



Comoros

Sectoral Scenarios for Comoros

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Table of contents

Sectoral Scenarios for Comoros	3
Stability scenario	3
Demographic scenario	6
Health/WaSH scenario	10
Agriculture scenario	12
Education scenario	16
Manufacturing scenario	20
Leapfrogging scenario	24
Free Trade scenario	29
Financial Flows scenario	32
Infrastructure scenario	37
Governance scenario	41
Impact of scenarios on carbon emissions	44
Endnotes	45
Donors and Sponsors	45
Reuse our work	45
Cite this research	45

Sectoral Scenarios for Comoros

- Stability scenario
- Demographic scenario
- Health/WaSH scenario
- Agriculture scenario
- Education scenario
- Manufacturing scenario
- Leapfrogging scenario
- Free Trade scenario
- Financial Flows scenario
- Infrastructure scenario
- Governance scenario
- Impact of scenarios on carbon emissions



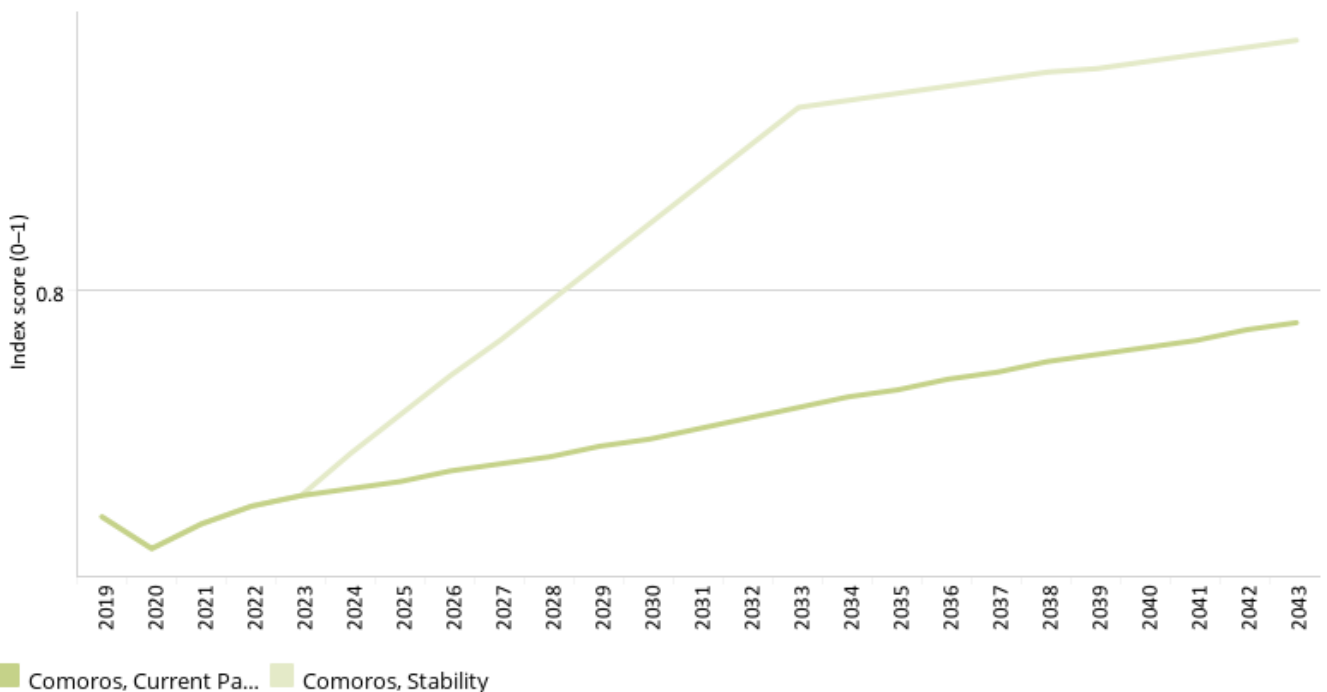
Stability scenario

Chart 2 | Chart 3 | Chart 5 | Chart 6 | Chart 7 | Chart 8 | Chart 9 | Chart 10 | Chart 11 | Chart 12 | Chart 13 >

Chart 13: Governance security in CP and Stability scenario, 2019–2043
IFs index 0–1



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 governance security index using internal war and government risk

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The Stability scenario represents reasonable but ambitious reductions in risk of regime instability and lower levels of

internal conflict. Stability is generally a prerequisite for other aspects of development and this would encourage inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) and improve business confidence. Better governance through the accountability that follows substantive democracy is modelled separately.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

In the decades since independence, the country has experienced numerous coups d'état resulting in changes of government. The socio-political tension and repeated instability have categorised the Comoros as a fragile state. [1] Since the 2016 elections, the newly elected government has introduced a series of structural reforms to bring about a climate of stability and peace, which has improved the fragility substantially. [2]

IFs' governance security index ranges from 0 (low security) to 1 (high security). In 2019, Comoros's score on the governance security index was 0.74, slightly above the average of 0.72 for lower middle-income Africa and significantly above the average of 0.69 for Africa. Comoros performs significantly below the average of its income peers in governance effectiveness, with a score of 1.07, compared to 1.9 income average. However, it performs above the average of its income peers in regard to governance capacity and inclusion.

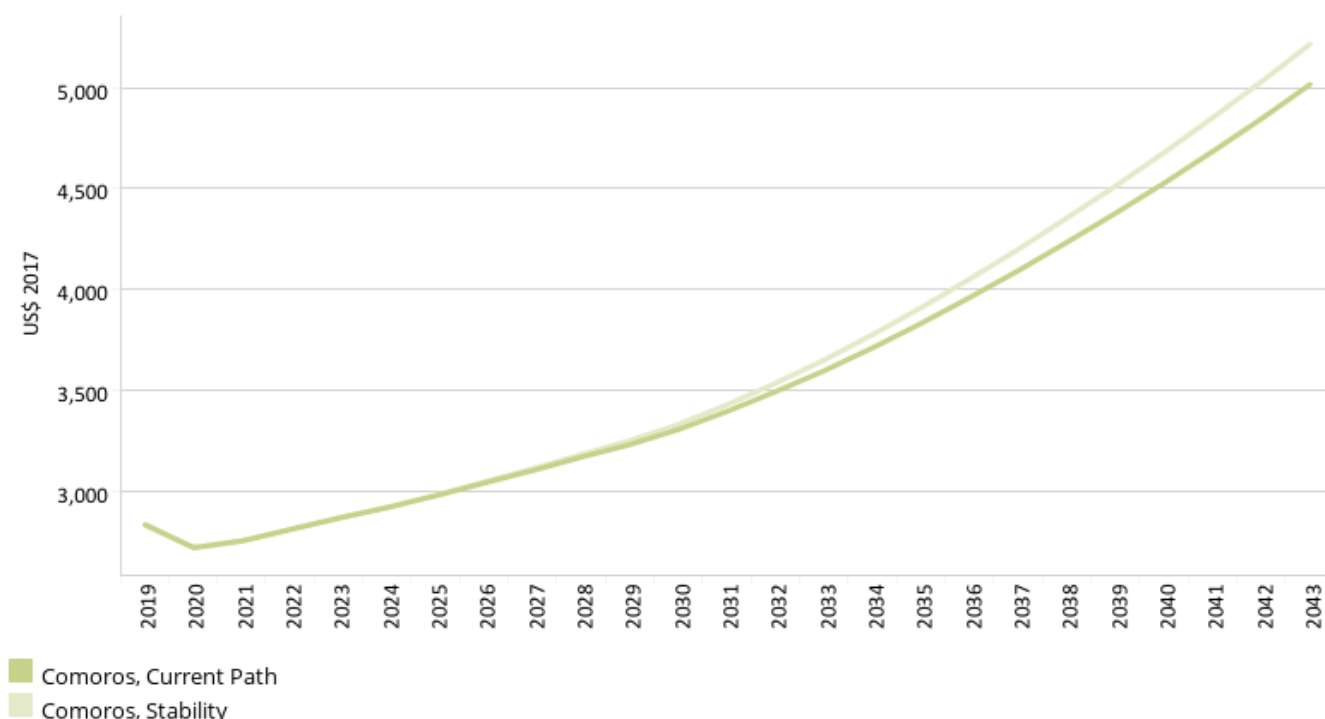
Comoros stands to gain substantially from the interventions proposed in the Stability scenario. In this scenario, the score for Comoros on the governance security index is 0.87 by 2043, compared to 0.79 in the Current Path forecast.

▼ < Chart 9 Chart 10 Chart 11 Chart 12 Chart 13 Chart 14 Chart 15 Chart 16 Chart 17 Chart 18 Chart 1 >

Chart 14: GDP per capita in CP and Stability scenario, 2019–2043
Purchasing power parity



Comoros ▼



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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In the Stability scenario, GDP per capita will grow from US\$2 831 in 2019 to US\$5 216 in 2043, US\$201 more than in the

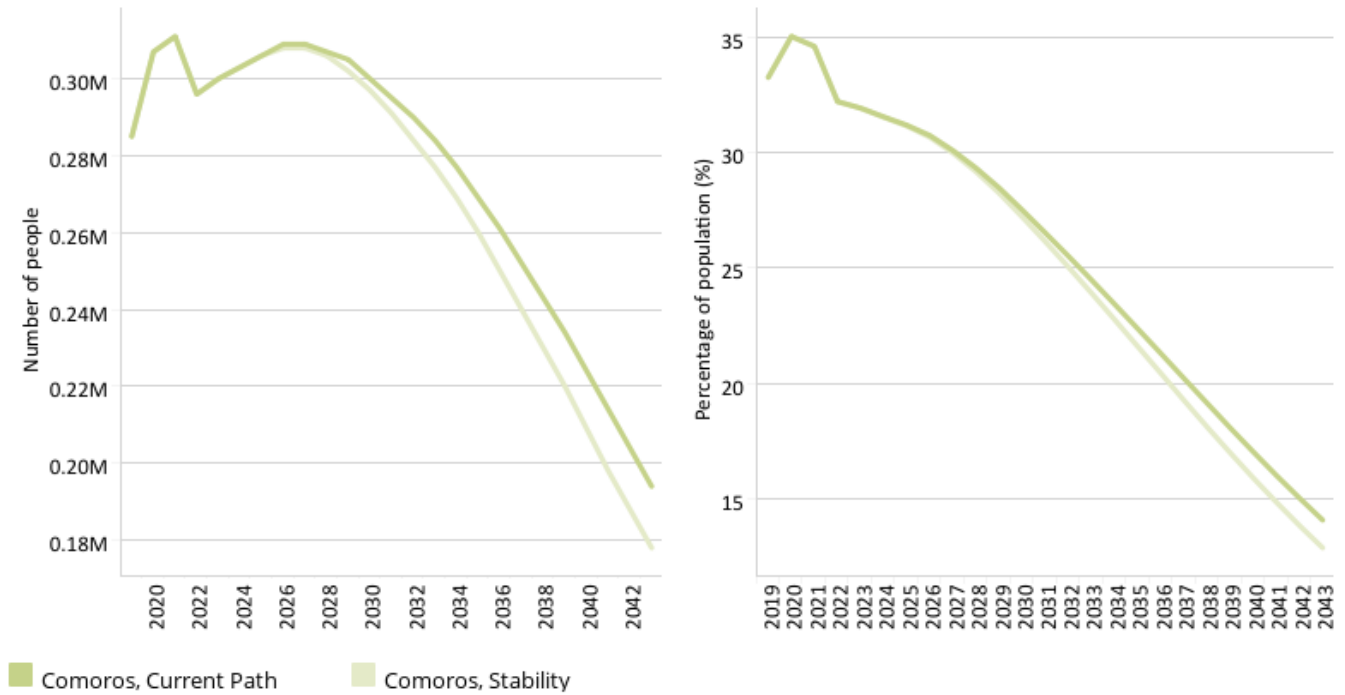
Current Path forecast for the same year. In both the Current Path forecast and the Stability scenario, GDP per capita remains significantly below the average for lower middle-income African countries throughout the forecast horizon to 2043.

Chart 15: Poverty in CP and Stability scenario, 2019–2043

Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and PovcalNet World Bank data

The Stability scenario has a positive impact on poverty reduction and will start to benefit the country from 2029 onwards. The extreme poverty rate in this scenario is likely to reach 12.9% by 2043, 1.2 percentage points lower than in the Current Path forecast. The Stability scenario would therefore have 10 000 fewer poor people than in the Current Path forecast in 2043. The poverty rate will remain significantly below the projected average for lower middle-income Africa.



Demographic scenario

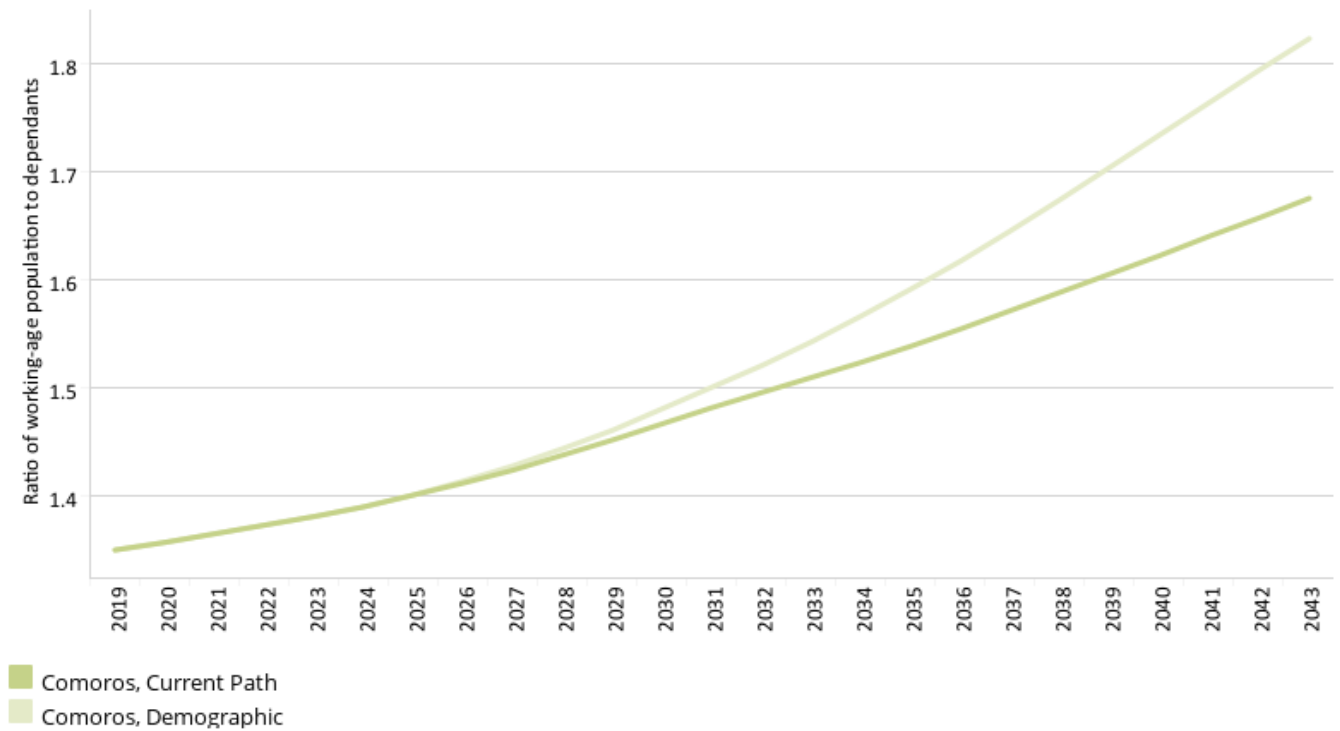
Chart 11 Chart 12 Chart 13 Chart 14 Chart 15 Chart 16 Chart 17 Chart 18 Chart 19 Chart 20 Chart 21

Chart 16: Demographic dividend in CP and Demog scenario, 2019–2043

Ratio of working-age population to dependants



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects

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This section presents the impact of a Demographic scenario that aims to hasten and increase the demographic dividend through reasonable but ambitious reductions in the communicable-disease burden for children under five, the maternal mortality ratio and increased access to modern contraception.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

Demographers typically differentiate between a first, second and even a third demographic dividend. We focus here on the contribution of the size of the labour force (between 15 and 64 years of age) relative to dependants (children and the elderly) as part of the first dividend. A window of opportunity opens when the ratio of the working-age population to dependants is equal to or surpasses 1.7.

Comoros has a low ratio of working-age people to dependants. In 2019, this ratio was 1.4, below the required minimum value of 1.7 needed to expect the materialisation of the demographic dividend. In the Demographic scenario, it is forecast that the ratio of working-age people to dependants will increase much quicker than in the Current Path forecast as more people enter the working-age group.

In the Demographic scenario, a rate of 1.7 working-age persons to dependants is expected in 2039 for Comoros. The Demographic scenario will likely aid Comoros in reaping the demographic dividend five years earlier than projected in the

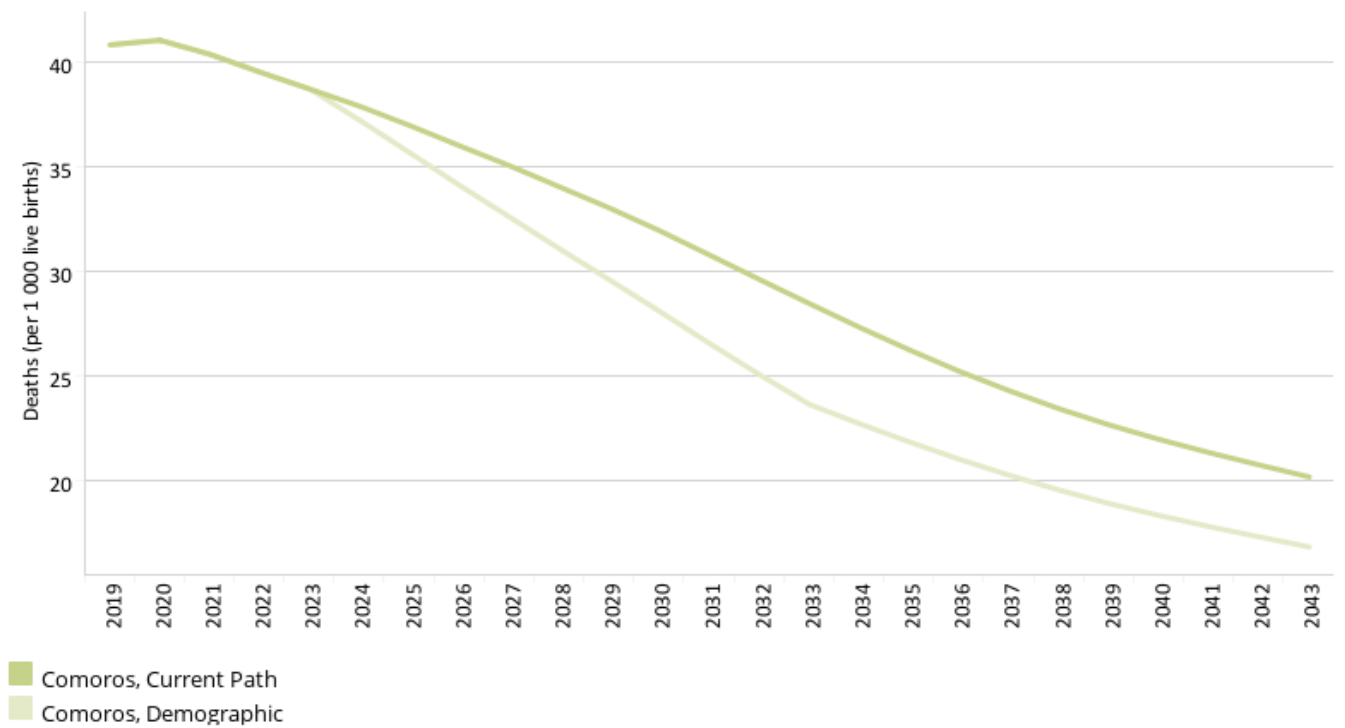
Current Path forecast.

Chart 17: Infant mortality in CP and Demog scenario, 2019–2043

Deaths per 1 000 live births



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation Mortality Visualization Tool data

The infant mortality rate is the number of infant deaths per 1 000 live births and is an important marker of the overall quality of the health system in a country.

Infant mortality rates in Comoros have significantly and remarkably dropped since 1960. In 1960, deaths per 1 000 live births stood at 171 and by 2019 this figure had dropped to 41. Infant mortality rates in Comoros are 5.6 deaths per 1 000 lives fewer than the average for lower middle-income Africa and 6 deaths fewer than the average for Africa.

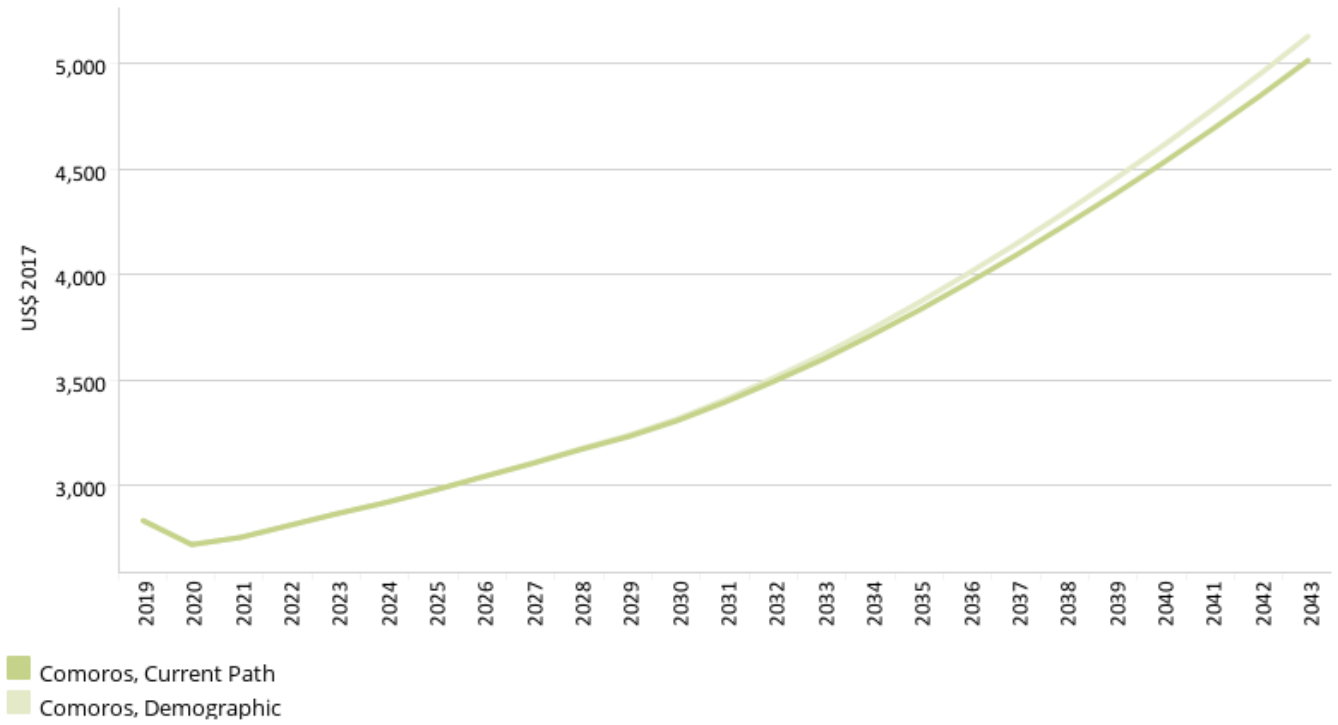
In the Current Path forecast, infant mortality will be reduced to 20 deaths per 1 000 live births by 2043, still significantly below the expected average for lower middle-income Africa. The Demographic scenario positively influences this trajectory and will result in 3.3 fewer deaths per 1 000 live births by 2043.

Chart 18: GDP per capita in CP and Demog scenario, 2019–2043

Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

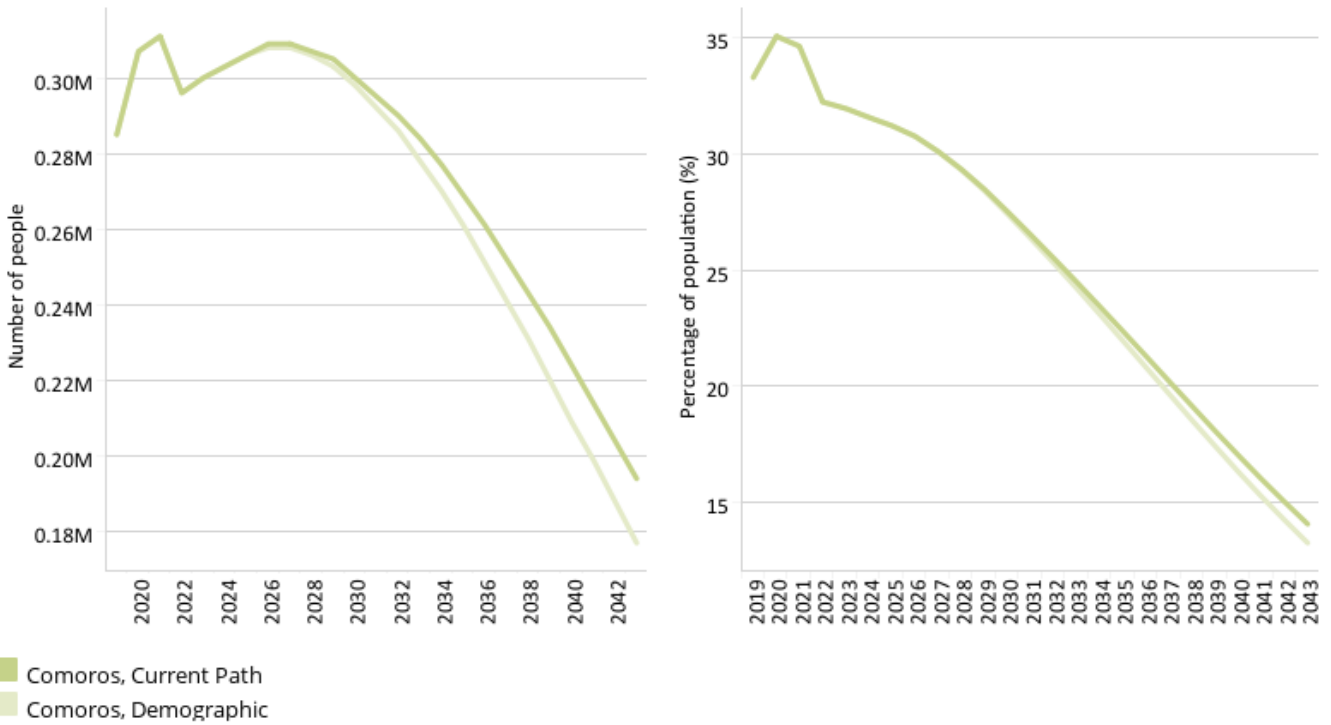
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In the Demographic scenario, GDP per capita will grow from US\$2 831 in 2019 to US\$5 130 in 2043 — US\$115 more than in the Current Path forecast for the same year. In both the Current Path forecast and the Demographic scenario, GDP per capita remains significantly below the average for lower middle-income African countries throughout the forecast horizon to 2043.

Chart 19: Poverty in CP and Demog scenario, 2019–2043
 Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



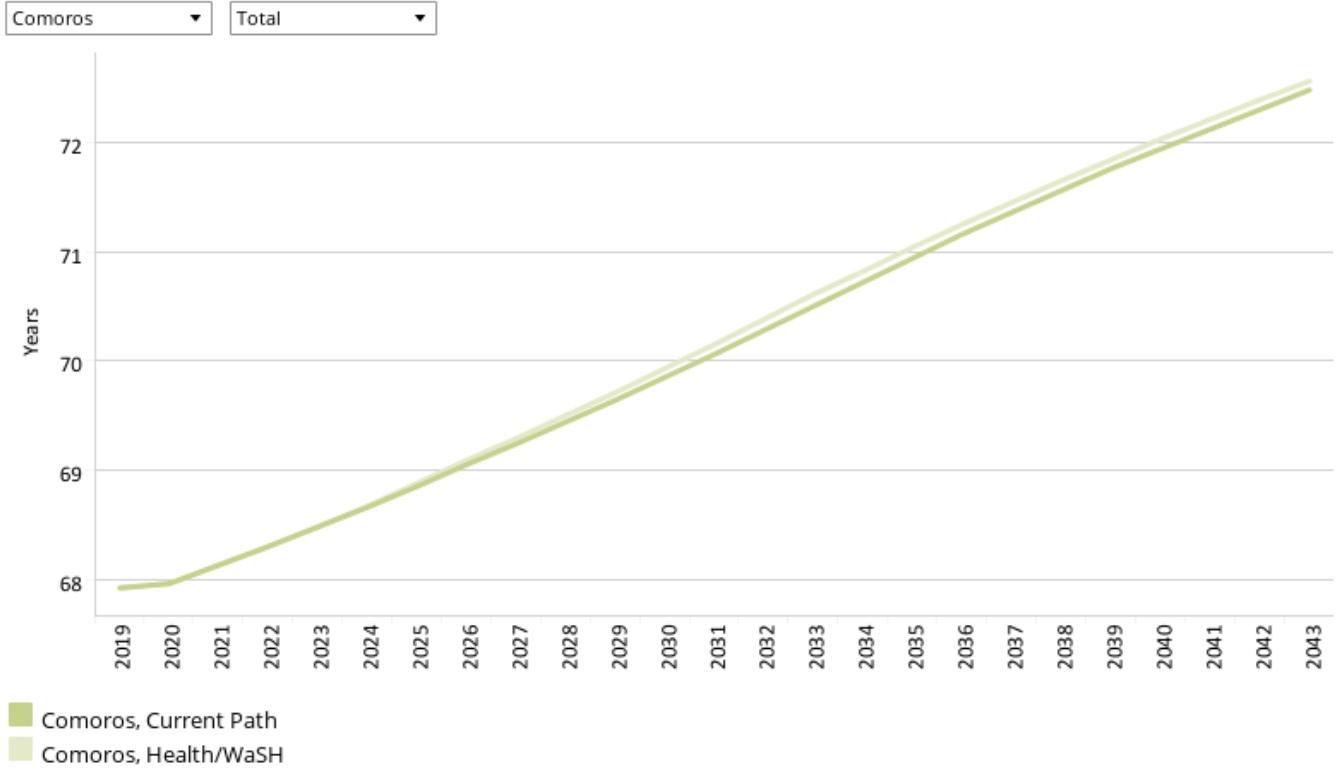
Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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The interventions proposed in the Demographic scenario have a small impact on poverty reduction in Comoros. The poverty rate in this scenario is likely to reach 13.3% by 2043, 0.8 percentage points lower than in the Current Path forecast. The scenario would therefore lift an additional 10 000 people out of poverty. The poverty rate will remain significantly below the average for lower middle-income Africa.



Chart 20: Life expectancy in CP and Health/WaSH scenario, 2019–2043



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Institute for Health Metrics Evaluation GBD Foresight Tool data

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This section presents reasonable but ambitious improvements in the Health/WaSH scenario, which include reductions in the mortality rate associated with both communicable diseases (e.g. AIDS, diarrhoea, malaria and respiratory infections) and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) (e.g. diabetes), as well as improvements in access to safe water and better sanitation. The acronym WaSH stands for water, sanitation and hygiene.

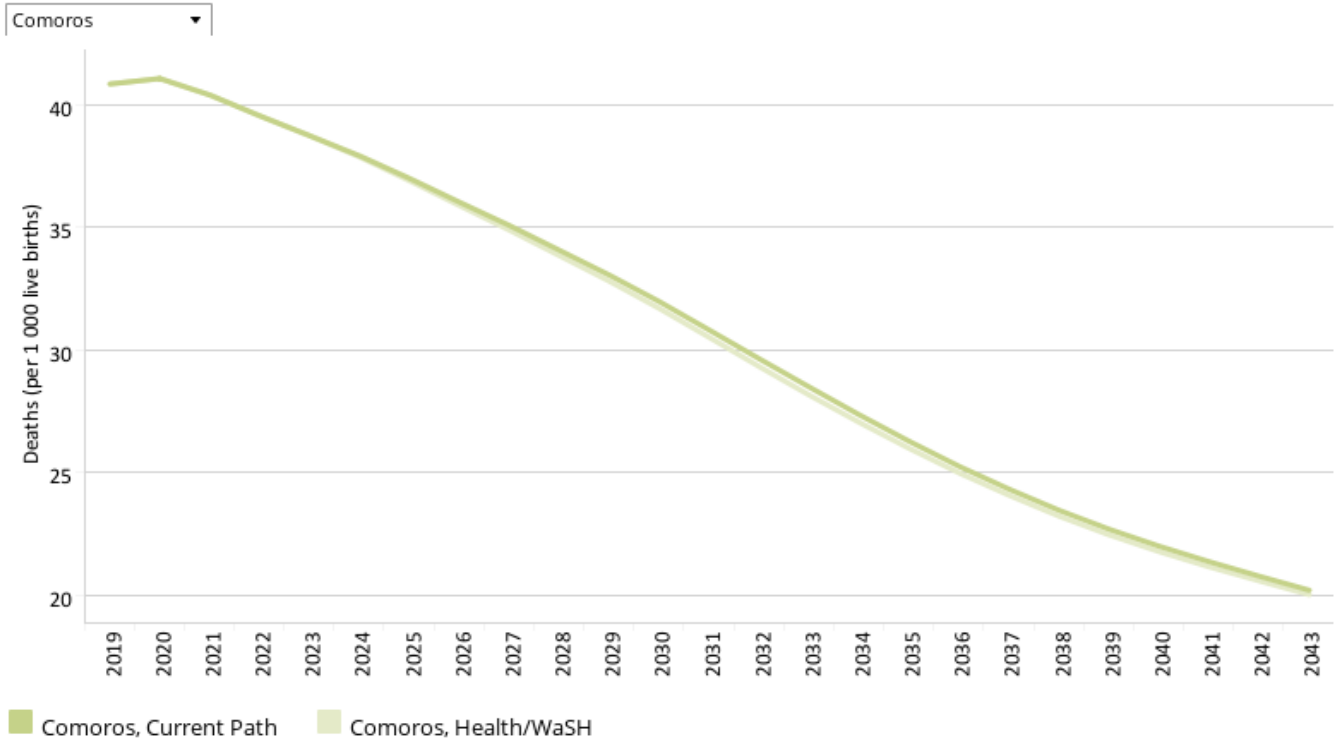
The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

Life expectancy in Comoros has drastically improved over the past couple of decades. In 1960, the average Comorian could expect to reach an age of 41 years. By 2019, life expectancy climbed to 68 years.

Currently, Comorians' life expectancy is 2 years above the average for African countries and is on par with the average for lower middle-income Africa.

In the Current Path forecast, life expectancy in Comoros is expected to continue improving, reaching 72.5 years by 2043. Comorian households, however, continue to suffer from poor access to safe water and adequate sanitation. The interventions proposed in the Health/WaSH scenario have a neglectable effect on extending life expectancy. By 2025, in the Health/WaSH scenario life expectancy of lower middle-income Africa will exceed Comoros. In this scenario, life expectancy on average in lower middle-income Africa will be nearly 2 years above that of Comoros by 2043.

Chart 21: Infant mortality in CP and Health/WaSH scenario, 2019–2043
Deaths per 1 000 live births



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation Mortality Visualization Tool data

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The Health/WaSH scenario will have a small impact on reducing infant deaths compared to the Current Path forecast, although only by a small margin. This scenario will lower the under-five mortality rate to 20 deaths per 1 000 live births by 2043 — 0.2 deaths fewer compared to the Current Path forecast.



Agriculture scenario

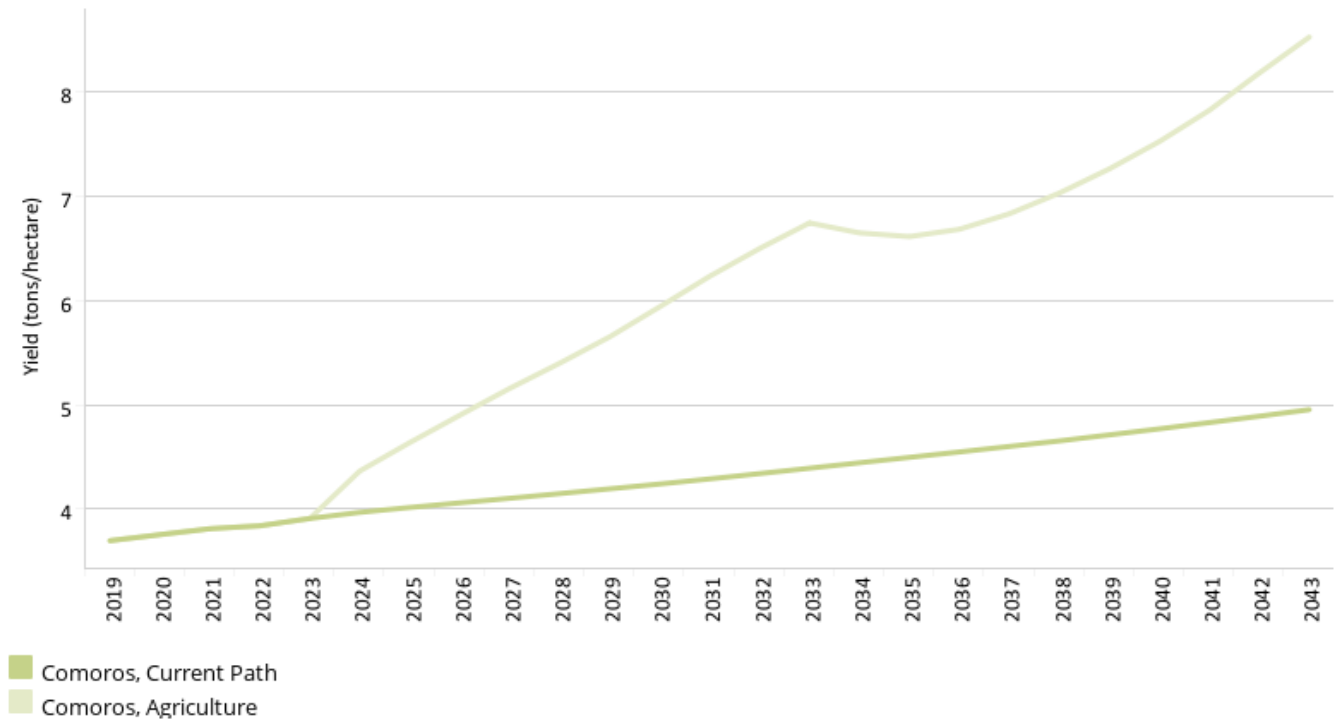
Chart 17 Chart 18 Chart 19 Chart 20 Chart 21 Chart 22 Chart 23 Chart 24 Chart 25 Chart 26 Chart 27

Chart 22: Yield/hectare in CP and Agric scenario, 2019–2043

Pre-loss levels



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from FAOSTAT on-line statistical service data

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The Agriculture scenario represents reasonable but ambitious increases in yields per hectare (reflecting better management and seed and fertiliser technology), increased land under irrigation and reduced loss and waste. Where appropriate, it includes an increase in calorie consumption, reflecting the prioritisation of food self-sufficiency above food exports as a desirable policy objective.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

The data on yield per hectare (in metric tons) is for crops but does not distinguish between different categories of crops.

The agrofood sector (agriculture, stockbreeding and fishing) is the leading engine for the Comorian economy. This sector employs the majority of the population, contributes significantly to household income, constitutes the leading source of foreign exchange, and provides the bulk of the products consumed by the population, although food imports are still substantial. [3]

The sector has a very narrow base and the three top export commodities of vanilla, cloves and ylang-ylang provide an estimated 90% of all export earnings. The sector's main strategy of cultivating more forest land has also raised significant questions in regard to sustainability. The sector lacks the mainstreaming of modern technologies and subsistence farming lacks productivity and value addition. [4] The country's dependence on food imports also exposes the economy to volatility

in global markets and the sector is extremely vulnerable to climate shocks. In 2019, agricultural yields in Comoros stood at 3.7 metric tons per hectare — 1.4 tons per hectare fewer than the average for lower middle-income countries in Africa and 0.2 metric tons per hectare fewer than the average for Africa.

The country stands to benefit significantly from increased yields through better management and reduced loss and waste. Investing in climate-smart agriculture can help the sector weather some of the climate storms while modern production and processing technologies can aid in improving yields. In the Agriculture scenario, it is forecast that yields will increase to 8.5 metric tons per hectare by 2043. The Agriculture scenario will therefore improve yields with 3.6 metric tons per hectare compared to the Current Path forecast that stands at 4.95 metric tons in 2043.

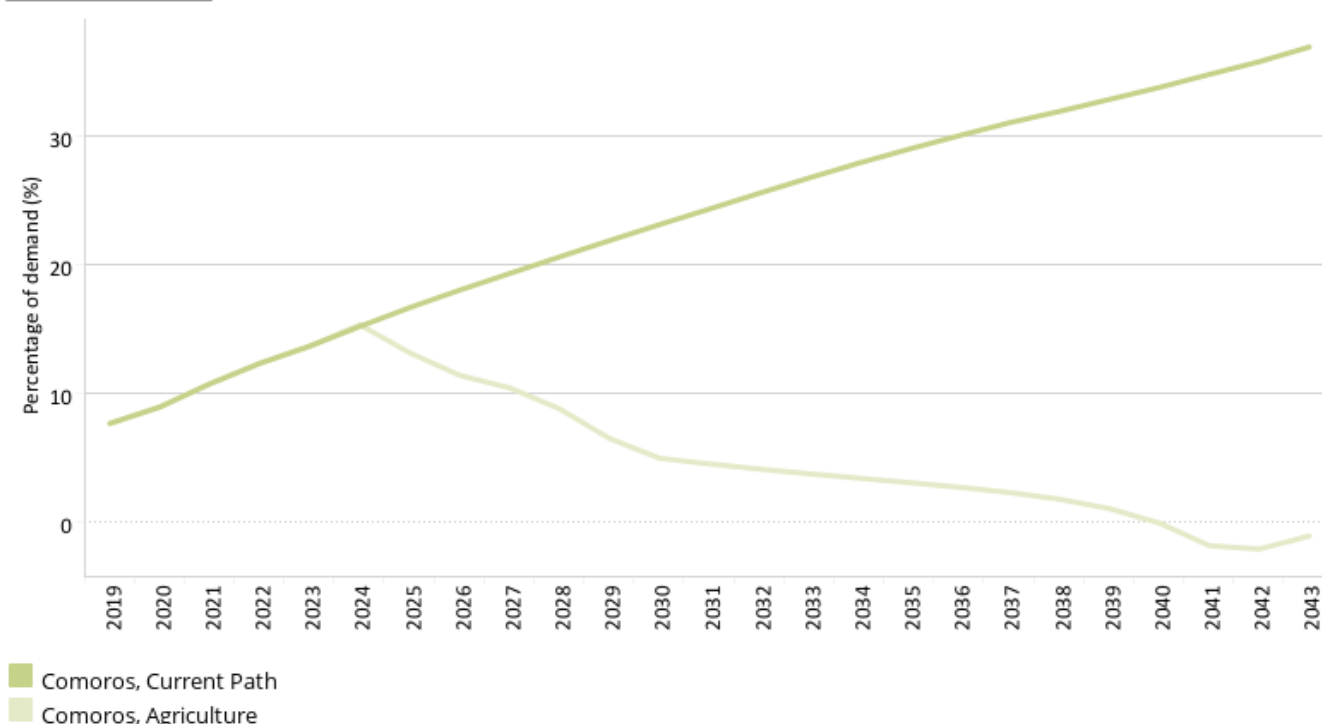
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Chart 23: Agriculture imports in CP and Agric scenario, 2019–2043

Net imports for meat, crops and fish, % of demand



Comoros ▼



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Food and Agriculture Organization Food Balance Sheets data

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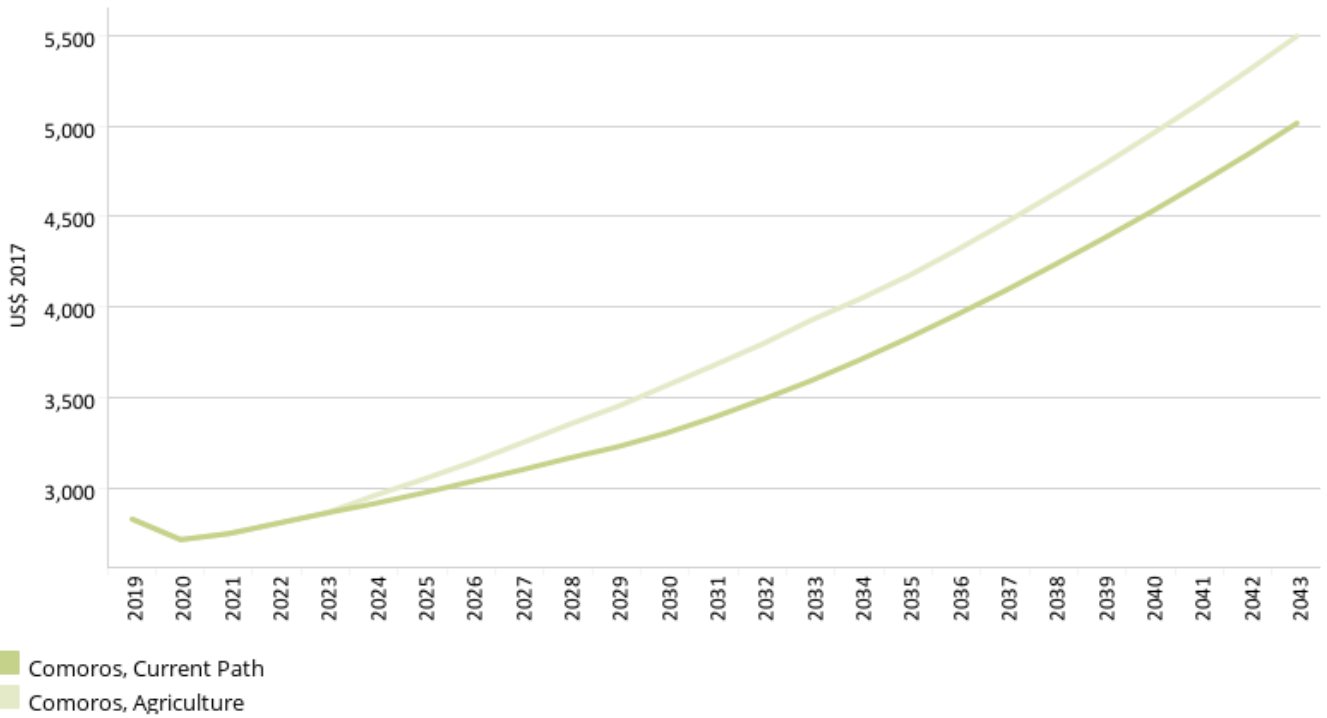
Comoros is vulnerable to food insecurity and relies heavily on food imports. Local production within the country is not keeping pace of the growing demand. In 2019, total agricultural demand exceeded production, with import dependency equivalent to 7.7% of total demand. On the Current Path, by 2043 demand is forecast to continue exceeding production, resulting in a significant import dependency of 36.9% of total demand.

The Agriculture scenario will benefit Comoros by increasing land access to irrigation and improving yields. In this scenario, Comoros can lower its import dependency significantly and even become a net exporter of foods by 2043. Lowering its import dependence will be beneficial to the Comorian economy as it will release funds for other productive investments in the economy. It would also improve the country's current account balance and make it less vulnerable to international food price shocks.

Chart 24: GDP per capita in the CP and Agric scenario, 2019–2043
Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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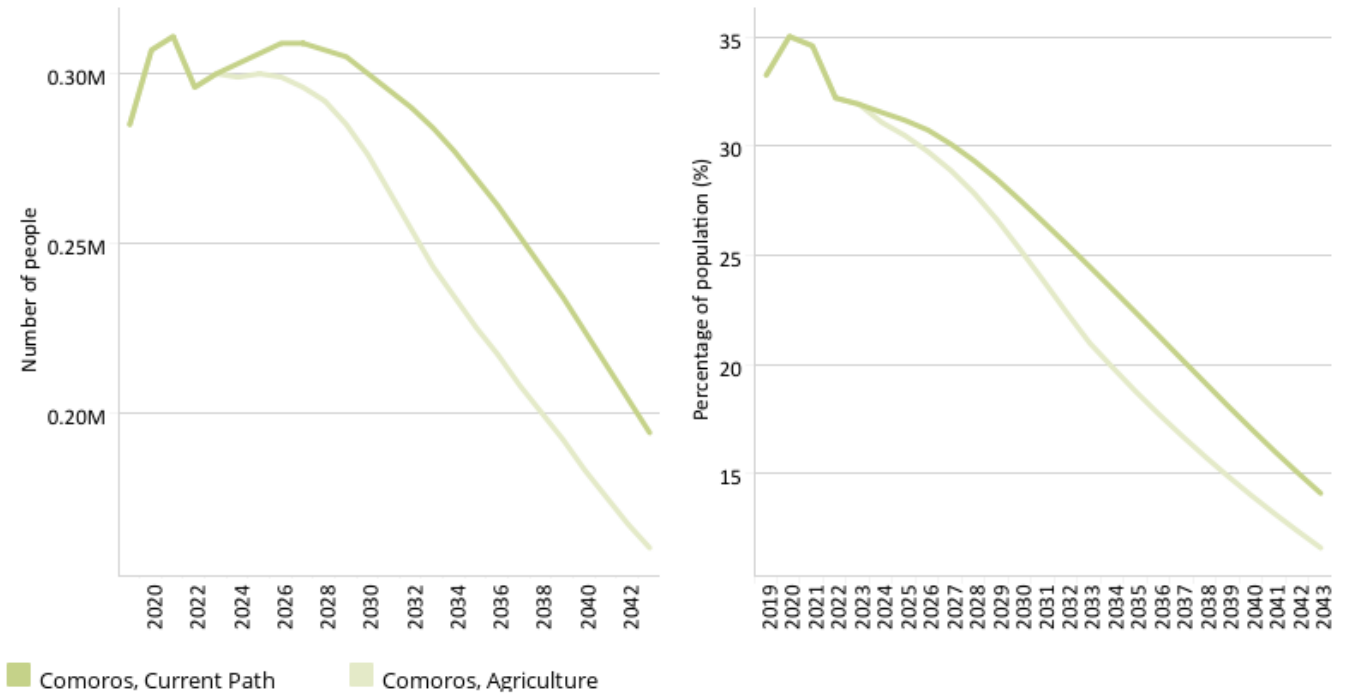
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By 2043, the Agriculture scenario will have a significant impact on GDP per capita, increasing by US\$481 over the Current Path forecast. This will result in a GDP per capita of US\$5 496 in 2043. Comoros' GDP per capita will however remain significantly below the average for lower middle-income countries in Africa throughout the forecast horizon.

Chart 25: Poverty in CP and Agric scenario, 2019–2043
Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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Comoros’ agriculture sector is underperforming and can benefit substantially from interventions therein. The Agriculture scenario will therefore have a positive impact on poverty reduction in the country. The scenario has a more immediate impact on reducing poverty and will reduce poverty by 2.5 percentage points compared to the Current Path forecast in 2043, lifting an additional 30 000 people out of poverty.

Boosting the agriculture sector’s efficiency is vital to improving livelihoods and transforming the economy of Comoros. More investment in the sector will increase consumption and income, and even pave the way for agro-industry, positively affecting growth and poverty reduction.

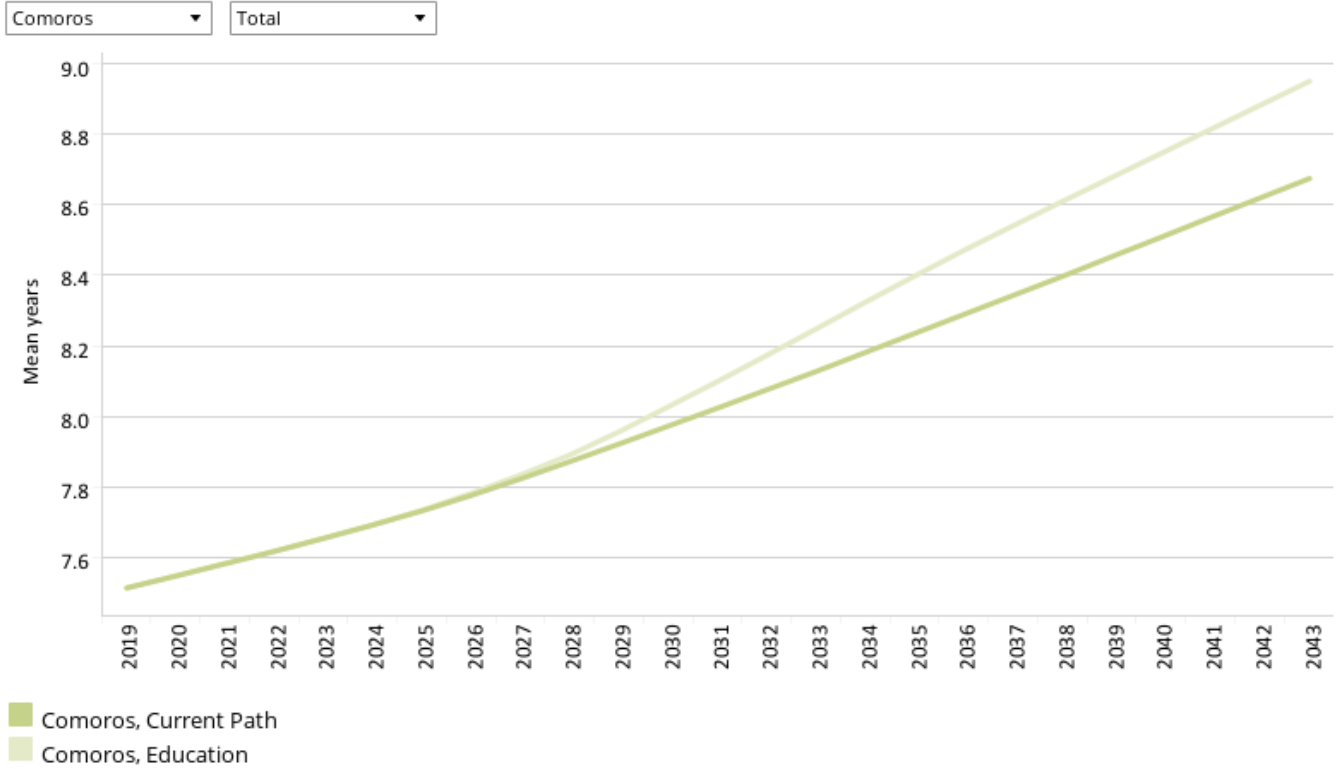


Education scenario

▼ < art 21 Chart 22 Chart 23 Chart 24 Chart 25 Chart 26 Chart 27 Chart 28 Chart 29 Chart 30 Chart >

Chart 26: Mean years of education in CP and Educ scenario, 2019–2043

Mean years of adult (+15) education



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Barro-Lee data

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The Education scenario represents reasonable but ambitious improved intake, transition and graduation rates from primary to tertiary levels and better quality of education. It also models substantive progress towards gender parity at all levels, additional vocational training at secondary school level and increases in the share of science and engineering graduates.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

Only ten countries in Africa spend less than 3% of GDP on education, and Comoros is one of them. In 2019, Comoros spent 2.7% of its GDP on education, the lowest among lower middle-income Africa. Education in Comoros is mandatory until age 16 but a large percentage of the population does not attend school, [5] resulting in a low literacy rate of 61% in 2019.

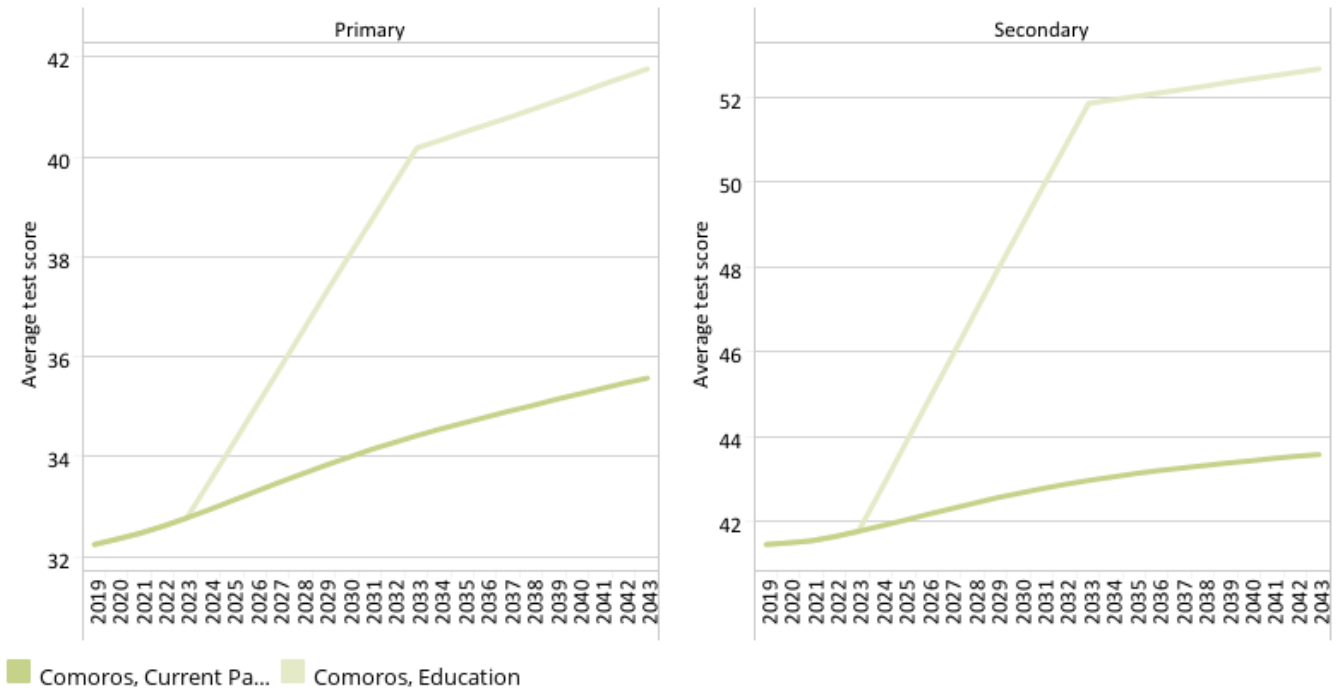
The gap between female and male learners is noticeable with mean years of education among the female population group 1.2 years lower than that of males. The mean years of education in Comoros was 7.5 in 2019, slightly higher than the average of 7.2 years for lower middle-income Africa and more than a year higher than the average for Africa.

Increased investment in education as proposed in the Education scenario will increase literacy rates to 92% by 2043. The Education scenario also has the potential to increase mean years of education by 2043 to 9 years compared to 8.7 in the Current Path forecast.

Chart 27: Education quality in CP and Educ scenario, 2019–2043
Average test scores for primary and secondary learners



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Bank EDSTATS

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While Comoros has higher school attendance rates compared to the average of its income peers, its learning outcomes are poor and quality education lacks. In 2019, Comoros primary test score was 32.2 out of 100, which is lower than the average of 33.6 for lower middle-income Africa. The interventions proposed in the Education scenario can lift the primary test score to 41.8, 6.2 percentage points above the Current Path forecast by 2043.

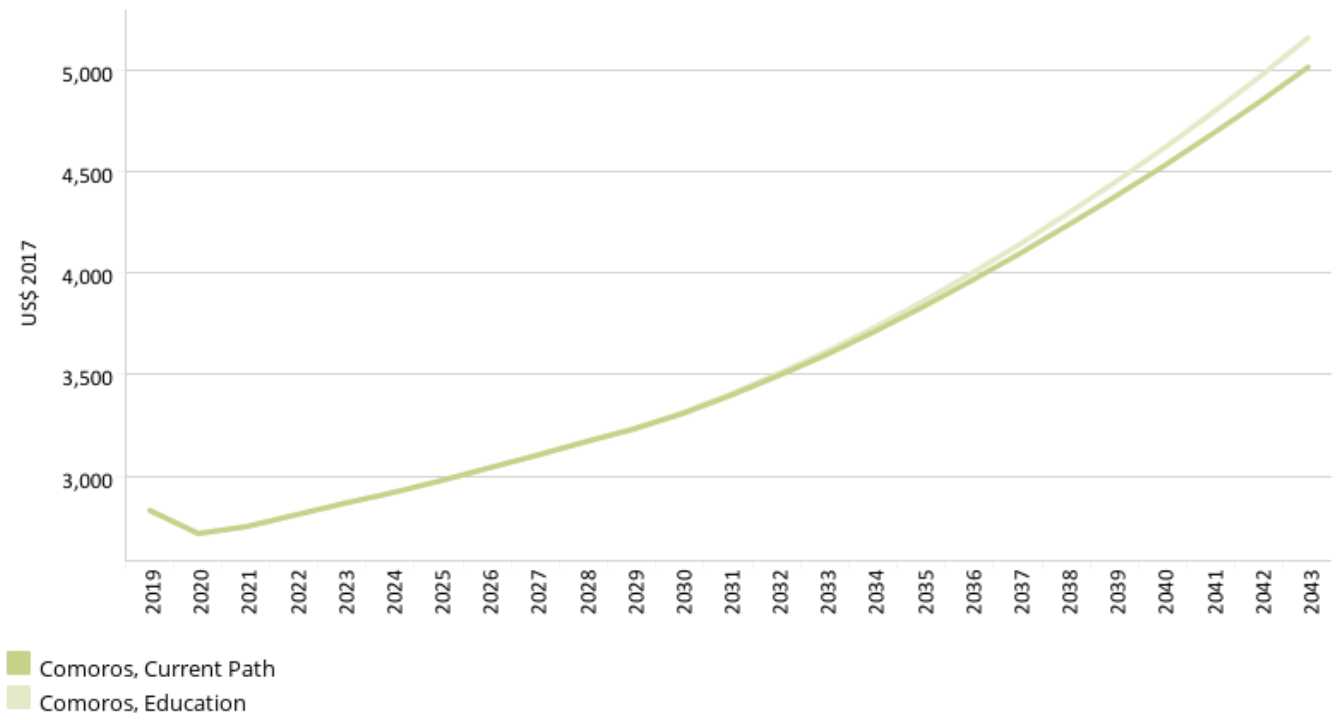
In the Education scenario, the test score for Comoros at secondary level is 41.5, which is slightly below the average for lower middle-income Africa. The Education scenario is expected to result in test scores for secondary learners of 52.7 by 2043. This is 9.1 percentage points higher compared to the Current Path forecast at 43.6.

Quality education is crucial for economic development. It not only allows the country to increase its current added value but also creates tomorrow's technological innovations. Thus, Comorian authorities should accelerate reforms to improve the quality of education in the country.

Chart 28: GDP per capita in CP and Educ scenario, 2019–2043
Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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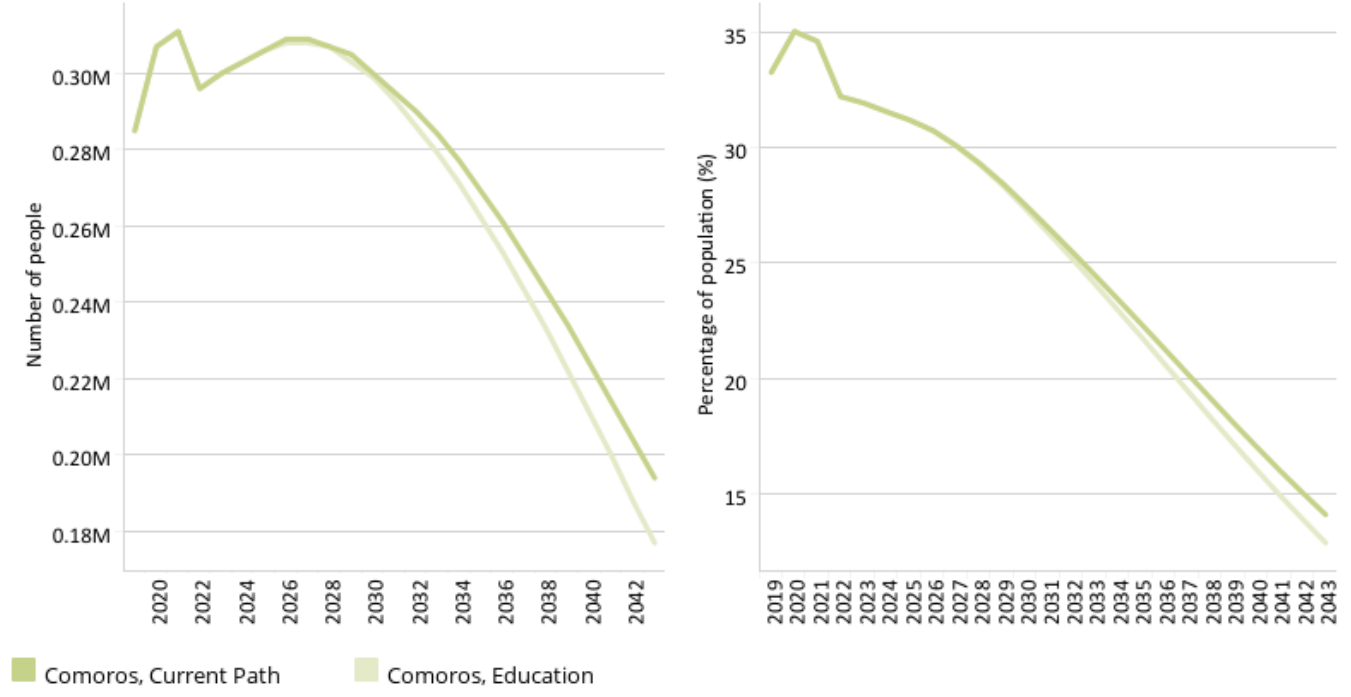
By 2043, GDP per capita in Comoros in the Education scenario is expected to increase to US\$5 160 —US\$145 more compared to the Current Path forecast. GDP per capita for Comoros is expected to continue to perform significantly below the average for its lower middle-income peers in Africa throughout the forecast horizon to 2043.

Chart 29: Poverty in CP and Educ scenario, 2019–2043

Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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In the Education scenario, it is expected that poverty in Comoros will decrease to 12.9% by 2043, down from 33.3% in 2019. This is a 1.2 percentage points lower than the Current Path forecast of 14.1% by 2043. In 2043, the number of poor people in the Education scenario is 10 000 fewer than the Current Path forecast.



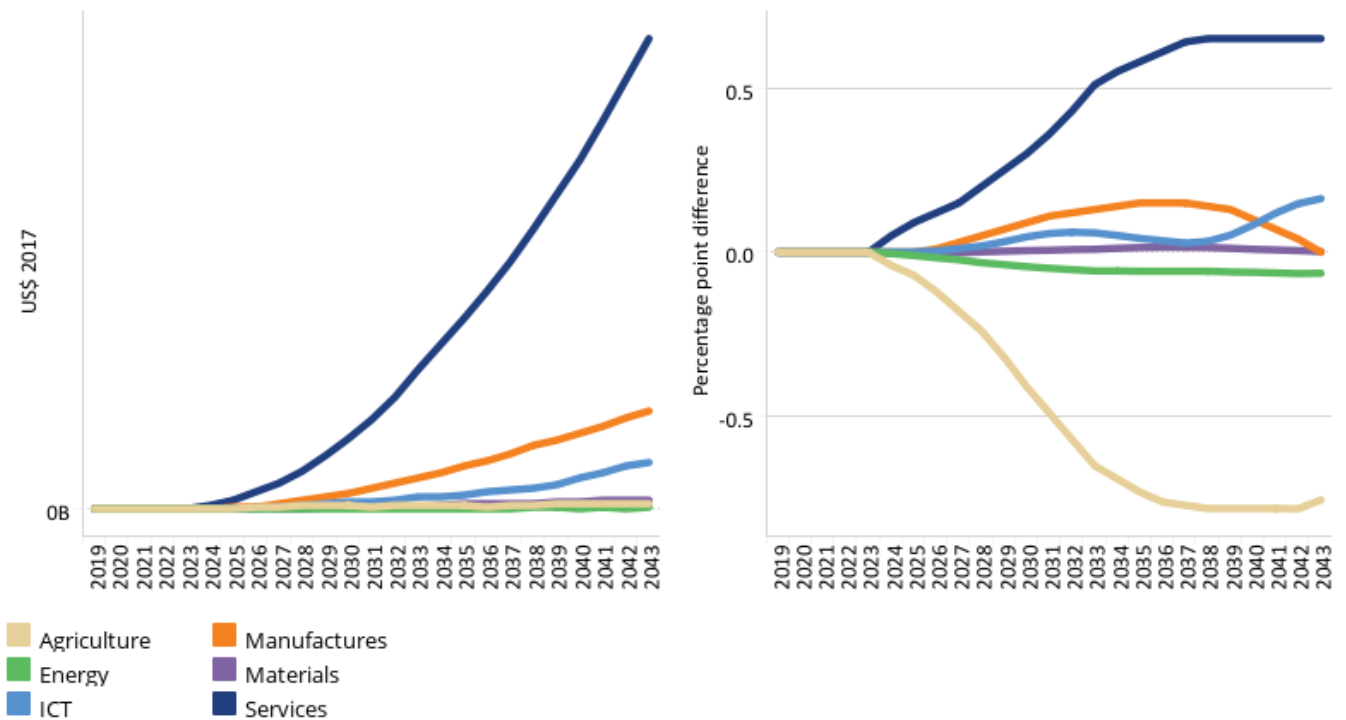
Manufacturing scenario

Chart 25 Chart 26 Chart 27 Chart 28 Chart 29 Chart 30 Chart 31 Chart 32 Chart 33 Chart 34

Chart 30: Value added by sector in CP and Manufac/Transfers scenario, 2019-2043



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook database

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The Manufacturing/Transfers scenario represents reasonable but ambitious manufacturing growth through greater investment in the economy, investments in research and development, and promotion of the export of manufactured goods. It is accompanied by an increase in welfare transfers (social grants) to moderate the initial increases in inequality that are typically associated with a manufacturing transition. To this end, the scenario improves tax administration and increases government revenues.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

Chart 30 should be read with [Chart 8](#) that presents a stacked area graph on the contribution to GDP and size, in billion US\$, of the Current Path economy for each of the sectors.

In the Manufacturing/Transfers scenario, the service sectors will continue to be the largest contributor to the economy, contributing an additional US\$300 million to the GDP by 2043, which is a 0.65 percentage point increase compared to the Current Path forecast.

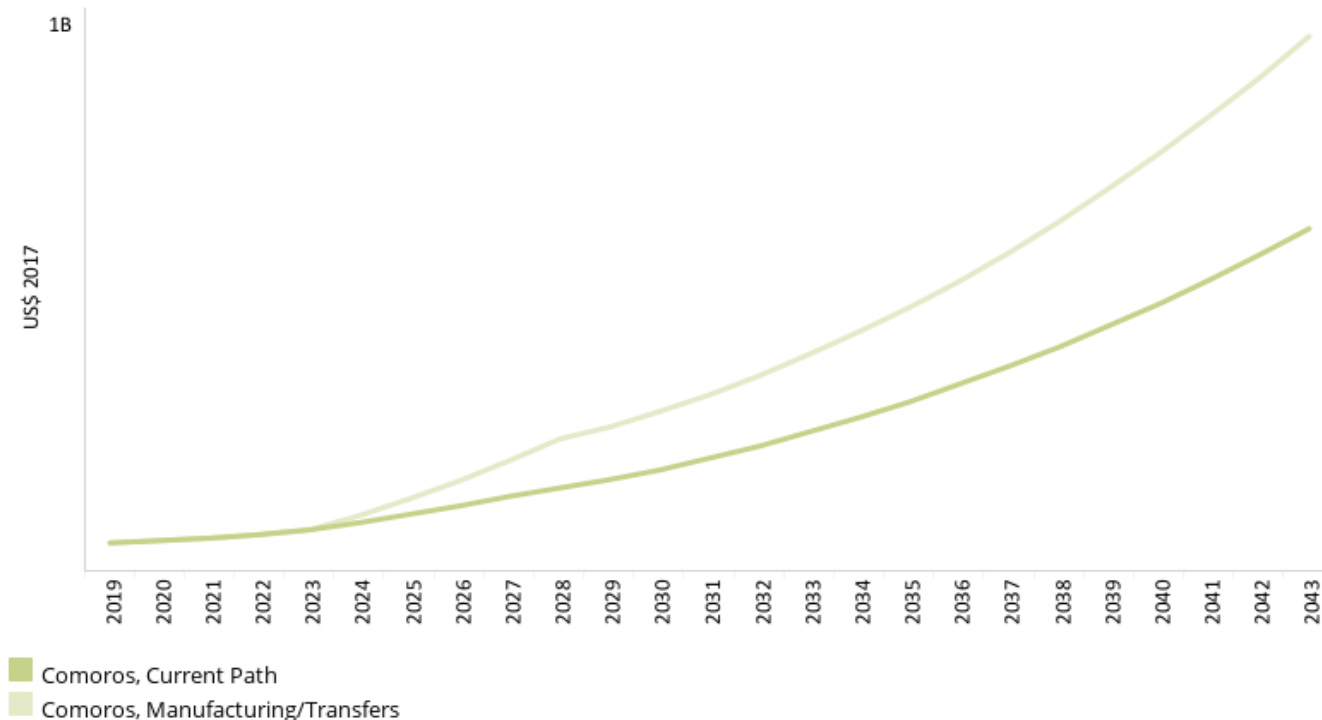
This will improve the contribution of the ICT sector, contributing an additional US\$100 million (0.16 percentage improvement) to GDP by 2043 compared to the Current Path forecast. As a percentage of GDP, the contribution of energy and agriculture sectors to GDP in the scenario is 0.06 and 0.75 percentage points lower, respectively, than the Current

Path forecast in 2043, while the contribution of the manufacturing and materials sectors will remain almost unchanged compared to the Current Path forecast. However, in absolute terms, the contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP is US\$100 million larger than in the Current Path forecast in 2043.

Chart 31: Gov welfare transfers in CP and Manufac/Transfers scenario, 2019-2043



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Development Indicators data

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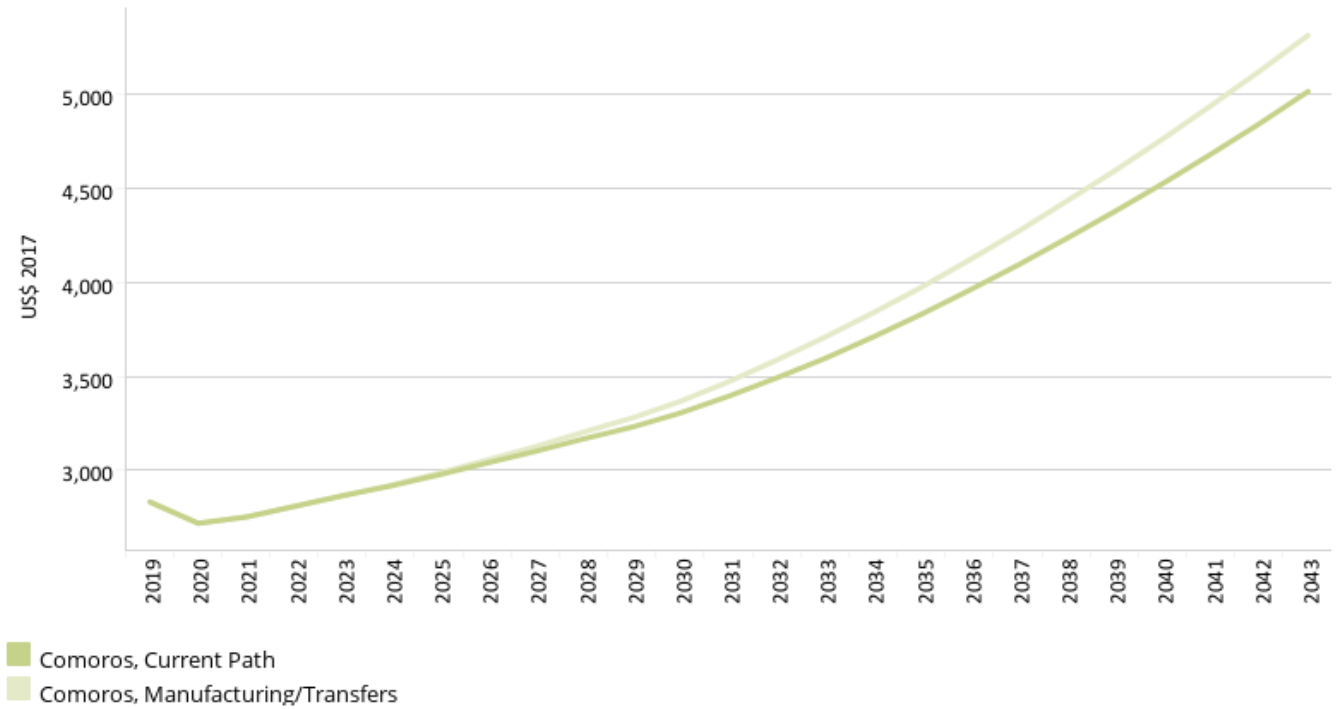
In 2019, social welfare spending (government welfare transfers to unskilled workers) equated to US\$100 million. In the Manufacturing/Transfers scenario, social welfare expenditure will increase to US\$500 million, US\$100 million higher than in the Current Path forecast at US\$400 million.

These transfers will be needed to address the initial increase in poverty which is often associated with the investment in the manufacturing sector. Industrialisation is often funded by an initial crunch in consumption which increases poverty in the first few years. However, these efforts stimulate inclusive growth with greater impact on poverty alleviation in the long term.

Chart 32: GDP per capita in CP and Manufac/Transfers scenario, 2019–2043
Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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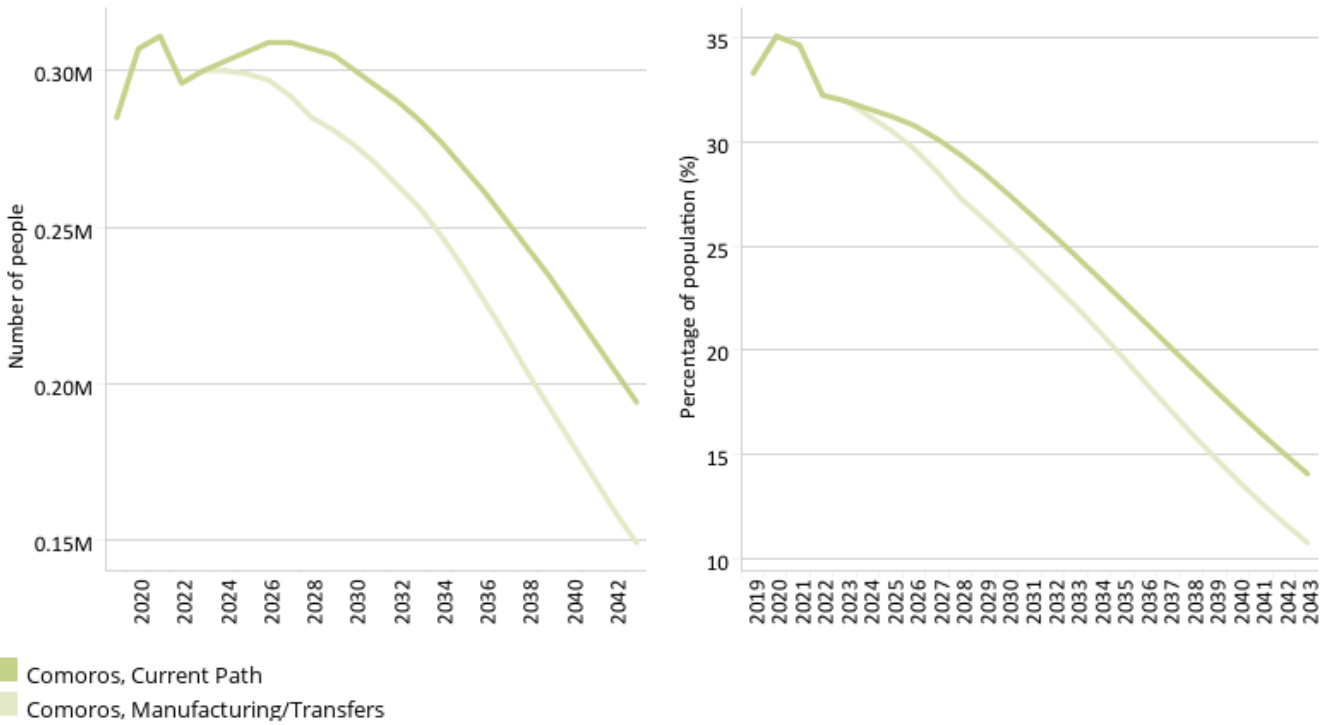
The interventions proposed in the Manufacturing/Transfers scenario will improve the GDP per capita of Comoros in 2043, increasing it by US\$299 above the Current Path forecast. The GDP per capita is expected to increase to US\$5 314 in this scenario compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast. GDP per capita in both the Current Path forecast and the Manufacturing/Transfers scenario will still be significantly below the average for lower middle-income countries in Africa by 2043.

Chart 33: Poverty in CP and Manufac/Transfers scenario, 2019–2043

Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNat World Bank data

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The Manufacturing/Transfers scenario will have a significant impact on poverty reduction in the country by 2043. The benefits of this scenario already start to impact poverty reduction by as early as 2025. In this scenario, the poverty rate is reduced to 10.8%, a 3.3 percentage points reduction compared to the Current Path forecast by 2043. An additional 40 000 people will be lifted out of poverty in the Manufacturing/Transfers scenario compared to the Current Path forecast in 2043.



Leapfrogging scenario

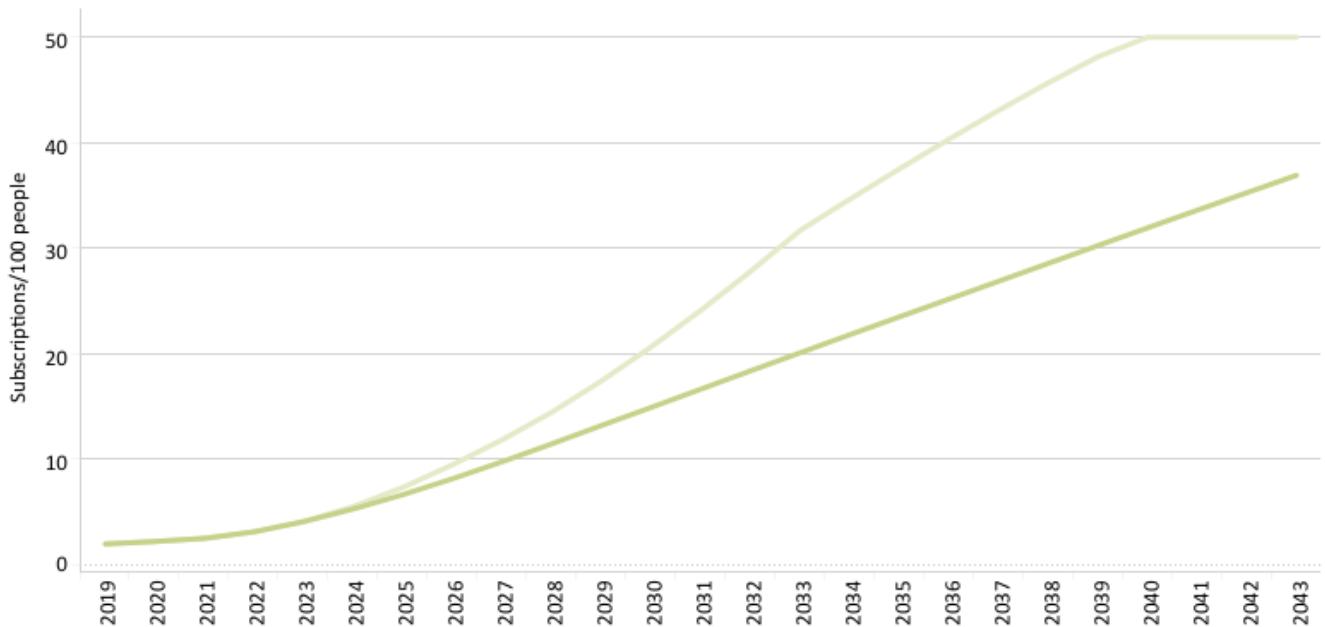
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Chart 34: Fixed broadband access in CP and Leapfrogging scenario, 2019–2043

Subscriptions per 100 people



Comoros ▼



- Comoros, Current Path
- Comoros, Leapfrogging

Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from International Telecommunication Union data

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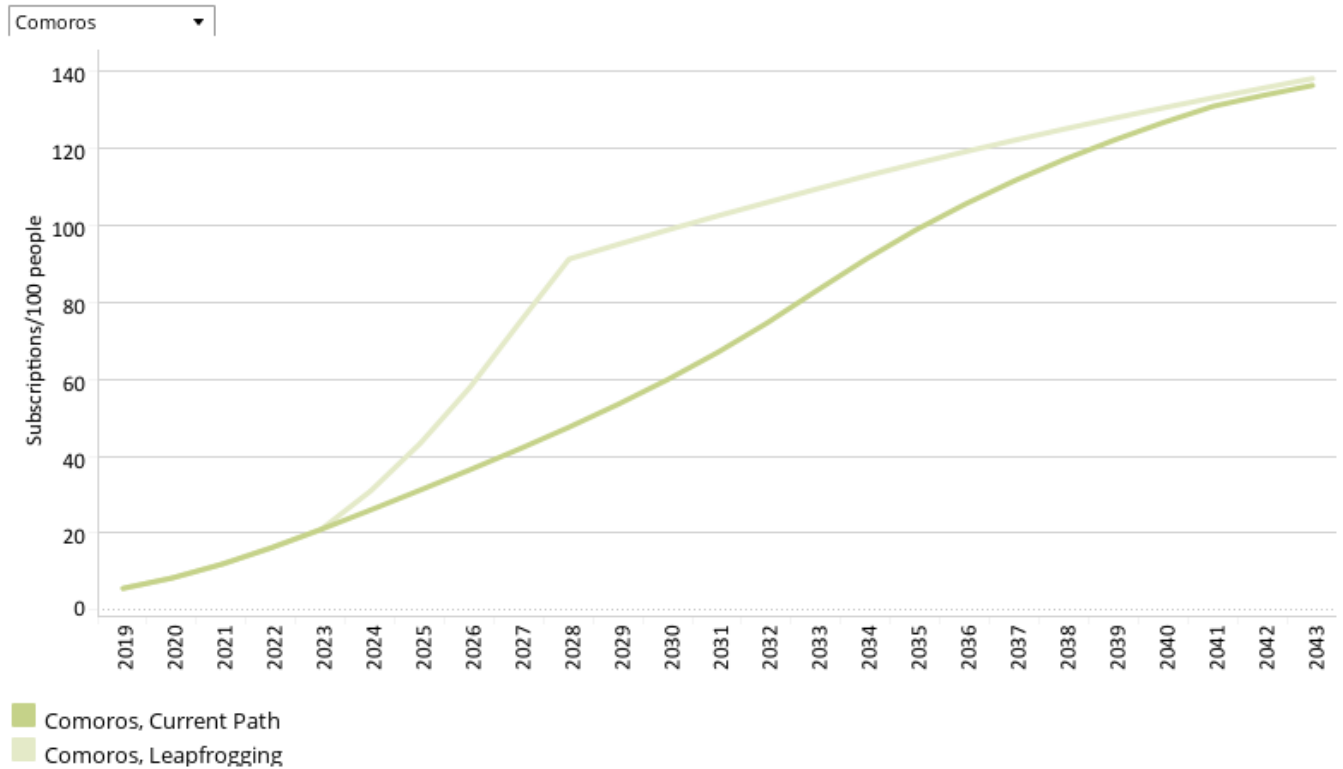
The Leapfrogging scenario represents a reasonable but ambitious adoption of and investment in renewable energy technologies, resulting in better access to electricity in urban and rural areas. The scenario includes accelerated access to mobile and fixed broadband and the adoption of modern technology that improves government efficiency and allows for the more rapid formalisation of the informal sector.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

Fixed broadband includes cable modem Internet connections, DSL Internet connections of at least 256 KB/s, fibre and other fixed broadband technology connections (such as satellite broadband Internet, ethernet local area networks, fixed-wireless access, wireless local area networks, WiMAX, etc.).

Comoros’ fixed broadband subscriptions at 2 per 100 people in 2019 is below the average for lower middle-income countries in Africa, which is 3.7, and below the average of 3.2 for Africa. In the Leapfrogging scenario, fixed broadband subscriptions increase to 50 subscriptions per 100 people by 2040. In the Current Path forecast, Comoros only reaches 36.9 subscriptions by 2043. The interventions proposed in the Leapfrogging scenario accelerate access from 2025 onwards.

Chart 35: Mobile broadband access in CP and Leapfrogging scenario, 2019–2043
Subscriptions per 100 people



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from International Telecommunication Union data

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Mobile broadband refers to wireless Internet access delivered through cellular towers to computers and other digital devices.

For many years Comoros suffered from a severe lack of access to connectivity — the result of a telecoms monopoly that subjected Comorians to high rates, poor services and inadequate coverage. In 2015, a second telecoms licence was awarded and it started operating in 2016. This newfound competition has brought about much-needed improvement to the sector. [6] The launch of the Telma Comores has rapidly expanded mobile services in the country and recent estimates shows that this figure is closer to 58 subscriptions per 100 people in 2018, [7] significantly above the previous estimates as indicated in the graph.

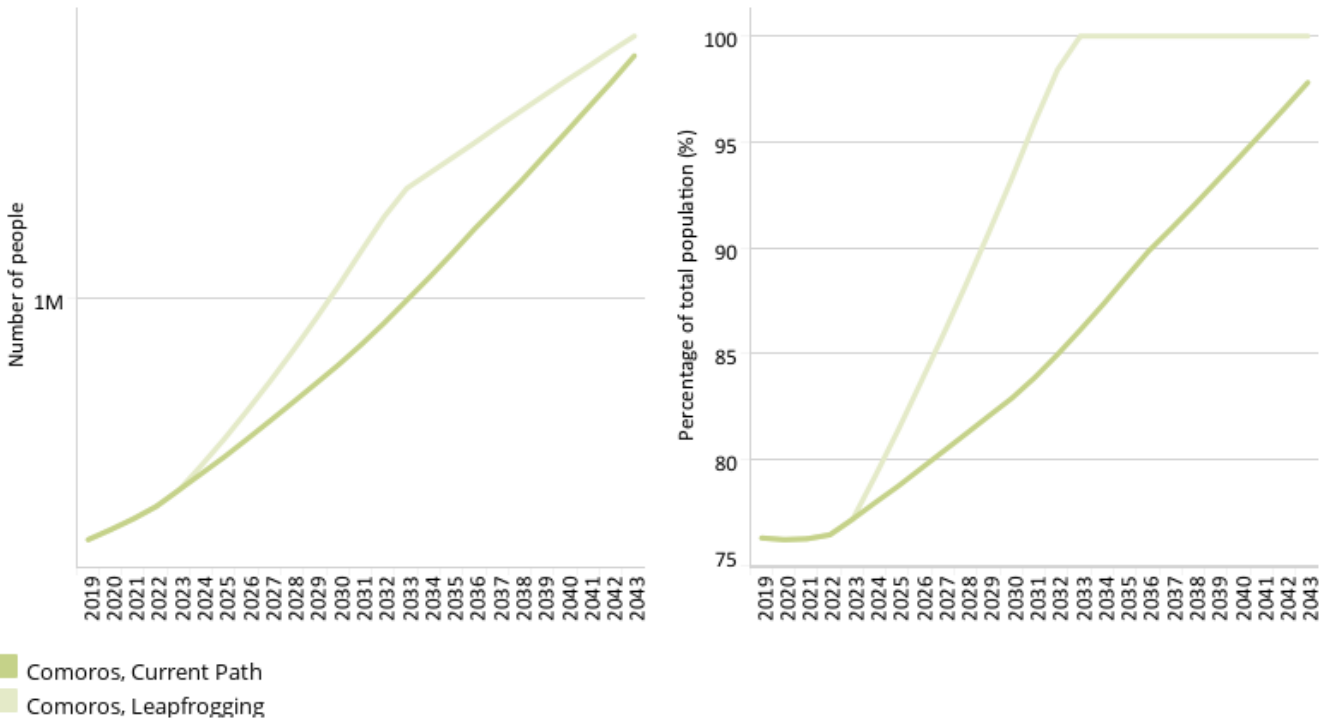
The Leapfrogging scenario will further accelerate access to mobile broadband. In the Leapfrogging scenario, mobile broadband subscriptions will increase to 138.2 subscriptions per 100 people by 2043.

Chart 36: Electricity access in CP and Leapfrogging scenario, 2019–2043

Millions of people and % of population



Comoros Total



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Development Indicators data

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In total, 76.3% of the country’s population had access to electricity in 2019, 10 percentage points higher compared to the average for lower middle-income Africa and 23 percentage points more compared to the average for Africa.

The country does boast hydropower and geothermal potential but both remains untapped, with only 1 MW of installed hydroelectric capacity. [8] Energy needs are met through biomass sources.

In the Current Path forecast, it is projected that 97.8% of Comoros population will have access to electricity by 2043, translating to 1.35 million people. In the Leapfrogging scenario, electricity access is projected to reach every Comorian by 2033.

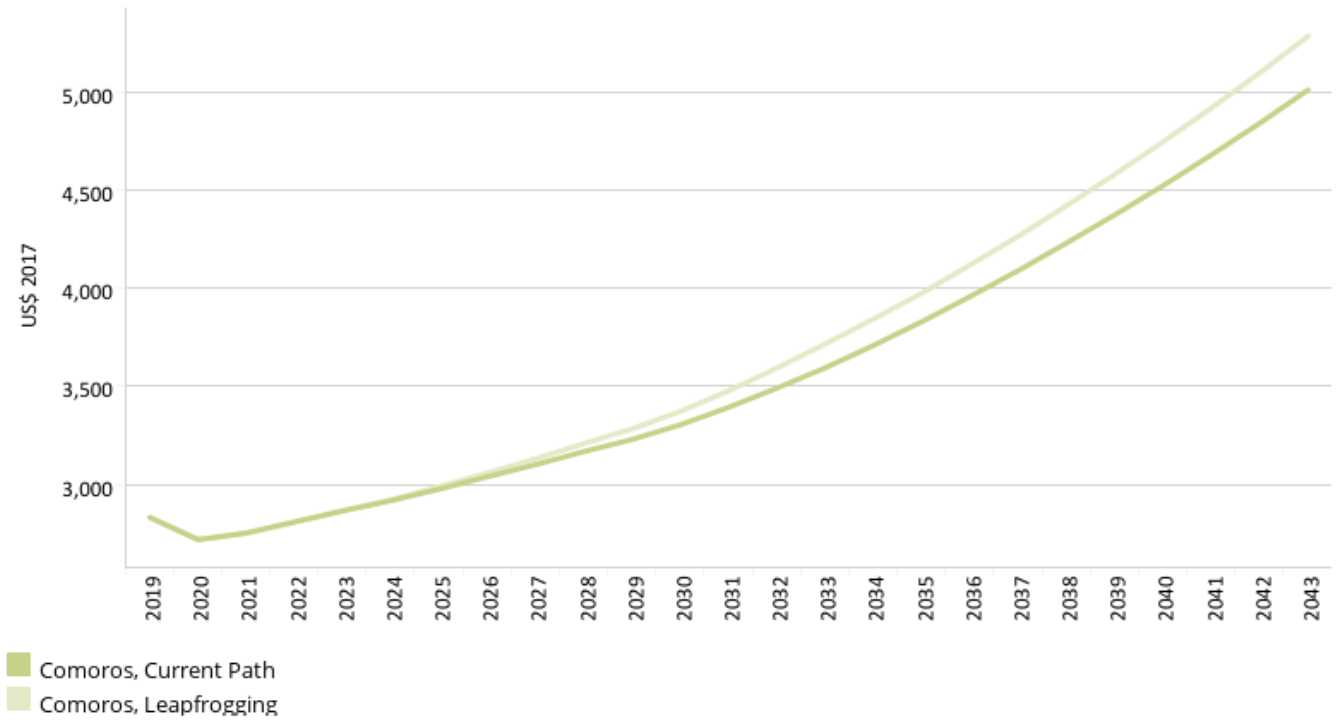
The projection indicates that in the Leapfrogging scenario rural electricity access will increase from 71.6% in 2019 to 100% by 2034. For populations living in urban spaces, it is projected that in the Leapfrogging scenario, electricity access will increase from 88% in 2019 to 100% by 2031.

Chart 37: GDP per capita in CP and Leapfrogging scenario, 2019–2043

Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

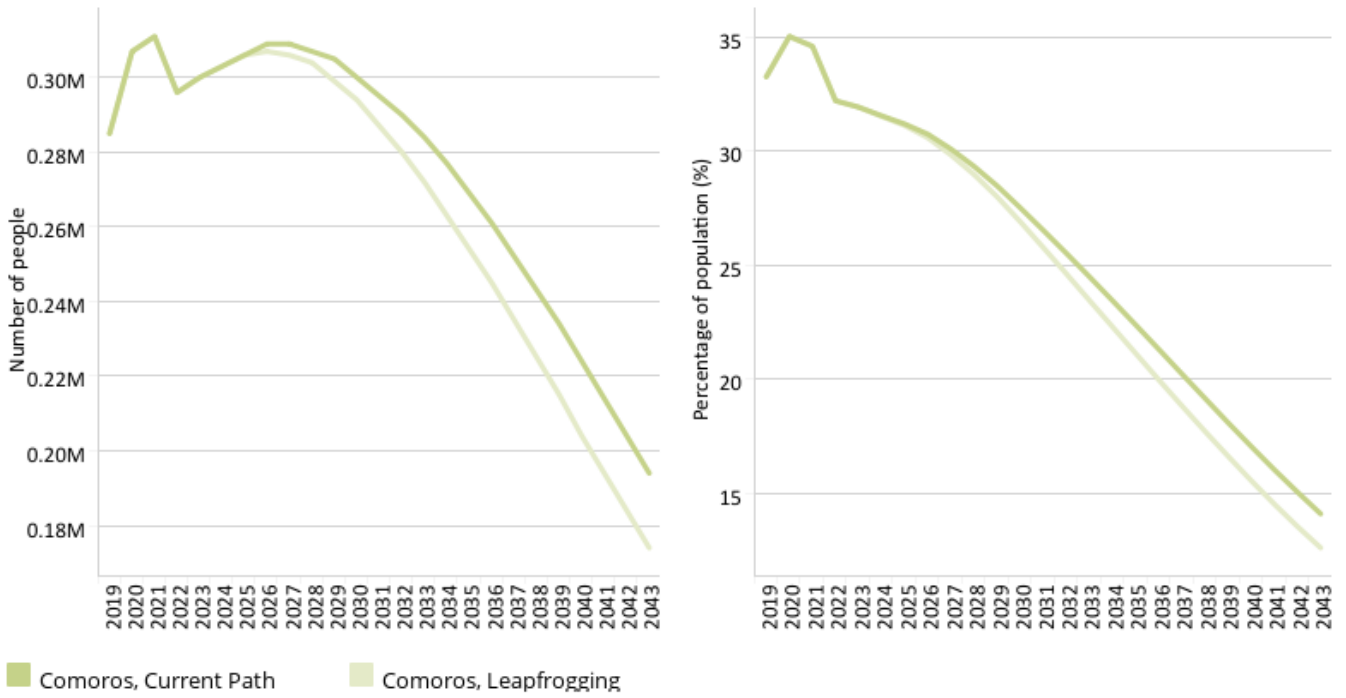
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By 2043, GDP per capita in Comoros is expected to increase to US\$5 290 in the Leapfrogging scenario, compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast, an increase of US\$275. GDP per capita for Comoros is expected to continue to be below the average for lower middle-income Africa.

Chart 38: Poverty in CP and Leapfrogging scenario, 2019–2043
 Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNat World Bank data

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The Leapfrogging scenario has a positive impact on poverty reduction by 2043, lowering it by only 1.5 percentage point compared to the Current Path forecast. The interventions proposed in this scenario will lift an additional 20 000 people out of extreme poverty. Poverty rates remain significantly below the average for lower middle-income Africa throughout the forecast horizon.

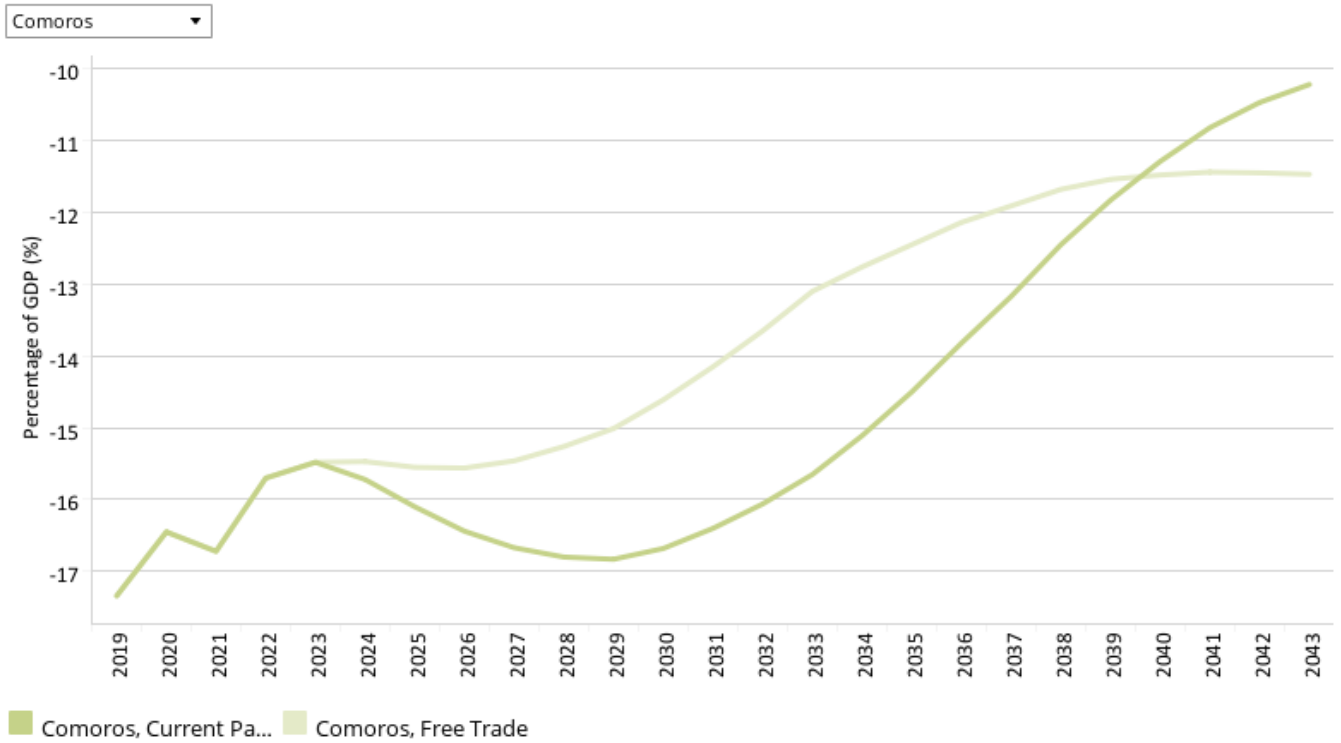


Free Trade scenario

▼ < Chart 34 Chart 35 Chart 36 Chart 37 Chart 38 Chart 39 Chart 40 Chart 41 Chart 42 Chart 43 Chart >

Chart 39: Trade balance in CP and Free Trade scenario, 2019–2043

% of GDP



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Development Indicators data

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The Free Trade scenario represents the impact of the full implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) by 2034 through increases in exports, improved productivity and increased trade and economic freedom.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

The trade balance is the difference between the value of a country's exports and its imports. A country that imports more goods and services than it exports in terms of value has a trade deficit, while a country that exports more goods and services than it imports has a trade surplus.

The economy of Comoros is heavily dependent on the importation of goods and basic foodstuffs, while exports are limited to a few agricultural products. Comoros' trade deficit in 2019 stood at 17% of GDP. In both the Free Trade scenario and the Current Path forecast, Comoros is projected to record a trade deficit across the forecast horizon. However, between 2023 and 2040, the trade deficit in the scenario remains lower than in the Current Path forecast. In 2043, the deficit is projected to reach 11.5% of GDP compared to the Current Path forecast of 10.2%.

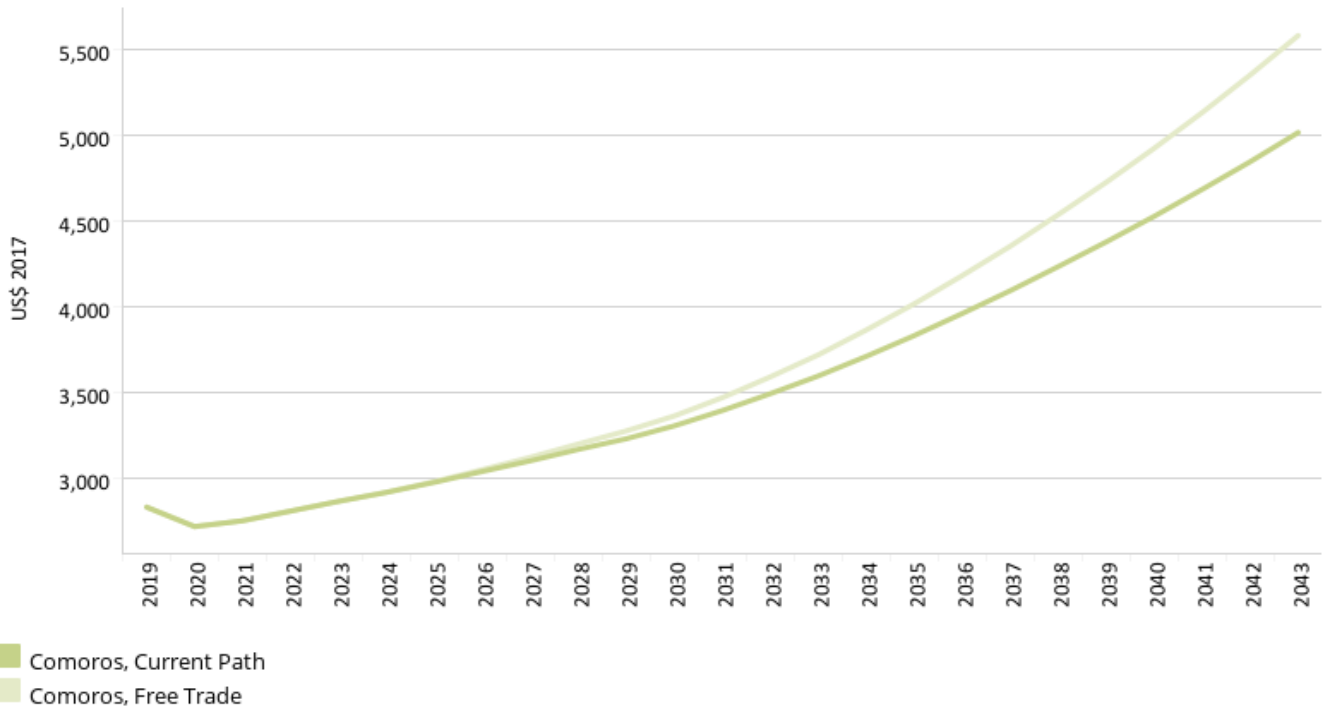
The full implementation of the AfCFTA will likely improve Comoros' trade balance in the short to medium term and deteriorate it in the long term. With the removal of trade restrictions, following trade liberalisation, it becomes easier to import, while Comorian firms face intense competition on the export markets. However, only using the trade balance is

not a viable indicator to conclude that in the long term Comoros will be a loser in the implementation of the AfCFTA, as other indicators need to be considered, too.

Chart 40: GDP per capita in CP and Free Trade scenario, 2019–2043
Purchasing power parity



Comoros ▼



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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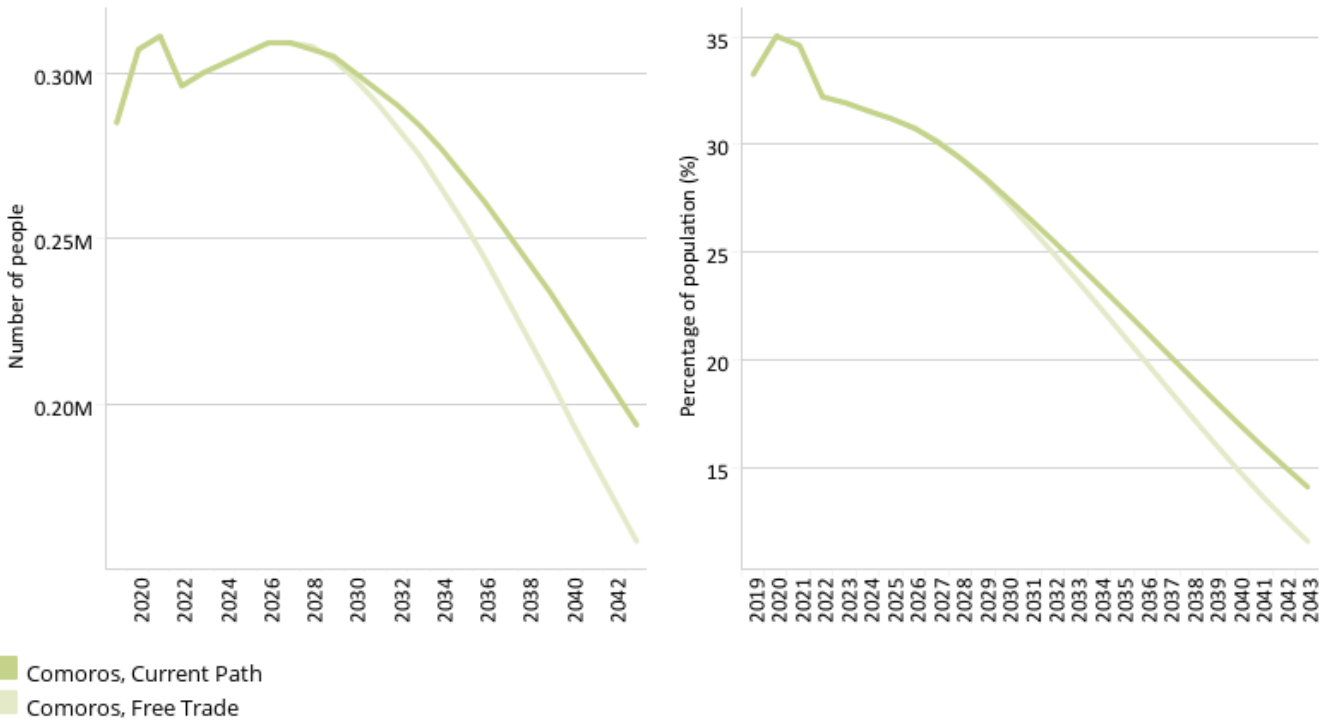
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Generally, trade liberalisation improves productivity through competition and technology diffusion, stimulating growth and raising income levels. The Free Trade scenario has a positive impact on per capita income in Comoros. By 2043, GDP per capita in Comoros is expected to increase to US\$5 581 in the Free Trade scenario, compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast — an increase of US\$566. This shows that the full implementation of the AfCFTA will enhance economic growth in Comoros.

Chart 41: Poverty in CP and Free Trade scenario, 2019–2043
Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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By 2043, poverty will drop from 14.1% in the Current Path forecast to 11.6% in the Free Trade scenario. This scenario therefore contributes a 2.5 percentage point reduction in the poverty rate compared to the Current Path forecast, lifting an additional 30 000 people out of poverty.



Financial Flows scenario

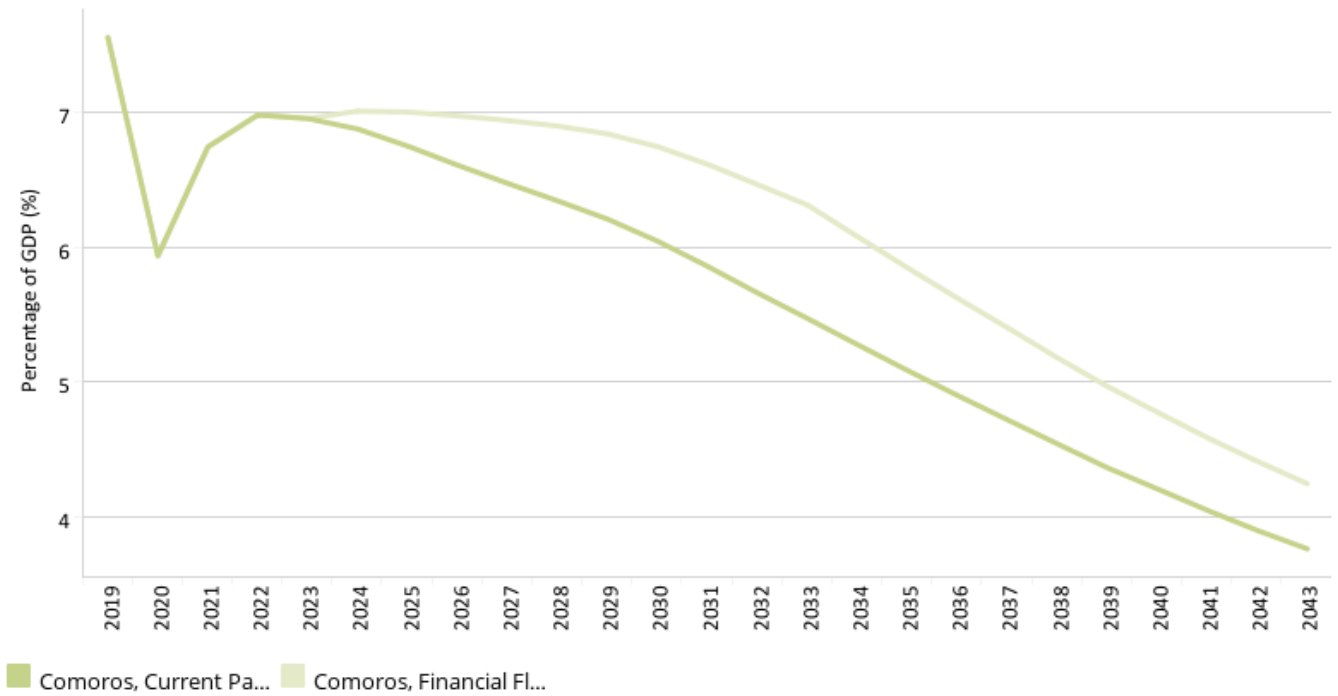
Chart 37 Chart 38 Chart 39 Chart 40 Chart 41 Chart 42 Chart 43 Chart 44 Chart 45 Chart 46 Chart >

Chart 42: Foreign aid in CP and Financial Flows scenario, 2019–2043

% of GDP



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Development Assistance Committee of the OECD data, and World Bank and OECD GNI estimates.

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The Financial Flows scenario represents a reasonable but ambitious increase in worker remittances and aid flows to poor countries, and an increase in the stock of foreign direct investment (FDI) and additional portfolio investment inflows to middle-income countries. We also reduced outward financial flows to emulate a reduction in illicit financial outflows.

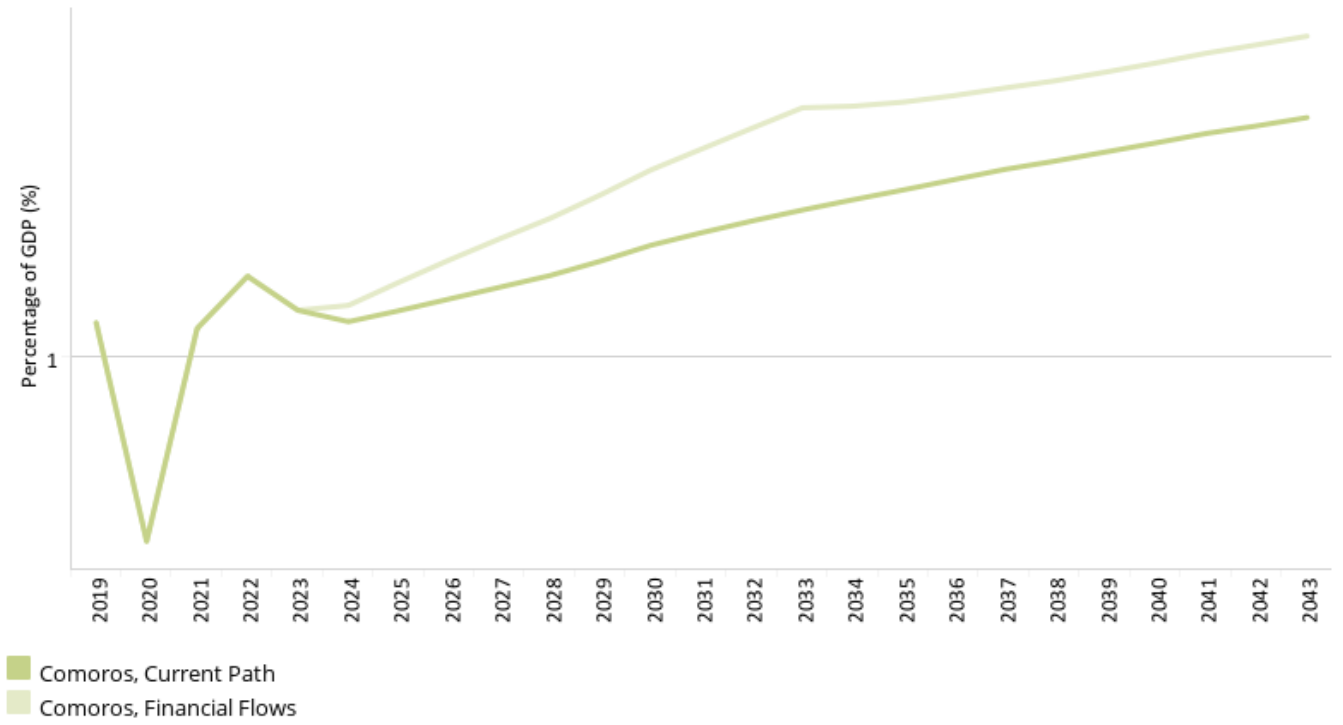
The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

The Comorian economy benefits significantly from foreign aid inflows, and in 2019 foreign aid represented 7.6% of the country's GDP, significantly above the average for lower middle-income Africa at 1.7%. Comoros is disproportionately reliant on aid and almost three times higher than the average of Africa. Foreign aid flows are projected to decrease in both the Financial Flows scenario and the Current Path forecast, equating to 4.2% of GDP in the Financial Flows scenario, compared to 3.8% for the Current Path forecast by 2043.

Chart 43: Inflow of FDI in CP and Financial Flows scenario, 2019–2043
% of GDP



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook database

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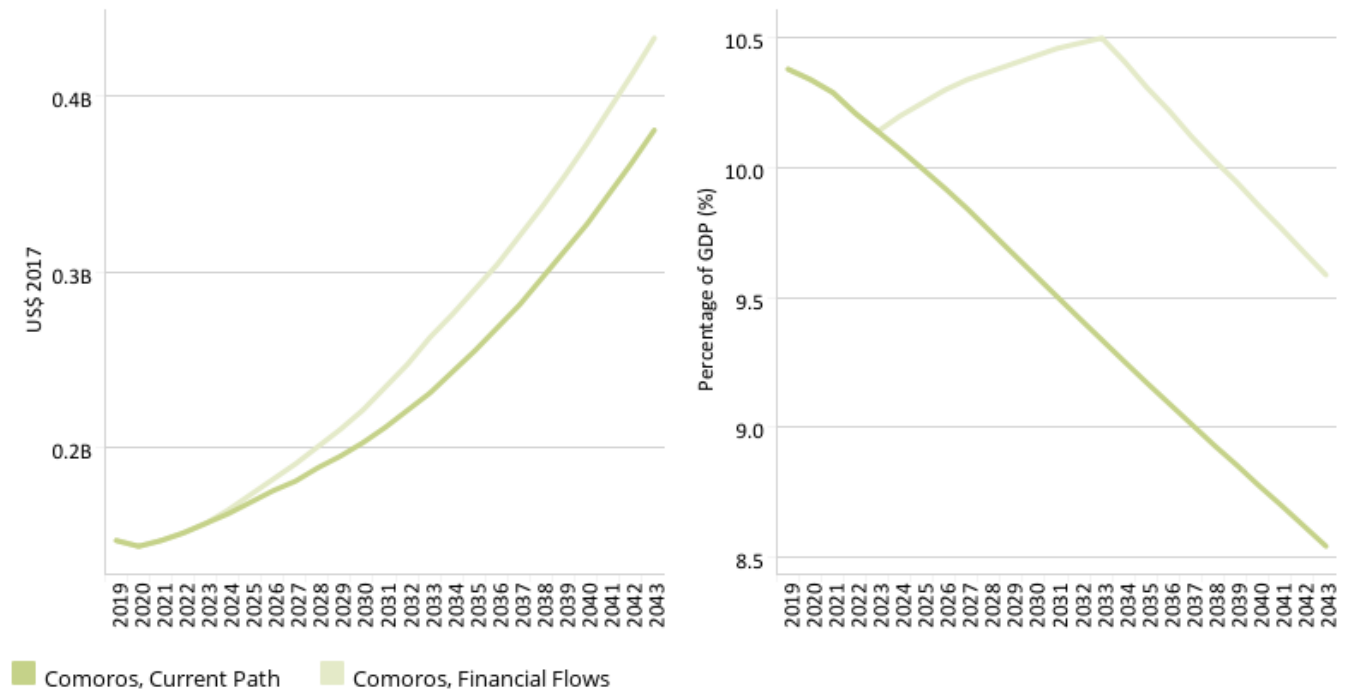
In 2019, foreign investment in Comoros measured below the average for lower middle-income Africa by 1.5 percentage points. In 2019, FDI inflows represented 1.1% of the country's GDP before declining to 0.5% in 2020 due to the multiple shocks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Financial Flows scenario, FDI inflows increase to 1.9% of GDP by 2043, 0.3 percentage points higher than the Current Path forecast.

Chart 44: Remittances in CP and Financial Flows scenario, 2019–2043

Billions US\$ 2017 and % of GDP



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Development Indicators data

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Comoros is a net receiver of remittances. Its turbulent history and colonial ties to France have resulted in a large Comorian diaspora, in France in particular. In 2019, the Comorian diaspora remitted an estimated US\$100 million, about 10.4% of GDP.

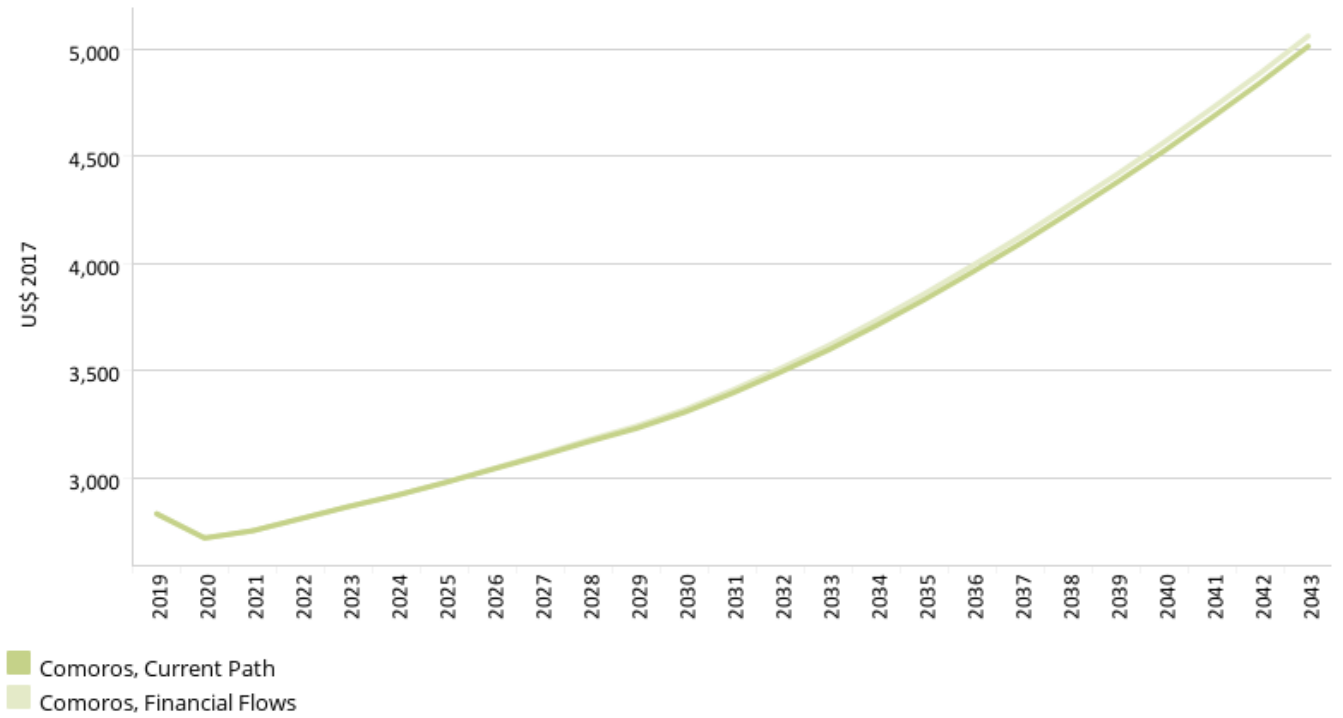
This remittance trend is likely to continue throughout the forecast horizon and in 2043 it is estimated that in the Financial Flows scenario remittances will amount to US\$400 million, 9.6% of GDP compared to 8.5% of GDP in the Current Path forecast.

Chart 45: GDP per capita in CP and Financial Flows scenario, 2019–2043

Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

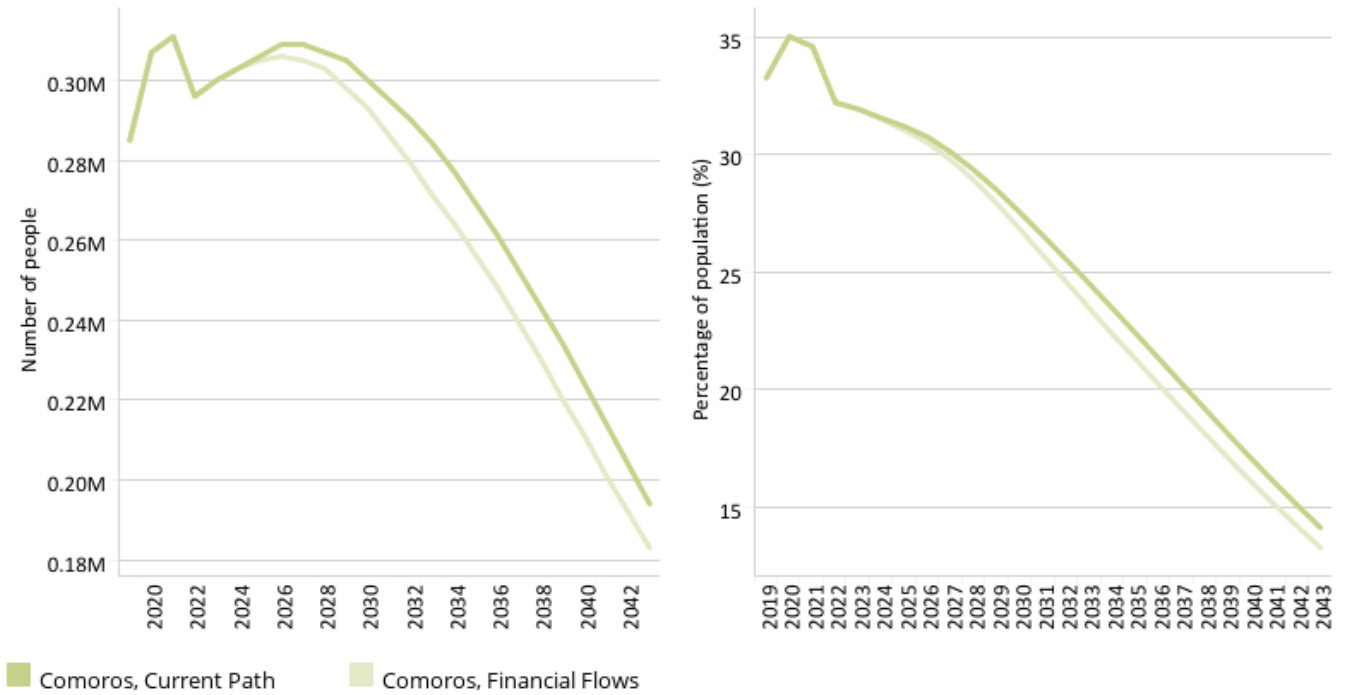
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The Financial Flows scenario has a marginal impact on Comoros GDP per capita. By 2043, the GDP per capita is expected to increase to US\$5 063 in the Financial Flows scenario, compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast, an increase of US\$48. GDP per capita for Comoros will remain significantly lower compared to the average for lower middle-income Africa.

Chart 46: Poverty in CP and Financial Flows scenario, 2019–2043
Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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The Financial Flows scenario has a small but positive benefit on poverty reduction in Comoros. It is expected that this scenario will reduce poverty rate by 0.9 percentage points by 2043 compared to the Current Path forecast. The scenario has the potential to lift an additional 10 000 people out of poverty compared to the Current Path forecast in 2043.



Infrastructure scenario

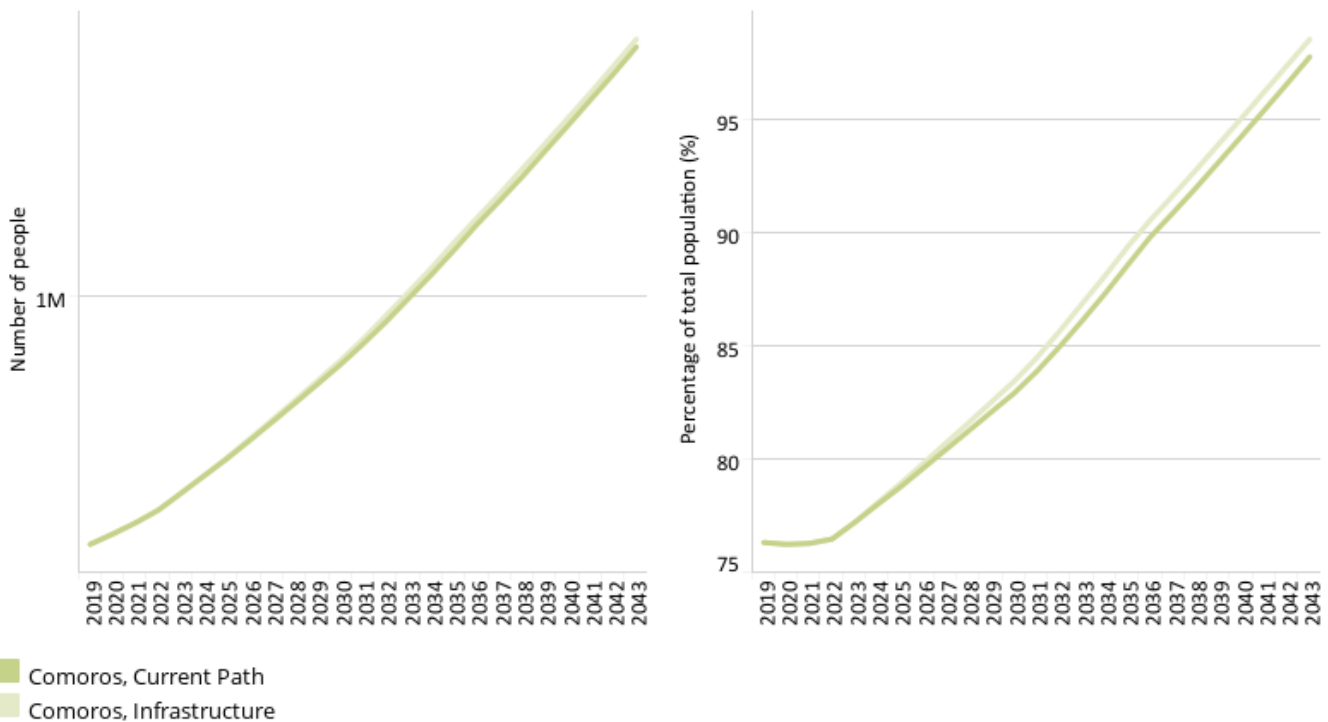
Chart 42 Chart 43 Chart 44 Chart 45 Chart 46 Chart 47 Chart 48 Chart 49 Chart 50 Chart 51

Chart 47: Electricity access in CP and Infrastructure scenario, 2019–2043

Millions of people and % of population



Comoros Total



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Development Indicators data

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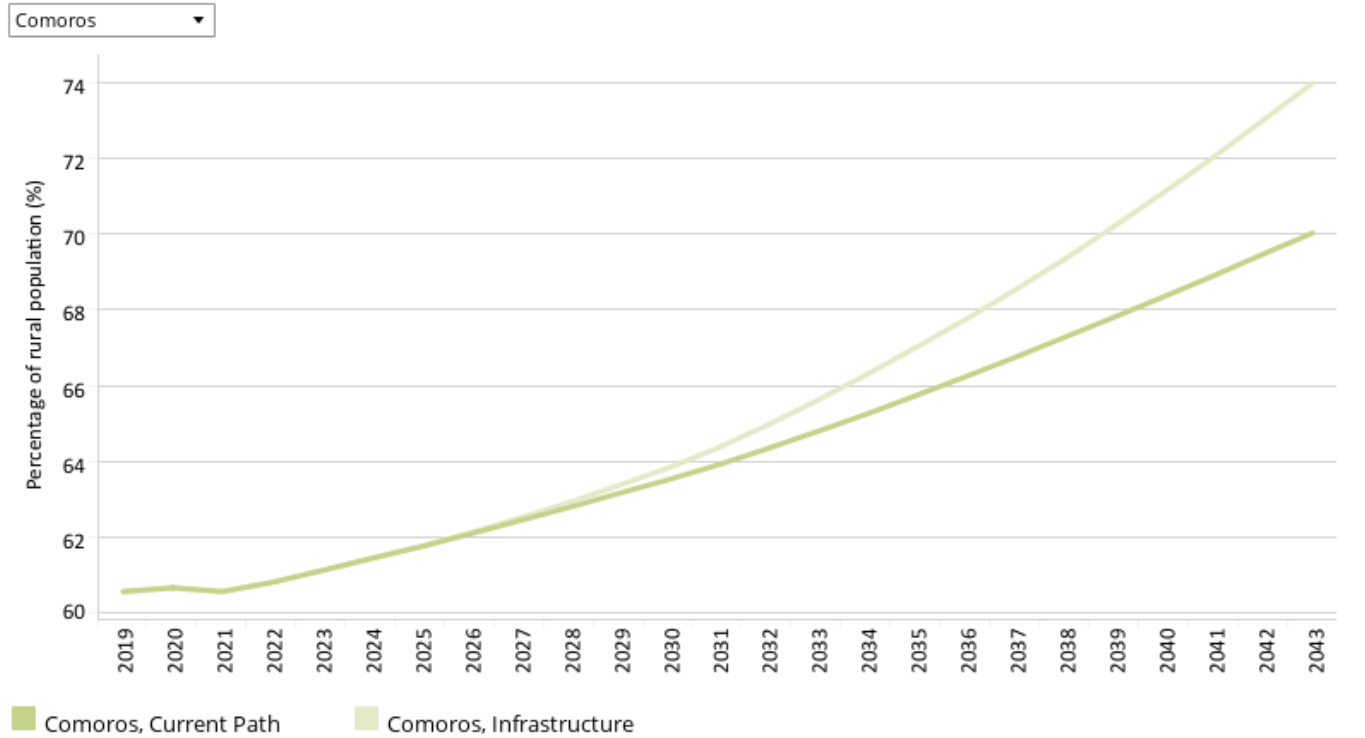
The Infrastructure scenario represents a reasonable but ambitious increase in infrastructure spending across Africa, focusing on basic infrastructure (roads, water, sanitation, electricity access and ICT) in low-income countries and increasing emphasis on advanced infrastructure (such as ports, airports, railway and electricity generation) in higher-income countries.

Note that health and sanitation infrastructure is included as part of the Health/WaSH scenario and that ICT infrastructure and more rapid uptake of renewables are part of the Leapfrogging scenario. The interventions there push directly on outcomes, whereas those modelled in this scenario increase infrastructure spending, indirectly boosting other forms of infrastructure, including those supporting health, sanitation and ICT.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

In 2019, 88% of urban and 71.6% of rural populations had access to electricity. The Infrastructure scenario stands to benefit Comoros by increasing the total electricity access to 98.6% in 2043, 0.8 percentage points above the Current Path forecast. It will also improve rural access to 97.9% by 2043, 1.2 percentage points above the Current Path forecast. In the urban areas, electricity access rates in the scenario and the Current Path forecast converge at 100% by 2036.

Chart 48: Rural road access in CP and Infrastructure scenario, 2019–2043
 % of rural population within 2 km of an all-weather road



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from World Bank Rural Access Index data

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Indicator 9.1.1 in the Sustainable Development Goals refers to the proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road and is captured in the Rural Access Index.

Measuring rural accessibility is a very important development indicator. There is a strong link between investing in rural access roads and positive socio-economic impacts, such as improving rural income, reducing poverty, reducing maternal deaths, improving paediatric health and increasing agricultural productivity. [9]

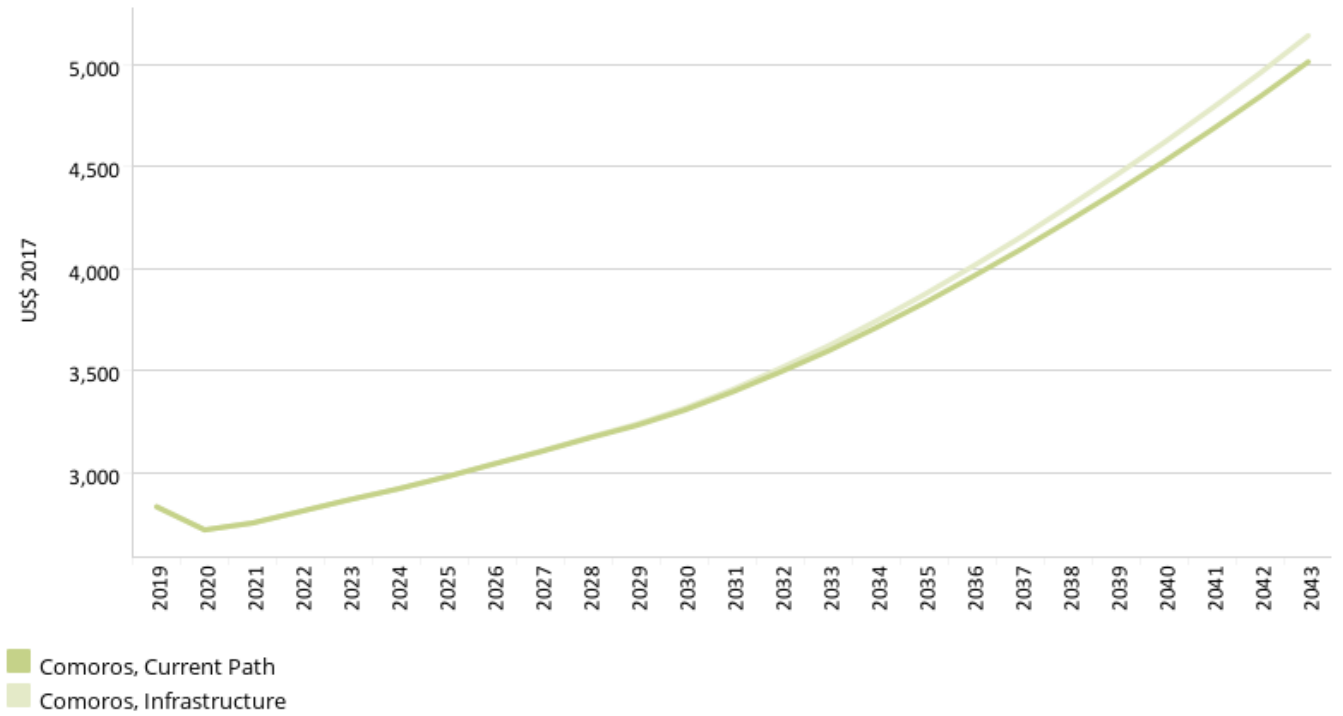
Comoros is geographically isolated and has a low-quality road network. The three islands also differ substantially in regard to road connectivity and quality. In 2019, 60.6% of the rural population of Comoros had access to an all-weather road, compared to an average of 61.4% for upper middle-income countries in Africa and 53% for the average of Africa. The Infrastructure scenario will benefit rural accessibility, and by 2043 it is projected that 74% of the rural population will have access to an all-weather road, compared to 70% in the Current Path forecast.

Chart 49: GDP per capita in CP and Infrastructure scenario, 2019–2043

Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

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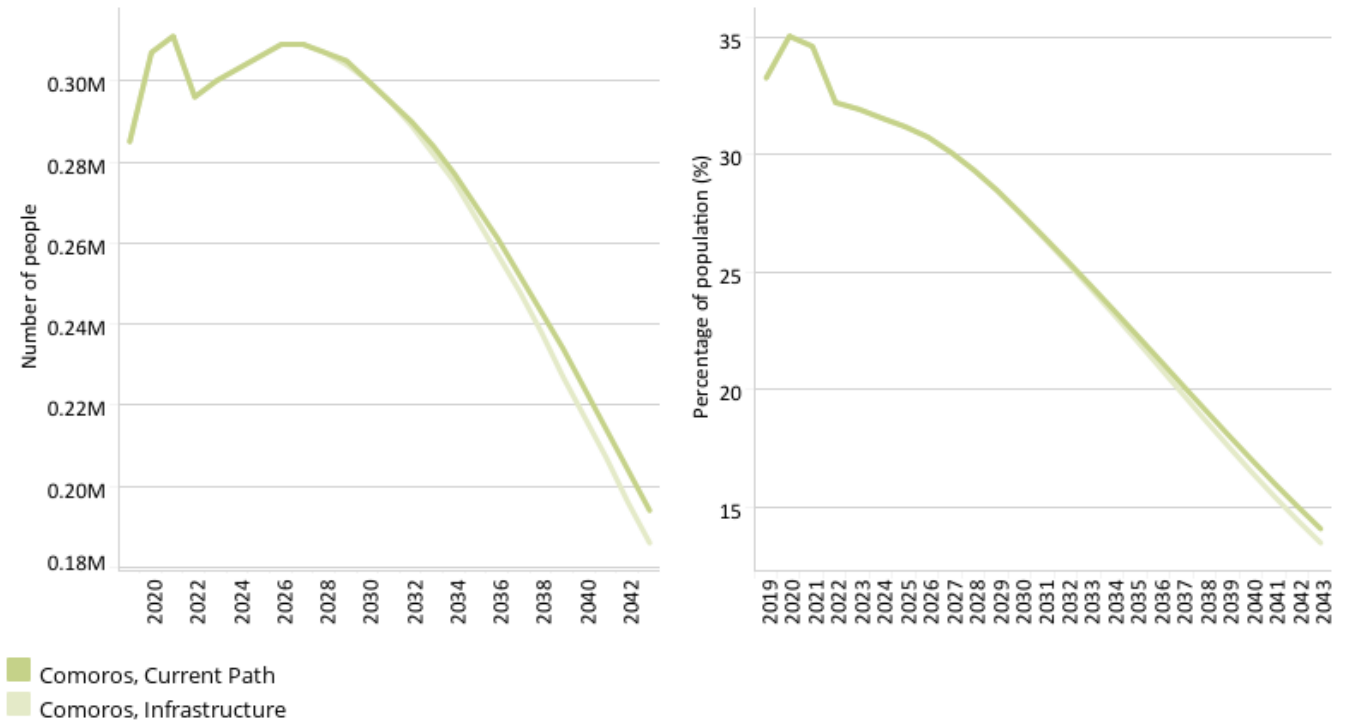
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Quality infrastructure not only enables business and industry development but also increases efficiency in the delivery of social services. Important basic infrastructure, such as roads and electricity, plays a vital role in achieving sustained economic growth. By 2043, the GDP per capita in Comoros is expected to increase to US\$5 144 in the Infrastructure scenario, compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast — an increase of US\$129. The GDP per capita for Comoros will however remain below the average for lower middle-income Africa throughout the forecast horizon.

Chart 50: Poverty in CP and Infrastructure scenario, 2019–2043
Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNat World Bank data

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The Infrastructure scenario has a negligible impact on poverty reduction by 2043 compared to the Current Path forecast, lowering poverty by only 0.6 percentage point. Poverty rates remain significantly below the average for lower middle-income Africa throughout the forecast horizon.

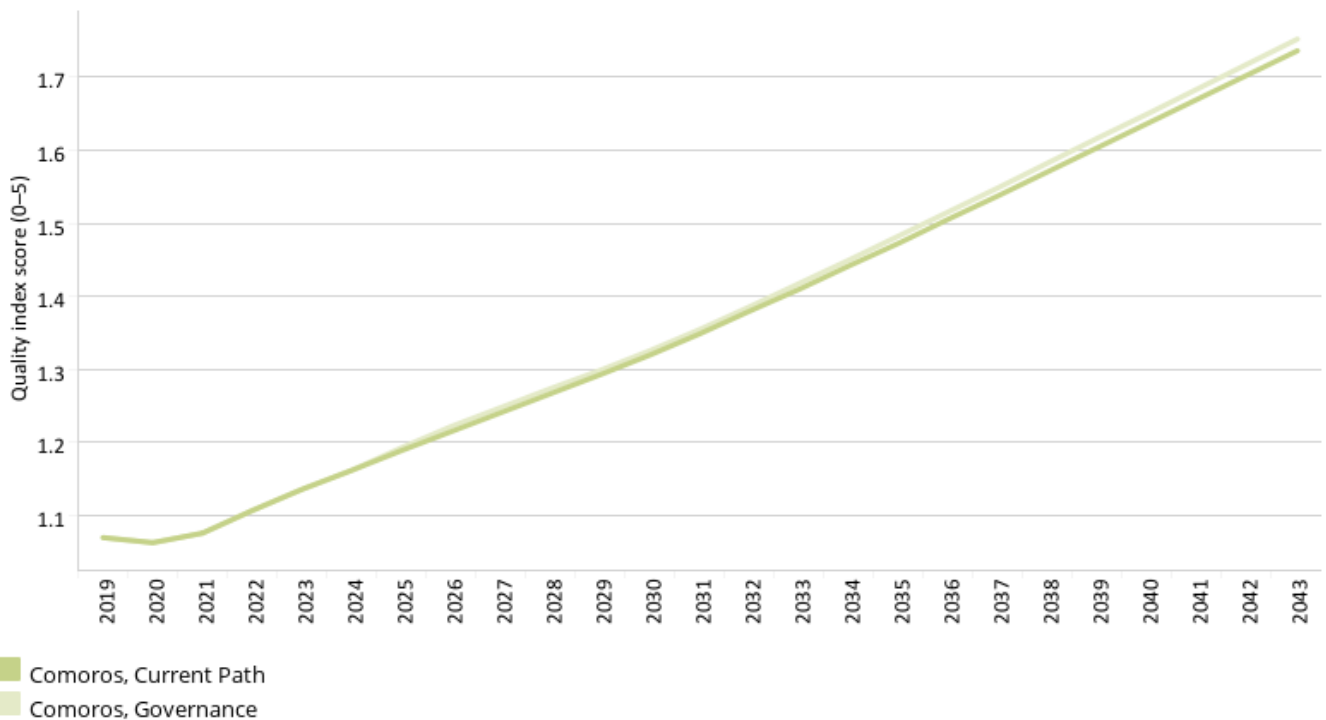


Chart 51: Gov effectiveness in CP and Governance scenario, 2019–2043

World Bank quality index score for government effectiveness



Comoros ▼



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Kaufmann, Kraay and Mastruzzi (2010) data

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The Governance scenario represents a reasonable but ambitious improvement in accountability and reduces corruption, and hence improves the quality of service delivery by government.

The intervention is explained [here](#) in the thematic part of the website.

As defined by the World Bank, government effectiveness ‘captures perceptions of the quality of public services, the quality of the civil service and the degree of its independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government’s commitment to such policies’.

Chart 51 presents the impact of the interventions in the Governance scenario on government effectiveness.

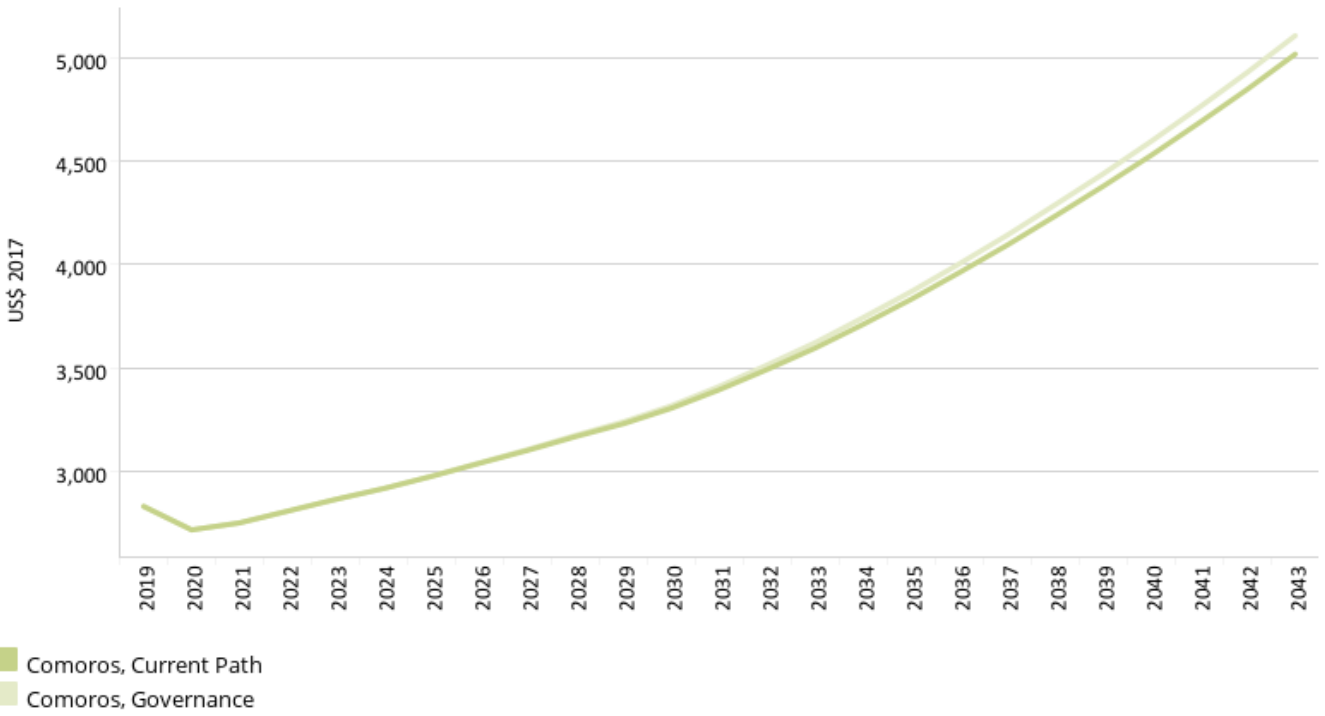
Comoros scores significantly lower than the average for lower middle-income Africa and Africa on government effectiveness. In 2019, Comoros had the tenth lowest government effectiveness score in Africa and the worst among its income peers. The Governance scenario improves the score from 1.1 (out of a maximum of 5) in 2019 to 1.8 in 2043.

Chart 52: GDP per capita in CP and Governance scenario, 2019–2043

Purchasing power parity



Comoros



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division World Population Prospects and World Development Indicators data

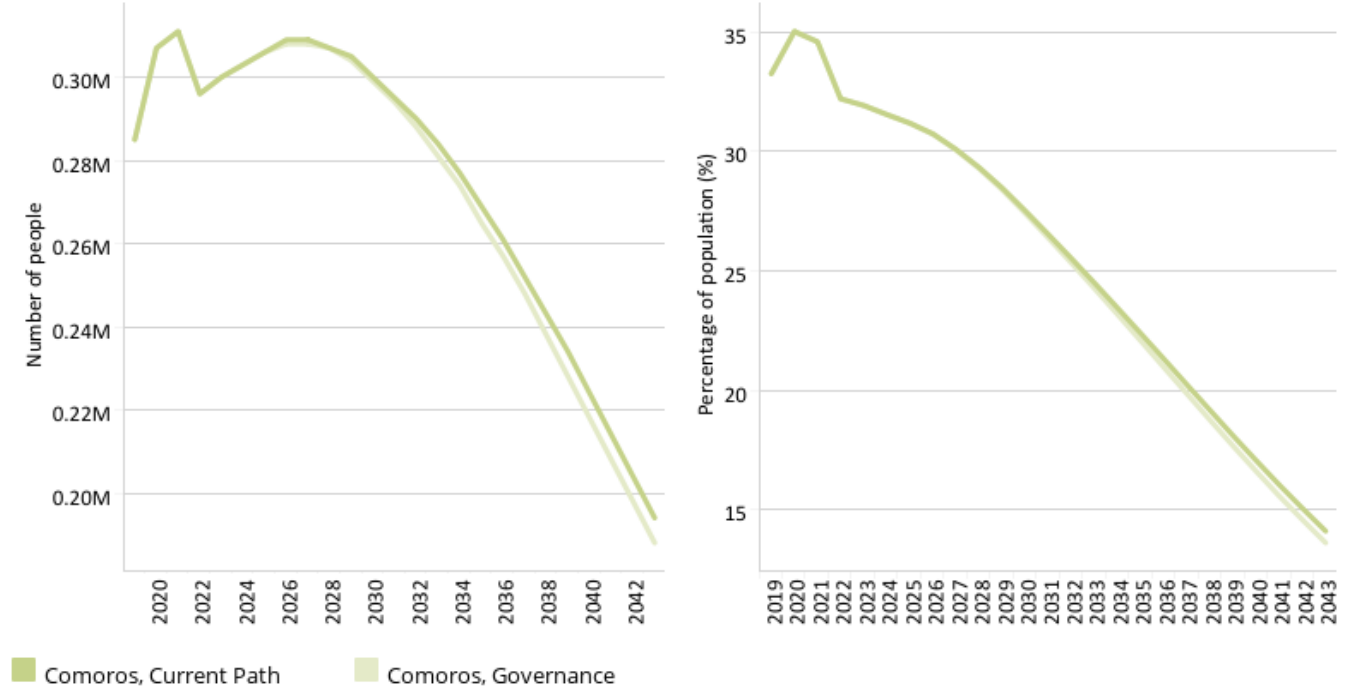
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By 2043, the GDP per capita in Comoros is expected to increase to US\$5 104 in the improved Governance scenario, compared to US\$5 015 in the Current Path forecast — an increase of US\$89. The GDP per capita for Comoros will remain below the average for lower middle-income Africa throughout the forecast horizon.

Chart 53: Poverty in CP and Governance scenario, 2019–2043
 Millions of people and % of total population



Comoros \$3.20



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from UN Population Division Population Prospects estimate, World Development Indicators population data and DevPalNet World Bank data

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The Governance scenario has a negligible impact on alleviating poverty, reducing the poverty rate by 0.5 percentage points compared to the Current Path forecast in 2043. The poverty rate in Comoros will remain below the projected average poverty rate for lower middle-income Africa.

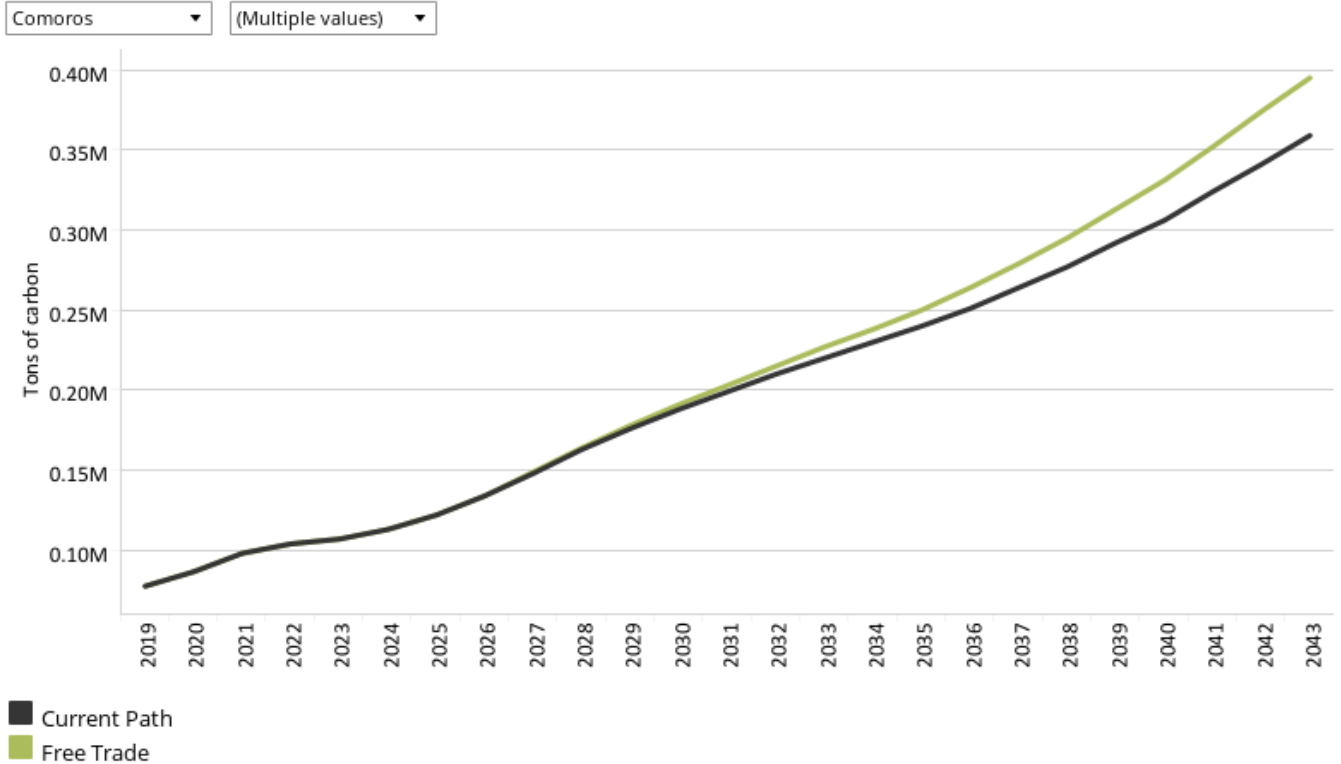


Impact of scenarios on carbon emissions

Chart 49 Chart 50 Chart 51 Chart 52 Chart 53 Chart 54 Chart 55 Chart 56 Chart 57 Chart 58 Chart 59

Chart 54: Carbon emissions in CP and scenarios, 2019–2043

Million tons of carbon (note, not CO₂ equivalent)



Source: IFs 7.63 initialising from Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center data

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Chart 54 displays projected tons of carbon emission for Comoros in the Current Path and the 11 intervention scenarios. Note that IFs uses carbon equivalents rather than CO₂ equivalents.

On the Current Path, Comoros' carbon emissions are projected to increase from 0.1 million tons in 2019 to 0.4 million tons by 2043. None of the various scenarios significantly increases carbon emissions above the Current Path forecast in the country by 2043.

Endnotes

1. World Bank, Union of Comoros, [Comoros poverty assessment](#), April 2017.
2. World Bank, [The World Bank in Comoros](#), 7 April 2022
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4. World Bank Group, [The Union of the Comoros: Jumpstarting Agricultural Transformation, Agriculture Sector Review](#), Report No. P164195
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8. United Nations Environment Programme, [Energy profile, Comoros](#), 134–37
9. A le Roux et al, [A Framework for Assessing the Risks and Impacts of Rural Access Roads to a Changing Climate](#), International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 38, 2019, 101175

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Ms Alize le Roux joined the AFI in May 2021 as a senior researcher. Before joining the ISS, she worked as a principal geo-informatics researcher at the CSIR, supporting various local and national policy- and decision-makers with long-term planning support. Alize has 14 years of experience in spatial data analysis, disaster risk reduction and urban and regional modelling. She has a master's degree in geographical sciences from the University of Utrecht, specialising in multi-hazard risk assessments and spatial decision support systems.

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