

Climate Change in Burundi

According to the International Organisation for Migrants (IOM) in a report done in 2022 the following was stated:

- Burundi is among 22 countries most affected by climate change in the world and its CO2 emissions is 0.01%.
- Since 2017, more than 113,000 people have been displaced and more than 83% have lost their homes due to the effects of climate change. This is a result of flooding and 13% suffer from poverty.
- More than 800,000 Burundians are in need of support due to the climate change impacts.









Flooding in Gatumba

Displaced citizens

Suffering from Deforestation

There is an alarming situation of deforestation and climate change in Burundi:

- Natural forest covered 30-50% of Burundi territory. It is now estimated that this coverage is roughly 5.6%.
- Burundi has lost 50% of its forest coverage in the last 25 years according to the UN Food & Agricultural Organisation report.
- Wood is the main source of domestic energy with 96.6% of the global energy balance.
- 77% of charcoal is used by the urban population.
- Burundian researchers have found that an estimated consumption of 104,718 tons of charcoal is used for the urban population alone.

Suffering from Deforestation

There is an alarming situation of deforestation and climate change in Burundi:

- This rate of consumption, in particular by the population of Gitega and Bujumbura, results in an annual loss of 3,505 to 4,673 HA of forest cover, or annually between 5,236 and 6,980 HA if these figures are extrapolated to the entire urban population of Burundi.
- •Due to these figures, it is estimated that the forest coverage could disappear between 25 to 33 years.
- •Burundi has lost 38 tons of farmland per year due to soil erosion and the major climate effects. Up to 2/3 loss of coffee production found in the last 40 years.
- Climate change threatens the population with food insecurity, water scarcity, floods, infectious diseases, extreme heat, economic loss and displacement.

Factors

- Dependence on wood by the Burundi population.
- Urbanisation.
- Rapid population growth.
- Over exploitation of land (clearing land for agricultural purposes).
- Lack of resilient ecosystem policies.
- Anarchic exploitation of forest resources.
- Repetitive bush fires.

Problems

- Poverty in the communities.
- Insufficient agricultural production.
- Malnutrition related diseases increased.
- Pollution of water, air and soil.
- The depletion of natural resources of biodiversity.
- A huge decrease in the population of plants and wildlife.
- Global warming, landslides and flooding in multiple areas of Burundi.





Mountains surrounding Bujumbura

Area of deforestation in Muranvya Province

To face these challenges, GREENING BURUNDI has launched initiatives to ensure Climate Justice in Burundi.

What is Greening Burundi?

We are a non-profit, youth led organisation that implements climate actions and environmental education programs in schools and the community. We have implemented the following:

- Maintenance of healthy living environments.
- Intense reforestation activities.
- Education and awareness sessions, education on environmental protection.
- Prevention against environmental pollution.
- ✓ So far more than 2,000,000 trees have been planted.
- √ We aim to plant 50,000,000 trees by 2040.

Greening Burundi Initiatives

Clean Up Initiatives





Tree Nurseries





Tree Nurseries





Tree Planting Initiatives



Student Involvement

Community Involvement



School Children Involvement



Youth & Disabled Community Involvement





By reforesting degraded forest reserves, the project makes a valuable contribution to the restoration of Burundi forests and their ecosystem services. Conservation of biodiversity, regulation of water regimes and maintenance of soil quality and limitation of erosion, fire protection and climate regulation.



For more information follow us on:



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Conclusion

• Climate change is a reality in Burundi, which explains why we need concentrated efforts to deal with the adverse effects of climate change that manifest themselves in meteorological events such as global warming and flooding.