Burundi
Combined Agenda 2063: Current Path vs scenario

Kouassi Yeboua and Mustapha Jobarteh
The Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is a combination of all eight sectoral scenarios (Governance, Demographics and Health, Education, Infrastructure/Leapfrogging, Agriculture, Manufacturing, AfCFTA, and External Financial Flows). It is an integrated development push scenario where Burundi authorities make a concerted effort to address the binding constraints on inclusive growth and development.

Chart 32 compares the size of the economy in the Current Path with the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario at market exchange rates (MER). The Combined Agenda 2063 scenario dramatically impacts the expansion of the Burundian economy. In the scenario, the GDP is projected to expand from US$2.7 billion in 2019 to US$17.2 billion in 2043, which is a 537% increase over the period compared to a 185.2% increase on the Current Path. In 2043, the GDP of Burundi in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is US$9.5 billion larger than the Current Path forecast. Thus, this scenario shows that a policy push across all the development sectors is necessary to achieve greater and sustained growth in Burundi.
The GDP per capita in the Current Path to the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario in purchasing power parity (PPP) is shown in Chart 33. The Combined Agenda 2063 scenario has a much greater impact on GDP per capita compared to the individual thematic scenarios. By 2033, the GDP per capita of Burundi is US$304 larger than in the Current Path forecast, and by 2043 it would come to US$1,909 (i.e. US$883 more than in the Current Path forecast in that year). In 2043, the GDP per capita in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is almost double the Current Path forecast, indicating that the scenario shows how an integrated push across all the development sectors could significantly improve the living standard of Burundians.
The IFs platform uses data from the GTAP to classify economic activity into six sectors: agriculture, energy, materials (including mining), manufacturing, services and ICT. Most other sources use a threefold distinction between only agriculture, industry and services, with the result that data may differ.

The value added by sector in the Current Path and Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is compared in Chart 34. Implementing the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario will increase the value added of agriculture, manufacturing and services above the Current Path forecast across the forecast horizon to 2043. In 2043, the agriculture value added in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is about US$1.7 billion, which is larger than the Current Path forecast in the same year. The manufacturing and services value added are US$2.7 billion and US$4.5 billion, respectively, higher than the Current Path forecast in 2043.

Implementing the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario could accelerate the structural transformation of the Burundian economy, with the share of the manufacturing sector of the GDP increasing from 16% in 2019 to 26% in 2043 — 3.3 percentage points of GDP above the Current Path forecast in 2043. The share of the agriculture sector in GDP declines from 31% in 2019 to 16% in 2043. The service sector remains the dominant sector in the economy, although its contribution to GDP in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario (50% in 2043) is lower than the Current Path forecast of 54% in the same year.
Extreme poverty in the Current Path with the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is compared in Chart 35. In the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario, by 2033 55% of Burundians will be living in extreme poverty compared to 71% in the Current Path forecast. This represents about three million fewer people living in extreme poverty compared to 12.4 million people in the Current Path forecast. By 2043, the extreme poverty rate at the US$1.90 poverty threshold will decline to roughly 12.4% (2.5 million people) compared to 61% (13.7 million people) in the Current Path forecast. Even though the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario does not completely eliminate extreme poverty in Burundi, its materialisation could have a dramatic impact on poverty reduction in the country. In 2043, the extreme poverty rate in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario is about 49 percentage points below the Current Path forecast, equivalent to 11.2 million fewer poor people than in the Current Path forecast.
The trends in life expectancy in the Current Path and the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario are shown in Chart 36. Despite an increase of 13 years between 2000 and 2019, at 61 years, life expectancy at birth in Burundi remains three years below the sub-Saharan African average and two years below the average for low-income African countries.

Burundi's high communicable disease burden impedes progress in life expectancy. On the Current Path, life expectancy in Burundi is projected to steadily increase to 67.5 years by 2043, which is almost seven years more than the current level. In the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario, the average Burundian could expect to live two years more at 69.5 years, which is on par with the projected average for global low-income countries and one year below the average for sub-Saharan Africa.
The Gini coefficient is a standard measure of the level of inequality. In contrast to the high poverty rate, inequality is relatively low in Burundi. With a Gini index estimated at 0.38 in 2019, the level of income inequality in Burundi is lower than the averages of 0.41 for sub-Saharan Africa and 0.39 for Low-income Africa, as indicated in Chart 37. It is also lower than the levels in the neighbouring countries of Tanzania, the DR Congo and Rwanda.

On the Current Path, income inequality is forecast to slightly decline. The projected Gini coefficient is 0.34 by 2043, which is 10.5% lower than its current level. However, Burundi could see a significant decline in income inequality if the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario were implemented. The Gini coefficient in the scenario is 0.29, implying that it has the potential to generate inclusive growth in Burundi.
Carbon is released in many ways, but the three most important contributors to greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO$_2$), carbon monoxide (CO) and methane (CH$_4$). Since each has a different molecular weight, IFs uses carbon. Many other sites and calculations use CO$_2$ equivalent.

The IFs platform forecasts six types of energy, namely oil, gas, coal, hydro, nuclear and other renewables. To allow comparisons between different types of energy, the data is converted into billion barrels of oil equivalent (BBOE). The energy in a barrel of oil is approximately 5.8 million British thermal units (MBTUs) or 1,700 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy.

Chart 38 compares carbon emissions in the Current Path forecast and in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario. It shows that achieving the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario and the associated rapid economic growth in Burundi will increase carbon emissions above the Current Path forecast. However, carbon emissions in Burundi are currently very low. In the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario, carbon emissions increase from a very low base of 0.2 million tons of carbon in 2019 to 2 million tons by 2043, which is a 900% increase in this period compared to a 550% increase on the Current Path. In 2043, carbon emissions in the Combined Agenda 2063 scenario are 0.7 million tons higher than the Current Path forecast.
Donors and sponsors

Reuse our work

- All visualizations, data, and text produced by African Futures are completely open access under the Creative Commons BY license. You have the permission to use, distribute, and reproduce these in any medium, provided the source and authors are credited.

- The data produced by third parties and made available by African Futures is subject to the license terms from the original third-party authors. We will always indicate the original source of the data in our documentation, so you should always check the license of any such third-party data before use and redistribution.

- All of our charts can be embedded in any site.

Cite this research

About the authors

**Dr Kouassi Yeboua** is a senior researcher in African Futures and Innovation programme in Pretoria. He recently served as lead author on ISS studies on the long-term development prospects of the DR Congo, the Horn of Africa, Nigeria and Malawi. Kouassi has published on various issues relating to foreign direct investment in Africa and is interested in development economics, macroeconomics, international economics, and economic modelling. He has a PhD in Economics.

Mustapha Jobarteh joined the ISS in January 2022 as a Senior Researcher in the African Futures and Innovation programme in Pretoria. Before joining ISS, Mustapha was a senior lecturer and Head of the Department of Economics and Finance at the University of the Gambia and a research fellow with the Center for Policy, Research and Strategic Studies. His interests include macroeconomics, international trade and econometric modelling. Mustapha has a PhD in Economics from Istanbul Medeniyet University, Istanbul, Turkey.

About African Futures & Innovation

Scenarios and forecasting can help Africa identify and respond to opportunities and threats. The work of the African Futures & Innovation (AFI) program at the Institute for Security Studies aims to understand and address a widening gap between indices of wellbeing in Africa and elsewhere in the world. The AFI helps stakeholders understand likely future developments. Research findings and their policy implications are widely disseminated, often in collaboration with in-country partners. Forecasting tools inspire debate and provide insights into possible trajectories that inform planning, prioritisation and effective resource allocation. Africa's future depends on today's choices and actions by governments and their non-governmental and international partners. The AFI provides empirical data that informs short- and medium-term decisions with long-term implications. The AFI enhances Africa's capacity to prepare for and respond to future challenges. The program is headed by Dr Jakkie Cilliers.

The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the ISS, its trustees, members of the Advisory Council or donors. Authors contribute to ISS publications in their personal capacity.