

An aerial photograph of a town in Eritrea, showing a mix of traditional and modern buildings, green trees, and a hilly landscape under a clear blue sky. The town is nestled in a valley, with hills rising in the background. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

ERITREA VISION

2030

A Strategy for  
Inclusive & Sustainable  
Development

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This publication is a shortened popular summary of an in-depth proposal for a national economic policy for Eritrea. It shall serve as a basis for discussion for developing a shared vision of a macro-economic policy framework among Eritreans during the process of democratic transition. Once finalized through further discussion and consultation, Vision 2030 would serve as an overview for all Eritreans and future investors outlining the key pillars proposed for national development.

Pending the establishment of a constitution and a legitimate democratic leadership, it is to be viewed as a recommendation for the people of Eritrea and as a beacon of hope: Eritrean professionals & industry experts have started the significant preparatory work for national prosperity.

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April 2020.

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# WHY ERITREA VISION 2030?



Vision 2030 is a proposal, by the Eritrean People's Sovereignty (EPS), for a macroeconomic policy framework for Eritrea's rapid, inclusive and sustainable development during and beyond the transition to a democratic system of government. Its goal is to identify the key priorities for human resource development and inclusive economic growth in the years ahead. It shall provide strategic direction towards laying a strong foundation for accelerated sustainable growth and shall further serve as a guiding tool for a prosperous future benefiting all Eritreans.

Three decades of dictatorial domination; gross, systematic and widespread abuse of the people; harmful policies and mismanagement of national human and material resources have squandered opportunities for development and left Eritrea lagging far behind on all global development indicators. The regime's policies and practices have shattered the country's entire socio-economic fabric. It will take strong and accountable governance, concerted efforts, smart strategies, and a shared national Vision 2030 to start the process of recovery and rebuilding.

Many countries in Africa have prepared and officially launched a national vision document just before or after the start of the millennium looking and planning often twenty or thirty years into the future.

Eritrea's macro-policy was drafted in 1994 – but almost two decades later most goals have never been implemented and a lot of the early initiatives were undone. The time has come, Eritrea is preparing a national vision for rapid socio-economic recovery and sustainable growth during transition and beyond.

Eritrea's Vision 2030 recognizes that economic growth alone is not sufficient to bring about the necessary rise in the standard of living and quality of life of the people at large. It is paramount that the path for development is participatory, sustainable, and corruption-free - safeguarded by Eritrea's constitution, international law, and good governance.

Vision 2030 hence aspires to be a framework towards the overall development of a strong and united nation. A nation that is proud of its fundamental cultural values, its human capital, and natural resources while, at the same time, being determined to build a stable modern state that enables its citizens to live in dignity and utmost respect.

Vision 2030 shall serve as a torch of hope and a path towards the development of a just, inclusive, and prosperous society that serves all Eritreans equally. The citizens of Eritrea must be the primary beneficiaries of the Vision and its proposed strategic action points.

There are 4 overarching themes that guide Vision 2030. These are:

1. **Human Capital Development** – Eritrea's people come first and are the country's most important and valuable asset.
2. **Inclusive Economic Growth** – is crucial when uplifting Eritrea out of poverty into a healthy sustainable economy that serves every Eritrean equally.
3. **Green Economy and Environmental Protection** – Transforming Eritrea into a green economy is one of the best economic success strategies the country can adopt in order to tap into global trends and safeguard Eritrean livelihoods for generations to come.
4. **Constitutional Law and Respect for Human Rights** – The dignity and wellbeing of Eritrea's citizens will be safeguarded by constitutional law and an utmost respect to the human rights of each citizen.

# MOVING ERITREA TOWARDS A STABLE STATE



**96.4** **17<sup>th</sup>** **-0.8** **0.9** **6.1**

FSI Score in 2019 (Maximum 120) FSI Ranking in 2019 (178 Countries) Points Change from Last Year Points Change Over Five Years Points Change from Ten Years

### COHESION INDICATORS



C1: Security Apparatus  
C2: Factionalized Elites  
C3: Group Grievance

### POLITICAL INDICATORS



P1: State Legitimacy  
P2: Public Services  
P3: Human Rights and Rule of Law

### ECONOMIC INDICATORS



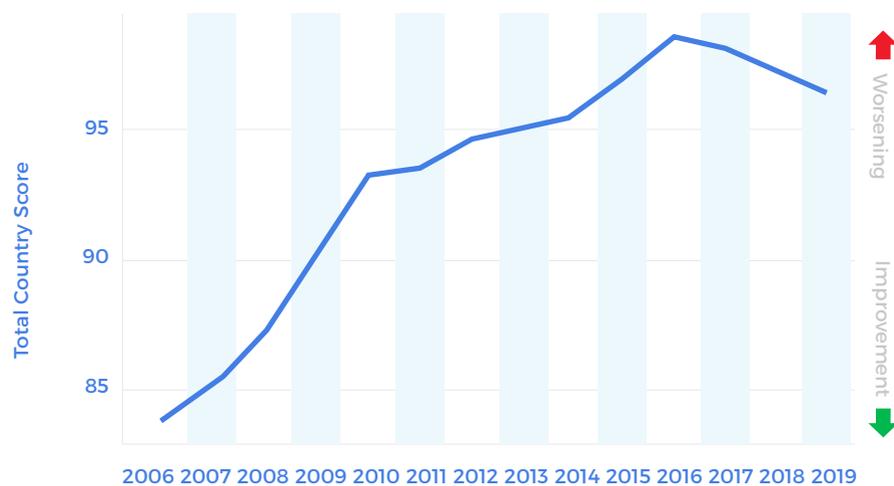
E1: Economic Decline  
E2: Uneven Economic Development  
E3: Human Flight and Brain Drain

### SOCIAL AND CROSS-CUTTING INDICATORS



S1: Demographic Pressures  
S2: Refugees and IDPs  
X1: External Intervention

OVERALL TREND, 2006-2019:  
Eritrea



Sort by Indicator: Hover your mouse under the Indicator icon and click the sort button:



Year	Rank	Total	SA	FE	GG	EC	UD	HF	SL	PS	HR	DP	RD	X1
2019	17th	96.4	6.6	8.1	7.7	7.7	8.4	8.9	9.4	7.8	8.7	8.4	7.7	7.0
2018	19th	97.2	6.9	8.1	7.4	7.8	8.1	8.6	9.4	8.1	8.7	8.7	8.0	7.4
2017	19th	98.1	7.2	8.1	7.1	8.1	7.8	8.3	9.3	8.4	9.0	8.8	8.3	7.7
2016	18th	98.6	7.4	8.1	6.6	8.3	7.5	8.0	9.5	8.6	9.1	9.1	8.5	7.9
2015	24th	96.9	7.7	8.1	6.1	8.3	7.2	7.6	9.1	8.7	9.3	8.8	7.8	8.2
2014	23rd	95.5	7.6	8.1	6.4	8.0	7.2	7.5	8.8	8.4	9.2	8.5	7.3	8.5
2013	25th	95.0	7.5	8.1	6.1	8.3	6.9	7.3	8.7	8.4	9.1	8.7	7.4	8.6
2012	23rd	94.5	7.8	8.1	6.4	8.6	6.9	7.1	8.4	8.2	8.7	8.6	7.1	8.5
2011	28th	93.6	7.7	8.1	6.1	8.3	6.5	7.4	8.5	8.4	8.9	8.3	6.8	8.5
2010	30th	93.3	7.6	7.9	6.1	8.6	6.2	7.1	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.7	7.2	8.1
2009	36th	90.3	7.4	7.7	5.8	8.6	6.0	6.5	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.6	7.0	7.6
2008	44th	87.4	7.5	7.2	5.6	8.5	5.9	6.0	8.4	7.9	7.4	8.6	7.1	7.3
2007	50th	85.5	7.5	7.2	5.4	8.4	5.9	6.0	8.3	7.7	7.4	8.1	7.1	6.5
2006	54th	83.9	7.2	7.5	5.4	8.0	6.0	6.0	8.0	7.3	6.8	8.0	7.2	6.5

Putting Eritreans, their wellbeing, and the nation's economic development at the forefront of Vision 2030 shall be achieved by focusing on the following seven strategic Priority Pillars.

**They are:**

- Pillar 1:** Green Economy
- Pillar 2:** Food Security
- Pillar 3:** Basic Infrastructure
- Pillar 4:** Priority Sectors (Agriculture & Forestry, Sustainable Tourism, Trade, Manufacturing, Renewable Energy, Mining)
- Pillar 5:** Investing in the People
- Pillar 6:** Land Ownership & City Masterplans
- Pillar 7:** Peace & Security



All seven Priority Pillars will have an integrated outlook of the following key crosscutting objectives

 Gender Equality	 Technology & Innovation	 Public health & Safety
 Minority Equality	 Sustainability	 Environmental protection & climate change mitigation



**Key Objectives of Vision 2030**

Eritrea Vision 2030 aims to transform this challenging baseline by:

- ↳ Investing in Eritrea's people and developing human capital to help recover, re-integrate, and build a healthy, stable, productive nation that strives for inclusive national growth.
- ↳ Opening up the private sector with a conducive regulatory environment for domestic businesses and FDI. Introducing privatization reforms for a large number of so far Front-owned companies, entities, and assets including vast areas of land.
- ↳ Diversifying Eritrea's economy to one that is guided by a green economy framework.
- ↳ Investing in infrastructure and all areas of the value chain; increasing local production through manufacturing, local value addition, technology inputs and exports with a medium to long-term goal of creating jobs and a positive trade balance.

**Role of government**

The all-encompassing role of the Government shall be to serve the people of Eritrea. It will do so, by carrying out key functions such as providing national leadership while adhering and safeguarding constitutional law, maintaining order, providing public services, providing national security, and economic assistance.

**Role of the private sector**

Eritrea's private sector has a unique role to play: As it often bridges the gap between those in leadership and civil society, the private sector will be an important performer in advancing effective multi-stakeholder participation towards the development of standards and norms on economic recovery, re-integration, business, trade, and human rights.

Eritrea's private sector will further drive economic growth across industries forward: it will play a vital function in the recovery of the country by providing vital jobs and economic incentives, in addition to products and services to Eritrea's civic society.

# POSITIONING ERITREA SMARTLY

Here is the bottom line: In order for Eritrea to win, it needs to be positioned smartly on the world map. The country is so critically underdeveloped that it has to embrace a clear visionary and strategic direction, in order to achieve meaningful accelerated growth and human capacity.

**Vision 2030 recommends to position Eritrea strategically in the following areas:**

1. As Africa's leading nationwide green economy.
2. As a leading conference hub in Africa attracting thousands of high-end visitors.
3. As an historic eco-tourism destination, African Heritage & UNESCO World Heritage hub.
4. As a science & technology hub in Africa for green technology, climate change response, and related service provision.
5. As Africa's Cycling hub attracting sports events, tourist, while preparing & promoting a popular cyclist culture to boost our green economy and general public health

All aspects of the **Vision 2030** would be implemented under the umbrella of a smart market position that would lead to accelerated recognition, investment, and growth.



# THE 7 PILLARS OF VISION 2030

## PILLAR 1: GREEN ECONOMY

Building a green economy in Eritrea is not merely a commendable objective, but a supreme winning strategy for Eritrea's development. It will serve two imperative goals:

1. To protect local ecosystems, natural resources, and hence Eritrean livelihoods and food security for the long-term by reducing the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation dramatically.
2. To position Eritrea smartly as a leading green economy, related technology hub and service provider in Africa and in the world. This will propel public relations (PR), foreign direct investment, and qualitative international trade relations and in return accelerate job creation and national revenue.

Let's look closer at the two: Climate change is the defining issue of our time. Africa in general, and Eritrea with its vast drylands and delicate ecosystems in particular, already suffer from the consequences of climate change, desertification and land degradation. According to scientists across the globe: Drylands will be hit the hardest and the worst is still to come.

Eritrea's rural communities (over 80% of the population) are already suffering

from the effects of land degradation and desertification.

Climate change also severely impacts coastal livelihoods and artisanal fisheries threatening livelihoods and risking food security among already vulnerable fishing communities alongside Eritrea's coasts.

In the cities, rising prices of agricultural produce, unreliable conventional power transmission, air pollution and smog, traffic, noise, hazardous industrial emissions, water and soil pollution, waste, dwindling water



capacity, and loss of green and natural spaces will not just diminish the standard of life for Eritrea's urban population, but will come at a huge cost to the society and the national economy.

In a conventional economic scenario, growing public health expenses, food-insecure communities, extended waste management system, and the import of crude oil and conventional power modes will cost the Eritrean economy millions of Dollars each year.

The protection of Eritrea's natural environment and its vast resources must hence be an utmost priority under **Vision 2030**, cross-cutting through all economic and social pillars. With global climate reaching breaking point on our planet earth, more needs to happen in Eritrea than planting trees, banning plastic bags, or conducting environmental impact assessment studies: Eritrea must build an ambitiously forward-looking green economy.

This is an economy that is defined as low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive.

Herein lies a rare opportunity for Eritrea and its people. A country that lags behind in the world community in almost every socioeconomic indicator, now has a green long-term vision to lead by example. In a world that is seeking strategies to transform old economic systems, consumer habits, and modes of production, Eritrea can seize a powerful advantage:

Starting from scratch will allow Eritrea to lay green economic foundations and policies from the get-go. Positioning Eritrea as a young ground-breaking green economy and green trade hub in Africa and the world market leading to accelerated qualitative public relations and partnerships. This can further be achieved by tapping into specific trade agreements, innovative project funding, and green foreign direct investments (GFDI), which are less competitive.

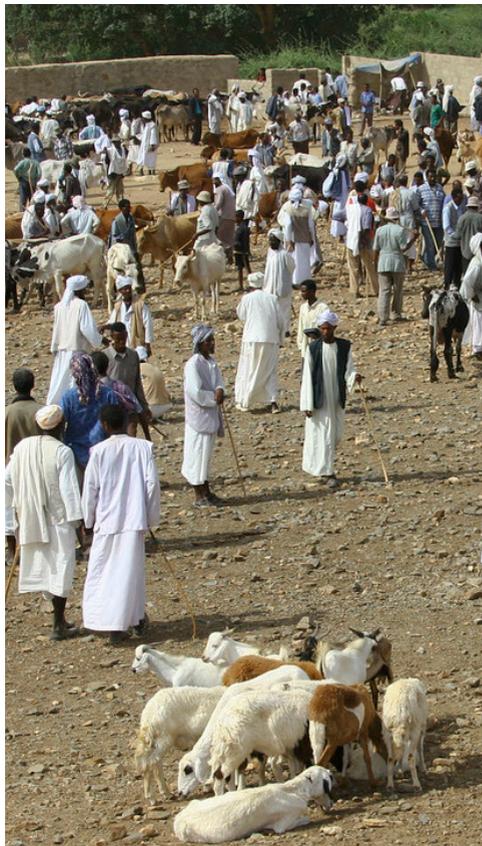


## PILLAR 2: FOOD SECURITY

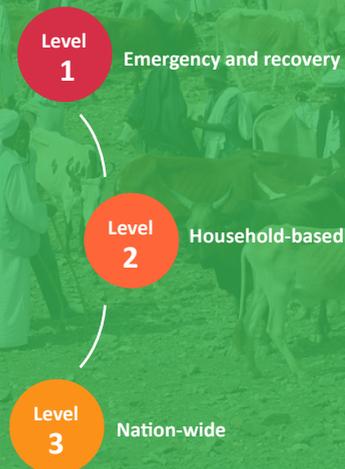
Every person needs to eat in order to live. The right to food, and its variations, is a human right protecting the right of people to feed themselves in dignity and to access and afford enough quantities of nutritious food to be a healthy and productive members of society. As such, food security is the most fundamental pillar of Eritrea's *Vision 2030* and beyond.

Build and developing a nation that upholds and enjoys human dignity, freedom, peace and security while striving for prosperity and economic development requires that all citizens have sufficient nutritious food available and have the means to access it.

One fundamental goal of *Vision 2030* is to safeguard the right of all nationals residing in Eritrea to be free from hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.



Food security under *Vision 2030* and beyond should be tackled on 3 levels:



## PILLAR 3: BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE

### Water and Sanitation

Water is the foundation of all life. It is required for human consumption, livestock and animal consumption, recreation, and certain manufacturing processes.

*Vision 2030* aims to ensure that all people in Eritrea have access to clean and safe water for household consumption throughout the country. It includes those communities living in remote areas and under arid conditions.

In cities and special economic zones (SEZ), water will further be available for manufacturing purposes.

### Power

Access to power is a fundamental aspect of economic growth. It needs to be provided both at household level and at national level to allow human interaction and economic production. Eritrea shall be smartly and uniquely positioned as Africa's first and leading national Green Economy under *Vision 2030*. As such efforts to rebuild and expand a sustainable power structure for Eritrea shall be based on renewable energy.

### Housing

The right to safe and adequate housing is a human right that is hence a key priority under *Vision 2030*. It is a key element when building a healthy and productive nation addressing both urban and rural areas

A detailed assessment study with conclusive data will need to be carried out to understand the alarming and fast accelerating housing shortages and needs across the country.



## Immediate and short term:

Housing needs will immediately further arise from the following population segments.

- Demobilized members of the military.
- Released prisoners.

The shortage shall be addressed as early as possible with adequate projects that also seek an integrated approach to a positive re-integration into society.

## Medium-term

- IDPs and returnees from refugee camps.
- Diaspora in exile.
- Vulnerable women-lead households.

## Long-term

- Housing needs as a result of natural population growth and continued immigration of Eritrean and non-Eritrean nationals into the country following increased economic development.

## Broadband Cables

Access to Internet in a free and global economy is not only a right, but a necessity to boost GDP growth and advance the values of democracy, social inclusion, and a free society. In a prospering economy of the 21st century, access to Internet is vital for government, commerce, research, and learning.

Key industries like tourism and banking are heavily dependent on connectivity. Health-care and education sectors follow: They can serve more citizens, save cost, and generally increase efficiency both by using and providing online solutions.

Businesses rely on broadband Internet to access information, tap into new markets, and improve value chains.

Fast, free, and inexpensive access to broadband internet is hence a key priority under *Vision 2030* to accelerate economic growth, market access, and education for Eritrea's society. *Vision 2030* strives towards the democratization of broadband Internet access.

## Flagship Projects:

- Wireless public hotspots in schools, colleges, universities, libraries, hotel lounges, and city parks

## Telecommunication and ICT (Information and Communication Technologies)

Making telecommunication and ICT easily accessible to all citizens, including those in rural and remote areas, is a long-term goal for Eritrea, with the fundamentals and strategic direction laid out under *Vision 2030*.

The foundation for this ambitious vision needs to be built immediately so the journey can begin.

## Key benefits of the integration of ICT at all levels of Eritrea's society include:

- Government transparency, accountability, and efficient service delivery.
- Research, statistics, information, analysis and hence the formulation of competent measurable outputs.
- Human resource development, education, and job-creation.
- FDI attraction, foreign and financial market access, competitiveness.

- Innovation.
- Gender equality and women empowerment. Increased access to information and market opportunities for Eritreans of all backgrounds.
- Development, improved productivity, industry and GDP growth.

For that to happen Eritrea's telecommunication sector needs to be radically reformed and developed.

*Vision 2030* proposes to open up telecommunications and ICT infrastructure and services to the private sector and the Eritrean Diaspora. The privatization and public offerings of EriTel would be a first step.

Additional foreign investment in telecom infrastructure such as renowned and well-experienced regional operators, as well as the regulated introduction of more competition, will help transform what remains a virtually untapped market.

The development and growth of Eritrea's telecommunications and ICT sector should focus on **3 stages outlined in National ICT Plans:**

- Plan 1** – Foundation and Setup
- Plan 2** – National expansion and services
- Plan 3** – World-class Competitiveness

The transport sector in the country shall be based on an effective infrastructure network of roads, railroad, seaports, and airport. The network serves as the engine for the free movement of citizens, visitors, the trade of commercial goods, and GDP growth.

Eritrea's two sea ports and its international airport shall be developed to serve the people of Eritrea directly through:

- Port and transport-related job creation
- The free movement of people & goods
- Public-private partnerships and investment opportunities
- Trade-opportunities and port services in a free market economy
- Increased tourism and commerce
- Promotion of peace and mutually beneficial economic ties with Eritrea's neighbours and other regional players.
- As a safe & secured point of entry for visitors.

Environmental impact assessments are imperative. Under an overarching vision for a sustainable green economy, it is paramount that CO2 emission and pollution reduction solutions are integrated into a sustainable transport & infrastructure strategy for Eritrea. This can be achieved through clear green policies, best practices, transportation alternatives, and the application of innovation and technology.



## Health Care

How well the state takes care of our most vulnerable and ill citizens is a direct reflection of how much the state respects Eritrean lives.

Affordable and accessible health care for all Eritreans will be another priority under Vision 2030, with a long-term vision to provide free basic health care to all underprivileged Eritreans who cannot afford treatment.

This means that Eritrea's health sector shall be reformed from the ground up: The nation shall receive a universal health care system, albeit decentralized in nature, following standardized national norms and international benchmarks. The range of facilities shall include preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative services led by public, private, and religious institutions across the country.

One of the first steps under Vision 2030 is to invite all private health practitioners back who were forced to close their general practices and hospitals and who had their licences revoked, so they can re-open their practices and serve the people. This immediate step during early national recovery shall go hand in hand with an immediate preparation and ratification of a provisional national health care policy and standardized guidelines.

Improved accessibility to healthcare is key in our nation, where the majority of people live in small towns and villages. Vision 2030 seeks to deploy community health workers (CHWs) in all sub-zobas and some larger villages.

The increased incorporation of mobile technology and ICT based health care management solutions across the country will further increase effectiveness and save lives.



Specially funded health care programs & nation-wide initiatives shall be carried out for:

- Pregnant women
- HIV / AIDS treatment & prevention
- Malaria and TB treatment & prevention
- FGM & fistula treatment & prevention
- Mental and physical health among former prisoners and war veterans
- Ambulance services & road accidents

It is envisaged, that the overarching green economy policy in Eritrea under Vision 2030 will safeguard livelihoods in a sustainable way: Eritrea's green economy will considerably decrease the harmful impact of stress, pollution, carbon emissions, contamina-

tion, dwindling natural resources, and food insecurity on public health and individual wellbeing. Which means that both human lives and money will be saved at a significant level in the long-run, while living standards increase dramatically.

## Security & safety

Eritrea's citizens need to enjoy security and safety at all levels –national, household-based, and on an individual basis. A healthy, productive, and truly prosperous nation is only one that feels safe and that is secure from harm. This includes:

- Safeguarding every citizen's right and his or hers human rights by upholding Eritrea's constitution at all levels of our political, economic, and social spheres.

- Safeguarding Eritrea's sovereignty and regional peace
- Leading a policy of national dialogue, tolerance, reconciliation, and respect in the country.
- Respecting, upholding, and safe-guarding women's rights with a zero tolerance for domestic violence & public abuse.
- Respecting & safeguarding labour rights to avoid abuse and exploitation.
- Training and equipping the military and police as part and parcel of the people in order to respect & protect our citizens and fighting crime.
- Training & strengthening our courts
- Many other initiatives.

## PILLAR 4: PRIORITY SECTORS



### Agriculture

Over 80% of Eritrea's population depends on agriculture. In the wider context, this includes herding, nomadism, and fisheries. The sector is the most important for safeguarding food security in the country, both at national and household levels. Eritrea's rural communities at large, and hence, the majority of Eritrea's citizens, heavily depend on agricultural production for their livelihoods.

The revival of the agricultural sector and its subsectors, along with job creation across industries, is hence the single most important sector to safeguard and increase food security in the country.

Vision 2030 further seeks the development of a thriving livestock sector at large, which shall serve as a powerful source of income in Eritrea's drought stricken Eastern and Western Lowlands.

### Fisheries and Aquaculture

Eritrea has a total coastline of 1,720 km along the Red Sea, comprising 1,155 km of continental shore and roughly 565 km around the numerous islands. Artisan fishery shall play a key role in the socioeconomic recovery and rehabilitation of local communities.

Vision 2030 seeks to transform these communities into largely food-secure households where sustainable local fishery thrives, and commercial production and supply of fish is extended to the rest of the country.

### Tourism

Eritrea is endowed with diverse beauty spread over a relatively small territory: Majestic highlands, endless beaches and corrals, mist forests, wide valleys surrounded by doum palm woods, wild animals, and a rich, unique historic & cultural heritage.



The country is further very safe for travellers and most destinations can be reached in a few hours. These conditions make Eritrea an attractive yet largely undiscovered tourism destination.

Vision 2030 promotes the fast development of the tourism sector as a key source of job creation for Eritreans nation-wide and GDP growth. Instead of featuring for mass tourism, Eritrea shall focus on local, regional, and international high-end travel including:

- Highly diversified eco-tourism across the country
- Conference tourism and business travel
- Agricultural tourism
- Historic and UNESCO heritage related tourism
- African cycling hub

The need for a wide range of accommodation, restaurants, tours, tour transport,

entertainment, infrastructure and related tourism services creates ample of opportunity for the private sector. The government shall take a key role in putting the important infrastructure in place and promoting Eritrea as an attractive tourism destination world-wide. This will help the sector kickstart, grow, and strive.

### Manufacturing: value addition chain

The manufacturing sector is yet another priority under Vision 2030. The development and growth of this sector has the following key objectives:

- To create jobs for Eritreans nation-wide
- To provide fast-moving consumer goods, such as processed food, to its citizens
- To add value to raw products that can hence be sold and exported at higher price resulting in foreign currency
- To aid the growth of other key sectors in the country.



In order to achieve these objectives, priority and incentives should be given to the following:

- Value chain training & skill development
- Food & drink processing
- Safe, local construction material
- Green technology
- Recycling
- Small, environmentally friendly household goods
- Basic health equipment and pharmaceuticals

Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and industrial parks shall be developed by the government that are fully serviced – largely with green power and technology.

## Mining

Eritrea has a significant amount of mineral deposits, including natural gas, gold, copper, oil, zinc and potash. Almost 70% of the

country is covered by the greenstone belt of Eritrea that has deposits of precious metals and volcanic massive sulphide (VMS). However, so far, 1 product (mineral) accounted for around 97% of exports: Gold.

Going forward, mining needs to adapt a new phase, image, and national strategy. A miner may have plenty of riches in the ground, but ultimately the way they do business is just as important as the underlying asset.

The key objective in developing Eritrea's mining sector is Eritrea's economic advancement: job creation, value addition, and foreign currency earnings that should be re-invested in infrastructure projects, health, and education.

Environmental sustainability is as important to protect livelihoods and natural ecosystems. These goals go hand in hand with a growing trend among global consumers and stakeholders of mining stocks who are looking increasingly towards mining companies that act with an ethical, social and governance (ESG) perspective.



## PILLAR 5: INVESTING IN THE PEOPLE

### Job Creation

Job creation is key for a country's economic development. The outline of opportunities in key sectors and related investments have one significant objective: job creation and income generation for the people of Eritrea.

### Demobilization

An estimated 50,000 Eritrean nationals have been deployed in the so-called 'national service', but the total number of those forced into national service, low-paid labour, military, and military reserve is estimated to be close to 250,000.

The damaging socioeconomic impact of the destructive 'national service' agenda has reached far beyond those in active deployment: Families have been torn apart leaving them destitute and dysfunctional and rural communities faced inadequate numbers of able men and women who take care of vital farming and livelihood chores.

Hence, one of the key objectives of Vision 2030 during the early stages of transition is to put short-term, medium-term, and long-term strategies into effect that will reverse the immense damages caused during dictatorial rule. Job creation is key in that process.

### Return and Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs

It is estimated that 500,000 Eritrean refugees are currently living outside of the country, while a small number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and former returnees are living in refugee-like conditions inside Eritrea. In reality, the number may be much higher.

Due to the large number of refugees and potential returnees, it will be difficult to create efficient work opportunities for all of them in less than a decade. However, given that many of those refugees have a rural background, attractive resettlement programmes and rural opportunities, e.g., in agriculture or local infrastructure developments, need to be designed and rolled out.



## Reintegration programmes for ex-prisoners

To reintegrate prisoners into society is vital, but on such a large scale, this can only happen as a national effort: prisoners need to receive both psychological and economic support, and national reintegration and reconciliation programmes will be needed as a matter of priority.

## Higher Education

Vision 2030 will put a proud national emphasis on higher education and its institutions. 3 national universities shall be initially built in Asmara and two other cities based on study.

As a symbol of a new path towards economic development and a unique landmark, a modern, state-of-the-art National Library of Eritrea shall be built in the capital city, including reading and study rooms, computer and public spaces, as well as meeting and conference facilities for income generation.

## Technical and Vocational Education, entrepreneurship programs

Vision 2030 envisages an Eritrea driven by a new wave of entrepreneurship and start-ups. It is paramount that such an initiative would not merely be viewed as a youth campaign programme, but as one of national significance: Entrepreneurship at large will create opportunities, employment, and aid Eritrea's socio-economic recovery.

The youth in particular should be viewed not only as those who need jobs, but also as the engine to create them. Entrepreneurship programmes and start-up incubators must therefore be pursued as a quintessential national strategy.

## Tech Hubs

A Tech Hub, a physical space or office, shall serve as a centre for local tech start-ups. Bringing bright tech experts and entrepreneurs into one space will allow for new ideas to form. Eritrea's tech hub shall be promoted and developed as a place of skill development, innovation, and above all a space where bright youth will find tech-based solutions to local problems.

The tech hub shall work closely with Eritrean universities, colleges, and Eritrea's ICT Authority.

## Gender equality and marginalized groups

Vision 2030 strives towards a nation that is free, productive, prosperous, and just. This can only be achieved when women are regarded and treated equal on the nation's path towards a bright future.

This effort needs to reach far beyond giving women a voice for the sake of gender equality programmes. Instead, women



participation, equality, and progress in Eritrea needs to be reinvented: Accelerated economic development, democracy, and nationwide peace implore an approach, where women participate and lead at the forefront at all levels of Eritrea's society: Political, economic, social, cultural.

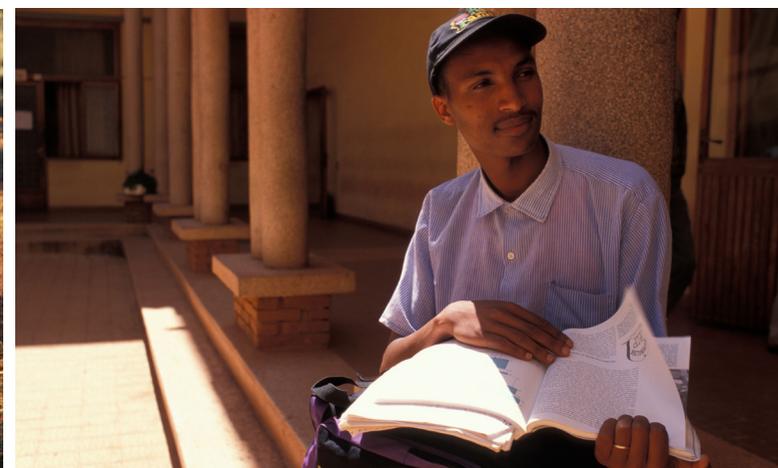
Women quotas need to be established in all corners of society and across all industries, including key leadership positions.

The same is true for other marginalized groups, especially those marginalized due to their ethnic backgrounds, religious beliefs, or geographical location. Both are absolutely

fundamental to Eritrea's path towards democracy, justice, national security, economic development, and long-term peace. The two must therefore be treated as a crosscutting objective of national interest.

## Innovation & Technology

Eritrea will harness science, technology, and innovation to hasten achieving the objectives of Vision 2030. Innovation and technology will help Eritrea leapfrog from a vulnerable aid-dependent state to a stable and productive economy and, in the long-run, from an agrarian to a knowledge-based economy thriving on inclusive green growth.



## PILLAR 6: LAND OWNERSHIP AND CITY MASTERPLANS

Eritrea shall strive towards privatisation of land in the medium-term and in the long-term. Carefully planned ownership reforms shall be carried out where not the state but the people of Eritrea and communal entities own the land.

Privatisation encompasses the transfer of ownership of property or businesses from the Government of Eritrea to a privately-owned entity.

### City Masterplans

City Masterplans shall be developed for all cities and major towns in Eritrea. The careful planning for Asmara as the capital city, as well as Massawa and Assab for port logistics and tourism ought to be key priority during transition.

#### City Plans shall be designed on 3 levels:

1. A Concept Plan – to outline the vision and key areas of the city.
2. Zoning Plan – shaping the various land use zones within the city including building regulations
3. City Masterplan – Translate the concept and zoning plans into a detailed land use and land development plan including numbered plots.

### Secondary Cities

Beyond the development of Asmara, and the two port cities of Massawa and Assab, Vision 2030 promotes the development of 8 green

economy based secondary cities across the country to increase decentralization, equal opportunity, and inclusion. Secondary cities shall further serve to reduce the pressure on Asmara, as the need for services and products will grow among the country's population.



## PILLAR 7: PEACE AND SECURITY

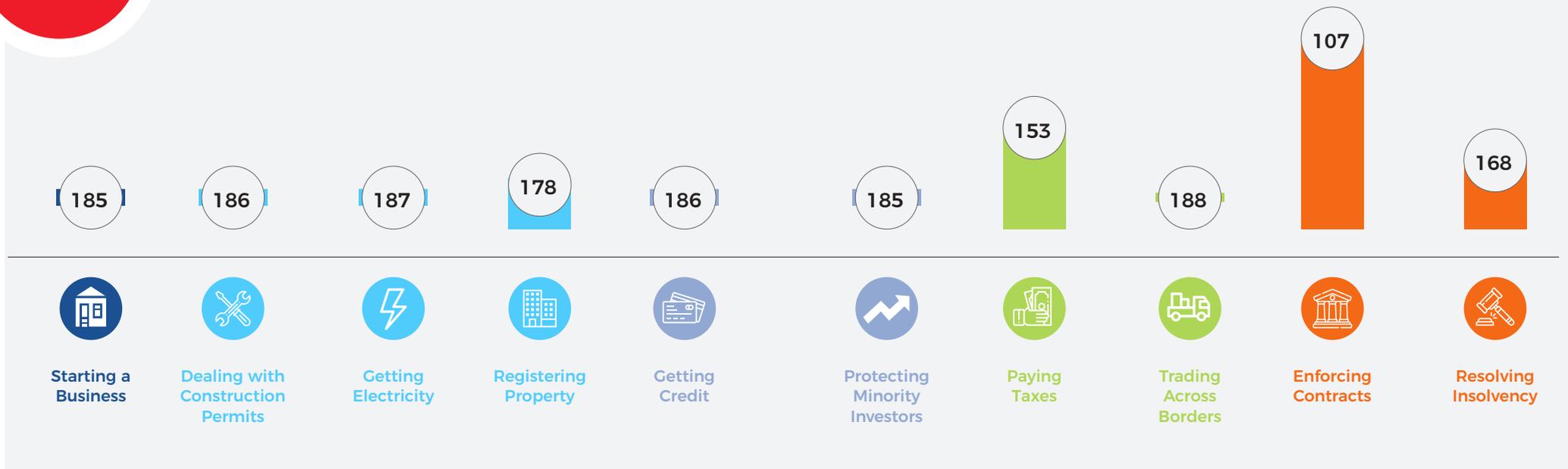
Inclusive economic development and healthy trade relations will increase peace & security. But vice versa: the vision for economic development cannot take place without peace & security at national and regional level. Vision 2030 hence aims at integrating 'peace & security' in all aspects of the macro-policy plan to safeguard the wellbeing of the Eritrean people.



# WORKING TOWARDS A CONDUCTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT



**Ease of Doing Business Ranking:**  
**Eritrea is 189 out of 190**  
 Ranking on Doing Business topics (1-190) - Eritrea



# IMPLEMENTING ORGANS



There will be a wide range of implementing entities, both public and private, to bring a grand national economic vision to fruition. In this shortened popular version, the following implementing body among other is relevant for the preparatory phase.

## Eritrea Business and Investment Board (EBIB): One Stop Shop

An Eritrea Business and Investment Board (EBIB) would serve as a One-Stop-Shop during transition with the aim to fast-track Eritrea's economic development by streamlining business and investment related processes and enabling accelerated private sector growth.

EBIB would join the many Investment Promotion Centres across Africa but would stand out among only a handful in regard to exponential effectiveness, as the CEO and board shall have executive powers. This means that EBIB would serve as a de facto Ministry of Development, working closely with all state ministries.

It is recommended that a preliminary version of EBIB shall be formed prior to Eritrea's post-dictatorship transition – as a civic association lead by professionals. This is paramount to speed up the complex process of inception, including preparatory frameworks and initiation of feasibility studies, groundwork, organization, and policy work.

# MARKETING, PR AND DIPLOMATIC LIAISON

Eritrea lags decades behind in development. Vision 2030 has the objective to lead Eritrea towards peace, freedom and economic development in accordance with its constitution, and accelerate that journey.

This can only be achieved by implementing visionary strategies alongside with marketing, PR, and diplomatic Liaison including the following:

- Active participation of Eritrea's public and private sector representatives at diplomatic missions, trade missions, and economic summits.
- Active participation of Eritrea's public and private sector representatives at regional and international expos and conferences
- Engagements of international PR agencies
- Increasing visibility through a powerful media strategy that introduces the transformation, beauty, opportunity, and green economy of Eritrea to the world.



# BEYOND VISION 2030

Vision 2030 aims to mark a change of direction for all Eritreans. It is meant to serve as a national guideline towards sustainable, inclusive economic development, and a visionary beacon of hope.

Eritrea is not poor. It has only been driven into poverty, destruction, and economic starvation as a result of dictatorship, foreign agendas, and their few enablers.

It is time that the people of Eritrea and, in particular, Eritrea's new and young generation take back the steering wheel. This

first popular shortened version (1) of Vision 2030 put together under the auspices of the Movement for Eritrean People's Sovereignty by Eritrean professionals and experts is an essential development and very much work in progress, as detailed assessments and policy papers need to be drafted on a wide range of socio-economic topics. But these crucial preparatory efforts have started to avoid more delays. The immense engagements of committed Eritreans, professionals, and activists across the world demonstrate that the torch of hope shines brighter than ever.

Eritrea is endowed with rich natural resources, advantageous geographical position and, most importantly, blessed with a diverse, patriotic, and hard-working human capital - its people.

Vision 2030 is a powerful visualization of a national concept in which all Eritreans - regardless of their background and affiliation - will be free and prosper in a sovereign and democratically lead nation state.





**Eritrea Business and Investment Board**

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