**AC English examples of non-partisan fact-checks IFCN renewal**

1. Alcohol burdens hospitals, but no evidence for South African police minister’s ‘baffling’ numbers

South Africa’s minister of police, Bheki Cele, claimed that 34,000 hospital beds were taken up by alcohol-related cases. His spokesperson said the information came from Prof Andrew Nicol. But Nicol was not aware of the number or where it came from.

A modeling study that Nicol participated in predicted South African hospitals would see approximately 11,750 alcohol related admissions per week when the lockdown alcohol ban was lifted. The study is still undergoing peer review and is yet to be published.

Experts say alcohol does affect the trauma load of hospitals. But the minister’s claim that 34,000 hospital beds were occupied by alcohol-related cases is unsubstantiated. We rate it unproven.

<https://africacheck.org/reports/alcohol-burdens-hospitals-but-no-evidence-for-south-african-police-ministers-baffling-numbers/>

1. Fact-checking influential TV presenter’s claims about child trafficking in South Africa

In September 2020 a video shared on social media showed a man appearing to try to snatch a child from a restaurant in the Roodepoort area of Johannesburg, South Africa.

 TV presenter and DJ Lerato Kganyago weighed in, sharing a startling estimate that “South Africa is considered to be on the ‘Tier 2 Watchlist’ for human trafficking, and “at least A MILLION kids are trafficked each year,” she tweeted to her 1.2 million followers on 14 September.

There is no data or research supporting Kganyago’s claim that at least one million children are trafficked annually in South Africa. The closest figure is a 2000 estimate of 1.2 million children globally. Secondly, the department of justice and constitutional development notified us that South Africa was upgraded to a 'tier 2' country

We rated the claims as exaggerated and incorrect respectively.

<https://africacheck.org/reports/fact-checking-influential-tv-presenters-claims-about-child-trafficking-in-south-africa/>

1. Can coronavirus only live up to 9 days on objects, as Kenyan traders claim?

In pushing for the lifting of a ban on imports of second-hand clothes into Kenya, an industry lobby said that scientific evidence shows the Covid-19 virus cannot survive on an inanimate object for more than nine days.

The government stopped the popular imports in March 2020, citing the risk of infection with the new coronavirus.

Research relied on by the World Health Organization and experts support the second-hand-clothing lobby’s claim. We therefore rated it correct.

<https://africacheck.org/reports/can-coronavirus-only-live-up-to-9-days-on-objects-as-kenyan-traders-claim/>

1. ‘Almost 100%’ of restaurant workers in South Africa are foreign? Official data disproves finance minister Mboweni’s claim

In April 2020, South African finance minister Tito Mboweni claimed that “almost 100%” of restaurant workers in the country were “non-South African”. The claim resurfaced in October 2020.

Data from South Africa’ national statistical agency shows that foreign-born workers made up 6.5% of “housekeeping and restaurant workers” in 2017. The highest recorded percentage was 11.3% in 2011.

Based on this evidence, we rated the minister’s claim as incorrect.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/almost-100-restaurant-workers-south-africa-are-foreign-official-data-disproves>

1. Fact-checking Buhari’s Democracy Day claims about his economic achievements

In his Democracy Day address on 12 June 2020, president Muhammadu Buhari sought to highlight his achievements since his previous speech. He made eight claims about the current government achievements.

Upon investigating these claims a range of ratings were made from correct to misleading and unproven.

<https://africacheck.org/reports/fact-checking-buharis-democracy-day-claims-about-his-economic-achievements/>

1. Factchecking Kenya’s chief justice on judiciary funding and backlog of cases

Chief justice David Maraga told NTV that while the 2010 constitution had sought to strengthen the judiciary’s independence, funding was a perennial headache. He made six claims about the Kenyan judiciary, from its budget and number of cases to how many judges and magistrates serve Kenya’s population.

We looked into the claims and rated them as, Four correct, one understated and one unproven.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/factchecking-kenyas-chief-justice-judiciary-funding-and-backlog-cases>

1. Uhuru Kenyatta: Fact-checking Kenyan president’s claims about his legacy

With a year left in office, Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta used his Madaraka Day speech to emphasise his achievements over two terms, occasionally at the expense of his colonial and independence predecessors.

He made seven claims ranging from the size of Kenya’s GDP to title deed allocation and the distribution of dialysis machines in public health facilities.

We fact-checked these claims and rated them, Three mostly correct, two misleading, one understated and one incorrect.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/uhuru-kenyatta-fact-checking-kenyan-presidents-claims-about-his-legacy>

1. No, Nigeria hasn’t found Covid-19 vaccine yet – but hunt is on

Several media publications reported in late June 2020 that Nigerian scientists had unveiled a vaccine for the new coronavirus.

But the researchers said what they had was a potential vaccine candidate, and it would be months before it could be said to be effective. The country’s NCDC also said it has no knowledge yet of a functional vaccine.

If confirmed as a candidate, it would join the ranks of tens of others that are in various phases of development. We rated this claim as incorrect.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/no-nigeria-hasnt-found-covid-19-vaccine-yet-hunt>

1. World Bank uses outdated stats as it announces $500m Nigeria education plan

Announcing US$500 million in funding to help educate girls, the World Bank made two key claims about poverty and the number of schools in northern Nigeria.

As many as 10 primary schools in the region were served by only one secondary school, the bank said, adding that about 80% of poor households in the country were in the north. The sizable investment was widely reported in the national media.

We rated the claims as incorrect and unproven respectively.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/world-bank-uses-outdated-stats-it-announces-500m-nigeria-education-plan>

1. 15 million ‘undocumented foreigners’ in South Africa? Herman Mashaba wrong again

Former mayor of Johannesburg, Herman Mashaba, recently claimed that there are 15 million “undocumented foreigners” in South Africa. But the number he cited refers to both citizens and residents who do not have “proof of legal identity”.

According to Stats SA, the number of foreign-born people living in South Africa in 2020 is around 3.9 million. This includes both the documented and undocumented. The UN population division put the number at 4.2 million in 2019.

While working out the exact number of undocumented migrants in the country is complex, the latest estimates do not support Mashaba’s widely shared statement. We rate his claim incorrect.

<https://africacheck.org/fact-checks/reports/15-million-undocumented-foreigners-south-africa-herman-mashaba-wrong-again>