



COMPLETE

VISION **BURUNDI** 2025

# VISION BURUNDI VISION BURUNDI



Ministry of Planning and Communal Development/Forecasting Unit  
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# PREFACE TO VISION BURUNDI 2025

Vision Burundi 2025 is a planning instrument for ensuring long-term development which will guide the policies and strategies as regards sustainable development, with the aim of satisfying the needs of the present generations, without thwarting or undermining the opportunities of generations to come.

It is also the expression of our determination to build a Burundi that is New, Democratic, Reconciled and Unified, a land flowing with milk and honey, as our grandparents wished.

For that purpose, the Vision identifies eight pillars that are closely connected:

- ✓ Good Governance and Capacity-Building of the State;
- ✓ Human Capital;
- ✓ Economic Growth and the Fight against Poverty;
- ✓ Regional Integration;
- ✓ Demographics;
- ✓ Social Cohesion;
- ✓ Regional Planning and Urbanization;
- ✓ Partnership.

In its formulation, Vision Burundi 2025 is the result of a long national consultation in which all segments of Burundian society were invited to go beyond all the noble and ambitious programs which occupy them on a daily basis in order to make a qualitative leap forward and to undertake another exercise that is even more important. This exercise is to scrutinize our past, and prepare our future by carefully analyzing a range of possible scenarios.

In a general way, the first step has been for the Vision to be embraced by the general public and the political community, and then shared by all the stakeholders. The planning structures will have to be translated into sustainable development programs and projects.

And so we can say that Vision Burundi 2025 constitutes a document of national consensus, a true roadmap for the economic and social development of Burundi which will be used by both the current generation and those to come. It is built on the scenario that says “Burundi Buhire” (Happy Burundi), and is equipped with a national legitimacy which transcends socio-political sensitivities and the legislatures.

Our wish is that all the stakeholders involved in the development of Burundi, as well as the various Governments which will follow one another, can consider Vision Burundi 2025 to be their compass which will direct them towards the road of comprehensive and sustainable development.

Its implementation will especially call for the following imperatives:

- Its adoption by all segments of Burundian society and particularly its political community, and its use as a single reference framework as regards planning;
- Its translation into consistent development programs and projects in the short and medium term;
- The establishment of an enlightened leadership conscious of the stakes involved in the economic, institutional and social development of the country;
- A focus on the principles of dialogue and participation by the population in the analysis and the management of development issues, not only in order to make the general public feel that they have a true stake in the processes of development planning and financing, but also in the equitable division of the fruits of growth;
- The promotion of population growth compatible with the viable and sustainable management of the resources available, but also with the development of a powerful human capital capable of playing a meaningful role in labor markets at the national and international levels.

We invite each Burundian to engage in a deep and honest introspection, so as to precipitate a major change in our behaviors and mindsets in order to improve our individual and collective capacities to ensure a successful outcome for this grand and ambitious undertaking.

Under these conditions, we do not doubt that Vision Burundi 2025, a unifying framework for all Burundians, in all their considerable diversity, will be embraced by all, and will contribute to ensuring the success of our joint and concerted efforts so that together we can all play a decisive role in the quest for peace, security, justice and development, an outcome devoutly wished by our entire people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Nkurunziza', enclosed within a rectangular box. The signature is stylized and includes a large initial 'P'.

*Pierre NKURUNZIZA*

**PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development and the adoption of Vision Burundi 2025 is occurring in a context of major political change marked by the restoration of peace and safety and a favorable socio-economic outlook. The purpose of the Vision is to equip Burundi with a planning instrument for shared development for the next generation, in order to work out policies and strategies for sustainable development. This Vision has been formulated on the basis of a participatory approach and reflects a national consensus.

## 1. Vision Burundi 2025

Vision Burundi 2025 projects an image that reflects a shared future that the people of Burundi wish to embrace. This vision is based essentially on a nation that is united, cohesive and at peace on the one hand, with a prosperous economy at the service of the socio-economic wellbeing of the people of Burundi on the other hand. The country is predicated on the rule of law, and it is a society that takes pride in its rich and diverse cultural heritage.

This image of Burundi in 2025 is supported by a new strong national leadership that is capable of leading the country towards a better future. This leadership is the cornerstone of Vision Burundi 2025. This entails a radical shift in mindsets, as well as accountability, if the Burundi people are to impart a fresh dynamic to their country's reconstruction.

## 2. The Main Challenges

Six major challenges have been identified. These challenges should be taken into account in formulating policies and strategies with a view to ensuring that the Vision becomes a reality. These six challenges are as follows:

- > Reconstruct national unity and a nation that is secure and at peace;
- > Control demographic growth and ensure food safety;
- > Resolve the crucial problem of unemployment and boost household incomes;
- > Diversify and promote a competitive economy on a sound basis;
- > Implement appropriate infrastructures for supporting production;
- > Raise the level of literacy and create competent professionals.

## 3. The Vision's Objectives

**Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to put Burundi on the path of sustainable development in the run-up to 2025.** In this regard, the ultimate objective is to redress the negative trends in GDP per capita that the country has experienced for more than a decade since the crisis of 1993, ensuring that this goes up from USD137 in 2008 to USD720 in 2025. A further goal will be to reduce the rate of poverty by half (compared with 67% nowadays). And in order to address this challenge of sustainable development, Burundi has set itself the following essential objectives: ***(i) the installation of good governance within the rule of law; (ii) the development of a strong and competitive economy; (iii) the improvement of the living conditions of the people of Burundi.***

These objectives are inter-dependant, give shape and purpose to the vision for Burundi and make up the framework on which the new paradigm for sustainable development takes root.

#### 4. The Vision's Pillars

Vision Burundi 2025 rests on eight (8) pillars which will make it possible for the country to break significantly with the unfortunate tendencies related to its history, in order to begin resolutely on the path of sustainable development. Moreover, these eight pillars introduce a new paradigm which redefines new strategic options likely to put Burundi on the track of economic growth and success in the fight against poverty. And, furthermore, they will without any doubt give a fresh impetus to sustainable development which takes into account the Burundian people and their aspirations, their cultural capital, their knowledge and national institutions, in a spirit of equity and the search for excellence.

##### **Pillar 1: Good Governance and Capacity-Building for the State**

***Promote strong leadership at all the hierarchical levels of the State apparatus.*** The Government, in the short and medium term, is committed to reinforcing security and the management of the disputes relating to the past. For this purpose, the traditional frameworks of reconciliation will be utilized. The aim of these frameworks will be to prevent conflicts through the promotion of reconciliation, the reintegration of the victims of disasters and compensation for the damages related to the conflicts, and the reinforcement of the Rule of Law. In addition there will be a strong focus on strengthening the effectiveness and professionalism of government. The administrative decentralization of development will be pursued.

##### **Pillar 2: Human Capital**

***Provide a better standard of living for the people of Burundi with the aid of a well-educated people that also enjoys good health.*** The development of human capital is accordingly at the forefront of the vision for Burundi, because human beings are simultaneously beneficiaries and protagonists in their own development

##### **Pillar 3: Economic Growth and the Fight against Poverty**

***Promote accelerated economic growth of at least 10%.*** This growth will be galvanized by the dynamic of a diversified and competitive productive sector both in domestic and foreign terms. This will depend in part on a modernized agricultural sector in order to increase productivity and ensure the processing and marketing of agricultural products. Moreover, the sectors that promote growth such as services in general, new communication technologies, and tourism especially, mines, handicrafts, industry and the industries of conservation and transformation, will be developed. These activities will enable Burundi to be more competitive in the sub-regional market. This growth would not be possible without the participation of the private sector as an engine of development. In order to harness this participation, the Government will implement the reforms necessary so as to promote an attractive business climate. Moreover, this growth will be sustained by the implementation of an important and efficient infrastructure without which such growth would not be possible.

#### **Pillar 4: Regional Integration**

***Burundi intends to benefit from regional integration to increase and diversify its economy.*** Burundi intends to make a success of its integration at the East African Community without having to give up its membership of the CEPGL, the COMESA, and the CEEAC. With regard to this undertaking, Burundi will undertake the reforms necessary in order to rehabilitate its macroeconomic framework, to set up a favorable environment for businesses, in order to attract foreign investors and to stimulate the Burundian private sector. This process will also entail increasing and diversifying the production of the competitive products in the regional market.

#### **Pillar 5: Demographics**

***Implement an aggressive demographic policy in order to limit the rate of population growth to 2% by 2025.*** Burundi is conscious of its explosive demographic situation which, if nothing is done in the medium term and the long term, will put a serious brake on the process of socio-economic development and the attainment of the objectives of Vision Burundi 2025. Population control is becoming an increasingly pressing concern and remains a major challenge for a country where 90% of the population lives from the soil. The progress of agricultural production and the breeding of cattle, principal sources of the economic growth in the short and medium term, will be threatened by the scarcity of the available land. This threat is reinforced by the fact that the population is young with more than half being less than 17 years old.

#### **Pillar 6: Social Cohesion**

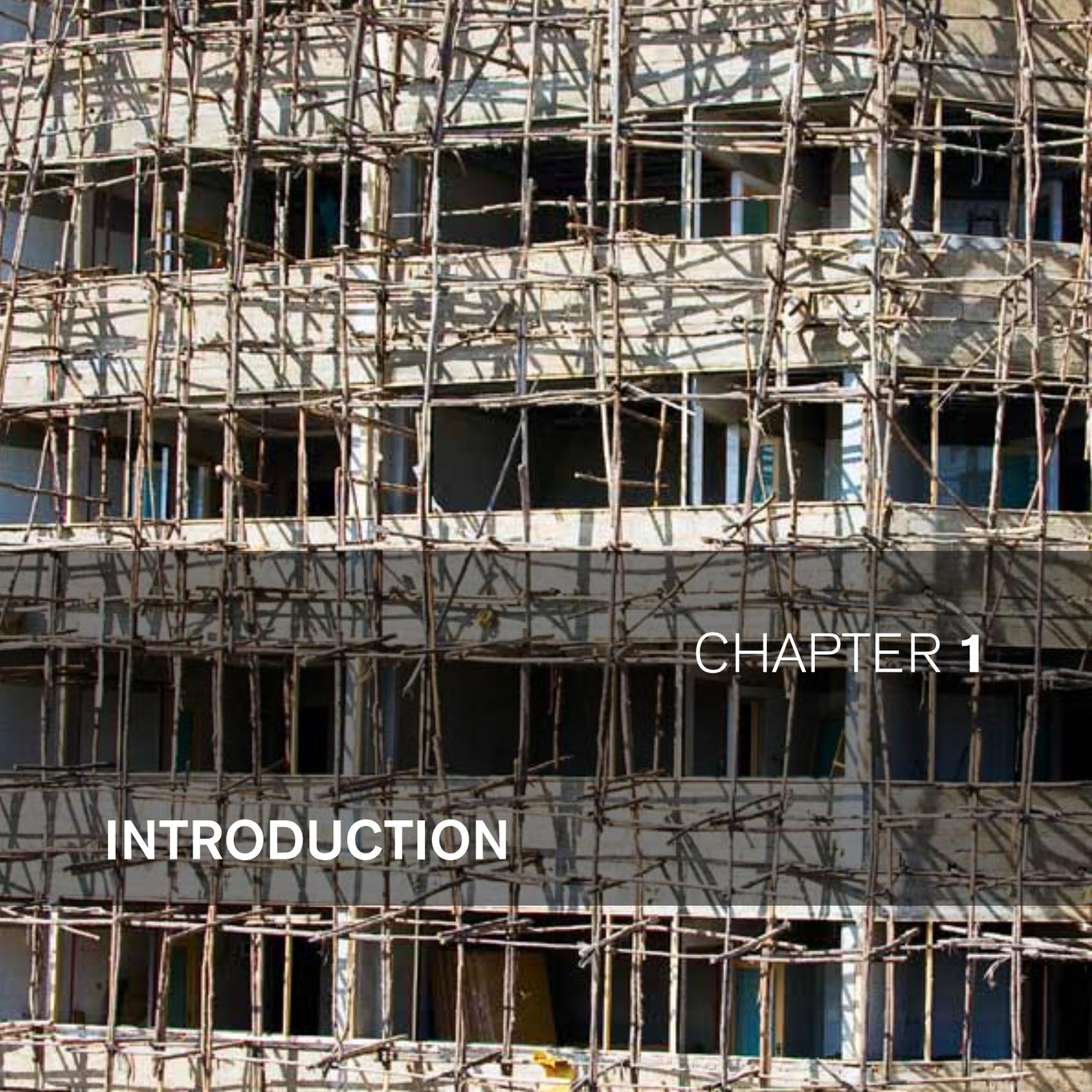
***Progressive reestablishment of social cohesion at the centre of its priorities, by once again honoring the fundamental cultural values that have always characterized Burundian society.*** Vision Burundi 2025 considers social cohesion to be an indispensable element for mobilizing and engaging the energy of all of the Burundian community to facilitate the attainment of a shared and better future for all, in a spirit of unity and solidarity. Tapping the resources of the cultural wealth of the various ethnicities to be found in Burundi can prove to be a powerful catalyst in achieving an effective national integration.

### **Pillar 7: Regional Planning and Urbanization**

***Put in place a proactive policy of village development and urbanization that will entail a growth in the rate of urbanization to 40% by 2025.*** The management of territory will be an integral component of the economic and social development policy of Burundi, which will have as its objective the organization and management of the national environment. The strategy will focus on salient features of the new societal structure with regard to village development, this being linked to the control of population and urbanization. The management of territory will moreover make it possible to free up the land necessary for modernizing Agriculture and the Rearing of Cattle. At the same time, the urbanization policy will facilitate the generation of urban employment and enhance the quality of basic social services, as well as access to these services by the general public.

### **Pillar 8: The Partnership**

***Create the synergies between the various development stakeholders and promote a framework that favors dialogue and consensus in the development planning process and the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025.*** The implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 entails the establishment of a dynamic partnership and mechanisms of coordination between Burundi and its bilateral and multilateral development partners, civil society organizations, NGOs, the private sector and religious groups. The partnership will be also centered on efforts to involve grass-roots communities in decision-making and the planning for development which has a first-hand impact on their lives. This partnership will offer the opportunity to make operational the Declarations of Paris and Accra in terms of harmonization, alignment and the ownership of development in the spirit of ensuring aid effectiveness.



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Vision Burundi 2025 is a by-product of the implementation of the “Arusha Agreement for the Peace and the Reconciliation of Burundi” signed in August 2000, which in its Protocol III, requested the Transitional Government to undertake, with the support of the international community, a program for material and political rebuilding in a global solution which combines rehabilitation, the consolidation of peace, the promotion of the rights and freedoms of the human person, economic growth and the long-term development. Since then, Burundi has engaged resolutely on the path of stabilization of its political and social situation. It set up a successful political transition (November 2001 to August 2005), followed by the organization of democratic and transparent elections in 2005. With the standardization of political life, Burundi also engaged in the rebuilding of the country with the support of technical and financial development stakeholders.

The development of the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP 2006) and the implementation of the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) mark an important turning-point in this process of standardization and constitute the basis of the Priority Action Plan (PAP 2007-2010) of the Government for short-term and medium-term development.

Ten years after the Arusha Agreements, Burundi has reached a crossroads. On the one hand, it is on the path of emerging from a post-conflict situation, the consequences of which have had a prejudicial impact on the economy and its social situation, putting Burundi among the poorest countries in the world with income per capita calculated at USD137 in 2008. On the other hand, it is committed to achieving sustainable development in order to ensure a better life for its population, and this by harnessing its people's own resources.

How do the Burundians consider their future? How do they intend to build a unified, inclusive and harmonious society? Which are the challenges and the reforms that need to be addressed in order to ensure that the country can surmount its deplorable socio-economic situation? These are the fundamental questions that Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to answer.

Vision Burundi 2025 is the result of the conclusions of the Forward-Looking National Studies "Burundi 2025" undertaken since 2003. Those texts were prepared following a broad national consultation which involved the participation of all the socio-professional segments of society. This Vision thus reflects the aspirations of the Burundians and accordingly constitutes a national consensus-based document which will be used as a benchmark for the socio-economic development of Burundi for generations to come.



### 1.1 How the Vision is Perceived

Vision Burundi 2025 represents an agreed vision by the whole of Burundian society for long-term development. It is a qualitative expression and an ideal which must gather together all the development stakeholders in order to achieve fundamental goals in term of wellbeing. Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to be realistic, credible and attractive for the future. It is focused on objectives towards which efforts must be directed and presents an image of a future that is both more successful and more desirable.

The Government is conscious of the need to translate the aspirations of the people into the programming of long-term development. This is necessary in order to create the feeling of national ownership and to mobilize energies in order to achieve the objectives of a shared vision.

The process must emphasize courage and the determination to address challenges at the individual, community and national levels. The Vision is a framework of hope and inspiration to motivate people to work even harder for the improvement of their living conditions and prosperity.



## 1.2 Methodology

The formulation of Vision Burundi 2025, placed under the leadership of the Ministry responsible for planning, was the subject of a broad consultation of all development stakeholders and in particular the grass-roots communities through participatory workshops organized at the regional and provincial levels. The process benefited from the assistance of the National Team for the Conduct of the Forward-Looking Study consisting of a National Committee and a

Technical Secretariat. Chaired by the Minister for Planning and Reconstruction, the Committee is composed of representatives of public institutions, the private sector and civil society, which handle the vice-chair's responsibilities. The Technical Secretariat is composed of the planning unit of the Ministry for Planning and Reconstruction, reinforced by a multidisciplinary team consisting of researchers and professors from universities and research institutes, women's representatives, civil society and young people.

The Forward-Looking National Study “Burundi 2025” aims at producing a shared Vision for the country, in other words a best-case scenario for Burundi in 2025. The formulation of the Vision represents the third phase of the Study undertaken since 2003. The first two phases were dedicated, on the one hand, to the basic construction of the study including retrospective studies, the structural analysis of the Burundian system and the aspirations of the population, and on the other hand, focusing on the construction of scenarios.

### 1.3 The Scenarios

The development of Vision Burundi 2025 derives from the retrospective, prospective and structural studies which were used as a basis for the development of three scenarios, these being: a trend scenario “NTARATAZE”, an optimistic scenario “BURUNDI BUHIRE” and a pessimistic scenario “BURIJE”

The trend and pessimist scenarios which reflect a Burundi which does not evolve and which is satisfied to muddle through, and a Burundi which experienced a pessimistic situation where all is negative, were hardly calculated to



construct a vision for the future. The scenario "BURUNDI BUHIRE" was chosen as the one which lent itself best to the formulation of Vision Burundi 2025.

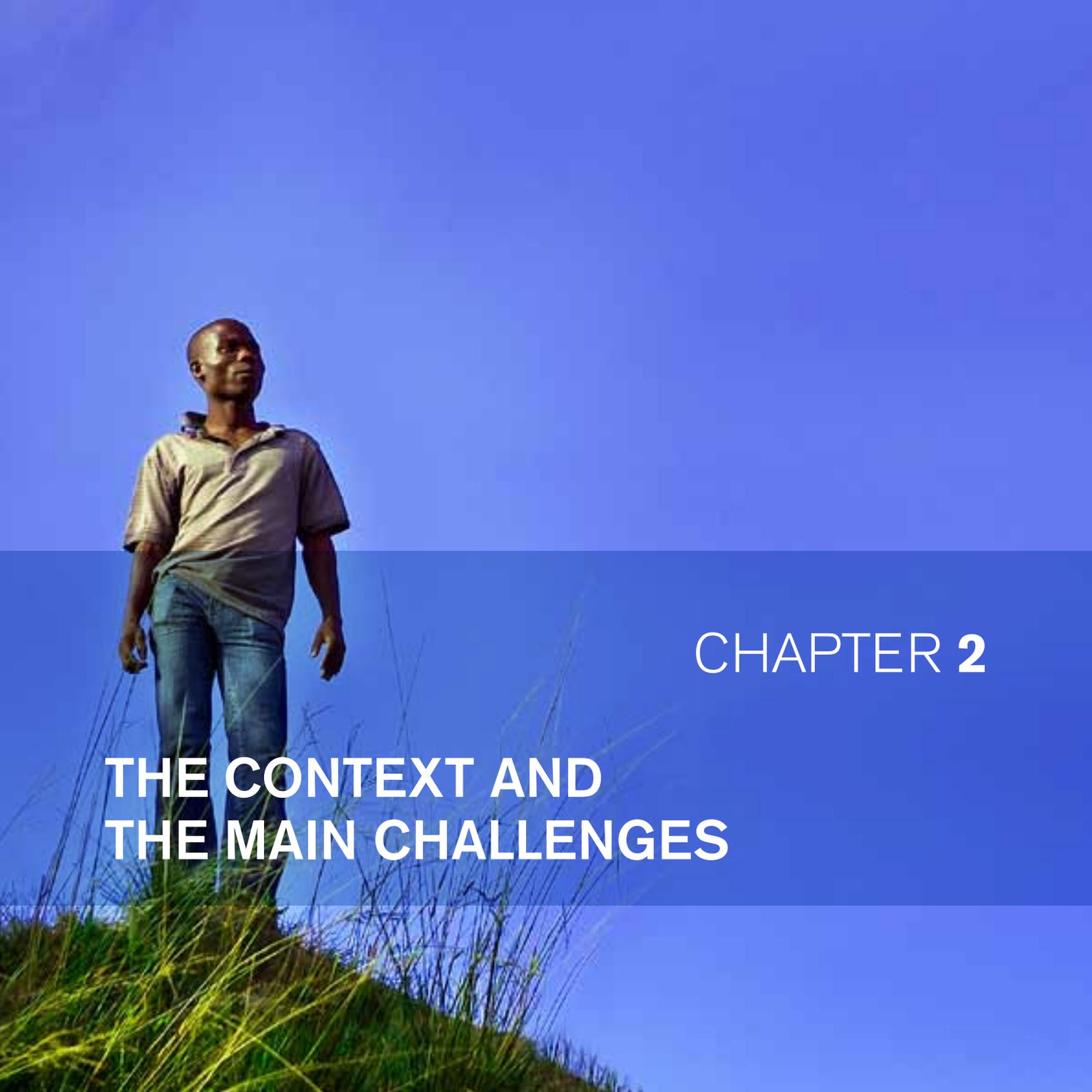
The optimistic scenario "BURUNDI BUHIRE" traces the path to a desirable future for the Burundians. Its principal strength resides in:

- (i) the steadfast implementation of the peace Agreements concluded between the Government and the various rebel movements which allows the restoration of peace, trust and the revival of economic growth;
- (ii) the return of safety with the disarmament of the civil population, the reform of the defence and security corps and the professionalisation of these bodies;
- (iii) the reduction of interethnic tensions, thanks to the involvement of political parties, religious groups and civil society in the process of revival of intercommunity dialogue and consolidation of peace;
- (iv) the re-establishment of the rule of law but especially with a lawful society. The transfer of power will henceforth be peaceful and untroubled. The people learn how to be organized for the defense of their rights and interests;
- (v) the commitment of the Government to fight against corruption leads to a progressive increase in the public revenue. Economic growth is stronger than demographic growth. In the same way the State has the means particularly of financing its ambitious program of economic and social reform in the significant fields of agriculture, health, education, the environment and urbanization. Various economic

measures that are taken in order to reduce monetary poverty entail an improvement of the living conditions of the people;

- (vi) the improvement of the management of public revenue, the return of security and the installation of a favorable legal environment make possible the revival of businesses, both by domestic and foreign business operators, the payment of the national debt makes it possible for the country to find a certain domestic and international credibility which translates into a growing commitment of bilateral and multilateral partners with regard to supporting development efforts;
- (vii) prospects for regional integration by the opening of many company subsidiaries working in the region which seek to benefit from favorable labor costs, as well as the watershed position of the port of Bujumbura, in order to conquer the markets located at the Center, the West and the South of the African Continent.





## CHAPTER 2

# THE CONTEXT AND THE MAIN CHALLENGES

## 2.1. Context

The long crisis that Burundi has experienced these last two decades has had a disastrous impact on all the socio-economic sectors of the country, resulting in: the increased impoverishment of the population, loss of the social and cultural underpinnings, destruction of several socio-economic infrastructures as well as the weakening of the administration and the whole of the system of governance of the country. Considerable financial and technical resources were granted by development partners but these were sufficient merely to meet the enormous humane needs while shortchanging investments. Consequently, production went down by approximately a third while the population increased at high rates, estimated on average at 2.5% per year.

On the political level, the Government continued with the efforts of stabilization of the socio-political life of the country and recorded significant results, in particular the ending of the war following the signing of a final ceasefire agreement with Palipehutu-FNL, the last remaining armed movement, in December 2008, and the concomitant rehabilitation of members, with their participation in the management of public life of Burundi. The Government engaged in the reform of the defense and security corps and then pressed ahead with their implementation. The reform which related to the creation of the National Defense Force and a National Police Force resulted from the process of integration and demobilization of ex-servicemen and members of the armed forces and is designed to ensure the stabilization of manpower of the National Defense Force (FDN), the National Police Force of Burundi (GNP) and the National Information Service (SNR) at a level compatible with the financial capacities of the country and, moreover, in a manner consonant with the professionalisation and the improvement of the performances of these entities. The process of demobilization, reintegration and rehabilitation of the ex-combatants and the members of the former armed forces was carried out with the support of the international community, with the disarmament of the civil populations being an additional factor in this regard.

The Government undertook to fight against corruption. For this purpose, it set up appropriate institutional mechanisms including an anti-corruption law, a Court and an anti-corruption Brigade. Civil society also plays a considerable part in the fight against corruption. In spite of these developments, efforts must be continued in the areas of the fight against corruption, security and respect for human rights.

From the economic point of view, because of the long crisis, the situation is characterized not only by weaknesses of the economy, but also structural constraints, in the forefront of which appear: the insufficiency of the infrastructures to support production, the geographical isolation of the country, the weak diversification and competitiveness of the economy, as well as strong demographic growth. The country faces important macroeconomic imbalances at the level of the balance of payments and public finance. Burundi on average records only moderate growth of 5%, the rate of inflation is in two digits, the rate of investment which was on average around 15% of the GDP at the beginning of the 1990's was estimated to be at 10% in 2005; while more than 67% of the Burundians live below the poverty line. The income per capita of USD 137 in 2008 has gone down by one third when compared with its level of 1992 when it was USD 210. Poverty is more marked in the rural than in the urban environment.

As regards the social aspects, life expectancy at birth fell from 51 years in 1993 to approximately 42 years in 2005. Infant and maternal mortality continue to be very high. With the decline in agricultural production, malnutrition is becoming an ever-greater public health problem in Burundi: the prevalence of retarded growth in the under-fives is 52.5%, this representing one of the highest rates in sub-Saharan Africa.

Moreover, access to basic social services such as schooling, health-care, drinking water, and sanitation, have all seriously worsened. The situation is particularly worrying on account of repatriated populations, the displaced communities, one-parent families, especially those with women or orphans at the head, as well as those affected by HIV/AIDS. There exist approximately 120.000 orphans as a result of AIDS. AIDS is one of the main causes of mortality and also appears to be one of the greatest socio-economic and medical threats in Burundi.

So far as the health infrastructure is concerned, the insufficiency of care is compounded by its poor geographical distribution: the town of Bujumbura, which is home to only 8% of the population, accounts for more than 53% of doctors and more than 50% of nurses in the country. However, the policy recently put in place, to grant free health care to all children under five years old and to pregnant women, has improved access to health care and reduced maternal and infant mortality.

The school system continues to be hampered by the insufficiency of infrastructures, equipment, and teaching staff. In addition, the Burundian school system continues to be impoverished by the weakness of private education which accounts only for 2.4% and 8.6% respectively of existing primary and secondary schools.

Secondary education is characterized not only by a disparity between strong demand and an extremely weak supply, but also by a strong marginalisation of technical teaching, with an emphasis on general teaching. This marginalisation is regarded as a choice which disregards the future in a primarily agricultural country and whose development must necessarily come about as the result of modernization, and the promotion of the handicraft and industrial sectors.

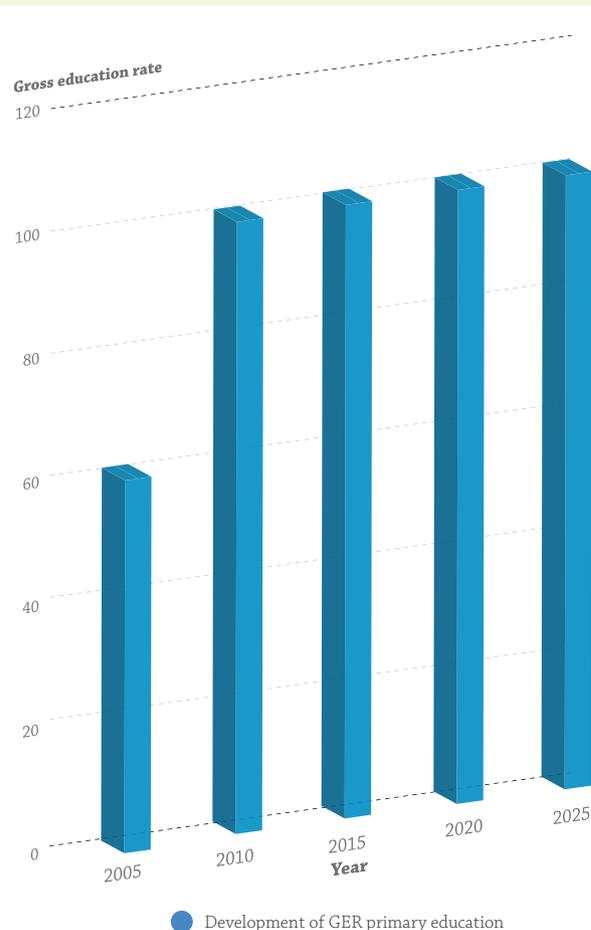
Higher education is also marked by a low supply capacity. After 50 years of existence, the University of Burundi (UB) which is the most important higher-education institute in the country can claim only 10.000 students divided into 13 faculties and institutes. The rate of transition from secondary school to the University has gone down to approximately 32.6% since the establishment of State examinations. Private higher education offers an alternative; however its accessibility is limited because of its relatively high cost.

Higher education exemplifies gender disparities that are even greater than those to be found at primary school and secondary school level. In 2005-06, girls accounted for only 27% of those attending the University of Burundi. Within private universities, this rate is estimated to be at approximately 45%. The evolution of human resources at the University of Burundi demonstrates a worrying regression vis-a-vis teaching personnel which is at odds with the normal evolution of all universities, especially in a phase of growth. Indeed, from 1985-86 to 2005-06, teaching personnel went down from 371 to 289 units and the greatest attrition occurs among accredited personnel.

The situation of women is alarming for several reasons: not only do they suffer from a cultural heritage which places them at a disadvantage, but women are victims of sexual violence, a phenomenon which has manifested itself in a worrying form over these last years. However, the penal code adopted in April 2009 introduced reforms which make it possible to hope for a progressive eradication of this practice.

The situation with respect to housing continues to be extremely precarious in terms of access to decent homes. The strong proportion of owners is related to the fact that more than 90% of the population lives in the countryside and that, given these conditions, each country-dweller, in theory, lives from his own produce. However, almost all of the dwellings to be found in the rural area, and in which 90% of the population lives, fail completely to conform to health and architectural standards. The floods which the country has experienced over these last years have only served to highlight the precariousness of the environment, both urban and rural.

### Development of GER primary education





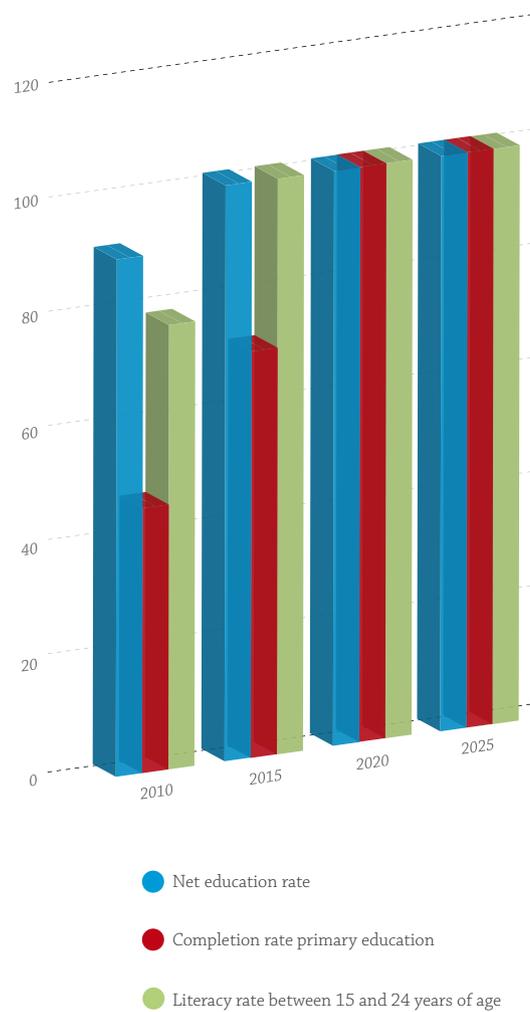
## 2.2. Major Challenges

Burundi's decision to engage in a strategic planning exercise for long-term development offers new prospects and charts a new course to enable Burundi to address the major challenges and thereby carry out the objectives that are established in **Vision Burundi 2025**.

From this point of view, the major challenges hereafter will have to be taken into account in the policies and the strategies used to carry out the vision. These will be to:

- Reconstruct national unity and a nation that experiences security and that is at peace;
- Control population growth and ensure food security;
- Resolve the crucial problem of unemployment and increase household incomes;
- Diversify and promote a competitive economy on a sound basis;
- Implement infrastructures for supporting production;
- Increase the level of literacy and create competent professionals;

## Assure primary education for everyone



### 2.2.1. To reconstruct national unity

The recent past of Burundi has demonstrated that without unity among the various segments of Burundian society, no economic or social progress can be achieved in a sustainable way. The re-establishment of national unity thus constitutes a challenge which it is important to pri-



oritize if growth and development are to be ensured. This approach is instrumental in fulfilling the prerequisites for making the vision for Burundi a reality.

Within this framework, Vision Burundi 2025 will focus intently on strengthening peace and security, and bringing about national reconciliation among Burundian people. To this end, Vision Burundi 2025 will provide all the stakeholders with a key role to play in achieving meaningful national reconciliation, and particularly close attention will be paid to young people who are the country's future. The Government and its societal stakeholders will invest in the quest to identify the most effective ways and means for ensuring that reconciliation among Burundian can become a reality in order to establish a lasting peace throughout the whole the country. In this regard, the spirit of equity will be mainstreamed into the principles guiding the work of all agencies of government, at the central government and grass-roots levels, in an effort to enshrine social justice and crack down on official lawlessness.

The State, while playing a dominant role in the process of national unity, will be supported by civil society and religious organizations. The traditional mechanisms for the resolution of conflict and societal management will be implemented.



### 2.2.2. To control population growth and ensure food security

Burundi has come to a realization that demography and population trends are strategic considerations in terms of development and, for this reason any long-term development policy has to take account of these issues.

Indeed, Burundi has eight million inhabitants on a surface area of 27834 km<sup>2</sup>, which makes it one of the most densely populated countries in the world. More than 90% of this population lives in the countryside, a pattern of land use which exerts strong pressure on the land which consequently becomes less and less fertile. With regard to the structure of the population, its rate of

increase is ultimately liable to outstrip economic growth. More than half of the population is made up of young people under 17 years old and the fertility rate is 6 children. This situation suggests that population growth has the potential to surge in the medium term.

This situation involving a mainly rural population, combined with agricultural production which has remained traditional on overworked land, entails damage to the achievement of food security. From this point of view the control of population growth constitutes a major challenge that Vision Burundi 2025 proposes to resolve.

For this reason, Vision Burundi 2025 will set up suitable policies for reducing, over time, demographic growth and to promote urbanization at the same time, making it possible to move most young people from the countryside towards the cities in order to free up arable lands. Accompanying measures will be undertaken to prepare these young people to exercise nonagricultural trades in urban areas in particular by means of the system of technical and vocational training.

Action to take up this challenge will allow on the one hand for the control of population growth, the production of farm surpluses, suitable for being processed and to provide monetary incomes to country-dwellers while contributing to the fight against poverty. In addition, the problem of the weak rate of urbanization will be solved, thus creating a market for agricultural produce and generally a better standard of living for country-dwellers as well as for those who chose to live in cities.

### 2.2.3. To resolve the crucial problem of unemployment and increase the revenues of households

The option of a long-term vision is essentially designed to prepare a better future for society. The analysis of the school system and its products highlights a certain number of circumstances which attest to the fact that unemployment represents a considerable challenge for the future of the country. Indeed, today, only 30% of the pupils who finish primary school reach secondary education, the remaining 70% drop out and join active life without any specified qualification. Secondary school pupils embrace for the most part general teaching which is supposed to lead to higher education, the others are directed towards the public and private technical training schools.

The Burundian school system on all levels produces qualified students who will swell the ranks of the very restricted labor market. The State, principal employer, is itself buffeted by persistent budgetary imbalances, which constitute major constraints with regard to the revival of the economy and the promotion of employment. In the same way, the private sector is very weakened by the crisis and cannot play a leading development role and absorb most unemployed young people.

Vision Burundi 2025 sets out to bring multisector solutions to this situation so as to take up the challenge of the creation of jobs. It is in particular about the promotion of the private sector as the engine of growth and the creation of jobs. The increase in the rate of urbanization and regional integration which will be initiated offer employment opportunities. An aggressive policy of training and education in order to form a pool of skilled labor and a high-level and competitive expertise will be undertaken in parallel. Moreover, the other sectors that generate growth such as agriculture, the development of services, industrial development and development of the mines, tourism and support infrastructures for production, will contribute to the creation of employment.

#### 2.2.4. To diversify and promote a competitive and sound economy

The Burundian economy is dominated by the primary sector made up essentially of agriculture which contributes approximately half of Gross Domestic Product and contributes nearly 80% of export earnings. The secondary industry is characterized by a very weak industrial framework which was struck hard by the crisis. The industrial products are far from competitive, because of the high costs of the raw materials, the costs of transport and the geographical isolation of the country on the one hand, and its unfavorable tax policy on the other hand. The services sector, although progressing, occupies only approximately a third of GDP.

The current structure of production, dominated by agriculture, makes the economy very vulnerable and fragile because it is dependent on climatic conditions. Exports, primarily made up of coffee and tea, are very dependent on world prices but also on the fluctuation of harvests.

The diversification of the economy represents a great challenge for Burundi as it seeks to achieve accelerated economic growth. The principal questions which arise are: i) increase in productivity to produce more and on a basis of competitive quality in order to raise the income per capita of each inhabitant ii) the stabilization of the macroeconomic framework through the elimination of financial imbalances and the reduction of the level of foreign debt, and iii) improvement of the terms of trade for sound growth.

Vision Burundi 2025 must take up these challenges by an increase of agricultural yields through the modernization of production and the installation of a system for the storage of agricultural products. In addition, it should extend the productive base by industrialization partly related to the processing of agricultural produce and mining activity as with the development of the service industry. Burundi will set up an environment favorable to businesses in particular to attract foreign capital and to promote the competitiveness of Burundian products on the market of the East African Community of which Burundi is a member. The Vision also plans to make a comprehensive effort to diversify exports. As a result, new export products will be identified and developed.



### 2.2.5. To set up infrastructures for promoting production

One of the structural weaknesses of the Burundian economy resides in the lack of infrastructures of support for production. The reader's attention is drawn to the energy shortages, the bad condition and maintenance of the telecommunication and transport systems. These deficiencies constitute an obstacle, not only with regard to the increase and the diversification of production, but also with regard to its marketing.

The improvement and the installation of new infrastructures will make it possible to increase production, to reinforce the competitiveness of Burundian companies and to improve the living standards of the populations. In the short and medium term, action will be taken to bring about the rehabilitation of the support infrastructures for production and their consolidation for a progressive transformation of the rural world.

Burundi, in co-operation with the other countries of the East African Community and within the framework of the CEPGL and the COMESA, will improve considerably its network of roads, hydroelectric infrastructures and will set up a rail network. It will reinforce the ports on the Lake Tanganyika; while it will also modernize and reinforce its airports. These infrastructures will enable Burundi to benefit from its geographical proximity to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of its position leading to the corridors of North, Central and Southern international transport.

### 2.2.6. To raise the level of literacy and create skilled professionals

The aim of Vision Burundi 2025 is to equip Burundi with a competitive and diversified economy. It will be a question of modernizing agricultural production and the rural world, of developing a service industry and promoting a policy of urbanization. These objectives cannot be carried out without well-trained and qualified professionals. The vision will also aim at teaching reading and writing to the whole of the population.

This fundamental change will be the reform of the Burundian system of education. Indeed, the decline in the quality of the Burundian school system results means that graduates are not competitive and cannot reach the external market.

In this connection, the scientific, technical and technological sectors will be prioritized in order to promote research and creativity which are necessary in order to develop a competitive industry which is able to adapt to modern technologies. Also initiated will be a policy of vocational training and continuous skills improvement.



## CHAPTER 3

**THE IMAGE PROJECTED  
BY VISION BURUNDI 2025**



## Vision Burundi 2025

*In 2025, Burundi will be a nation that is united, that demonstrates solidarity and is in a state of peace, a country predicated on the rule of law with a rich cultural heritage, and it will also be a prosperous economy at the service of the well-being of one and all.*

«IGIHUGU C'AMATA N'UBUKI, ITEKA N'IJAMBO »



This image of Burundi in 2025 rests on a new type of visionary leadership able to lead the country towards this future. This leadership is an integral part of the Vision.

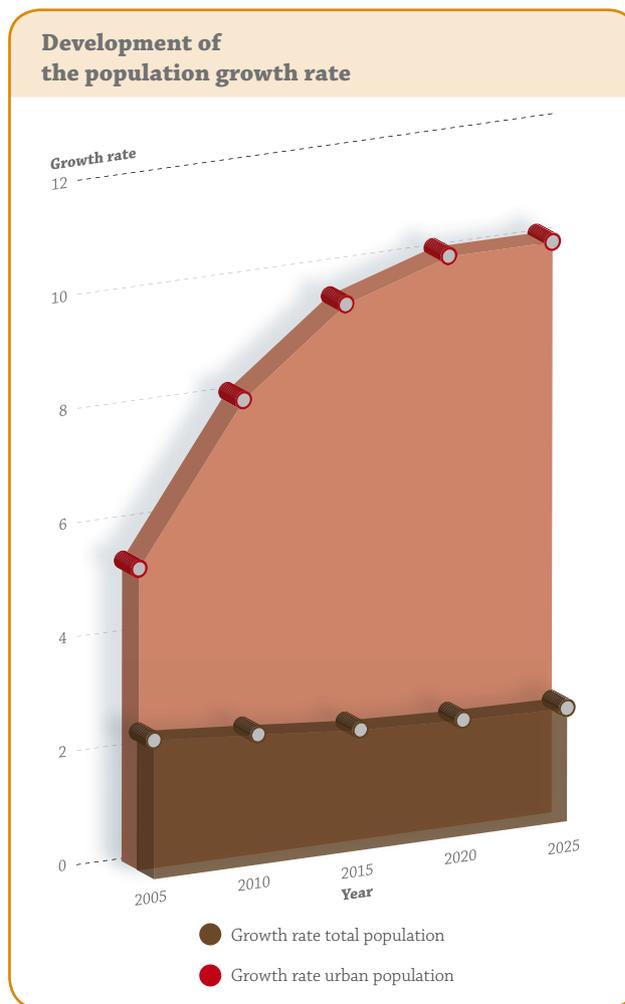
By 2025, the children who entered in the first year of primary school in September 2007 will have finished University and will already be on the labor market. Also, by that time, the various schools, training centres and universities will have graduated 18 class years, assuming the use of an academic term structure entailing one year less, resulting from the implementation of the LMD system (Licence/Bachelor, Maîtrise/Master, Doctorat/Doctorate). crystallized during the process of Bologna. This recommends in particular three cycles of university training, a three year Bachelors, a two year Masters and a three year Doctorate.

> **Universal primary school education will be a reality;** in fact, illiteracy will be on the verge of being eliminated altogether as the adult illiteracy rate in Burundi will be only 20 percent;

> **Population growth will be reduced progressively from 2.5% to 2% a year.** As a result, the country will only have an approximate population of 11.5 million in 2025. At such a pace, the population will double only in the space of 30 years;

> **By 2025, Burundi will have achieved a rate of urbanization of approximately 40%,** under the combined effect of both a proactive policy of urbanisation and economic diversification which will be underpinned notably by the development of tertiary and secondary sectors as well as the establishment of mining operations, providing more job opportunities;

> **By 2025, the rate of economic growth will have reached an average of 10%** and this will translate into a perceptible increase in incomes from \$720 per capita and poverty will be halved compared to its current level of 67%;

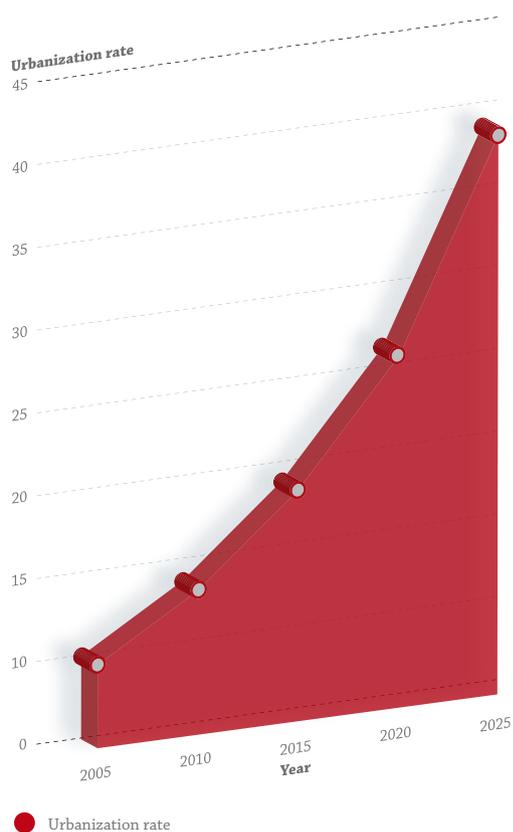




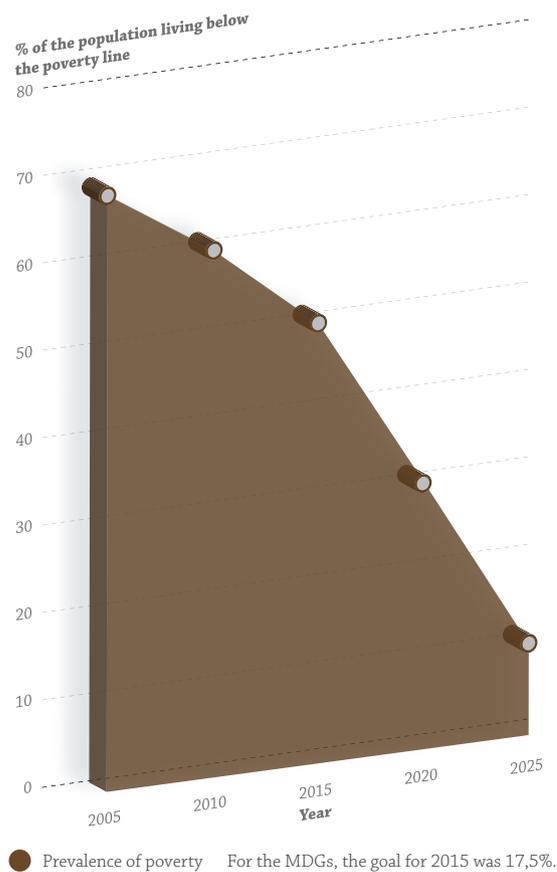
> At the political level, **Burundi will have reached a high level of democratization in which elections will be organized regularly** with proper respect

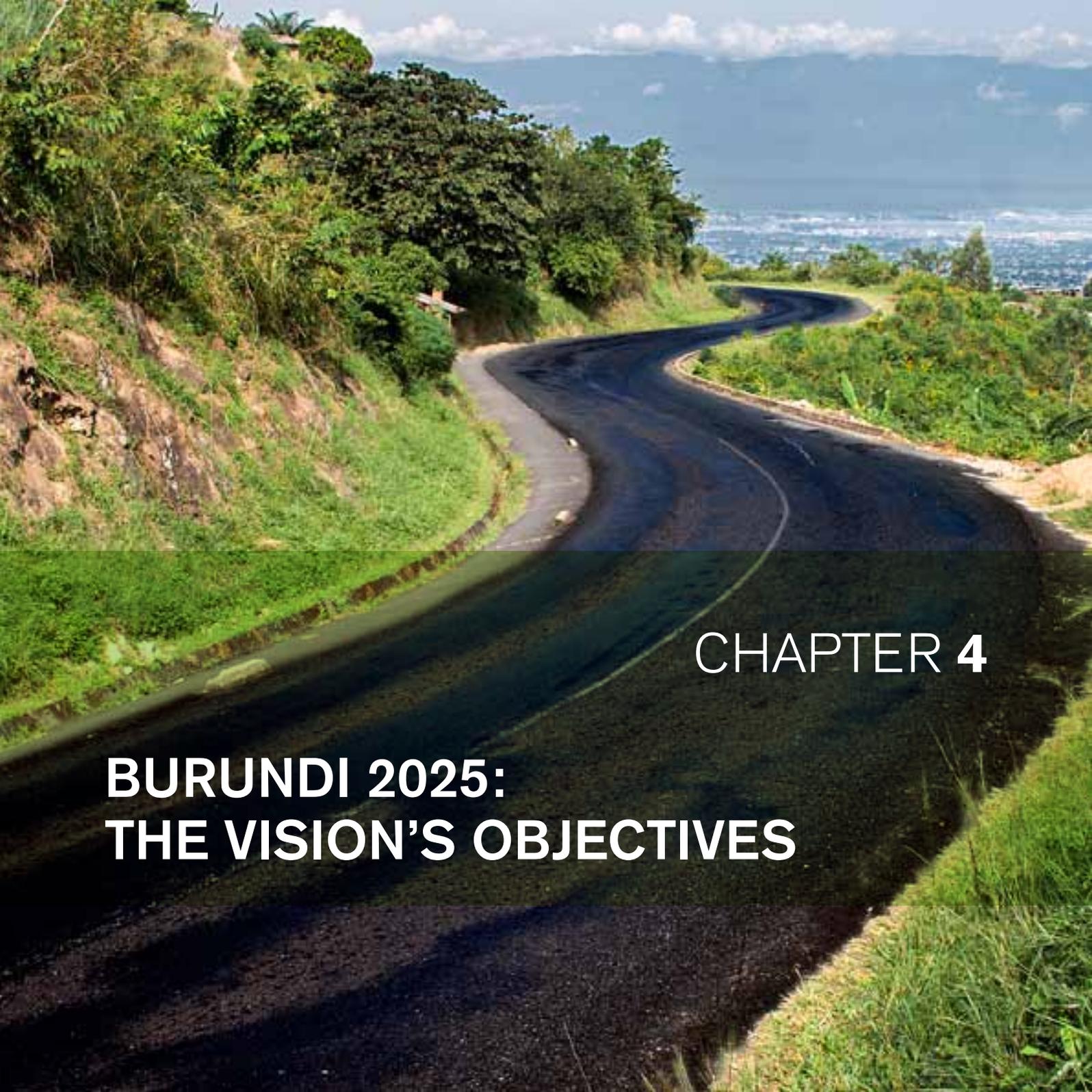
for the constitution and based on agendas presented by candidates and not based on regionalist or ethnic criteria.

### Progress of the Urbanization Rate



### Prevalence of poverty





## CHAPTER 4

# BURUNDI 2025: THE VISION'S OBJECTIVES

**Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to put Burundi on the path of sustainable development in the run-up to 2025.** In this regard, the ultimate objective is to redress the negative trends in GDP per capita that the country has experienced for more than a decade since the crisis of 1993, ensuring that this goes up from USD137 in 2008 to USD720 in 2025. A further goal will be to reduce the rate of poverty by half. And in order to address this challenge of sustainable development, Burundi has set itself the following essential objectives: (i) the installation of good governance within the rule of law; (ii) the development of a strong and competitive economy; (iii) the improvement of the living conditions of the people of Burundi.

These objectives are inter-dependant, give shape and purpose to the vision for Burundi and make up the framework on which the new paradigm for sustainable development takes root.



#### 4.1. The introduction of good governance and the rule of law

The further stabilization of the political environment, the consolidation of peace and security, the reinforcement of the rule of law and the rational and transparent management of public revenue will guide the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025.

**The reinforcement of the institutions of the State, the recruitment or appointment of senior managers**

**will be conducted on the basis of criteria of merit and not on that of ties of kinship.** This practice will be very important at the time when the improvement or the effectiveness of the administration is essential as a precondition for the restoration of the authority of the State. This requires on the part of the authorities a leadership engaged on all the levels of the hierarchy from top to bottom, and further calls for the introduction of partnerships with civil society organisations, the private sector, the religious communities and grass-root communities at

the level of the provinces, the communes and the areas characterized by high elevations in order to achieve the goals of the vision.

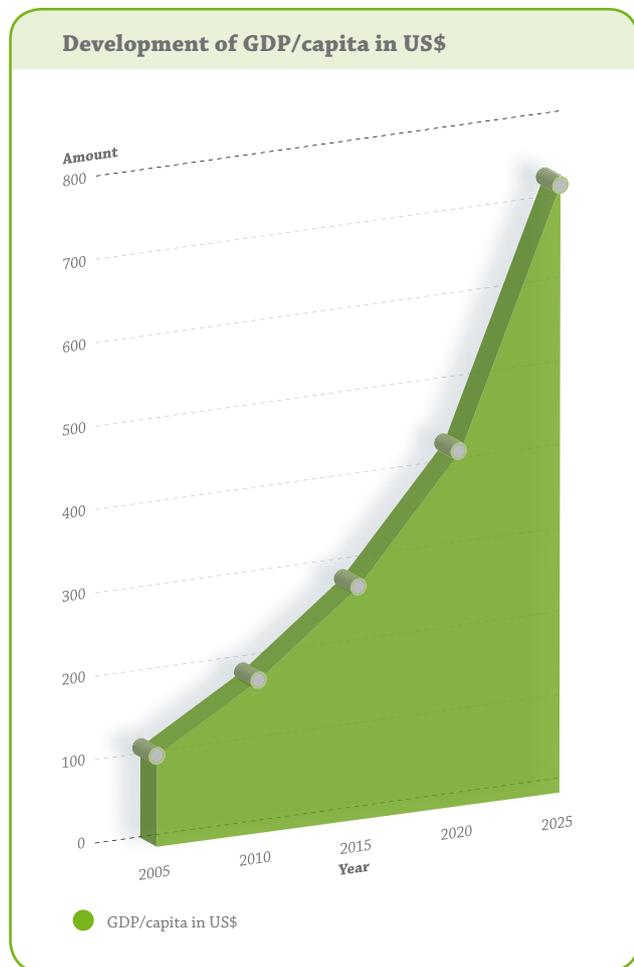
The ownership of the vision will be one of the requirements for ensuring consciousness-raising, mobilization and commitment by the Burundian populations in the effort of national rebuilding. The governance and the

reinforcement of the rule of law will be used as a catalyst to strengthen efforts to build social cohesion in order to erase the economic and social after-effects of conflicts.

**The right to justice and respect for human rights will be restored through the country within the framework of equity and will be reinforced through a policy of reconciliation.** Governance and the rule of law will be used as starting points to ensure a major shift in mindset



among those in control of the businesses in Burundi, Burundians must have a keen sense of both their rights and duties in any effective implementation of the vision.



#### 4.2. To develop a robust and competitive economy

The attainment of the objectives of the Vision will depend on achieving growth that is rapid and equitably distributed and an economy whose productive base will be extended to encompass industry and the services.

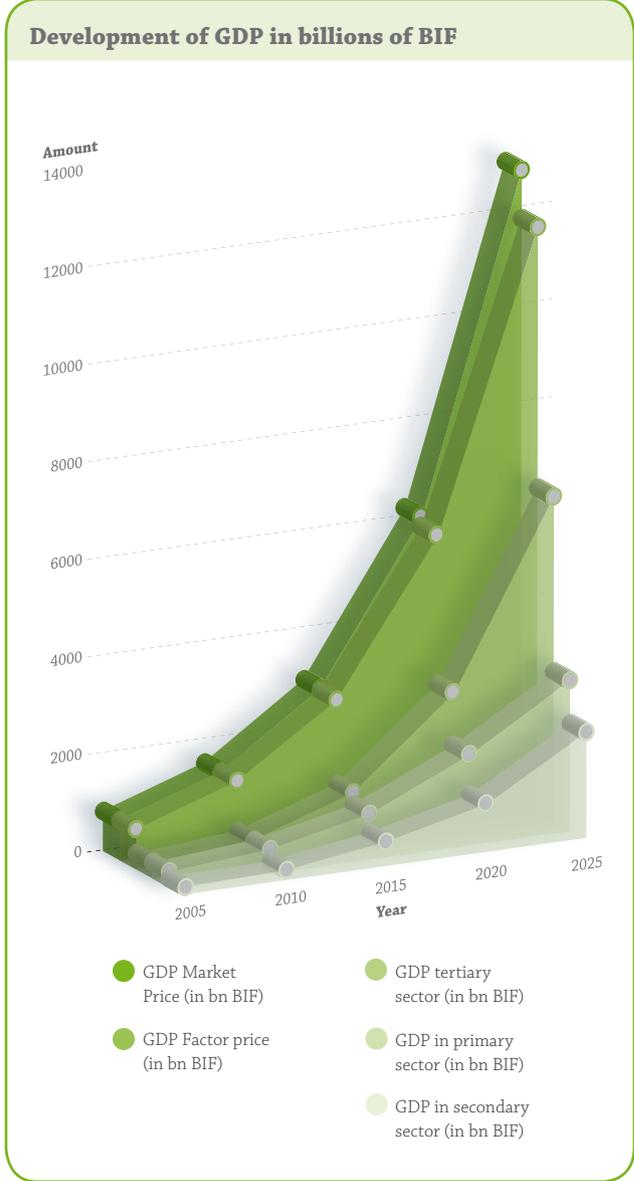
**The modernization of the agricultural sector and that of stockbreeding will be able initially to increase and diversify the agricultural production.** Agriculture could ensure food self-sufficiency for an ever-growing Burundian population and free up surpluses for trade exports. **Back-up infrastructures for production will be developed in order to facilitate processing, storage, transport and the organization of the various branches of the agriculture sector** –in particular those that relate to coffee and tea, Burundi's two main export products.

The crucial role of the private sector will be recognized and efforts will be provided to overcome the obstacles impeding the promotion of an attractive environment for businesses in order to win over Burundian and foreign businesspeople.

**Particular efforts will be made to identify new lines of export** in order to maintain robust economic growth to improve the living conditions of the populations. The modernization and the increase in productivity will have an impact on demography when you consider that 90% of the Burundian population is rural and only practise subsistence farming. The Government must follow an aggressive policy of urbanization and regional planning in order to release space necessary for agricultural growth.

The agricultural sector, in spite of its modernization and its output, could not in and of itself satisfy the conditions for and ensure the maintenance of economic growth in the long term. It will be necessary to call upon the sectors of mines and tourism to contribute to the process of sustainable development. Burundi has potentialities in the fields of mines and tourism that are not being harnessed and which can contribute significantly to the growth and the creation of nonagricultural employment.

The sector of services and new technologies are the sectors with a future for Burundi. A suitable policy will be implemented in order to promote investments and to make these sectors genuine engines of growth in the medium and the long term. These efforts will be supported by the improvement of the sectors of education and health in order to provide an effective and productive labor force which the economy needs. The over-abundance of this manpower will be also useful within the framework of regional integration.



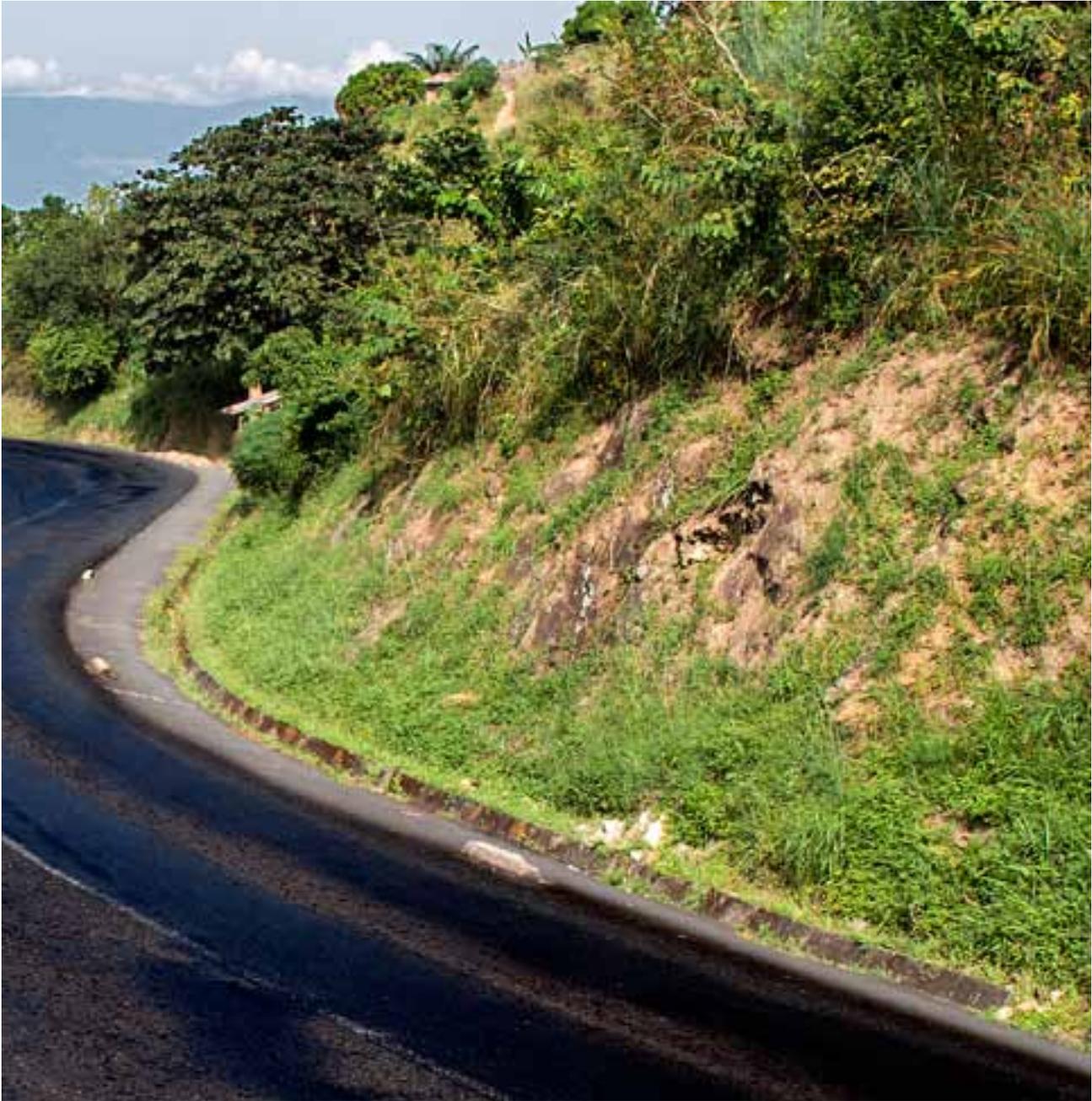


#### **4.3. To ensure a better quality of life for Burundians**

A better quality of life for Burundians by 2025 will be made possible by sustained high growth of the economy and the effectiveness of the policy of regional planning and of urbanization. A proactive policy of urbanization by 2025 will allow most of the Burundian population to live in urban centers and have access to basic social services of high quality whose facilities will be upgraded and their costs reduced. This will allow for the implementation of the administrative and social institutions at a grass-roots

level and the reinforcement of social safety nets. The space released in the rural environment will make it possible to increase agricultural production. The cities will henceforth constitute markets for the flow of the agricultural produce, creating an economic bond of partnership between countryside and city for the medium and the long term.

The urbanization will be at the source of the creation of nonagricultural employment, in particular the services, industry, mines and tourism sectors.





**CHAPTER 5**

**THE PILLARS OF THE VISION**

**Vision Burundi 2025** is based on eight (8) pillars which will make it possible for the country to make a clean break with the past, thereby engaging resolutely on the path of sustainable development. These pillars introduce a new paradigm which redefines the strategic options in order to put Burundi on the track of economic growth, and the fight against poverty.

This new paradigm must bring about a major change in the state of dependence which Burundi is experiencing today and redirect the country towards a sustainable development in the long run which takes into account and integrates the Burundians, their Cultural Capital, their Knowledge and the National Institutions in a spirit of equity and search for excellence.

### **The Vision's Pillars**

**Pillar 1** Good Governance and Capacity-Building for the State

**Pillar 2** Human Capital

**Pillar 3** Economic Growth and the Fight Against Poverty

**Pillar 4** Regional Integration

**Pillar 5** Demographics

**Pillar 6** Social Cohesion

**Pillar 7** Regional Planning and Urbanization

**Pillar 8** Partnership

### **5.1. Pillar 1. Good Governance and Capacity-Building for the State**

#### ***Promote strong leadership at all levels of hierarchy of the State apparatus***

The promotion of a “robust” leadership at all the levels of the hierarchy of the apparatus of the State will be a prerequisite for the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025. It will be the leitmotif which will guide the Action of the Government and the Institutions of the Republic in partnership with the private sector, the organizations of civil company, the religious groups, the grass-root communities, multilateral and bilateral cooperations in order to achieve the goals of sustainable development by 2025.



The implementation of the Vision entails a refocusing of the role of the State and the professionalisation of its institutions, in order to take up the challenges of sustainable development by 2025. This refocusing is one of the conditions essential to the rebuilding of a State of Law, the relaunching of the administration, and the revival of economic growth.

**The Burundian Government and People commit themselves to implementing a full range of measures to ensure the reinforcement of safety, for the management of disputes related to the past in order to prevent new conflicts** in particular through the promotion of reconciliation as envisaged in the Agreement of Arusha. The Government, all the public institutions, civil society and the religious organizations, will work together in rebuilding the traditional frameworks of reconciliation, of maintenance of social cohesion, sharing and harmony. They are also committed to taking as a starting point the African wisdom regarding tried-and-true mechanisms for the reweaving of the torn social fabric and re-establishment of national unity after the serious crises which Burundi experienced in recent years. **For this reason the Truth and Reconciliation Commission will play a key role in efforts to facilitate the process and to lay the groundwork for a lasting peace.**

With the final stopping of the wars, the consolidation of the process of reform of the national security sector will be continued with rigor and determination. We are referring to the new bodies of defense and safety: FDN, the PNB and the SNR resulting from the process of integration and demobilization of former fighters and which constitute today the new security architecture of the country. These structures will be on the front-line not only for the maintenance of peace and safety but also in the prevention and eradication of the continuous violations of human

rights, violence against women, theft and the increasing insecurity in the urban and rural centers. For this reason the recovery of the light weapons among the population is a priority to which Burundi must address itself as fast as possible. The Government will reinforce the capacities of all the defense and safety corps in the field of human rights and will improve the institutional framework.

The maintenance of peace and national stability also depends on the reintegration of the people who are victims of the conflicts and the children of the street who are victims of violence, diseases and poverty. This socio-economic reintegration already in progress will be continued in order to consolidate solidarity and social cohesion. It will make it possible to move away the specter of the return of the conflicts by making these Burundians citizens like all the others.

To establish a true peaceful cohabitation, to prevent new conflicts and to put an end to the cycle of violence which blocks development and exacerbates poverty, Burundi is firmly engaged in the process of taking aggressive measures to shed light upon and to restore the truth about the bloody events of the past, to establish facts and responsibilities in order to restore confidence and to reconcile the Burundians between themselves. The settlement of land conflicts will receive very detailed attention because it constitutes one of the sources of the social conflicts following the return of refugees and displaced persons. Within this framework, **the country intends to harness the contribution of Commission for Land and Other Assets, created in accordance with the Agreement of Arusha.**

Burundi, conscious of its status as a country in a post-conflict situation, treats as a priority the re-establishment and the consolidation of the rule of law and justice. The

vision gives great priority to the promotion and the protection of human rights. Burundi will reinforce the National Independent Commission on human rights by setting up an “Ombudsman” which will play a major part in conflict prevention and national reconciliation. **The country will also reinforce the framework for the action of civil society and the media within the context of efforts to achieve pluralism in dialogue and participation in the management of the public expenditure.**

***In the same way, impunity (official lawlessness) will be banished from the politico-administrative apparatus and the legal system will function in a manner that ensures satisfaction for all citizens.***

Burundi will reinforce the independence of the judiciary, the capacities of human and material resources of the judiciary and will facilitate the access to justice of the most vulnerable categories of society.

In addition, Burundi will reinforce good administrative governance and policy generally and more particularly at the grass-roots level, having due regard for equity. Transparency and competence will guide the appointment of the persons in charge at all levels. **Burundi will set up a national policy of capacity-building to restore the effectiveness and performance of government.**

The Vision endorses decentralization as an important component of administrative, economic and political governance. **The policy of decentralization will contribute to efforts to attenuate regional imbalances and at the same time will support the financing of development.**

The policy will also stress the effectiveness of the public administration in general and local government in particular. For this purpose, the authorities will focus on promoting the system of results-oriented management, emphasizing performance contracts. The Parliament will be reinforced to fully play its part in exercising at the central level and the decentralized level.

Vision Burundi 2025 will make the fight against corruption a priority and will pursue a strategy for increasing the resources for development and for raising the moral standard of public life. The control of corruption will usher in a new ethics with respect to the management of public expenditure which in the long term should result in an increase in the financial resources of the state and thereby its capacities for financing development.

The State will rely on the institutions for fighting against corruption which it will enhance to establish a system of transparency and optimal allocation of public resources. The efficient rebuilding of Burundi and its social capital predicated on the practice of the good governance and the reinforcement of the capacities of the State constitutes a prerequisite for efforts to stimulate a harmonious development of the other pillars of Vision Burundi 2025.



## 5.2. Pillar 2. Human Capital

***To provide a quality of better life for the population on the one hand and to count on a population that is educated and enjoying a good health on the other hand.***

Vision Burundi 2025 aims at providing a better quality of life for Burundians, with a skilled population that enjoys good health. The development of human capital is featured among the priority pillars of the vision because human beings simultaneously benefit from--and have a stake in--their own development. The development of Burundi is inextricably linked to that of its human capital.

In the sector of health, Vision Burundi 2025 is based on a policy centered on the improvement of the supply of health services. Efforts aimed at ensuring universal access to these services while paying a detailed attention to the principal problems which adversely affect Burundian public health such as the endemic-epidemic diseases, the environment, access to drinking water as well as malnutrition, will be continued.

**Vision Burundi 2025 must significantly raise the life expectancy at birth to increase it to 60 years.** It will make it possible moreover to provide care of health of quality at lower costs so as to align the performance in the sector with the standards of WHO.

This national policy of health will reinforce the institutional, human, infrastructural and equipment capacities in order to allow for effective accessibility to quality health-care – both front-line care and benchmark care in hospitals. The training of general practitioners, specialists, and caring personnel such as nurses and other medical personnel of high quality in sufficient numbers, appears among the priorities of the policy of health. In the same way, efforts to ensure the motivation of health care personnel will be part of the institutional mechanisms to be implemented within the framework of efforts to strengthen the health care system as a way to curb the brain drain.

Moreover, **Burundi has established as a challenge the reduction, by 2025, of infant mortality to 50 per 1000** against 108 in 2008, to eradicate malnutrition, to improve hygiene and sanitation, and to increase the access to drinking water up to 100% of the population. Notable improvements have already been recorded thanks to the implementation of measures of free care to pregnant women during childbirth and for children of less than 5 years of age.

With regard to maternal health, the rate of childbirth at health-care facilities increased from 23% in 2005 to 60% in 2010. As for the maternal death rate which was estimated at 800 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in the 1990s, it was estimated at 620 in 2007 (Burundi/MDG Report/2010), which seems to bear out the beneficial effects of the presidential measure taken in 2005 with regard to free maternity care. However, the estimates made on this ratio in the last General Census of Population and Housing carried out in 2008 amounted to 866. This shows that in spite of the policies undertaken as regards reproductive health, many efforts still have to be agreed in order to achieve the target defined in this field within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals.

**Vision Burundi 2025 gives priority to the control of the principal endemic-epidemic diseases which constitute major problems of public health in Burundi;** namely malaria, HIV/AIDS and diabetes.

Malaria is regarded as the primary cause of morbidity and mortality. Burundi will intensify the fight against this disease by an aggressive policy of prevention through the popularization and effective use of the impregnated mosquito net throughout the territory. This strategy will be supplemented by the use of the therapeutic combinations judged most effective on the market in order to control the levels of resistance which may potentially appear. Burundi will do all that it can to benefit from the regional and international initiatives for fighting against malaria which will offer partnership opportunities and mobilization of financing.

HIV/AIDS, whose seroprevalence today amounts to the rates of 5% for the urban population, 4% for the semi-urban population and 2.5% for the rural environment, constitutes one of the principal causes of mortality and is a real threat to public health in Burundi. Vision Burundi 2025 places the fight against this scourge at the forefront of the major challenges facing the country. The approach to the fight against HIV/AIDS will be pursued at all levels on a multisector basis because it threatens the very basis of Vision Burundi 2025, for example: economic growth, demography and the fight against poverty.

The policy rises to the challenge by setting up strategies centered on a combined approach for prevention and medical and psychosocial care. The country will continue to enter into partnerships with civil society which have proved their effectiveness in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The Vision intends to reduce the rates of prevalence and to reverse trends by 2025.

Vision Burundi 2025 also gives priority at the level of medical policy to the fight against respiratory infections which constitute the second cause of morbidity and mortality in children of less than 5 years, and epidemic diseases such as cholera and meningitis.

Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to improve the health of mothers and children through the reinforcement of reproductive health and preventive programs such as the systematization of vaccination against principal endemic diseases facing children.

**Vision Burundi 2025 also seeks to promote a quality education system through the implementation of a policy which aims at the development of a well educated Burundian population.** The education system will be the focus of far-reaching reforms in order to adapt it to the new needs and requirements of the development. Moreover, action will be taken to ensure high level training in the scientific and technological fields commensurate with the new priorities facing the country.

With regard to the primary education system, the Vision will pursue the goal of universal schooling, which has already started, and will stress the improvement of the quality of teaching. For this purpose, Burundi will take care to build new school infrastructures and will ensure the training of teachers qualified to meet the standards relating to teacher/pupil ratios in order to provide an appropriate framework for the pupils. Adequate equipment and the teaching equipment will be central to this policy.

This policy will make it possible to solve the problem of the low rate of graduation from primary education to secondary education, as well as addressing the issue of primary school dropouts. Efforts will be made to raise the graduation rate to 40% and of creating centers of

vocational training to accommodate dropouts. The reform of the educational system will also relate to the duration of the schooling at the level of primary education which will be obligatory until 16 years of age.

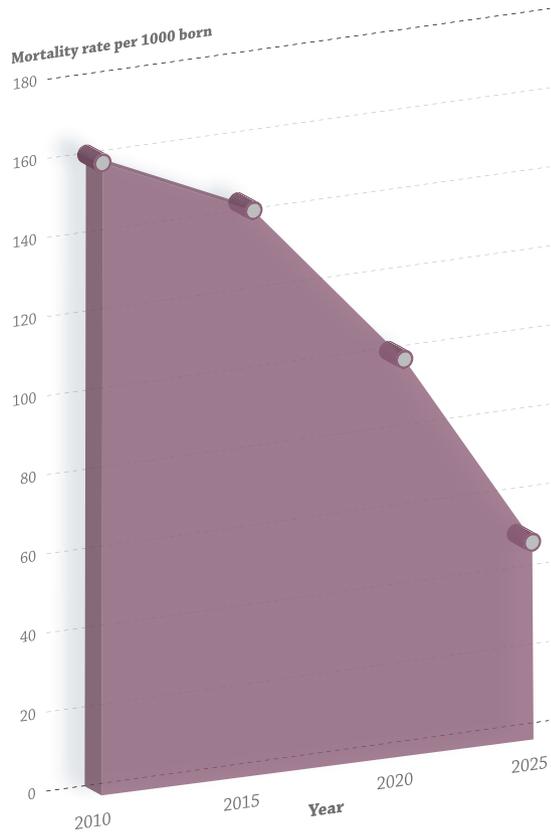
At the level of secondary education, the Vision will appreciably improve the gross enrolment ratio which is today one of lowest in Africa. This will be the subject of an in-depth reform to prioritize technical and professional teaching in order to train a qualified pool of manpower to meet the development needs of the country.

In the same way, university education will be reformed to develop the scientific and technological fields to a greater extent. Stress will be laid on the one hand on fundamental and applied research and on the other hand on scientific co-operation as regards research with developed countries.

The reform will also focus on high level, competitive management training on the market. It will act inter alia to implement the reform relating to the Bologna process.

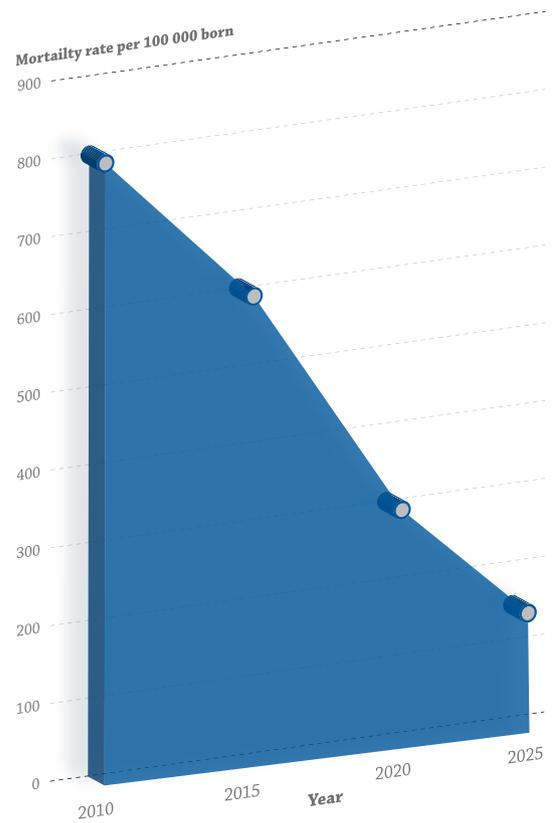
The motivation of the teachers will be part of the reform. This will come about through the revaluation of teachers' wages on the one hand and the organization of advanced training courses on the other hand.

### Reduce the under-five mortality rate



● Mortality rate per 1000 born For Burundi, the goal for 2015 was 68.

### Maternal mortality rate



● Maternal mortality rate For Burundi, the goal for 2015 was 200.



### 5.3 Pillar 3. Economic Growth and the Fight Against Poverty

*To promote an accelerated economic growth of at least 10%*

**Vision Burundi 2025** plans to change the growth rate to 10% by 2025. To achieve this goal Burundi intends to broaden and diversify the productive base by in particular increasing the capacities that contribute to the sectors promoting growth, while enhancing the

participation of the private sector and the diversification of employment and income opportunities. The policy of growth will be supported by the key sectors generating growth such as agriculture, the mining sector, and the services sector.

**Vision Burundi 2025 proposes to make modernization and diversification of agriculture and stockbreeding one of the priorities of economic growth.** New cash crops will be identified, introduced and popularized in order to increase the supply for national consumption

and export. These are in particular fruits and vegetables, essential oils, macadamia, Mulinga, palm oil.

Concerning the current cash crops, coffee, tea and cotton, local processing will be carried out in order to retain at the source part of their added value. Exports will aim to satisfy niche markets which offer keen prices for the producers. Burundi will modernize and increase agricultural production through a rural development facility pressing into service the policy of decentralization and regional planning. It will make it possible to promote integration of agriculture, industry and services in the spirit of a global vision for the development of the agricultural sector.

Vision Burundi 2025 will stress the development of cattle breeding and fish-farming on a large scale. It will aim to extend the range of the sources of income to the producers on the one hand, and to ensure a balanced food supply in animal proteins in sufficient quantities by 2025 on the other hand. Stockbreeding is a “bird in the hand” which contributes to the fight against poverty and the vulnerability of rural dwellers.

Burundi intends to replenish livestock and to modernize the sector so that stockbreeding plays a supporting role in growth and food security in particular by the creation of a “dairy and meat” sector.

The revival of fisheries will call for solutions to the problems of the sector in order to ensure that the fisheries sector can operate on a viable and sustainable basis and contribute to food security and the generation of incomes.

**Vision Burundi 2025 plans to promote the mining sector as an important component of economic growth.** With this aim in view, a mining code based on incentives

will be formulated in order to attract foreign investors to develop the deposits which have been the subject of a feasibility study. In parallel, research will be intensified on the sites where the traces were identified and whose studies must be brought up to date.

**Vision Burundi 2025 attaches very great importance to the promotion of tourism in Burundi.** A policy of development of tourism will be prepared to update tourist infrastructures and their logistics.

The promotion of tourism will aim at complementarities with neighbouring countries, by showcasing the unique features of Burundi compared to the destinations offered by neighbouring countries.

**The development of communication and information technologies is an important component of economic growth and creation of new jobs.** Vision Burundi 2025 seeks to put Burundi at the forefront of the use of Communication and Information Technologies (TIC) by 2025. This will be fulfilled through a policy which will aim to make it possible for Burundians to have access to modern techniques of data processing and telecommunication, to develop the services sector and ensure the formation of national expertise.

The policy will promote the private sector by setting up incentives to attract foreign contractors. The Development of TIC will also require the installation of a regional and international co-operation in the context of major investments with respect to telecommunications and the installation of underwater optical fibres. Burundi must develop this co-operation in order to equip the country with modern information and communications technology by 2025.

**Vision Burundi 2025 will make the private sector the engine of development.** The disengagement of the State from the productive sector in favor of the private sector and the liberalization of the economy will constitute the building blocks of economic management. Actions will be undertaken to restructure the institutions of support for the private sector in order to make it more effective. Rather innovative mechanisms of support for private investors (such as the Fund of Support for Private Investments) will be reinforced, in order to increase the access of small investors to credit in general and micro-finance in particular.

Fulfillment of the participation of the private sector in the revival of the economy will also be achieved through the development of Public Private Partnerships (PPP). Burundi will improve the business climate (doing business), to create an environment favorable to the growth of both national and international investments.

The reforms will also relate to the reorganization of the financial and tax system which constitutes a serious impediment to the rise of the private sector. The codes pertaining to commerce, companies and investments will be also re-examined in order to adapt them to reflect a business-friendly environment. Ensuring the participation of a private sector that is well structured and efficient will be one of the fundamental objectives of Burundi in order to create not only a middle class of economic stakeholders, but also to develop the basis for strong and sustainable economic growth, which is the source of creation of wealth and employment.

**Within this framework, Burundi intends to strengthen the policy of microfinance. In addition the Vision Burundi 2025 will undertake major reforms so that the traditional financial system plays a decisive part in**

**stimulating economic activity and growth.** Burundi will put in place, in partnership with economic transactors, (i) an environment conducive to the invigoration of the banking sector through the definition of a legal framework as regards credit, rights of ownership and of bankruptcy, (ii) support for the private sector in strengthening its capacities to gain access to credit, (iii) the development of a pro-business environment (doing business), (iv) reinforcement of monetary and credit policy in order to enhance the supply of credit in the medium and long term.

**Vision Burundi 2025 will give a priority to the economic infrastructures without which Burundi will not be able to achieve the desired accelerated economic growth.** The Vision will also focus on improvement and the development of the infrastructures of transport, communication and energy.

**Concerning the energy sector, the Vision has as a principal objective to ensure that by 2025 both the rural and urban populations have access to reliable, clean sources of energy and at competitive prices,** and to provide energy in quantities sufficient for the industrial, artisanal and mining activities. Further efforts will be made to build hydroelectric power stations and invest in renewable energies.

Hydro-electric resources, which are immense (1,700 MW), will be harnessed either directly by the State, or by private companies. In the same way, the “Wood-energy” sector will be enhanced while safeguarding the environment. The promotion of renewable energies will focus on solar energy, biogas, ethanol and wind power.

Concerning the infrastructures for transport, **Vision Burundi 2025 plans to turn Burundi into a country for**

**transit and a major hub for the Great Lakes subregion, oriented towards a service economy.** A landlocked country, its asset resides in the density of its national road network and its geographical position. At the crossroads of Central Africa and East Africa and at the center of the Great Lakes region, Burundi has the potential to serve as a hub for the subregion connecting the southern part of the continent via the Southern Corridor towards Durban in South Africa, the Atlantic Ocean by the railroad via Kalémie in the DRC towards the port of Matadi, the Indian Ocean by the Northern Corridor towards Mombassa and by the Central Corridor towards Dar Es Salaam.

Within the framework of its regional integration, Burundi must carry out major projects hand-in-hand with modernization, rehabilitation and construction of infrastructures for transport, in particular port and airport facilities, which require colossal financial resources. In the same way the investments in the transport sector will be required, in order to maintain and rehabilitate the existing road network on the one hand, and to ensure the construction of new roads and highways, on the other hand.

**Vision Burundi 2025** attaches a very special importance to air transport. This is a prerequisite for opening up the country and ensuring the promotion of trade and tourism. For this reason, the extension, modernization and security of the international airport of Bujumbura will be one of the priorities in order to provide users with modern and high-quality facilities and services. The province of Gitega will be equipped with an airport of international stature as a future political and administrative capital.

Concerning lake transport, the Vision aims at ensuring the maintenance in good condition and improvement of port infrastructures, the maintenance and extension of the lake fleet (commercial, fisheries, tourism) for existing ports, the construction of a shipyard, but also the installation and outfitting of new ports wherever warranted. The port of Bujumbura will play an essential part in ensuring the security and diversification of the means of supplying the country. The port of Rumonge will also see its importance increased, in order to develop fisheries on the one hand, and trade with Tanzania on the other hand

**Burundi also hopes to engage in the development of railroads** while connecting itself with the system of railroads of Tanzania, which will allow ready access to the Indian Ocean. This connection will support the export of ores and the carriage of the goods at lower cost.



#### 5.4 Pillar 4: Regional Integration

##### ***To benefit from regional integration to increase and diversify the Burundian economy***

The economic growth of Burundi depends on its integration to the regional and sub-regional market. In this connection, **Burundi will adopt the measures and the institutional reforms necessary to implement this integration in order to make it possible for the agricultural and industrial sectors to diversify production and to offer a range of competitive products on the export market.** Burundi will take part fully in the East African

Community which offers real opportunities to Burundi for being integrated in the regional economy and which will make it possible to widen the market in which Burundian companies operate, to achieve economies of scale and to ensure better integration into the world economy. The Vision will capitalize on the results of the reforms of the Burundian education system to export expertise and a qualified workforce onto the regional market, and by doing this, will come up with a response to the challenge of unemployment.

Vision Burundi 2025 considers economic integration into the East African Community as an opportunity to address

economic constraints related to the territorial isolation of Burundi, in particular the high cost and the delays involved in the routing of imports and exports of Burundi, making the products uncompetitive. Burundi intends to carry out investments in conjunction with the other Member States to develop economic infrastructures relating to transport, energy, telecommunications, etc. The development of such infrastructures will enable Burundi moreover to benefit from its geographical positioning as a hub for trade between Central Africa and East Africa, and between Central and Southern Africa.

The common market, while strengthening Burundi's process of industrialization, will contribute in a significant way to efforts to alleviate poverty and lower unemployment.

Moreover, Vision Burundi 2025 will set itself the objective of giving primacy to the cultural wealth of Burundi so that it becomes a national beacon of the sub-regional culture through the various distinctive social and cultural activities performed in Burundi.



### 5.5 Pillar 5: Demographics

***To set up an aggressive demographic policy in order to limit the population growth rate to 2% by 2025.***

Burundi is conscious of its explosive demographic situation which, if nothing is done in the medium and long term, will put a serious brake to the process of socio-economic development and the efforts to address the objectives of Vision Burundi 2025. The need to control the population is becoming impossible to ignore and constitutes a major challenge for the country of which 90% of the population live from the soil and whose progress in agricultural production and stockbreeding, the main sources of economic growth for Burundi, is limited by the soil available. Moreover this situation damages the industrialization of the country and entails monetary repercussions.

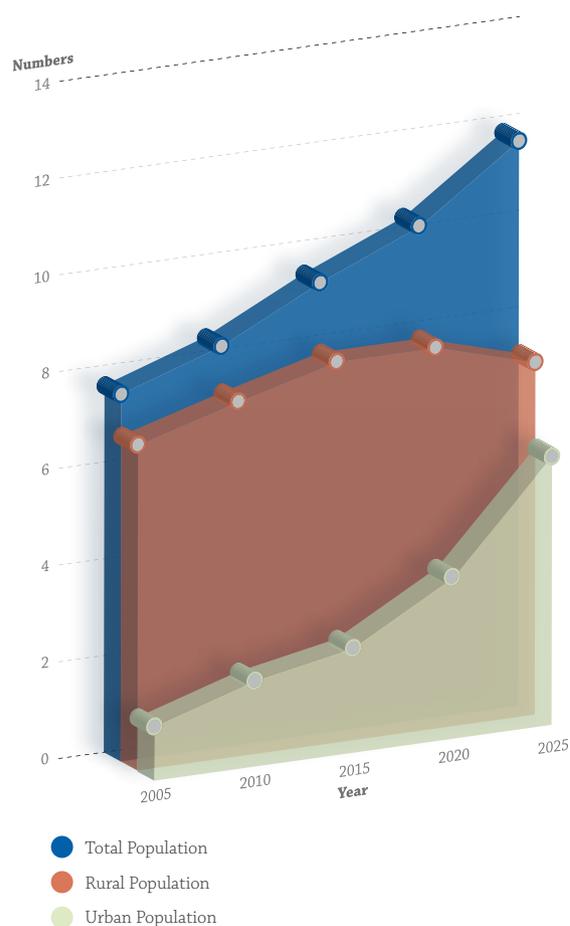
The future prospects are hardly favorable with a demographic growth rate of 2.5% which would lead to a doubling of the population every 28 years. In addition, the Burundian population is young with a median age of 17 years.

This youth which constitutes the mainspring of the development of the country is rural, with the great majority illiterate, and consequently economically not very competitive. The youth of the population is thus potentially a major source of rapid population growth.

In addition, women constitute 51% of the Burundian population and are the principal labor force in the rural environment. Most of these women are illiterate and in addition, Burundian women experience a high fertility rate which starts at a young age and goes on until menopause.

Burundi, in order to achieve the goals of Vision Burundi 2025, will set up a proactive policy of control of the population through the development of an aggressive strategy in partnership with the stakeholders of the socio-economic development, in particular with the support of the religious organizations, civil society and NGOs. The ultimate goal is to impart a durable downward curve to the demographic growth rate. **Particular stress will be laid on information and education on family planning and reproductive health.** It will also be a matter of overcoming deeply held beliefs and taboos. The education of the young people (girls and boys) will come in for very detailed attention concerning sexually transmitted diseases, prevention against HIV/AIDS, early pregnancies, etc.

**Population Growth per million inhabitant**





## 5.6 Pillar 6: Social Cohesion

***To gradually restore social cohesion while once again honoring the fundamental cultural values which always characterized Burundian society.***

Burundi is conscious that the crises of identity that it has traversed have seriously eroded the cultural and moral bases of society and caused a deep tear of the social fabric. Vision Burundi 2025 regards social cohesion as an essential element to mobilize and engage the energies of the whole of the Burundian community towards the realization of the shared and best future for all in a spirit of unity and solidarity.

Vision Burundi 2025 proposes to gradually rebuild social cohesion while once again honoring the fundamental cultural values which always characterized Burundian society. With this aim in view, the Vision intends to harness the regional blending of ethnic groups which can constitute a powerful asset for an effective national integration.

**The Vision regards the protection and the promotion of cultural identity as an effective means to rebuild social cohesion.** Within this framework, in addition to the fundamental values of Burundian society that are in particular Ubuntu (the ethical concept of African origin), tolerance, respect for the other, sharing, etc., Kirundi, the language of communication between all Burundians,

forms the principal cultural identity of the country and is a unifying factor. It will be reinforced in particular while a new focus is placed on Burundian literature primarily made up of short stories, proverbs (bitito, migani, bisokozo, etc.), poetry, and drama.

Moreover, Vision Burundi 2025 will ensure the promotion of the folk dances in all their richness and their diversity as an element of the national cultural identity of the country. Burundi will capitalize on the initiatives of the cultural clubs which made known and promoted the folk dances by highlighting regional specificities.

In addition, social cohesion will be able to take root if and only if the principle of equity is adopted as the cornerstone of social relations at community level and at the policy level.



### 5.7 Pillar 7: Regional Planning and Urbanization

***To set up a proactive policy of villagisation and urbanization allowing for action to raise the rate of growth of urbanization to 40 percent.***

One of the cruxes of the economic and social development of Burundi consists in raising the major constraints linked to under-urbanization and the problem of demographic

growth. Urbanization is a top priority of Vision Burundi 2025. Its implementation will allow for a reorganization of the rural world in consonance with the policy of regional planning. It will have as a consequence the development of urban centres, more effective distribution of basic social services while ensuring their accessibility, improvement of the quality of life, and the freeing-up of new land intended for the increase in agricultural production and stockbreeding.

**Urbanization by 2025 will present another face of Burundi where the cities will constitute true focal points of development** and where nonagricultural jobs will be created through great work of civil engineering and projects of economic development.

Vision Burundi 2025 plans to set up a policy of urbanization which it regards as one of the ways of solving the thorny problem of the overpopulation of the rural environment. Rural areas claim over 90% of the total population, the densities are very high there, reaching 400 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. The population, mainly made up of young people without training and employment, exerts a great pressure on arable lands.

The Vision aims to change this rate of urbanization to 40% by 2025 in order to be able to free up arable lands and to provide nonagricultural job opportunities in the urban environment. Moreover, the policy of urbanization and regional planning will make it possible to improve the social habitat in the urban and rural environments, to release space for agricultural/forestry/stockbreeding production and to create new markets for the flow of the agricultural produce. Urban development will help to monetize the rural economy.

In addition to the creation of new cities, the Vision also envisages the setting up of a plan of long-term urbanization for the town of Bujumbura, and to reinforce the capacities for participatory city planning.

Through urbanization, the Vision also aims at ensuring improvement of access by the population to quality basic social services as well as economic infrastructures.

**Burundi, within the framework of Vision Burundi 2025, will make regional planning an important component**

**of its policy of economic and social development which will aim to bring about the organization and management of national space.** At the heart of the strategy will be the fundamental question pertaining to the new societal structure to which the Burundians aspire. The objective will be for Burundi to obtain a comprehensive and integrated plan for the sustainable management of the territory accompanied by master development plans on a province by province and region by region basis on the one hand, and on the other hand, to pursue a sub-regional development strategy, in synergy with the frontier countries, in order to support the cross-border co-operation as well as shared expertise and tools for the planning and management of this sector.

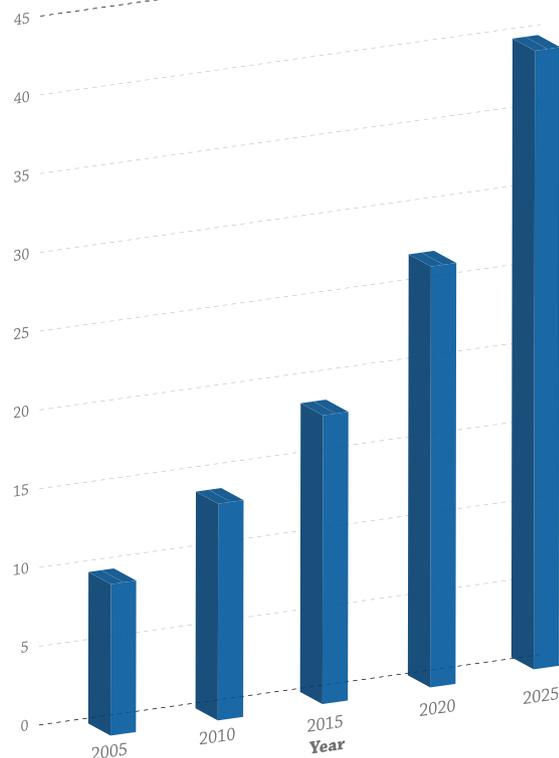
Vision Burundi 2025 envisages the formulation of a regional planning framework geared toward the establishment of regional focal points of development on the basis of economic potentiality of the areas concerned. The creation of the development poles will constitute an effective means of achieving economies of scale through the concentration of social overhead capital. For this purpose this initiative will facilitate agricultural mechanization, and the development of the secondary and tertiary industries. In addition these transformations of space will make it possible to ease the constraints on the rural sector and support a better management of the environment.

Vision Burundi 2025 envisages the transfer of the political capital towards Gitega.

The regional planning process brings solutions to the task of meeting the needs for the populations in terms of grass-roots social infrastructures in the areas of health, education and drinking water. It makes it possible moreover to enhance the programs of education and reproductive health, the fight against HIV/AIDS, and malaria.

### Development of urbanization rates

Rate of urbanization



● Rate of urbanization

### 5.8 Pillar 8: Partnership

***To create synergies between the various development stakeholders and to promote a framework favorable to dialogue and consensus in the planning process for the development, financing and implementation of Vision Burundi 2025.***

The strategies and the policies which underlie the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 require the promotion of a concerted approach, as well as a technical and financial aid which goes beyond the unsupported efforts of Burundi.

The implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 constitutes an important reference point for the implementation of a dynamic partnership and mechanisms of coordination between the Government of Burundi, its bilateral and multilateral development partners, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), civil society and the private sector. The objective is to create synergies between the various development stakeholders and to promote a favorable framework of dialogue, consensus and exchange with the Government in the process for the planning, financing and implementation of Vision Burundi 2025.

For this reason, Burundi will install practical instruments and mechanisms in order to better coordinate, harmonize and align the development programmes to ensure the best implementation of the Vision in accordance with the Paris and Accra Declarations.

Burundi embarks on its program of development (PRSP/MDG) for the medium term strongly handicapped by the weakness of the macroeconomic framework and by the limited opportunity to mobilize additional resources for future investments. An alternative strategy will be developed with the Technical and Financial Partners (PTF) in order



to fill the financial gap, to reconsider the indebtedness policy for Burundi and to overcome obstacles standing in the way of efficient implementation of the development strategies and programs.

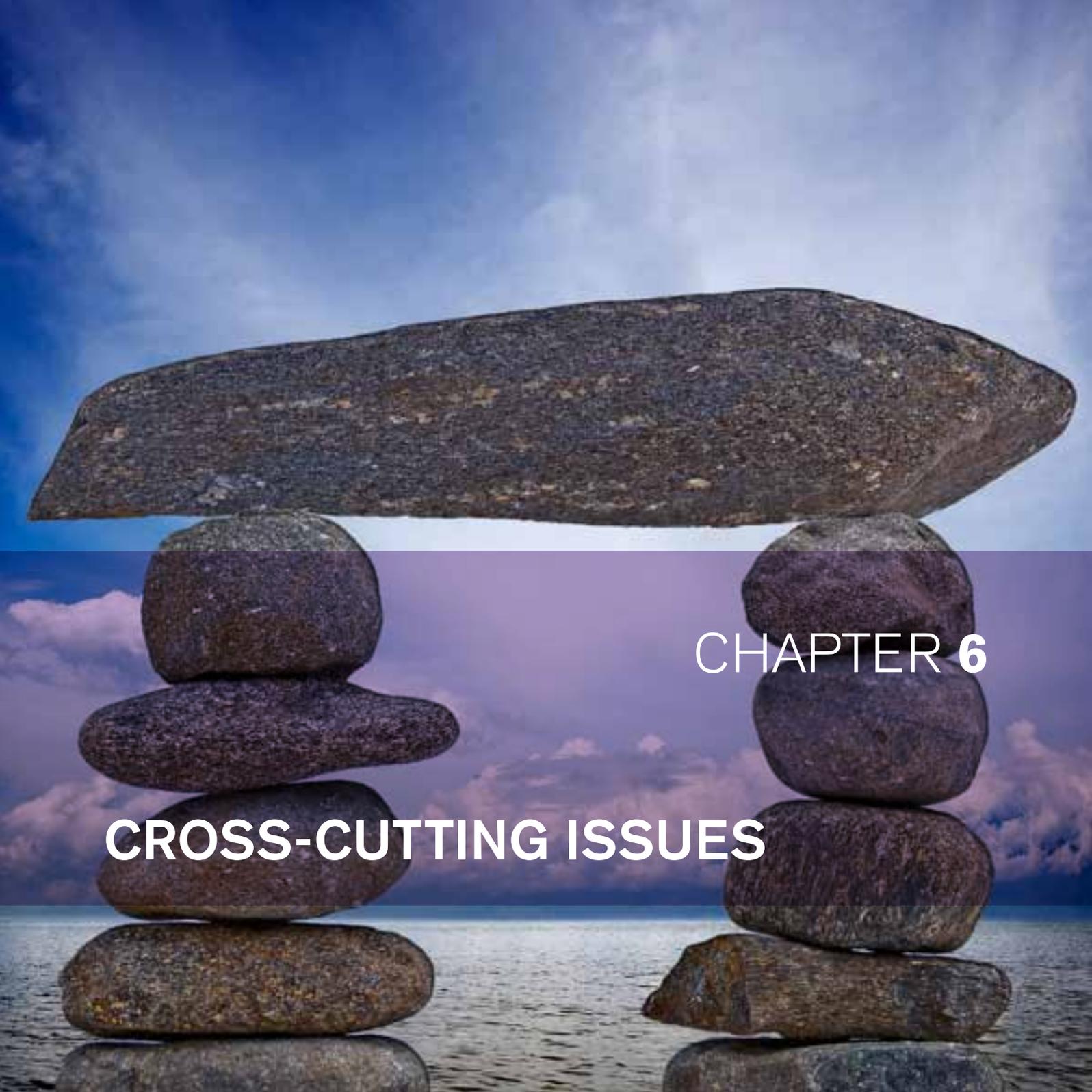
**The most outstanding partnership in the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 starts with “the contract of generation” established between the Government and the Burundian population.** This contract will be the expression of the commitment undertaken by the Government within the framework of the “right to the development of the populations” in order to put the Burundians front and center in the national development process. The participation of citizens will be the leitmotif of this partnership in

order to ensure a sustainable development for Burundi. The participation of the Burundians will make it possible to promote citizen control of public and private investments and accountability. The participation of the Burundian as recipients and persons in charge of their own development will be one of the cornerstones of this partnership and the efficient implementation of Vision Burundi 2025. For this reason, the current policy of decentralization is an essential element of this partnership.

Accordingly, this strategy is inextricably intertwined with the design and implementation of the PRSP and the MDGs; the next step is for Burundi to consolidate these gains and make them permanent.

Vision Burundi 2025 confers on the private sector a strategic role. The Government will develop Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in order to involve the private sector in the investments of the economic and social sectors where it has a comparative advantage. The Government will be undertaking the reforms necessary in order to improve the business climate (“doing business”) and to attract both national and foreign investors.

Moreover, a partnership on the basis of complementarity will be developed with civil society, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and religious groups. These organizations will contribute in a significant way to the effort of rebuilding Burundi while bringing their know-how and their expertise where necessary. They will also contribute their support and experience in the implementation of the policy of decentralization, to whose design they contributed.



## CHAPTER 6

# CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

## 6.1. Gender

The most recent census of the population emphasizes that women represent more than half of the total population of Burundi. Also, women are regarded as vital stakeholders in all sectors of national life. As mothers and main educators, women play an important part in the determination of future Burundi.



The level of the political and economic participation of women remains very low. Their limited representation is partly related to the imbalances noted at the levels of the education system. The girls/boys ratio is estimated at 97% for the primary school level, 70% for the secondary school level and 36% for the university level. Balance at the level of primary school education has almost been restored thanks to the policy of universal teaching. At secondary school level,

the girls attend, for the most part, vocational and short-term programs, which limit the possibilities of accessing higher education, and to reach the stations of directors, political leaders and professional careers.

Burundi has registered the advancement of women among its priorities. In this respect 30% of political positions are reserved for them by the Constitution. Moreover, the electoral

law facilitates the promotion of the participation of women on communal councils.

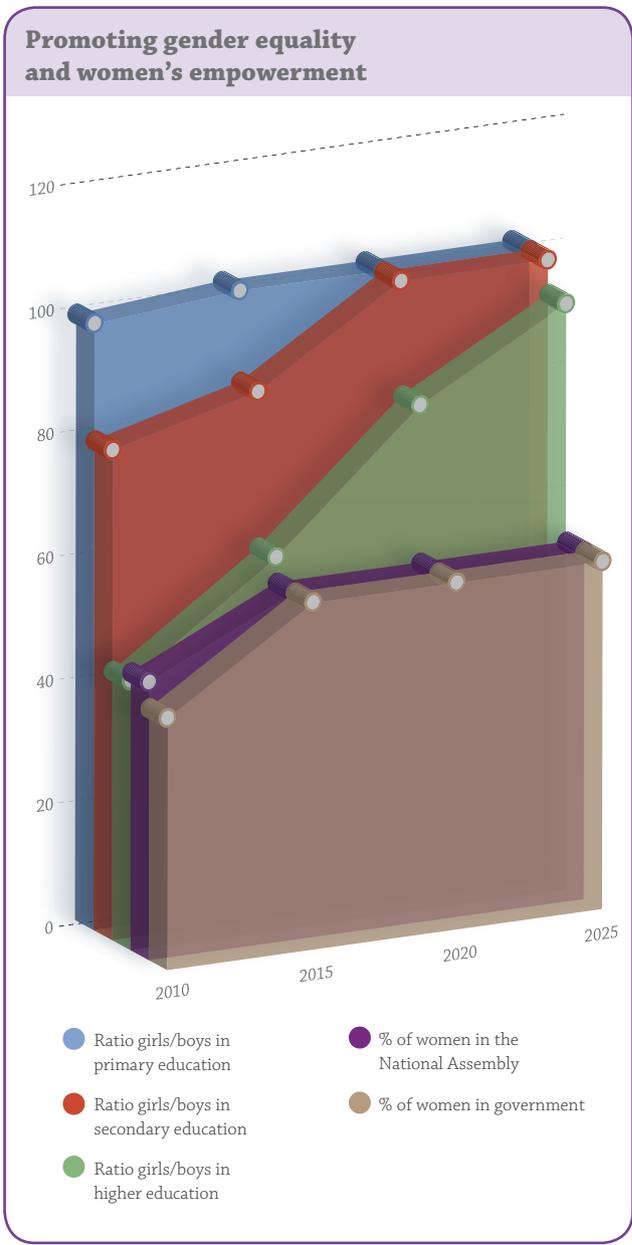
However, in spite of these provisions, it is estimated that women occupy only 20% of the whole of the positions of responsibility in central government. At the level of the provincial and communal government, women account for only 18% of posts of governors and 12% of posts of communal administrators.

The majority of women are rural and do not have economic assets. The rural woman is poor, as is her urban counterpart, because the majority has only limited access to credit. Indeed, credit is very expensive and the majority of women lack collateral they can offer to banks and other financial institutions.

In addition to the burden of the culture which marginalizes women, they face and suffer from the phenomenon of sexual violence which developed with the war, taking rather worrying forms, the figures having almost doubled between 2003 and 2006, and of which more than 70% of victims are minors.

Vision Burundi 2025 intends to set up a proactive policy for the promotion of women in particular through the improvement of their access to education by eliminating the disparities, especially at the secondary and higher levels. It is also aimed at ensuring the significant increase in the participation by women in the economic development of the country.

A credit policy, in particular with respect to micro finance and other innovative types of financing, will be initiated and the consequent collateral schemes set up.



## 6.2 Youth

The Burundian population is characterized by its youth which constitutes more than half. The school system allows only 30% pupils to pass to secondary school. Youth is mainly rural and constitutes a potential force for agricultural work. The young people who give up their studies at the end of the primary education cycle find themselves with time on their hands, without any qualifications or jobs. They are exposed to delinquency and can constitute to be a source of insecurity and instability because of their vulnerability. On the other hand, youth constitutes potential manpower, if professional training schemes are set up in their favor.

Vision Burundi 2025 plans to set up a policy for the development of youth focusing on civic education, entrepreneurship, initiation in professional life, training in trades through the promotion of training colleges for trades and by the relaunching of of technical, vocational and sporting training. The policy will be accompanied by suitable financing mechanisms to promote local self-development initiatives.

## 6.3 Vulnerable People

The longstanding crisis which Burundi experienced worsened the conditions of vulnerability confronting people such as widowers and widows, orphans, repatriated persons, and domestically displaced victims of conflicts, the batwa, the children of the street and the demobilized.

Vulnerable children, consisting in particular of the orphans of war, and of HIV/AIDS, who live under conditions of great poverty, have nothing to look forward to. They are in need of public services for their education, food, health care, the protection of their rights, and in particular, for the preservation of their heritage.

With regard to repatriated and domestically displaced persons, they live in absolute poverty, worsened by land problems. Moreover, they have limited access to basic social services in particular with regard to education, decent housing, health care and drinking water. And, to make matters worse, they are prone to malnutrition.

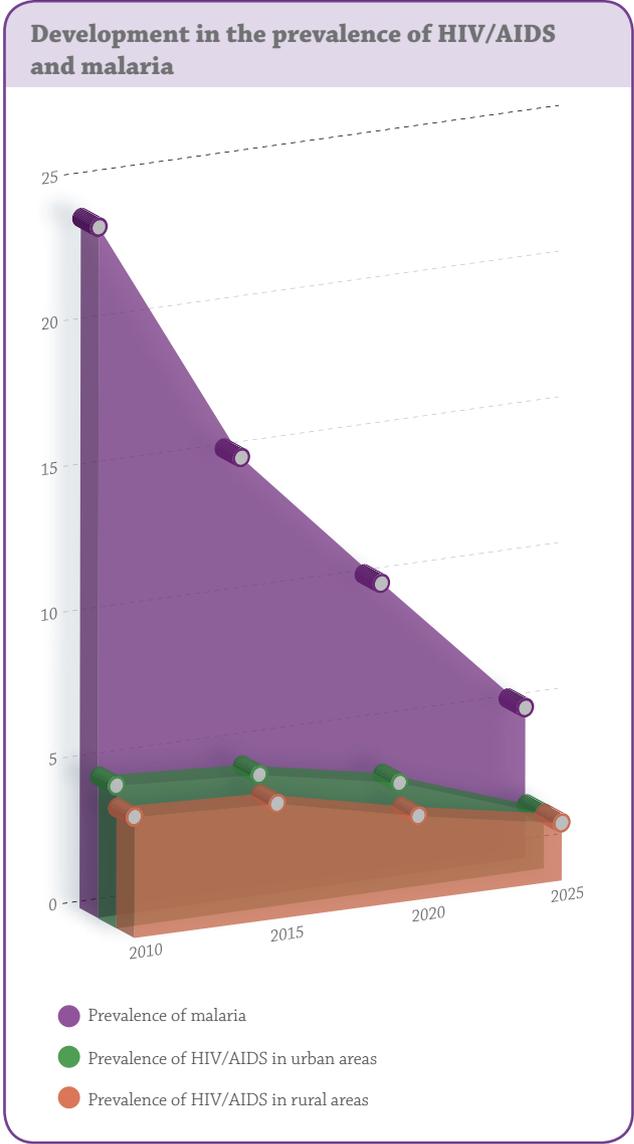
The Batwa constitute a category living on the margins of society. Deprived of land, they cannot carry on agricultural activities and have but little support to help them engage in the handicraft activities that are their traditional livelihood. They live in haphazard, hand-to-mouth conditions, without decent housing. Children are not provided education while adults are illiterate.

The socio-economic reintegration of the disaster victims, including the children of the street, is an action that has already been undertaken. The children of the street, just like the refugees and displaced persons, are victims of social blight and injustice. They constitute potential threats for the process of peace. The country will have to continue its efforts at reintegration, on the one hand for humanitarian reasons, and on the other hand to dispel the risk that these conflicts might return.

So far as the demobilized are concerned, the actions already undertaken will be continued and strengthened in order to ensure them a harmonious and sustainable integration in the process of the revival of economic growth.

Vision Burundi 2025 will set up a proactive policy of reintegration for the people who are victims of disaster and to provide guidance for vulnerable children in order to offer them social reintegration and social safety nets and to broaden the opportunities available to them, as to other children. Furthermore, support for the Batwa will be prioritized in all the strategies for fighting against poverty in order to ensure a decent life for them, as well as for other Burundians.

On the one hand, this policy aims at transforming the victims of disaster into true development stakeholders; through the revival of local economies and by the promotion of private and partnership-based entrepreneurship. In addition, the policy seeks to strengthen local and security governance and to enhance community capacities for development.





#### 6.4 Technology

Technological development is still in its infancy in Burundi. A certain number of handicaps are the root cause of this situation; in particular weak purchasing power of the Burundians, low local capacity for innovation, delay in the penetration and adoption of modern technologies, as well as the absence of a suitable system of training.

Traditional technologies are losing momentum and tend to disappear in time.

The realization of the strong economic growth and competitiveness on which Vision Burundi 2025 rests will inevitably depend on the reinforcement of the local capacities ready to adapt to innovative advanced technologies.

For this reason, Vision Burundi 2025 intends to engage in the promotion of technologies through the reform of education at all levels. It will reserve pride of place for science and technology in curricula, by stressing research. In addition, communication and information technologies constitute an important catalyst for acquiring and adapting to new advanced technologies. Collaboration with the other countries of the sub-region will be pursued in an effort to facilitate access to certain technologies, training and research.



## 6.5 The Environment

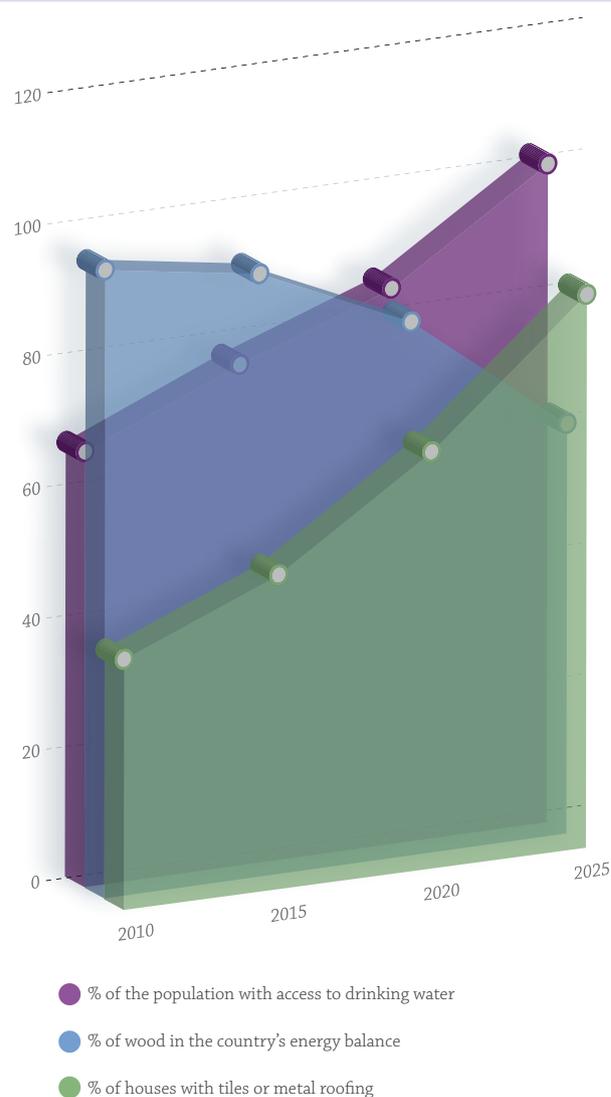
Burundi faces a destruction of its environment. Several factors are at the source of this situation – in particular the bush fires, rampant clear-cutting of trees, mismanagement of lands and wetlands, mines and quarries, and air pollution.

A certain number of solutions are being considered, in particular good regional planning and rational urbanization, efficient management of land problems, restoration of ecosystems by intensive reforestation, protection of fauna and flora, more effective development of energy resources, controlled management of water, and educating the general public with regard to the stakes involved in the environment.

Vision Burundi 2025 is firmly committed to prioritizing rational protection and management of the environment in order to ensure that the Burundi people can live within a protected and well-managed framework. The environment will be taken into account in all socio-economic policies as a vital component of sustainable development

An aggressive environmental policy will be implemented in order to ensure sustainable management of natural resources. It will aim to design and implement effective mechanisms for the prevention and management of natural disasters. Moreover, a plan for adapting to climate change will be prepared. Suitable technologies, including renewable sources of energy, will be developed within the framework of this policy in order to reduce the use of wood as a main source of household energy.

### Promote access to drinking water and decent housing, and fight the deforestation



Burundi will take part at the world level in the search for solutions relating to climate change and the fight against greenhouse gases, the effects of which are already making themselves felt in Burundi. An aggressive environmental policy will be implemented in order to develop suitable technologies and renewable energy sources.



## CHAPTER 7

# THE VISION'S FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

Vision Burundi 2025 will be carried out only if the Burundians capitalize on their own efforts and commit themselves to sustainable development while avoiding the errors of the past. The strengths on which the Burundians must capitalize are: peace and stability, social cohesion and national unity. These are the pillars on which the future and the hope of the Burundians rest.

What is more, if Burundi wishes for the objectives of the Vision to become a reality by 2025, vigorous action will have to be undertaken to restore confidence, hope and commitment among its sons and its daughters. Moreover, the fundamental question in the realization of Vision Burundi 2025 is without any doubt related to the introduction of good governance and a strong and capable state in every sense of the term. Such action constitutes the basis for excellence to a successful implementation of this Vision.

For this reason, Burundi will commit to: (i) restoring stability, peace and safety while building capacities to prevent, manage and regulate conflicts, (ii) instilling respect in the Constitution and the rule of law, (iii) modernizing and reinforcing the legal system, (iv) guaranteeing respect for human rights, including the protection of vulnerable people, (v) promoting grass-roots participation and the bolstering of the institutions of participatory democracy and local governance, (vi) creating and maintaining confidence in and ensuring the legitimacy of public institutions.

Orderly democratic transitions and political pluralism will hold the key to ensuring the attainment of equality and mutual respect. Also, the transparent management of public expenditure remains the centerpiece of this good governance. Burundian administration will be cleansed and reformed; in particular by the rehabilitation of certain principles and values such as recruitment on the basis of examinations; promotion as the reward for excellence, self-sacrifice and discipline. The promotion of ethical values within the national administration will be another priority for the public service reform process.

The freedom of expression is a basic right which will have to be consolidated; in particular through the promotion of a strong and responsible civil society which constitutes an effective countervailing power to the authorities.

The implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 will be the occasion for Burundi to fight the wait-and-see mindset, which constitutes a true menace, as well as the policy of the outstretched hand which militates against the spirit of initiative and self-development.





## CHAPTER 8

# THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISION

The implementation of **Vision Burundi 2025** reflects Burundi's commitment to carrying out a far-reaching transformation of the country's society and economy in order to achieve the promotion of sustainable development by 2025. This commitment on the part of Burundian society will be reinforced by staunch resolve and strong leadership at all levels of the system of government combined with a macroeconomic framework in which projections spell out the financial resources that are to be mobilized to ensure the implementation of the Vision.



The effective Implementation of Vision Burundi 2025 is integrated in the process of national planning for the short-term, medium-term and long-term and, for this reason, the Poverty Reduction and Strategy Paper (PRSP) constitutes the policy instrument. Thus, the formulation of the PRSP2 will inspire and integrate the political and strategic approaches of Vision Burundi 2025.

The implementation of the PRSP will be achieved through sectoral strategies consolidated by the provincial and communal plans of development. The strategies will be translated into priority programs and actions which will constitute the Priority Action Plan for the medium term (PAP). Given the resource constraints facing the State, the PAP will be rigorously designed, in order to make a well-informed choice among priority sectoral actions accompanied by a Medium Term Sectoral Expenditure Framework (MTSEF), this being for three years. The PAP and the MTSEFs are integrated in the Priority Investment Programme (PIP), accompanied by the National Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), prepared on an annual basis.

### **The Institutional Framework for the Vision's Implementation**

**The ministry in charge of planning and development** is responsible for the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of Vision Burundi 2025, in collaboration with the technical ministries which are responsible for carrying it out. For this purpose, it coordinates all the activities relating to the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025.

A **multisectoral National Consultative Committee (CCN)** which will play the part of "Driving Force" will be set up, in order to follow, oversee and direct the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025. The National Consultative Committee is a high-level political coordinating structure which supports the dialogue between development stakeholders and the Government, within the framework of the implementation of the vision. The Minister in charge of planning and development chairs and coordinates the committee.

A **Permanent Executive Secretariat (SEP)** seconds the National Consultative Committee in its task. It is the technical support body for the implementation of Vision Burundi 2025. It makes sure that the process of reformulation of the successive PRSPs and of implementation of the MDGs is in keeping with the planning of the vision for Burundi through its various key components. The SEP also makes sure that the sectoral policies, strategies and plans are in accordance with the objectives of the vision for the medium and the long term, and that they enjoy consensus among the development stakeholders.



## CHAPTER 9

# CONCLUSION

Vision Burundi 2025 is an ambitious plan for ensuring that the people of Burundi can disengage themselves from the vicious circles of conflict and poverty, transforming the country into a haven of peace and prosperity. Vision Burundi 2025 might appear to be unrealistic and overly-ambitious for a country that is emerging from almost two decades of conflicts and a poor economic performance. However, once more we should remind ourselves that Burundi has no other choice than to progress resolutely towards sustainable development in this period of globalization, in order to satisfy the best possible living conditions for a population confronted by a situation of unsustainable poverty.

As a result, the people of Burundi should step forward in order to formulate appropriate policies and mobilize the necessary resources so as to make their vision a reality.

ANNEXES

**THE EVOLUTION OF FIGURES  
IN THE MOST IMPORTANT  
SOCIO-ECONOMIC SECTORS  
IN BURUNDI**

# 1. POPULATION AND URBANIZATION

Variable	Year				
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>Total population</b>	7 562 000	8 473 000	9 401 000	10 379 000	11 459 000
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0
<b>Urban population</b>	756 000	1 111 000	1 709 000	2 753 000	4 434 000
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	8.0	9.0	10.0	10.0
<b>Rural population</b>	6 806 000	7 292 000	7 692 000	7 626 000	7 026 000
<b>Rate of urbanization</b>	10.0	13.1	18.2	26.5	38.7

\* = over the previous five-year period

The total population in 2005, rounding it off at the nearest thousand, is estimated based on the population in 2006 drawn from: **MPDRN, *Economie Burundaise 2006 - Rapport final*, Bujumbura, 2007, p.9** MPDRN, [Burundi's Economy, 2006 - final report, Bujumbura, 2007, p.9]

The rate of urbanization of 10% in 2005 is an assumption used in compiling the retrospective Studies and was used to calculate the urban population in 2005. The assumptions are postulated on the growth rates of the total and urban population. Thus, the average annual growth of the urban population will go up from 8% during the five-year period 2005-2010 to 9% during the next five-year period and 10% thereafter. In parallel, the growth of the total population would go down from 2.3% to 2.1%, and then to 2%.

The other statistics derive from the calculations. The findings are that, under these assumptions, the rural population would start to decrease slowly after 2015 and significantly after 2020. The proactive policy of urbanization could then begin to free up spaces for agriculture as from 2015.

## 2. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND ITS COMPONENTS

### 2.1 2005-2025 PROJECTIONS

#### 2.1.1. AT CURRENT PRICES

Variable	Year				
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>GDP Primary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	389.2	626.8	1 056.2	1 779.8	2 999.0
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	10.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
<b>GDP Secondary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	132.3	254.7	512.3	1 076.0	2 260.0
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	14.0	15.0	16.0	16.0
<b>GDP Tertiary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	280.2	588.5	1 290.3	2 828.9	6 335.9
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	16.0	17.0	17.0	17.5
<b>GDP CF (in Billions of BIF)</b>	801.7	1 470.0	2 858.8	5 684.7	11 594.9
<b>Net Ind. Taxes (in Billions of BIF)</b>	59.2	102.9	200.1	397.9	812.0
<b>GDP PM (in Billions of BIF)</b>	860.9	1 572.9	3 058.9	6 082.6	12 406.5
<b>Price Index (2005=100)</b>	100.0	127.6	162.9	207.9	265.3
<b>Rate of exchange BIF per \$</b>	1 030.0	1 110.0	1 230.0	1 360.0	1 500.0
<b>Population (in millions)</b>	7.6	8.5	9.4	10.4	11.5
<b>GDP/ Per capita in USD</b>	110.0	166.7	264.5	430.0	719.2
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	8.6	9.7	10.2	10.8

\*= Over the five year period preceding the year indicated above.

The statistics that relate to year 2005 are taken from MPDRN, *Economie Burundaise 2006 - Rapport final, Bujumbura, 2007, Tableaux annexes*. [Burundian economy 2006-Final Report, Bujumbura 2007, Annexed tables].

The assumptions of progressive nominal growth are adopted for the various economic sectors. The estimated growth rates include an inflation rate of 5% per annum. They are higher for the secondary industries and tertiary sector because, in the primary sector, the land shortage and low level of technological skills of rural people constitute a constraint on growth.

In addition, the objective to leave an economy based on agriculture and move towards an economy based on knowledge leads us to postulate higher growth rates in the tertiary sector.

Hotel trade and tourism, information and communications technologies, bank and insurances where high growth rates are foreseeable constitute the principal branches of the latter sector whereas the developments envisaged in the mining industry and the food industry (processing and packaging of food) point to potential growth rates that are also high in the secondary industry.

### 2.1.2. AT CONSTANT PRICES FOR 2005

Variable	Year				
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>GDP Primary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	389.2	492.0	649.1	856.4	1 129.9
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	4.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
<b>GDP Secondary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	132.3	199.9	314.7	518.5	854.2
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	8.6	9.5	10.5	10.5
<b>GDP Tertiary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	280.2	461.6	791.9	1 358.6	2 383.6
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	10.5	11.4	11.4	11.9
<b>GDP CF (in Billions of BIF)</b>	801.7	1 153.5	1 755.7	2 731.7	4 367.7
<b>Net Ind. Taxes (in Billions of BIF)</b>	59.2	80.7	122.9	191.2	305.7
<b>GDP PM (in Billions of BIF)</b>	860.9	1 234.2	1 878.6	2 922.9	4 673.4
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	7.5	8.8	9.2	9.8

\* = Over the 5 year period preceding the year indicated above

The statistics relating to year 2005 are taken from: MPDRN, *Economie Burundaise 2006 - Rapport final, Bujumbura, 2007, Tableaux annexes* (Burundian Economy 2006-Final Report, Bujumbura, 2007, Annexed tables)

On the basis of the nominal growth rates of the preceding table which adopted the assumption of a rate of inflation of 5%, the real growth rates were calculated and applied for the purpose of estimating the various GDP sectors.

## 2.2. PROJECTIONS 2010-2025

(Studies underlying the Vision having been officially launched in 2005, but the final document for the Vision was prepared and adopted in 2010).

### 2.2.1. AT CURRENT PRICES

Variable	Year				
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>GDP Primary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	573.7	723.8	1 275.6	2 350,2	4 330.1
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	12.3	12.0	13.0	13.0
<b>GDP Secondary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	204.7	265.1	556.8	1 225.1	2 686.0
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	13.8	16.0	17.0	17.0
<b>GDP Tertiary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	449.7	574.0	1 258.5	2 879.1	6 586.7
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	13.0	17.0	18.0	18.0
<b>GDP CF (in Billions of BIF)</b>	1 228.1	1 562.9	3 090.9	6 454.4	13 602.8
<b>Net Ind. Taxes (in Billions of BIF)</b>	86.0	109.4	216.4	558.8	952.2
<b>GDP PM (in Billions of BIF)</b>	1 314.1	1 672.3	3 307.3	6 906.2	14 555.0
<b>Price index (2008=100)</b>	100.0	118.5	151.2	193.0	246.3
<b>Rate of exchange BIF per USD</b>	1 185.7	1 230.0	1 391.6	1 574.5	1 781.4
<b>Population (in millions)</b>	8 038	8 473	9 401	10 379	11 459
<b>GDP per capita in USD</b>	137.9	161.6	252.8	422.6	713.0
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	8.3	9.9	10.8	11.0

\*= during the five-year period preceding the year indicated above, except for the year 2010 when the growth rates are calculated for the period ranging between 2008 and 2010.

Taking account of the trends experienced between 2005 and 2009, the figures of the preceding table were adjusted. The data in the column corresponding to year 2008 are drawn from the same source as those from the annexed tables in the «Economie Burundaise» report for 2008, while those for 2010 are calculated using the growth rates and GDP deflators as they appear in the document. ***Mise en œuvre de la stratégie de réduction de la pauvreté : Cadre de Dépenses à Moyen Terme 2011-2013, Bujumbura, Mai 2010 (REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI, MINISTERE DU PLAN ET DE LA RECONSTRUCTION ET MINISTERE DES FINANCES). Implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy: Medium Term Expenditure Framework 2011-2013, Bujumbura, May 2010 (REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI, PLANNING AND RECONSTRUCTION MINISTRY AND FINANCE MINISTRY).***

For the five-year periods leading to 2015, 2020 and 2025, the assumptions of progressive nominal growth are adopted for the various economic sectors. The estimated growth rates include an inflation rate of 5% per annum.

In real terms, the average annual growth rates range from 6% to 8% for the primary sector, from 11% to 12% for the secondary sector, and from 12% to 13% for the tertiary sector.

## 2.2.2. AT CONSTANT PRICES FOR 2010

Variable	Year			
	2010	2015	2020	2025
<b>GDP Primary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	723.8	1 001.0	1 443.8	2 082.4
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	6.7	7.6	7.6
<b>GDP Secondary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	265.1	436.7	749.2	1 285.4
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	10.5	11.4	11.4
<b>GDP Tertiary Sector (in Billions of BIF)</b>	574.0	984.8	1 766.8	3 169.7
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	11.4	12.4	12.4
<b>GDP CF (in Billions of BIF)</b>	1 562.9	2 422.5	3 959.8	6 537.5
<b>Net Ind. Taxes (in Billions of BIF)</b>	109.4	169.6	277.2	457.6
<b>GDP PM (in Billions of BIF)</b>	1 672.3	2 592.1	4 237.0	6 995.1
<b>Rate of growth*</b>	-	9.2	10.3	10.5

\*= during the five-year period preceding the year indicated above.

The data relating to year 2010 are drawn from the same source as those in table 2.2.1 above. On the basis of the nominal growth rates in the preceding table which adopted the assumption of a rate of inflation of 5%, the real growth rates were calculated and applied for the purpose of estimating the various sectoral GDPs.



*Burundi 2025*



# VISION BURUNDI VISION BURUNDI



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