Mauritius is a member of both the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

COMESA has 21 member states of which 16 are part of the COMESA FTA - eSwatini has preferential access under a derogation but is exempt from reciprocating preferences due to its membership of SACU. The DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia are in the process of joining the FTA.

SADC is a Regional Economic Community with 16 member states, including all SACU countries, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Malawi, Seychelles and Comoros. 13 SADC members are in a Free Trade Agreement (FTA); Comoros, DRC and Angola are yet to join the FTA.

16% of total trade is intra-Africa

- **Intra-Africa exports:** 23% of world exports
  - South Africa (47%)
  - Madagascar (26%)
  - Kenya (11%)
  - Seychelles (6%)

- **Intra-Africa imports:** 13% of world imports
  - South Africa (68%)
  - Madagascar (7%)
  - Seychelles (7%)
  - Kenya (6%)

1% of intra-Africa exports are to countries outside SADC and COMESA

Main intra-Africa export products:
- Monitors and projectors
- Plastic packaging
- Sugar in solid form
- T-shirts
- Men’s or boys’ suits

Main intra-Africa import products:
- Vanilla
- Frozen fish
- Cigars
- Coal
- Petroleum oils (excluding crude)

Main destination markets:
- **Morocco (27%)**
- **Cameroon (18%)**
- **Ghana (13%)**
- **Ivory Coast (13%)**
- **Nigeria (5%)**
- **Other (25%)**

Main export products:
- **Vanilla (26%)**
- **Bottles and flasks (18%)**
- **Footwear with leather uppers (6%)**
- **Boards and panels (5%)**
- **Machines not elsewhere specified (4%)**
- **Other (40%)**
Most of the goods imported into Mauritius from other SADC and COMESA member states enter duty-free. Except for goods imported from the DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia. The DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia are at various stages of becoming COMESA FTA members. Goods imported from Somalia and Tunisia are currently levied the MFN applied tariffs until tariff phase down is realised. Goods imported from the DRC, Eritrea and Ethiopia receive marginal preferential access (the preferential tariff is 10% of the MFN applied tariff).

Of the top 20 products Mauritius imports from African countries outside SADC and COMESA the tariff of only one product is not duty-free – paints based on synthetic polymers (15% import duty). 98% of Mauritius' total imports from outside SADC and COMESA are duty-free imports and only 3 products are products facing 30% import duties.

Sources: ITC TradeMap (2019); ITC MacMap (2019); WTO Tariff Database (2019) and tralac calculations