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Project Information Document (PID)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 14-Nov-2024 | Report No: PIDA0251



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Project Beneficiary(ies)	Region	Operation ID	Operation Name
Burundi	EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	P180864	Burundi Colline Climate Resilience Project
Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Approval Date	Practice Area (Lead)
Investment Project Financing (IPF)	18-Nov-2024	19-Dec-2024	Environment, Natural Resources & the Blue Economy
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency	GEF Focal Area	
Republic of Burundi	Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock of Burundi (MINEAGRIE)	Climate Change	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To increase land productivity and climate resilience of fragile communities in targeted collines.

Components

- Enabling environment for climate resilience
- Sustainable landscape management
- Community livelihood resilience
- Project Implementation Support
- CERC

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

Maximizing Finance for Development

Is this an MFD-Enabling Project (MFD-EP)?	No
Is this project Private Capital Enabling (PCE)?	Yes

SUMMARY

Total Operation Cost	88.30
Total Financing	88.30
of which IBRD/IDA	70.00



Financing Gap	0.00
DETAILS	
World Bank Group Financing	
International Development Association (IDA)	70.00
IDA Grant	70.00
Non-World Bank Group Financing	
Trust Funds	18.30
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	18.30
Environmental And Social Risk Classification	
Substantial	
Decision	
The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate	

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

- Burundi is a low-income country with recovering economic growth where 87 percent of the population of 11.9 million live below the poverty line.** It is the third most densely populated country in Sub-Saharan Africa, with an estimated 463 inhabitants per square kilometer. Burundi has the seventh highest fertility rate in the world (5.5 children per mother) and its population is expected to double by 2040. A growing and young population can be a dynamic force, but the economy is currently characterized by limited opportunities, high underemployment (51 to 65 percent depending on the sectors), limited wage jobs, with nearly 90 percent of non-agricultural workers employed in the informal sector , and low levels of foreign investment.
- Burundi’s economic and social development has been constrained by the dominance of low productivity agriculture and limited economic diversification.** Agriculture contributes up to 40 percent of GDP but continues to employ 84 percent of the population. Commercial agricultural production (tea, coffee, palm oil, and cotton) is critical for the country’s economic competitiveness and generates more than 40 percent of export revenues. However, the bulk of the population is engaged in subsistence farming where livelihoods are increasingly difficult to sustain because of high population growth

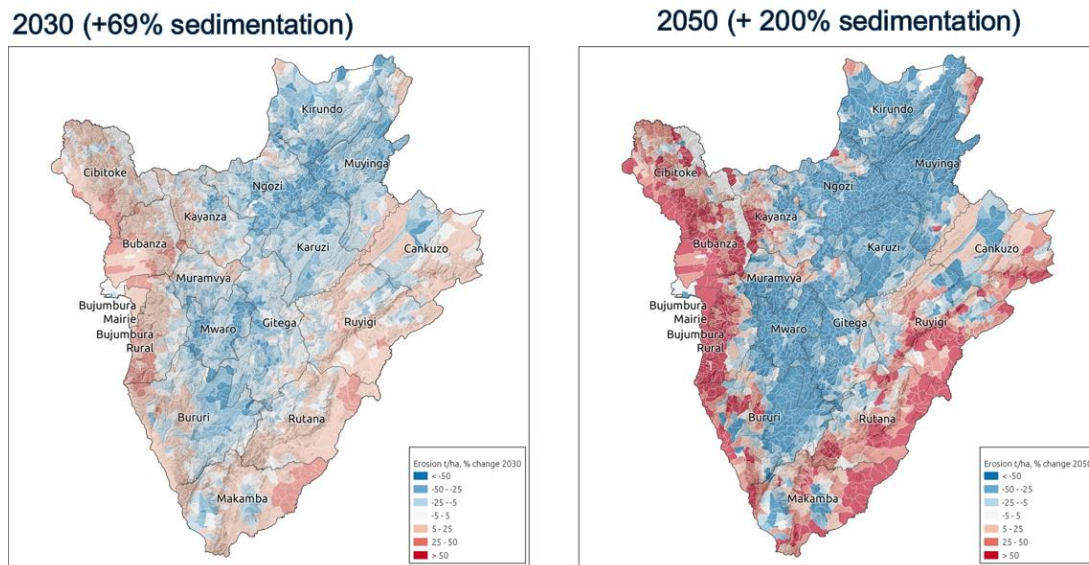


and increasing land degradation. While 49 percent of Burundi’s surface is rainfed cropland (13.2 million ha), only 0.2 million ha is estimated to be potentially under irrigation¹.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

- 3. **An important driver of Burundi’s fragility stems from climate change risks which are already a reality in Burundi.** Burundi emits less than 0.02 percent of the world’s total greenhouse gases (GHGs) but is being hit disproportionately hard by climate change. The 2021 Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) Index ranked Burundi as the 7th most vulnerable country to climate change in East Africa, and the 19th globally, and 172nd in terms of readiness to cope with and adapt to climate impacts². Key impacts of climate change are already manifesting through an increase in landslides, flooding, extreme rainfall, pest and disease outbreaks, and weather variability with alternating floods and droughts. The intensity and frequency of climate-related disasters have increased, especially in the eastern part of the country³. In 2018–2022 alone, 575 climate-related disasters were recorded, affecting 430,000 people, and displacing another 125,000. The recent floods in Bujumbura offer a reminder of a havoc that climate-related disasters can wreak. In April 2024, El Nino driven rainfall anomalies hit Burundi leading to flooding of Lake Tanganyika and through the country. The torrential rains resulted in floods and landslides that affected over 237 000 people, displaced 42 000 (57 percent of whom women), killed 29 and 175 injured people obliterating over 19,250 houses, 209 classrooms and 40,000 hectares of arable lands⁴.
- 4. **Recent World Bank analysis shows severe and worsening land degradation.** A PROGREEN-funded World Bank Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA), “*Diagnosing Drivers of Climate and Environmental Fragility in Burundi’s Colline Landscapes*” (P176820) analyzed recent climate-induced land degradation trends. From 2017 to 2020 alone, the analysis finds that an additional 33,000 ha—1.2 percent of Burundi’s land area—experienced acute degradation. This includes 10,800 ha of productive lands.

Figure 1: Current state and trends in land loss in Burundi (2030 and 2050) in tons/ha by colline



¹ FAO WaPOR LCC, 2022

² Burundi. ND-Gain Index. <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/>

³ Tall, A., Dampha, N.K., Ndayiragije, N., Von Berg, M., Raina, L. and Manirambona, A. (2022). “Tackling Climate Change, Land Degradation and Fragility – Diagnosing Drivers of Climate and Environmental Fragility in Burundi’s Colline Watersheds: Towards a Multi-Sector Investment Plan to Scale up Climate Resilience. A World Bank Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA) Report

⁴ UNOCHA April 26th Burundi Flash Update



5. **To tackle the challenge of climate change in Burundi more effectively, the cross-sectoral and long-term dimensions of adaptation must be considered.** These challenges include the loss of arable land, competing demands for existing land, and the need to shift from a reactive to an anticipative approach in managing climate-related disaster risks. There is also a broad need for awareness-raising and capacity building on these issues at the national, provincial, communal, and *colline* scales.
6. **The GoB acknowledges structural challenges in addressing climate change and land degradation and prioritizes the agenda in several national and sectoral strategies.** It recognizes the importance of effective implementation of the policies and the need to strengthen institutional capacity, dialogue, integrated planning, and accountability to derive the full benefits from ongoing and future reforms. Burundi's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution⁵ and its update⁶ offer an entry point for enhancing climate ambition. Land degradation and climate disaster risk management policies are set out in the government's National Development Plan (2018) and Vision 2025. Watersheds, land management, and agriculture policies were updated in the National Water Strategy 2011–2020, Strategic Guidance Document for Watershed Management and Erosion Control⁷, National Drought Control Plan⁸, Environmental, Agricultural and Livestock Policy Document⁹, and Integrated Farming Plan¹⁰.
7. **The Government has taken many steps to address climate change and land degradation, but the current obstacle is one of policy fragmentation, weak capacity within the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Livestock (MINEAGRIE), and limited programmatic planning, which hampers effective and whole-of-government response to climate.** These obstacles also limit the delivery and mobilization of finance at scale for tackling the double climate and development crisis of Burundi's *collines*. Despite government efforts, limited access to finance hinders poverty alleviation in rural areas and restoration of the land and natural resource base.
8. **The World Bank has been supporting watershed-approach interventions to build resilience in rural Burundi since 2018, with interventions reaching 31 *collines* in 2024.** Investments include the US\$30 million Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project (BLRRP, 2018–2024), covering 22 *collines*,¹¹ and \$6 million in additional financing through the Global Environment Facility (2021–2024) to cover another nine *collines*.¹² There is a clear need to scale up activities to reach the remaining 2,608 *collines* of the country, building on lessons learned from the BLRRP, but significant knowledge and data gaps concerning climate hazards, interactions, and sector-specific impacts, particularly at the local level, thwarted action along with lack of finance.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

To increase land productivity and climate resilience of fragile communities in targeted collines.

Key Results

9. **The proposed PDO-level corporate results indicators are:**
 - a. Land productivity in targeted degraded landscapes (%)

⁵ INDC, 2015 https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-06/Burundi_INDC-english%20version.pdf

⁶ CDN, July 2021. <https://unfccc.int/documents/497263>

⁷ DOSBVLA, March 2022

⁸ PNS, July 2020

⁹ DOPEAE, July 2020

¹⁰ PIP, 2014

¹¹ <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P160613>.

¹² <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P171745>.



- b. Millions of hectares of terrestrial lands under enhanced conservation and management (hectares)
- c. Millions of people with enhanced resilience to climate risks (number, disaggregated by gender).

D. Project Description

The project will support the following components:

Component 1. Enabling environment for climate resilience (US\$ 7.9 million of which US\$ 5.6 million IDA and US\$ 2.3 million GEF).

10. **This component will tackle constraints related to the lack of integrated policy and coordinated institutional response to land degradation and livelihoods' resilience.** This will be achieved through establishing the needed enabling environment and increased support for building capacity at national, sub-watershed and *colline* levels for effective climate risk management, sustainable watershed management, climate resilience, and integrated water resource management and related extension support, including in protected areas, to strengthen the capacity of national and local institutions and equip them to deal with increasing climate and land risks. This component's activities will be structured around two subcomponents as follows.
11. **Subcomponent 1.1. Strengthening Policy and regulatory framework.** This subcomponent will provide support towards policies and capacity at national and local levels for planning and implementing integrated watershed management and climate resilient practices benefitting socially vulnerable groups (women and youth).
12. **Subcomponent 1.2. Institutional capacity strengthening at national, watershed and community levels.** This subcomponent will directly support national agencies, provincial and communal administrations, and beneficiary communities to improve planning, implementation, and management of climate and land risks.

Component 2. Adaptive capacity for sustainable watershed management (US\$ 43.9 million of which US\$ 29.3 IDA and 14.6 GEF).

13. **This component will address constraints of fragmentation and degradation of watersheds,** limited access to sustainable finance to reduce the risks of soil erosion, restore degraded lands and natural resource base, and improve longer-term resilience of the watersheds to climate shocks. This component will address the gaps through supporting a sub-watershed level planning, scaling up landscape restoration and integrated watershed management (IWM) including management of vulnerable slopes and protected areas management. Specifically, project activities will support 87 sub-watersheds targeted by the project covering 80 collines and 38 639 ha of degraded lands to be restored, structured as follows.
14. **Subcomponent 2.1. Watershed management planning.** This subcomponent will address gaps in coordinated planning of land management interventions.
15. **Subcomponent 2.2. Sustainable watershed management.** This subcomponent will implement the watershed management plans prepared under sub-component 2.1, and ensure restoration of degraded watersheds and transition of *colline* communities' farming and land use practices towards integrated sustainable land management practices.
16. **Subcomponent 2.3. Improved Management of Protected Areas (PAs) and Reserves.** The activities of this sub-component will support the effective and sustainable development of Burundi's protected area system to conserve biodiversity, including chimpanzees, other wildlife species, and ecosystem services for the well-being of the population, with a particular focus on the Batwa, who depend on forests for their livelihoods.

Component 3. Community livelihood resilience support (US\$ 26.3 million IDA)



17. **This component will address constraints related to limited access to finance and lack of integrated response to communities' needs for livelihoods resilience in the face of rising climate and land risks.** This component's activities will be structured around three sub-components as follows.
18. **Subcomponent 3.1. Climate-resilience planning.** This sub-component will support elaboration of the Colline-level Climate Action Priorities (or CCAPs), defining priority climate-resilient investment packages to strengthen vulnerable communities' livelihood resilience and income diversification.
19. **Subcomponent 3.2. Climate-resilient agriculture and livelihoods.** This sub-component will support implementation of the CCAPs with the objective to enhance climate-resilient livelihoods and climate-smart agriculture for the most fragile *colline* communities.
20. **Subcomponent 3.3. Land certification.** This subcomponent will improve land security through systematic land certification in each project target *colline*, as an enabling condition for land security access to financing and climate-resilient livelihood investments.

Component 4. Project Management (US\$ 10.2 million)

21. This component will finance activities related to project management, coordination, communication, monitoring, and evaluation (M&E) as well as the management of environmental and social risks (ESF). The project will be managed through a project implementation unit (PIU) hosted by MINEAGRIE. The same PIU that managed the Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project was selected to serve as PIU to ensure continuity and build on existing fiduciary capacities. This arrangement is aligned with MINEAGRIE's mandate to improve the sustainability and cost-effectiveness of project management. This component will use consulting services, training, and operating costs to finance: (i) project coordination and management; (ii) M&E of project activities and outcomes; (iii) communication, media products, including social media, TV, radio and other means for effective communication of project activities and real-time results to different stakeholders ; (iv) management of fiduciary functions, (v) knowledge management, organization of workshops, citizen engagement, training, internships, and stakeholder coordination; (v) conducting baseline studies and implementing the project's monitoring & evaluation plan and related learning and evaluation activities, and (vi) preparing all safeguard instruments for the effective management of project environmental and social risks. Through dedicated LDCF funding, this component will finance the implementation of a knowledge management system that will inform in real-time lessons learned to develop and scale up integrated watershed management plans at the level of each targeted sub-watershed. Lessons from the first set of sub-watershed management plans will serve to inform the subsequent sets using real-time digital data collection technologies such as GEMS. It will help support the development of a robust M&E plan, baseline data collection, and interactive data collection to support iterative planning and adjustment of project activities at the annual work planning and mid-term stage. LDCF resources will also be dedicated to supporting the operational costs of the project's management unit.

Component 5. Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC, US\$0 million)

22. **A Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) is included in the project in accordance with the Investment Project Financing (IPF) Policy, paragraph 12, for Situations of Urgent Need of Assistance and Capacity Constraints.** This will allow for rapid reallocation of uncommitted funds in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency as defined in OP 8.00.¹³ A CERC Operations Manual will be prepared by the GoB and will provide detailed guidelines and instructions on triggering the CERC and use funds (including activation criteria, eligible expenditures, and specific implementation arrangements as well as required staffing for the Coordinating Authority).

¹³ An eligible emergency is defined as an event that has caused, or is likely to imminently cause, a major adverse economic and/or social impact associated with natural or manmade crises or disasters. Such events include a disease outbreak.



23. **The main project beneficiaries are rural *colline* residents in 80 collines across 87 target sub-watersheds. The project will also benefit a broader population through systemic reforms targeting better coordination of climate action and landscape management support at sub-watershed and *colline* levels.** Direct beneficiaries are: (i) total estimated 213,320 households (1,066,600 beneficiaries), including 543,970 women, 7,773 people from vulnerable groups, benefitting from sustainable watershed management practices, greater climate resilience of these communities, and improved livelihoods; (ii) estimated 309,680 residents benefitting from employment creation (labor intensive jobs) of which 40 percent youth and 51 percent women; (iii) 60 local institutions at the district and *colline* level benefitting from increased capacity and clarified rules and responsibilities; (iv) estimated 10,000 micro-entrepreneurs and cooperatives/ associations benefitting from engagement in profitable climate-resilient activities in the project’s intervention areas; and (v) government institutions and private sector organizations, including but not limited to the following ministries and their respective departments to receive capacity-strengthening project investments in human resources and infrastructure: MINEAGRIE, the National Land Commission, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Hydraulics, Energy, and Mining, Ministry of Infrastructure and Equipment and Social Housing, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of National Solidarity, as well as private sector, academia and research institutions.

Legal Operational Policies	Triggered?
Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	Yes
Projects in Disputed Area OP 7.60	No

Summary of Screening of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The project aims to provide physical investments in land restoration through integrated watershed management solutions, climate-smart agriculture, and climate-resilient livelihoods. Activities include tree planting, forest protection, and restoration of degraded lands. Technical assistance activities to strengthen national level policy and regulatory framework for land governance and climate risk management will also be provided. However, the project could lead to potential adverse environmental risks and impacts, including road safety and occupational health and safety risks under all project components, loss of biodiversity, water contamination due to the use of agrochemicals and pesticides, and hazardous waste from livestock vaccine consumable accessories. The project could also result in adverse social impacts, including exclusion from benefits of the project, potential conflicts resulting from beneficiary selection, primary support to women, physical and economic reinstatement due to land acquisitions, GBV/SEA/SH, and conflicts that may arise between agricultural development and conservation needs.

Figure 2. Map of PRCCB Target Sites. Source: IGEBU for the World Bank.



25. **The World Bank will supervise the Project over its lifetime and regularly monitor its results and outcomes to evaluate the achievement of the PDO and implementation performance.** Also, a Mid-Term Review will be conducted within two years after the start of Project implementation to assess Project performance and ensure that lessons learned are considered in implementation efforts over the remaining period.
26. **The PIU will build on the robust M&E system already established by the BLRRP, to collect timely data, analyze progress and results.** M&E will be closely linked to the communications component of the project to build awareness, capture lessons and findings from ground-implementation in real-time to inform scaling-up planning, make strategic and operational decisions and course corrections, as well as support accountability and transparency. Building on the lessons from the BLRRP, the M&E framework is based on: (i) the program results chain and underlying assumptions of the theory of change; and (ii) compliance with World Bank requirements, including the selection of key core indicators as well as specific indicators for gender, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and civic engagement. The project will support several evaluations including 1) institutional analysis, 2) social audits, and 3) farm and household surveys to understand the improved resilience at the household level. In addition to monitoring results, the PIU will develop key operational reports to effectively track the implementation progress in terms of the procurement processes, largest contracts, and physical and financial progress by sub-component. This will be further complemented by the monitoring data collected regularly by the PIU using real-time technology such as GEMS to facilitate data use and knowledge management.

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APPROVAL

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