



What are the ranking trends?

- **Mauritius**, in 49th place in the *Doing Business* rankings, is the highest ranked economy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Other economies in the region that perform well on the ease of doing business rankings are **Rwanda** (at 56), **Botswana** (71) and **South Africa** (74).
- The region's lowest ranked economies are **Somalia** (190), **Eritrea** (189), **South Sudan** (186), and the **Central African Republic** (185).
- Other large economies in the region and their rankings are **Democratic Republic of Congo** (184), **Ethiopia** (159), **Kenya** (92), **Nigeria** (169), **Tanzania** (132), **Sudan** (168), and **Uganda** (115).
- **Rwanda** ranks among the best globally in the *Doing Business* areas of Getting Credit (with a rank of 2) and Registering Property (4). Rwanda has an efficient land registry and it takes only 12 days to transfer property, compared to 22 days across OECD high income economies.
- Sub-Saharan Africa economies underperform in the areas of Getting Electricity (with an average rank of 151), Trading Across Borders (137), and Dealing with Construction Permits (133). It takes an average of 120 days to obtain a permanent electricity connection to the grid in Sub-Saharan Africa, compared to the global average of 93 days.

What are the reform trends?

- A total of 80 reforms, making it easier to do business, were implemented in 37 of 48 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa in the past year, an increase of 14 percent over the previous year. The 17 members of the **Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA)** implemented half of these reforms.
- **Kenya** made the list of global top 10 improvers for the second consecutive year. Among other reforms, Kenya made registering property easier by increasing the transparency at its land registry and cadaster.
- Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 18 of the 24 reforms globally in Resolving Insolvency. Many economies, like **Benin**, **Burkina Faso** and **Mali** made resolving insolvency easier by introducing a new conciliation procedure for companies in financial difficulties.
- Multiple economies in the region implemented four or more reforms in the past year, including **Niger** (6 reforms), **Kenya** (5), **Cote d'Ivoire** (4), **Mauritania** (4), **Rwanda** (4), **Senegal** (4) and **Togo** (4).

New inclusions in *Doing Business 2017*

- This year's report covers 190 economies, with the inclusion of **Somalia**.
- For the first time, *Doing Business 2017* includes a gender dimension in three indicators: Starting a Business, Registering Property and Enforcing Contracts. In the Sub-Saharan Africa region, 6 economies make starting a business more difficult for women compared to men. For example, in **Cameroon**, it takes an extra day for a woman to start a business compared to a man.
- The Paying Taxes indicator has been expanded to cover post-filing processes, such as tax audits and VAT refund. The report finds that the region has room for improvement in these new areas. In most economies in Sub-Saharan Africa—where it is likely for an audit to take place—taxpayers are exposed to a field audit whereby the auditor visits the premise of the taxpayer. This is the case in **Botswana**, **The Gambia**, **Malawi**, **Niger**, **Zambia** and **Zimbabwe**.
- The report includes an annex with a pilot indicator set on public procurement regulations. The 'selling to the government' procurement process is studied in 78 economies and is not included in the overall rankings. The indicator set analyzes five main areas: accessibility and transparency, bid security, payment delays, incentives for small and medium-size enterprises and complaint mechanisms.

Rankings Data for Sub-Saharan Africa

Economy	Rank (1–190)		Distance to frontier score (0–100)		# of Reforms	
	DB2016	DB2017	DB2016	DB2017	DB2016	DB2017
Angola	181	182	38.46	38.41	2	2
Benin	153	155	47.50	48.52	3	2
Botswana	70	71	65.39	65.55	1	1
Burkina Faso	142	146	51.06	51.33	1	3
Burundi	155	157	47.25	47.37	0	1
Cabo Verde	125	129	55.30	55.28	1	0
Cameroon	167	166	44.48	45.27	0	2
Central African Republic	186	185	36.27	36.25	0	1
Chad	183	180	38.25	39.07	1	2
Comoros	152	153	47.94	48.69	2	2
Congo, Dem. Rep.	184	184	37.53	37.57	2	2
Congo, Rep.	176	177	41.07	40.58	1	1
Côte d'Ivoire	139	142	51.60	52.31	3	4
Equatorial Guinea	175	178	41.36	39.83	0	2
Eritrea	189	189	27.94	28.05	0	0
Ethiopia	159	159	46.85	47.25	1	0
Gabon	161	164	46.16	45.88	2	1
Gambia, The	150	145	49.28	51.70	1	1
Ghana	111	108	57.87	58.82	1	1
Guinea	161	163	46.16	46.23	1	1
Guinea-Bissau	177	172	40.86	41.63	1	1
Kenya	113	92	57.50	61.22	4	5
Lesotho	112	100	57.56	60.37	1	1
Liberia	174	174	41.53	41.41	1	0
Madagascar	169	167	44.22	45.10	4	3
Malawi	141	133	51.11	54.39	0	2
Mali	143	141	50.71	52.96	2	3
Mauritania	165	160	45.58	47.21	3	4
Mauritius	42	49	72.18	72.27	1	1
Mozambique	134	137	53.82	53.78	1	1
Namibia	104	108	58.86	58.82	1	0
Niger	158	150	47.07	49.57	3	6
Nigeria	170	169	44.02	44.63	2	2
Rwanda	59	56	68.63	69.81	6	4
São Tomé and Príncipe	160	162	46.67	46.75	0	0
Senegal	146	147	49.95	50.68	4	4
Seychelles	93	93	61.00	61.21	1	0
Sierra Leone	145	148	50.14	50.23	0	1
Somalia	190	190	20.24	20.29	0	0
South Africa	72	74	65.29	65.20	0	1
South Sudan	187	186	33.48	33.48	0	0
Sudan	164	168	45.80	44.76	0	0
Swaziland	108	111	58.15	58.34	1	0
Tanzania	144	132	50.59	54.48	1	1
Togo	154	154	47.40	48.57	3	4
Uganda	116	115	57.10	57.77	3	3
Zambia	94	98	60.77	60.54	2	1
Zimbabwe	157	161	47.08	47.10	2	3

Source: Doing Business database.

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Note: The rankings are based on the average of each economy's distance to frontier scores for the 10 topics included in this year's aggregate ranking. This measure shows how close each economy is to global best practices in business regulation. A higher score indicates a more efficient business environment and stronger legal institutions.