

# Public acceptance of policy instruments to reduce plastic pollution in East Africa

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**Is part of collection at SND:** [Environment for Development](#)

## Associated documentation

questionnaire.docx (48.48 KB)

Readme.docx (12.51 KB)

## Citation

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## Research principal

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## Description

We collected data in five East African countries (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia and Rwanda) on public opinions about different policy instruments to reduce plastic pollution. The questionnaire also included questions on material, internal and inter-relational factors, the level of concern about different environmental challenges, trust in others and in government institutions and socio-demographic characteristics. In order to understand the level of public support of policy instruments that address plastic pollution, respondents were asked for their opinion on (i) “a prohibition or ban on the use of plastic bags”; (ii) “a prohibition or ban on the use of single use plastics such as water bottles, straws and plastic spoons, knives and forks”; and (iii) “increasing the price on single use plastics, for example, by introducing a tax”. The responses were recorded on a Likert scale of 1-5, with 1 as strongly against and 5 as strongly in favor. The survey was performed under informed consent. A survey company based in Kenya was recruited to collect the data. The questionnaire was composed in English and then translated into the following languages: Kenya—Swahili and Somali; Tanzania—Swahili; Uganda—Luganda and Runyanoke; Rwanda—Kinyarwanda and French; and Ethiopia—Amharic, Tigrinya, Oromo and Somali. These translations were performed by native-speaking translators recruited by the company. The interviews were conducted by 26 experienced enumerators and 5 supervisors using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI), and all responses were recorded with Kobo Toolbox software. Before conducting the interviews, the

enumerators completed a two-day training session on the topics in the questionnaire and various techniques for collecting data using the CATI method. A pilot study was conducted in January 2022 with 200 respondents in each of the five focal countries to test the reliability and content validity of the questionnaire. Additionally, the pilot study enabled refining the questionnaire with feedback from both the enumerators and respondents. The company used its existing national databases of respondents involved in earlier investigations to recruit survey respondents in each of the five countries. Screening questions were used to recruit samples that were representative of the adult population in terms of age, gender and area of residence in the five countries. In total, 7,622 respondents were contacted. Following three reminders, a total of 4,766 responses with complete answers (63% response rate) were collected during March 17–28, 2022, in the five countries as follows: Ethiopia, 950; Kenya, 959; Rwanda, 991; Tanzania, 981; and Uganda, 885. Since questions regarding trust in institutions can be sensitive, we allowed respondents to opt out by answering "don't know". In the data, these responses are treated as missing values. As a result, we currently have 312 missing values for the question regarding trust in institutions. Respondents took between 10 and 23 minutes to complete the survey, with a mean completion time of 16 minutes. Research approval was received from the National Commission of Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) in Kenya, and the survey company possesses national research permits for each of the five focal countries. The present data description is related to data descriptions "Public acceptance of policy instruments to reduce forest loss: Exploring cross-national variation in East Africa" and "Public acceptability of policy instruments for reducing fossil fuel consumption in East Africa". The three data descriptions are subsets of the same main data collection, and are part of the Environment for Development (EfD) catalog in the Swedish National Data Service. Each data description with its corresponding dataset contains only the relevant dependent variables for a particular research study. In particular, this dataset does not have questions q4, q5, q6 and q7, q8, q9, q10. Dependent variables for this study are q1, q2, q3. Missing data points are marked with the value 98.

**Data contains personal data**

Yes

**Sensitive personal data**

Yes

**Type of personal data**

Risk of re-identification through socio-demographic variables: country, county, sex, age range, education, salary range

**Language**

[English](#)

**Unit of analysis**

[Individual](#)

**Population**

Adult population of Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda.

**Time Method**

[Cross-section](#)

## **Sampling procedure**

[Probability: Stratified](#)  
[Probability](#)

## **Time period(s) investigated**

2022-03-17 – 2022-03-28

## **Data format / data structure**

[Numeric](#)  
[Text](#)

## **Data collection 1**

- Mode of collection: Interview
- Time period(s) for data collection: 2022-03-17 – 2022-03-28
- Source of the data: Registers/Records/Accounts, Events/Interactions

## **Geographic spread**

Geographic location: [Ethiopia](#), [Kenya](#), [Rwanda](#), [Tanzania](#), [Uganda](#)

Geographic description: Five East African countries: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia and Rwanda.

## **Ethics Review**

Ref. 232509

NACOSTI - National Commission For Science, Technology & Innovation. Kenya.

## **Research area**

[Economic policy, public expenditure and revenue](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

[Economics](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Economic systems and development](#) (CESSDA Topic Classification)

## **Keywords**

[Africa](#), [Acceptability](#), [Public support](#), [Plastic pollution](#), [Environmental policy](#), [Ban](#)

## **Accessibility level**

Access to data through SND

Access to data is restricted

## **Use of data**

[Things to consider when using data shared through SND](#)

## **Versions**

Version 1. 2024-09-25

## **Contact for questions about the data**

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**Related research data in SND's catalogue**

[Public acceptability of policy instruments for reducing fossil fuel consumption in East Africa](#)

[Public acceptance of policy instruments to reduce forest loss: Exploring cross-national variation in East Africa](#)

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