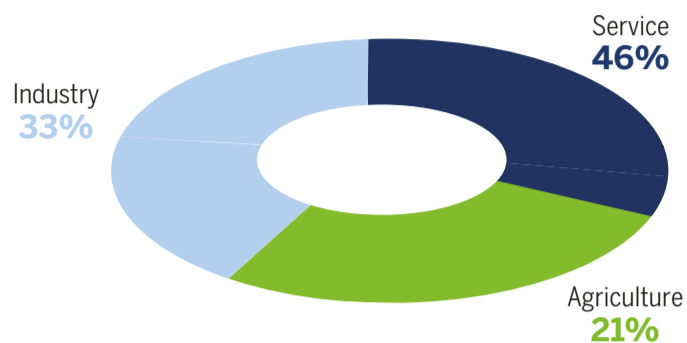




DRC FACT SHEET 2016

ECONOMICS

SECTOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO GDP



2014 2015^(f) 2016^(f) 2017^(f) 2018^(f)

Inflation %	1.6	2.3	2.8	2.5	2.8
GDP %	7.2	6.6	7.6	7.1	7.1

(f) FORECASTED
 Currency: Congolese Franc
 [58.90 CDF=R1* & 927.76 CDF= \$1* (20 May 2016*)]

Top import products

- Machinery, nuclear reactors, boilers (20.25%)
- Electrical, electronic equipment (15.27%)
- Pharmaceutical products (10.30%)

Top import origins

- China (29.76%)
- South Africa (21.65%)
- Belgium (10.02%)



Top export products

- Copper and articles thereof (60.31%)
- Other base metals, cermets, and articles thereof (16.34%)
- Ores, slag and ash (11.18%)

Top export locations

- China (54.82%)
- Saudi Arabia (12.41%)
- Republic of Korea (6.21%)

SOCIAL

- **Population:** 79 375 136 people in 2016
- The distribution of the population is as follows: 44.4% of the population are under the age of 15; 53% of the population are between 15 and 64 years of age; and 2.6% are over the age of 65.
- **Languages:** French (official), Lingala, Swahili, Kikongo and Tshiluba.

TECHNOLOGY

- It is estimated that there were 3.47 million 3G subscriptions in the DRC at the end of 2015.
- By the end of 2015 there were 47.2 million mobile subscribers in the DRC.
- As of 2015, only a few banks were offering e-commerce payment solutions with mobile payments being the main e-commerce payment method.
- There is inadequate international bandwidth connectivity and transmission backbone.

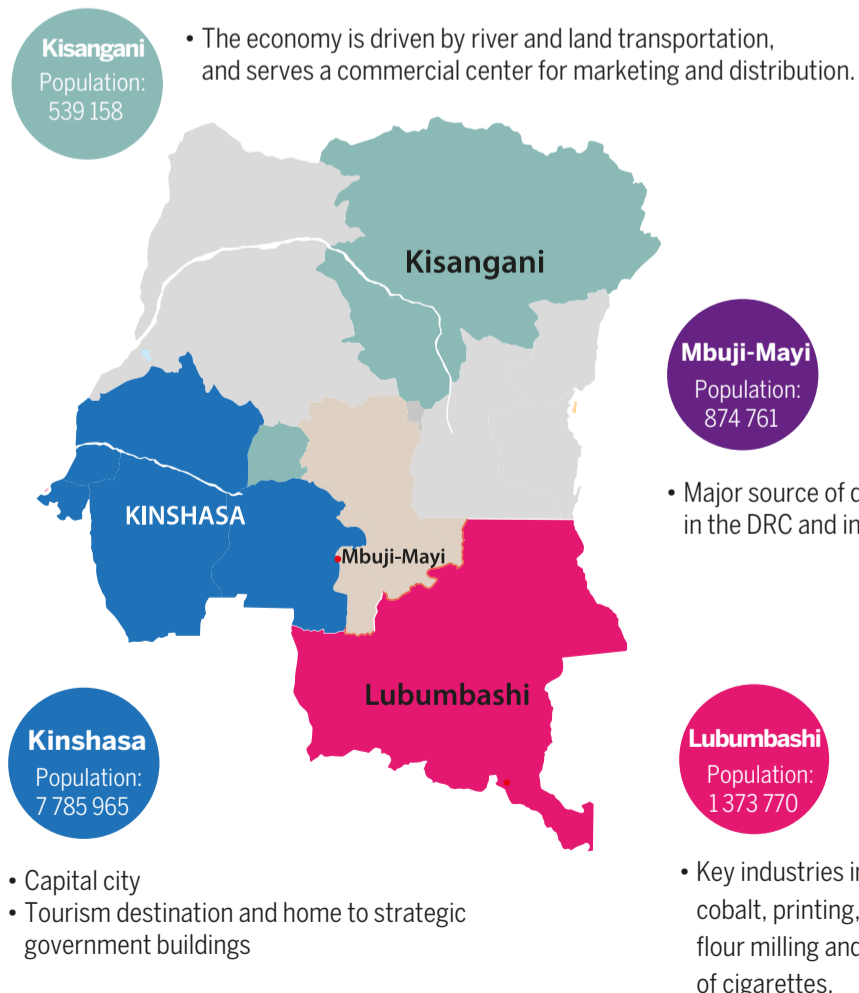
POLITICAL/LEGAL

- DRC is a unitary republic country which gained its independence in 1960.
- President Joseph Kabila has been president since January 2001.
- The legal system is primarily based on Belgian law. Elements of customary and tribal law also serve to regulate the law on personal status and property rights.

ENVIRONMENT

- Rural areas face crop failures and deforestation due to high temperatures being experienced in the country. Flooding and erosion are challenges in the cities of Kinshasa and Kimbeseke. Soil erosion affects the quality of water in the country and brings the cost of having to purify water. It also threatens the fisheries and worsens flooding problems.

MAJOR CITIES



CHALLENGES TO DOING BUSINESS

- Electricity shortages, limited transportation and inadequate physical infrastructure may bring extra costs.
- Only 2.2% of the DRC's citizens have Internet access. Conducting business on a digital platform would be a challenge and could lead to significant financial losses.
- There is a shortage of skilled workers. Sourcing workers may be expensive and investors may incur costs to upskill workers they employ.
- Foreign investment is subject to a multitude of taxes collected on imported goods by several government agencies.
- Investors face a risk of financial loss and high legal costs due to lengthy disputes.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DOING BUSINESS

- Structural and regulatory reforms are improving the business climate in DRC.
- There are opportunities for foreign investment in the agricultural, financial and retail sectors as they remain underdeveloped.
- There is great potential for growth in the solar industry. The DRC falls in a belt with very high levels of sunshine, and this market has not been explored much. The country's current electricity supply shortages call for alternative methods of providing power.
- The country's digital market bears a lot of growth potential – only 2.2% of the population have access to Internet hence penetration into this market will be fruitful.
- The fishery and livestock sectors offer great potential for investment. The country currently imports frozen chicken and fish, so citizens pay high prices for these items.
- Foreign and domestic investors have equal access to the credit market. However, the market tends to favour foreign investors because of their likelihood to provide valid guarantees and collateral.