

Burundi environmental sustainability

The current environmental situation in Burundi shows three major problems: degradation and exhaustion of soils, degradation of forestry resources and human environmental degradation. Burundi has developed many adaptation projects to address adverse effects of climate change based on existing coping mechanisms and practices. These projects include a project on the improvement of seasonal early warning climate forecasts and another on the Protection of buffer zones in Lake Tanganyika floodplain and around the lakes of Bugesera.

Burundi is among the poorest countries in the world, with 58 per cent of its inhabitants living on less than a dollar per day (MLMTE, 2007). Rain-fed agriculture employs around 94 per cent of the population, constitutes 95 per cent of the country's food supply, and generates 45 per cent of the country's GDP (with coffee constituting 55.6 per cent of exports) (MLMTE, 2007; USDS, 2010). Approximately 95 per cent of the country's energy is derived from wood (MLMTE, 2007). It is estimated that the subsistence economy has diminished by 30 per cent over the past few years as a result of high population density, soil erosion and a prolonged period of civil unrest that ended in 2005 with the establishment of a democratically elected government (USDS, 2010).

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As part of the global momentum for adoption and ownership of the 2030 agenda, Burundi has pledged to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its Burundi's National Development Plan (PND Burundi 2018-2027), in the Community Development Plans (CCPS).

On the operational front, Burundi has made the contextualization of the SDGs by following an inclusive participatory and inclusive approach involving all stakeholders. This process prioritizes a set of 49 targets and 101 national indicators that the Burundi is committed to reaching and following.

Through the implementation of the SDGs and GNP Burundi 2018-2027, he has committed to structurally transform the economy, for strong, sustainable, resilient growth, inclusive, creating decent jobs for all and inducing improved social well-being for a nation that is united, democratic and prosperous.

Burundi still faces several challenges, but is committed to reducing poverty and eliminate hunger through policy and sector-based strategies structuring public investments. Other challenges to be overcome include (i) the availability of relevant, comprehensive and disaggregated data that is constantly updated to reflect the realities of the moment, (ii) the mobilization of internal and external funding, and (iii) adapting to climate change and meeting environmental standards International.

In terms of social protection, Burundi now has significant assets to its credit achievements such as (i) the implementation of the Social Nets Project, which aims to provide cash transfers for poor households and (ii) the creation of a Cash Fund Social Protection Support for the financing of these programmes.

In terms of health, the Government has made access to the population, especially those more vulnerable, health care is a priority. With this in mind, implementation of National Health Policy of a population projected to be 90% living under 5km of a health centre, is an eloquent example. In addition, the targeted gratuitous acts for pregnant women and children aged 0-5 years is now a reality.

As for education, the state's proactive policy of sending all children of school age has achieved near parity at the school level and a gross enrolment rate of 111% in 2019. The increase in the share of sector in current budgetary expenditure increased from 34% in 2016 to 36% in 2020 is a clear sign of the importance attached to it, which has resulted in the strengthening of education system and the provision of formal education.

On the empowerment of women and girls, in order to contribute to the eradication of women and girls poverty, a Guarantee Fund has been set up to make it easier for them to access credit for economic empowerment.

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