This file is prepared for the Trade Mission to Burundi from 17-20 November, organized by NABC. This document is aimed to inform Dutch entrepreneurs about the economic and business climate in Burundi and the opportunities the country provides for the Dutch private sector.
Introduction

The Republic of Burundi, is a landlocked country in the Great Lakes region of Eastern Africa bordered by Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the east and south, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west. Its size is just under 28,000 km² with an estimated population of 10,888,321 (July 2013). Its capital is Bujumbura. Although the country is landlocked, much of the southwestern border is adjacent to Lake Tanganyika. Burundi is one of the ten poorest countries in the world with a real GDP growth rate of 4.6% (2013 est.) and a real per capita GDP growth rate of 2.7% (2013 est.). Burundi is densely populated, with substantial emigration. Cobalt and copper are among Burundi's natural resources. Some of Burundi’s main exports include coffee and sugar. It’s official languages are Kirundi, French, Swahili (along Lake Tanganyika and in the Bujumbura area). Burundi is led by President Pierre Nkurunziza who has been president since 2005.

Burundi at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Republic of Burundi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>Bujumbura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Cities</td>
<td>Bujumbura (Capital City), Gitega, Muyinga, Ngozi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political System</td>
<td>Unitary republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Area</td>
<td>27,830 m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>10,888,321 (July 2013 est)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Languages</td>
<td>Kirundi, French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate</td>
<td>Tropical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Zone</td>
<td>CAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Burundi Franc, BIF (USD $1 = 1,442.51) (2012 est)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP at current prices US$</td>
<td>US$ 2.751 million (2013 est)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real GDP growth rate</td>
<td>4.6% (2013 est)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real per capita GDP growth rate</td>
<td>2.7% (2013 est)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth rate</td>
<td>3.8% (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transparency International ranking</td>
<td>49 of 182 (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Christian 82.8%, Muslim 2.5%, Adventist 2.3%, Other 6.5%, Unknown 5.9% (2008 census)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>coffee, cotton, tea, corn, sorghum, sweet potatoes, bananas, manioc (tapioca); beef, milk, hides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Export commodities</td>
<td>Coffee, tea, sugar, cotton, hides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import commodities</td>
<td>Capital goods, petroleum products, foodstuffs, human blood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Industries
light consumer goods such as blankets, shoes, soap; assembly of imported components; public works construction; food processing

Natural resources
nickel, uranium, rare earth oxides, peat, cobalt, copper, platinum, vanadium, arable land, hydropower, niobium, tantalum, gold, tin, tungsten, kaolin, limestone

Export partners
Germany 21.6%, Switzerland 14.86%, Belgium 9.32%, Sweden 8.94%, Pakistan 5.82%

Import partners
Saudi Arabia 16.87%, Belgium 11.17%, Uganda 8.62%, Kenya 7.57%, China 5.66%, France 5.35%, Germany 4.46%, India 4.24%, Tanzania 4.21%

Economic Overview

Burundi is a landlocked, resource-poor country with an underdeveloped manufacturing sector. The economy is predominantly agricultural; agriculture accounts for just over 30% of GDP and employs more than 90% of the population. Burundi's primary exports are coffee and tea, which account for 90% of foreign exchange earnings, though exports are a relatively small share of GDP. Burundi's export earnings - and its ability to pay for imports - rests primarily on weather conditions and international coffee and tea prices. Burundi's GDP grew around 4% annually in 2006-12. Political stability and the end of the civil war have improved aid flows and economic activity has increased, but underlying weaknesses - a high poverty rate, poor education rates, a weak legal system, a poor transportation network, overburdened utilities, and low administrative capacity - risk undermining planned economic reforms. Burundi joined the East African Community in 2009, which should boost Burundi's regional trade ties, and also in 2009 received $700 million in debt relief.

Burundi has abundant natural resources, especially minerals and hydro-electric potential, the development of which could substantially boost economic growth and job-creation. For now, the mining sector is characterised by the expansion of subsistence mining by individuals that has limited economic benefits. This situation is a result of the long civil war and a lack of basic infrastructure, especially energy.

Burundi’s labour force (2007) was 4.245 million 93.6% employed in the agriculture sector, 2.3% in the industrial sector and 4.1% in the service sector (2002).

Real GDP, Inflation and Current Account Balance growth trends 2000-2013

(Source: African Development Bank)
The Middle Class in Burundi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNI per capita, PPP</td>
<td>3,259.9</td>
<td>3,527.7</td>
<td>6,312.9</td>
<td>6,802.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>450.0</td>
<td>440.0</td>
<td>520.0</td>
<td>540.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population, total</td>
<td>4,354.2</td>
<td>4,409.0</td>
<td>4,788.5</td>
<td>4,843.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP (current US$)</td>
<td>5,508,287.1</td>
<td>6,273,187.9</td>
<td>18,141,244.2</td>
<td>21,113,482.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>825.4</td>
<td>784.7</td>
<td>2,026.9</td>
<td>2,355.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP growth (annual %)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy at birth, total (years)</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>69.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>49.9</td>
<td>50.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: World Bank)

Trade

Burundi’s exports were $127.1 million (2012) and main exports partners are Germany 21.6%, Switzerland 14.86%, Belgium 9.32%, Sweden 8.94%, Pakistan 5.82%. Its imports were $810 million (2012 est.) and main import partners are Saudi Arabia 16.87%, Belgium 11.17%, Uganda 8.62%, Kenya 7.57%, China 5.66%, France 5.35%, Germany 4.46%, India 4.24%, Tanzania 4.21%.

Burundi’s main export commodities are coffee, tea, sugar, cotton and hides, and their main imports are capital goods, petroleum products and foodstuffs.

Burundi has quota and duty–free access to major international markets (such as the EU and the US). Burundi also enjoys free access to regional African markets through its membership of various regional economic communities such as Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC). Burundi is a member of various international organizations and for a such as the United Nations and the African Union, and has been and continues to be supported by the European Development Fund, World Bank, IMF, African Development Bank, and others.

Foreign Direct investment

According to their national investment board, foreign direct investment (FDI) into Burundi grew by 120% to $229 million in 2012, thank to reforms that allow business to be set up more quickly.
The main investment areas were the processing industry, information and communications technology, and agro-business. Burundi collected $104 million in 2011 in FDI.

Burundi was ranked among the top five improved economies in the World Bank’s 2013 Doing Business report, rising to 159th place out of 189 countries. “Today someone can start a business in less than 24 hours, have a trade license in one hour and the fiscal identification number can be issued in less than 15 minutes” Alexis Girukwisha, investment promotion manager at Burundi Investment Agency (API).

Foreign investors in Burundi can count on sound business-conducive policy environment which guarantees equal and fair treatment of all foreign and local enterprises. Not only Burundi has no overall economic or industrial strategies that discriminate against foreign investors, but it has no general limits on foreign ownership or control of enterprises nor are there established processes or criteria for the review of foreign investments. The 2008 Investment Code provides a streamlined and fair process for all investors, whether locally or foreign-based.

There is no explicit discrimination against foreign investors at any stage of the investment process, nor are there any laws or regulations specifically authorizing private firms to adopt articles of incorporation or association which limit or prohibit foreign investment, participation, or control.

There are no restrictions on business sectors open to foreign investments, with the exception of arms and military enterprises, investments in this sector are conducted on a government-to-government basis.

The government is in the process of privatizing Burundi’s coffee industry –– the largest source of foreign exports – and with many foreign companies purchasing Burundian coffee, the interest in investing in this industry is high.

5 Reasons to invest in Burundi

1) Access to markets
Burundi is member of economic communities CEPGL, COMESA, EAC totaling more than 20 countries and 450 million consumers. Since 2008, the process is started for the integration of these three communities into a single regional community, (AEC) African Economic Community.

Indeed, the integration of Burundi in the Eastern African Community (EAC) and in the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) represents an opportunity in terms of direct foreign investment. The EAC increases the size of the market accessible to Burundian products and stimulates the diversification of local production. On the other hand, the country will be the focal point of the trade within the regional, link up the central Africa, the oriental Africa and the southern Africa.

2) Capital transfer
- Free transfer of foreign capital and income after payment of taxes
- Transferring unused professional income by foreign employees
• The transfer of capital remuneration in the form of dividends, in full for enterprises with foreign capital
• Protection of private property
• Non-nationalisation and non-expropriation of investments implemented in its territory as well as any measures of equivalent scope

3) Tax advantages
All new investments are automatically entitled to:
• Waiving of mutation on the acquisition of property rights and land
• Reduction of 37% as tax credit on the amount of depreciable invested good
• No refund to the fiscal administration with disposed assets that raised tax credit for a period of five years
• Tax credit during the implementation of investments for new business or for the extension of existing businesses
• Reduction of 2 and 5% in the rate of tax credit on the profits of companies that respectively employ between 50-200 employees and over 200 employees

4) An Investment Promotion Agency(API) entirely at your service
The IPA:
• Has several high-qualified bilingual French-English staff
• Assists investor in all steps: drafting of statuses, registration of companies in Burundi, obtaining tax identification, compiling the file required to access the benefits of the Investment Code, obtaining work and residence permits, etc.

5) A business environment in constant improvement
• Simplified administrative formalities
• Obtaining trade register and fiscal identification in approximately 3 days
• Creation of the Burundian office of Revenues to boost the services of taxes and customs, and to fight against corruption
• Declaration only necessary with the services of the customs to have the exemptions of customs rights and value-added tax (VAT) on the facilities and raw materials
• A set of reforms in progress: the total liberalization of all sectors, the privatization of states enterprises, etc

Investor incentives

Performance requirements or incentives are applied fairly and uniformly to both international and domestic investors. To encourage investment Burundi applies investment incentives to both international and domestic companies in the form of income tax deferrals, and exemption from import and export duties. To qualify for these incentives, however, the investor must meet special requirements concerning the size of the investment, the number of jobs created, and the location of the business. For example, a business may be granted extra incentives to locate and invest in rural areas. There is no general requirement that the business purchase goods from local sources. An exception is made, though, for
companies licensed for export only which operate in the Free Economic Zone (FEZ). Companies which take advantage of FEZ tax incentives are required to purchase goods in Burundi, where possible.

There is no requirement that Burundian nationals own shares in the foreign investment, or that technology be transferred to Burundian entities over the time of the investment. The share of the foreign–owned equity in the investment need not be reduced over time. No "offset" requirements, whereby major procurements are approved only if the foreign supplier invests in items related to the host country, are required.

Burundi does not impose conditions on permission to invest, except for companies that apply for special incentives, such as specialized tax advantages embedded in the Investment Code. The Government of Burundi does not impose enforcement procedures on companies, and investors are not required to disclose proprietary information to the government as part of the regulator process. Burundi does not impose any discriminatory or excessively onerous visa residence, or work permit requirements that would hinder a foreign investor's mobility, or operate tariff barriers that would constitute preferential or discriminatory export or import policies.

**Brief Sector profiles and opportunities**

**Agriculture**

Burundi’s economy is mainly rural, and is thus essentially based on agriculture (coffee, tea, cotton) and livestock. More than 90% of the population depends on it and it also represents more than 50% of GDP.

The agricultural sector in Burundi benefits from several assets:

- Vast plains of the very fertile Imbo that is suitable to the modern agriculture
- Rainfall for 9 months every year
- Possibility of irrigation (artificial lakes)
- Possibility to harvest twice a year for an output of more than 10 tons per ha (rice and cereals)

The main export crop is coffee; its industry is in the process of being privatized and FDI potential is considerable. These factors could have a significant impact and improve the quality and increase the productivity of the coffee sector.

**Livestock and fish farming**

- Opportunities to leverage modern equine for intensive or extensive breeding
- Animal production lines, livestock, dairy processing, production of organic manure are opportunities
- Several regions are adequate for fish farming
Fishing

Fishing is an important activity for Burundi’s economy and social dimension. The production of fish in Burundi represents 1% of the GDP and contributes to the food of the population. Every inhabitant consumes about 2 kg/year.

The total surface of water exploitable in Burundi is of 2,300 km², of which 95% is in the northern part – the east of Lake Tanganyika is adjacent to the country on a distance of 150 km. The other 5% encompasses the lakes of the north (Cohoha and Rweru) and rivers. Lake Tanganyika covers a total surface of 320,000 km², the Burundian share of the lake represents close to 8% of this surface.

Lake Tanganyika is an ecosystem that can allow for an industrial fishing. It contains many sought–after fish species. It harbours a particularly rich and diverse fish fauna, with close to 300 species of cichlidae and non–cichlidae, approximately two–thirds of which are endemic. Lake Tanganyika is known to overflow with some of the tastiest fish.

Burundi offers excellent opportunities for the development of farming cooperatives and community on the shores of Lake Tanganyika.

This sector benefits from some advantages as follows:

- Temperatures offering potential for breeding ponds which are usually located at altitudes between 1,500 m and 1,800 m
- Although temperatures are generally lower than the highest standard for tilapia nilotica, it was discovered that in fact, nine month growth cycles produce acceptable crop
- Most provinces located in the centre and west of the country, have an ample supply of water, coming with relatively constant streams throughout the year

The fishing sector is in the hands of the private sector. It is divided in three types of activities:

- Semi–industrial
- Artisanal
- Traditional

Fish is sold on rural markets fresh or dried and smoked. Similarly, fish is often transformed by drying and smoking before being put on the circuit markets. Refrigerated storage and transportation facilities are available in the country.

Although production levels depend heavily on planning, experience shows that locally, as far as tilapia nilotica is concerned, 500 kg to 1,500 kg/ha/year can be obtained within a nine month production cycle, each fish weighing between 150 gr and 300 gr.

Fish farming is accessible to new investors looking for new opportunities.

Information Communication Technology
Opportunities in the ICT sector include:

- High-speed internet for which the market is still unexploited
- LTSP network locations: their costs are more accessible to companies and to the public
- The ability to develop ICT in enterprises and schools for better competitiveness
- E-technology (trade, teaching, telephony, etc.)
- Call centres are virtually non-existent so far
- Database management centres

Investment Opportunities:

- The state-owned company Onatel (landline and mobile telephony, and internet) is soon to be privatized
- Access to the Regional Network Program for Communication Infrastructure requiring nearly 1500 km to be constructed in the EAC Region
- Numerous opportunities will arise from the installation of fiber optic including e-administration, e-banking, etc.
- High Speed Internet: market is still not exploited

Infrastructure and Logistics

In terms of general transportation and infrastructure, Burundi presents several opportunities for investment. Currently, there are eight airports, and 12,322 km of roadways across the entire country. Given the size of the country, there are no existing railways. However, there are international flights that connect Burundi to Central, Eastern and Southern Africa.

The air network in Burundi is quite developed. There are a total of eight airports in Burundi, out of which one is paved and the remaining seven are unpaved. The paved airport has a total runway length of 3,047 meters. There are four airports that have runway length ranging from 914 meters to 1,523 meters. Three of the seven unpaved airports have runway below 914 meters. The hub airport in Burundi is the Bujumbura International Airport, which is situated in the capital city of Bujumbura.

In terms of road networks, Burundi has a highway length of 12,322 kilometers. The Burundi roadways provide the opportunity to explore the country by car. However, there is room for investment in the road network programme. Additionally, the founding members of the EAC decided, in collaboration with their development partners, to initiate a draft regional network of roads to facilitate their integration. More specifically, the ECA regional network consists of five corridors:

- Corridor 1 : Mombasa – Malaba – Katuna (linking the Kenyan coast to Uganda and Rwanda)
- Corridor 2 : Dar-Es-Salaam – Isaka – Masaka (connecting the Tanzanian coast to the east and Uganda)
Corridor 3: Biharamulo – Lockichogio (linking eastern Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan)
Corridor 4: Tunduma – Nyakanazi (linking the southern and eastern Tanzania)
Corridor 5: Tunduma – Namanga – Moyale (linking southern Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia)

The entry of Burundi in the proposed regional road network is a significant opportunity for the country. Corridors 1, 2 and 4 are indeed of direct importance to Burundi since the first connect to the port of Mombasa through Rwanda, the second would give direct access to Dar-Es-Salaam and the fourth would connect it to southern Tanzania (and Southern Africa) along Lake Tanganyika.

Burundi waterways are served by the ports and harbors in Bujumbura. Apart from this, Lake Tanganyika also proves to be an important waterway in Burundi. With the available air route and road route facilities, getting around Burundi is easy and convenient.

Manufacturing

While the industrial sector could definitely become more competitive and diversified, the government is still very present. The export potential for this sector mainly lies in sub-regional markets and opportunities exist, among others, in the agro-industrial sector.

Some non-exhaustive examples to explore:
- Production, packaging, marketing of agricultural equipment and inputs
- Production of fruits and vegetables
- Packaging and transport
- Research and development on the conservation of agricultural foodstuffs
- Agri-food transformation industry (rice, cereals, etc.)
- Fertilizer plants (phosphates in the north of the country)
- Cement plants (raw materials available in the northeast)
- Textile industry
- Tea Factories in the South of the country (there are 4500 ha of land adequate for the cultivation of tea)

Investment opportunities

- Food processing industry for domestic production (rice, cereals, tomatoes, milk, vegetables, etc)
- Untapped opportunities in the construction sector including glass windows and doors, metal bars, tiles, cement production, etc
- Production of chemicals including fertilizers for breeding and farming
- Textile and shoe-making industries
- Pharmaceutical industry as very few medicines are produced locally
- Almost all manufactured consumer goods are imported offering plenty of opportunities in almost all industries
Tourism

Located at the heart of Africa, Burundi is endowed with hills, white sandy beaches, different landscapes, and cultures. The hospitality and kindness of Burundian people are legendary, and the country has much to offer. 17 Provinces offer visitors different experiences: Lake Tanganyika, the deepest in Africa, an incredible and wonderful variety of flowers, a rocky landscape, waterfalls, the Rusizi delta, a calm oasis, and fertile valleys. For animal lovers, the northwest primary forest is a paradise for primates and the Northern Lakes are a safe haven for birds. Burundi has a cultural legacy that includes not only dances and traditional music but also the famous Gitega Drummers known worldwide.

Examples of opportunities:
- Installation and development of the relaxing activities such as the thalassotherapy
- Development of water sports
- Introduction of ecotourism

Investment opportunities

- Development of thalassotherapy activities
- Improving seashore tourism and water sports on Lake Tanganyika
- Construction of hotels and lodges in national parks
- Construction of conference centres
- Regional tourism: Burundi is under an hour by plane from Lake Victoria, Serengeti Park, mountain gorillas of DR Congo and Rwanda, etc

Energy

Burundi has multiple opportunities in the energy sector:

Investment opportunities

- Commercial hydroelectric power production potential of 3000MW far from being exploited
- Investment needed for the project RUZIZI III project - 143 MW
- Investment needed for hydroelectric power production on the Mumwendo site (Ruvubu) – 80MW
- Investment needed for hydroelectric power production project on the Jiji-Mulembwe-Siguvyaye sites – 100MW
- Investment needed for the RUZIZI IV hydroelectric power production project – 205MW
- Many other sites for hydroelectric power generation
- Potential commercial geothermal power production of 18MW not exploited yet
- Good potential for wind energy production
- Huge potential for solar energy development
Mining

The mining sector is a priority sector for the Burundi Government. Mining could considerably contribute to job creation, thus reducing pressure on agricultural employment, as well as to the diversification of the economy, have the effects of technology transfer and last but not least result in an increase of state revenue. Burundi’s mineral resources are varied but fairly modest, the main one being nickel. Mining is so far mainly traditional but industrial exploration licenses have been granted to foreign investors since 2007.

It is recommended that the Government clarify certain elements relating to mining and negotiations and align the new Mining Code with the investment environment and business codes currently under review. The government is currently preparing a new Mining Code.

With regards to the mining sector
- The country is full of many natural resources: nickel, cassiterite, colombo tantalite, gold, phosphates, limestone, slate, and hydrocarbons
- Exploitation is still hand-crafted, therefore an opportunity for potential investors
- Some mining conventions exist for research of nickel and gold
- The mining market remains open
- A study on the development of the mining sector is on-going

Transport

Burundi, occupying a strategic position in relation to different the Regional Economic Communities it is a Member State of (ECAC, COMESA, CEPGL, EAC), has the ability to become a platform for trade on the continent. Opportunities include
- The dredging of port of Bujumbura to accommodate larger vessels is an opportunity
- The development the maritime transport for goods and passengers is an opportunity

Investment opportunities

Air transport:
- Increasing the use of the sub-regional network (Tanzania, Uganda, DR Congo and Zambia)
- Installation of a cold chain at the airport of Bujumbura

Lake Transportation:
- Improving the automated load planning in the port of Bujumbura
- Enlarging the port of Bujumbura to give more space to large passenger and container carrier ships
- Improving passenger and cargo transportation on the lake Tanganyika for connection with DR Congo, Tanzania and Zambia
- Construction of a naval building site
- Installation of a cold chain at the Bujumbura port
Electricity and Water

Two main organizations are involved in the supply and distribution of electricity and water for Burundi. The first is REGIDESO (Régie de Production et Distribution d’Eau et d’Electricité), a public utility with autonomous legal and financial status that operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Water, Energy and Mines (MWEM). The second is the General Directorate of Water Supply and Energy (DGHER - Direction Générale de l’Hydraulique et des Energies Rurales), also an autonomous entity operating under MWEM’s tutelage, that is responsible for the provision of electricity and water in rural areas. A third organization known as SINELAC (Société Internationale des Pays des Grands Lacs) is an important supplier of electricity to REGIDESO. SINELAC was established as a joint venture by Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo to develop and operate international electricity projects. REGIDESO is Burundi’s integrated water and electricity utility responsible for serving the urban areas. As of December 2007, REGIDESO had only 41,074 electricity connections and 40,052 water connections, which translates into Burundi having one of the lowest coverage rates in Africa. Annual growth in connections has averaged 6.9 percent for water and 8.5 percent in electricity, driven by a significant increase in connection rates in 2006 and 2007. The majority of water and electricity connections are concentrated in Bujumbura, which accounts for 60 percent of electricity and 69 percent of water connections. At the same time, electricity produced in 2006 decreased due to reduced electricity imports from the Joint (Burundi, DRC, and Rwanda) International Electricity Generation Entity (SINELAC) and the DRC’s National Electricity Company (SNEL) following poor hydrology.

The average consumption of electricity in Burundi is among the lowest in Africa at 23 kWh/cap/year. Burundi faces severe constraints in electricity supply, either national or imported. The supply deficit currently varies between 12.9 MW during the wet season and 23.5 MW during the dry season when the Country’s main hydropower plants are running at reduced capacity. Assuming that the economic growth continues at the current pace, the supply deficit may reach 22 MW and 34 MW (during the wet and dry seasons, respectively) by 2014, at which point substantial generation capacity could be added through the commissioning of the Kabu 16 (Burundi).

(Source: NABC Fact Sheet: Burundi October 2010)
Useful Contacts
The following list of support institutions can most likely help you further with your investment plans in Burundi.

**Burundi Investment Promotion Authority**
Boulevard du 28 Novembre Mutanga Nord,
Immeuble Asharif
B.P. 7057 Bujumbura, Burundi
T: +257 222 75 996
E: contact@investburundi.com
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**Dutch Embassy Office Bujumbura - Burundi**
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F: +257 222 52 054
E: BUJ@minbuza.nl

**Netherlands African Business Council**
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E: info@nabc.nl
W: www.nabc.nl
Sources

NABC Fact Sheet: Burundi October 2010


http://www.indexmundi.com/burundi/economy_profile.html

http://www.investburundi.com/general-economic-information


http://www.investburundi.com/
This document is produced by NABC in preparation for the trade mission to Burundi from 17-20 November. This document serves to give both an overview of the various sectors in Burundi and insight in specific business opportunities. Parties should not base their investment choices solely on this document. NABC 2013