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - Somalia has made "remarkable" progress in the last two years and has reached a "tipping point" where it can secure peace, the chief United Nations official in Somalia said on Thursday.

Philippe Lazzarini spoke to reporters in Nairobi as he stepped down after 2-1/2 years as U.N. Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, which has been mired in conflict since 1991.

"For the first time, a real peace and state-building agenda is on the table and the Somalis are committed, behind it," he said. "I think a tipping point has been reached to make it happen."

South Africa	 	Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	154% / 35%	Population: 51,621,506
		Penetration of population w/ internet	46.8%	Labor Force: 20,230,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	12,700	Life Expectancy: 57
		Unemployment / year est.	24.9% / 2013	Church Members: 61,221
		Population below poverty line:	31.3%	Congregations: 159

[Power Outages Dim South Africa’s Prospects](#)

Blackouts take toll on nation’s poorest residents, drag down economic growth and morale

SOWETO, South Africa—Residents of this sprawling township famous for its resistance to white-minority rule are fighting a battle they thought consigned to history: keeping the lights on.

National power company Eskom Holdings Ltd. is reeling from years of underinvestment and poor management, surrendering to power outages that frequently plunge Soweto’s 1.3 million residents into darkness.

[Xenophobia Victims in South Africa Flee Violence, Then Return](#)

JOHANNESBURG—Many Malawians fled South Africa early this year after xenophobic attacks on African immigrants. But many quickly found life was no better at home and have returned to South Africa – often illegally and without jobs, and facing the tough task of having to start over.

[Jacob Zuma’s record suggests erosion of democracy](#)

The handling of a variety of recent controversies in South Africa by the African National Congress-led government has given rise to the notion on many public forums that democracy here is on the ropes.

Since he first came to power in 2009, questions around whether South Africa’s president Jacob Zuma is fit to oversee a constitutional democracy have swirled endlessly, not least because he faced 783 charges of corruption during the run-up to the election that year.

Those charges were dropped by the National Prosecution Authority just weeks before he was inaugurated as president because of alleged political influence in their preparation and delivery, but the scandals have kept coming as the years have passed.

[South Africa: Minister Malusi Gigaba Meets Child Advocacy Groups On Immigration Regulations](#)

The Minister of Home Affairs, Malusi Gigaba, will tomorrow meet with child advocacy groups to discuss the requirement for unabridged birth certificates when traveling with children in relation to the implementation of the Immigration Regulations.

Organisations expected at the meeting include United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Molo Songololo, ChildlineSA, Save the Children and World Vision, among others.

Sudan		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	70% / 31%	Population: 40,313,269
		Penetration of population w/ internet	24.0%	Labor Force: 11,920,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	4,500 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 62
		Unemployment / year est.	20% / 2012	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	46.5 / 2005	Congregations:

South Sudan		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	28% / 12%	Population: 11,749,434
		Penetration of population w/ internet	unkn	Labor Force:
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,000 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 62
		Unemployment / year est.	12% / 2008	Church Members:
		Population below poverty line:	50.6% / 2009	Congregations:

[U.N. Blacklists Six South Sudan Generals](#)
 Assets of six commanders are seized in an attempt to end the 18-month conflict

KAMPALA, Uganda—The United Nations Security Council has imposed sanctions on six South Sudanese generals, in the latest international attempt to quell a grinding civil war in the world’s youngest nation.

The generals, three from each side of South Sudan’s 18-month-old war, can no longer travel internationally and have had their assets frozen, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Samantha Power wrote in a statement.

The generals are the first to be targeted by the Security Council’s South Sudan sanctions committee, which began work in April, underscoring mounting international impatience with the devastating conflict.

[EU, US diplomats in S Sudan 'disturbed by atrocities committed by govt forces'](#)
 Diplomats and ambassadors of a number of European countries, the United States and Canada today released a statement expressing horror reports at human rights abuses committed in Unity State during a South Sudanese government offensive from late April to May.

"The Heads of Mission are deeply disturbed by the atrocities committed by government forces documented in the recent UNMISS report," the diplomats said.

"The atrocities reported indicate a frightening new level of brutality on the part of government forces and associated militias, including acts such as the burning alive of women and children inside their houses, gang rapes and the wanton destruction of medical clinics."


The statement was issued by the European Union Delegation, the Heads of Mission of France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, The United Kingdom and the Heads of Mission of Canada, Norway, Switzerland and the United States.


They all said that they strongly condemn the "horrific acts against civilians" documented in the new UNMISS human rights report. They said they are also concerned about the possibility of a famine in southern Unity State after government forces forced tens of thousands of civilians to flee their homes.


They called for South Sudanese authorities to investigate the reported incidents and to allow access to UN human rights investigators and humanitarians.

Swaziland		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	70% / 11%	Population: 1,280,595
		Penetration of population w/ internet	23.8%	Labor Force: 435,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	7,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 49
		Unemployment / year est.	28.5% / 2010	Church Members: 1,768
		Population below poverty line:	69%	Congregations: 4


Tanzania		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	62% / 24%	Population: 50,998,619
		Penetration of population w/ internet	15%	Labor Force: 25,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,900 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 61
		Unemployment / year est.	10.7% / 2011	Church Members: 1,336
		Population below poverty line:	36% / 2002	Congregations: 6

Uganda		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	64% / 11%	Population: 40,777,196
		Penetration of population w/ internet	16.8	Labor Force: 18,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	1,800	Life Expectancy: 59
		Unemployment / year est.	4.2% / 2010	Church Members: 13,248
		Population below poverty line:	25.5%	Congregations: 26

Zambia		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	73% / 10%	Population: 15,549,296
		Penetration of population w/ internet	15.4%	Labor Force: 6,338,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	4,100	Life Expectancy: 58
		Unemployment / year est.	15% / 2008	Church Members: 3,359
		Population below poverty line:	60.5%	Congregations:

Zimbabwe		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	102% / 85%	Population: 15,762,551
		Penetration of population w/ internet	19.5%	Labor Force: 5,063,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	2,000 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 60
		Unemployment / year est.	95% / 2009	Church Members: 26,156
		Population below poverty line:	68% / 2004	Congregations: 64

[ZANU-PF MP Maduza Disappears After Grace Mugabe Warning | BREAKING NEWS](#)
 The new ZANU PF MP for Kambuzuma, Tinashe Maduza has disappeared. ZimEye.com can reveal Maduza, 26, is on the run after police went after him on charges of sexually abusing several underage girls.

United States		Cellphone/Smartphone penetration	102% / 85%	Population: 324,343,287
		Penetration of population w/ internet	86.8%	Labor Force: 156,000,000
		GDP per capita USD\$	54,800 / 2014	Life Expectancy: 79
		Unemployment / year est.	5.5% / 2015	Church Members: 6,466,267
		Population below poverty line:	15.1% / 2010	14,018 Congregations

Data Provided for comparison

Travel Advisories/Warnings

[LIBERIA MAKES TRAVEL ALERT 16 June 2015](#)

Liberia's Health Ministry authorities are making travel alerts in the wake of sharp rise in Ebola infection in neighboring Sierra Leone and Guinea, warning travellers "to be very much careful" not to come in contact with infected persons.

Liberia and its two neighboring countries Sierra Leone and Guinea which are still battling the Ebola outbreak, share scores of porous borders which marketers and inter-marriage families across either side commute almost daily.

[U.S. State Dept. Updates Sudan Travel Warning, June 15, 2015](#)

Washington, DC--(ENEWSPP)--June 15, 2015. The Department of State warns U.S. citizens of the risks of traveling to Sudan. We urge U.S. citizens to avoid all travel to the Darfur region of Sudan, and to Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan states, and advise U.S. citizens to consider carefully the risks of travel in other areas of Sudan. This supersedes the Travel Warning issued on October 30, 2014

[US issues travel advisory for Burundi](#) (17 May 2015)

Washington - The United States issued a travel warning on Thursday for strife-torn Burundi, telling its citizens not to go there and urging those in the country to get out as soon as possible.

Burundi's government survived a coup attempt this week that saw fierce fighting between rival army factions.

It was the culmination of weeks of violent street protests against the president's bid to seek a third term in the poor east African country.

In a statement, the US state department said Burundi was faced a "deteriorating security situation".

It said it had ordered all non-emergency US government personnel and dependents of American staff to leave Burundi on Thursday.

[US warns airlines against flying over Somalia](#) (17 May 2015)

A United States aviation safety agency has listed the Somali airspace as too dangerous to fly over, citing the threat posed by the armed group Al Shabab following the downing of MH17 by Ukrainian rebels fighting the government forces in Ukraine.

The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has banned all US airlines from flying over Somalia deeming it too dangerous, an advisory rejected by many countries, among them Australia airlines.

[Central African Republic Travel Warning](#) 2 May 2015

Washington DC - infoZine - The Government of Chad closed its border with CAR May 12, 2014. Only citizens of Chad returning home will be able to cross the Chad-CAR border. U.S. citizens who have decided to stay in CAR despite this warning should review their personal security situation and seriously consider departing. This replaces the Travel Warning of November 5, 2014, to reflect the risk of remaining in CAR and continued lack of security.

Sources of information:

All **church membership** information is provided by [Mormon Newsroom](#) by clicking on the 'Africa' continent on the map (at the right) and then finding the desired country on the list. The information is reviewed from the list each month for correctness.

All **keywords** and **country** information is collected from an Internet scan of about 60 specific keywords that is supplied to me at 0300 each morning via [Google alerts](#).

This keyword list is reviewed and updated daily.

All **Population data** are from [Country Meters](#) and is updated each month for correctness.

All **Cellphone** and **smartphone** data are from [GMSA Intelligence](#) and is updated each month for correctness.

All **Internet users by country** data are from [Internet Live Stats](#) and [Internet World Stats](#) is reviewed each month for correctness.

GNI (Gross National Income per capita) and **Life Expectancy** data is from [The World Bank](#)

Unemployment and other data are from [Photius](#), [IECONOMICS](#), [Quandl](#), [Wikipedia](#), [Theodora](#) & [The World Factbook](#).

Elder Berg

Elder Berg & Sister Berg
Africa Southeast Area Assistant Directors of Public Affairs,
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Email: ASEAPublicAffairs@ldschurch.org
Cellphone..... +27 (0)83 443 3829
Office.....+27 (0)11 645 1538

7 ASEA Newsrooms pages

[Angola Mormon Newsroom](#)

[DR Congo Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Kenya Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Indian Ocean Newsroom](#)

[South Africa Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Uganda Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Zimbabwe Mormon Newsroom](#)

13 ASEA Facebook pages

[Angola Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Botswana Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[DR Congo Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Indian Ocean Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Kenya Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Madagascar Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Malawi Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Mozambique Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[Namibia Mormon Newsroom Facebook](#)

[South Africa Facebook page](#)

[Uganda Facebook page](#)

[Zambia Mormon Newsroom](#)

[Zimbabwe Facebook page](#)