



Republic of Rwanda

VISION 2050

BUILDING THE RWANDA WE WANT

Abridged Version

VISION 2050

Abridged Version

CONTENTS

Vision 2050	4
Background to Vision 2050	5
1. Introduction	5
2. Rwanda's changing development context	5
3. Development of Vision 2050	6
The Rwanda we want: Prosperity and High Quality of Life for all Rwandans	7
1. Economic Growth and Prosperity	7
2. High Quality and Standards of Life for Rwandans	7
Pillars of the Vision 2050	9
1. Human Development	9
2. Competitiveness and Integration	9
3. Agriculture for Wealth Creation	10
4. Urbanization and Agglomeration	11
5. Accountable and Capable State Institutions	12
Key Considerations for Success	13
1. Strong and Sustainable macroeconomic fundamentals	13
2. Positive Values supporting Societal Transformation	14
3. Rigorous and Effective monitoring and implementation framework	15
Conclusion	16
Vision 2050 Indicators Matrix	17



VISION 2050

We don't want to be a status quo country or status quo people. Vision 2020 was about what we had to do in order to survive and regain our dignity. But Vision 2050 has to be about the future we choose, because we can, and because we deserve it.

Rwandans will not be satisfied to live paycheck to paycheck, harvest to harvest, without accumulating wealth and financial security.

They want to live close to the families they love and watch them thrive.
They want access to world-class education, right here at home.

They aspire to travel the world in search of new ideas and experiences, unhindered by barriers. And then fly proudly back home to Rwanda, because there is no other place they would rather live.

If this sounds right, then we are together.
That means: Not alone, but all of us."

H.E. President Paul Kagame

State of the Nation Address | Umushyikirano, December 2015

BACKGROUND TO VISION 2050

1. Introduction

Rwanda's Vision 2050 articulates the long-term strategic direction for **"the Rwanda we want"** and the enabling pathways to achieve this ambition. Energized by – but by no means content with – the past two decades of success in reducing poverty, increasing incomes, improving living standards, strengthening good governance, promoting home grown solutions, establishing rule of law, maintaining stability, promoting gender equality and women empowerment, peace and security. Rwanda now aspires to transform its economy and modernize the lives of all Rwandans.

Recognizing that achieving these aspirations will require bold and decisive action, Vision 2050 serves as the critical planning and policy blueprint to guide the efforts of all players in Rwanda's development, including Government, private sector, citizens, diaspora, civil society and faith-based organizations, development partners, academia and research institutions, and political parties.

2. Rwanda's changing development context

Rwanda has undergone several development phases starting from the aftermath of the Genocide against the Tutsi in 1994 which focused much on recovery; the early 2000s where the Vision 2020 was elaborated, and gave a blueprint for a new Rwanda embarking on economic development aspirations and post-2010 a period that intensified efforts to lay foundations for sustained growth through investing in human capital, developing basic infrastructure and expanding access to various services.

The next phase of Rwanda's long term development is focused on transformation of the entire economy and society. There is a need to continue the journey towards self-reliance through a private sector-led growth and transformation economic model.

In the next 3 decades, the country will make long-term investments in future endowments: enhanced human capabilities, strong innovation and technological capabilities, socioeconomically integrated forms of urbanization, and effective and accountable institutions of governance.

The country will play to its inherent strengths, which arise from an endowment of labor including a youthful population, a fertile agricultural landscape, natural resources and a good foundation of ICT.

3. Development of Vision 2050

The Vision 2050 was requested by the **13th National Umushyikirano Council** in 2015. Subsequently, broad stakeholder consultations and citizens' engagement were conducted to define what the Rwanda citizens want to see by 2050.

Specific stakeholders consulted include: youth and women, private sector, development partners, political parties, civil society, faith-based organizations, academia, and research institutions and persons with disabilities among others.

Vision 2050 establishes the development framework for 2020–2050, with a mid-term review envisaged in 2035 and regular reviews planned every 5 years. The Vision intensifies the country's ambitions and continues the drive towards self-reliance and competitiveness.

The elaboration of Vision 2050 has taken into consideration the global and regional development agendas, to ensure harmonization of targets and indicators. Those include: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, East African Community (EAC) Vision 2050, and the Paris Agreement on climate change among other instruments.



THE RWANDA WE WANT: PROSPERITY AND HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RWANDANS

The overarching goals for the Vision 2050 are:

1. Economic Growth and Prosperity

Rwanda aspires to become an upper-middle income country (UMIC) by 2035, and a high-income country (HIC) by 2050.

Specifically, this means realizing the following key economic targets:

- By 2035: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of over USD 4,036; and
- By 2050: GDP per capita of over USD 12,476

2. High Quality and Standards of Life for Rwandans

- The aim is to achieve high quality and standards of living.
- Rwanda will build on the strong progress made in reducing poverty over the last two decades, reducing the poverty rate from 78% after 1994 to 38% in 2017, with the aim of eliminating poverty altogether.
- This will be achieved through ensuring all walks of society have increased opportunities to contribute to national development, including by growing investments in human capital and ensuring universal access to amenities, safety and security.
- All youth, women, men, and elderly people will contribute as actors of sustainable development, ensuring that no one is left behind in benefiting from development.
- Vision 2050 is informed by the aspiration of Rwandans of leaving to Rwandan children a better world to live in.
- As such, growth and development will follow a sustainable path in terms of use and management of natural resources while building resilience to cope with climate change impacts.

- Rwandans aspiration for high quality of life will be further appreciated through the quality of the environment, both natural and built.
- These aspirations will continue to be embedded in Rwanda's long term Green Growth and Climate Resilient Strategy (GGCRS) whose impact is intended to bring about mindset and developmental transformation in Rwandan society that is necessary to achieve the desired carbon-neutral and climate resilient economy.
- Efficient use of land across sectors will be guided by the National Land Use and Development Master Plan (2020-2050).



PILLARS OF THE VISION 2050

1. Human Development

The overarching objective for this pillar is to reap the economic benefits from the estimated “demographic dividend”.

That is by 2050, the share of the working age population is expected to grow from around 61% of the population in 2017 (NISR) to 65.7% in 2050.

Reaping economic benefits from this “demographic dividend” will be realized only through an integrated approach that ensures that decline in fertility is **backed up by essential investments in human capital development and economic reforms so that the country has a healthy, well educated, and highly skilled labor force that is gainfully employed.**

Specific priorities in this pillar include:

- Universal access to high quality health care
- Universal access to high quality education
- A transformed workforce for higher productivity

2. Competitiveness and Integration

Rwanda’s ambition to become a developed country hinges on its ability to enhance competitiveness at macro and micro levels.

Rwanda is targeting to:

- Belong to the top 10 countries in doing business in 2035 and maintain the status
- Rank among the top 20 economies in competitiveness by 2035 and top 10 in 2050

Specific priorities under this pillar include:

- A diversified economy built upon future industries
- Competitive manufacturing anchored to a regional logistics hub
- Modern and innovative services sectors driving transformative growth
- Export-oriented knowledge services
- High-end sustainable tourism
- Universal access to financial services
- Strengthening export competitiveness and trade connectivity
- Knowledge-intensive economy through:
 - » Fostering excellence in Research and Development (R&D)
 - » Remaining a proof-of-concept destination for current and future innovations
 - » Becoming a data-driven economy
 - » Future-proofing the education system

3. Agriculture for Wealth Creation

The overarching objective for this pillar is to attain agriculture transformation that is equally led by both women and men professional farmers and commercialized value chains.

Specific priorities under this pillar include:

- Modern market-oriented and climate resilient agriculture
- Scaled up use of modern inputs and technologies to maximize productivity
- Increased access to agriculture finance and risk sharing facilities
- Integration within global value chains for higher-value products



4. Urbanization and Agglomeration

As one of the future drivers of the country's growth, the overarching objective is to have 70% of the population living in urban areas by 2050.

By 2050, Rwanda will have a formal housing sector sufficiently available and accessible to all segments of the population.

In this pursuit, the new focus under this pillar will be on identifying and creating synergies between the critical elements of urbanization that create agglomeration and enhance the socioeconomic benefits of urbanization.

Urbanization will continue to rapidly change with new growth poles projected to emerge besides the already planned six secondary cities and Kigali city due to large investments being undertaken for example in Bugesera.

Rural settlements will grow in a clustered and densified way with the necessary basic infrastructure, services and facilities. Rural households settled in integrated planned settlements will increase from 67.2% (EICV5 2016/17) to 80% by 2024 and 100% by 2035. This will be maintained throughout 2050.

Key considerations in the future under this pillar include:

- Universal access to quality services and amenities
- Universal access to affordable and decent housing
- Ease of mobility and efficient transport
- Smart and Green cities for sustainable growth
- Sustainable supply and demand for energy

5. Accountable and Capable State Institutions

The overarching objective for this pillar is to consolidate gains made and continue citizen-centred reforms in local innovations and home grown solutions into the next phase of long-term development.

Governance and effective institutions constitute a key pillar of socioeconomic transformation of Rwanda. They are prerequisites to achieve the national agenda in all sectors.

To fulfill the Vision 2050 aspirations, Rwanda's institutions and governance will need to become modern, innovative, accountable to citizens, and rooted in the rule of law.

Specific priorities under this pillar include:

- Ensuring efficient and accountable institutions for socioeconomic transformation
- Deepening decentralization to bring services closer to the citizens
- Rule of law and justice for all



KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR SUCCESS

- For Vision 2050 to be successful, a set of prerequisites need to be fulfilled to ensure transformation and growth. These include:
 - » Consistency in prioritization
 - » Increasing the role of private sector
 - » Deepening regional integration
 - » Adopting an unconventional approach: “Business-as-usual” is not sufficient to reach the objectives of Vision 2050.
- The aspirations in this Vision will not be reached without hard work. The requirements that must be in place to achieve the Vision 2050 objectives are enshrined in three main elements:
 - » Strong and sustainable macroeconomic fundamentals
 - » Positive values for societal transformation
 - » A rigorous and effective monitoring and implementation framework.

These are further elaborated below:

1. Strong and Sustainable macroeconomic fundamentals

- Rwanda aims to reach upper middle-income status in 2035 and high-income status in 2050.
- To reach these targets, the needed GDP growth rates (annual average) are at least 12% during 2018-2035 and 10% from 2036 to 2050.

To achieve this aspiration, Rwanda will need to:

- ◇ Attract and sustain high private investment
- ◇ Increase domestic savings and capital inflows
- ◇ Promote higher public investment
- ◇ Improve human capital through education

2. Positive Values supporting Societal Transformation

Post-genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda's starting point was rebuilding institutions and ensuring security of all Rwandans. Although everything was priority after the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda made a "triple choice," **(staying together, being accountable and thinking big)** highlighting the way of doing business unusually¹.

Further, Rwanda recognizes the importance of her culture and values in providing a platform for sustained socioeconomic transformation and prosperity.

This will involve sustaining shared positive values for 2050. These will be cultivated and sustained to provide the right impetus and framework for delivering the aspirations of this Vision.

These values include:

- Self-determination, including self-sufficiency as a Nation (Kwigira), Solidarity and Dignity (Agaciro)
- Unity and reconciliation and the Rwandan Identity/culture
- Equity (including gender), and Inclusiveness
- Citizen-centred governance
- Rwanda's Home-grown Solutions: These include Girinka and Ubudehe, Imihigo, Umuganda, Community Health Workers (CHWs), Universal Health Insurance, Gacaca courts, National Umushyikirano council, Abunzi and Access to Justice Bureaus.

These and other Home Grown Solutions (HGS) will remain at the heart of Rwanda's socio-economic development.

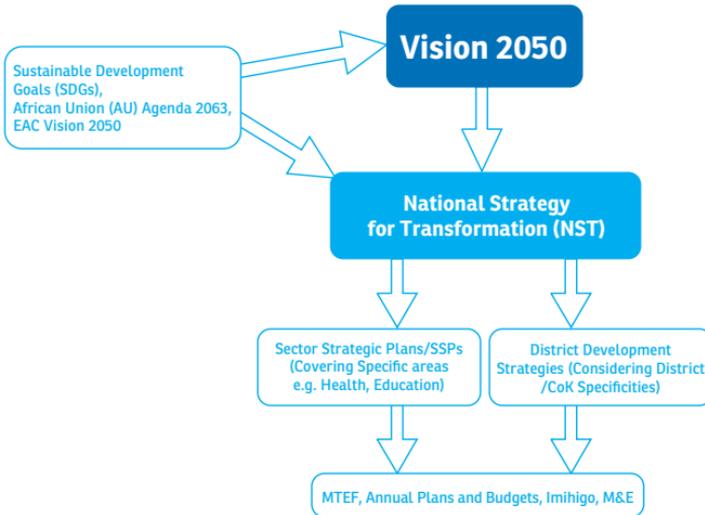
¹Speech of HE Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda in the commemoration of 20th Anniversary of Genocide against the Tutsi, April 2014*



3. Rigorous and Effective monitoring and implementation framework

- Vision 2050 encompasses two distinct time periods, 2020-2035 and 2036-2050, with a mid-period review point during each phase to allow for readjusting plans and targets as necessary.
- A mechanism for regular assessment of progress achieved and alignment of the Vision to take into account Rwanda's changing development context will be implemented.
- The implementation of Vision 2050 will be done through medium-term development strategies starting from the first National Strategy for Transformation (NST 1) which serves to bridge the Vision 2020 and Vision 2050.
- Vision 2050 planning and execution will be driven by existing development planning and implementation frameworks at the national, sector, and district level, respectively as indicated in the **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: The Development Planning Framework for Vision 2050



CONCLUSION

- Building on Rwanda's extraordinary record of success and energized by the aspirations of a strong leadership and a middle class on the rise, Vision 2050 charts a bold and ambitious future for Rwanda.
- Rwanda's ambitious economic objectives can only be achieved through structural transformation. Rwanda's aspirations are emboldened by the window of opportunity over the medium term to increase employment in manufacturing and services, for greater regional and international integration, and to leverage the demographic dividend.
- Vision 2050 endeavours to chart this course, recognizing that challenges and opportunities will present themselves over the course of this Vision's implementation.
- Rwanda aspires to provide increased incomes, high-quality livelihoods, and modern living standards to all Rwanda's citizens. Rwanda aspires to be a modern, innovative, equitable, accountable society with comprehensive utilities, clean water, easy mobility, and equal access to quality healthcare, education, and job opportunities for all its citizens.
- The education system will be market-led to match Rwandans' skills with the modern industries and services that drive the economy. These objectives will be built upon a foundation of strong macroeconomic fundamentals and effective institutions supported by positive values and leveraging on home grown solutions.
- Rwanda's leadership and citizens alike, recognize that achieving these aspirational goals in the Vision 2050 will not be easy. The agenda will be challenging, requiring intense improvements in productivity, prioritization of investments, and an unconventional mind-set. Learning from international experience, countries have achieved the sustained growth rates required by Vision 2050.
- Nevertheless, through Vision 2050 Rwanda continues to set itself a uniquely high level of ambition. Current and future generations of Rwandans have the spirit, self-determination and solidarity to implement the aspirations of Vision 2050 successfully and to move toward a transformed economy and way of life over the coming decades.



VISION 2050 INDICATORS MATRIX

Objective	No.	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Target (in 2035)	Target (in 2050)
Quality well-being	1	Life expectancy (years)	67.8	71.7	73
	2	Population Growth rate (%)	2.5 (2019)	1.7	1.4
	3	Fertility rate (total births per woman)	4.1	3	2.3
Inclusive accelerated economic growth	4	GDP per capita (in USD)	837 (2019)	4,036	12,476
	5	Gini Coefficient	0.43 (2017)	0.35	0.3
Employment creation	6	Unemployment rate (%)	15.2 (2019)	7	5
	7	Ratio of male to female in labour force participation	Male: Female 1.8:1	Male: Female 1.5:1	Male: Female 1:1
Human Development					
Access to affordable, high-quality and specialized health care	8	Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	203	<50	<20
	9	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	33	<25	<18
	10	Under Five Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	45	33	24
	11	Child Stunting (as a % of under 5s)	33	5.5	3
Access to affordable high-quality education	12	Net Enrolment Rate in pre-primary (%)	24.6 (2019)	99	99
	13	Proportion of learners achieving at least minimum proficiency in numeracy and literacy in S3 (%)	Numeracy Total: 78.8 Male: 81.8 Female: 75.9 Literacy Total: 71.3 Male: 77.6 Female: 65.3 (2017)	99	99

Objective	No.	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Target (in 2035)	Target (in 2050)
	14	Transition rate from primary to lower secondary education (%)	72.2 (2019)	94.3	97
	15	Students enrolled in TVET as proportion of total students in Basic Education (%)	33.6 (2019)	60	60
	16	Mean years of schooling (Years)	4.4	6.9	10.9
	17	Proportion of graduates in STEM related programmes (%)	Total: 36.9 Male: 42.6 Female: 29.9	44.26	50
	18	University young population employment to population ratio (%)	Total: 56.8 Male: 59.0 Female: 54.5	77.48	80.18
	19	Gross domestic expenditure on research and development as percentage of GDP (%)	0.66 (2016)	1.50	3
	20	Proportion of academic staff involved in research publication relevant to socio-economic development (%)	Total: 23.0 Male: 22.0 Female: 26.7	38.30	52.0
Comprehensive social safety nets	21	Proportion of population covered by health insurance (%)	91	>95	100
	22	Proportion of poor and vulnerable population covered by social protection systems (%)	6.5 (2017/18)	20	50
	23	Proportion of population accessing social security (%)	8.7	30	50

Objective	No.	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Target (in 2035)	Target (in 2050)
Competitiveness and Integration					
A diversified economy built upon future industries	24	Industry sector's Value Added contribution to GDP (%)	19 (2019)	24	33
Modern and innovative services sectors driving transformative growth	25	Services sector's Value Added contribution to GDP (%)	49 (2019)	46	42
Higher investment	26	Investment as percentage of GDP (%)	26 (2019)	32.6	35.1
	27	Change in National GHG Emissions (MtCO2e) from established Business As Usual (BAU)	5.3 MtCO2e	16.1 (MtCO2e)-BAU 10 (MtCO2e) – With Intervention	28.2 (MtCO2e) -BAU 17.5 (MtCO2e)-With Intervention
Agriculture for wealth creation					
Modern and market-oriented agriculture	28	Agriculture sector's Value Added contribution to GDP (%)	24 (2019)	21	16
Urbanization and Agglomeration					
Urbanization as a driver of growth	29	Population living in urban areas (%)	18.4 (2016/17)	52.69	70

Objective	No.	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Target (in 2035)	Target (in 2050)
	30	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	62.6 (2016/17)	44	20
	31	Land used according to the National Land Use and Development Master Plan (NLU DMP 2020-2050) (Km ²)	Agriculture: 10,949km ² Built-up areas and infrastructure: 2,888 km ² Forests: 7,242 km ² Water bodies and their buffer zones: 1,637 km ² Wetlands and their buffer zones: 2,068 km ²	Agriculture: 11,691km ² Built-up areas and infrastructure: 3,434km ² Forests: 7,483 km ² Water and protected wetlands: 2,200 km ²	Agriculture: 12,433km ² Built-up areas and infrastructure: 3,980km ² Forests: 7,725 km ² Water and protected wetlands: 2,200 km ²
	32	Renewable water resource availability per capita per annum (m ³ /capita/annum)	670 (2015)	1,000	1,700
Affordable and high-quality housing	33	Proportion of rural households settled in integrated planned settlements (%)	67.2 (2016/17)	100	100
Ease of mobility and efficient transport	34	Proportion of population conveying with public transportation (%)	17	24	40
Sustainable supply and demand for energy	35	Share of renewable energy in power generation mix (%)	53.78	At least 60	At least 60
	36	Access to electricity (% of population)	56	100	100
	37	Per capita energy consumption (proxy for improvements in income contributing to increased energy demand) (Kwh)	50 (2019)	1,026	3,080

Objective	No.	Indicator	Baseline (2020)	Target (in 2035)	Target (in 2050)
Universal access to quality services and amenities	38	Households using safely managed sanitation services (%)	86.2 (2016/17)	100	100
	39	Population using improved water source (%)	87.4 (2016/17)	100	100
	40	Households with improved water source in dwellings/ yard (access to safely managed drinking water services) (%)	9.4 (National) 39.2 (Urban) 2.3 (Rural) (2016/17)	55	99
	41	Population using internet (%)	21.77 (2018)	60	88
Accountable and Capable State Institutions					
Enhanced service delivery	42	Public services rendered fully online (%)	40	100	100
Reduced dependency on aid	43	Domestic revenues (tax and non-tax) as percentage of GDP (%)	19.4 (2018/2019)	21.5	21.5
	44	Gross National Savings as percentage of GDP (%)	13.2 (2019)	22.4	27.7
	45	Financial sector contribution to GDP (%)	2	5.2	11.8
	46	Ratio of the value of investment funds (Total assets) to GDP (%)	0	320	641

Republic of Rwanda

Website: www.gov.rw



Published **December 2020**



Republic of Rwanda