INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATIVE STUDIES

ISSN: 2820-7157
www.ijsrisjournal.com

October 2025 Volume 4 Number 5 12-21

Received Date: August 21, 2025 Accepted Date: September 13, 2025 Published Date: October 01, 2025

Analysis of Mali's Economic Policy

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Abstract:

The analysis of Mali's economic policy since its independence in 1960 highlights a complex evolution marked by strategic choices, reforms, and crises. The country has experienced several phases, ranging from a socialist model to liberal reforms, followed by a transition to a market economy. Hence, the present study: Analysis of Mali's Economic Policy. Economic policy plays a crucial role in a country's development by stimulating economic growth, reducing poverty and inequalities, and ensuring economic stability. It also promotes sustainable development, strengthens infrastructure, attracts foreign investments, and enhances the competitiveness of local businesses. By integrating social and environmental considerations, it contributes to stronger social cohesion. Mali recorded an average growth of 3.5% between 2015 and 2022, with a strong dependence on gold, which represents 70% of its exports. The unemployment rate is around 7% of the active population, with a majority working in the informal sector, often without social protection. The structural reforms of the 1980s and 1990s allowed for partial liberalization, increasing the production of crops such as cotton. However, these changes have also exacerbated economic inequalities. Agriculture, accounting for 30% of GDP, remains vulnerable to climate and infrastructure challenges, although cotton production reached 800,000 tons in 2021. Corruption, with an index of 33/100 in 2021, constitutes a major obstacle to the effectiveness of economic policies. Political instability, notably the coup d'état in 2012, has had devastating economic consequences, increasing poverty and affecting key sectors. Mali must move towards sustainable development initiatives, particularly in renewable energy, with 200 MW of installed solar energy. Strengthening governance is crucial to improving transparency and accountability, involving local actors and civil society more actively.In summary, while Mali has made progress in some areas, it must overcome significant challenges to ensure inclusive and sustainable economic development. An integrated approach focused on sustainability and good governance will be essential to build a stable and prosperous economic future.

Keywords : "Economic Policy, Crises, Unemployment; Population ; Dependence; Instability.

Introduction

Mali, a West African country, has undergone major economic transformations since its independence in 1960. With an area of 1.24 million km², it is the fifth largest country in Africa. Its population, composed of various ethnic groups, enriches its social fabric but also poses challenges in terms of cohesion and development. Economic policy is the set of measures, strategies, and actions implemented by a government to influence and regulate a country's economy. It encompasses various areas, such as: monetary policy, control of the money supply and interest rates by the central bank. Fiscal policy, management of public spending and revenue to stimulate or slow down the economy.

And trade policy defined as the regulation of international exchanges, including tariffs and quotas. With development policy: initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure, education, health, and other key sectors. The analysis of Mali's economic policy is crucial for understanding the choices made by its leaders over the decades, as well as the impacts of these choices on the country's economic and social development. The different political orientations, whether socialist, liberal, or focused on sustainable development, have shaped the current economic landscape.

The objectives of this article are to trace the evolution of Malian economic policy since independence, to identify the main strategies implemented, and to evaluate their implications for the country's development up to 2025. In doing so, we aim to provide a critical analysis that can enlighten policymakers, researchers, and citizens on Mali's economic challenges. The methodological approach is based on economic analysis, environmental analysis, mathematical tools, and descriptive statistics instruments. Using data from the World Bank, the IMF, and INSTAT, between 1960 and 2025. The study is structured around, on one hand, the introduction, historical context, the literature and empirical review, the major periods of economic policy, the analysis of economic sectors, the challenges and perspectives, the results obtained, the discussions, and the conclusion.

1. Context

A. Independence of Mali in 1960

Mali gained its independence from France on September 22, 1960, becoming the Republic of Mali. This independence was the result of a long process of anti-colonial struggle, marked by nationalist movements. Modibo Keïta, the first president of the country, established a socialist regime, promoting policies of nationalization and collectivization that profoundly influenced the Malian economy.

B. Political Events Political Events

Since its independence, Mali has experienced several coups and political transitions:

Coup d'État of 1968: Modibo Keïta was overthrown by Lieutenant Moussa Tavele, leading to a military regime. This period was marked by economic reforms but also by repressions.

Democratic transition of the 1990s: In the face of protest movements, Mali adopted a new constitution in 1992, allowing the emergence of a democratic regime. Recent political instability: The 2012 coup d'état led to a crisis, exacerbated by armed conflicts in the northern part of the country. This instability has had significant repercussions on economic policy.

C. Impact of Regional and International Contexts

Mali has been influenced by several contexts:

The regional context: Crises in neighboring countries, such as Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, have repercussions on Malian security and economy, increasing refugee flows and disrupting trade.

And the international context: France's intervention in 2013 to combat armed groups had economic implications. Moreover, the development policies of international institutions have often conditioned aid on economic reforms. These elements have shaped Mali's economic policy, making constant adaptation to internal and external challenges necessary.

1.1. Literature review

Mali's economic policy has been extensively studied in the context of its historical evolution, socio-economic challenges, and the reforms implemented since its independence in 1960. This literature review focuses on the main themes addressed in academic works and reports from international organizations, emphasizing the economic models adopted, the impacts of policies, and the persistent challenges. Socialist model (1960-1980) - the socialist period under Modibo Keïta is often analyzed within the framework of nationalization and collectivization policies. Authors like Traoré Modibo (Harmattan edition) emphasize that these policies aimed to reduce inequalities but also led to economic inefficiency and increased dependence on international aid. The studies on this period highlight the social tensions resulting from centralized decisions. Structural adjustments (1980-2000) - The impact of structural adjustments imposed by international financial institutions (IMF and World Bank) is a central topic in the literature. Presses Universitaires de Rennes and other studies show that these reforms opened the economy while exacerbating inequalities. Critics argue that the reforms have not always benefited local populations, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of smallholder farmers. And the Market Economy (2000-2025) - The efforts to transition to a market economy are explored by researchers like Sissoko (Harmattan edition), who discuss initiatives for sustainable development and economic diversification. However, this period is marked by political crises, such as the 2012 coup d'état, which severely affected economic development. Agriculture, representing about 30% of GDP, is a frequent subject in studies on Malian economic policy. Studies highlight the importance of sustainable agricultural practices and the impact of climate change on food security. Infrastructure and access to financing challenges are also addressed, highlighting the need to modernize the sector to meet growing demands. The mining sector is often studied for its role in the Malian economy. Research highlights the policies for managing natural resources and the environmental impacts of mining. Critics argue that the economic benefits of mining do not always reach local communities, exacerbating social tensions. Infrastructure and the development of the informal sector are recurring themes. Studies show that the informal sector, although it is a driver of employment, is characterized by precarious working conditions. The need to improve access to basic services and formalize the informal sector is also a frequently discussed point. The literature highlights governance challenges, particularly corruption and political instability. Reports from organizations like the World Bank and the IMF highlight how these issues hinder the effective implementation of economic policies and undermine citizen trust. The impact of climate change and conflicts on the Malian economy is a growing concern in the literature. Studies show that these factors exacerbate economic and social vulnerabilities, making the adoption of resilience strategies necessary.

The literature review on Mali's economic policy reveals a complex evolution marked by persistent challenges. The successive economic models, the impacts of reforms, and the challenges of governance are central themes that continue to shape the country's economic landscape. Particular attention to sustainable development initiatives and the need for improved governance will be essential to building an inclusive and resilient economic future.

1.1.1 Emperical review

The empirical review analyzes the data and results of studies on Mali's economic policy since its independence in 1960. It focuses on evaluating the impacts of economic policies, structural reforms, and current challenges, using quantitative and qualitative data from previous research, reports from international organizations, and official statistics. According to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Mali's GDP has experienced significant fluctuations since 1960. A World Bank study indicates that GDP growth was particularly strong in the years preceding political crises, peaking at 5.5% in 2009, before plummeting to -1.2% in 2012 due to political instability. Figures from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) show that the unemployment rate in Mali was 7% in 2022, with approximately 70% of the active population engaged in agriculture. A study by the National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) reveals that the majority of jobs created are in the informal sector, where working conditions are precarious. The structural reforms of the 1980s and 1990s, often imposed by donors such as the IMF and the World Bank, led to a partial liberalization of the economy. An analysis of INSTAT data shows that cotton production increased by 20% between 2020 and 2021 thanks to these reforms, but with growing inequalities between regions. The studies of the Malian economist: Daman-Guilé Diawara, Etienne Fakaba Sissoko, Madiouma Koné, Souaïbou Lamine Samba Traore, Falingué Keïta. BUDGET OPTIMIZATION STRATEGIES AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN MALI: ANALYSIS AND AND OUTLOOK, Global Scientific Journals - GSJ, 2024, 12 (7). ⟨hal-05113126⟩. Also, foreign direct investments (FDI) in the mining sector have significantly increased, contributing to about 20% of GDP. However, case studies show that economic benefits are not distributed equitably, often to the detriment of local communities. The report from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) highlights the social tensions resulting from mining activities. Research shows that extreme weather events, such as droughts, have a direct impact on agricultural production. According to a study by the Research Institute for Development (IRD), millet production has dropped by 30% due to recurrent droughts, threatening food security. The corruption perception indices, reported by Transparency International, indicate a score of 33/100 for Mali in 2021. This highlights the governance challenges that hinder the effectiveness of economic policies.

The data also shows that nearly 30% of budgets are allocated to transparent projects, but the lack of accountability remains a major issue. Initiatives to integrate sustainable practices into economic policy are underway. Renewable energy projects, such as solar energy, have been highlighted in reports from the Malian Solar Energy Agency (AMES), with 200 MW installed to date.

Mali must strengthen its economic resilience in the face of political and environmental crises. Studies recommend improving infrastructure, formalizing the informal sector, and encouraging economic diversification to reduce dependence on raw materials.

The empirical review of data and studies reveals that Mali's economic policy has been marked by complex challenges, ranging from corruption to the impacts of climate change. Structural reforms have brought improvements in certain sectors, but inequalities and governance issues persist. To ensure a stable and inclusive economic future, Mali must adopt sustainable development strategies and strengthen its institutions.

2. major periods of economic policy great eras of economic policy

A. Period from 1960 to 1980

Socialist Economic Model

After independence, Mali adopted a socialist economic model under the leadership of Modibo Keïta. This choice aimed to promote social equality and reduce the inequalities inherited from colonization. The government implemented policies focused on central planning, seeking to control resources and means of production to promote economic development.

Nationalizations and Collectivizations

As part of this model, several key sectors were nationalized, including:
Agriculture: Agricultural lands were collectivized, with the creation of agricultural cooperatives. The objective was to improve productivity and ensure an equitable distribution of resources.

And the industry: Strategic industries, including mining and agricultural product processing, were nationalized. This was supposed to allow the government to direct the economy and reinvest the profits into national development. However, these measures often led to economic inefficiency, shortages of basic goods, and a decline in agriculture.

Effects on Economic Development

The results of this period were mixed: Economic growth, although the GDP initially experienced growth, productivity quickly stagnated. The collectivization policies did not always succeed in achieving their objectives, leading to a decline in agricultural production. Social Inequalities: Although the policies aimed to reduce inequalities, tensions emerged between the political elites and the rural populations, exacerbated by decisions that were often centralized and disconnected from local realities.

And foreign dependence, Mali became increasingly reliant on external aid, which limited its ability to develop an autonomous economy.

In summary, the period from 1960 to 1980 laid the foundations of an economic policy characterized by strong state interventionism, but also revealed the limitations of a socialist model in the face of the country's economic and social challenges.

B. Period from 1980 to 2000 Period from 1980 to 2000

Structural Adjustments and Economic Reforms

Starting from the 1980s, Mali was forced to reassess its economic model due to severe economic crises, notably the drop in commodity prices and recurrent droughts. In response, the government undertook structural reforms, often under pressure from international donors.

• Liberalization of the economy: The government began to reduce its interventionism, allowing for a greater role for the private sector. This included the privatization of public enterprises and the deregulation of markets.

• Agricultural reforms: Collectivization policies were abandoned, and measures were put in place to encourage individual production, which led to some improvement in productivity in the agricultural sector.

Role of International Financial Institutions (IMF, World Bank)

International financial institutions played a key role in this transition:

• Structural adjustment programs: The IMF and the World Bank conditioned their aid on the implementation of economic reforms. These programs aimed to stabilize the economy, reduce budget deficits, and promote growth.
• Project financing: Investments have been directed towards infrastructure projects and rural development programs, although their effectiveness has often been questioned.
¬ Impact on the Sectors (Agriculture, Mining)
The reforms had significant repercussions on the key sectors of the economy:

• Agriculture: Liberalization has led to an increase in the production of certain products (such as cotton), but also to growing inequalities between regions. Smallholders have sometimes struggled to adapt to the new market conditions.

• Mines: The mining sector has experienced growth thanks to foreign investments, but the economic benefits have been uneven. Mining has often been criticized for its environmental impact and for not fully benefiting local communities. In summary, the period from 1980 to 2000 was marked by a transition towards a more liberal economic model, with reforms that had varied effects on key sectors of Mali, often influenced by external imperatives.

C. Period from 2000 to 2025

Transition to a Market Economy

At the beginning of the 2000s, Mali continued its transition to a market economy, with a strengthened focus on privatization and attracting foreign investments. Economic policies sought to diversify the economy and reduce dependence on raw materials.

• Encouragement of SMEs: Initiatives have been implemented to support small and medium-sized enterprises, considered essential for boosting employment and innovation.

• Regional integration: Mali has strengthened its economic ties with neighboring countries within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), facilitating trade and investments.

Table 1: Impacts of Economic Policy in Mali

Source : Author

VARIABLES	INDICATEURS	IMPACTS
Economic Growth	- GDP (2022): 17 billion USD	- Growth of 3.5% in 2022, but uneven across sectors.
	- GDP per capita: 890 USD	- Increased dependence on gold exports (approximately 70% of exports).
Job	- Unemployment rate (2022): 7%	- Approximately 70% of the workforce is engaged in agriculture.
	- Creation of 100,000 jobs in the formal sector	- Precarious conditions in the informal sector (about 90% of employment).
Agriculture	- Cotton production: 800,000 tons (2021)	- Increase of 20% compared to 2020, but vulnerability to climate shocks.
	- Cultivated area: 2 million hectares	- Disparities in performance between regions.
Infrastructures	- Investments (2021): 500 million USD	- Improved access to electricity for 1 million people.
	- 2,000 km of renovated roads	- High maintenance and development costs.
Governance and Institutions	- Corruption Perception Index (2021): 33/100	- Corruption affecting the effectiveness of development programs.
	- 30% of the budgets allocated to transparent projects	- Lack of accountability in the use of public funds .
Environment	- Deforestation rate: 1.2% per year - Renewable energy projects: 200 MW installed	- Pollution due to mining, affecting 500,000 people. - Efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Notes:

• The figures are based on estimates and recent reports.
• The impacts vary depending on the regions and the policies implemented.

Sustainable Development Initiatives

In the face of environmental and social challenges, Mali has begun to integrate sustainable development initiatives into its economic policy.

• Sustainable agriculture: Programs have been launched to promote sustainable agricultural practices, aiming to improve resilience to climate change.

• Renewable energies: The government has encouraged the development of renewable energies, particularly solar energy, to meet the growing electricity needs and reduce environmental impacts.

Political and Economic Crises

The period was marked by significant political instability, notably the 2012 coup d'état and armed conflicts in the northern part of the country, which had major economic repercussions.

• Impact on the economy: The crisis led to an economic contraction, an increase in poverty, and a deterioration of living conditions. The agriculture and tourism sectors, essential for the economy, were particularly affected.

• Reforms and resilience: In response to these crises, the government and international partners have implemented economic recovery programs and support for vulnerable populations, aiming to stabilize the country and promote reconciliation.
In summary, the period from 2000 to 2025 was characterized by efforts to establish a market economy while integrating sustainability considerations, all while addressing political crises that profoundly affected Mali's economic landscape.

Table No. 2: Economic Policy of Mali (1960-2025)

DATES	Economic Model	Politics	Results/Challenges
1960-1980	Socialist	- Nationalizations and collectivizations	- Initial growth, but rapid stagnation
		- Central planning - Agrarian reforms	- Inefficiency and product shortages - Increased social tensions
1980-2000	Structural adjustments	- Liberalization and privatization	- Uneven growth, increased dependence on aid
		- Structural adjustment programs (IMF)	- Growing inequalities
		- Réformes agricoles	- Growing inequalities
2000-2025	Market economy	- Investments in infrastructure	- Growth of the informal sector
		- Sustainable development initiatives	- Vulnerabilities due to climate change
		- Responses to political crises	- Insecurity and armed conflicts impacting the economy

Source : Author

Notes:

• 1960-1980: Period marked by strong state intervention, but with mixed results in terms of economic development.

• 1980-2000: Structural reforms adopted under international pressure, with varied impacts on the economy.

• 2000-2025: Transition towards a more liberal economy, with increasing attention paid to environmental and social challenges.

This table summarizes the main characteristics of Malian economic policy over these three periods.

3.Analysis of economic sectors

A. Agriculture

Role in the National Economy

Agriculture is an essential pillar of the Malian economy, representing a significant share of GDP and employing a large majority of the population, particularly in rural areas. The main crops include cotton, millet, sorghum, and horticultural products. Agriculture contributes not only to food security but also to exports and household incomes.

The contribution to GDP, the agricultural sector represents about 30% of GDP, reflecting its economic importance. And employment, about 70% of the active population is engaged in agriculture, highlighting its vital role for livelihoods.

Development Strategies and Challenges

To improve the productivity and sustainability of the sector, several strategies have been implemented, but challenges persist:

• Development Strategies:

Modernization of agricultural techniques: Introduction of modern technologies, irrigation, and improved seeds to increase productivity.

Agricultural cooperatives: Promotion of cooperatives to strengthen the position of farmers in the market and facilitate access to resources.

Access to financing: Initiatives aimed at improving credit access for farmers to support investment.

• Challenges:

Climate change: Recurring droughts and floods threaten food security and agricultural productivity.

Insufficient infrastructure: A lack of adequate infrastructure (roads, storage) limits access to markets and increases post-harvest losses.

Inequalities and poverty: Smallholders, often vulnerable, face difficulties in adapting to market conditions and climate change.

In summary, agriculture in Mali is crucial for the economy,but it must overcome numerous challenges to realize its potential for sustainable and inclusive development.

B. Mines and Natural Resources

Importance of Mineral Resources

The mining sector is a key driver of the Malian economy, with significant resources in gold, phosphates, and other minerals. Gold, in particular, represents a significant portion of the country's exports and constitutes a major source of revenue for the government.

The contribution to the economy, the mining sector accounts for about 20% of GDP and is Mali's top exporter, generating foreign exchange and fostering economic growth. And employment: Although the mining sector is less labor-intensive than agriculture, it provides direct and indirect jobs, supporting many communities.

¬ Management Policies and Environmental Consequences The management of natural resources in Mali has evolved in recent years, but several challenges remain:

• Management Policies:

Legislative framework: The government has enacted laws to regulate mining operations and attract foreign investments, while attempting to ensure that the economic benefits accrue to local populations.
Public-private partnerships: Encouraging collaborations with private companies to develop resources while seeking to maximize tax benefits.

• Environmental Consequences:

Ecological degradation: Mining operations have often led to deforestation, soil and water pollution, and loss of biodiversity, affecting local ecosystems.

Impact on communities: Mining activities can lead to population displacements and land use conflicts, exacerbating social tensions.

In conclusion, although mineral resources are of great importance to the Malian economy, the management of this sector must be improved to minimize environmental impacts and ensure that the benefits are shared by the entire population.

C. Services and Industries Services and Industries

Development of Infrastructure

The development of infrastructure is crucial to support the growth of services and industries in Mali. However, this sector faces several challenges:
• Transport infrastructure: Roads, railways, and airports require significant improvements to facilitate trade and mobility. Infrastructure projects are underway, but financing remains a major obstacle.

• Energy: Access to reliable energy is essential for industries. Mali has begun investing in renewable energy sources, such as solar energy, but widespread access to electricity remains a challenge.

• Telecommunications: The telecommunications sector has experienced rapid growth, with an increase in access to the

Internet and mobile services, fostering the development of digital services.

Evolution of the Informal Sector

The informal sector plays a vital role in the Malian economy, representing a significant share of employment and economic activities:

• Economic importance: A large part of the population works in the informal sector, which encompasses various activities, ranging from retail to services, including craftsmanship.

• Challenges: Workers in the informal sector often face precarious working conditions, a lack of social protection, and limited access to financing. This limits their ability to develop and fully contribute to the economy.

• Regulation and integration: The government has attempted to formalize certain informal activities to improve working conditions and broaden the tax base. However, the transition to a formal sector remains complex.

In summary, the development of infrastructure is essential to support the growth of services and industries, while the informal sector, although it is an important source of employment, requires measures to improve working conditions and facilitate its integration into the formal economy.

4. Challenges and perspectives

A. Governance and Corruption Issues

Governance in Mali is marked by significant challenges:

• Corruption: Corruption at various levels of administration undermines the effectiveness of economic policies and public trust. It diverts essential resources for development.

• Political instability: Coups d'état and political transitions have often disrupted the continuity of economic policies, making it difficult to implement long-term reforms.

• Lack of transparency: The absence of clear mechanisms for accountability and transparency in the management of natural resources and public finances complicates the fight against corruption.

B. Informal Economy and Inequalities Informal Economy and Inequalities

The informal economy plays a crucial role in the country, but it poses significant challenges:

• Economic inequalities: The informal sector is often associated with low incomes and precarious working conditions, exacerbating social and economic inequalities.

• Absence of social protection: Informal workers do not have access to social protections, making them vulnerable to economic shocks and crises.

• Difficulties in accessing financing: Informal entrepreneurs often struggle to access credit and resources, limiting their capacity to develop.

C. Impact of Climate Change and Conflicts

Mali is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and conflicts:

Climate variations, such as droughts and floods, severely affect agriculture, the main source of livelihood for the majority of the population. This threatens food security and exacerbates poverty. The violence and insecurity in the northern part of the country have devastating economic consequences, hindering development and causing massive population displacements. It is crucial to adopt resilience strategies in the face of climate change and to promote peace and reconciliation to foster sustainable economic development.

Looking ahead, to overcome these challenges, Mali must strengthen governance, invest in the informal sector, improve infrastructure, and adopt sustainable development policies. The engagement of local, national, and international actors will be essential to build a stable and inclusive economic future.

5. Results

The analysis of Mali's economic policy emphasizes economic performance, the impacts of implemented policies, and the persistent challenges. Annual growth, Mali's GDP experienced an average growth of 3.5% between 2015 and 2022, despite fluctuations due to political instability and environmental crises. Export dependence, with approximately 70% of Malian exports coming from gold, highlights a vulnerability to fluctuations in global prices. The unemployment rate was 7% in 2022, with a strong concentration of employment in the informal sector, where approximately 90% of workers do not have access to social protections. The impact of economic policies, structural reforms; liberalization with the economic reforms of the 1980s and 1990s allowed for partial liberalization, resulting in an increase in the production of crops like cotton, with a 20% rise in 2021 compared to the previous year. The privatization of public enterprises attracted foreign investments, but the economic benefits have often been unevenly distributed. Agriculture accounts for about 30% of GDP, but remains threatened by challenges such as climate change and inadequate infrastructure. Cotton production reached 800,000 tons in 2021, but smallholders are struggling to adapt to the new market conditions. Also, the study by Malian economists: Amidou BALLO, Ibrahima KANE, & Daman-Guilé DIAWARA. (2025). Analysis of the main indicators of international trade from 2012 to 2020: The case of Mali. In the International Journal of Scientific Research (Revue-IRS) - ISSN: 2958-8413. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15496241. Mali scored 33/100 in 2021, reflecting a high perception of corruption and a lack of trust in public institutions. The political crisis of 2012 led to an economic contraction and an increase in poverty, particularly affecting the agriculture and tourism sectors.

Renewable energies, the government has initiated solar energy projects, with 200 MW installed, to meet the growing electricity needs and diversify the economy. To improve the effectiveness of economic policies, Mali must strengthen mechanisms of transparency and accountability, involving local actors and civil society. And the results of the analysis show that, despite progress in certain areas, Mali faces significant challenges that hinder its economic development.

An integrated approach, focused on sustainability, governance, and inclusivity, will be essential to ensure a stable and prosperous economic future.

6. Discussions

Mali's economic policy, since its independence, has been shaped by a series of strategic choices, reforms, and crises. This section aims to discuss the main issues identified in the previous analysis, highlighting successes, persistent challenges, and future prospects. Despite the political crises and structural challenges, Mali has managed to maintain a certain level of economic growth. The agricultural sector, in particular, has shown signs of dynamism, with an increase in cotton production and other crops. This growth, although uneven, has been supported by liberal reforms that have allowed for greater participation of the private sector.

Investment efforts in infrastructure, particularly in roads and energy, have contributed to improving access to markets and electricity. Recent projects have reached millions of people, although challenges remain in terms of maintenance and sustainability. Corruption remains a major obstacle to the effectiveness of economic policies. The low scores on corruption perception indices reflect a crisis of confidence in institutions. Successive governments have struggled to establish mechanisms of transparency and accountability, which hampers economic development. Mali is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which threaten food security and economic stability. Extreme weather events, such as droughts and floods, have direct repercussions on agriculture, which remains the pillar of the economy. The state must commit to a more sustainable economic transition. This includes the integration of sustainable agricultural practices, the development of renewable energies, and initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience against environmental crises. The potential of solar energy, for example, offers a promising path to diversify the economy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. A profound reform of governance is essential to restore the trust of citizens and investors. Efforts must focus on improving transparency, accountability, and civic engagement. The involvement of local actors and civil society organizations could play a key role in this transformation.

Mali's economic policy shows notable progress, but it faces significant challenges. To realize its potential, the country must adopt an integrated approach that combines economic growth, environmental sustainability, and good governance. By strengthening institutions and engaging in inclusive reforms, Mali will be able to build a resilient economy capable of facing future challenges.

7. Conclusion

In this article, we have analyzed the evolution of Mali's economic policy from 1960 to 2025, highlighting three major periods:

From 1960 to 1980: Adoption of a socialist economic model, with nationalizations and collectivizations that led to productivity challenges; from 1980 to 2000: Introduction of structural adjustments and economic reforms under the influence of international financial institutions, with varied effects on agriculture and mining. And from 2000 to 2025: Transition to a market economy, integration of sustainable development initiatives, but faced with political and economic crises.

We also examined the key sectors of the economy, highlighting the importance of agriculture, mining, and services, as well as the challenges related to governance, the informal economy, and the impacts of climate change. The economic future of Mali will depend on its ability to overcome current challenges. To achieve this, the country must strengthen its institutions, improve transparency and accountability, and invest in sustainable infrastructure. The diversification of the economy and support for entrepreneurship, particularly in the informal sector, will be essential for creating jobs and reducing inequalities. An inclusive and sustainable economic policy is fundamental to ensure that all segments of the population benefit from development. This requires special attention to the vulnerabilities of marginalized groups, as well as efforts to integrate environmental considerations into all policies. By adopting a holistic approach, Mali will be able to build a resilient and inclusive economy, capable of facing future challenges and ensuring a better future for its citizens.

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-Les services du FMI parviennent à un accord avec le Mali sur une facilité de crédit rapide et achèvent leur mission au titre de l'article IV 2024 : Contient des informations sur les perspectives économiques, la politique macroéconomique et les mesures pour faire face aux besoins de financement.

-Les services du FMI achèvent leur mission de consultation de 2025 au titre de l'article IV avec le Mali : Évalue la situation économique du Mali et formule des recommandations de politiques économiques.

- **Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM) : Rapport d'étude - Opportunités dans l'économie verte : comment améliorer la résilience des migrants de retour et des communautés de départ :** Analyse le lien entre la migration de retour et l'économie verte au Mali.

- **Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT) du Mali :** Le service officiel des statistiques du Mali. Son site web (http://www.instat.gov.ml/) et (https://instat-mali.org) contient des données statistiques sur divers aspects de l'économie et de la société maliennes.

- **Enquête Démographique et de Santé au Mali (EDSM):** Rapports publiés par l'INSTAT en collaboration avec la Cellule de Planification et de Statistique Secteur Santé-Développement Social et Promotion de la Famille (CPS/SS-DS-PF).

- **Schéma Directeur de la Statistique (SDS):** Document adopté par le gouvernement malien en 2006, assorti d'un plan d'actions.