



Burundi

Conclusion

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Conclusion

Chart 39: Recommendations

Recommendations:

- Promote good governance: invest in institutions, combat corruption, increase domestic revenue capacity and improve spending quality.
- Modernise agriculture: increase productivity and commercialisation for food security, employment and poverty reduction.
- Invest in human capital: focus on vocational education, boost health outcomes and enhance social protection for vulnerable populations.
- Improve infrastructure: expand transport networks, especially in rural areas, and invest in climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Diversify the economy: enhance regulatory and legal environments, leverage AfCFTA, ensure political stability and promote private investment, especially in manufacturing.

Chart 39 summarises the findings.

Burundi is at a critical stage in its development. More than a decade of conflict devastated much of the country's physical, social and human capital until the Arusha Peace Agreement was signed in 2000. Since then, Burundi has made progress in consolidating peace and security, establishing a relatively stable macroeconomic environment, rebuilding institutions and improving sector outcomes, particularly in basic health and education. Burundi now needs to intensify efforts to achieve greater stability and prosperity.

The aim of this report was therefore to examine Burundi's human and economic development prospects on its current trajectory (Current Path) and a set of complementary scenario interventions that could propel the country onto the path of shared prosperity.

Political fragility, poor infrastructure, weak governance and institutions, poor human capital, low agriculture productivity and limited economic diversification have stunted development outcomes in Burundi. The country ranks bottom on several key development indicators. On its current trajectory, Burundi is forecast to improve its economic and human development outcomes but not fast enough. As a result, the country will likely continue to lag behind its peers on several development indicators and miss many of the SDGs by 2030.

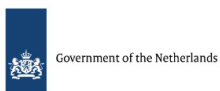
Key findings from the scenario analysis highlight the critical role of agriculture in providing livelihoods for the majority of the population, though it remains vulnerable to climate change and low productivity. Diversifying into manufacturing and improving infrastructure is essential to bolster economic resilience and reduce dependency on aid, which currently constitutes a substantial portion of the national budget. The scenario analysis also reveals that a coordinated policy push across all the development sectors is the most viable way to significantly improve the future of the country. However, this progress must be balanced with environmental sustainability to mitigate the impact of increased carbon emissions.

The Government of Burundi should:

- Promote good governance by investing in solid institutions, combat corruption through better transparency, improve judicial independence, enhance public service delivery and increase capacity to mobilise domestic revenues and improve spending quality.
- Invest in modernising the agricultural sector, e.g., in irrigation, mechanisation, and sustainable farming practices, to increase productivity and commercialisation, ensure food security, and employment, and reduce extreme poverty.
- Invest in human capital and skills development with particular attention to vocational education and training; boost health outcomes, and enhance social protection through support programs for vulnerable populations.
- Increase the transport infrastructure network (especially in rural areas) and invest in climate-resilient infrastructure as well as road networks, electricity access and ICT.
- Transform and diversify the economy. The government should start by improving the regulatory and legal environment, promote regional integration by leveraging the AfCFTA, establish a stable political and security climate in order to stimulate private investment, particularly investment in the manufacturing sector.

By implementing these strategies, Burundi can forge a prosperous future for its citizens.

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