

Burkina Faso national day

Accelerated growth strategy as the way forward

Francois Oubida
AMBASSADOR OF BURKINA FASO

To eradicate poverty in Burkina Faso, the government developed the Strategic Framework against Poverty (CSLP), which covered the period 2000-2010. Its major objectives were to substantially reduce poverty by 2015, increasing the gross domestic product per capita and life expectancy in Burkina Faso at least to 60 years. After this period, an evaluation showed that the result is not at the expected level, although it has laid down foundations for sustainable development. Similarly, the challenges remain immense.



Regarding the results, it appears that the social indicators are improving and the business environment is more attractive, according to the Doing Business reports of the International Finance Corp. In addition, the Human Development Index improved slightly according to the latest global reports of the United Nations Development Program.

It also appears, specifically, that during the period 2000-2009, economic growth has been very erratic, due to climate influences, recurring crisis and low added value. The average growth rate in GDP per capita was 5.2 percent, reaching 8.7 percent in 2005. During that period, the average rate of growth was mainly driven by the primary and tertiary sectors with an average respectively of 3.1 and 1.3 percentage points of GDP, and to a lesser extent, by the secondary sector around 0.8 points.

The new phenomenon that emerged during the decade has been the production of gold, increasing from 5.8 tons in 2008 to 20 tons in 2010, now putting this resource to the rank of first export product of the country, ahead of cotton, which is contributing more than 4 percent to the formation of the national added value.

For its part, the contribution of consumption to growth was

3.3 percent, due mainly to public consumption growing by 6.7 percent on average. For cons, the increase in private consumption has hardly exceeded 2.8 percent, due to the low purchasing power of households, exacerbated by the effects of the food and financial crises.

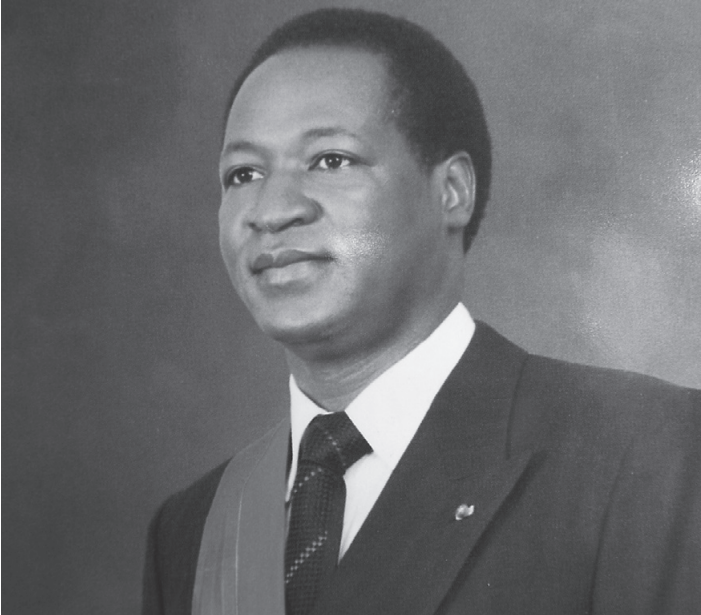
To support the economy through the creation of added value and employment, the government has launched a comprehensive program of reform of the rules in the field of trade. As a result, despite the economy's vulnerability to external shocks and climatic hazards, significant results were obtained, signs of the beginning of a qualitative change in the pattern of growth, due to improved climate business and liberalization of the economy, which led to an important inflow of foreign direct investment.

The challenges ahead are essentially the following:

- The strengthening of the macroeconomic performance and persistence of poverty
- The preservation of the environment for sustainable development
- The stimulation of competitiveness and diversification
- The control of public expenditure, debt and official development assistance (ODA)
- Raising the level indicators of education
- The strengthening of potential of population access to health care
- Taking into account the gender issue
- Improving governance

To meet these challenges, the government has elaborated the Accelerated Growth Strategy and Sustainable Development (SCADD). It is underpinned by six guiding principles: anticipation, national ownership, accountability, sustainable development, prioritization and coherence of actions, the Results-Based Management (RBM).

Its overall objective is to achieve strong, sustained and quality economic growth, generating multiplier effects on the level of income improvement, the quality of life of the people concerned and the principle of



President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso

sustainable development.

Regarding specific objectives, it will be in line with the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals: achieve average growth rate of real GDP of 10 percent; alleviate extreme poverty and hunger in the country; ensure universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce the mortality of children under 5 years old; improve maternal health; combat HIV, AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and strengthen the reversal of the trend; ensure an environmental

sustainability.

In this context, the accelerated growth and sustainable development will involve the development of the pillars of accelerated growth, the consolidation of human capital and the promotion of social welfare, strengthening good governance, taking into account cross-cutting priorities in policies and programs.

The government of Japan has played a key role in the process of preparing this document. The government of Burkina Faso hopes that these efforts be continued, in particular to strength-



Monument: The memorial to the martyrs of Burkina Faso is located in the new district of the capital Ouagadougou. EMBASSY OF BURKINA FASO

en intergovernmental cooperation and also that between the private sectors of both countries. This desire is evidenced by the launch of consultation on draft agreements such as the reciprocal protection of investments to create a viable and secure legal environment.

Pending the outcome of the partnerships envisaged through exchanges under FOODEX, African fairs in the margin of TICAD sessions and other forums such as the International Exhibition of Handicrafts in Ouagadougou, Japanese traders could take part

in the field of gold mining and the new project "Bagre pole," launched in September 2012 as part of the growth poles defined by the government.

This project is part of the dynamic economic emergence of Burkina Faso. It is indeed a business opportunity in the development of irrigation infrastructure, supply of infrastructure and facilities for breeding, conservation of water, transport and for the extension of the electrical distribution system and water supply. Potential investment amounted to \$133.7 million.

Bonds of our friendship take stronger hold

Norihisa Matsuyama
PRESIDENT, JAPAN-BURKINA FASO
FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the 52nd anniversary of the independence of Burkina Faso. It is a great pleasure for me that I can greet my dear friends of Burkina Faso through this article again this year.

Since the establishment of dip-



lomatic relations in 1962, Burkina Faso and Japan have deepened mutual understanding and friendship. Both countries have worked together targeting further development in various fields, such as economy, society and culture, and have

acted for contributing to peace and prosperity.

Japan was designated as honorable guest country to the Salon International de l'Artisanat de Ouagadougou, which made me confident in further deepened bonds of friendship between both countries.

Also, the Japan-Burkina Faso Friendship Association, whose activities have entered into its

18th year, has received Chevalier de l'Ordre National and Chevalier de l'Ordre du Merite Burkinabe, thus the bridge between both countries have taken stronger hold.

As this year is winding down to its end, I would like to express my appreciation to all the people who have contributed to both countries and wish a happy and prosperous 2013.

Congratulations
to the People of Burkina Faso



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Cooperation through Projects
in the Environmental Sector



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Keep Moving

If there's no path, make one.

If the wind is blowing, run with it.

Hardship means opportunity.

Whatever the circumstances, keep moving.

For a better future,

for one person, one city, one country,

one planet, we will sprint ahead.

Always keep moving.

Marubeni

Congratulations to the People of Burkina Faso on the 52nd Anniversary of Their Independence