

Brand Africa announces the Most Admired Brands in Kenya

Brand Africa has announced the Most Admired Brands in Kenya. The list, the 7th annual Brand Africa 100: Africa's Best Brands, is based on the comprehensive pan-Africa survey of the most admired brands among African consumers.



NSE boss Geoffrey Odundo, Brand Integrated partner Richard Mukoma present an award for the most admired brand in the food category in Kenya to Del Monte Kenya marketing manager – Margaret Nyoro, at the Most Admired Brands event at the Exchange in Nairobi. Looking on is Thebe Ikalfeng, founder and chairman of Brand Africa and Brand Leadership – the founders of the annual African survey. Image supplied.

In Kenya and regional results, which are dominated by non-African brands, Coca-Cola was recognised as the overall Most Admired Brand in Kenya. Safaricom leads as the Most Admired Brand Made in Kenya and the Most Admired Made in Kenya Brand Listed on the Nairobi Securities Exchange.

Most Admired Brands Made in Kenya

Rank	Brand	Category	Country of Origin
1	Safaricom	Telecoms	Kenya
2	Tusker	Alcoholic Beverages	Kenya
3	Kenya Airways	Aviation	Kenya

Most Admired Brands in Kenya

Rank	Brand	Category	Country of Origin
1	Coca Cola	Non-Alcoholic Beverages	USA
2	Safaricom	Telecoms	Kenya
3	Samsung	Technology	South Korea

In recognising the catalytic impact of media and financial services in Africa, Brand Africa has a separate prompted question in the survey to highlight the Most Admired Financial Services Brands and Most Admired Media Brands in Africa.

In the media sub-survey, where the pan-African list is dominated by Europe (40%), North America (20%) and Asia (20%) by global media brands with extensive pan-African reach, UK's BBC, South Africa's DSTV, USA's CNN, Qatar's Al Jazeera and France's RFI lead the list of most admired media in Africa. In Kenya, Citizen Television was recognised as the Most

Financial services category relatively consolidated

Where the pan-African media category albeit dominated by global brands, remains fragmented with numerous local and regional brands in all markets, the financial services category is relatively consolidated and African - with 64% of the Top 25 financial services brands, led by Togo's Ecobank (#1), South Africa's FNB (#2) and ABSA (#3) among the Top 10, are all made in Africa and pan-African.

Kenya's KCB was recognised as the most admired financial services brand in Kenya. Safaricom's Mpesa (#13), retained its pole position among mobile money brands with Orange Money (#18), MTN Mobile Money (#19) and Tigo (#23), underscores the impact of not only Mpesa as the catalyst but mobile as a key enabler for financial access.

In a comparison of the most admired brands in Kenya versus East Africa region, while Nike is the leading brand in East Africa, Coke is the leading brand in Kenya. 50% of the brands, all non-African – Coca-Cola, Samsung, Airtel, Apple and Nike - are common between Kenya and the region.

In a category analysis, Kenya Airways (Aviation/Transport), Citizen (Media), Safaricom (Telecoms), Tusker (Alcoholic Beverages), KCB (Financial Services) are the leading Made in Kenya brands in a list that's 50% African (Kenya) and 50% non-African.

Most Admired Brands By Category

Rank	Brand	Category	Country of Origin
1	Coca Cola	Non-Alcoholic Beverages	USA
2	Safaricom	Telecoms	Kenya
3	Samsung	Technology	South Korea
4	Tusker	Alcoholic Beverages	Kenya
5	Citizen Tv	Media	Kenya
6	Colgate	Personal Care	USA
7	Gucci	Luxury	Italy
8	Unilever	Consumer, Non-Cyclical	UK
9	Kenya Airways	Aviation	Kenya
10	Toyota	Auto Manufactures	Japan
11	Nike	Sport and Fitness	USA
12	Del Monte	Food	USA
13	KCB	Financial Services	Kenya
14	Bata	Apparel	Switzerland

Leadership Group supported by GeoPoll, and strategic analysis and insights by Kantar. The rankings are based on a comprehensive survey among a representative sample of respondents 18 years and older, conducted in 25 countries which collectively account for 80% of Africa's population and 75% of the continent's GDP.

African brands faltered to an all-time low

In the main overall Brand Africa 100: Africa's Best Brands list announced in May at the JSE in South Africa, while the top 100 is relatively stable, African brands faltered to an all-time low of 14% share of the Top 100 most admired brands in Africa. Over the past three years, Africa's share of the most admired brands has declined from a high of 25% in 2013/14 to lows of 16% in 2015/16, 16% in 2016/17 and 17% in 2017/18 respectively.

In the Top 100, the US sports and fitness mega brand, Nike retained the overall #1 brand in Africa spontaneously recalled by consumers. The most admired African brands spontaneously recalled by Africans were South Africa's leading pan-African telecoms brand, MTN, followed by Ethiopia's Anbessa and Nigeria's, Dangote. Where consumers were prompted to recall an African brand, Nigeria's Dangote, was the most admired African brand, with South Africa's MTN and Ethiopia's Anbessa rounding out the Top 3.

In a geographical spread that covers brands from 25 countries in Africa, North America, Europe and Asian brands lead the list with 41%, 28%, and 17% respectively rounding up the continental spread of brands Africans admire.

Retaining made in Kenya brands

"One of the biggest challenges facing Africa is transforming its vibrant entrepreneurial energy and environment to create competitive brands that meet the needs of its growing consumer market, says Thebe Ikalafeng, founder and chairman of Brand Africa and Brand Leadership.

"More importantly, as is evident with Safaricom, Mpesa and Tusker, the leading made in Kenya brands, the next biggest challenge is retaining the ownership of these brands and ultimately the profits in Africa.

These rankings are an important metric of and challenge for creating home-grown competitive African brands that will transform the African promise and change its narrative and image as a competitive continent."

Diverse sample and geographic spread

"The scope of the Brand Africa study across such a diverse sample and geographic spread would be impossible to achieve using traditional research methodologies," says Nicholas Becker, GeoPoll CEO.

"Using GeoPoll's mobile-based research platform and a large panel of respondents, we were able to quickly gather more than 15,000 brand mentions from 25 countries in Africa, providing brands with valuable data that will inform their growth. GeoPoll was pleased to partner with Brand Africa once again to gather this vital research across Africa."

Kantar analysed the resultant 15,500+ brand mentions and 2,200+ individual brands and created a weighted scoring to produce the Top 100 brands.

"The key to success for building sustainable brands, irrespective of origins or domicile, is to establish an emotional connection, creating intimacy and being more present in consumers everyday lives. This survey, a complex analysis of diverse data and countries to arrive at a representative ranking, is an important metric of the brands that play that are doing a better job and playing a vital role in Africa," says Karin Du Chenne, Kantar, chief growth officer Africa Middle East.

The Brand Africa 100 results are published in the June edition of the *African Business Magazine* now on sale globally and also available online to subscribers at www.africanbusinessmag.com and www.brandafrica.

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