

## Abstract economics for ecology

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Burundi*

### 1. General information

Bujumbura is the capital of Burundi, the total population is 60825.000, density persons per sq km 2003 245, life expectancy 42, population change average % per annum 2000-2005 3.1, urban population % 2002 (10).

Area sq km 27835, forest sq km 2000 1, adult literacy % 2002 (50.4)

### 2. The Economics for ecology

Burundi is a landlocked resource-poor country with an underdevelopmentd manufacturing section.the mainstay of the Burundian economy is agriculture,accounting for 58% of GDP in 1997. Agriculture supports more than 90% of the labour force,the majority of whom are subsistence farmers.

Although Burundi is potentially self-sufficient in food production, the ongoing civil war,overpopulation and soil erosion have contributed to the contraction of the subsistence economy by 25% in recent years.

Large numbers of internally displaced persons have been unable to produce their own food and importer with food accounting for 17% of imports in 1997.

The main cash crop is coffee which accounted for 78.5% of exports in 1997.This dependence of coffee has increased Burundi's vulnerability to seasonal yields and international coffee prices.coffee is the largest state-owned enterprise.

The total forest area in Burundi is 152,000ha of land area 5.9% poor,the trees for fuelwood coupled with agricultural clearing and grazing lands has resulted in nearly complete deforestation of the country. Massive ethnic civil war and the subsequent collapse of government conservation efforts further reduced forest areas and resulted in increased poaching of wildlife. Before the savage civil war, high population density (450 people per square kilometer) on mountain slopes resulted in heavy soil loss and damage to agriculture.

Due to habitat destruction, gorillas and elephants are extinct in Burundi and virtually all wildlife is threatened.

On paper, just 5.4 percent of Burundi's land mass is under any form of protection. In 2005, the government of Burundi announced a ban on the harvesting of natural Christmas trees in an effort to slow deforestation. Since the Christmas trees are an introduced plantation species, the ban had little effect on the country's biodiversity. Overall, Burundi was once home to 2,500 species of plants, 597 birds, 26 amphibians, 80 mammals, and 116 reptiles.