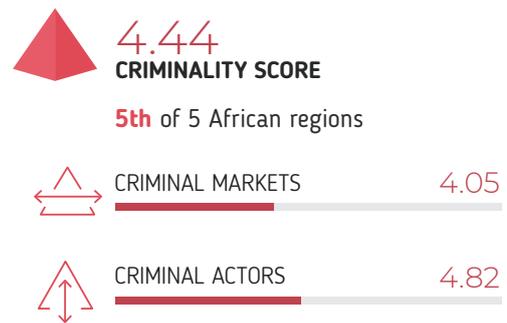
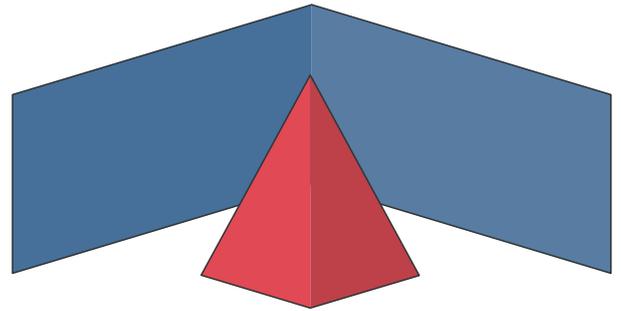


SOUTHERN AFRICA

Southern Africa, comprising 13 countries, was found to be the lowest-scoring region in Africa for **criminality**, with the regional averages for **criminality** (4.44), **criminal markets** (4.05) and **criminal actors** (4.82) the lowest of the five regions.

Just as the region is the best-performing region with regards to criminality, Southern Africa also has the highest average resilience score on the continent.



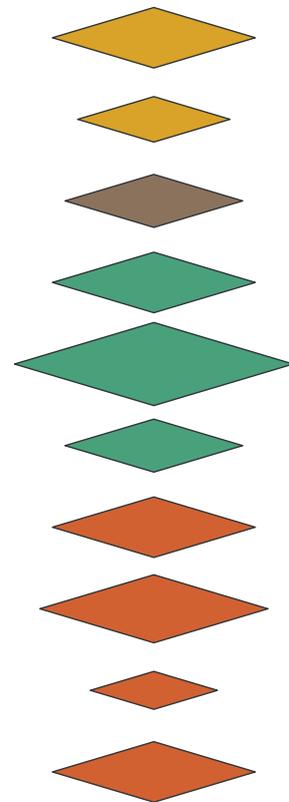
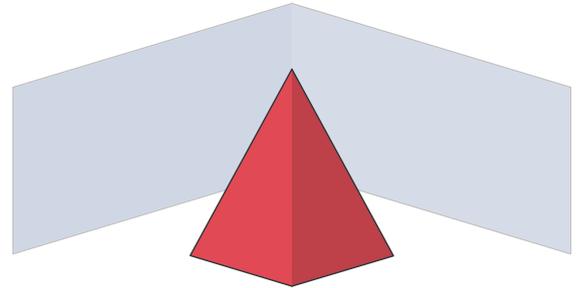
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	4.82
MAFIA-STYLE GROUPS	2.62
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	5.12
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	5.65
FOREIGN ACTORS	5.88



CRIMINAL MARKETS	4.05
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	4.08
HUMAN SMUGGLING	3.12
ARMS TRAFFICKING	3.88
FLORA CRIMES	4.19
FAUNA CRIMES	5.69
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	3.54
HEROIN TRADE	4.46
COCAINE TRADE	4.88
CANNABIS TRADE	2.50
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	4.19



Criminal Markets

In terms of **criminal markets**, the illicit trade in **fauna** scores the highest (5.69), indicating that to be the most pervasive illicit market in the region. This is understandable: the region is home to large concentrations of sought-after mega-fauna and is known for its biodiversity. Following trade in fauna, the **heroin** market was identified as the most pervasive illicit economy in the region (with an average of 4.88). The volume of heroin shipped from

Central Asia to this region has increased in recent years, reshaping criminal governance systems and transforming the region into both a significant transit zone and consumption market.¹

The illicit trade in **non-renewable resources** (4.46), **flora** (4.19) and the **cannabis** market (4.19) also average relatively high in this region. The region is a source market for a

¹ See Simone Haysom, Peter Gastrow and Mark Shaw, *The heroin coast: A political economy along the eastern African seaboard*, 2018, <https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/2018-06-27-research-paper-heroin-coast-pdf.pdf>.



number of precious stones (including diamonds, rubies and garnets, among others) and is known for a substantial illicit economy surrounding artisanal gold mining. With destination markets in Asia, experts highlighted the illegal non-renewables market as both resulting in major economic loss for states in the region and as being significantly detrimental to the natural environment, as seen in Mozambique, for example. The region was also identified as a global producer of high-value timber bound for Asia, with illicit logging significantly contributing to deforestation. While **cannabis** is regularly highlighted as the standout illicit market throughout Africa, the

legalisation of the drug in countries in the region, including South Africa and Zimbabwe, drives the regional average down for this market.

Unlike those in the North and East Africa regions, Southern African countries fare comparatively low in terms of exploitative markets: **human trafficking** averages 4.08; **human smuggling** 3.12; and **arms trafficking** 3.88. While experts acknowledged the region's increasingly important markets for drugs like **cocaine** (2.50) and **synthetic drugs** (3.54), these are eclipsed by the **heroin** and **cannabis** markets, which average 4.88 and 4.19, respectively.

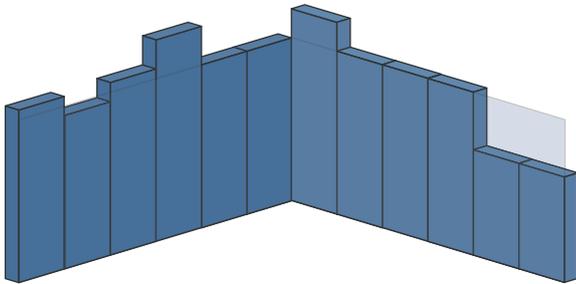
Criminal Actors

In terms of **criminal actors**, the region differs from other parts of the continent, with **foreign criminal actors** assessed as the most influential among criminal groups in the region (5.88), followed by **state-embedded actors** (5.65) and **criminal networks** (5.12). The prevalence and

ubiquity of foreign criminal actors was regularly described by experts, with varying degrees of control in specific illicit activities, most notably the environmental markets. In this region, **mafia-style groups** are the least influential of such actors, with a score of 2.62.



RESILIENCE SCORE



<u>POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE</u>	4.62
<u>GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY</u>	4.12
<u>INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</u>	4.50
<u>NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS</u>	5.38
<u>JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION</u>	4.27
<u>LAW ENFORCEMENT</u>	4.35
<u>TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY</u>	5.12
<u>ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING</u>	4.42
<u>ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT</u>	4.46
<u>VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT</u>	4.31
<u>PREVENTION</u>	2.77
<u>NON-STATE ACTORS</u>	2.88

Southern African countries were also identified as the highest scoring of all regions in terms of **resilience** to organised crime, with an average of 4.27 (compared to the continental average of 3.86). Overall, the region was deemed to be relatively strong in a number of legal and criminal-justice areas. Indicators such as **judicial system and detention** (with a score of 4.27) average the highest on the continent owing to higher levels of independence in regional judiciaries, though capacity limitations were

identified. A notable trend in the region is the importance placed on **non-state actors**, with civil society and the media in the region being well funded and among the most active across Africa, particularly in Mauritius, South Africa and Botswana. Consistent with continental trends, however, both **prevention** (2.88) and **victim and witness support** (2.77) score the lowest, compared to continental averages 2.69 and 2.44, respectively.

