Background

- Brazil has emerged as one of the world’s strongest economies and is playing an important role in redefining “the global south” in the changing world architecture.

- Over the past decade, Africa has become a continent of opportunities, with positive economic trends and improved governance.

- The continent is now often portrayed as a new frontier for those seeking partners and markets. Brazil has expressed growing interest in supporting and taking part in its development.

- Brazil’s engagement with Africa has seen bilateral and plurilateral agreements in areas spanning from education and health to investment cooperation agreements in energy, manufacturing and services.

- On a continent wide engagement the first Africa – South America Summit in 2006 has also highlighted Brazil’s serious consideration of Africa as an important and strategic partner.

- Through important diplomatic engagements under forums such as the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) group of countries and the IBSA (India, Brazil, and South Africa), the promotion of south-south partnerships have been discussed.

- Recently the IBSA countries have agreed to boost trade amongst themselves to US$10 billion in 2011, while the establishment of a development bank is being mooted under the BRICS.

Trade patterns overview

- Brazil–Africa trade has increased substantially in the past 10 years. But many challenges remain, associated with limited communications, logistical difficulties, bureaucracy, and lack of transparency (World Bank, 2011).
- Trade between Brazil and Africa has increased significantly since 2002, with exports to and imports from Africa recording a compound growth of 20% and 21% respectively for the period between 2002 and 2011.

- Latest 2011 trade data reveals that over US$ 27 billion worth of goods were traded between Brazil and Africa. Imports from Africa accounted for about US$15 billion while exports were a lesser approximate US$ 12 billion;

![Brazil total trade with Africa graph](chart.png)

Source: World Trade Atlas and Author’s calculations

- The 2008 global crises significantly affected Brazil’s trade with Africa, where imports from Africa were affected the most by a decline of almost 50% in value terms from a high of US$16 billion in 2008 to just over US$8 billion in 2009. Since then trade has recovered with imports rising to about US$15 billion in 2011.

- Exports were not significantly affected over this period. This was a result of the stimulus given to Brazilian exports under the “Program Integration with Africa or Programa Integração com a África” which in 2008 provided incentives for Brazilian companies to export to Africa.
Looking at trading partners, we note that Brazil’s trade is concentrated with a few countries for both exports and imports. For exports – Egypt (21%); South Africa (14%); and Algeria (12%) account for 47% of total exports share. On the other hand, Nigeria (54%); Algeria (20%); and Morocco (8%) account for 80% of total imports share (See Table 1 below).

Between 1997 and 2011, the bulk of the top 10 exporters were growing at a faster growth rate in comparison to both the World (12%) and Continental (16%) averages, with the exception of South Africa, Nigeria and Morocco, and indication that other players are actively trading with Brazil;

The same applies for top importers of Brazilian products where Algeria (11%), South Africa (7%) and Tunisia (11%) were amongst the African countries in top 10 that had a growth rate less than the Continental average of 16%.
Brazil Africa relations
2011 highlights
by Taku Fundira, tralac Researcher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exports</th>
<th></th>
<th>Imports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>52,994.34</td>
<td>256,039.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFRICA</td>
<td>1,517.63</td>
<td>12,221.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>424.22</td>
<td>4,376.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>462.40</td>
<td>3,074.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>269.75</td>
<td>2,624.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>331.68</td>
<td>1,680.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>36.39</td>
<td>1,493.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>249.18</td>
<td>1,192.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>81.80</td>
<td>1,073.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>184.48</td>
<td>811.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>51.59</td>
<td>419.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>48.33</td>
<td>376.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>286.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>13.28</td>
<td>251.41</td>
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</table>

Source: World Trade Atlas and Author’s calculations

A look at product composition reveals a concentration of trade in relatively few product groups. Brazil exports mainly agricultural and manufactured products while imports from Africa are mainly primary resource based products in nature.

- Main exports of Brazil to Africa include HS1701 – Sugar (36%) and HS0207 - Meat (6%) which combined account for 42% of total exports share. Other exports include HS2601 – Ores; HS8701 Vehicles; and HS1001 – Cereals.

The main import from Africa is HS27 – Mineral fuels which account for 83% of total imports. The other notable import is HS31 – Fertilisers which accounts for only 7%.
## Brazil Africa relations

### 2011 highlights

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-AFRICA-</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,517.63</td>
<td>12,221.61</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
<td>-AFRICA-</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,993.15</td>
<td>15,435.63</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701</td>
<td>Cane Or Beet Sugar And Chemically Pure Sucrose, In</td>
<td>578.46</td>
<td>4,406.05</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>2709</td>
<td>Petroleum Oils And Oils From Bituminous Minerals,</td>
<td>560.62</td>
<td>9,292.21</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0207</td>
<td>Meat And Edible Offal Of Poultry (Chickens, Ducks,</td>
<td>16.51</td>
<td>756.00</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>2710</td>
<td>Petroleum Oils&amp; Oils From Bituminous Mins (Other T</td>
<td>732.36</td>
<td>2,817.82</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2601</td>
<td>Iron Ores And Concentrates, Including Roasted Iron</td>
<td>89.79</td>
<td>568.97</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>2711</td>
<td>Petroleum Gases And Other Gaseous Hydrocarbons</td>
<td>69.63</td>
<td>721.12</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1005</td>
<td>Corn (Maize)</td>
<td>9.35</td>
<td>536.71</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>3105</td>
<td>Mineral Or Chemical Fertilizers With Two Of The Th</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>607.06</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1001</td>
<td>Wheat And Meslin</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>492.95</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3103</td>
<td>Mineral Or Chemical Fertilizers, Phosphatic</td>
<td>24.88</td>
<td>227.90</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0202</td>
<td>Meat Of Bovine Animals, Frozen</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>492.24</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>3102</td>
<td>Mineral Or Chemical Fertilizers, Nitrogenous</td>
<td>5.38</td>
<td>211.28</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1507</td>
<td>Soybean Oil And Its Fractions, Whether Or Not Refi</td>
<td>14.62</td>
<td>426.96</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2510</td>
<td>Natural Calcium Phosphates, Natural Aluminum Calci</td>
<td>17.78</td>
<td>127.14</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1006</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>385.14</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>2701</td>
<td>Coal; Briquettes, Ovoids And Similar Solid Fuels M</td>
<td>73.23</td>
<td>121.43</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8701</td>
<td>Tractors (Other Than Works Trucks Of Heading 8709)</td>
<td>18.69</td>
<td>199.28</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>2809</td>
<td>Diphosphorus Pentaoxide; Phosphoric Acid And Polyp</td>
<td>54.56</td>
<td>109.46</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8802</td>
<td>Aircraft, Powered (For Example, Helicopters, Airpl</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>154.54</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>7110</td>
<td>Platinumun, Unwrought Or In Semimanufactured Forms,</td>
<td>22.44</td>
<td>108.82</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: World Trade Atlas and Author’s calculations