

Burundi

2012





























Several factors explain the high youth unemployment rate. In terms of job availability, formal private employment is underdeveloped, and the civil service is loath to hire while seeking to bring its wage bill under control. Moreover, employers are reluctant to take on employees with no previous experience. These factors combine with strong population growth, bringing about an imbalance of supply and demand in the labour market, which is more apparent year by year.

As far as jobseekers are concerned, their training is inappropriate and is often too theoretical, failing to foster entrepreneurial spirit and creativity. Young people prefer to have a regular salary to setting up their own business, all the more so as starting a business is difficult. One cause is the lack of available finance ("Centre d'alerte et de prévention des conflits" (CENAP conflict Resolution Centre), 2010) and the unattractive business climate.

A poll of young people who had lost their job was undertaken in 2009. Among the reasons they gave, were difficulties of private business leading to closure (23.6 %), dismissal (12.3 %) and lay-offs (6.1 %). The young people who left employment voluntarily mostly blame inadequate pay (CSLP II).

## Notes

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[1] The payroll is not high because new people have been hired (civil service numbers have been practically frozen (see analysis of youth employment)), but from the numbers of civilian and military functionaries left over from various rebellions since 1993.

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[2] The authorities want to gain the maximum advantage from belonging to several economic areas. This policy clearly corresponds to the desire of making regional integration the driving force of economic development. Several studies and analyses have sought to determine the benefits and opportunities flowing from all these regional groupings in relation to their costs. There is no obvious choice, even if the current tendency is to go forward with the EAC.

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[3] An analysis of this debt undertaken in 2010 show Burundi's debt is not viable, because the present value ratio debt/exports is over 100 % for the whole period of the projection. This ratio will be over the indicative threshold by at least 100 percentage points from 2011 to 2013. On the other hand, the other ratios (present value debt/GDP, present value debt/income, servicing the debt/exports and servicing the debt/income) ought to keep below the indicative threshold thanks to the policies implemented by the country during this projection.