



**The Brookings Institution
Africa Growth Initiative
Foresight Africa Podcast**

**“African Youth Survey reveals sustained optimism and shifting priorities”
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Episode Summary:

Industrialist and philanthropist Ivor Ichikowitz shares the findings from the Ichikowitz Family Foundation’s “African Youth Survey 2022,” including the immense optimism of the region’s youth, a marked shift in perceptions of foreign partners, and increased concern over the impacts of climate change.

ORDU: From the promise of new technologies to the innovative and youthful population shaping our continent's future, Africa is full of dynamism worth celebrating. Hi, I'm Aloysius Uche Ordu, director of the Africa Growth Initiative at the Brookings Institution and host of Foresight Africa podcast.

Since 2011, the Africa Growth Initiative has published a high-profile report on the key events and trends likely to shape affairs in Africa in the year ahead. Entitled "Foresight Africa," the goal of the publication is to bring attention to these burning issues and to support policy actions to address them. With this podcast, we intend to engage the report authors, as well as policymakers, captains of industry, Africa's youths, and other key figures.

My guest today is Mr. Ivor Ichikowitz, an industrialist and philanthropist. Mr. Ichikowitz, since 2020, has a foundation that has published "Africa's Youth Survey." As most people may know, there are almost 2 billion people on the planet between the ages of 10 and 24, and Africa, in particular, is the youngest continent with median age of 18 years versus over 36 years in Europe. Today, we will be discussing the 2022 edition of the Africa Youth Survey, which was just released. It polled youths in about 15 countries across the African continent.

Ivor, welcome to the show.

ICHIKOWITZ: Thank you so much. And it's really an honor and a privilege to be talking to you about the very exciting findings of this year's survey.

ORDU: Let's start with the overall findings from the 2022 survey. Could you share with us the three or four most important things you found?

ICHIKOWITZ: The survey is an interesting survey because it follows on a survey that we did in 2019 just before COVID hit. The 2022 survey is the post-COVID survey. So it's the survey that for me represents the reset of the world. The 2019 survey was fascinating because it confirmed an Africa that had a youth with huge hope, huge aspiration, a tremendous amount of very positive energy. And I was a little nervous to see what COVID and the chaos of the last two years might have done to the sentiment on the continent. And this survey actually has confirmed that we really are a very resilient continent.

The findings were interesting. A lot of the positive energy that we picked up in 2019 remains. There's no question that the African youth are battered and bruised. There's no question that COVID took its toll. There's no question that a lot of the challenges that we've had on the continent were exacerbated through COVID. But one of the greatest things for me is despite the chaos that the whole continent and the whole world went through, it still is a very, very high sense of positivity towards the future of the continent. So, that was the first thing that stood out to me.

The second thing that stood out to me personally is in the first edition of the survey, we polled the youth about issues that are major concerns in the West. Things like climate change, which are very much on everybody's agenda in the West. But we found in the first edition of the survey that climate change didn't feature all that much. But in this edition of the survey, that is quite different. And I think that that might be because a lot more people on the continent have come into contact with the real effects of climate change. Massive issues around failed crops, flooding, immense temperatures in both directions. And it's touched so

many people's lives that today climate change came up as a big issue that many of the youth polled said would affect the future of the continent.

The third thing that I found really interesting was that issues around access to data were very high on the minds of the youth. The African youth think that access to data is a basic human right. And I find that interesting because in the West we think access to water and access to electricity are basic human rights. And here on the African continent, there's no such expectation. Water is something that comes from a well and the electricity generally from a generator and more recently, a solar panel. But access to data is a basic human right. And I think that that's very telling. It's very telling about where the heads of this generation are.

And then the final thing that I want to mention—and I mean, there are many things, so four things is quite limiting—is that we picked up a very strong sense of commitment by this generation to ensuring their own prosperity, which is not unexpected. But what came out of this is that they felt that if their governments and their countries couldn't provide a background for their prosperity, they were all prepared to migrate, to a very high percentage, were prepared to migrate to achieve prosperity. And that for me is a massive wake up call for the world. And then obviously, there are a number of other things which I hope we'll touch on during the discussion. But those are probably the four things that stood out to me personally.

ORDU: Those are really, really impressive four things because the youth are obviously clued into what's happening in the world and in their environment. So basically, despite all the odds, of which there are many we face, we remain an optimistic people, which is what the youths are sharing, are telling you. Which countries by any chance showed greater optimism or the opposite? And any changes in the perceptions about how their countries or the continent itself is going?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, interestingly enough, we asked in the survey about people's feelings towards whether their own country was going in the right direction and how many felt that their own country was moving in the right direction. And then how many people, or what percentage of people, felt that the continent was moving in the right direction.

So, first of all, an overwhelming number of people felt that the continent was moving in the right direction. So we're starting to feel a sense of Pan-Africanism. We're starting to feel that there is such a thing as a Pan-African youth and who believe in the future of the continent.

But what we did find is that a lot of people in almost every country we polled felt that the continent was going in the right direction, but their own countries might not be going in the right direction. And that might be for a number of reasons. First of all, as we said earlier, the fact that people were battered by COVID, but also very importantly, we're in a political season in Africa, and in a lot of the countries that we polled we were either in a year where there will be elections or a year where there is an elective conference in the ruling party. And that probably is the reason why many people felt that their own countries were not necessarily going in the right direction. So, that was the one the one thing that was interesting.

So, to your second question, the countries where we saw the biggest drop in optimism were South Africa and Nigeria. And that was by a significant margin. So, again, we're in a political season in both of those countries, so that might have something to do with it. And the

countries where we found the biggest increase in optimism were Ghana and Rwanda, interestingly enough. Now, Rwanda came out of the first survey pretty much optimistic on everything. I mean, the Rwandese youth are really in a league of their own as far as Africa is concerned. But Ghana was a significant increase in optimism among the youth out of Ghana, which is huge credit to the current government in Ghana. They're obviously doing something very right.

ORDU: Quite a profound message to our leaders, right? At a time when we have come together in terms of the African Continental Free Trade Area, the youths are basically saying the continent is going in the right direction, but in this profound messages to their own national leaders about the need to be consistent with the continental direction. So, that's quite a major message. Let's stick to the subject of democracy, Ivor, because democracy itself has come under increased threat, especially here as well in the United States. What did you find, what's the appetite for democracy among Africa's youths?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, interestingly enough, I was amazed to see in the previous edition of the survey that there was a strong sense of the importance of democracy on the continent. But everybody wanted to see an African form of democracy, an African form of democracy with strong leadership, but an African form of democracy that took input from cultural and practical issues on the continent.

In this edition of the survey, the sense of connectedness to the importance of democracy was very high. A lot people surveyed felt that at a very high percentage, up to 74%, felt that democracy was the right form of government, which is a big thing. But less than half felt that a Western form of democracy was the best option. And there's this big debate going on among the youth of the continent around what is the right form of democracy. And I think that that's something that we're going to explore more and more in future editions of the survey—and something that we need to dialog about. I think governments, civil society, policymakers need to start dialoging about what African democracy should look like. And this comes up very strongly in the survey.

The other thing that's interesting is that this is a generation that feel that they have a voice. One of the characteristics of Africa in the past is that many Africans felt that they were disenfranchised and that there was no point in voting because they didn't have a voice. Theirs is a generation that sees things completely differently. They believe they have a voice and they plan to use their voice.

ORDU: Interesting indeed. You mentioned over a while ago that there is now an awakening amongst Africa's youths on the important subject of climate change. Clearly they see climate ravaging our world. Northern Mozambique, for example, the Sahel and Madagascar. And of course, we have the water challenges and flooding in South Africa. So, how concerned really are the youths about climate? And more importantly, what are youths themselves doing about climate?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, the first thing for me that was very relevant is that the African youth know about climate change issues. This is a topic that is now very high on their agenda. And many of the people surveyed do not believe that their governments were doing enough about it. That's also a big thing, because when we asked them to rate the issues they were least satisfied with the governments on, addressing climate change was one of them. So, it very much is an issue that's front of mind.

The other thing that that I think is important to note is access to water has become a huge issue. More than 30% of the people surveyed indicated that they spend up to a quarter of their income every month on getting access to clean water. And that is absolutely seriously concerning. In fact, it's despicable. That is a pure management issue. Africa has no real shortage of water. This is a resource management issue and a wakeup call to every single government on the continent. Thirty-four percent of the people surveyed don't have access to clean water, which is ... that's a frightening number.

So, the other thing that I found interesting is that many of the people surveyed felt that climate change and the risks associated with climate change made up a huge security threat and a huge threat to the growth and the development of the economies of their countries and a huge threat to their own ability to advance both economically as well as socially. So, an issue that has to be addressed, an issue that is going to be addressed by this generation, whether their governments want it or not.

ORDU: We found that in Glasgow our expectations really, or our, Africa's expectations were not really fully met in terms of what came out of COP26. I was just wondering whether from the conversations and the survey results, what the youths are saying, whether the youths themselves are approaching Africa's COP, COP27 in Egypt, any differently this time around, do you think?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, my view, my personal view, is that for several years, African civil society has been disengaged from climate change issues. I think for many years the population of Africa has not fully understood the extent to which climate change is going to touch their lives. Maybe because of the various lockdowns during COVID, it may be because of the exposure to flooding, to failed crops, et cetera. But today, 70% of the people surveyed identified climate change as a risk. That tells me that a huge number of voters in Africa are going to be holding their own governments' feet to the fire in terms of addressing Africa's interests in the process. And I think that's a very good thing. It's a terrible thing that so many people are being affected by climate change, but it's a really good thing that the continent is finally taking notice of the fact that this is not just an issue that affects Europe and the United States and Asia, but it's also something that's affecting us every single day on the continent.

ORDU: Ivor, let's now turn to the subject of connectivity. Connectivity, internet, broadband access, et cetera. This is clearly the most connected already, compared to our generation right, today's youth around the continent. I'm just wondering what this survey revealed in this critical area and also, more importantly, what those outcomes of what you heard the implications for public policy in Africa?

ICHIKOWITZ: Absolutely. This is really one of the most key issues that talks to me about the potential for the future of the continent. So, when we do the survey, we talk to people right across the economic divide, the social divide, the demographic divide, and the first thing that stands out is the majority of the people we talk to have smartphones and are connected. So that's the first thing. So you've now got a very connected society, a society that's connected not only to each other, but connected to the rest of the world. So, despite failures in the education system, despite all kinds of failures in the social and economic system, you now have a youth that is connected to the world.

So, access to that connectivity is part of their DNA. So, most people we spoke to complained bitterly about the huge cost of data. Now, Africa happens to have one of the very best telecommunications networks in the world. We certainly are not short on connectivity. But the cost of data in Africa is the highest in the world. And in my opinion, the one thing that may bring the youth onto the streets in most capitals in Africa is the cost and access to data.

And that's a set of warning bells to governments. We know that this is in the hands of the telcos and not necessarily in the hands of governments, but the time has now come for governments to accept that the youth see access to low cost data as a basic human right, and they'll go out and fight for it if they have to. So that's an important issue.

The other issue that struck me personally was that many of the people we spoke to only have access to data for a very short period of time every month. So, if you consider that this is a connected society, if you consider that this is a society that has value to add anywhere in the world and understand the idea of being digital nomads—the idea of working remotely—this access to 30 or 31 days a month of data is key to the growth and development of the continent.

Now, if you link that to the fact that the aspirations of this generation are to advance themselves to the same level as their compatriots in the West, if you consider that they're saying they're going to do that despite anything their government might do to hold them back, you've now got a generation of people that could represent the biggest new workforce for the world. In ten years' time, the biggest population of people in the world below the age of 20 are going to come from Africa. That means that the world's next workforce is going to be in Africa. The world's next consumer base is going to be in Africa. And we want to keep these people in Africa. We don't want to see a brain drain. We don't want to see people migrating to out of the continent. So, how do we keep them in Africa? We make them connected so that they can work in Africa, but they can work in the world at the same time.

So, data for me is a huge issue. And as much as I'm personally obsessed with making sure that there's clean water in every village in Africa and that every African should have access to electricity, I'm now completely obsessed with fighting for data rights. I mean, I never thought I'd say that in my life, but for the right to data. And I think that we're going to see that is a major political issue for all of the reasons I've just mentioned.

ORDU: On the issue of data, data governance in particular, Ivor, in fact, in this year's "2022 Foresight Africa Report," which is the flagship publication of the Africa Growth Initiative at Brookings, we found that the issue of data governance, as one of our authors put it in a Viewpoint, is now the "new oil." Any comment on that, especially relating to the private sector and the public sector as well, how you see data governance?

ICHIKOWITZ: People don't realize that the cost of data, just the cost of data, in Africa is 4 to 5 times higher than the cost of data in Europe and the United States. Now, that is a failure in governance. That's a failure in the legislative system. That's a failure in the concept of public-private partnerships. Now sure, the reason we are as connected as we are, the reason that we have these massive rollouts of cell phone infrastructure in Africa, is because it's been left to the private sector.

But now we have a situation where this whole thing has gone completely crazy. The most profitable networks in the world are ultimately in Africa, because there is now price gouging going on. So, from a governance point of view, governments need to take back control of their ability to deliver low cost, high quality services. I mean, a quarter of the youth that we surveyed don't have access to data at all, can't afford data at all. The balance can only afford it for a certain period of time. Now, if you have a scenario where government doesn't take back control of that basic commodity, we're going to have a situation where the continent is held back exponentially.

Now if you look at it in the context of oil, when African governments needed Western investment in the oil sector, they agreed to extremely punitive, cost-share and profit-share agreements. The scenario's changed. Every government that is an oil producing government in Africa today is fighting for their rights in terms of getting the best value from their commodities and getting best value from oil. If those agreements had been dealt with much earlier on in the process, we'd have a much richer, much more developed continent today.

And I think we're in the same situation with data and the telcos are in the same situation as the oil companies are in. And my call to the telcos is, don't ignore this. Pay attention. Go and do what responsible corporate citizens should be doing. Support the governments that are hosting you to be able to deliver this basic human right before you're forced to. Because otherwise it's going to become a big fight and African governments are going to have no choice other than to win that fight.

ORDU: Earlier on, you mentioned, and rightly so, jobs, jobs, jobs—employment opportunities as the dominant concern in your opening remark. The survey shows that about 86% of Africa's youths are rightly concerned about the availability of well-paying jobs at home, because if they can find jobs at home, then there's no need to be treated the way we see them treated in Europe, in Libya, as they try to cross the Mediterranean. Here's the thing, though, Ivor, an astounding 78% of Africa's youths in your survey plan to start their own business in the next five years. What does that tell us about the can-do spirit of Africa's youths vis-à-vis America's youth and the European youth, do you think?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, this is outstanding. When people ask me why I'm so optimistic about the future of this continent, I point to exactly that statistic. For years, those of us who experienced apartheid, those of us who experienced colonialism were told why we were inferior to the rest of the world. We were told why we needed to be saved by the West. We were told that the only way to grow the continent was to be subservient to the colonial powers. Well, that has gone away completely. This is a generation that was born without any exposure to colonialism, without any exposure to apartheid. This is a generation that believe that they can stand toe to toe with their compatriots anywhere in the world, and they are going to do that.

Now, what is really interesting is they're also not waiting for the governments to provide them with jobs. So, this is the first time for me that I'm seeing a generation that says we accept that our governments are not capable of providing us with jobs. We're not going to wait for them to provide us with jobs. We're going to take our future into our own hands and we're going to start businesses and we're going to invest in our education, and we're going to create businesses that are going to give us the ability to employ ourselves.

Now, we did something interesting in the survey. We asked people, if given \$100 what would they do with that money? Now, we haven't done a survey in Europe and the United States, but I would bet you that half the people we would survey in the West would say, I'm going to go and buy the latest edition of the Apple Watch, or I'm going to go and get some get myself a Gucci handbag. In Africa, an overwhelming majority of the people surveyed said "I would invest in my own business" or "I would put it towards my education." And this is why we should be so optimistic about the future of this continent. What we hold in our hands in the survey is a crystal ball into what the continent is going to look like, not in 20 years' time, but in four or five years' time. This is the generation of leaders in waiting. And if that is the attitude of this generation, wow! This is the continent that I'm going to be investing in.

ORDU: That's quite an optimistic note and I 100% agree and share with you that that sense of optimism. Let's now turn to Africa's youths' perceptions when it comes to foreign relations and in particular perceptions about China. If you ever wanted to excite somebody or exercise an American in the halls of Congress, just mention China. Right? So, China has become—

ICHIKOWITZ: —I play that game often. I've dined out on that party trick.

ORDU: China has become the most powerful foreign influencer on the African continent as we know it, and the youths confirmed that. Here's the thing. In September, the Biden-Harris administration are hosting a summit, the U.S.-Africa summit, which is happening very, very soon. What does this startling finding of African youth's attitudes about China, what does it tell us in terms of sharing to the American audiences?

ICHIKOWITZ: Let's go backwards to the findings of the first survey two years ago. In the first survey, the United States was overwhelmingly acknowledged as the country with the biggest influence on the continent. Now, I found that interesting because we all know that the United States is not the biggest investor on the continent. The American public relations on the continent is not that remarkable. And frankly, you can't point to very much in many countries in Africa that you can say was put here through a U.S.-Africa collaboration.

But at that time, the African youth identified with Donald Trump. The African youth believed in strongman democracy, which they felt was what was unfolding in the United States. And obviously were very heavily involved or engaged with American content on the internet. So America was the dominant player.

Now, two years later, after the continent went into a period of isolation, two years later, after pretty much every nonresident foreigner withdrew from the continent, the perception is completely different. Whereas two years ago, America was Top of the Pops, in this survey, China is Top of the Pops, but in a big way. I believe that the reason for that is when everybody else withdrew and people were forced to confront what was left on the ground, all they could see were the stadiums built by China, the airports built by China, the road infrastructure built by China, the water infrastructure built by China, the electricity reticulation built by China, and the telecom networks built by China.

And suddenly everybody woke up to the fact that, hey, hold on a second, these are our real partners. These are the people that are really investing on our continent, not just talking about it. Now, ahead of the U.S.-Africa Summit, this issue has to be put on the table because everybody in America today is talking about a counter-China strategy in Africa. I think this is

a huge mistake. This shouldn't be about a counter-China strategy in Africa. This should be about how we augment China's investment in Africa. Africa needs investment way beyond the investment that the Chinese have made. Africa has opportunity way beyond the opportunity that the Chinese have taken advantage of. And in my opinion, this is a great opportunity for the United States and Europe to jointly collaborate with China in the growth and the development of the African continent, which is, after all, going to present all three of those great power blocs with the next generation of labor and the next generation of human capital.

And I think that the U.S.-Africa summit needs to be about looking at how one increases U.S., actual, tangible, visible investment on the continent rather than how the U.S. beat China out of the continent. And I think that if that's the mindset, the opportunity for the United States in Africa over the next ten years is immense because it is important to note that China might be Top of the Pops right now, but the U.S. is still number two, and it's very easy to switch positions if the right policy and the right activity takes place on the ground.

ORDU: I was just wondering, Ivor, whether the survey also revealed some of the newcomers in terms of influencers. And I'm thinking here of India, for example, Turkey, for example, the ASEAN group of countries vis-à-vis old colonial countries like old Europe, as some people will refer to them.

ICHIKOWITZ: That is very interesting. Turkey definitely is featuring where it didn't feature before. I suppose there's a categorization in the responses that we receive from people that are influential because they're interfering or seem to be interfering in the politics and in the strategy of the continent and those that are additive.

Now, interestingly enough, a number of countries came out in the survey very negatively. You know, France is not looking good on the African continent right now. And the sentiment towards France is even more negative in this edition than it was in the first edition. But it is important to note that the former colonies are still, without any doubt, the countries that are perceived to be having the most influence. We are not yet seeing significant inroads being made by India, being made by Russia. India is very low at the moment. Russia is almost non-existent at the moment. It would be interesting to look at the results from the next survey, because I would suspect that Russia is on a massive charm offensive in Africa right now. And that situation might be different. But there is no question that the perception of African youth right now is that the colonial powers still remain in the top biggest influencers, both negative and positive.

ORDU: Let's turn now, Ivor, to the issue of security and fragility on our continent, because we witness a Russian invasion of Ukraine aside, which is dominating the oxygen in the room. I'm talking of the Sahel, for example, northern Nigeria—my own country—northern Mozambique, the Horn of Africa, DRC borders with its neighbors, et cetera. So, this sense of fragility and insecurity across our continent. To get a sense from you, what are the youths saying? How confident are they in the ability of their governments to deal with the growing insecurity across the land?

ICHIKOWITZ: So, 55% of the people that we surveyed are confident about their government's ability to deal with issues of terrorism and deal with issues of security. But a very, very high percentage of the people that we surveyed believe that one of the biggest deterrents to growth and development on the continent is this fragile security situation. A

very high percentage of people confirmed that either they or close family members had been approached to be seconded into terrorist organizations. This is very alarming because these security issues are no longer remote. And there was a time when if you were in Maputo, you didn't feel that there was a security problem in the north of Mozambique. Today, the security issues are touching people's lives right across the continent.

So it's a huge priority. It's a huge priority for every African government. It's a huge priority for the West because the West needs to realize that the terrorist activity in Africa is ultimately just being incubated to spread further. So it's a priority that needs to be addressed, it needs to be addressed urgently. But the youth themselves do believe that their governments are making inroads. They do believe that their governments are competent to handle these issues. And they are now talking about this a lot more than they were previously.

ORDU: As we come to close in this conversation, Ivor, I am reminded of a certain cohort, a certain cohort of our youths on the continent, the so-called "second chances." I am talking of the brilliant the 17-year-old who drops out of school for because she got pregnant or because the death of a breadwinner in the family. I am talking of the 14-year-old child soldier of the type we saw in Charles Taylor, in Sierra Leone and Liberia, and then they come back. How do we reintegrate them in the community? Did you in your survey reach these kind of groups of youths in the 15 countries you surveyed?

ICHIKOWITZ: You know, in many ways, I think a huge proportion of the people that we surveyed fit into that category. What touches me is that we do one hour interviews, face-to-face interviews, with people right across the divide, as I mentioned previously. And everyone has a story. Everyone has a set of circumstances. And I would say that a huge percentage of the people we talk to are, in fact, "second chances." That's just the reality of the environment that a lot of these people live in. Yet they remain optimistic. They believe in themselves, they believe in the continent, and they believe in the fact that they have both the intellectual capacity as well as the fortitude to go out there and make something of their lives.

So, the youth of Africa see the continent in a very different way to the way that people from outside the continent see the continent. And this whole concept of embracing the "second chances" is what *ubuntu* in Africa is all about. It's all about society making opportunity for the people that want to take the opportunity.

And I think what the survey is confirming is that it doesn't matter how dire the circumstances; it doesn't matter how badly governments have failed their people; it doesn't really matter how badly the lack of Western investment has failed the continent. This is a generation of people that are going to make a good future for themselves and they're going to do whatever they have to do to achieve that. And as I said earlier, that is what gives me confidence in the continent.

The message I want to give to policymakers, the message I want to give to African governments, the message I want to give to investors is this is a generation of global citizens that have a role to play in the universe, and we need to take note of them. We need to listen to them. We need to take this data and turn it into actionable intelligence, which gives us policies that talk to their hopes and aspirations. And we need to capitalize on the opportunity that it creates for every country that engages and relates to Africa.

I'm already onto the next survey—we already starting work towards the next survey. And I'm excited to see how the next survey turns out, because I can only see this getting better year on year.

ORDU: So on that note, actually, Ivor, also looking ahead the next survey, what would you say in retrospect are lessons from the few you've just done? And the things you would do differently going forward?

ICHIKOWITZ: I think we've come up with a formula that is now verified. The first survey is always an experiment. The second survey then verifies the methodology that you used in the first survey. The third and subsequent surveys are just going to help us build a bigger and bigger, deeper volume of data that will give us a much deeper understanding of what this continent is starting to evolve into. And I'm personally very, very confident that we've now got a benchmark that we can track trends against.

So, our objective is to be able to go to governments and to say, this is what we're finding, country-by-country. Because as you can imagine, there's very valuable country-by-country data here—these are the good things, these are the bad things. Go and enhance the good things, and go and fix the bad things, and we'll track year-on-year how you're performing. So, now we can actually take this actionable intelligence, turn it into policy, turn it into practical actions on the ground, and track the process.

So, this gives civil society an opportunity to hold their governments to account. It gives us an opportunity to hold our trade partners to account. It gives us an opportunity to hold investors to account. So, suddenly the African continent starts becoming much more understandable. And that's our objective in the future. And I think, have we learned things? Of course we've learned things. But, I think that the exciting thing is that the original methodology was not flawed and that the data that we're getting is just getting more and more verified as we carry along.

ORDU: Ivor, on that note, and on behalf of the Foresight Africa podcast series, I'd like to thank you very much for making the time to spend the hour with us. Thank you.

ICHIKOWITZ: Thank you.

ORDU: I'm Aloysius Uche Ordu, this has been Foresight Africa. To learn more about what you heard today, find this episode online at Brookings dot edu slash Foresight Africa podcast. Each episode will be listed on its own web page, and there will be links to the content discussed in the episode.

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Thank you very much.