African Christian Leadership

Engaging with the Africa Leadership Study

AfricaLeadershipStudy.org
Why this Research Matters

- Growth of the African Church
- Lack of study of African leadership trends
- There is significant need to understand the leadership dynamics in Portuguese-speaking and French-speaking Africa
Research Overview
Understanding the project

- 8041 survey respondents
- 24 leader profiles and 24 organizational profiles
- Insight from three countries (Angola, CAR and Kenya) and three languages (English, French, Portuguese)
The ALS Team

Understanding the ALS Working group

- Scholars
- Advisers
- Interdisciplinary
- Collaborative
Scope of The ALS Research

Figure 1-1. Africa by colonial language and featuring the three countries researched

The Africa Leadership Study focused on one Anglophone (A), one Francophone (F) and one Lusophone (L) country in Africa. These countries are indicated with a white lettered circle and outlined with a thick border.

Map source: www.gmi.org
Meet The Authors

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3 Influential groups of leaders
Insight 1

- Pastors are very influential among Christians in Africa.

STAT

“Who has influenced you most?”

#1 Answer: Pastors

Angola: 35.3%

CAR: 50.2%

Kenya: 55.8%
Insight 2

Churches play a variety of strategic roles in the lives of African Christians and communities.

- Angola: 63.9%
- CAR: 68.3%
- Kenya: 77%

Churches are providing significant help to believers.
Christians answered that their church “provided ethical teaching for all of life”
Insight 3

- Non-clergy leaders also play strategic roles in a wide variety of areas:

  - Church leadership development: 24.5%
  - Evangelism: 20%
  - Education: 13.5%
  - Homes and Families: 6.7%
Insight 4

- Women, who make up 60% - 70% of the African church, are seen as strategic to the strength of the church, but are often under-acknowledged and under-supported.

STAT
While respondents indicated that churches provided opportunities for women in leadership:

- Angola: 61.5%
- CAR: 52.3%
- Kenya: 72.1%

only 36.7% of the non-clergy leaders and only 6.1% of pastoral leaders referenced in the study across all three countries were women.
Insight 5

African-led parachurch Christian organizations are central to evangelism, discipleship, and social engagement.
Five areas were identified as key to developing their impact and influence . . .
African Christian leaders minister within ethnic and interethnic settings where intercultural skills, competencies, and commitments are crucial to success.
African Christian leaders are increasingly part of a “wired” world, although with marked constraints.
Insight 8

Opportunity and commitment to taking advantage of mentoring relationships.

- Mentoring is central to the development of leadership in Africa.
Insight 9

Formal and informal education are key to leadership development.

- Formal education holds a key role in leadership development but it is not the only avenue.
Insight 10

Opportunity and skills in relational networks at the national, regional and global levels.

- African Christian leaders and organizations achieve success through relational networks.
Three important areas that are receiving varying levels of focus . . .
Insight 11

Ministry to youth.

- African initiatives that focus on youth are strategic.
Many African Christian leaders are ambivalent about politics, but recognize that much is at stake, and thus often engage the political arena on behalf of the common good.
Insight 13
Outreach to Muslims

- While most Christian churches, organizations, and leaders have minimal focus on relating to Muslims, a minority are doing an amazing job in this strategic area.
Areas of strength and need for us to consider and address together . . .
Insight 14

Committed Readers

Many Africans do read books, especially books that are motivational, practical, and oriented towards helping readers achieve success.
The role of the Bible strongly reaffirmed

- The Bible as the Word of God is important in the lives of African Christians.

STAT
53.5% from Angola, 55.6% from CAR and 55.4% from Kenya claimed to read their Bibles daily. The next closest category was frequency of newspapers or magazines with 10.5% from Angola, 12.3% from CAR and 34.5% from Kenya reading them daily.
Insight 16

Equipping and empowering African Christian authors

- In Africa there is a strong need for local Christian authors.
Insight 17

- The need for local Christian authors is especially the case in Francophone and Lusophone Africa where it is much more difficult to acquire knowledge about leadership realities.
Explore these 17 Insights

www.AfricaLeadershipStudy.org
Read the new Book:
African Christian Leadership

AfricaLeadershipStudy.org
Website Tour

Engaging with the Africa Leadership Study via the Seedbed
CONTEXT What is the Africa Leadership Study?
Insights from Africa for cultivating the next generation of African leaders.

DISCOVER AND EXPLORE
Working Together, Sharing Information
DATA

THE FACTS WE’VE GATHERED

For alternate language versions of this Data Page choose the desired language link directly above this text. All the ALS data is available for download in each language. The language menu choices at the top right of the website take you to an overview of the website in the chosen language.

MORE

METHODOLOGY
## Phase 1: Download survey dataset and documentation

### QUESTIONNAIRE AND METHODOLOGY

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### DATA SETS

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<td>Kenya dataset (SPSS 1.5mb)</td>
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