



Afrofuturism as a Lens to Analyse Pan-African Futures in Burundi

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Abstract

Afrofuturism is an interdisciplinary field that explores African cultural identities in a futuristic context. Burundi, as part of the wider African continent, offers unique insights into how Afrofuturist perspectives can be applied to analyse future scenarios. The analysis will draw on existing literature on Afrofuturism, contemporary African studies, and qualitative research methods such as thematic analysis to understand how different groups perceive and envision their future. A key finding is that there is a growing interest among Burundian youth in digital technologies for economic empowerment, despite challenges related to access and infrastructure. This trend suggests a significant shift towards technological integration in the next decade. The findings highlight the importance of integrating Afrofuturist perspectives into policy frameworks to better anticipate and prepare for potential socio-economic changes in Burundi. Policy makers should consider fostering public-private partnerships that leverage digital technologies, while also addressing issues related to digital divide and equitable access. Additionally, investment in education and skills training is recommended to ensure a skilled workforce ready for future technological advancements.

Keywords: *Pan-Africanism, Futurism, Decolonial Theory, Critical Race Studies, Diaspora Studies, Postcolonial Thought, Afrocentric Perspectives*

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