

Development Economics Charts

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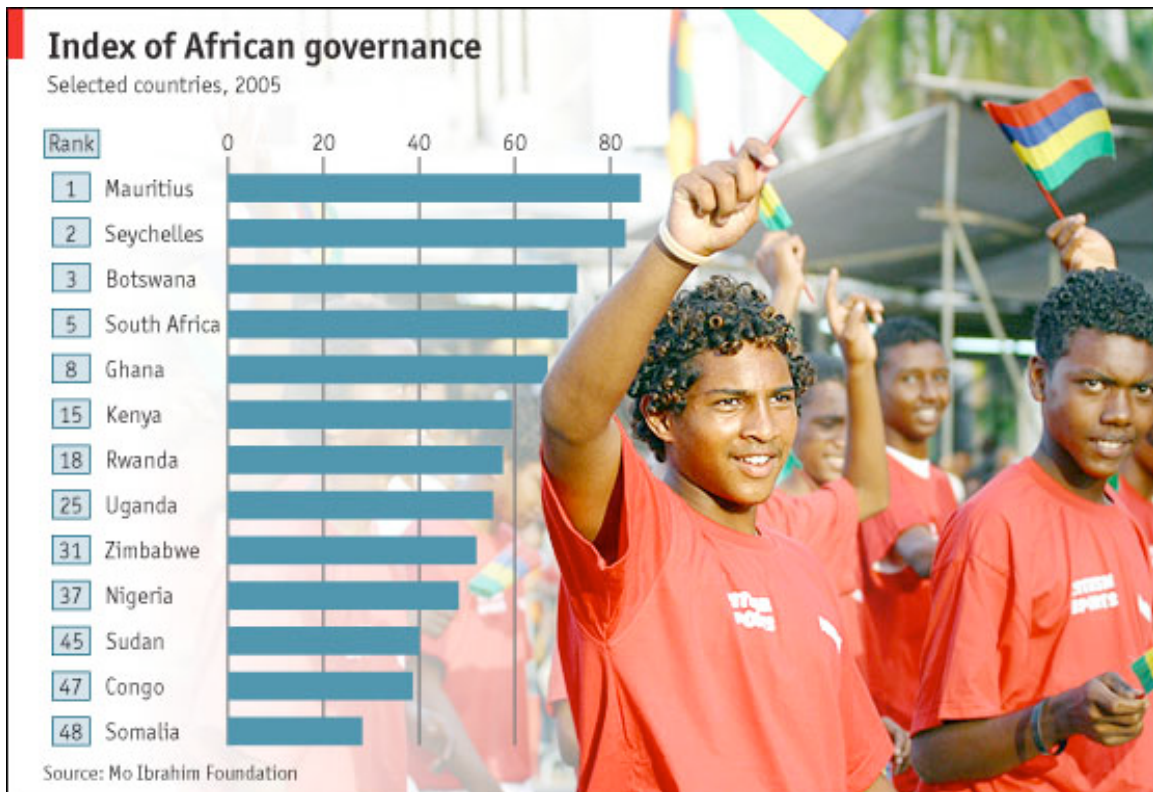
<http://www.economist.com/research/articlesBySubject/display.cfm?id=7933596>

Corruption



DENMARK, Finland and New Zealand are the least corrupt countries in the world, according to Transparency International's annual Corruption Perceptions Index, published on Thursday September 27th. The index uses surveys of businessmen and experts to determine the perceived level of abuse of public office for private gain in 180 countries. The poorest nations tend to be the most corrupt. Myanmar and Somalia are bottom, with conflict-ridden Afghanistan and Sudan also languishing. Several African countries, including Namibia, Seychelles and South Africa, have improved their scores since the last survey. Austria and Thailand are among those with lower scores.

African Governance



MAURITIUS is the best-run country in Africa, according to an index of governance published on Tuesday September 25th by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, a body set up to promote good governance in Africa. The performance of 48 sub-Saharan African nations was rated for 2000, 2002 and 2005 (the latest year for which data are available) using 58 measures. These included security, human rights, economic stability, the rule of law, poverty and health. Small island nations tend to be well governed, as do countries with open democracies, such as South Africa. Somalia, which has not had a functioning government since 1991, fares worst. Rwanda is the most-improved nation, moving up 18 places since 2000.