



# The Rebirth: Tunisia's potential development pathways to 2040

## Scenarios

Jakkie Cilliers and Stellah Kwasi

Last updated 21 September 2022 using IFs v7.45

## Scenarios

In this section, we complement the Current Path forecast of Tunisia's likely future (presented in the sections above) by contrasting three additional scenarios, namely Going for Growth, Leapfrogging and Sustainability & Equality. These will demonstrate the alternative development pathways that Tunisia can pursue towards a more prosperous future.

The three scenarios illustrate the options within the reach of decision makers in Tunisia and thus set out the range of possibilities and trade-offs that need to be considered. Each presents a unique strategy for advancing development.

However, they share five reforms that are foundational to progress: improved governance, consisting of better business regulation, more economic freedom and less corruption; improved quality of primary and secondary education; and a reduction in subsidies to wealthier households. Tunisia will not progress without addressing all five of these fundamentals.

Chart 13 provides a schematic summary of the interventions. More detail of how these were modelled in IFs is given in Annex B. The yellow interventions at the bottom of Chart 13 are common to all three scenarios. The orange, blue and green cells represent the summary interventions included in Going for Growth, Leapfrogging and Sustainability & Equality.

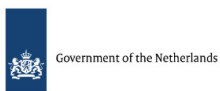


Chart 13: Summary of sectoral interventions

Going for Growth	Leapfrogging	Sustainability
Promote export of manufactured goods and increase prices of imported manufactured goods	Ensure more graduates in science and engineering	Reduce smoking and obesity
Increase FDI and reduce investment outflows	Improve upper secondary vocational training	Improve lower and upper secondary transition and graduation rates, improve tertiary intake
Reduce firm tax	Increase research and development (R&D) spend	Equip more land for irrigation and reduce food loss and waste
Increase investment in economy	Ensure more and better fixed and mobile broadband, improved ICT penetration	Reduce capital cost of renewable energy and introduce a carbon tax
Ensure more effective government	Pave more roads	Increase social transfers to unskilled households
Pave more roads		Ensure more effective government
		Increase portion of wastewater treated
Improve business regulation		
Ensure more economic freedom		
Reduce corruption		
Improve primary and secondary education quality		
Reduce social transfers to wealthier households		

Based on the Current Path analysis and feedback from our workshops in Tunis, the governance interventions represent a successful five-year push; education represents a ten-year sustained push, given the slow-moving nature of education outcomes; and subsidy reform is gradually implemented to 2040. All interventions begin in 2020 and are benchmarked to improvements achieved in other countries and regions.

## 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

Jakkie Cilliers and Stellah Kwasi (2025) The Rebirth: Tunisia's potential development pathways to 2040. Published online at [futures.issafrica.org](https://futures.issafrica.org). Retrieved from <https://futures.issafrica.org/special-reports/country/tunisia/> [Online Resource] Updated 21 September 2022.

## About the authors

Dr Jakkie Cilliers is the ISS's founder and former executive director. He currently serves as chair of the ISS Board of Trustees, head of the African Futures and Innovation (AFI) programme at the Pretoria office of the Institute, and is an extraordinary professor at the University of Pretoria. His 2017 best-seller *Fate of the Nation* addresses South Africa's futures from political, economic and social perspectives. His three most recent books, *Africa First! Igniting a Growth Revolution* (March 2020), *The Future of Africa: Challenges and Opportunities* (April 2021), and *Africa Tomorrow: Pathways to Prosperity* (June 2022) take a rigorous look at the continent as a whole.

## 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.